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Tuesday 1st June 2021 First Floor, The Boulevard, Quinsborough Road, Bray. A98 R6D7. Tel: 01 - 2869111 E-mail: wicklowed@localtimes.ie www.wicklowtimes.net

'NO HOUSES TO BE BUILT'

Many areas of Co. Wicklow will see no housing growth during the lifetime of the County Development Plan (2021-2027), according to Fianna Fail councillor John Mullen.

During a recent meeting of Wicklow County Council where the Draft County Development Plan was discussed, Cllr Mullen attempted to introduce an amendment that would bring more flexibility in the CDP with regards to housing supply and population targets.

He argued that the draft CDP as it stands would mean a housing shortfall of nearly 3,000 units, or 60% short of the target growth. He said that it was ne

Council to 'take a stand' and challenge the National Planning Framework (NPF) policy. "I accept that my amendment is contrary to NPF growth figures, but unless we do this we will not hit our growth target," he said.

Cllr Mullen's amendment asked that homes be built on land where the infrastructure is available. He says that currently the Plan allows for no housing estates to be built in 'Level 5' and 'Level 6' settlements, which includes

Ashford, Aughrim, Carnew, Dunlavin, Tinahely, Avoca, Donard, Kilmacanogue, Newcastle, Roundwood and Shillelagh.

He added: "The restrictions that are coming to us from the NPF and spatial growth figures don't allow us to build houses, we will have a massive shortfall. The draft CDP sets Wicklow a target to deliver 6,833 homes by 2026, or 4,901 net of commencements, but Wicklow has only achieved an average



Irish soccer internationals Stephanie Roche and Aine O'Connor have a game of Teqball at the launch of the new Teqball table at the Arklow Sports Hub

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completion of 646 homes per year since 2016. This has been achieved in areas where infrastructure has been available - Greystones, Newtown, Wicklow, Rathnew, etc. As it stands the draft CDP would cap the number of homes in each settlement regardless of the availability of deficiency of infrastructure. If we are to proceed on this basis and on the current delivery of homes, we will only deliver 1,963 of 4,901 homes over the lifetime of the plan.

"While I understand the key objectives of NPF, those objectives do not align with the availability of infrastructure. Until such time as critical infrastructure is delivered these NPF and CDP policies will fail to deliver homes."

Cllr Mullen's amendment, which received strong support from Independent councillors Joe Behan and Tom Fortune, was opposed by

Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council Frank Curran and Cllr Mullen ultimately withdrew the amendment.

"I'd be extremely concerned about this amendment," Mr Curran said. "We're obliged to comply with the National Planning Framework. Our CDP would lose all credibility if we do this, and it would be thrown out by the planning regulator."

He went on to say that the Council would deliver 11,000 units between now and 2031, and reminded councillors that the Council is allowed to vary the CDP after two years if it's not achieving its targets.

Senior Planner Sorcha Walsh added "we've endeavored to build as much flexibility into the plan as possible. We believe sufficient housing in the county will be delivered. We have approximately 3,000 units under construction

and permission granted for another 3,000. At the two-year point in the

plan we will evaluate how it's going." The CDP will be on public

display for a period of 10 weeks and the public can make submissions.

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Mary Doyle, Anne Marie Rigney and Jannex Expression celebrating International Nurses Day at Loughlinstown Hospital. Pic: Joe McQuillan

Public meeting on Wicklow transport

Green Party Deputy Steven Matthews will host an online meeting on Thursday June 3rd at 7pm to discuss public transport in County Wicklow. He will be joined by Minister for Transport Eamon Ryan TD.

Minister Ryan will speak about the Green Party influence on the transport commitments in the Programme for Government including commitments to prioritise funding for public transport, active travel (pedestrian and cycling infrastructure), rail, greenways and road safety.

Deputy Matthews will speak about local public transport issues including his work to extend the DART to Wicklow Town, rural and urban bus services, the N11 and cycling infrastructure. There will be a Q&A session with Minister Ryan and Deputy Matthews and feedback will be sought on pressing public transport issues in the county. The event is free but you must register by emailing steven.matthews@oireachtas.ie

Cliff Walk

The Bray to Greystones Cliff Walk remains partially closed, it is safe to walk from Bray along the Cliff Walk as far as Windgates steps. From there walkers can take the alternative Bray Head Looped Trail, which can be quite challenging or return on the Cliff Walk back to Bray. The Greystones side of the Cliff Walk is extremely dangerous and is closed in certain spots. The Council continues to assess and has put in place measures for the short-term protection of the public and are actively pursuing an alternative route for the sections of the walk which are currently closed due to erosion. The patience and co-operation of the public is appreciated during this partial closure.

ated during this partial closure.

Car Parks at Brittas Bay North, Brittas Bay South and Glendalough – summer season began in all of the aforementioned carparks on 1st May, 2021 and charging into the carparks reintroduced.

Arklow Makers Craft Fair

The Arklow Makers Craft Fair has returned to the Bridgewater Shopping Centre. Drop by and support your local crafters and feel free to browse and chat and perhaps find that special handmade gift. The Arklow Makers Craft Fair will be open on the June Bank Holiday weekend (Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th June). There will also be a special Fathers Day art fair on Saturday 19th June. The fair is located in its usual spot - in shops on both sides of the mall.

Greystones farmers market

The Good Life Artisan Farmer's Market is now in Greystones. The market is located at St. Patrick's National School, Church Road, near the intersection of Church Road, Rathdown Road, and Victoria Road. The market is held every Sunday, from 12pm to 3.30pm. On offer are fresh fruit and vegetables, homemade produce, hot food and more! A raffle also takes place, €5 for two strips, with food vouchers as prizes. The market is also located at Fisher's of Newtownmountkenedy on Fridays from 9am to 3.30p

Wicklow Lions Golf Classic

June 11th is the date for the annual Lions Golf Classic in Blainroe Golf Course. As soon as golfing restrictions were eased the golfing committee chaired by John Mulqueen set about organising this year's important event.

To book a team to play on the day or to help with Tee Boxes or donations please contact Lion John at 087-2578705.

Little Library Bags for early learning services

Wicklow County Council Library service is linking with almost 150 pre-schools, playschools, Naonraí and registered childminders across the county with the handing out of Little Library Bags.

The Little Library Initiative aims to develop a consistent link between early learning and care service and their local library to encourage a love of books and reading among young children.

The First 5 Little Library Initiative will:

- Distribute a selection of books and resources to all early learning and care services, from your local library.
- Ensure that the same collection of books is also held in libraries which can be loaned out to young children and their families.

- Encourage membership and use of libraries among early learning and care services and among young children and their families.
- Encourage ongoing collaboration between the

early learning and care services and libraries and support families in establishing or developing the practice of reading.

This is a significant initiative which officially links early learning and care services in County Wicklow to all 13 libraries around the county.

Wicklow County Council Library Service is encouraging all ELCs to get a group library card which will allow up to 30 items to be borrowed at a time. Library staff are keen to see children with their own library cards.

Director of Services with Wicklow County Council, Michael Nicholson, said: "Children aged from new-born can get the beautiful

ly designed My First Library Card with their



first membership and they can borrow 12 books each time. Early access to picture books and reading helps language development, paves the way for reading readiness and will

ensure a more level playing field when children start junior infants".

Each bag contains five story books and other reading resources for children selected by the

national library service. Naonraí will receive five

Irish titles and each general ELC will receive four English titles and one Irish title.

There will be a second tranche of Little Library Bags in October to tie in with Children's Book Festival.

Please contact your local library or call 01 2866566 for further information.

Tinahely Show cancelled

The Tinahely Agricultural Show organising committee has been monitoring the public health and safety advice and with deep regret has decided to cancel the Tinahely Agricultural Show for the second year running.

Thomas McDonald, Chairman of the Tinahely Agricultural Show said "The ongoing pandemic leaves too high a risk to run what has become one of the largest agricultural shows in Ireland. The safety concerns of all who attend our show is utmost in our minds. We understand that this decision will be disappointing for our community of members, volunteers, exhibitors, sponsors, trade stands, judges and competitors and indeed the whole Wicklow and Leinster community.

"We ask that all should be mindful at this time of all who were impacted by the pandemic and especially to remember our frontline staff who worked so hard over the past 15 months," he added. The Tinahely Agricultural Show's enthusiastic committee are committed to holding the best show ever on bank holiday Monday 1st August 2022.



Rathdrum Tidy Towns want to say a big thank you to Transition year students Callum Mc Kenna and Thomas Murphy from Avondale Community College who designed these posters for them to promote #tidyrathdrum. Callum and Thomas along with their teacher Mary Gahan came up with these fabulous designs.

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Wicklow Times,
First Floor, The Boulevard,
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Tel: 01-2869111

Contacts:

Shay Fitzmaurice, Managing Editor - shay@localtimes.ie

Ian Colgan, News Editor - ian@localtimes.ie

Jennie Finanne, Sales Manager - jennie@localtimes.ie

General enquiries - info@localtimes.ie

'Build the new Maternity Hospital on State land'

North Wicklow Together for Choice and Equality and the Bray & District Council of Trade Unions last Tuesday presented a statement at health minister Stephen Donnelly's constituency office on the third anniversary of the repeal of the eighth amendment, urging him not to gift the new maternity hospital to the Religious Sisters of Charity.

North Wicklow Together for Choice and Equality is a group of volunteers using the momentum of the North Wicklow Together for Yes group fight for equality and human rights in the North Wicklow area.

They stated "We call on the Minister to ensure that the new hospital is built on land to which the State has full title so that the complete ownership and control of the hospital can rest with the State. The women of Wicklow deserve the full range of reproductive healthcare services that should be available to them under Irish Law.

"We are concerned that even if all medical procedures are technically available, they may not be actually available through staffing and policy through the association with the Catholic ethos of the Religious Sisters of Charity. It is only through having full public ownership and control of our new National Maternity Hospital that the wishes of the 74.26% of the people of Wicklow who paved the way for abortion to be legalised in this country when they voted exactly three years ago today to repeal the 8th amendment to the Constitution, will be respected."

The letter states: "The Bray and

District Council of Trade Unions reiterates its call for the new National Maternity Hospital which it is planned to build at Elm Park to be built on State-owned land. To guarantee the provision of a secular hospital the new National Maternity Hospital must be placed in public ownership.

"Despite being publicly funded the new hospital will be operated and managed by St Vincent's Healthcare Group (SVHG), a private Catholic company currently owned by the Religious Sisters of Charity (RSC). This company, SVHG, will become a wholly owned subsidiary of St Vincent's Holdings, a new company established to own and control a portfolio of hospitals including the new National Maternity Hospital.

"Under present plans the Government will only be granted a 99 year lease, rather than freehold title to the land on which it is proposed to build the hospital. Leasing the land, rather than granting full title, is a mechanism for the nuns' company, St Vincent's Holdings, to gain ownership of the new hospital [...]. It is difficult, in the context of conditions attached by Rome, to see how the new hospital will be able to provide the range of reproductive ser-

vices, including abortion, available under Irish law but not permitted by the Catholic Church.

"In this situation the State will have no power to intervene. A private hospital cannot be compelled to provide services which are contrary to its ethos. Although the building of the new hospital will cost the taxpayer upwards of €500 million and the State will have to fund all maintenance and running costs in the future the State will have no role in St Vincent's Holdings, the company which will control the hospital's ethos. This situation is untenable.

"The new NMH must be publicly owned and publicly controlled. It is being paid for by the tax payer and its maintenance and operational costs will be paid for by the tax-payer in perpetuity. The only way in which we can guarantee a publicly owned secular hospital in which a full range of reproductive health services are available and in which it can be guaranteed that the employment rights of staff will not be impacted by Catholic ethos is for the hospital to be built on state-owned land. The State must insist on a freehold title to the land on which the hospital will be built."



Handing the letters into Stephen Donnelly's Bray Constituency office calling for public ownership of the NMH were Sarah Murphy of the North Wicklow Together for Choice and Equality group, Green Party councillor Lourda Scott, and Mary Diskin, President of the Bray Council of Trade Unions

Bus Eireann suspending Route 2 for Arklow residents

Social Democrats TD Jennifer Whitmore has called out against moves by Bus Eireann to suspend Route no. 2 Expressway departing Arklow at 7:30am due to so-called 'low levels of demand'.

Speaking on the announcement Deputy Whitmore said "This is extremely disappointing news from Bus Eireann particularly for residents in Arklow and South Wicklow who travel to Wexford as part of their commute to work or children travelling to school. I receive a number of complaints from users of this service who were surprised and shocked that the services had discontinued. I relayed this to Bus Eireann who confirmed that Route no.2 has indeed been suspended due to what they say was low levels of demand. However, this is not what's being felt on the ground by those who contacted me who said this was a vital bus route for their daily lives.

"Bus Eireann confirmed that following a recent review of services and passenger demand, Bus Éireann published a set of revised timetables for its Expressway services at expressway.ie, which came into effect from Saturday 15 May. Some lower demand services on nine routes are being suspended, including Route 2. The 06:00 ex-Dublin Airport service, departing Arklow 07:30 (opposite Lidl) is one of the services being suspended based on low levels of demand.

"While Expressway services typically does not receive any subvention from the State, and COVID 19 has negatively impacted on passenger numbers, the State needs to step in here considering they are under contract with the National Transport Authority (NTA). As we enter a more intense phase of climate action we have to drastically reduce our dependency on car use, and one way to achieve that is to provide increased public transport routes particularly in areas that don't have rail or other public transport services. I have been calling for this as part of our response to climate change and met with the NTA recently about providing more local links in our towns and villages." I have contacted the NTA again on the suspension of this service as I believe it will unfairly impact on Arklow and South Wicklow residents who need more not less public transport made available to them."

New Vaccination Centre For South Wicklow and North Wexford

Minister for Health Stephen Donnelly has welcomed the news the HSE has secured a site for a new vaccination centre that will serve both south Wicklow and north Wexford.

The new centre is to be based at the Kilanerin Community Centre. The new centre is expected to be fully operational by the middle of June and will have the capacity to offer 1200 vaccinations a day.

The Kilanerin Community Centre, which will have ten vaccination booths, is an ideal location for the new vaccination

centre as it has both parking facilities and enough space for the vaccination teams to operate.

Minister for Health Stephen Donnelly praised the work done by the HSE in finding the new location.

He said: "An immense amount of work has gone into finding suitable premises for the vaccina-

tion centre which was not an easy thing to do as there are a lot of criteria that have to be met.

"I had asked the HSE that they make it a matter of urgency to find somewhere suitable which after a lot of hard work they have now done. Kilanerin is less than 14km from Arklow making it ideal for people in the area to get to.

"The new centre when it is fully operational will be able to vaccinate up to 1200 people a day which is a fantastic increase in our vaccination capabilities.

"By the end of this week half of the adult population of this country will have received their first dose of the vaccine.

"And as a direct result of the speed of the vaccine rollout along with the incredible cooperation of the public in following the public health guidelines we are seeing a lifting of the restrictions over the next couple of weeks which will transform lives.

"We are making fantastic progress but we need to continue to do the right thing and be sensible so we don't give this horrendous disease a chance to do any more damage."

Fianna Fáil Cllr Pat Fitzgerald said he was delighted the vaccine centre was going to be so close to Arklow.

He said: "The new location is just a 15 min drive from Arklow and much closer than the centre being used at the moment for the people of the area.

"I have been contacted by constituents who were struggling to get to Shoreline in Greystones so having this centre so close is absolutely fantastic".

STEVEN MATTHEWS TD
WICKLOW

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Guest Speaker: Minister Eamon Ryan

Eamon Ryan TD
Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications and Minister for Transport

Steven Matthews TD
Chair of the Oireachtas Committee on Housing, Local Government and Heritage

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Pictured with her daughter Mary Margaret Molloy and Fr. Donal Roche is Lillian Timmms. Lillian is the 2nd Winner of the St. Patrick's Parish Lottery in Wicklow. She won €2,100, and she very kindly donated a portion of her win to Trocaire.

