



**LIVING LIFE**  
Page 4



**HERITAGE TRAIL**  
Page 6



**BRAY POET**  
Page 16

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Tuesday 7th September 2021 First Floor, The Boulevard, Quinsborough Road, Bray. A98 R6D7. Tel: 01 - 2869111 E-mail: wicklowed@localtimes.ie www.wicklowtimes.net

# SOD TURNED ON SEWAGE PLANT

The unacceptable practice of discharging untreated raw sewage into the waterways and seas around Arklow is coming to an end and it will bring renewed enterprise and house building to the town.

Irish Water, in partnership with Wicklow County Council, last week marked the start of construction on a new state-of-the-art wastewater treatment plant that will provide wastewater treatment for the first time for the community of Arklow. When completed, the treatment plant will bring significant benefits to the local community in terms of protecting the environment and improving

water quality in the River Avoca for angling, water sports and marine life.

It will also act as an enabler for housing and support economic growth and development in the town. More than half of all the raw sewage discharges have been eliminated since the establishment of Irish Water in 2014 and Arklow is the largest remaining town without treatment.

The commencement

of this project and progress this year and next means that the vast majority of raw sewage discharges should be eliminated by 2025. A sod turning ceremony to mark the start of the works took place led by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien TD and supported by Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Councillor Shay Cullen, and repre-



A delighted Aine Carroll from Avondale Community College, Rathdrum, is pictured with her mother Siobhan as she got her Leaving Cert results online last week. Pic: Michael Kelly

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sentatives from Irish Water and Wicklow County Council. The landmark event was also attended by local TDs including Minister for Health, Stephen Donnelly TD; Deputy John Brady, Deputy Steven Matthews; as well as local community and business representatives.

Minister Darragh O'Brien commended Irish water for progressing the project saying: "I am delighted to be here to officially turn the sod on Arklow Wastewater Treatment Plant. The construction of this wastewater treatment plant is pivotal for the future growth and development of Arklow town, and for the successful delivery of housing.

"Irish Water is to be commended for progressing this vital project as part of its commitment to the people of Arklow. The provi-

sion of a reliable wastewater service, in a manner that protects the natural environment, is essential to the economic and social development of this town.

"I would like to commend those involved in bringing the project to this important day and I would like to wish the project team well as they build this much needed wastewater treatment plant." Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr Shay Cullen added: "I'm honoured to be here to witness this historic event. The commencement of this vital sewerage infrastructure development will lead to enhanced tourism opportunities for the beautiful town of Arklow. The removal of untreated wastewater to the River Avoca has long been a goal of Wicklow County Council, and we can

now look forward to all the benefits of a cleaner environment. I very

much welcome the investment from Irish Water working in con-

junction with Wicklow County Council." *Continued on page 3*

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## Wicklow Lions' Quiz in the Abbey

What could be the first ever official Outdoor Quiz in Ireland, or throughout Europe, took place in the Historic Abbey Grounds in Wicklow Town on Friday 27th August.

It was another first for Wicklow Lions Club who continuously serve the public in so many ways. Organiser Sinead Finley called on the expertise of Lions members to help out with this once off quiz.

Wicklow and District Lions Club has been running Quiz Nights for over 25 years in the Ashford Rathnew Wicklow areas and the members were delighted to help out with manpower and equip-

ment. The event was a huge success which raised very important funds for Wicklow RNLI and Wicklow Tidy Towns.

Quiz enthusiasts started arriving at 6 pm with their chairs and tables (even tablecloths) and beverages for two enjoyable hours in the wonderful surrounding of the ruins of the Franciscan Abbey.

The organisers want to sincerely thank Fr Donal for opening up the grounds and giving the evening his full support. Special thanks to the public who came along in such huge numbers.

Hillary and Gerry McGowan won a special Lions prize for their very imaginative picnic table with all the trimmings.

The reaction has been exciting and there is talk that another quiz may take place before winter hits Wicklow.



## Brockagh Market

Brockagh Market is on Sunday the 12th of Sept. Open to the public from 10am to 3pm with free entry (limited parking). Tea, coffee and food snacks are available to purchase on the day. The barrier will be locked from 6pm Saturday evening 11th Sept until 9am Sunday morning. You can contact us by phone 0404 45600 (Mon-Fri 9am to 2pm) or email [brockaghcarboot@gmail.com](mailto:brockaghcarboot@gmail.com). Social distancing and masks must be worn in accordance with government guidelines.

## Rental Scams

Gardaí are advising people to be wary of rental scams, especially with students returning to college. Accommodation frauds have declined in recent months due to COVID-19 restrictions. However, a new generation of third level students is now seeking accommodation. They could be a target for fraudsters. Please be aware.

## Springboard+

Springboard+ offers up to 90% funded third-level college places on a part-time basis to job-seekers and returners, offering the chance to study part-time while continuing to work. Courses available at IT Carlow include the M.Sc. in Pharmaceutical Regulatory Affairs, Higher Diploma in Business International Business, Certificate in Purchasing Strategy (FREE), B.Sc. in Energy Management (Buildings) and Certificate in Web Design. Participants can embark on a life-long learning journey while maintaining their professional commitments, emerging with new skillsets for their future work endeavours.

## Hedgecutting

Hedgerows that need trimming should be cut from 1st September to 28th February. This includes hedgerows along footpaths as well as public roads. Roadside Trees should be inspected and necessary action taken. Inspection should be carried out by suitably qualified personnel. Japanese Knotweed SHOULD NOT BE CUT. No ground disturbance should take place at these sites at any time of year. Please report Japanese Knotweed on public roads/footpaths to [roadtrans@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:roadtrans@wicklowcoco.ie).

## Greystones Poetry Trail

Poems from Poetry Trail 2021 are being featured at Greystones Library for Heritage Week. The poems were written by people living locally. The theme was Directions: Maps and Journeys for Poetry Day Ireland. Written during the COVID-19 pandemic, young and old were inspired to put pen to paper. Poetry Trail 2021 was curated by local poet, Frances Browner in collaboration with Whale Theatre and Greystones.ie. There is a wonderful collection of poems to be enjoyed by the community. Poems are displayed on Greystones Library door on a rotational basis.

# Cycling from 'Paris 2 Nice' for local charities

A group of local cyclists have taken on the challenge of cycling 800km from Paris to Nice this September, and in doing so they will raise money for three local charities.

Mark Wilson and Hubert Fitzpatrick are fundraising for the Caroline Foundation.

Hugh Ivory and Rory Gillen for Greystones Cancer Support and Brendan O'Reilly for Bray Lakers.

This event has been running since 2010 with over €1m raised for a range of charities. The cyclists all pay their own way ensuring that 100% of their fundraising will go to their chosen charities.

Paris-Nice is a world famous race that is held every March and was won

by an Irish cyclist for eight consecutive years, Stephen Roche won it in 1981 then Sean Kelly won it seven times in a row.

Sean is still the most successful rider in the event. The lads had the chance to cycle in Wicklow with Sean Kelly last year along with the two other members of their cycling group, Martin Kelly and Jerry Dempsey, both of whom have completed the challenge in previous years. Sean sent the group a message last week "I've

cycled with those Greystones Guys - hardy

lads. The very best of luck on the Paris to Nice Charity Cycle."

The group also plan to tackle the world famous Tour de France climb of Mont Ventoux on the 4th day of their trip and have been tackling the Wicklow hills in preparation.

Mark Wilson said "We are so lucky to live in an area like Wicklow that offers such a range of cycling challenges for all ages and abilities, we have climbed and cycled thousands of kilometres to prepare for this trip. And we're delighted to be

fundraising for such worthy charities, which we all have personal connections to. I'd also like to thank the generous contributions that we have received from all of our sponsors."

If you would like to donate please follow the following pages: [justgiving.com/fundraising/mark-wilson-p2n](http://justgiving.com/fundraising/mark-wilson-p2n); [justgiving.com/fundraising/hubert-fitzpatrick](http://justgiving.com/fundraising/hubert-fitzpatrick); [justgiving.com/fundraising/hugh-ivory](http://justgiving.com/fundraising/hugh-ivory); [justgiving.com/fundraising/rory-gillen](http://justgiving.com/fundraising/rory-gillen); [justgiving.com/fundraising/brendan-o-reilly](http://justgiving.com/fundraising/brendan-o-reilly).



## Coldtober - a month-long sea swimming fundraising challenge!

Building on last year's successful sea-swimming fundraising challenge organised by students from NUI Galway, Helplink has announced that they will be holding a national, month-long sea swimming fundraiser challenge for their services called Coldtober.

Coldtober is a fundraising event for the month of October, a month-long sea swimming fundraiser challenge to help support children, young people and adults with their mental health.

Twenty different locations around Ireland will see participants going for a swim every day for this 31 day challenge in their local sea swimming area.

Founder & CEO of Helplink Mental Health Lochlann Scott says,

"Last year we were bowled over by the support

that we received from the NUI Galway students who did a sea swimming challenge for us. Now that we are launching this inaugural national event called Coldtober, we hope that people all around the country will join us. Either by jumping into the water everyday in October, sponsoring a friend or family member, or by donating to these great services. All proceeds from Coldtober will go towards supporting the organisation to provide our much needed mental health services locally, nationally and internationally; thank you to everyone taking part and to our sponsors."

Register today to take part in the challenge and receive a registration pack with goodies.

For anyone who would like to take part but isn't near a sea swimming spot, you can take part by having a 30-second cold shower each day.