Contractor appointed to carry out Greystones community audit

A contractor has been carried out to carry a community audit for Greystones district to identify the recreational and community needs for the growing population in the area. The news was provided during the recent Greystones Municipal District meeting.

Speaking on the news Social Democrats councillor Jodie Neary said "I welcome that a contractor has been contracted to carry out the audit however, the final details have yet to be pinned down and will be provided shortly. I have been calling for a community audit for a long time now since I was elected last year after seeing the immediate need of community, recreational and outdoor spaces to deal with the growth this town has experienced in recent years.

"While we are still waiting to hear further details, the fact that a contractor is on board means the process is in train and should begin shortly. I have been told it could be a matter of months when the audit will be completed however, the details have not been finalised.

"This is welcome progress and will begin the important process of auditing Greystones District of the shortcoming of facilities, an inventory of our needs as a community and where the potential is to fill in any deficits we have now that we are a growing town.

"For the first time this audit will help the council identify what they are looking for when they meet developers and request community facilities. They will now have the necessary information to back up their requests and hope for acquiring facilities that will meet a need. While it won't solve all the recreational and community deficit we are experiencing it will go a long way towards addressing that need especially now that we face further SHDs on the horizon" Cllr Neary.

Irish Water approves Arklow wastewater treatment plant

The board of Irish Water has approved the Arklow wastewater treatment plant. The project is expected to start in the second half of this year.

Minister Stephen Donnelly said: "The Board of Irish Water met on Tuesday to sign off on the Arklow plant which they did. It's absolutely fantastic news because it means this really important project for the town is now one vital step closer.

"I'm in constant contact with Minister Darragh O'Brien about the importance of getting this project across the line. The plant when it is in place will play a vital role in bringing investment to the area as well as both private and social housing. It will also allow the town to grow."

When completed the state-of-the-art facility will have the capacity to service a population of up to 36,000.

The project, which will cost over €100m, now needs to go before the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform as well as the Government's oversight body NewERA before being signed off by Minister O'Brien.

Minister Donnelly added: "Construction of the plant is due to start later this year and I will be pushing hard to make sure that it finally happens. The people of Arklow have waited far too long for this vital piece of infrastructure to be put in place but the recent decision by the Board of Irish Water is really good news for the town."

Jennifer Whitmore TD recently outlined the urgent need to expedite the processes needed to ensure construction of Arklow wastewater treatment plant can commence as soon as possible.

Deputy Whitmore was speak-

ing in the Dail on a private members' motion on the issue of wastewater treatment services in Ireland, and cited Arklow as one of the most important large-scale wastewater infrastructure project due to commence in the country.

"Residents have had a 30-year history campaigning for this much needed wastewater treatment plant in Arklow. Just recently I was sent pictures by a local resident there who could see raw sewage being pumped into the Avoca River, a heart-breaking thing to witness in an area that has so much potential.

"Arklow is fast becoming a leader in large-scale development and in climate action as it was recently selected by Wicklow County Council to pilot the county's first Decarbonisation Zone. The town has a lot going for it but it all rests on the success of the timely construction of the wastewater treatment plant. Housing development, environmental protection and decarbonising all require that water pollution is managed and done so sustainably.

Irish Water stated recently that plans for the delivery of the Arklow Wastewater Treatment plant are at "an advanced stage" and they are progressing through the relevant statutory process.

"The necessary planning, land and licences have been secured and the procurement of the construction contract is concluding," Irish Water stated. "Final site surveys, which are required to help inform the design and construc-

tion methodology, are scheduled to begin in the coming weeks. Irish Water expects construction to begin later this year."

The new wastewater treatment plant will result in significant improvements to water quality in Arklow by ending the discharge of raw sewage directly into the Avoca River, safeguarding the environment, facilitating economic development and provide for a growing population.

The project will include the development of a new wastewater treatment plant that has been designed to provide an ultimate treatment capacity for a PE (population equivalent) of up to 36,000, at the Old Wallboard Factory site located at Ferrybank in Arklow, two interceptor sewer pipelines (along North and South Quay) to bring untreated wastewater to the proposed plant and a

marine sea outfall pipe to safely discharge the treated wastewater effluent to the Irish Sea.

Michael Tinsley, Portfolio Delivery Manager with Irish Water, said "Eliminating the discharge of untreated wastewater into the River Avoca continues to be a key priority for Irish Water and this project is critical in ending this current practice and safeguarding the wastewater system in Arklow for the future. When completed, the new wastewater treatment plant will have significant benefits for both residents and businesses as well as tourists that visit the area as it will improve the water quality in the River Avoca and enable future economic growth. We will continue to work closely with the local community and will issue further updates as we progress with this vital project".



'Hassling of Greystones fishermen must stop now'

Almost a year after the dispute over fishermen's use of Greystones harbour to land their catch was resolved, the issue has risen to the surface again. A meeting was held last Wednesday to try to resolve the situation. Speaking afterwards, Independent Councillor said that it is "way beyond time for the hassling of our fishermen to stop". He believes that the solution to the dispute lies with Sispar.

On the afternoon of Friday 21st May, fisherman Tim Storey put his life in danger to stop a crane removing his boat from the water and placing it on the pier. Tim lay underneath the boat to prevent this.

Cllr Fortune said "Boats have fished in Greystones for hundreds of years. Greystones was originally a fishing village. What occurred last Friday cannot be allowed to be repeated. Greystones, I believe, is the only port in Ireland where fishermen are being frustrated in doing their work and provide for themselves and their families. The guards had to intervene on Friday and they were excellent, they defused a very dangerous situation.

"It raises serious questions around the PPP (Public Private Partnership) process, certainly the way Greystones harbour was

processed. It appears to be forgotten that the State through Wicklow County Council invested thirty acres of foreshore in this project. At the time I was told in answer to a question that land in Greystones was valued at €4 million an acre. WCC in my view have a massive responsibility for this issue."

Last week's meeting was held in Clermont Campus in Rathnew. In attendance were Sispar, BJ Marine, Gardai, Paddy McCauley, and five of the six Municipal District councillors. There were also representatives from Wicklow County Council present as observers.

"Everyone had their say, the discussion was hard at times but constructive and professional. Some points may require legal opinion," Cllr Fortune continued. "Hopefully the meeting

will result in a complete solution that enables the fishermen carry out their daily work as should always been the case.

"The meeting highlighted again that SISPAR and Wicklow County Council must resolve this. It is their creation and I believe they have a duty of care to our fishermen and our community. It has been allowed to be an arm wrestle between the fishermen and BJ Marine, and this I believe is totally wrong. Sispar and WCC must do what should have been done on day one and was promised back then. The fishermen were to be included in the harbour operation. I am calling on Sispar to put professional standard facilities into the harbour for the fishermen and that they get this done in the next four weeks."

Last July, the long-run-



Cllr Tom Fortune

ning issue of lack of access to Greystones harbour for three local fishermen appeared to be resolved when it was agreed that they would be allowed to land at the South end of the North Pier, bring their lorry to the end of the Pier to unload their boats, and tie up their boats at the North end of the North Pier.

The dispute resurfaced earlier this year when one of the fishermen received a letter from the harbour master regarding safety issues and the alleged breaching of bye-laws.

Speaking on the matter recently, Cllr Derek Mitchell, Cathaoirelach of Greystones, stated: "There have been serious safety and other problems with Commercial fishermen refusing to follow instructions from the Harbourmaster. I support the right of those who were commercial fishing in Greystones' old harbour, when it closed for rebuilding, to continue. However the small space and the serious biodiversity loss of fish due to overfishing do not favour expansion. It is also essential for the Harbourmaster to exercise control over what happens in the harbour."

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Wicklow
Saturday 12th June

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Dance Slam

See four local youth groups show off their dance abilities in this presentation, which was filmed in spectacular Wicklow landscapes and guided by a professional dance artist.

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Oh the Places You'll Go Podcast

Inspired by the Dr Seuss story, members of Mr Sand's Youth Theatre have produced a podcast about their experiences with youth theatre, the pandemic, and their hopes for the future.

webcloudone.com/cruinniu

National Events include

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Intel Ireland's Stakeholder Engagement Manager Lisa Harlow and Minister for Heritage and Electoral Reform Malcolm Noonan TD, are pictured in the Wicklow Mountains National Park for the launch of a bog restoration project to increase water storage by millions of litres.

Blue Flags for Wicklow beaches

Four Blue Flag awards have been awarded to beaches in Co. Wicklow. The Blue Flag awards were given to Bray South promenade, Greystones South Beach, Brittas Bay North and South beaches.

The Blue Flag and Green Coast Award sites for 2021 were announced by Ian Diamond, Coastal Awards Manager with An Taisce's Environmental Education unit last week in a virtual awards ceremony attended by Local Authorities, marina operators and Clean Coasts groups who volunteer at the beaches receiving Green Coast Awards this year.

The Blue Flag is one of the world's most recognised eco-labels. The Blue Flag originated in France in 1985 when French coastal Local Authorities were awarded with the Blue Flag for compliance with sewage treatment and bathing water quality criteria. It was launched as an International programme as part of the European Year of the Environment in 1987. In 1988, the first year sites were awarded outside of France 19 beaches and 2 marinas received the Blue Flag in Ireland. This year Ireland continues to punch above its weight with a record breaking 93 sites awarded, up 2 on last year's total. The programme aims to raise environmental awareness and promote sound environmental management of beaches, marinas and inland bathing waters around the world. The 83 Irish beaches and 10 marinas that have achieved this accolade must adhere to specific criteria related to water quality, information provision, environmental education, safety and site management.

Mr. Ian Diamond Coastal Awards Manager for An Taisce speaking at this morning's virtual Blue Flag and Green Coast Award presentation ceremony said: "I would like to thank and acknowledge the work of the Local Authorities and marina operators with us today for all their efforts in ensuring that the sites being awarded this year have achieved the excellent standards required by the Blue Flag. I would also like to commend the many thousands of Clean Coasts volunteers who make an invaluable contribution to the protection of Ireland's coastal environment, not just at the beaches receiving a Green Coast Award today, but all along the coastline and along riversides, canals and lakeshores inland. Without the collaborative approach to beach management demonstrated by Local Authorities and Clean Coasts groups around the country the Green Coast Awards would not be possible."



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Bog restoration project to increase water storage by millions of litres

On 20th May the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) and Intel Corporation launched a blanket bog restoration project in the Wicklow Mountains National Park (WMNP). The restoration project, taking place over the coming months, will see 60 hectares of drained bog re-wetted to increase water storage levels in part of the River Liffey headwaters by an expected 50-90 million litres.

These headwaters supply the Poulaphuca (Blessington) reservoir, a drinking water source for the Greater Dublin Area. The bog restoration will also protect biodiversity, improve carbon storage, and is likely to improve water quality.

This is the first project funded in Europe as part of Intel's 2030 RISE goal (responsible, inclusive, sustainable, and enabled) to achieve net positive water. By funding collaborative projects to support local watersheds, Intel is committed to restoring water in quantities greater than the water it consumes, closing the gap in its water balance. This public-private project collaboration is one of the first of its kind in Ireland for water restoration and the protection of biodiversity.

There is an estimated 4,000 hectares of degraded blanket bog in the National Park. Degraded blanket bog is caused by a range of land use activities including drainage. It is much more susceptible to damage from extreme weather events such as intense rainfall and extended periods of drought, which are projected to occur more frequently with climate change.

The first phase of this project will involve:

- Baseline studies, including scoping surveys of potential sites for management in the WMNP and ecohydrological characterisation of selected pilot sites and restoration planning design.

- Restoration works, principally re-wetting the bog through drain blocking to raise the lowered water levels. This will provide conditions to enable recovery of the main peat-forming species, especially the Sphagnum mosses.

- Pre- and post-restoration monitoring to quantify the project's impact on vegetation, carbon storage, water levels and any improved water storage capacity in study sites.

Jennifer Whitmore TD, Party Spokesperson for Climate Action

says "Not only will this project help to increase water supply to the Dublin area, but it will also help protect biodiversity, creating carbon capture potential and help in the restoration of degraded bog in the Wicklow Mountains.

"A recent report published today about peatlands, boglands and heathlands in Ireland states that in 2019 the overall conservation status of this type of land is 'bad and deteriorating' with most showing a deteriorating trend. Many of these biodiversity sensitive areas are located in the Wicklow Mountains and reveals the need for special attention to be paid in this region as we enter a new phase of climate action.

"This is a very innovative move by NPWS and should be rolled out on an even larger scale across Wicklow Mountains and elsewhere across the country. It will also be the first public-private venture in water restoration and biodiversity protection being launched in conjunction with INTEL.

"This is the type of nature-based solution that I have been championing since my election to the Dail and in my position as Spokesperson for Climate Action and Biodiversity. My background as an ecologist means that the interconnectedness of our environment is never too far from my mind, and I intend push for this approach as much as possible. I look forward to seeing works starting this summer and to the information this project will gather that will hopefully feed into more and more innovative projects going forward," concluded Deputy Whitmore.

Welcoming the agreement, the Minister for Heritage and Electoral Reform Malcolm Noonan TD said: "Restoring our degraded bogs is central to revitalising nature and improving resilience to climate change. These beautiful habitats are vitally important for a range of species and also provide important carbon stores and sinks. National Biodiversity Week is an appropriate

time to welcome Intel's support for the NPWS objective of protecting biodiversity in the Wicklow Mountains National Park."

The project, to be overseen by the NPWS, is due to commence in the summer of 2021. Indicative results and data from the project should be available in 2022.

To date, Intel has funded 32 other water restoration projects globally that benefit water basins that support Arizona, California, New Mexico, Oregon, and Texas in the United States, as well as in India and Costa Rica. This project in Ireland brings the number of projects to 33."

The ReWild Wicklow Group has welcomed the bog restorations but says that the State can do more: "National Biodiversity Week saw two very welcome announcements in relation to restoration of peatlands in the Wicklow Mountains," said Danny Alvey of the ReWild Wicklow group. "Luggala has committed to restoring 1,300 hectares of degraded peatlands on their estate over several years, a very ambitious and welcome step for carbon capture and biodiversity. They are also planning to improve heathland management which is very important habitat for endangered birds."

Regarding the project to rewet 60 hectares of bog near the River Liffey headwaters, Danny added: "We also welcome the NPWS initiative as a good start, but with 4,000 hectares of degraded bog across the Wicklow Mountains we think the State needs to be more ambitious and invest more in this project. We already know that rewetted bogs are amongst the best habitat for carbon capture and so Ireland has a big opportunity to improve its carbon balance by investing in rewetting now. Once again when it comes to the Wicklow Mountains it is projects on private land, whether that be bog or native woodland restoration, that are leading the way and often the surrounding public land is in much worse condition."

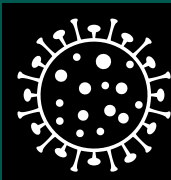


Founders of ReWild Wicklow, Enya, Danny, Simon and Ian Alvey on a recent hike in the Wicklow Mountains National Park

COVID-19: Resilience and Recovery

The Path Ahead

Thanks to you, the Government's plan on the easing of restrictions is working. We can see society and economy recovering slowly and steadily. To maintain our momentum, we need to continue to follow the public health guidelines in these coming weeks. We are entering a new stage of our recovery with the further easing of pandemic restrictions. The National Vaccination Programme is having a significant and positive impact.



Coronavirus
COVID-19
National
Programme

Summer Reopening Plan

2nd June

- Hotels, B&Bs, guesthouses, self-catering accommodation and hostels can reopen. Indoor dining and bar services for residents can resume.