Registration is €30 and you can sign up at [helplink.ie](http://helplink.ie)

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# SCHOOL TRANSPORT SHORTFALL

**As children returned to school recently many parents were left scrambling to arrange transport as they were notified the day beforehand that the local school bus would not be able to accommodate their child due to over-capacity.**

Minister Simon Harris has called upon the Departments of Education and Justice to allocate additional resources to speed up the vetting of additional bus drivers for the school transport scheme.

Minister Harris said: "I have been assisting many Wicklow families who were not successful in securing concessionary tickets for the school transport scheme for autumn 2021.

"I am not happy with the level of notice families received before the start of the new school year to learn their application for a concessionary ticket was unsuccessful.

"From my own engagement with Bus Eireann the managers of the school transport scheme the vetting of additional drivers to increase capacity on school bus routes has been challenging. Secondary School Buses will remain at 50% capacity due to Public Health Advice and this requires additional drivers and buses to be put into service.

"The Department of Education has advised

that the 50% capacity on school buses will be increased as the vaccination programme among under 18s gathers pace."

The Department of Education have advised: 'As the vaccination programme for children on post-primary services is rolled out and as the lifting of restrictions on public transport services proceeds, the capacity limit of 50% on post-primary school transport services will be subject to ongoing review and the Department will be considering the position in this regard over the coming weeks'.

Minister Harris concluded: "I have asked my colleagues the Ministers for Justice and Education to see if their Departments can temporarily put in place extra resources to speed up the vetting of school bus drivers so families seeking concessionary tickets can get a place for their child on the local school bus as quickly as possible."

Jennifer Whitmore TD, the Social Democrat's Party spokesperson for Children, called on Bus Eireann to urgently resolve the major difficul-

ties being faced by parents across the county.

Deputy Whitmore said "I have been contacted by many worried parents from across the county, including Rathdrum, Roundwood, Garden Village and Wicklow Town, that have just informed that there was no place for their children on their local school bus. In many instances, emails were only sent to parents the day before school was to start, leaving many families scrambling to try and get their children to school. There really is no excuse for this late notification as parents had to pre-pay for their seat in July, so there has been sufficient time to allocate seats and determine bus capacity levels.

"I have been in touch with Bus Eireann to try to resolve this issue as it is causing undue stress for parents and students. Hopefully, Bus Eireann will be in a position to rectify these problems and ensure children can get to school safely.

Deputy Whitmore continued, "However, I do believe this issue is reflective of a much bigger problem that seems to be

an annual occurrence. I believe that the School Transport programme needs to be overhauled and a much greater focus placed on the provision of a school bus service for any student living in a rural area that is unable to cycle or walk safely to school. We all know that many of our rural roads are not safe for our children to cycle on and that oftentimes, due to a lack of school places, children are forced to go to school in a different locality. Getting as many children onto buses as possible will have many benefits, including easing traffic pressure on our roads, reducing emissions and giving students greater independence.

"It also means that parents don't have to spend much of their day driving to schools and waiting in school carparks. It's a win win for everyone, and it really does amaze me that simple measure such as these appear beyond the Government to implement. I will raise this issue with the Minister for Education in the hope that improvements can be made."



*Sara Delmer having a read in the new Library in Wicklow Town which was officially opened last week by the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD and the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien TD.*

*The top floor will act as an exhibition space and a location for civic events with very attractive views over the town and harbour. In addition to the four standard library floors, there are two further floors at basement and lower basement level, dedicated to Wicklow's local history and archives.*

## SOD TURNED ON SEWAGE PLANT

*Continued from page 1*

The project, which represents an investment of €139 million, includes the development of a new, state of the art, 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 inter-

ceptor 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. Brian Sheehan, Irish Water's Head of Asset Delivery, added: "We are delighted to begin works on this essential project. Eliminating the discharge of untreated wastewater into the River Avoca has always been a priority for Irish Water and we are looking forward to ending this current practice and safeguarding water quality in the river and marine environment. We look forward to working closely with the local community on the project."

Commenting on the project, Garrett Dempsey, President of Arklow and District Chamber of Commerce, added "Wastewater infrastructure that is fit for purpose is essential for Arklow in order to support businesses and drive economic growth. The construction of Arklow Wastewater Treatment Plant will support existing and future commercial development by ensuring adequate capacity for future growth, significantly contributing to the overall economic health of the community."

The contract for the delivery of the project has been awarded to engineering contractors Ward & Burke Water Limited who will carry out the works on behalf of Irish Water.



*Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council Shay Cullen, with Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage Darragh O'Brien, and Irish Water's Brian Sheehan turning the sod on the new Arklow Wastewater Treatment Plant. Pic:Naoise Culhane Photography*



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# Living Life Counselling - celebrating 25 years in Bray

Set up by Christina Goodman, Stewart Morris, and Heather Brown in Bray in September 1996, Living Life Counselling is now celebrating 25 years in Bray. A premises was provided by the Methodist Church on Eglinton Road, which is still in use. A satellite office was opened in Arklow in 2004. Living Life Counselling offers affordable therapy for people who are unemployed, in receipt of social welfare benefits or on a low income.

In return for the top-quality service they receive, clients are asked to make a donation that they can comfortably afford. No-one is turned away. Typically, clients

contribute between €10 and €30 weekly.

The offices at Arklow and Bray are open from 8.30 a.m. to 9.30 p.m. Monday to Thursday and 8.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. on

Friday. In addition, the Bray centre opens on Saturday from 9.30am to 1.30pm.

The issues clients are helped with include addictions, crime victimi-

sation, stress, anxiety, loss, abuse, depression, eating disorders, relationships and suicidal thinking. Currently 87 counsellors, who provide their time free of charge, work with around 250 clients per week. This work continued right through the Covid pandemic.

In September 2006 Living Life Counselling celebrated its tenth anniversary and President Mary McAleese joined the celebrations as guest of honour. For its twentieth anniversary in 2016, Simon Harris, Minister for Health at the time, was the keynote speaker at a major event in Bray's Esplanade Hotel.

This month the organisation is 25 years old and is going from strength to strength. The charity's chief executive officer, Kirsty Kirkwood, estimates that it has now helped more than 16,000 local people.



Kirsty Kirkwood, CEO of Living Life, Heather Brown, Founder of Living Life, with Ali Keenan, Anne O'Connor, Priscella Delvin and Collette Ghith

Speaking about Living Life Counselling, one of those who benefitted from the service said "The help and support I received were incredibly healing and have given me the understanding and tools I was desperately looking for. Without this service, I know myself that I would have spiralled into

a really bad place. I would have been very lost without the incredible work that all at Living Life do."

Another said, "Living Life has given me so much help and my counsellor has been amazing. She has taught me so much about my anxiety and has given me tools to help cope, with it, and

it has really worked. I feel fantastic and positive now. Thanks so much."

Another remarked "From the first phone call, my experience at Living Life Counselling has been wonderful. It has supported me through a difficult time. It was there when I could not find nor afford

anything else. Thank you."

Unfortunately, a large gathering to celebrate the silver anniversary is not possible on account of the covid pandemic.

If you would like to find out more, please call the Bray office on 01 286 6729 or check the website: [www.livinglifecounselling.com](http://www.livinglifecounselling.com)



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# Our students are getting back to Community

**R**eturning to normal, in a post covid environment, is something all of us at Sunbeam House Services are striving towards and that includes the students of 'Links' in Bray. These students are currently getting back to playing an active role in their communities, by either returning to work or taking up valued work experience. Playing an active role in their communities is a key and important feature in the education of our Links students. And here are the personal stories of some of our students on returning to their local community.



Shauna O Leary at Gantly solicitors

'Links' student, **Shauna O Leary** (above), works in Gantly solicitors in Bray and she recently returned to work. "I am happy to get back to work, I am also happy to be vaccinated and to be getting back to normal", she told us.



Jennifer Ferguson at The Coffee Place

While some students are returning to work, others are exploring viable work experience options. **Jennifer Ferguson** (above) has taken up a work experience in the Coffee Place in Newtownmountkennedy. She told us that she took on the role 'to gain the experience of working in a café'. She said that her family recently moved back to Newtownmountkennedy and she wants to get to know more people in the locality. "I am really enjoying this experience, especially meeting so many new people" she said.



Megan Coogan, on the right, with Danielle Kelly

**Megan Coogan** (above) works at Little Harvard crèche in Bray and returned to work there in June. She feels really positive about returning to work. "I love returning to the atmosphere in the crèche" she said. "I love that it's busy and I love doing activities with the kids". We discussed potential challenges with returning to work and she said, "I have to wear a mask all the time while in work". She explained that she was a little nervous about social distancing in the beginning but getting the vaccine has given her the confidence to return to work. "I really love the atmosphere there, the kids are mad", she said.



Levi Clarke Elf in Centra Greystones

**Levi Clarke Elf** (above) has worked in Centra Greystones for the past five years. Getting back to his routine has been very important for him. He told us that 'he gets great satisfaction from the work he does in the shop, and it gives him a sense of self-worth'. He loves his work and missed it during lockdown.



John O Reilly, centre, with Eamonn Kane (left) and Aidan Kavanagh (right) at Flanagan & Kerins

**John O Reilly** (above) is working in Flanagan & Kerins in Bray. He has really enjoyed returning to work and feeling part of a team again. He told us that 'he loves working there and that it makes him feel good about himself'.



Rebecca McAuley, on the left, with Sue Fowler of Martello, Bray

**Rebecca McAuley** (above) works in the Martello in Bray and returned to work at the beginning of June. When Rebecca was asked about her experience of returning to work, she said, "I was really excited about getting back to work. I love spending time with the staff and meeting new customers. When asked about what returning to work meant to her, she explained, "It is important for me to feel welcome and part of a team, and I get that feeling in the Martello. They are like family to me". When asked if there had been any challenges since returning to work, she said, "we have to wear masks and follow Covid-19 guidelines which is a challenge, but I'm really happy to be back".