7th June

- Outdoor matches**
Up to 100 or 200 depending on venue
- Outdoor Restaurants, Cafes, Bars***
Tables of up to 6 with additional provisions for children under 12
- Wedding celebrations/receptions**
Up to 25 guests
- Indoor visits in private homes***
From one other household for unvaccinated households
- Outdoor Events**
Up to 100 or 200 depending on venue
- Gyms, Swimming Pools, Leisure Centres**
Individual training only
- Cinemas and Theatres**

5th July

(subject to the prevailing health situation)

- Outdoor matches**
Up to 200 or 500 depending on venue
- Indoor matches**
Up to 50 or 100 depending on venue
- Indoor Restaurants, Cafes, Bars***
Tables of up to 6 with additional provisions for children under 12
- Wedding celebrations/receptions**
Up to 50 guests
- Hotels, B&Bs, guesthouses**
Indoor dining and bar services open to non-residents
- Indoor visits in private homes**
From three other households
- Outdoor Events**
Up to 200 or 500 depending on venue
- Indoor Events**
Up to 50 or 100 depending on venue
- Indoor Training**
In pods of up to 6

19th July

- Travel**
New travel advice and the EU Digital Covid Certificate system will come into effect.

National Vaccination Programme Update

May

- Over half of the adult population (over 18 years) will have received their first dose vaccination by the end of May
- Over 1 million doses administered during May
- Over 2.6m doses have now been administered
- Plans in place to administer over 300,000 doses weekly
- Roll out is well advanced to at-risk groups including those aged over 70 years, residents and staff in long term care facilities and frontline healthcare workers with improved outcomes
- Significant number of housebound people have been vaccinated with referrals ongoing
- Vaccination of high risk and very high risk groups is on track
- Latest research shows that public sentiment on vaccine uptake remains high

June

- First Dose Vaccinations will start 40 – 44 year olds
- Second dose vaccinations underway 45–69 year olds
- 38 vaccination centres operational



July to September

- Second dose vaccinations continue for all groups
- Vaccine extended to all remaining age groups down to those aged 16



Supporting the Recovery

Measures and guidance for businesses and individuals, charting an economic plan through recovery and beyond.

Everyone should continue to work from home unless it is absolutely necessary to attend in person.
*for further details on this or any of the arrangements go to gov.ie/recovery



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Hillwalkers Cllr John Mullen, Sheila Hale, Eddie McGlynn, Stephanie Hale and Michelle McDonald promoting the Wicklow Outdoors at Mangan's Lane, Tinahely

Tinahely and Bray to feature on Tracks & Trails

Tinahely and Bray will feature on Tracks and Trails this week on Friday 4th June (RTE 1, 7:30pm).

The first to feature will be the Tinahely area where presenter Pól O Conghaile walks a long, hilly loop on the Tinahely Way. Before Pól starts on the main Tinahely loop he checks out one of the oldest woods in Ireland, Tomnafinnog Woods, which is a special area of conservation. This woods is flat and family friendly with the paths lined with ancient oaks. Pól joins the old railway that went from Woodenbridge to Shilelagh. It is flat, easy and tranquil and takes him onto the road just a few miles outside Tinahely onto a new loop that opened recently. The climb gets gradually steeper until he reaches the viewing point at Dr Macnamara's monument.

After about 15km in total he descends down Mangan's lane to face a steep climb through the forest to the top of Muskeagh hill. Muskeagh hill is just under 400 meters high but the routes are easy under foot; mostly pathways and gravelled trails. Pól then descends down along the road for the final stretch into Tinahely where he spends the night.

In Bray, Pól starts at Bray Promenade. The promenade is well known as the starting point for the Cliff walk which links Bray to Greystones.

However, he heads on a different loop and one less travelled, to the peak at Bray head, Bray head is just under 250 m high.

This trail is a mixture of path, trail and steps. From the top, Bray head has some of the best views you'll get in Dublin and Co. Wicklow. From there he goes inland descending out on the road just beside Belmont Demesne.

The estate is private land but the Belmont way opened up here in 2019 so it's a new trail with lots of options for walks here. Pól stops here to try another activity - FatBikes. With some adrenaline to burn off he is on foot again heading through Belmont along the Belmont way towards the little Sugarloaf Mountain. The whole route is easy under foot and well signed with yellow way markers.

Pól stops to chat with two hillwalkers about the benefits of being in a walking group and how getting out on the trails has helped so many people physically and mentally. He then goes down the other side of the Little Sugarloaf to reach Kilmacanogue, to reach the the Sugarloaf way and onto the last leg of his walk. Leaving the village behind him he takes a track called the Old Viking Road which has been a road and walking way for hundreds of years. At the top of this old road the big Sugarloaf Mountain reveals itself and Pól finishes his walk at its base.

Brand-new primary school still lies empty a year later

Completed one year ago, the new school building for Greystones Community National School is still empty of students, who for the last six years have been receiving their education in prefabs due to a dispute between the builder Western Building Systems (WBS) and the Department of Education & Skills.

In September 2015, 20 Junior Infants started their primary school education in a newly appointed KWETB community school. They were first accommodated in a spare classroom in Temple Carrig Secondary School, and in October 2015 were moved to prefabs on the grounds of Greystones Rugby Club.

Later this year, these same children will be entering 5th class and are currently still waiting to move into their new school building. The prefabs are surrounded by a noisy construction site as even more prefabs are being installed for the next school year as a necessary contingency plan in case the dispute isn't resolved by then.

The school says that it blames bad decisions made by the Department of Education, such as 'Failing to avoid a dispute with the builder and the need for additional fire safety tests to be carried out a year after the building was completed despite implementing new measures during the Greystones CNS build to ensure correct proceedings are followed so that

fire safety and structural issues that occurred in previous WBS builds are avoided'.

WBS was awarded the tender for the school's construction in the summer of 2018 and construction started that August. On 7th September 2018, the Department of Education issued multiple High Court proceedings against WBS regarding fire safety issues with 42 schools which had been completed by WBS.

The school administration says it wants to know why the tender was awarded to WBS given that the Department would have been aware of the imminent litigation in relation to fire safety issues.

The school also accuses the Department of: Failing to clearly communicate with the KWETB, Principal and parents as to why the new school building can't be occupied; Hiding behind statements of privacy and confidentiality; Failing to be transparent to elected representatives or hold anyone accountable'.

Almost E1 million has been spent by the

Department in rent to the rugby club since CNS first occupied prefabs on the club's grounds (approximately E11,000 per month). This does not include the cost to the taxpayer of building and constructing the prefabs which have increased in number each year as the school grows.

In addition to this, locally the DES has spent approximately E10K per month in rent to Greystones Lawn Tennis Club for the use of its clubhouse for Greystones Community College, a new secondary school, since September 2020.

A conciliator was appointed between the DES and WBS in January of this year and the conciliatory process concluded on 26th April. Both parties were then given 42 days to accept or reject the report issued by the conciliator. At its latest, this will be 6th June 2021.

The Department issued a statement at this time stating that it would carry out a fire safety test in early June 2021. If this test passes then the DES claims occupancy should take place quite quickly.

If it fails then further proceedings will follow.

Explaining the fire safety issue, the Planning and Building Unit of the DES issued a letter about the on May 7th stating "During the construction period, significant on-site quality assurance measures were put in place by the Department and its technical team and all issues which arose were dealt with in accordance with the terms of the PWC. Ultimately this lead to the test, on 22nd July 2020, of a vertical loaded steel beam, which was carried out in an accredited UK Test Laboratory (BRE). The test failed to reach the 60 minute requirements of the Fire Cert."

The CNS administration says it has been let down by the Department: "Greystones CNS is a fabulous school run by dedicated, energetic and creative teachers and staff. The children are learning in a wonderful ethos of equality, respect, care, excellence in education and community. But these teachers and staff continue to be treated abysmally by the DES, and the children are being so badly let down by the adults who are charged with the responsibility of offering them a safe and settled environment in which to grow and learn."

One parent of children in CNS stated "I have zero confidence or faith in anything the DES says. I do not accept their proposed plans and processes. I am calling for a swift and absolute result to the issue that serves the primary stakeholders in this, the children, who have been treated with utter disdain."



'Greystones School Community needs certainty'

Minister Simon Harris TD responded to the latest update from the Department of Education regarding the accommodation for Greystones Community National School and Greystones Community College.

Minister Harris said "I welcome the fact construction work has finally started on the 16 classroom modular building for Greystones Community College. This is to be completed for the new school year in August, but public representatives, parents and the local community have serious questions about the timeline for the delivery of these buildings.

"We know the timeframe is tight for the delivery of these

modular buildings and along with my Oireachtas colleagues we are demanding maximum transparency regarding the timetable and delivery of these buildings.

"The Department has agreed to meet with the principals of the Greystones Community College and Greystones Community National School on a weekly basis to update them on the progress going forward."

The School Building Unit have

also advised that the building for the Greystones Community National School is now to be handed over to the Department of Education and that a controlled fire test has now been booked for the week commencing June 14th. Subject to this fire test being successful the Greystones CNS building will be fit for occupation.

Minister Harris concluded "There has been positive progress but I will remain vigilant to ensure that Greystones Community College and Greystones Community National School students are in their new buildings in autumn 2021."



An Roinn Cosanta
Department of Defence

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The new library in Rathdrum

Wicklow libraries re-open to the public!

Wicklow County Council Library Service is delighted that its 13 libraries and mobile library are now welcoming back their 30,000+ borrowers from across the county.

Wicklow County Council has reopened its 13 libraries to the public for "Browse and Borrow". Our mobile library is also back on the road.

If you haven't returned to your local library yet, we'd love to see you again. Please remember to wear a face covering.

What can you expect?

- A welcome from staff on your return!
- Lots of new books
- Possibility to request items from 330 libraries nationwide
- Remote printing
- Physical distancing
- Limits on numbers in libraries at any given time
- Hand sanitizing, on entering the building
- Directional signage
- We will continue to quarantine stock for 72 hours+ to ensure your safety

At this stage we are unable to provide

- Study facilities
- PC facilities
- Newspapers / magazines
- Public seating

However, we will return to full services when government guidelines allow, so we will keep you up to date on our web page, social media and print media

Lots of online activities throughout the summer, including our highly popular "Summer Stars" programme!



Opening hours are up to date on www.wicklow.ie
Saturday openings will resume after June bank holiday

Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr. Pat Kennedy endorsed this, saying "One of the things the public have missed most, is being free to get out and about and meet people. In addition to the books and information, our libraries are a great social outlet for all. There have been great online services provided, but nothing can beat being allowed interact in a safe manner. I'm delighted that Wicklow County Council has decided to continue to quarantine books for 3 days before shelving them. This should reassure the public that books from all our libraries are safe, as can the safety measures in place in our library buildings. We are currently open for borrowing items, but the ability to study and use IT facilities will be reintroduced when national guidelines allow".

Cllr Kennedy concluded "This is an exciting summer for our library service, with new libraries being completed in Wicklow town and Rathdrum. These will both be opened before September and will be a major benefit to both communities".

Siobhan Jameson, Senior Library Assistant at Wicklow Branch Library in Wicklow Town, stated "All outstanding loans can now be returned with no fines charged. Patrons can borrow DVDs, CDs, adult fiction, young adult fiction, nonfiction, children's books, and much more. At present, there is a wonderful selection of new books in stock.

"There is also a number of online services which can be accessed through the Wicklow Libraries web page at www.wicklow.ie/library-service."

Online services include: Transparent Language online; Universal Courses online; Vision-Net; MediciTV; Britannica Encyclopaedia.

Patrons can also download the following apps to their mobile phone, tablet, laptop, or PC: Borrow Box ebooks, and audio books; Libby Emagazines, full colour emagazines; Pressreader, Digital newspaper service.

To access these apps all you need is your library card number and four digit pin number, which can be obtained from your local Library.

To keep up to date with Library events check out their social media page or contact the branch (0404 67025 / wicklib@wicklowcoco.ie)



Shelving in the new Wicklow Town library currently being built

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Phone: (0402) 39977
Email: arklowlibrary@wicklowcoco.ie

Aughrim library
Phone: (0402) 36036
Email: cagnew@wicklowcoco.ie

Ballywaltrim library, Boghall Road, Bray
Phone: (01) 272 3205
Email: ballywaltrimlib@wicklowcoco.ie

Baltinglass library
Phone: (059) 648 2300
Email: baltinglasslib@wicklowcoco.ie

Blessington library
Phone: (045) 891 740
Email: blessingtonlib@wicklowcoco.ie

Bray library, Eglinton Road
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Email: braylib@wicklowcoco.ie

Carnew library
Phone: (053) 942 6088
Email: MHennessey@wicklowcoco.ie

Dunlavin library
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Email: MGreene@wicklowcoco.ie

Enniskerry library
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Email: SMMulligan@wicklowcoco.ie

Greystones library
Phone: (01) 287 3548
Email: greylib@wicklowcoco.ie

Rathdrum library
Phone: (0404) 43232
Email: MgtByrne@wicklowcoco.ie

Tinahely library
Phone: (0404) 38080
Email: MCarty@wicklowcoco.ie

Wicklow library
Email: wicklib@wicklowcoco.ie
Phone: (0404) 67025



Wicklow re-opens for business

Bookings boost for hotels and guesthouses

Hotel and guesthouse owners in Wicklow and across the country are welcoming the increase in bookings that has followed the Government's recent announcement that hotels will reopen on 2nd June.

The latest industry survey from the Irish Hotels Federation (IHF) shows booking levels nationally now average 31% for July and 27% for August - the key summer months.

This compares to levels of 23% and 21% respectively just ahead of the announcement. As hotels and guesthouses across the country prepare to reopen Gerard O'Brien, chair of the Wicklow branch of the IHF, is calling on the Government to facilitate the return of vaccinated overseas travellers quickly to give a clear sign to overseas markets too that Ireland is open for business again, similar to reopening announcements in other European countries such as Greece, Portugal and Malta.

He said, "The increase in bookings in the past fortnight has been a welcome morale boost to our members and the thou-

sands of people employed in Irish hotels. The domestic market was a real positive last year and we expect home holidays to be very important for the sector again this year. Not surprisingly, as indicated by our latest survey, we would expect to see stronger demand in popular tourism destinations and hotels offering packages and facilities for families. However, we would encourage people to explore all parts across the country, as they did last year. There is excellent value available. Guests should shop around and contact hotels directly to find out what special offers are available, including mid-week specials for those whose dates are flexible."

While hotels and guesthouses are not banking on significant over-

seas visitors this year, Mr O'Brien is calling on the Government to implement the EU Covid-19 Travel Certificate, expected to be approved by the EU next month, as



quickly as possible. "This would send a very clear signal that Ireland is reopening for tourism when it is safe to travel and will facilitate the necessary lead times for planning holidays and business travel. As an island nation internation-

al tourism is critically important, accounting for over 70% of tourism revenue pre-COVID.

He also welcomed the agreement reached by EU member states last week to allow fully vaccinated visitors from outside the EU to enter the bloc this summer for holidays. He called on the Government to implement the agreement at the earliest opportunity, which would allow vaccinated travellers from other key markets such as the USA, who typically travel in the autumn. "This would be very important in extending the season for many Irish tourism businesses."

Mr O'Brien also called for a firm commitment from government on business and employment supports for the sector into 2022.

"The summer months are very important and

the uplift we are seeing in booking levels is a clear indicator that the recovery of Irish tourism is underway. However, overall, a slow recovery is still expected in 2021. Our industry has been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic and with some level of restrictions likely for some time to come, tourism recovery is not going to begin in earnest until 2022. The hotel and guesthouse sector is a vital part of tourism infrastructure. More than 65,000 people across Ireland were employed in the sector before Covid-19 restrictions. Hotels, including here in Wicklow are focussed on restoring these livelihoods as quickly as possible. While employment and business supports to date have been very welcome, it is essential that the Government provides greater clarity and certainty now around supports into 2022 and beyond so businesses can plan properly.

"Specifically, we are seeking for the EWSS to remain in place until the end of March 2022, an extension of the Local Authority Rates waiver until the end of March 2022 similar to what has been put in place in

Scotland. We also ask that the Covid Restrictions Supports Scheme (CRSS), targeting businesses with a 75% drop in revenue, be doubled irrespective of the level of Covid restrictions and the €5,000 weekly cap to be removed, along with the doubling of reopening grants to reflect the scale

of reopening costs after months of prolonged closure.

Mr O'Brien said hotels also require a clear commitment from the Government to retain the tourism VAT rate. "The 9% VAT is a critical measure for international competitiveness and must be in place until 2025 to assist recovery and secure

a viable and sustainable future for the industry," he added. It is the right rate of VAT vis a vis other European countries.

The IHF survey was carried out on 11th - 13th May and the results are based on the response of 306 properties with 28,900 guest rooms spread across the country.

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FREE PARKING

Wicklow re-opens for business

Call for targeted business supports

Deputy Jennifer Whitmore has called for targeted supports for small businesses in Wicklow. Deputy Whitmore organised a Wicklow Business Survey for business owners across the county, which revealed many are dealing with covid-related legacy debt issues.

"This is an exciting time for customers who can now get their hair done, go into shops that have been closed to them for so long, but it's an anxious time for business owners dealing with a legacy of covid-related issue including debt and continuing high costs," said Deputy Whitmore.

"Recently I organised a survey and received dozens of personalised responses from business owners across the county detailing their experience but also their fears ahead of reopening.

"It was clear from their responses that the third and final lockdown had the most negative impact, not even just financially but from a time and energy perspective. Business owners are exhausted, like many of us, because of the time, energy and

stress involved at this time to manage their business. With all that work involved, many were only just about able to keep their business afloat.

"A huge concern relayed to me from the survey is the fact that many businesses are still saddled with debt. Not many received a break on their rent/mortgage or loan repayments even though they were closed and banks were encouraged to be flexible. It has meant owners now having to deal with legacy debt and will not be making profit for some time even when the economy is fully reopened. Debt will have a lasting impact on businesses that will go beyond full reopening of our economy and is something the Government must look at in terms of long-term targeted supports to make sure small local

businesses can continue in a sustainable way.

"Employment supports were mentioned as being very important to businesses including PUP and the Temporary and Wage Subsidy Schemes. The Online Trading Voucher was cited as helpful as well as Click & Collect but this was strangely, only introduced in the past week leaving many bookshops and local businesses needlessly starved of cash during the latest lockdown. It reveals the Government's 'one size fits all' approach during the pandemic and a lack of learning from previous lockdowns.

"It is also important to highlight that Wicklow Co Council and Local Enterprise Office were the most helpful in terms of providing supports for local businesses, particularly the waiver of

commercial rates, which is a great reflection on Wicklow County Council but businesses want to see the commercial rates waiver continue into September to give local businesses a fighting chance to recoup losses.

"When asked whether businesses were optimistic of the future, the answer was mixed. While approximately 46% of respondents said they were optimistic, a third of our businesses are very pessimistic which is a very concerning portion who feel negatively about the future. This mixed result shows that while some are optimistic, there remains a huge level of uncertainty in the business committee even ahead of reopening. Addressing this will be key to the success of this sector re-opening."

New Ibec research reveals business expectations for return to workplaces

Ibec, the group that represents Irish business, has published the results of a major survey of business. The survey findings reaffirm the urgent need for Government to provide clarity and timelines to support businesses in safely returning staff to the workplace.

Ibec CEO Danny McCoy: "Clarity from Government on the timing of graduated workplace reopening is now key for companies in order to reignite collaboration, culture and confidence in their workforce. Government's roadmap must be aligned with an ongoing review of reopening timelines that reflects the risk reduction that the vaccine programme is delivering. This means a potential

earlier gradual return to workplaces than the previously flagged expected return time of September.

"Over a quarter of respondents (28%) will plan their return to the workplace in line with Government advice and/or the finalisation of the vaccination rollout. A similar proportion (29%) expect to return in September 2021 and one in five organisations expect to be fully back in the workplace within the next three months (21%). Therefore, if Government guidelines provide for it, it seems likely that 78% of respondent organisations

could be returned to the workplace by September of this year.


"In recent years we have witnessed emerging trends towards more flexible and remote working. Our survey results confirm that Covid has accelerated this trend, with four out of five respondent companies stating that they will operate a hybrid model of remote and onsite work to a degree when their offices reopen. 15% of respondents will ask all staff to return onsite fully and 4% will keep their staff remote working on a full-time basis.



Pictured in fine style getting set for reopening was Theresa McCoy, manager of the Jack & Jill charity boutique on Main Street in Arklow. The boutique, which sells ladies, gents and children's clothing, as well as handbags, shoes, bric-a-brac and furniture, was closed since January due to Government public health restrictions. Staff have been busy in recent days taking delivery of brand-new products kindly donated by high street retailers. With an exciting shopping experience in store, shoppers will not only be able to snap up a bargain, but they will also be supporting home nursing and end-of-life support to children with highly complex and life-threatening conditions. Doors are open Monday to Saturday, from 10am to 5pm.

INDEPENDENT
Cllr Tom Fortune

Great to see Daylight



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Wicklow re-opens for business

Re-opening measures in Greystones

Greystones Municipal Disatriet Council has been doing some extra work to ensure safe outdoor gatherings as the town emerges from lockdown measures.



Extra large bins have been installed in Burnaby Park & South Beach areas. The Council has also been working with local businesses who provide takeout service in relation to queue management.

Council staff will be providing stencilled markings at various locations around the town to assist with queues, particularly at pinch points.

The toilet block at the harbour is being refurbished and re-opened. An

additional toilet block of 6 is being provided at South Beach car park for summer months.

Planters & seating have been installed on Church Road to re-allocate public space and facilitate social distancing. They have been designed by the Area Engineer and have been used by the NTA as an example to other areas.

There are four new "Pizza bins" in the vicinity of Burnaby Park/South Beach. These bins are

specifically designed to take pizza boxes, which sometimes block bin openings. It is hoped that local pizza suppliers will help with the costs of these bins, in return for free advertising. The council is also continuing the 'Think Local, Buy Local' campaign.

Cllr Derek Mitchell, Cathaoirleach of Greystones Municipal District, said "I welcome this work to assist trade and social distancing after a long shutdown."



New-look website aims to attract more visitors to Bray

A new-look website for Bray.ie aims to increase footfall in the town and attract visitors to help the town's recovery from the Covid-19 restrictions. It will provide visitors with a much better online experience about all that the town has to offer.

During COVID-19, Bray.ie has been there to help support our community during these unprecedented times through the introduction of dedicated information hubs to help connect local businesses with customers and share practical hints, tips and links.

Mr Eugene Finnegan from Bray Tourism said: "Placing digital at the core of the town's recovery is key. Bray.ie's new-look

website and its comprehensive communications strategy aims to increase engagement with our online audience and ultimately convert them into potential visitors. We can't wait to welcome back our domestic and international visitors when it is safe to do so."

Cllr Anne Ferris, Cathaoirleach of Bray Municipal District, stated: "Bray.ie and its digital networks are a massive con-

tributor in helping promote the Bray Brand. Why not take a look around the new-look website and enjoy the improved content, navigation and search functionality."

Cllr. Derek MITCHELL



I welcome the re-opening of businesses & encourage people to Shop Local

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Wicklow mourns passing of 'courageous and steadfast' Pat Doran

County Wicklow is mourning the loss of former Fianna Fáil councillor Pat Doran who sadly passed away on Sunday 16th May. His funeral took place on Tuesday 18th May at the Church of St. Brigid in Tomacork, Carnew, where he lived. His Requiem Mass was concelebrated, presided over by Pat's friend the Very Rev. Fr. Martin Casey, PP of Carnew and inter-county hurler.

A Carnew man, Pat served as a Councillor for Wicklow for over three decades and was known for working hard for and alongside the people, being a strong voice for them on the Council, and for being an honest and straight talking public representative.

He called himself a councillor "for the people of the whole area, from Carnew to Shillelagh and Tinahely, from Knockananna to Vallemount, from Baltinglass, to Blessington and Manor Kilbride and everywhere in between".

Born in Lismore, Co. Waterford near the hugely republican Mount Melleray Cistercian Abbey, Pat Doran was steeped in Irish republicanism. The Doran family grew up just outside Carnew, on the Wicklow/Wexford border at Castlewhite, the home place of Pat's father Jim Doran and mother Ester, where they raised their eight children.

The Doran family's sense of service, embodied in Pat's service as a local representative was epitomised also by his sisters Sr. Clement Doran, OSA, a Sister of St Augustine of the Mercy of Jesus, and Sr. Julie Doran, OLA, a Missionary Sister of Our Lady of the Apostles who has devoted her life to nursing in Nigeria and Somalia. Both sisters have returned to Ireland where they continue their mission.

In the late 1950s Pat emigrated to Middlesbrough in Britain,

where he worked in the building trade as a carpenter. In the 1960s he founded a firm of building contractors O'Rourke & Doran with John O'Rourke of Cork, which operated across England but principally in Yorkshire. It was during the excavation of a manhole in Bradford, Northern England, that Pat met his future wife, Knock, Co. Mayo woman Mary Coen. Being the quintessential gentleman, Pat offered to lay a plank across the excavations to enable access to her front door. This initially resulted in the offer of a cup of tea, and ended in their long and happy marriage.

Upon his return to Ireland in 1970, Pat bought land and the old parochial house at Tomacork, outside Carnew where he started farming and dealing in cattle. He became a major buyer for Slaney Meats throughout the 1970s, 80s and 90s becoming a fixture in Carnew Mart and in marts across the South East of Ireland. In 1983 Pat established Pat Doran Construction Ltd. as a family building contractor's business that operates across Wexford, Wicklow and Kildare.

An ardent Fianna Fáil supporter, Pat became actively involved in politics in the early 1970s at the time of the Arms Crises, supporting local TD Paudge Brennan. Out of support for Kevin Boland TD (Minister for Local Government who resigned from the Lynch led Fianna

Fáil government in sympathy with Neil Blaney TD, Minister for Agriculture and Charlie Haughey TD, Minister for Finance, both of whom had been sacked from cabinet over the State importation of IRA arms destined for the North) Paudge Brennan TD resigned as a Minister for State in the Department of Local Government. In the 1973 general election, Paudge Brennan ran unsuccessfully as an Independent candidate but was returned in the 1981 general election as a Fianna Fáil candidate. Pat Doran ran successfully for the first time in the 1985 local elections for Wicklow County Council, taking a council seat for Fianna Fáil with just 20 votes to spare. He was successfully re-elected at every subsequent local election until his retirement from politics in 2019. In 2007 Pat ran unsuccessfully in the general election as an Independent candidate, garnering a respectable 2,841 votes. During his long political life, Pat admitted that he owed most to the support of his late wife Mary and a lot to Paudge Brennan. As a proud member of Fianna Fáil The Republican Party, Pat never shied away from the hard questions, could be counted on to stand for what was right, talk straight to power and expected fairness in return. He fought the best for those who needed it most and was recognised as the voice of South West Wicklow.

Apart from his member-

ship of Fianna Fáil and Wicklow County Council, Pat had been a lifelong member of the Pioneer Total Abstinence Association of the Sacred Heart. He served as a treasurer of Carnew Emmets GAA Club, and was very active together with the Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul with the Community Care group in Carnew where he served as chair. He served on local policing boards, and helped establish the South Wicklow Hospice Homecare. As a returned emigrant, he had a particular interest in the plight of emigrants and their return home.

Speaking following Pat's death, Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Pat Kennedy, said, "Pat was first and foremost a servant to the people. That is how he saw himself in my opinion. He always put people first. He had great time for the elderly, and he also used to say to me 'remember the elderly, you might get there one day yourself'. I have fond memories of Pat. He was a giant of a man. Pat gave a huge service, not just to Carnew area but to the people of Wicklow."

Cllr Pat Fitzgerald, Fianna Fáil leader on the Council, said "He was a man who was respected in the community and was acknowledged as a man of the people and for the people. He gave 34 sturdy years to his community. Nothing was impossible when you approached Pat

Doran for assistance. Pat Doran might be gone from this life, but he will never be forgotten. In my dealings with Pat, I always found him to be an honest and hard-working councillor."

Fianna Fáil Senator Pat Casey told Wicklow Times "I served with Pat Doran on Wicklow County Council and worked with him in every election for Fianna Fáil. Pat Doran knew every house in South Wicklow and knew the seed, breed, generation and voting record of all of them. His no nonsense but friendly approach towards everyone ensured that even his political opponents did not have a bad word to say about him. Pat often would sit in homes in rural Wicklow drinking tea and telling stories late into the night, hours after the canvassing time should have ended. He loved the rural way of life and the wheeling and dealing that went with cattle dealing. On all the occasions I visited Carnew Community Care, you could sense the shared love between Pat Doran and the residents and staff. Pat Doran had a sense of social justice long before the term was even in use. The word that sums up Pat Doran's life and work is that rural saying of decency. Pat Doran was decent in every fibre of his being and his loss is deeply felt by his family, the Fianna Fáil family and the larger community of Carnew and South West Wicklow."

Fianna Fáil West Wicklow councillor John Mullen said "Pat Doran worked for his community of South Wicklow for over 30 years and his determination to ensure that the people of rural Wicklow received essential services particularly in housing, health and supports for the elderly was always at the top of his agenda. Carnew Community Care, South Wicklow Hospice and Carnew Primary Care Centre are unique achievements that any public representative could be proud of but to have been instrumental in the delivery of all three says all that needs to be said about Pat's record of service to the people. Pat was a Republican Fianna Fáiler and always stood his ground on what he felt were core principles.

"A straight talker, he said what he meant and meant what he said. Pat also had a great sense of



Pat Doran

humour and could break the tension at meetings with a unique story or saying about rural life. Pat had time for everyone but his family was the beating heart and bedrock of his life. Pat lived a life whose example we can all look to for inspiration."

Speaking about Pat, Councillor Joe Behan said "Pat Doran was a dedicated public representative who served his constituents with energy, compassion, intelligence and skill. He was steadfast in his determination to ensure that the people of south Wicklow received all of their just entitlements and he was especially active in supporting rural people to get planning permission for their sons and daughters on their family land.

"Pat was a proud Fianna Fáil man and he served the party with distinction. Pat's loyalty and support for Paudge Brennan T.D. was legendary and he displayed the same independence of mind and courage of his republican convictions for which Paudge Brennan was famous.

"Pat's courage as a public representative was clearly evident when he strongly supported local people in Redcross when Wicklow County Council granted planning permission for a pet crematorium against the wishes of the local people and their public representatives. Pat had his finger on the pulse and his feet on the ground and he knew his people and they knew him. He will be sadly missed. Ní bheidh a leithéid ann arís. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis."

Former West Wicklow Independent councillor Tommy Cullen said "Cllr Pat Doran was a friend for many years. I held him in high regard for his dedication to service for the people of Wicklow; he showed immense courage when

others did not. He stood for and achieved honesty and integrity in public office when at times that was a challenging time to do so. The people of Wicklow should be immensely proud of Cllr. Pat Doran as he was their champion and defender. Both Pat and his late wife Mary both had a great sense of humour and were never pompous. Pat's courage in saving the Vale of Avoca should never be forgotten in the history books of Wicklow. Pat loved people and fighting for their rights. The Wexford spirit of 1798 never left his soul. It was emotional to hear Boulavouge play in the graveyard as Pat was laid to rest."