Matthew McEvoy, right, with Stephen Kinsella of FSM Gym

**Matthew McEvoy**, above, has recently taken on a work experience in FSM Gym in Bray. He has an ambition to become a gym instructor and is using his time at FSM to gain more experience. When asked how he felt about his work experience, he told us, "I am really enjoying my work experience in FSM Gym. I feel my job is important, which includes preparing and cleaning the equipment such as barbells, kettlebells and dumbbells. I feel proud of myself, and I hope to get a paid job. My mom and my sister are also very proud of me".

Matthew explained, 'I feel it is important to have a job and to work hard to earn money. It is important to me because I learn new things, I learn new work skills and I am responsible for jobs that need to be done. I love working hard and getting things done.'

**Joe Lynch, CEO** told us that "At Sunbeam House Services we have restructured our job support structure known as Connect Employment to 'Sunbeam Supported Employment'. This structure attaches job coaches to each Sunbeam location and has allowed Sunbeam to provide targeted supports to clients. Links, a Day Service based in Bray, is supporting clients in their communities and the benefits are clear, as 85% of clients in this service are either back to work or have taken up work experience. All of us at Sunbeam House Services want to sincerely thank the many local businesses who support our Supported Employment programme".





Jeni Healy and Thady O'Brien, winners of the 1995 Sean Kelly Cup, are pictured at the Arklow Tennis Club's recent Centenary Celebration.

## Public consultation opens for N11/M11 Improvement Scheme

An online public display event is being held to inform the public and stakeholders of the Preferred Option identified for the N11/M11 Junction 4 to Junction 14 Improvement Scheme scheme, the work undertaken to date and the programme for advancement of the project.

Wicklow County Council is progressing the development of the N11/M11 Junction 4 to Junction 14 Improvement Scheme in partnership with Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, Transport Infrastructure Ireland and the Department of Transport.

The consultation is for the 'Red Route' option, which proposes new parallel roads adjacent to N11/M11 mainline, together with improved junction layouts and the proposed closure of certain primary junctions. There is also a public transport component to the scheme which consists of a major investment in bus services to reduce car traffic.

This non-statutory consultation event also provides an opportunity for feedback and observations to be submitted regarding the process and conclusions reached to date, which may inform the further development of the scheme in the next phases. In consideration of the COVID-19 pandemic, Wicklow County Council is holding a three week online public display event on the project website [www.n11m11.ie](http://www.n11m11.ie). This event went live on Monday 30th August and will remain until Monday 20th September. The online platform will provide access to a consultation room containing a display of information boards and maps describing the preferred option.

The public display platform also includes an online booking facility where the public and other stakeholders can schedule an online or telephone meeting with a member of the project team during the consultation period up until 20th September. Submissions will be accepted via the online feedback form available on the project website [www.n11m11.ie](http://www.n11m11.ie), or by email to [n11m11@arup.com](mailto:n11m11@arup.com), or by post addressed to N11/M11 Junction 4 to Junction 14 Improvement Scheme, Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Whitegates, Wicklow Town, A67 FW96. Submissions must be received during the consultation period up until 20th September.

The Council said, "Wicklow County Council values the opinion of the community on this project and welcomes feedback and submissions from the public and interested parties. The knowledge gained from the engagement will be considered by the project team as part of the next stages of the development of the scheme."

# NTA called on to include Wicklow DART extension in upcoming transport strategy

Green Party TD Steven Matthews is calling on the National Transport Agency NTA to see the sense in extending the DART to Wicklow Town and to include this objective in the new Greater Dublin Area transport strategy.

"I have been working on the prospect of extending an electrified DART service to Wicklow Town for many years. I have looked at the environmental, societal, and economic benefits and they all make sense as does the business and commercial case for extending the service to serve Wicklow," said Deputy Matthews.

"I have been consistently raising this plan over the years with the NTA and Department and in the past, they committed to my request at Wicklow County Council to look at the idea. We have come a long way since then and we are now in a period of major investment in public transport with the DART+ proposals to greatly extend the DART service across the major Dublin rail lines. The NTA now need to do more than just 'look' at the idea, they need to commit to this objective and finally allow the people of Wicklow to have the proper and frequent rail service they require.

"I believe that there is good support for



Steven Matthews TD at Wicklow Town train station

my proposal across Wicklow and from Wicklow County Council but to take it to the next stage of development it needs to be included in the NTA transport strategy.

"I would envisage that the extension to Wicklow Town will be part of the DART+ Coastal phase and that the engineering design and planning of the extension should be included in that project. By extending the overhead electrified system to Wicklow it can serve a new stop at Charlesland South, Newcastle and Kilcoole, and with Irish Rail having purchased Battery Electric Trains there is scope to serve the rest of the county as far as Arklow including reopening stops at Avoca and Glenealy.

"The NTA has extensive transport responsibilities and have carried out and funded many public transport, cycling and pedestrian schemes and improvements with Wicklow County Council across the entire county. The DART extension to Wicklow Town would be the most significant transport improvement scheme in the county and I am urging the NTA to recognise this and ensure that it is included in their transport strategy."

## Wicklow Town Heritage Trail officially opened

The new Wicklow Town Heritage Trail, which has been in planning for over two years was officially opened on Monday last 30th August.

The Heritage Trail, which was funded by the County Wicklow Partnership, has been a core project for the Wicklow Town Team and great work has been carried out by the Wicklow Town Tourism Team and Wicklow Municipal Council in ensuring that the project is now finally open. Leaflets detailing the full story of The Wicklow Town Heritage Trail are now available in many local shops and in Public Buildings in Wicklow Town.

The Heritage Trail features 24 points of interest, detailing the history of Wicklow Town, from the landing of St. Patrick in 432 to the end of the Civil War in 1923.



Minister Heather Humphries cuts the ribbon to officially open the Wicklow Heritage Trail.

There are 7 storyboards featuring:

- The construction of St. Patrick's church, which commenced in 1839.
- The story of the Franciscan Abbey, which dates back to the 12th Century
- Robert Halpin's achievement in laying the Trans-Atlantic cable.
- The story of Billy Byrne and the 1798 Rising
- The history of the Black Castle,
- The attempted landing by St. Patrick at Travilahawk beach.
- The history relating to the Barrow Green including stories of the secret burials that took place there.

There is now a mural in place, painted by local artist Robert Teeling, at the top of Quarantine Hill, featuring a petty criminal in stocks, getting his punishment from the locals for the crimes he had committed.

On all of the story-boards, there are QR codes, which will enable each tourist to view a video with local actors at each site telling the

significance of each site.

When you visit the wicklowtown.ie Website the Wicklow Town Heritage Trail is featured and you can view all the Videos of our local Actors telling the stories and history relating to each Storyboard.

There are 10,000 brochures printed, which will be available at key tourist points throughout the county to promote the new Wicklow Town Heritage Trail.

As part of the project there are now 8 new Maps of the Town located strategically throughout the Town. The new updated map was developed by a Wicklow Town Chamber sub-committee and was designed by local agency Shark Design.

Pascal Burke, Chairman of the Wicklow Town Team's Tourism Group, said "This new project will be a great addition to the tourist offering of the capital town. Sincere Thanks is due to local historian, John Finlay for his expertise in assisting the accuracy

and context of all the material featured in the videos and the printed brochures. Wicklow Town is currently undergoing a real revival, with the development of Fitzwilliam Square and the Market Square. The new Wicklow Town Heritage Trail will now provide the town with a first-class tourist attraction."

Speaking at the official opening Minister Harris said: "Wicklow Town is steeped in history and you are never far from a historical site or monument. The Wicklow Historical Walking Tour project was formed out of a desire to encourage both visiting tourists and locals alike to get out and explore the town's history.

"I want to congratulate all those who have had an input into today's launch, especially the Wicklow Town Tourism Working Group and the Wicklow Town Team".

Minister for Rural and Community Development Heather Humphreys TD said:

"Covid-19 has given us all a new-found appreciation for our great outdoors. I know that outdoor amenities such as this heritage trail, overlooking the unique and picturesque Travelahawk Beach, has been a godsend to people throughout the Pandemic.

"The government's new five year policy for rural development, Our Rural Future, commits to continuing to invest in our outdoor amenities and to produce the first ever strategy for outdoor recreation.

"This particular project, which has received almost €30,000 under the LEADER Programme, may appear to be a modest one.

"But these story boards and interactive videos that will be funded from the Department of Rural and Community Development tell the story of your beautiful town. For years to come, tourists will visit this unique location and learn a small but important part of the history of County Wicklow."

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COVID-19: Emerging from the pandemic

# Reframing the Challenge: Continuing our Recovery & Reconnecting



Coronavirus  
**COVID-19**  
National  
Programme

Due to the resilience and solidarity of the Irish people and our exceptional support for the vaccine programme, we will change how we manage and live with COVID-19 from 22nd October.

Many of the restrictions will be lifted and replaced by guidance and advice to enable us to work together, as individuals and communities, to protect ourselves and to live our lives to the fullest extent possible.