Bray barrister Malachai Duddy, who came to know and deeply respect Cllr. Pat Doran through the local organisation extended his heartfelt sympathies to the Doran family saying "Driven by his deeply held republican principles of justice and fairness, coming from a family where service of others was ingrained, the late Pat Doran represented all that was good in local Irish community politics. Both our families had the honour, and the pleasure, of being represented at the 2016 Centenary celebrations marking the founding of Cumann na mBan at Glasnevin cemetery.

"In a time of social media, Pat's way of listening to his electorate's concerns was to slip through an always open kitchen door and have a welcoming cup of tea whilst counselling local concerns. He knew that if the grass roots were tended, treated well and were rightly served, the whole of society would benefit."

Kathleen Kelleher, who served alongside Pat on Wicklow County Council, said "Pat was well known,

much loved and will always be remembered. He served his Carnew district and community to a very high standard for many long years. I sat beside him on Wicklow County Council and can attest to his abilities and his hard work. He was an on-the-ground, face-to-face, Councillor who had a personal relationship with all his constituents. Pat's example, and that of many other Fianna Fáil Councillors nationwide, is why FF is so well respected locally. We send our sincere condolences to Pat's family and friends."

Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council, Frank Curran, said "Councillor Doran served the community of County Wicklow both conscientiously and honestly and represented the issues of concern of his constituents in the Council Chamber and on the many committees and boards he was appointed to. He treated everyone with kindness, respect, courtesy and dignity. He will be sadly missed by his fellow Councillors, his friends and family and the staff of Wicklow County Council."

Pat's supporters from Carnew, through Shillelagh and Tinahely, from Knockananna to Vallemount, from Baltinglass, Blessington and Manor Kilbride and every one in between, have lost a great advocate. With family links to the Battle of Ballyellis during the 1798 Rebellion, it is a truism to say that Pat Doran's family have been Fianna Fáil since 1798. Following a long day's work, often including evening meetings, Pat would arrive home to his beloved wife Mary and would say "put the kettle on Mary, I'm home". In Faith, we can be confident that Mary once more will have the kettle on for Pat.



Pat Doran speaking to church-goers at Templaraine, Arklow

Mermaid Arts Centre announce TRANSFORM associate artists

Following an extensive call-out and selection process Mermaid Arts Centre is delighted to announce the four artists appointed as TRANSFORM Associate Artists. They are Mary Duffy, Yurika Higashikawa, Shiva R Joyce and Emmet Kirwan. These four artists will be employed on a part time basis at Mermaid for one year, thanks to support secured from the Arts Council through 2021 Arts Centre Funding.



Newcastle painter Mary Duffy

The call-out was answered by 208 applicants. A third of these applications were from artists based in Wicklow, and two thirds from artists all over Ireland, from

lence to my desire to be useful. So, when I heard the call for artists to contribute to the transformation process at Mermaid Arts Centre, I couldn't let this opportunity pass. I am

ful to Mermaid Arts Centre for giving me the opportunity to meditate on these questions even further and for creating this invaluable support system for myself and my talented colleagues. In an ideal world, the goal is to get to a place where more (~all~) artists can make use of an opportunity like this!"

Shiva R Joyce is a Writer & Printmaker based in Cork exploring the ethno-ecological and intersectional through written, visual and hybrid-digital media. She is interested in exploring eco-social peripheries: the gaps, silences and omission. Of her appointment, she says: "My work is about revelation and revolution, both internal and external and so it made sense to apply to the Transform award. To have this time and space to create is life-changing; every Artist knows and appreciates deeply such opportunities. My many thanks to Mermaid Arts Centre for spearheading growth and evolution in the narrative of Irish Arts with this project and supporting my Artistic journey".

Emmet Kirwan is an award-winning actor and

playwright from Tallaght, now based in Wicklow Town. On his appointment, the artist commented: "I am incredibly excited and privileged to be made an associate artist of Mermaid Arts Centre. After a long period of isolation and working alone, to work with an organisation such as the Mermaid and with this group of artists will be a creative Godsend. I appreciate the time and space that this affords me and for that I'm truly grateful."

The four associate artists will join the Mermaid Arts Centre team from May 2021, for 12 months. Primarily the artists will be paid to continue their own work and invest time in their practice, but by embedding artistic thinking and energy into Mermaid Arts Centre's team, systems and process-

beyond, providing employment opportunities, advocacy and practical supports for the creative process.

Artistic Director at Mermaid Arts Centre, Julie Kelleher says: "Transform is a simple idea, which makes part-time wages available to 4 artists. These wages are not product or outcome focused, they are not dependent on artists delivering a body of work or a project to a specific deadline. Rather, the agreement we have made with the selected artists assumes the inherent value of each artist and their work."

The burden on artists to be constantly producing, or applying for funds to produce, in order to earn is a heavy one, fraught with anxiety and disappointment. While we recognise that deadlines are useful as a project is gathering steam, and that



Writer and printmaker Shiva R Joyce

Down to Kerry and everywhere in between. Artists from a wide range of backgrounds applied, demonstrating a broad diversity of artistic practice and experience. The applications were read by several members of the Mermaid team, who longlisted the 208 to 35 and then shortlisted 13 of those applicants for interview. Three Wicklow-based artists were appointed, and a fourth based in Cork City.

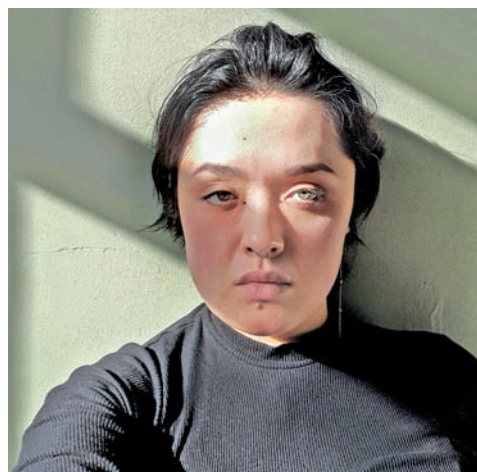
Mary Duffy is a painter from Newcastle, who uses paint itself to express the essence of space and place, and her response to it. Speaking about her appointment, the artist commented: "As someone who is driven by the desire to be useful, I've often considered it ironic that I spend my days and nights making art. Making art, while presenting its own challenges, often feels indulgent and self-serving, and therefore a real chal-

really honoured and privileged to be asked to contribute in this real and meaningful way".

Yurika Higashikawa is a multidisciplinary art practitioner and writer, currently based between Wicklow and Dublin. Their practice combines techniques from performance art, fiction writing, poetry and film. Speaking about the work that they will undertake this year, the artist said: "Some key questions I ask myself in a lot of the research that I do is 'Where are the fault lines between consent and coercion in this space or system? How can I make sense of what is going on here through the body, language or image reproduction? What are the moments of contradiction or dissolve?'. These questions have grown especially useful for me now, especially when thinking about our ever-fracturing, increasingly digitised world. I am so very grate-



Actor and playwright Emmet Kirwan



Multidisciplinary art practitioner and writer Yurika Higashikawa

es, it is expected that this scheme and its participants will shape the future of the organisation. The TRANSFORM scheme represents an embodiment of Mermaid's mission as a creative hub and artistic resource for artists and companies in Wicklow and

transparency is crucial where public funding is concerned, the production and application treadmill deprives artists of reflection time, time to look up, time to scan the horizon. Above all, it is this system that Transform seeks to disrupt.

We were overwhelmed by the volume and by how sharply the applicants articulated their need, not just for financial support but for moral support and validation too. I am deeply proud to call each of our extraordinary new Associate Artists colleagues and I look forward to supporting each of them as they do their important and necessary work.

The whole Mermaid team are excited and energised for the collaboration and sense of adventure that this year promises."

For more information on the TRANSFORM scheme and Mermaid Arts Centre's Associate Artists, visit: www.mermaidartscentre.ie



100 UNTOLD STORIES

JOHN SPILLANE & DAVID MITCHELL

MUSIC & CONVERSATION

JUNE 3 2021 | 9:00PM IST (GMT+1)
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100 Untold Stories - a film with John Spillane & David Mitchell, Music & Conversation

On Thursday 3rd June in an uncharacteristically quiet DeBarra's Folk Club, songwriter John Spillane and novelist David Mitchell chat about music, folklore and mythology and go down the tangential paths that only conversations between artists do.

These musings are interspersed with performances by John Spillane of songs from his new album '100 Snow White Horses'.

Ticket holders will get an exclusive link to watch this concert film. All tickets sold are a 50/50 profit split between the artist and the venue. These venues and promoters have been without shows for over a year now. We have come together to create an avenue to support an important area of the industry that has been hit very hard during Covid. We look forward to performing in these great rooms again.

It is produced by John Spillane & DeBarra's Folk Club

You can see it on Thursday 3rd June at 9pm. Tickets are €15 and are available from memaidartscentre.ie.

Emily Aoibheann: Aerial Residency Supported by the Arts Council

Emily Aoibheann will undertake a new aerial dance residency at the Courthouse Arts Centre in the coming months.

The project will involve the development of a new aerial dance piece for digital art and film in collaboration with artists Liing Heaney and Robert Mirolo, and an experimental dialogue-based broadcast project, details to be announced.

Emily is an artist, aerialist and mentor. Although her expertise lies in circus and aerial, her varied background leads to a highly creative, collaborative and original integration of multiple art forms. She is associate artist and visiting artist in residence at the Courthouse Arts Centre, Tinahely, Co. Wicklow, ongoing since 2018. Her work this year is supported and funded by the Arts Council, Fingal County Council, Dance Ireland and the Courthouse Arts Centre.





NOTICE OF PROPOSAL TO MAKE OR AMEND EXISTING TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS UNDER SECTION 205 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 (AS AMENDED)

Notice is hereby given that Wicklow County Council, pursuant to Section 205 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended), proposes to make and amend a number of Tree Preservation Orders in accordance with the Schedule set out below.

Any person who contravenes an order or, pending the decision of a Planning Authority, a proposed order under this section shall be guilty of an offence.

In accordance with Section 205 (4) of the Planning Act, a submission or observation regarding the proposed orders / amended orders may be made to the Planning Authority and any such submission or observation will be taken into consideration by the Planning Authority. The Planning Authority, having considered the proposal and any submission or observation made, may by resolution as it considers appropriate, make / amend the order, with or without modifications, or refuse to make / amend the order and any person(s) who on whom notice has been served shall be notified accordingly.

Full details of the proposed new / amended Tree Preservation Orders including schedule and maps will be available to view and download from Friday 04 June 2021 to Monday 16 August 2021 (on Draft Wicklow County Development Plan public consultation portal consult.wicklow.ie).

Printed copies will be on display at the following locations from Friday 04 June 2021 to Monday 16 August 2021:

- **Wicklow Town** Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Station Road, Wicklow Town
- **Arklow** Arklow Municipal District Office, Castle Park, Arklow Town
- **Blessington** Blessington Civic Offices, Blessington Business Park, Blessington
- **Bray** Bray Municipal District Office, Civic Offices, Main Street, Bray
- **Greystones** Greystones Municipal District Office, Mill Road, Greystones

Please check the Council's website or call 0404 20100 for arrangements to access these buildings as appointments may be necessary having regard to prevailing COVID precautions.

Making a submission

Submissions or observations regarding the proposed new / amended Tree Preservation Orders are hereby invited from the public and interested bodies. All written submissions or observations will be taken into consideration by the Planning Authority.

Submissions may be made in one of the following ways:

1. Via the Consultation Portal consult.wicklow.ie.
2. Write to: Planning Department, Wicklow County Council, Station Road, Wicklow Town.

Email submissions will not be accepted.

CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS: 5:00pm MONDAY 16TH AUGUST 2021

Schedule – Proposed new / amended Tree Preservation Orders

District	ID	Location	Description
Bray MD	Prop 1	Bray Richmond Park	A: 1st green, Mature Redwood B: 2nd green, Scots Pine (2 No.), Beech (4 No.)
	Amend 1	Bray Oldcourt Demesne	Amendment proposed to existing TPO No. B5 Add to description 'Row of mature oak and beech trees along the western boundary of Charnwood Estate; stand alone mature oak in open area to west of Charnwood, to east of Swan River valley woodlands'
	Prop 2	Bray Rockbrae House (FCA)	Redwood, left of entrance
	Prop 3	Bray Ravenswell School	Large Pine right of entrance
	Prop 4	Kilmacanogue, N11	Mature Scots Pine, mature Beech trees, mature Monterey pine, Monterey Cypress, Blue Atlas Cedars, east of N11 bridge at roundabout
	Amend 2	Kilmacanogue, Avoca Handweavers	Amendment proposed to existing TPO No. 2 Add to description 'In particular (but not limited to): - The Yew walk, containing 12 mature Yew trees - Sessile oak and beech within garden area - Weeping Monterey cypress - Redwoods - Blue atlas cedar
Wicklow MD	Prop 5	Wicklow Town – Rathnew; Knockrobin	A group of c. 33 mature sessile oak and large mature Scots pine.
	Prop 6	Wicklow Town – Rathnew; Burkeen Wood	Large mature woodland consisting of mature oak, ash, sweet chestnut, beech and sycamore
Arklow MD	Prop 7	Arklow, Coast Road	Corsican Pine trees at Kynoch's Lodge
	Prop 8	Rathdrum, Parnell Memorial Park	Trees in the Parnell Memorial Park; including blue atlas cedar, common alder, sycamore (4 No.), Scots pine
Baltinglass MD	Prop 9	Manor Kilbride, east of Kilbride Bridge	Small woodland containing c. 150 trees of predominantly beech, with sycamore, oak and pine
	Amend 3	Manor Kilbride	Amendment proposed to existing TPO No. 44 Revised map

Wicklow Local Authorities are committed to Access For All. All of the above documents are available in alternative format on request. Please contact Wicklow County Council on 0404-20100 should you have any specific access requirements.

New footpaths in Hollywood

New footpaths and lighting in Hollywood village were opened last Thursday and will be a great addition to pedestrian safety.

The footpaths were officially opened by Cllr Patsy Glennon, Cathaoirleach, Baltinglass Municipal District, who said: "This new footpath connecting Hollywood village to Hollywood cross on the N81 has been a long sought-after community facility. As a native of Hollywood, and as a father and grandfather who has lived here all my life, I am delighted to see that this has finally been achieved. It will also enhance the attraction of Hollywood for tourists and visitors. It is a great honour for me personally, and for my family, to be chosen to perform the official opening."

He added that Hollywood was a very close and strong community whose residents took great pride in their claim to be the original Hollywood. This project consists of 350 meters of new footpaths, street lighting and kerbing to link Hollywood School and village to bus/transport facilities on the N81. The funding for these works was provided for from the NTA Active Travel scheme.

Mr Frank Curran, Chief Executive, Wicklow County Council, said: "These works will be an important addition to the village and will contribute to pedestrian safety, particularly for the active walkers and school going children in the area."

Also in attendance at the opening was Cllr Pat Kennedy, Cathaoirleach, Wicklow County Council. "The new footpath will be of particular benefit to our younger generation and to our senior citizens."

Take part in the Climb Every Mountain Challenge



Wicklow native and Barretstown camper Nicole O'Donovan (pictured) is calling on the people of Wicklow to take part in the Climb Every Mountain Challenge in aid of children's charity Barretstown. Barretstown offers free, specially designed camps and programmes for children and their families living with a serious illness.

The Climb Every Mountain Challenge asks supporters to climb a mountain for Barretstown during the months of May and June, as an individual, team or a company. Climbers have a choice of mountains, ranging in height so there is something for all ages and fitness abilities. Participants can pick a target mountain or distance within their own county, taking the challenge outside. Alternatively, climbing that mountain can also be achieved virtually in the comfort of one's home, apartment block, office building.