These are the changes that will take effect in the coming weeks:

## September

The following restrictions **will be lifted**:



### Public Transport

Public Transport returns to 100% capacity from 1st September



### Workplace

Return to work may commence on a phased and staggered attendance basis from 20th September in line with the Work Safely Protocol



### Events

Easing of restrictions on organised indoor/outdoor events/mass gatherings **from 6th September** (see [gov.ie/recovery](https://gov.ie/recovery) for details)

Easing of restrictions on indoor/outdoor group activities **from 20th September** (see [gov.ie/recovery](https://gov.ie/recovery) for details)

## From 22 October

The following restrictions **will be lifted**:



Requirements for physical distancing, mask wearing outdoors and in indoor private settings



Limits on numbers that can meet in private homes/gardens



Limits on numbers at indoor and outdoor events and activities



Restrictions on religious or civil ceremonies



Certification of vaccination, immunity or testing as a prerequisite for access to, or engagement in, any activities or events (with exception of international travel)



Restrictions on high-risk activities (i.e. nightclubs)

Measures that will remain in place include self-isolation when we have symptoms, continued social distancing and avoidance of crowds where appropriate. We will continue to wear masks where necessary to protect ourselves and by law in healthcare settings, indoor retail, and on public transport.

During this phase, Government will continue to provide supports to workers and businesses under the Economic Recovery Plan.

For up-to-date information on all matters relating to COVID-19, please go to [gov.ie/recovery](https://gov.ie/recovery)



**Rialtas na hÉireann**  
Government of Ireland



# Redeveloped Fitzwilliam Square officially opened

The redeveloped Fitzwilliam Square in Wicklow Town was officially opened last Monday by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien TD.

The renewal of the square has now created a more attractive and universally accessible public space. A new outdoor venue for community events, performances and exhibitions, and outdoor dining is now available. The Halpin monument which was concealed is now made more visible and contributes to tourism and the town's maritime heritage.

The newly created space is also now responding to the recent health and safety challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic and will go towards helping to support the recovery of the tourism and hospitality sector.

The objective of the €2m refurbishment project, funded by an amount of €1.5m under the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government URDF scheme, was to create a multi-functional space within Wicklow Town that would improve accessibility, enhance the presentation and public realm of the Town Centre at Fitzwilliam Square.

Speaking at the opening, the Cathaoirleach of



The new-look Fitzwilliam Square

Wicklow County Council, Cllr Shay Cullen, thanked the Minister and his Department for the funding saying: "Project Ireland 2040 and in particular the Urban Regeneration Development Fund has been very beneficial for Wicklow. Minister I can assure you that we have a further pipeline of very exciting projects planned for the town and for the County, we aim to build on the success of the projects that we celebrate today."

Cathaoirleach of Wicklow Municipal District, Cllr Gail Dunne, added: "You have only to look around you to see the transformational impact this has had on Wicklow, there is great vibrancy and vitality about the town. These major projects have been complemented by other initiatives such as the lighting of the historic sites and the development of the Heritage Trail. Together with the planned development of the Abbey Grounds will make this town an even

better place to live, work, visit and do business in."

Frank Curran, Chief Executive, thanked Colm Lavery, Director of Services and his team and all who were involved in the project including Margaret Hartnett Project Engineer. The project was developed by WS Atkins & Brady Shipman and Martin landscape architects and the works were carried out by Sherridge Ltd, overseen by Resident Engineer O'Connor Sutton Cronin.

## Residents highlight potential safety risks to swans posed by Bray sustainable transport bridge

A group of concerned Bray residents are outlining their concerns about the proposed Bray Sustainable Transport Bridge and its potential impact on the swan sanctuary at Bray Harbour.

Wicklow County Council is proposing to construct a bridge over the River Dargle, and also a link road. The proposed bridge and link road will consist of a two-lane public transport road 3.25m wide and variable width pedestrian, cyclist and shared path facilities.

The height of the proposed bridge will be 22 metres and the span of its arch will be approximately 63 metres. The group says that it will be directly in the flight path of the local swans, of which there are about 125, and will result in collisions and injuries.

The Council concluded from a screening determination that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development and that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is not required.

The Save Our Swans campaign group however has been pushing for an EIA to be carried out as a

matter of urgency.

The group says that suspension bridges can cause horrific injuries to swans as they are unable to see vertical suspension cables.

"Swans already have to navigate the overhead electric cables running horizontally over the existing bridge," the group says. "These cables still down swans even though there are deflectors in place. This, added to the proposed new bridge, spells disaster for them."

The preliminary bridge design report states that "Aesthetics of the bridge have been identified by Wicklow County Council as one of the principal factors to be considered," and the group is angry that the swans have not been given the same consideration.

The group fears that constant injuries and deaths of swans will drive them out of the area permanently and they also have concerns

about other wildlife in the area, particularly otters.

"Otters can be seen feeding in the River Dargle underneath the railway and road bridges in the late evenings. These feeding grounds would be severely compromised by the construction of a bridge at the proposed location. Otters are a protected species so any disturbance to their habitat and food supply would contravene both Irish - Wildlife Act 1976 and Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000 - and European Law."

The group also maintains that the bridge will not alleviate traffic congestion on the Dublin Road and Castle Street as it will not take private motor vehicles.

They also have concerns about the new link road cutting across the flood plain and the potential for future flooding events.

Members of the group have raised their concerns with ABP as well as Wicklow County Council and local councillors.

The deadline for public submissions was before 12 noon on Monday 6th September).



Pictured are Liam Burke, Bray Area Engineer; Independent councillor Rory O'Connor; Alan Lauder, Ecologist with Wicklow County Council; Barbara Moore-Devine, local coordinator for Kilmacanogue Marsh; and Deirdre Burns, Heritage Officer, Wicklow County Council

## Kilmacanogue biodiversity walk in Kilmacanogue granted funding

Over €9000 has been granted for a planned walkway, which will integrate the Marsh and Greenland in Kilmacanogue, creating an interactive experience.

Speaking on the announcement, Cllr. Rory O'Connor said. "This project has been a long time coming and is just the start for Kilmacanogue as we have applied for more grants to increase the scale and quality of the experience. I would especially like to thank Barbara Devine, the brain child behind this project for her relentless pushing which has helped make this project happen."

If anyone in the Kilmacanogue community would like to get involved they can contact Cllr. Rory O'Connor on 083-4610357 or email Barbara directly barbara@kilmacanogue.ie. You can also like our Facebook page for updates and news on the project: <https://www.facebook.com/kilmacbiodiversitytrail>

## Shed & Dementia manual to support men with dementia

The Irish Men's Sheds Association has launched a new manual, *Your Shed & Dementia*, aimed at raising awareness of the condition, as well as offering advice for "Shedders", their families and carers on supporting a member with dementia.

Developed in partnership with the HSE's Dementia: Understand Together campaign and The Alzheimer Society of Ireland, the manual offers tools to help Shedders recognise signs of dementia, as well as offering practical communication

and listening tips.

There are over 400 types of dementia, with the four most common being Alzheimer's disease, Lewy body disease, vascular dementia and frontotemporal dementia. It is also common for people to have more than one type of dementia. There are an estimated 725 men living with dementia in Wicklow while each year more than 11,000 people develop dementia in Ireland - that's approximately 30 people every day.

Common early signs of dementia include increasing confusion, reduced concentration, memory loss, difficulty communicating, personality or behaviour changes, apathy and withdrawal or depression, and the loss of ability to do everyday tasks.

The Dementia: Understand Together campaign is a public support, awareness and information campaign led by the HSE. It aims to inspire people from all sections of society to stand together with the 500,000 Irish people whose families

have been affected by dementia, by taking six simple actions, which are to: 1. See the person, not the dementia; 2. Talk about dementia; 3. Ask how you can help; 4. Stay in touch; 5. Support the person to keep up hobbies and interests; 6. Make sure your service/space is easy to use.

This manual has been developed with the kind permission of the Australian Men's Sheds Association and Alzheimer's Australia NSW. While primarily for members of the Irish Men's Sheds Association, anyone with an interest in dementia is welcome to check out the publication at [understandtogether.ie](http://understandtogether.ie), where they will also find information on supports such as a local service-finder for people living with dementia and their carers. Members of the public can also contact The Alzheimer Society of Ireland Helpline for support on Freefone 1800 341 341 (Monday to Friday 10am to 5pm, Saturday 10am to 4pm).





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Elle Hudson on her first day of school at Carysfort National School in Arklow.

## Health tips for back to school

CarePlus Pharmacy is offering advice to parents and students as another unusual academic year gets underway.

1. Get to know your school's coronavirus policies: Find out how your school plans to protect your child and staff as much as possible from Covid-19 infection.

2. Boost Your Child's Immune System: It's vital to maintain a strong immune system in young people, particularly as they return to mixing with classmates. Provide meals that are rich in fruit and vegetables - a balanced diet is the best way to support the immune system.

3. Keep Head Lice at Bay: Early intervention is key when it comes to tackling head lice. Regular

fine tooth combing can help you discover lice early.

4. Practice Good Hand Hygiene: Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and include a small bottle of hand sanitiser in their school bag, depending on their age.

5. Be Sun Smart: Even though we are heading towards the winter months, it's important that children wear sunscreen to protect their skin, especially when they're playing outside during break time.

6. Protect Your Child's Skin: Cold air and indoor heating can often cause skin conditions such as eczema or psoriasis to flare up.

# What is Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board (KWETB)?

KWETB Further Education and Training Centres provide part-and-full-time education for young people and adult learners around Kildare and Wicklow. A wide range of courses are available at your local Further Education and Training Centre - giving you the opportunity to upskill, retrain and learn valuable life skills.

Their Further Education and Training Centres offer a friendly, supportive, and collaborative learning environment, modernised facilities and the latest technology and equipment. We keep class sizes small, with a multitude of learning supports available to help in meeting your goals.

A Further Education and Training course with KWETB offers the chance to sharpen your skills and confidence, boost your employability, move closer towards further education, or retrain in a new field. They are confident that they have a course to suit you at KWETB and that you will enjoy learning with them.