Due to the Covid-19 crisis the charity has had to cancel or postpone all of its key fundraising initiatives. These events provide crucial income for Barretstown which relies on the public to provide 98% of the funds that make their work possible. As a result, in 2020 the charity suffered an income shortfall of €1,000,000 but still managed to serve 6,915 children and family members. However, there are still over 10,700 children and family members waiting to be served through Barretstown's traditional in person programmes and this is why they are raising much needed funds.

For more information or to register for the event, visit <https://www.barretstown.org/> or contact fundraising@barretstown.org.

Barndarrig remediation works to be carried out in a 'matter of weeks'

Irish Water will carry out remediation works in Barndarrig in a 'matter of weeks', it was learned last week.

The Do Not Consume Notice was issued on 9th February to protect 213 customers following elevated levels of nitrite in the water supply. The water was deemed not safe for consumption or the preparation of foods, but is safe for hygiene and use in washing machines and dishwashers.

Irish Water stated that their drinking water compliance and operational experts are "working hard to lift the Do Not Consume Notice as quickly and as safely as possible and are progressing with plans to install additional equipment at the water treatment plant which will help us to safeguard the water supply for Barndarrig. The team are working to install this equipment in the coming

weeks and when completed, Irish Water will consult with the HSE with a view to lifting the Do Not Consume notice.

Jennifer Whitmore TD has raised the issue as an urgent matter in the Dáil. Deputy Whitmore said "After raising this in the Dáil I welcome the commitment by the Minister and Irish Water that remediation works will be carried out by Irish Water in a matter of weeks and depending on EPA/HSE guidelines, the lifting of the notice will be looked at.

"This will come as a relief to many residents in Barndarrig who have been without a proper water supply since February, relying on bottled water for drinking. With a pandemic on top of it all, it

has no doubt been a stressful time for residents in Barndarrig.

"Bottled water has not been an ideal alternative for residents in the meantime and I have asked that the Minister work with Irish Water to put in place a water tanker until the water supply is up and running again. I am happy to say that the Minister has taken my suggestion for a water tanker to be provided to residents instead of bottled water.

"The Minister also welcomed my suggestion to liaise with Irish Water to ensure that a medium to long-term plan is in place to prioritise water supply to Barndarrig and install a nitrate monitor to ensure a clean water supply for the residents in future.

"Finally, I reiterated the

need for continued communication with residents which has been very patchy. Considering there are a few hundred locals affected it should be easy for Irish Water writes to each resident on this issue. I also requested that information be provided at the local shops which would be easily accessible to the locals, which the Minister agreed to.

"I look forward to working with the Minister and Irish Water to ensure that a water tanker is in

place for the Barndarrig community until the water issue is resolved, and that a permanent nitrate monitor is in place as well as continued communication provided to the residents on this issue" concludes Whitmore.

Irish Water stated "An alternative water supply is in place to support impacted customers at the car park opposite Barndarrig church and is being provided in accordance with current Level 5 COVID-19 restrictions.

Customers are reminded to follow the HSE guidance on social distancing, face coverings and hand hygiene when collecting water. Bottled water continues to be arranged for vulnerable customers who are registered on this supply. Vulnerable customers who haven't registered with Irish Water or those who have concerns about leaving their homes during the current pandemic should contact our customer care team, open 24/7, on 1850 278 278.

Please note this is not a Boil Water Notice. Boiling the water will not reduce nitrite levels and is therefore not a suitable measure to make the water safe to consume. This notice does not apply to other areas or water schemes in Co. Wicklow."

Peter Thornton, Regional Operations Lead with Irish Water, said "Irish Water acknowledges the impact of this notice on the local community in Barndarrig and we would like to reassure

impacted customers that our drinking water compliance and operational experts are working to resolve this issue as quickly and as safely as possible. We would ask customers who have concerns to contact our customer care team on 1850 278 278. The water is safe to use for handwashing and personal hygiene and all customers on this water supply scheme should continue to follow public health advice on handwashing at this time.



NOTICE OF THE PREPARATION OF THE DRAFT COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2021-2027

Notice is hereby given, that Wicklow County Council has, pursuant to Section 12 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended), and Article 13 of the Planning & Development [Strategic Environmental Assessment] Regulations 2004 (as amended), prepared a Draft County Development Plan for the period 2021-2027.

The Draft Plan comprises a Written Statement and Appendices, and is accompanied by:

- an Environmental Report, prepared in accordance with the Planning & Development [Strategic Environmental Assessment] Regulations 2004 (as amended) on the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the Draft Plan pursuant to the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (as amended)
- a Habitats Directive Appropriate Assessment, pursuant to Article 6[3] of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC
- a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment – pursuant to Section 28 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

The Draft Plan includes proposals to make additions, deletions and amendments to the **Record of Protected Structures** and in accordance with Section 12 (3) of the Planning Act, the Planning Authority shall serve on each person who is the owner or occupier of the proposed protected structure or the protected structure, as the case may be, a notice of the proposed addition, deletion or amendment, including the particulars.

Display of Draft Plan

The Draft Plan and associated documents (including a copy of the proposed additions / deletions / amendments to the Record of Protected Structures) will be available to view and download from the Council's website consult.wicklow.ie from Friday 04 June 2021 to Monday 16 August 2021.

Printed copies will be on display at the following locations from Friday 04 June 2021 to Monday 16 August 2021:

- **Wicklow Town** Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Station Road, Wicklow Town
- **Arklow** Arklow Municipal District Office, Castle Park, Arklow Town
- **Blessington** Blessington Civic Offices, Blessington Business Park, Blessington
- **Bray** Bray Municipal District Office, Civic Offices, Main Street, Bray
- **Greystones** Greystones Municipal District Office, Mill Road, Greystones

Please check the Council's website or call 0404 20100 for arrangements to access to these buildings as appointments may be necessary having regard to prevailing COVID precautions.

Hard copies of the Draft Plan [written statement, including appendices, environmental report and maps] will be available to purchase only **on request** (please call 0404 20100).

Making a submission

Submissions or observations regarding the Draft Plan, the associated Environmental Reports and the proposed additions / deletions / amendments to the Record of Protected Structures are hereby invited from the public and interested bodies. Children, or groups or associations representing the interests of children, are entitled to make submissions or observations. All written submissions or observations will be duly considered by the Planning Authority and taken into consideration before the making of the plan and the making of the proposed additions / deletions / amendments to the Record of Protected Structures.

Submissions may be made in one of the following ways:

1. Via the Consultation Portal consult.wicklow.ie
2. **Write to:** County Development Plan Review, Planning Department, Wicklow County Council, Station Road, Wicklow Town.

Email submissions will not be accepted.

CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS: 5:00pm MONDAY 16TH AUGUST 2021.

- YOU ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO MAKE YOUR SUBMISSION AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.
- All submissions are to be clearly marked with 'WICKLOW COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN'.
- All submissions should include your name and a contact address, a map (where appropriate) and, where relevant, details of any organisation, community group or company etc., which you represent.
- Please make your submission by one medium only, i.e. via the portal or hard copy.
- All submissions will form a part of the statutory Chief Executive's report to be presented to the elected members of Wicklow County Council.
- Please be advised that all submissions received will be published online in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Act. You should ensure that no vexatious, libellous or confidential information, including confidential information relating to a third party (in respect of which the third party has not, expressly, or impliedly in the circumstances, consented to its disclosure) is included in your submission. The Planning Authority reserves the right to redact any submission or part thereof that does not comply with this requirement. Please be advised that the name of the person(s)/group(s) who made the submission will be published, but personal data will be redacted.
- **LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Wicklow Local Authorities are committed to Access For All. All of the above documents are available in alternative format on request. Please contact Wicklow County Council on 0404-20100 should you have any specific access requirements.



Seema Rona, a nurse at Loughlinstown Hospital, celebrating International Nurses Day recently. Pic: Joe McQuillan

'YOU BRING IT IN - YOU TAKE IT HOME'

Although the environmental project, Pure, recorded its lowest amount of illegal dumping collected from the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands in 2020, litter continues to be a problem in the Garden County.

The Pure Project are concerned that the recent easing of travel restrictions will result in an increase of visitors to the

Wicklow Uplands, and similar to last year, there will be an increase in abandoned camping sites and litter.

In March, the Pure Truck removed over 20 tonnes of rubbish from Wicklow/Dublin uplands. The majority of this litter and rubbish was collected by Pure Mile Volunteers from hundreds of roads, verges, drains and ditches in

rural Wicklow. There are now over 800 miles of roads, mountains, woodlands, valleys, and upland amenities, signed up to the 2021 Pure Mile Project, the largest number ever since the project began, and thousands of Pure Mile Volunteers.

Last year there was a considerable increase in numbers visiting the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands and unfortunately this resulted in a visible increase in abandoned camping sites in the county, in particular, areas that were severely

affected included, Glenmalure Valley, Lough Dan, Trooperstown, Ballard, Crone Wood, Knockree, Aughrim, Lackan, and other scenic areas of Wicklow.

Abandoned camping material discarded on the landscape included, hundreds of tents, sleeping bags, blankets, chairs, tables, food items, bottles, cans, and barbeques, etc. In one large scale incident, after a large number of people descended on the Glenmalure Valley, the

Glenmalure Pure Mile Group gathered over 1,600kg of abandoned camping material, with the Pure Truck removing it all.

Pure are requesting that all visitors to the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands follow a simple rule, 'YOU BRING IT IN - YOU TAKE IT HOME'

Ian Davis, Manager of Pure commented, 'The Pure Project are collaborating with a number of stakeholders in creating awareness of this problem. All of the stakeholders' welcome visitors to

Wicklow, it's a fantastic natural resource with so much to offer. We all want to keep the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands pure and clean, the way it should be, and the majority of people who visit the uplands respect this, however, there are some who don't, and it's disappointing and frustrating that a minority of visitors are running it for everyone.'

**TO REPORT DUMPERS
AND DUMPING LO-CALL
1850 365 121**



**COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME 2021

What is it?

Wicklow Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) invites applications from community and voluntary groups and not-for-profit organisations for small scale capital projects that will enhance community facilities for individuals and communities that are impacted by disadvantage. The Community Enhancement Programme (CEP) is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development.

What does it fund?

Capital projects that comply with the objectives of County Wicklow's Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) for the development of community facilities with small grants for repairs and renovations or costs associated with reopening of a facility post COVID-19 or the sustainability of the facility, including costs such as utility bills, etc.

There are two parts to this funding scheme:

1. Grants up to a maximum of €1,000 for small grassroots community projects that address disadvantage and fulfil the objectives of the LECP.
2. Larger grants greater than €1,000 for projects that can clearly demonstrate that they address disadvantage and fulfil the objectives of the LECP.

How to Apply?

Applications for funding can now be made under this Programme to County Wicklow LCDC by **4.00 p.m. on Friday 2nd July 2021.**

Application Forms are available from:

The Council's website www.wicklow.ie or from Community, Cultural & Social Development, Wicklow County Council, Whitegates, Wicklow Town, A67 FW96 - telephone 0404 20208 or email cep@wicklowcoco.ie



**An Roinn Forbartha
Tuaithe agus Pobail
Department of Rural and
Community Development**



Inscribed silver ring, 13th century AD.

New heritage website for Rathdown

Greystones Tidy Towns are very excited to announce the arrival of their new heritage website.

Visit this new site at www.rathdown.wicklowheritage.org and help them bring it alive by contributing your photos, stories and memories!

Rathdown, just north of Greystones, has a fascinating story to tell. The archaeological evidence shows continuous human occupation since the Stone Age. The characters read like a 'who's who' of Irish history: hunter-gatherers, cereal growers, High-King Ermon, Romans, Celts, Leinster kings, Vikings, Diarmuid Mac Murchada, Strongbow, Normans, Henry II, Henry III, the O'Byrnes, the O'Tooles, Silken Thomas, Henry VIII, Oliver Cromwell, treachery, land-grabbing, punishment-blinding, massacres, arranged marriages, hidden treasure...and through it all, the intriguing story of the noble Gaelic Mac Gilla Mo-Cholmóc clan, Rathdown castle and village.

Now, Greystones Tidy Towns and Rathdown Park residents have together established Rathdown Heritage Park around St. Crispin's Cell to celebrate and conserve this precious heritage.

This website has been developed through a support partnership involving the Irish Community Archive Network (iCAN), the National Museum of Ireland, and Wicklow County Council Heritage Office, which provides professional



Carinated bowl, 4000 BC

supports to local groups collecting, preserving and sharing their local history and heritage online.

To further develop and record the story of Rathdown, this community archive has been designed to expand its content with your contributions. This can easily be done by completing the contribution form which can be found on the home page of the website.

Contribution ideas might include: Memories of a visit to Rathdown; Stories from your own family; Connections you have with the area; Photographs you might have; Newspaper cuttings/articles; Images of historical artifacts; Folklore, customs and traditions.

You do not need to donate your items as Greystones Tidy Towns will be happy to scan and return them to you. So, feast your eyes, and enjoy a good read!

For more information, please contact Greystones Tidy Towns through their website (rathdown.wicklowheritage.org).



**COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER NO 4 OF 2021

5 Ashwood, Roundwood, Co Wicklow

Wicklow County Council (hereinafter referred to as "the Housing Authority") in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by Section 76 of the Housing Act 1966, and the Third Schedule thereto (as amended by the Planning and Development Act 2000) have made an order entitled as above which is about to be submitted to an Bord Pleanála for confirmation. If confirmed, the order will authorise the Housing Authority to acquire compulsorily the land described in the Schedule for the purposes of the Housing Act, 1966.

A copy of the order and of the map referred to in it may be seen at all reasonable hours at:

Housing Section, County Buildings, Wicklow.

Owners, lessees and occupiers of the land described in the Schedule will receive individual written notice.

The Housing Act 1966, as amended, provides that An Bord cannot confirm the order in respect of the land if an objection is made in respect of the acquisition by an owner, lessee or occupier of the land, and not withdrawn, until it has held an oral hearing into the objection and until it has considered the objection and the report of the person who held the oral hearing.

SCHEDULE

Land other than land consisting of a house or houses unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered fit for human habitation at reasonable expense.

Number on map deposited at the offices of the housing authority	Quantity, description and situation of the land	Owners or reputed owners	Lessees or reputed lessees	Occupiers (except tenants for a month or a less period than a month)
21/06/59/100 Wicklow County Council- Compulsory Purchase Order No 4 of 2021	Dwelling house and land of 247 m ² .	Claire Keeley and Niall Cleary of 5 Ashwood, Roundwood.	None (vacant house)	None (vacant house)

Dated this 21st day of May 2021

Joe Lane, Director Services

Saving Swifts at St. Patrick's

The final pieces of a project by St. Patrick's Parish, Wicklow Town to support natural biodiversity in the Abbey Grounds and at St. Patrick's Church swung into place on Wednesday 19th May in beautiful spring sunshine.



Joe Hanlon of St. Patrick's Parish took to the air on the platform of the cherry picker along with Jim Creamer from Birdwatch Ireland, who kindly volunteered his expertise as a cherry picker operator. Oran O'Sullivan from Irish Garden Birds provided invaluable advice throughout the project and was on hand to see the final parts installed, as were Fr. Donal Roche Adm. and parishioner Susanna Braswell who coordinated the project. St. Patrick's Parish was awarded a Community Environment Action

Fund grant from Wicklow County Council and the Department of the Environment. Covid-19 restrictions then delayed the project. Among the project components supported by the grant was the installation of swift boxes and a sound system with recorded calls to attract swifts. The parochial house in the Abbey Grounds is a tall building, an ideal environment for swifts. Swifts migrate to Wicklow Town each year, making it highly likely that the nest boxes will be adopted in future years. As the next boxes were installed in at a height not easily accessible, a particular-

ly durable Irish product-made by Genesis Nest Boxes was used. Swifts are site-faithful, meaning they will return to the same nest site, and their nest sites will be inherited by future generations. This makes durable boxes an excellent, long-lasting conservation investment.