**Free Full and Part-Time Courses:** Students join KWETB with a variety of ambitions, some to brush up on their digital skills or

retrain for an exciting new career, others to further their education by gaining a level 6 QQI with the aim of attending higher education, while some students would simply like to learn valuable life skills such as mathematics, English or budgeting.

Courses are completely free and presented in a variety of structures to suit your schedule, which also includes a choice between full or part-time and evening or daytime classes. There truly is a course for everyone at KWETB, whether your aim is to hone your English reading and writing or obtain a QQI level 6 Qualification, we have a course for you. Listed below are just some of the excellent courses on offer:

- IT & Digital Media Skills;
- Business Management & Advanced Bookkeeping

- Certificate in Early Learning & Care
- Office Skills with Medical Terminology
- Reading & Writing Skills
- Everyday Mathematics.

**Education For All:** "Everyone is welcome through our doors at KWETB, regardless of your goals, current skill levels or past experience. We have multiple locations all throughout Wicklow (Bray, Blessington, Wicklow Town and Arklow) which means easy access for you and minimal travel times.

"Our Guidance and Information services for adult learners offers advice, guidance and information on education, training, and careers to early school leavers - providing a free, professional, impartial career guidance and information service to all adults, prioritising

those who are currently not in employment."

**Youthreach:** another scheme within KWETB, is a Department of Education and Skills education, training, and work experience programme for early school leavers. With a more personalised approach to learning, Youthreach offers young people the opportunity to identify options within adult life and provides them with opportunities to achieve certification and to develop their personal, social, and civic skills in a supportive and caring environment.

**Skills to Compete** is another targeted initiative, specifically to support those who have lost their jobs as a result of COVID-19, to re-enter the workforce through development of transversal skills, boosting employability.

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# The VTOS programme in Healthcare at Bray Adult Education Centre

Shortages of Healthcare workers have been noticed all over the country in recent months. This vital industry needs new qualified staff as soon as possible. Here in Bray, excellent training for new Healthcare workers is available free of charge.

The VTOS programme in Healthcare at Bray Adult Education Centre will start shortly. By the end of May - only nine months away - the people who have joined it will be fully qualified and ready for work. Jobs are waiting for them, so a bright future beckons. The centre has some places still available.

Healthcare is not the only area where shortages exist. Computer technicians are needed everywhere. Again, Bray Adult Education Centre has places available on its course leading to the CompTIA A+ qualification. This is one of the best recognised certificates in the industry. As with Healthcare, in nine months' time, a

person can be fully qualified.

The beauty of these opportunities is that they are available locally. The people of Bray and north Wicklow need not travel to learn. They have superb learning facilities right in the heart of the town. Bray Adult Education Centre, part of Kildare & Wicklow ETB, is in the Civic Centre.

## Training in the Workplace to get a job – JobStart with National Learning Network

Cian (not his real name) struggled to get a job after leaving school last year. His anxiety and chronic shyness meant he couldn't get past the interview stage.

Then Intreo – the public employment service – referred him to National Learning Network in Bray and it was there he found the support he needed. Working with his instructor on the job seeking programme, a good work placement was negotiated for Cian. The instructor acted as his support in conversations with the employer.

One of the key features of the job seeking course – JobStart – Training in the Workplace – is that the employer agrees to a training plan for the student so the student gets the most out of the placement.

The placement was a success and Cian integrated well with the other workers and gained a confidence he didn't have before.

With his enhanced CV and new positive attitude, he landed a great job with that local employer, something he never thought would be possible.

National Learning Network's local manager Deborah Coughlan says: "The JobStart – Training in the Workplace' course is very popular as it's the combination of determined job seekers and expert supportive training instructors that make great things happen. So far this year seven people have got jobs through this programme, which given the current environment is really good".

National Learning Network is based on the Boghall Road in Bray and provides a range of training and education programmes for those who have dropped out of school or college because of anxiety, live with physical or mental health difficulties, or who need extra support after leaving school because of a learning difficulty. See their ad below for contact information.

## College Choice - A Different Pathway with BIFE

Bray Institute of Further Education are full steam ahead preparing for the new academic year and a return to relative normality this September after the unprecedented nature of the last year with COVID-19 restrictions.

While in many cases students, schools and parents see the CAO as the 'be all and end all' for those seeking third level education, nothing could be further from the truth according to Gabriel Allen, deputy principal at Bray Institute of Further Education (BIFE). "Over recent years many new avenues have opened up to students to enable them pursue their dream career via a different route," he said.

BIFE's Open Afternoon on Wednesday 15th September from 4pm to 6pm will showcase the large variety of courses they have in the College, ranging from Art & Design, Media, Sport, Psychology, Body Therapies, Science, Business, Nursing, Theatre/Dance and much more. "We have over 70 full-time courses to choose from, all progressing on to Higher Education Institutes in Ireland and abroad", according to Mr Allen.

He added, "Further Education offers a learner, who may not have achieved the required CAO points, the opportunity to gain advanced entry onto Honours degree programmes."

The huge range of courses available at BIFE offers learners fabulous opportunities, not only for those looking for additional skills or hoping to go directly into employment, but also as an alternative route on to a college course in a university or institute of technology in Ireland or abroad.

Over the past few years, graduates of BIFE have achieved honours degrees across a wide range of programmes, opening up a myriad of career opportunities from graphic design to performing arts to psychology.

This year BIFE will offer Higher National Diplomas in the following: Fine Art - Art Practice; Acting; Dance; TV & Film production; Music Production; Music Performance; Traditional Irish Music; Graphic Design.

As Gabriel Allen explained, "These eight courses will allow graduating students to proceed to the final year of an honours Degree Programme in Ireland or Britain if that is their ultimate ambition."



Dr. Deirdre Keyes CE KWETB, Cllr Tom Fortune, BIFE board of Management, Simon Harris Minister of Further & Higher Education, Gabriel Allen Deputy Principal of BIFE, and Ray Tedders, Principal of BIFE.

BIFE are introducing the following new courses this September:

- Traditional Irish & Folk Music Performance - BTEC HND Level 6+
- Brewing & Distilling Technology - QQI Level 5
- Emergency Care Studies (Pre-paramedic, Fire & Ambulance) - QQI Level 5
- Barista, Pastry & Baking - C&G/ QQI Level 5
- Equine Studies QQI Level 5

Mr Allen assured that there are many opportunities for mature students to study and progress at BIFE. "All courses have valuable certification and offer progression routes to Higher Education, yet you don't need CAO points to study at Bray Institute."

To discover more about the courses available at BIFE, prospective students are invited to attend their 'Open Afternoon' on Wednesday 15th September from 4pm to 6pm.

Applications for September 2021 Courses are now open. Apply on-line at [www.bife.ie](http://www.bife.ie) or call the Institute any day during office hours on 01-2829668 for further information between 9am and 4pm.

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Pictured at the opening of Wicklow Town's new Library were Ministers Darragh O'Brien, Simon Harris and Heather Humphries, with Frank Curran, Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council, Senator Pat Casey, Director of Services Michael Nicholson, Shay Cullen, Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Green Party TD Steven Matthews, Brendan Martin, County Librarian, and Cllr Gail Dunne, Cathaoirleach of Wicklow Municipal District.

The new library and County Archives are spread over six floors of what was previously a branch of Ulster Bank on Main Street. It includes four floors of modern library facilities, including a children's library and a general reading area, adult borrowing area, study area and public access to technology and teenage library in addition to a dedicated community room, which local groups can use for meetings and other activities.

## Deadline extended for Town and Village Streetscapes Scheme

Fine Gael Minister Simon Harris TD has urged local businesses and property owners to avail of the extension to application deadline for the Scheme has been extended to September 14th.

Minister Harris said: "I welcome the announcement by the Council to extend the deadline to apply for another week. If you have a business or property in the town centre of Arklow, Baltinglass, Blessington, Enniskerry Village, Kilcoole or Wicklow Town please go to [wicklow.ie](http://wicklow.ie) or contact my office for further information.

"The Streetscape Enhancement Initiative is designed to improve the appearance of the centre of our towns and villages. Under the scheme, property owners will be provided with funding to improve the facades of their buildings, carry out artwork and install features such as canopies and street furniture."

The types of projects to be supported by the Town and Village Streetscapes Scheme include: Strategic collaboration between property owners to paint buildings or shopfronts in vibrant colours; Commissioning of murals in towns and villages; Upgrade or restoration of historic / traditional shopfronts; Provision of street planting, shrubbery, trees and flowers boxes; Illumination and lighting of architectural features; Installation of canopies and street furniture; Decluttering of

streetscapes with removal of unnecessary signs / wires.

The funding has been made available under the Streetscape Enhancement Initiative which is part of the Government's 'Our Rural Future' plan and is designed to make our rural towns and villages more attractive places to live, work and visit. The six towns/villages in County Wicklow that have been selected are Arklow, Baltinglass, Blessington, Enniskerry, Kilcoole and Wicklow Town.

Discussing the funding, Green Party TD Steven Matthews said: "The maximum grant available is €8,000 through Wicklow County Council and offers property owners the chance to add a new level of vibrancy to their premises and will provide a welcome boost to the six designated areas across Wicklow. I hope that business owners will work together to maximise the benefit of the funding.

"As we continue to emerge from the pandemic our focus is turning to the future in terms of kick-starting activity in our local rural communities. What the pandemic has taught us is that it is possible for many people to work at home and while there will be some returning to offices, it is hoped

that many residents will have the option to live and work in rural areas offering a new lease of life to villages and towns across Wicklow.