Additional nest boxes

have been installed for non-migratory native birds. Blue Tits, House Sparrows, House Martins, Swallows, Robin, Grey and Pied Wagtails have all been observed in the Abbey Grounds. Bat Roosting boxes are also being installed.

Bee Boxes for solitary bees, and Insect

Hotels have been put into the sunny spots at St. Patrick's Church grounds and at the De La Salle Pastoral Centre. The bees will be supported by pollinator planting and the growth of native Irish wildflowers. An area of native wildflowers has been planted at the Abbey Grounds.

Neary launches 2nd year of Bee Route Project

Social Democrats Cllr for Greystones Municipal District Jodie Neary has launched the second year of the Bee Route Project. Last year's successful project saw over 150 residents to take part.

However, this year with current restrictions in place, the launch was carried out in a smaller capacity with hopes that next year will be even bigger, says Cllr Neary. Locals were invited, especially children, to come along to South Beach Playground in Greystones to 'Pick a Pack' of sun-

flower and wildflower seeds to plant in their own home, in honour of our much-loved pollinators. The following weekend, Cllr Neary made available 'Pick a Pack' seeds in envelopes at Little Tern Park Playground in Kilcoole to officially launch Kilcoole's own bee route project. Speaking on the launch, Cllr Neary says "due to COVID restrictions I am unable to launch year two of the Bee Route Project in the same capacity as last year, as I did not want to encourage groups of people congregating while case numbers still too high. "In its place I hung up envelopes with seeds inside for people to collect at their own leisure at two spots over the course of a weekend and received a great response from people. Many children were delighted to take part with many telling tales of their own projects to help our bees. People were then encouraged to plant the seeds at home and encourage bee pollinators to visit their garden this summer. The seeds are Giant Russian sunflower seeds grown from last year's Bee Route Project kindly donated from previous sunflower growers. The pack also provided some information on biodiversity and other projects that are taking place."



COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Town and Village Renewal Scheme

Wicklow County Council is seeking Expressions of Interest from interested towns and villages with ideas for the development of their area and who may meet the criteria for inclusion in this scheme. Full details of the scheme and forms are available on www.wicklow.ie or by contacting townandvillage@wicklowcoco.ie



COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER NO 6 OF 2021

33 Connolly Street, Arklow, Co. Wicklow

Wicklow County Council (hereinafter referred to as "the Housing Authority") in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by Section 76 of the Housing Act 1966, and the Third Schedule thereto (as amended by the Planning and Development Act 2000) have made an order entitled as above which is about to be submitted to an Bord Pleanála for confirmation. If confirmed, the order will authorise the Housing Authority to acquire compulsorily the land described in the Schedule for the purposes of the Housing Act, 1966.

A copy of the order and of the map referred to in it may be seen at all reasonable hours at:

Housing Section, County Buildings, Wicklow or Arklow Municipal District Offices.

Owners, lessees and occupiers of the land described in the Schedule will receive individual written notice.

The Housing Act 1966, as amended, provides that An Bord cannot confirm the order in respect of the land if an objection is made in respect of the acquisition by an owner, lessee or occupier of the land, and not withdrawn, until it has held an oral hearing into the objection and until it has considered the objection and the report of the person who held the oral hearing.

SCHEDULE

Land other than land consisting of a house or houses unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered fit for human habitation at reasonable expense.

Number on map deposited at the offices of the housing authority	Quantity, description and situation of the land	Owners or reputed owners	Lessees or reputed lessees	Occupiers (except tenants for a month or a less period than a month)
21/06/57/100 Wicklow County Council Compulsory Purchase Order No 6 of 2021	Dwelling house and land of 156 m².	Emer McGrath Kilroy 33 Connolly Street, Arklow	None (vacant house)	None (vacant house)

Dated this 21st day of May 2021

Joe Lane, Director Services



COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER NO 5 OF 2021

10 Liam Mellows Avenue, Arklow, Co Wicklow

Wicklow County Council (hereinafter referred to as "the Housing Authority") in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by Section 76 of the Housing Act 1966, and the Third Schedule thereto (as amended by the Planning and Development Act 2000) have made an order entitled as above which is about to be submitted to an Bord Pleanála for confirmation. If confirmed, the order will authorise the Housing Authority to acquire compulsorily the land described in the Schedule for the purposes of the Housing Act, 1966.

A copy of the order and of the map referred to in it may be seen at all reasonable hours at:

Housing Section, County Buildings, Wicklow or Arklow Municipal District Offices, Arklow.

Owners, lessees and occupiers of the land described in the Schedule will receive individual written notice.

The Housing Act 1966, as amended, provides that An Bord cannot confirm the order in respect of the land if an objection is made in respect of the acquisition by an owner, lessee or occupier of the land, and not withdrawn, until it has held an oral hearing into the objection and until it has considered the objection and the report of the person who held the oral hearing.

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Number on map deposited at the offices of the housing authority	Quantity, description and situation of the land	Owners or reputed owners	Lessees or reputed lessees	Occupiers (except tenants for a month or a less period than a month)
21/06/58/100 Wicklow County Council- Compulsory Purchase Order No 5 of 2021	Dwelling house and land of 221 m².	Michael Murray and Siobhán Murray of "Heatherbank", Vale Road, Arklow	None (vacant house)	None (vacant house)

Dated this 21st day of May 2021

Joe Lane, Director Services



'Wicklow Port urgently needs levelling works'

Wicklow Port is in need of leveling works to keep it in operation, Minister Simon Harris said. Following a recent visit to the port with Cllr Irene Winters, Minister Harris said "I have been speaking to a number of local businesses and ship owners regarding their concerns for keeping the port in operation. The port requires dredging works and at a very minimum levelling works to keep it in operation."

"I have raised the urgency of the situation with the CEO of the County Council. Local companies are prepared to carry out levelling works, but they need permission from the Local Authority as the Port Operator to do so. The port employed hundreds of people and makes very significant contribution to the local and national economy."

Wicklow Sports & Recreation Partnership active despite Covid-19 restrictions

Wicklow Sports & Recreation Partnership had a busy year in 2020 despite restrictions on activities brought about by COVID-19.

Despite the pandemic, Wicklow Sports & Recreation Partnership continued to provide programmes and initiatives to ensure that everyone in Wicklow had the opportunity to share in the enjoyment as well as the mental and physical health benefits of sport and physical activity.

Wicklow is one of 29 Local Sports Partnerships (LSPs) featured in the Annual Report 2020 published by Sport Ireland today.

"2020 has been a year like no other for sport and physical activity participation. While most of our team sports were halted the sports partnerships, in conjunction with local communities, provided a much-needed opportunity to be active," explained Aisling Hubbard, Coordinator Wicklow Sports & Recreation Partnership.

She said that in Level 5 lockdown with 2km travel limit, Wicklow Sports & Recreation Partnership introduced one of its most successful online programmes, 'Couch to 3k'. This programme allowed families, young and old, to take part in training activity together and allowed participants to build a much-needed sense of community.

The Partnership's programmes were moved from sports halls and classrooms to kitchens, living rooms and back gardens. It's method of delivery changed from face-to-face to online interaction, and with even exercise booklets for older adults being delivered by Wicklow's Meals on Wheels volunteers.

Ms Hubbard added: "The ability to adapt and change quickly is testament to the dedicated and creative people working



Leanne Ryan with her daughter completing the Wicklow Sports Recreation partnership Couch to 3k

in the Partnership. We will all take learnings from the activities in 2020 and continue to embrace an online experience as an option for our groups. We are however, looking forward to engaging face-to-face with the communities in Wicklow again and developing further the new contacts we have made throughout 2020."

Cllr Pat Kennedy, Cathaoirleach, Wicklow County Council, paid tribute to the Local Sports Partnership in Wicklow for their work in keeping the public active during the COVID restrictions which he said was a very challenging time for the entire community.

Mr Frank Curran, Chief Executive, Wicklow County Council, recognised the important work carried out by the Local Sports Partnership

in keeping the community of Wicklow engaged and active during such a difficult time. "COVID-19 has reaffirmed the important role being active plays in people's physical and mental health, and the Sports Partnership is to the fore in delivering opportunities for everyone in Wicklow to participate," he said.

The annual report highlights the work of the Local Sports Partnership (LSP) Network and the impact they have on participation levels by engaging key target populations across Ireland.

In 2020, Sport Ireland allocated over €870,000 in Programme Funding to the LSP Network, an increase of 53 per cent from the 2019 investment. Programme funding is at the core of the LSPs engagement with participants and allows

for the delivery of a range of community, club and school-based initiatives, programmes and events.

Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, Catherine Martin TD welcomed the publication of the Report stating: "Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the LSP network worked hard to develop new and innovative initiatives to target cohorts of the population who were most likely to be less active during the restrictions. This work will continue in to 2021 as we see the gradual return to sport and physical activity. Together we will work to increase access to sport and physical activity opportunities for all cohorts of the population".

Minister of State for the Gaeltacht and Sport, Jack Chambers TD commented: "I commend the work of the LSPs and community organisations they worked with throughout a difficult year. As we move in to 2021 and beyond, the LSPs will continue to develop and deliver physical activity opportunities that are accessible and inclusive at a local level."

Chief Executive Sport Ireland, John Treacy, commented: "2020 was a very difficult year for the LSPs and sports participation in general. I must commend the staff and volunteers in the LSPs who adapted quickly and with agility to continue to support people to stay active during the pandemic."



Jason and Michelle Mulhall completing Wicklow Sports Recreation Partnership Couch to 5k

Funding for Wicklow sports clubs

Wicklow County Council is to receive funding of €141,343 to improve community facilities and sports clubs impacted by Covid-19.

The 2021 Community Enhancement Programme (CEP) will provide small capital grants designed to assist in the re-opening of facilities such as community centres, men's and women's sheds, parish halls and youth centres.

Sports clubs will also be given financial support to purchase equipment and sports gear, as well as to carry out minor upgrades that will benefit its members.

The grants will range from a few hundred euro up to €10,000, however, exceptions will be made depending on the application.

The funding may be used to carry out necessary renovations and repairs or to purchase equipment such as tables and chairs, tools and signage, laptops and printers, lawnmowers, canopies and so on.

The Community Enhancement Programme, which to date has supported over 8,000 projects, places a focus on supporting groups in disadvantaged areas.

The key theme of this year's programme is supporting groups as they their re-open facilities which

have been closed due to Covid-19.

As the grants are relatively small, this programme may appeal to groups that are not eligible for the €10 million Covid Stability Fund, which was launched last week.

Announcing the funding today Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD said "This funding is about giving a helping hand to our local groups and sports clubs, which are the lifeblood of our communities."

"As we come out of Covid-19, so many of these organisations will incur specific costs relating to the re-opening of their facilities. This could range from purchasing a new set of tables and chairs to repairing a leak in the roof or renovating the kitchen facility."

"Sports clubs will also be supported in terms of purchasing new equipment or sports gear which will improve the experience of their members."

"These grants may be small in nature. But I know they will go a long way in helping thousands of great community organisations and clubs the length and breadth of the country. I would encourage all interested groups to get in touch with their Local Community Development Committee that administers the programme in their area."

Funding announced for Wicklow harbours

Grant aid of over €200,000 has been approved for projects at harbours in Arklow, Wicklow Town and Greystones by the Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine.

In Arklow, fenders will be replaced with a new fendering system at the inner dock and the main berth on the south quay, and there will be upgrade works to the slipway at the inner dock on South Quay also. Ladders will also be replaced throughout Arklow Harbour at the north and south quays.

At Wicklow harbour there will be pier upgrade safety works and utility upgrader at the south quay, and the harbour will also benefit from repairs and surfacing of sections of the slipway.

At Greystones harbour there will be safety works including installation of demarcation buoys and the

provision of a swim raft/platform within the public harbour.

The total cost of all the projects is €272,000, of which the DAFM is contributing €204,000.

The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Charlie McConalogue TD, said "This year I have redirected savings due to Covid limitations on other projects to increase the monies available to the Local Authorities resulting in a 35% increase in 2020 allocations. Together with funding from Local Authorities, the total amount to be invested in local piers and harbours in 2021 under this scheme comes to €5.6 million."

Minister McConalogue went on to say, "The €4.2 million package I am making available this year provides funding for a diverse suite of 79 projects geographically spread across 12 Local Authorities which will improve the amenities provided to the wider Marine community in these coastal areas. It will provide a much needed economic boost to rural coastal communities particularly in these trying times and also make them more attractive to tourists in the longer term. During the pandemic, we have become more aware than ever of the importance of our outdoor spaces and local amenities. The continued upgrading and refurbishment of our local piers and harbours will support local fishers, tourism and will have numerous knock-on benefits."

End of an era at Wicklow Dementia Support

It's the end of an era for Wicklow Dementia Support (WDS) as one of the charity's founders, Jenny O'Reilly, is leaving after eleven years.



Jenny O'Reilly

The board of WDS is grateful to Jenny for her years of dedication to campaigning for those living with dementia, and helping people through the AlzPals befriending programme, social group and support groups.

"We would like to express our sincere thanks to Jenny O'Reilly for her great contribution to Wicklow Dementia Support," the Board stated. "During her 11 years with WDS, as one of the founders and our AlzPal and Activities Co-ordinator, Jenny provided great leadership, energy and vision. Jenny helped develop and maintain our dementia specific befriending program, AlzPals. Her empathy and passion towards dementia specific clubs, activities and support for families living with dementia in the Wicklow area has been a lifeline for many. We thank her, and extend our best wishes for the future."

Jackie O'Toole will be taking over from Jenny as the AlzPals co-ordinator on an interim basis. The board said that they welcome Jackie and wish her well in her new role.

WDS was founded in the summer of 2010 by a small group of people interested in responding to the needs of those with dementia living at home in County Wicklow with their family carers. The formation of WDS was a response to the existing gaps in the service provision for those families trying to support family members with dementia and wanting to ensure that the person with dementia could live at home in their own communities for as long as possible.

The first public meeting of WDS was held in Delgany in July 2010.

with everyone - clients, families and volunteers," says WDS volunteer and AlzPal, Jenny Lewis. "She is also a great communicator, and has used both of these attributes to develop WDS. Jenny is very giving of her time, and knowledge. She is really caring, with the desire to improve people's lives. She will be truly missed."

Maura Dunne, a longstanding member of WDS, said that she greatly admired Jenny's humanity and has loved her company. Maura is the wife of Lee Dunne who recently passed away and was in the Social Clubs and AlzPals programs.

"When Lee was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, while it was not hugely surprising, it was shocking," explains Maura. "Jenny entered our lives as a breath of fresh air with a light shining in what, at the time, appeared to be a dark tunnel stretching far into the future. In such times what you need is an anchor together with a light and I found one in Jenny. Lee found a friend, a gentle and delightful presence in his life. In the ensuing 7 years, I have relied on her wisdom, been amazed by the depth of her passion and been touched by her care and kindness. She has provided support, insight and imagination within Wicklow Dementia Support and will be greatly missed."

From that meeting, the first carers support group was formed and met initially in a local GP clinic's waiting room in Kilcoole. It is a facilitated peer support group and still meets monthly in Newtown.

WDS is managed by a voluntary board and supported by coordinators and facilitators with the core of the organisation's activity being provided by its team of volunteers. It is dependent on the HSE, County Council funding, private donations and fundraising events.