"The type of work that this funding is targeted at includes improving the facades of buildings, carry out artwork and install features such as canopies, lighting and street furniture and it is hoped that these works will make our rural towns and villages more colourful, vibrant and attractive places for locals and visitors alike.

"I hope that this funding can compliment previous government funding announcements in recent months including the provision of outdoor furniture, town and village renewal schemes and enhanced mobility programmes amongst others. These all make up part of a wider plan at generally enhancing our rural towns and villages that in some instances have been neglected in years gone by.

"There is a tight turnaround for applications for this funding - the closing date for completed applications is 5pm on Tuesday, 7th September. I would encourage anyone interested to get their applications in as soon as possible and if I can be of any assistance, don't hesitate to get in touch.



COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN  
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

### COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND

#### COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER NO 9 OF 2021 – CONFIRMATION ORDER

5 Priory Way, Delgany, Co Wicklow

Wicklow County Council has on the 31st day of August 2021, made a confirmation order confirming the above named compulsory purchase order as respects the land described in the Schedule hereto. The said order, as so confirmed, authorises Wicklow County Council to acquire the said land compulsorily for the purposes of the Housing Act 1966. It will become operative three weeks from the date of publication of this notice. A copy of the order as so confirmed and of the map referred to in it may be seen at all reasonable hours at:

Housing Section, County Buildings, Wicklow

An application for judicial review of the decision of Wicklow County Council, under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts (SI No 15 of 1986) may be made to the High Court within eight weeks of the date of publication of this notice in accordance with section 50 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000.

If such an application is made, the court:

- May by interim order suspend the operation of the compulsory order as so confirmed either generally or in so far as it affects any property of the applicant until the final determination of the proceedings;
- If satisfied upon hearing of the application that the compulsory purchase order as so confirmed is not within the powers of the Housing Act 1966 (as amended), or that the interests of the applicant have been substantially prejudiced by any requirement of the Act not having been complied with, may quash the order as so confirmed either generally or in so far only as it affects any property of the applicant.

#### 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)
21/06/65/100 Wicklow county Council Compulsory Purchase Order No 9 of 2021 5 Priory Way, Delgany Co Wicklow	Dwelling house and land of 240m <sup>2</sup>	William Charles and Eleanor Charles of 5 Priory Way, Delgany, Co Wicklow.	Not Known	Not Known

Dated this 31st day of August 2021

Joe Lane,  
Director Services

## Biodiversity at Brittas Bay

Wicklow County Council is working to expand its management of the Brittas Bay Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and enhance its biodiversity interest.

'Brittas Bay Nature' is a biodiversity enhancement project centred on Wicklow County Council owned land. While Brittas Bay North and South beaches are popular recreational amenities, the area is also part of a larger complex of coastal habitats which provide a range of valuable ecosystem services.

The area is designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for its important dune habitats and associated wildlife species including notable plants, invertebrates and birdlife. A portion of the site, including the Brittas Bay North and South Car parks and the surrounding areas, are in Council ownership and the Council is keen to expand its management of the site to have regard to enhancing its biodiversity interest and resilience to climate change.

The project is co-ordinated by the Heritage Office of Wicklow County Council with ecological input from Alan Lauder Consulting and funding support of Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government through the National Biodiversity Action Plan fund.

This year's programme is focussed on habitat and species monitoring, grassland management and invasive species control. A key future step will be the controlled introduction of grazing animals at trial plots to improve the quality of EU protected dune and wetland habitats.

A nature walk is planned for Saturday, 18th September, at 10am for interested members of the public to find out more about the flora, fauna and habitats at this important coastal site and to discuss opportunities for getting involved in ongoing butterfly and botanical monitoring. This will be an outdoor event in accordance with COVID-19 guidance.

Attendance is limited and must be booked via email to [wicklowheritage@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:wicklowheritage@wicklowcoco.ie) providing a contact number for contact tracing. A presentation on Butterfly Monitoring undertaken at Brittas Bay earlier this summer was prepared for Heritage Week 2021 and can be accessed on [www.heritageweek.ie/projects/brittas-bay-nature](http://www.heritageweek.ie/projects/brittas-bay-nature)

For queries contact Deirdre Burns, Heritage Officer [dburns@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:dburns@wicklowcoco.ie).



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Susan McCarby and Annie Burke at the Wicklow Multicultural Festival in Burnaby Park, Greystones, organised by the African Irish Society of Wicklow. Pic: Joe McQuillan

# Wicklow Naturally October Feast launched at Ballyknocken House

**Fine Gael Minister Simon Harris TD opened Wicklow Naturally's October Feast in Ballyknocken House, celebrating the rich diversity of Wicklow's food producers.**

Minister Harris said: "Rural Ireland is going to bounce back, better and stronger than ever before, as we emerge from Covid-19, and central to the recovery of Rural Ireland is our agri-food industry."

"I'm delighted that the Department of Rural and Community Development has been able to support 'Wicklow Naturally' through the provision of €131,000 under the LEADER Programme."

"The agri-food sector is Ireland's oldest and

largest exporting indigenous industry, deeply embedded in the landscape, history and personality of our country."

"This sector is a key part of Our Rural Future, the Government's new Rural Development Policy for the next five years which was launched earlier this year."

"It encompasses everything from primary agriculture and fisheries, to food and beverage production and the processing industry."

"The people here know

well that a vibrant and sustainable agri-food sector is central to Ireland's economic well-being, as well as to supporting rural communities."

"The project being launched is exactly the kind of project that Our Rural Future is designed to support. We need to encourage the production of a more diverse range of food and connect small food producers to the end consumer."

"That's exactly what Wicklow Naturally will

help to deliver for this great county. I want to compliment you on the all the work you have done."

"I know you have great support from the likes of Catherine Fulvio and other great chefs in the county! I want to finally thank all those who have had an input into today's launch, especially the local food and drink representatives, the Wicklow LCDC, the LEO, County Wicklow Partnership, as well Board of Directors of Wicklow Naturally."

# The Thomas Murphy Memorial Cup is back with a bang in Bray

**The Thomas Murphy Memorial Cup came back with a bang this summer as we saw an epic final up in Ballywaltrim pitches which ended 1-1 after extra time and was decided on sudden death penalties in favour of 'The Park Boys', who defeated 'the Boys in Green'.**

Jim O'Brien from Bray Travellers Community Development Group spoke to the group of people who were assembled for the presentation after the final: "A lot of people might not know, but this is actually our twenty third year of running this tournament. A lot of you wouldn't have even been born when we started this!"

Jim also mentioned that "it was more difficult to get the tournament up and running again after Covid but we saw in the games on the pitch and with people coming out to watch that the spirit is there and it was worth it."

Speaking at the presentation, Cllr Dermot 'Daisy' O'Brien recalled how he had played many times in

the tournament: "This is all about community and whether you are playing or supporting you feel the energy around the place. I've played in games where everyone wants you to win and games where everyone wants you to lose, I have played in finals, semi-finals, won and lost on penalties but never won this tournament. In fact the team I played for won it three years in a row after I retired so that will tell you something about my football skills!"

Cllr O'Brien paid tribute to Jim O'Brien, saying "Let's not forget that without Jim doing all of the work behind the scenes we wouldn't be here enjoying this tonight. Getting the pitches marked,

getting the referee organised, getting the trophies sorted and being first to arrive and last to leave every night."

There was a huge round of applause as players and supporters went away to celebrate and commiserate but as the crowd dispersed there was certainly a vibe that each and every person was already looking forward to next year!

"Teams from all around the wider Bray area play for the honour of taking home the Thomas Murphy Memorial Cup which is named after a young traveller man who played in this tournament many times but sadly passed away. This integrated community football initiative is very much about bringing people together, providing a positive outlet for young and old while also celebrating inclusion and promoting positive mental health and well-being."

## Bike4Life 2021: One Day - One Goal

**On Friday 10th September, World Suicide Prevention Day, Cycle Against Suicide are inviting local communities to join its "Bike4Life: One Day - One Goal" to raise awareness and funds for suicide prevention.**

Held annually, Bike4Life is part of the fundraising effort of Cycle Against Suicide, an organisation dedicated to greater public awareness and community-based assistance for individuals at risk.

Cycle Against Suicide aim to raise awareness

that help and recovery from mental struggles is possible and suicide is preventable.

"If you or someone you know needs help, reach out. Speaking up to a trusted person about depression, suicide or grief is the first step to saving a life," Caroline Lafferty, Cycle Against Suicide CEO stated. "The risk of suicide is heightened when people are not able to talk about their mental health challenges to others. Very often men and women at risk feel they have no one to talk to about suicidal thoughts and the conditions that cause them," she said.

As a result, communities battle with high levels of suicide. Research shows that around the world, someone dies of suicide every 40 seconds. In Ireland, one person each day is a victim with tens of thousands of others at risk.

To combat the stigma, shame and fear around mental health that keeps people from reaching out and speaking up, Cycle Against Suicide trains local people to serve as 'Buddies' who reach out with empathy and a listening ear in support of individuals struggling with mental health issues.

"This is one of the best ways to prevent suicide. Training local community members to assist is a very effective way to save lives and lessen the huge toll suicide places on families and society," Lafferty said.

The Bike4Life: One Day-One Goal event, which coincides with World Suicide Prevention Day, is an important part of that effort. Funds raised allow Cycle Against Suicide to build awareness of mental health, reduce stigma related to mental illness and raises money to support the work of Cycle Against Suicide in communities. The event is also an opportunity for communities across Ireland to talk and connect with each other and spread awareness of suicide and how it can be prevented.

For further details visit: [www.cycleagainsuicide.com](http://www.cycleagainsuicide.com)

If your community has been affected by suicide and you want Cycle Against Suicide to help, please email [info@cycleagainsuicide.com](mailto:info@cycleagainsuicide.com). If you or someone you know is struggling, and would like to talk with a Cycle Against Suicide Buddy, please visit [cycleagainsuicide.com/community-buddy/](http://cycleagainsuicide.com/community-buddy/)

Cycle Against Suicide is a volunteer based national suicide awareness/prevention charity. If you would like to get involved with our work, please email: [info@cycleagainsuicide.com](mailto:info@cycleagainsuicide.com)



Steven Purcell with his daughter Elsa launching Bike4Life





# Making a Song and Dance

September is World Alzheimer Month and the Wicklow Times, in partnership with the HSE's Dementia: Understand Together campaign, is featuring a series of articles on living with dementia. This week, we focus on dementia and the benefits of music.

By Joan Fitzpatrick, HSE Senior Occupational Therapist, Living Well with Dementia programme

"See the person, not the dementia" is a guiding principle when supporting someone who is living with a diagnosis of dementia. It focuses on the truth that despite having dementia, people have many of the same abilities, life-long skills and needs as before.

Dementia is usually far more than memory loss. The sensory challenges can be more difficult to cope with in day-to-day living. Alongside difficulties with language and expression, there can be issues around auditory and visual perception.

Music and dance can transcend these difficulties as they don't rely on good language skills. They are non-verbal communication channels that can tap into deep memories and promote movement, balance and confidence.

Singing, hearing or playing a favourite piece of music can lessen anxiety and distress and bring real pleasure to the person with dementia and their family member.

## Top 5 Tips to Introduce Music into the Life of a Person with Dementia

1. Tailor the experience. Think about how the person has engaged with music previously. Did they enjoy concerts? Did they like singing? Would they join a dementia-inclusive choir?
2. Think about your environment.



Joan Fitzpatrick, HSE Senior Occupational Therapist

For some, being in a room with lots of movement and activity is great. For others, it can be distressing and a small gathering is best. People can

be sensitive to noise, especially if unsure where it is coming from.

3. Bring music into the home. This can be as simple as playing Lyric FM or downloading favourite music onto a USB stick so that it's always available. Why not dust down the record player and some old vinyl, or find some musicals on YouTube?

4. Strike up the band. Did the person play an instrument that has been lying idle in the attic for years? Would a musical family member or friend play a few of the person's favourite songs?

5. Look around you. When back up and running, a lunchtime recital or an evening concert can be a lovely way to spend some time. This newspaper, the library, or the County Council Arts Office are a great resource to find out what is happening locally.



## 'Local communities need budget break to recover better'

Wicklow's voluntary, community and charity groups need a break in October's budget if they are to recover from the huge demands on services during the Covid-19 pandemic, according to The Community Foundation for Ireland.

The call was made in a pre-budget submission 'Recover Better' in which The Foundation, as one of the leading funders of community services in the country, calls for a range of measures to encourage charitable donations and to ensure the money goes on services and not on taxes.

It warns that Wicklow communities continue to face huge challenges as they move from the impact of the pandemic to recovery.

The Community Foundation, which expected to provide over €20 million in grants to voluntary, community and charitable partners this year, says lifeline services, helplines and supports for vulnerable people are being pushed to the limit.

It is calling on all Wicklow politicians to support the measures outlined in the submission saying they will have a direct benefit on the ground in local communities.

A number of actions are called for including:

- A rise in the tax credit on donations for charities from the current 31% rate. An increase would see more



Denise Charlton, Chief Executive of The Community Foundation for Ireland

money going on services rather than being used as tax income.

- A new National Policy on Philanthropy with the aim of matching public money with private donations to deliver new ground-breaking projects and services.
- A commitment to spend €1 per person per year for the next three years (€15 million) to be matched by private donors to increase awareness on the need for climate action in communities.

- A reduction on Capital Acquisitions Tax for charitable donations in wills so that the inheritance of loved ones is not negatively impacted by legacy giving

Denise Charlton, Chief Executive of The Community Foundation for Ireland, said "In the past 18-months we have seen Ireland at its very best. In Wicklow and across the country private, corporate and family donors have giving like never before, as has the public through events like RTÉ Does Comic Relief.

"It has been a privilege to turn this generosity into support in communities in Wicklow and across the country.

"However, it is also true that every-time we are in a position to offer funding the demands from those providing support on the ground far exceeds the money available.

"Now it is time for our political leaders including Wicklow TDs, to play their part and introduce the imaginative policies required so that we truly do Recover Better."



Andrew O'Reilly of Bray Rowing Club is pictured presenting a cheque to Stephanie Murphy of Purple House Cancer Support. The money was raised from the recent 'Braystones' charity rowing event, where rowing clubs from the east coast rowed from Greystones to Bray. Pic: Joe McQuillan

## Open Door's 500 mile challenge raises €3,175

Open Door members, staff and volunteers took on the challenge of covering 500 miles during the month of July, using some of the Physiotherapy equipment available at the Centre.

The final number of miles covered was actually 1,053. Not only did the participants exceed the target of 500 miles, they also raised €3,175 to go towards activities at the Centre. Members have various physical disabilities as a result of Stroke, Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's Disease, accidents and other causes and they benefit from the many activities provided by Open Door. This challenge was a team effort, using the treadmill, exercise bikes and x-trainer, to highlight some of the equipment available and also to help raise funds for the Centre. Open Door said "Thank you to all who supported this event". Find out more about Open Door at [www.opendoor.ie](http://www.opendoor.ie) or call 01 2867123.

## Marrakesh

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## Nomadland at The Mermaid

Monday 6th and Tuesday 7th September at 8pm.  
Tickets cost €8. Cert 12A

In Chloé Zhao's multiple award-winning feature, Frances McDormand plays Fern, a displaced woman in her 60's, who, having lost her husband and her home, sets off on the road to explore life as a modern-day nomad.

A mixture of fiction and documentary filmmaking, *Nomadland* features a cast of real life nomads: people living on the road, travelling for seasonal work, unencumbered by many of life's obligations. There is freedom and comradeship in their community, mirroring the same openness as their vast American landscapes, and Fern finds joy and acceptance there.

Zhao gently balances the precarious reality of a life without safety nets, against Fern's power to continue to make her own choices in a world that assumes she has none.

Tickets available online at [www.mermaidartscentre.ie](http://www.mermaidartscentre.ie) or call Box Office on 01-2724030.

## The Carole Nelson Trio

Courthouse Arts Centre, Friday 10th September, 8.30pm  
Arboreal Tour

Carole Nelson - piano, composition, vocal; Cormac O'Brien - brass;  
Dominic Mullan - drums

Carole Nelson is a long-established musician and jazz composer who's career across many musical genres has gathered international awards and great critical acclaim. In 2015 she turned her attention to composing for jazz piano trio releasing the Carole Nelson Trio's first album *One Day in Winter* in 2017.



The trio's second album, *Arboreal* was released early 2020 and went on to feature in UK's *All About Jazz Magazine's* best albums of the year.

The theme of all things arboreal runs through the album. As Carole says on the album notes - '*Arboreal* began as a walk through my local woods in South Co. Carlow. I wanted to compose music that would express the living reality of a forest - from the mycelium network beneath my feet to the sheltering canopy above, with a sense of the deep interconnection of all living things. While I was composing, information about the climate emergency was reaching more and more of us and I felt the need to respond, as a composer, to the overarching concern of our times. I learned from activists and eco-philosophers about finding the courage to feel, about emotional resilience and active hope.'

This is music to immerse oneself in - lyrical, open-hearted and grounded in a spirit that refuses to give up hope. See [www.courthousearts.ie](http://www.courthousearts.ie).

# Poetry Ireland announces Poet Laureate for Bray

*Appointed poet to write poem honouring and reflecting Bray and its people*

Poetry Ireland has announced the names of the Poet Laureates selected as part of the Poetry Town initiative, which will see more than a hundred poetry-related activities take place in 20 towns across the island of Ireland between 10th and 18th September 2021.

Bray is among the Poetry Towns, and Poetry Ireland, in conjunction with Wicklow County Council Arts Office, has appointed Kayssie K. as the Poet Laureate for the town.

Kayssie K., a poet and singer-songwriter, says Bray has a special place in her heart, as a town where she grew up and that fuelled her creativity.

All Poet Laureates announced are either from the respective local area or have strong connections with it, and have been commissioned to write a poem honouring and reflecting their Poetry Town and its people.

Kayssie K. said "There's something about bringing to life the many homes that I have experienced that has always felt so wholesome to me. Throughout my works, I have found myself making references through language, culture, retelling stories and even familiar faces.

"In fact, to this day, I am in disbelief that I could perform 'My sister as a Body' in the place so close to my heart. Bray is the home that reared and nurtured all the different pieces of me for all these years. So this opportunity is even more special to me."



Kayssie K - Bray Poet Laureate  
(Pic by Brian Cregan)

A poet and singer-songwriter, Kayssie K., also known as Christie Kandiwa, was born in Zimbabwe and raised in Ireland.

Her work is influenced by blending her Zimbabwean cultural heritage and her Irish upbringing and intertwines Southern-African myths and local languages and forms. As well as being published in *Dedalus Press Writing Home: The 'New Irish' Poets* anthology, her work was select-

ed for Poetry Ireland's *Versify 2019* and she was a panellist for the IASIL 2019 Conference event: "Are We Doing Diversity Justice?"