In 2012, WDS set up AlzPals, the first dementia specific befriending programme in the country, which saw a volunteer becoming a compatible companion for a person with dementia. It is funded by the HSE and continues to be WDS's main activity. WDS's first AlzClub was established in Wicklow Town in 2013. It is now known as the Wednesday Club and their activities include trips to areas of interest around the county. In 2015, Jenny helped to form the 'Monday Club' in Bray by giving more structure and vibrancy to an existing social club and growing its membership. In 2017 in Greystones Memory Lane Music (later renamed Musical Memories) was started in collaboration with Greystones Dementia Friends after they agreed to come under the WDS umbrella.

In 2019, a second carers support group was set up in Greystones, to dovetail with Musical Memories, meeting monthly at the same time as the music session, so the person with dementia can be supported and safe, while the carers get support for themselves.

"I think the most memorable thing is the rapport Jenny develops

Michael Fisher, a long-term volunteer, AlzPal and Social Club and Musical Memory leader, says "I first met Jenny in late 2012 when Joan was in the very last stages of life on earth. Both Jenny, Jackie O'Toole and Angie Martin were so supportive at that tough time that I made up my mind that when the time was suitable I would happily 'give back' to this wonderful supportive group. So, in 2013 I became an AlzPal and under Jenny's support and guidance my journey with WDS slowly started. Nothing was too much trouble for Jenny, all my queries and problems were solved with a cheery smile. Eventually the weekly groups started under Jenny's watchful eye. (Bray was already running but it was nothing more than a coffee and chat shop but Jenny changed it to a vibrant club where things actually happened and membership swiftly grew, under her guidance.) It was a similar story in Wicklow, where we quickly outgrew the premises and moved to the larger room in the convent. Again, Musical Memories grew from an existing ad-hoc group run on a casual basis with frequent cancellations if the leaders were not available. Jenny quickly changed that to a vibrant group enjoying their music on a regular basis."

Mary D'Arcy's husband was in the WDS social clubs, musical memories and AlzPals program and a longstanding member of our community. "Jenny came into our lives at a time when we needed it most," says Mary. "She helped Michael and I more than she will ever know and she is an inspiration and very loved."



Family Carers Ireland is launching its Paws for a Cause national fundraising drive which is taking place during National Carers Week (7th-13th June). Pictured at the launch are Tracey Carroll from Kells and her daughter Willow, Netwatch Brand Ambassador and Ireland Rugby legend Mick Galwey and Family Carers Ireland's Head of Communications & Policy Catherine Cox with Bo the Jack Russell Terrier cross and Cindy the greyhound. Photo: Mark Stedman.

Paws for a cause: Public urged to get walking in support of family carers

Family Carers Ireland has launched its "Paws for a Cause" national fundraising drive which is taking place during National Carers Week (7 to 13th June). Supported by buy4petsonline.ie, the charity is asking people to walk or run 24k over 7 days with or without their furry friend in solidarity with Ireland's 500,000 family carers and in recognition of the 24/7 nature of many caring roles.

A hardship fund established in 2020 at the height of the pandemic to help family carers in crisis has run out of money due to the demands for help from those struggling mentally, physically and financially. All monies raised by 'Paws for a Cause' will go directly to help family carers in crisis.

The last twelve months have been incredibly difficult for all but, in particular for family carers who saw services and supports for their loved ones depleted and, in many cases, eradicated. The blanket withdrawal of supports such as homecare, respite, personal assistance hours and residential care during lockdown forced many to care alone, around the clock and without the support of extended family or friends.

Family Carers Ireland's "Caring Through Covid"

report, which explored the experiences of 1,307 family carers caring during COVID-19, found that the pandemic is having a profound impact on their lives. Not only are they caring without practical supports, but they are also struggling financially and are worried about what the future holds for them and the people they care for.

Parents of children with a disability lost the routine and relief of school, day services and essential therapies, placing their children at serious risk of regression. Older carers and those with underlying health conditions were expected to cocoon, isolated and became reliant on others. Even carers who were coping relatively well prior to the pandemic became mentally and physically drained, with many struggling to maintain their caring role.

Catherine Cox, Head of Communications and Policy, Family Carers Ireland said: "Family carers have played a more significant role in suppressing the coronavirus than most and their essential contribution to the national healthcare response should be acknowledged and applauded."

"Unfortunately, they have felt largely ignored and overlooked throughout this pandemic particularly when it came to providing PPE, priority testing and priority vaccinations. Thousands of family carers are still waiting to be vaccinated."

Volunteer groups encouraged to apply for new grant funding

Green Party TD, Deputy Steven Matthews has encouraged volunteer groups in Wicklow to apply for a new round of funding.

Deputy Matthews was speaking following the funding announcement by his Green Party colleague, Minister Joe O'Brien. The €10 million - Covid Stability Fund 2021 is designed to support community and voluntary groups, charities, and social enterprises, which have suffered as a result of the pandemic. This funding will be allocated in conjunction with another scheme under the Community Enhancement Programme which will be more targeted at small community groups. Discussing the funding, Deputy Matthews said: "The work that charity and volunteer organisations do has always played an

invaluable role in our communities across the country. Our reliance on the generosity and selflessness of those involved has only become further evident throughout the pandemic and I cannot begin to thank them enough for their continued efforts."

"The new funding stream is targeted at organisations which deliver critical services to vulnerable people within their community, but which now face closure or a loss of service due to the impact of the pandemic. Priority will be given to organisations that have not previously received State support since the onset of the pandemic. The objective of the Stability fund is to

provide an immediate, targeted cash injection that will not have to be repaid. This money will help stabilise the position of these organisations by assisting them to meet their immediate costs."

"The fundraising events that these groups usually rely on for a significant part of their funding have not been possible. While I know that many of these events have gone online, many groups haven't been able to replicate their usual annual funding that helps support their community efforts."

Examples of the organisations that can apply include those that provide: Family supports and supports for the elderly; Domestic Abuse and addiction services; Mental health and disability supports; Education supports

in disadvantaged communities; Community centres that provide social services.

"For any smaller local groups who are afraid of missing out on funding or feel that this round of funding won't suit them, I would encourage them to apply for the Community Enhancement Programme that is more targeted to their needs post pandemic. "For any group seeking assistance with applications or have any questions, please feel free to get in touch with me. As our society reopens, the volunteer and charity organisations will once again be called upon to assist the most vulnerable in our communities to readjust and this funding will assist them in being in a position to do so," concluded Deputy Matthews.

Wicklow Town & District Chamber honour local businesses

2020 saw the resilience, innovation and tenacity of Wicklow businesses and the Chamber recently paid tribute to these businesses through the Annual Business Awards which took place virtually for the very first time.

Each of the 8 Awards categories recognized excellence and outstanding achievement in Wicklow business in these unprecedented and challenging times.

The winners of the following Business Award Categories were chosen by on-line vote:

The Best Eating Establishment/Pub/Hospitality was Sorrel & Eve. Phil & Natalie Galbraith Sorrel and Eve

threw its doors open in December 2019 and was an instant hit with the people of Wicklow town and further afield. Their ideology from the outset was to source local and seasonal produce that their team of passionate chefs could freshly prepare into the most amazing dishes for all to enjoy.

Best New Business Award and Best Online Presence Award went to

Samantha King from King's Hair & Beauty. King Hair & Beauty is a work of passion for Founder and CEO Samantha King. After 10 years in Law she decided in 2018 to follow her passion for all things hair & beauty. Samantha had initially trained as a Hair Extensionist in 2008 and had identified a gap in the market for an affordable luxury hair extension brand. She launched her own brand of Hair Extensions and a range of award winning products.

Best Retail Award and Best Customer Service Award went to Kelly's Fruit & Veg. Kelly's Fruit & Veg proudly supply fresh produce to Wicklow Town and are a mainstay stop on everyone's shopping day. Kelly's believe in market fresh, and that the customer comes first. They support local people and local produce and have a 'Made in Wicklow' shelf where you can find lovely jams, honey, relishes etc. **Best SME Award was presented to Ray of Sunshine** - Amanda Spiteri & team. Ray of Sunshine started 7 years

ago by Amanda whom is a single mum who was struggling to find affordable childcare with flexibility. Amanda lived in Wicklow town and started her service from her living room and now has expanded to numerous locations in Ashford, Rathnew and Wicklow town. Creating local employment of a team of 30 employees, most of whom have been with

Ray of Sunshine since the start, offering ad hoc flexible affordable care all year round.

Best Adaptation to Covid-19 Award went to Crazy Glazing. Having had to close her doors to her hugely loved Paint your own Pottery Studio in Wicklow Town, Siobhan Brennan pivoted her Business to create a Paint your own Pottery



Amanda Spiteri of Ray of Sunshine, winner of Best SME Award



Siobhan Brennan of Crazy Glazing, winner of the award for Best Adaptation to Covid-19



Best New Business Award and Best Online Presence Award went to Samantha King from King's Hair & Beauty

This year, the Chamber also honoured three outstanding entities that have excelled through their hard work and commitment for the betterment of our community and have been working tirelessly since the pandemic started. **The Special Recognition for Front Line Workers Award was awarded to: Front Line Staff at the HSE & Ambulance Service; Wicklow Fire Service; Wicklow Gardai.**

Chamber President Matt Forkin said that "We owe a great debt of gratitude to all of the frontline workers in these businesses who continued to provide us with the everyday essential services that we needed. We wish to express our thanks to the Gardai, our local Medical Services and all in the Emergency Services who went to work every day to provide us with the service we required" We would also like to send a special thanks to all the staff from the Supermarkets, Pharmacies and everyone who has been working endlessly since March 2020 in order to keep us safe."

He finished by saying thank you to all the residents of Wicklow Town & District for supporting local businesses throughout the last year in particular and urged them to continue to do so "as our COVID-19 restrictions ease, it is vital for all our small businesses to get

back trading again. Many of these businesses now reopening have been starved of trade for so long that the viability of these businesses is threatened. It is essential to the local economy that our main street and our local businesses providers"



Natalie Galbraith of Sorrel & Eve, winner of Best Eating Establishment/Pub/Hospitality

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Open's Hydrogen Power may be the way of the future

Opel in Russelsheim is starting to produce a new commercial vehicle which has an electric power train – but with the power source being hydrogen. It has a 400km range and can be recharged in minutes – the Achilles heel of today's all electric cars and vans.

For a county like Wicklow with large areas being lightly populated and hence having few fast changing battery stations, hydrogen fuel cells may be the way for-

By Martin McCarthy

ward. To achieve long range, today's electric cars have to carry around a very heavy battery bank, which in turn leads to big, noisy tyres and a heavier car chassis. Hydrogen cells are light weigh. Toyota already has hydrogen powered

Buses in production – including one on trial today with Dublin Bus.

Opel recently unveiled the Vivaro-e HYDROGEN, a new, electrically powered light commercial vehicle that delivers zero emission mobility for customers who need to refuel within minutes. With the

fuel cell system located in the engine bay and hydrogen tanks replacing the battery, the plug-in fuel cell electric vehicle (FCEV) boasts up to 6.1 cubic metres of cargo capacity, the same as the diesel or battery electric versions of the Vivaro. Refuelling takes minutes, about the same time needed to fill up a conventional diesel or petrol car. With a range of more than 400km (WLTP), Opel will offer the Vivaro-e HYDROGEN in lengths of 4.95 and 5.30 metres.

"Hydrogen could be the central element of an integrated and efficient energy system of the future, free of fossil fuels", says Opel CEO, Michael Lohscheller.

"At Opel, we have more than 20 years of experience in hydrogen fuel cell vehicle technology. There is hardly another propulsion system in the world that offers the combination of zero emissions, long driving range and only three minutes refuelling time."

The new fuel cell electric vehicle (FCEV) is based on the existing bat-

tery electric Opel Vivaro-e, voted International Van of the Year 2021. The Vivaro-e HYDROGEN integrates the whole fuel cell system with the existing traction motor under the bonnet of the production vehicle. The battery of the Vivaro-e is replaced by three 700 bar hydrogen tanks. The carbon-fibre cylinders can be filled in just three minutes, giving a range of more than 400km. Thanks to the smart packaging, the battery electric version thus becomes a fuel cell electric LCV without any modifications to the body and with no impact on the 5.3 to 6.1m3 of cargo space, while the payload increases to 1,100 kg.



CLASSIFIEDS

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THE MIRACULOUS PRAYER

Dear Heart of Jesus in the past I have asked for many favours. This time I ask you this very special one. (Mention request) Take it, dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your broken Heart where your Father sees it. Then, in his merciful eyes it will become your favour not mine. St Anthony and St Jude, helper of the hopeless, aid me in my distress. Amen. Say this prayer for three days. Promise publication and favour will be granted. Never known to fail. Thank You. T.C.

THE MIRACULOUS PRAYER

Dear Heart of Jesus in the past I have asked for many favours. This time I ask you this very special one. (Mention request) Take it, dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your broken Heart where your Father sees it. Then, in his merciful eyes it will become your favour not mine. St Anthony and St Jude, helper of the hopeless, aid me in my distress. Amen. Say this prayer for three days. Promise publication and favour will be granted. Never known to fail. Thank You. B.C.

Gospel: Mark 12.28-34

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him. 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied; 'This is the first. Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him 'Well spoken, Master, what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength and to love your neighbour as yourself; this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken said 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dare to question him anymore.

Reflection

In today's Gospel reading Jesus is asked which is the greatest commandment. He replies by giving the answer as two, love God and love neighbour. The two are completely interconnected. We can't love God if this does not flow into the rest of our lives and situations. This is where Christianity becomes difficult and challenging. It is easy to be holy in church but harder to live that holiness amongst those we find hard to love. The two elements, loving God and loving neighbour, are like wings on a plane. To fly as Christians, we need both.

C.J.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Significant information / revised plans. I hereby give notice of the submission of significant further information to Wicklow County Council in relation to planning ref. no. 21/353 - Retention of office / studio and associated works at Magheramore, Coast Road, Co. Wicklow for L. and C. Doyle. Significant further information / revised plans have been furnished to the planning authority in respect of the proposed development and are available for inspection or purchase at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the further information may be made in writing to the Planning Authority within a period of two weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the revised notices. A submission or observation must be accompanied by the prescribed fee except in the case of a person or body who has already made a submission or observation. Applicants should refer to Article 35 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2011.



WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Ilay Lebedev seeks permission for the conversion of existing attic space to new storage space along with 4 no. rooflights to the front roof & 1 no. rooflight to the rear roof, new stairs & all associated works at 5 Glenheron Park, Greystones, Co. Wicklow, A63 V082. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

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WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Stephen Kennedy seeks Full Planning Permission for the construction of a singlestorey, 4-bedroom dwelling including separate garage, well, and effluent treatment and disposal system. The proposal also includes the improvement of the existing vehicular entrance and all associated site works at Shraghmore, Roundwood, Co. Wicklow. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County 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, Steven Deane, intend to apply for retention planning permission for development at this site at: Shanog, Rathmoon, Baltinglass, County Wicklow. W91P2T3. The development consists of: Permission for retention of a single storey extension to the side of the existing dwelling, a balcony area on the rear elevation of the dwelling, a single storey log cabin to the side of the property, a single storey metal profile 2 bay storage shed to the rear of the property and a single storey timber garden shed to the side of the property. 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

Planning Permission sought for the following:
1. Two Storey Extension (60.72m2) to side of existing dwelling for use as Temporary Granny Flat.
2. Temporary Pedestrian Ramp and Front Door to be provided to front of extension at ground floor level.
3. Part removal of existing boundary wall to side to allow for new extension.
4. Single storey extension (7.20m2) to front of existing dwelling with relocated front entrance.
5. Alterations to existing Parking Area and Vehicular Entrance to Front of Dwelling.
6. All above with associated site works.
At 8 Sidmontons Gardens Sidmontons Road Bray County Wicklow A98 YX33 for Geraldine and Arthur Fitzharris. 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, Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made 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.

CLASSIFIED ADS & PLANNING / APPOINTMENTS

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





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