In 2020, she worked along with Chiamaka Enyi-Amadi in the production of *See x Sea* as part of the *Mother of Tongues Ireland* which touched on elements of black womanhood, identity and themes of home. In the International Literature Festival 2020, she featured in *Say it Aloud - We're Irish! Beyond Representation and Writing Home - The New Irish Poets*.

She also collaborated with Tari Takavarasha in the production of *The Language I Cannot Speak* which explored what it is to be Zimbabwean and from the diaspora. Their experiences, though varying and deeply rooted, united to paint a picture that says as much about beautiful and complex intergenerational relationships, as it does about the lasting and current effects of immigration, colonialism, multiculturalism and growing up into a proud black woman in the western world today. In 2021, she was one of the five *Dream On Recipients* facilitated by the Dublin Fringe Festival.

## Wicklow student among winners of Trócaire-Poetry Ireland Poetry Competition

A Wicklow student has been named among the winners of the 2021 Trócaire-Poetry Ireland poetry competition.

The Trócaire and Poetry Ireland annual competition, which this year had the theme 'Pathways to Peace', uses the arts to raise awareness about global justice, ecological and equality issues.

Naomi Wall, a student at Greystones Community College, was named the winner of the Post-Primary Junior Category with her poem 'Forgiving the Past'.

Jane O'Hanlon from Poetry Ireland said: "With winners from nine counties again this year, we'd like to thank everyone who entered and to those who helped and encouraged them.

"This has been a difficult year, particularly for schools which had to close again for part of the year. We really appreciate everyone - teachers, par-

ents and young writers - for their continued interest and support for the Trócaire Poetry Ireland Poetry Competition. The adult categories this year feature Mary Turley-McGrath - a previous win-

ner in 2014 - and the quality of the poetry is, again, superb."

As a physical awards ceremony is not possible due to Covid-19 restrictions, Trócaire and Poetry Ireland will celebrate the

winners of the competition with a streamed video event, while a booklet of the winning poems is due to be published in 2022.

The event will be streamed on Poetry Ireland's YouTube channel on Culture Night (Friday, September 17th) at 6pm.



Featured on the Trócaire Box this year were two incredible women from South Sudan - Awut and Ajak. Photo: Achuth Deng



# September shows at Whale Theatre

## Eleanor McEvoy

Thursday 16th September @ 8pm – Tickets €25

Eleanor McEvoy achieved star status in Ireland in 1992 when her song "A Woman's Heart" was the title track for the A Woman's Heart anthology album. A Woman's Heart has since gone on to become the best-selling album in Irish history.

Eleanor released her eponymous debut on Geffen records followed by tours in the USA, Europe and the Far East. She moved to Columbia Records in New York for her second album 'What's Following Me?'



The first single 'Precious Little' was a top 10 radio hit in the US. Since then, Eleanor has gone on to become an artist and performer known throughout the world. Her critically acclaimed canon of work spans fifteen albums and appearances on numerous compilation albums. As well as being the chair of IMRO, Eleanor is also a voting member of the Recording Academy of America (the GRAMMYS) and in 2016 was appointed by Minister Heather Humphries to the board of Ireland's National Concert Hall.

Released in July 2021, it is no surprise that the title of Eleanor McEvoy's album is "Gimme Some Wine" as it was mostly written and recorded during lockdown. On this, her sixteenth album, the music is both nostalgic and contemporary. Older genres of music - music hall, post war, 50s, 60s styles are combined with fragments of Spanish, Jazz, Mexican, classical, Russian and folk music and then juxtaposed with contemporary drums, bass, or drum loops to form something that feels both entirely new and utterly familiar.

The title track 'Gimme Some Wine' is dedicated to British artist Chris Gollon, Eleanor's artistic collaborator who passed away suddenly in 2017. 'Gimme Some Wine' is the third single to be released from the album, and it follows hot on the heels of "Scarlet Angels" and "Almost Beautiful". 'Scarlet Angels' was inspired by the recent 'A Woman's Heart Orchestrated' concerts with the RTE Concert Orchestra where McEvoy, Wallis Bird and Maura O'Connell all wore red on stage. A bit like the album as a whole, the song is an homage to the healing power of friends and music. 'Almost Beautiful', a co-write with (ex The Beautiful South guitarist and songwriter) Dave Rotheray, describes the mental decline of a loved one. Rotheray is quoted as saying "We went to the pub after writing that one".

## Songs and Stories

Friday 17th September @ 5.30pm and 9pm  
Tickets €25

Mike Hanrahan (Stockton's Wing) presents Songs and Stories with guests Eleanor Shanley and Rachel Grace

Writers and performers share stories, anecdotes, the origin of the songs and other works in a relaxed setting. You will hear the hits, the nearly hits and those soon to be hits.

With a career spanning over twenty years, Eleanor Shanley is one of the most loved singers in our country's folk music history. Whether as a soloist, or collaborating with De Danann, or her time collaborating with the late Ronnie Drew (rip), that voice rings true with such lyrical emotion, every time. Eleanor Shanley still possesses a voice as pure and lyrical as the first day she stepped in front of a microphone with De Danann in 1990. Renowned for her unique interpretation of Irish and Roots songs, Eleanor has been at the top of her profession since her first appearance with De Danann.

Rachel Grace is a nineteen-year-old singer/songwriter from Wexford. Her music is a melting pot of soul, pop and folk with a particular focus on heartfelt and honest lyric writing. She released her first EP in 2018 and has since spent the last couple of years playing Ireland's most favourite venues and festivals including Electric Picnic, Whelans and The National Opera House Wexford. Most recently, she won the AER Solo Artist Award in Northern Ireland and also took home first prize in Four Star Pizza's Star Nation competition in which she was competing against Ireland's top artists.

Her last single 'Cry Me An Ocean' was released in October 2020 and she is currently in the studio working on more releases to be put out later in the year.



Pictured is Frank Curran CEO of Wicklow County Council receiving a copy of Beyond Hazel Bridge from Kilcoole author, Mary Marmion. The book, a lost manuscript, was written by her grand aunt Elizabeth Boyle. Part memoir, it tells the story of a young girl during the War of Independence in county Leitrim and surrounds. Mr Curran is former CEO of Leitrim County Council and maintains much interest and contacts there. "I'm looking forward to reading this," he said.

Available in person and by post from Bridge Book Shop in Wicklow town and paperback/ kindle on Amazon. Copies soon available in local libraries.

## The Three Tenors LIVE in Wicklow

The Three Tenors will play in Wicklow's Church of Ireland on Church Hill in Wicklow Town on Saturday 18th September at 8pm.

They say 'there is no show like this Three Tenors show anywhere'. And it's true...it's different, enjoyable, uplifting and Irish—you are going to love this performance!

Celtic flavoured with a blend of classical and good humour, it's the fabulous mix of carefully selected popular and inspiring songs beautifully arranged and sung with passion that draws in people, who can easily connect with the three warm engaging singers Kenneth O'Regan, Paul Feery, and Kevin Fagan. A unique wide mix of Classic Hits like Caledonia, Bridge Over Troubled Water, Green Fields of France/ Perfect Symphony, Nessun Dorma, and Have I Told You Lately are featured. Creating a storm around the country and beyond, The Three Tenors Ireland are well established and are the only Irish trio to perform

and Belfast Lyric Theatre. Ireland's favourite trio Kenneth, Paul, and Kevin, interact with audience to create a thrilling concert featuring a Classic-Mix of contemporary, uplifting, and some great Irish folk and some special surprises -something for everyone! Tickets Now ON SALE in 'Bridge Street Books' Wicklow + Online Eventbrite.ie.







The Ford Puma SUV

## Toyota, VW, Hyundai lead as Wicklow new cars sales rise

Figures issued by the SIMI show that new car sales in Wicklow, to the end of July, are up 13% over the first 7 months of last year. A total of 1,962 new cars have been bought in the county to the end of July. But this does not show the full picture - that people are spending much more on the cars they buy than at any time in the past.

By Martin McCarthy

Electric, PHEV, and Hybrid cars all cost more than a standard petrol or diesel models - but these are what more and more Wicklow drivers are opting for. Toyota are the top selling car brand in Ireland (12.8% market share) with VW (12.2%), and Hyundai (10.6%) in hot pursuit. Skoda (8.7%) are close behind, as are Ford with their SUVs Kuga and Puma winning many newcomers to the Irish - American brand.

To date this year the Hyundai Tuscon is the best-selling car in Ireland in 2021 - with the Corolla, Yaris and Rav 4 being the next most popular models ahead of the fine multipurpose VW Tiguan. VW have made incredible progress on the electric car front with 1,133 ID4s and 949 ID3s sold year to date, nationally, - as against zero of these models in 2020.

Ford have made incred-

ible progress on the SUV front. While Focus remains a top 10 best seller capturing 1,994 buyers nationally this year - Kuga has doubled its sales compared to last year while Puma has tripled its sales to 1,453. I recently drove the latest Puma and I can see why. This car does so many thanks so well - without making life overcomplex. There are real buttons and

knobs for radio and Air Con controls while the IT system for the phone, navigation, radio and other electronics are so straightforward that any average Joe or Josephine can use them.

The seating position on the Puma is higher up - providing great visibility ahead and over the shoulder. The Puma's 200PS, 1.5L Turbo powerplant

propels the cool cat to 100kph in 6.7 seconds while uprated brakes, adjustable suspension springing and other dynamic improvements are compatible with making high performance, safe and predictable. The Puma ST is a perfectly proportioned stunner and could easily end up the year powering its way onto being Ford best-selling model in 2021.

## CLASSIFIEDS

### Luke 16:19-31 GOSPEL

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'There was a rich man who used to dress in purple and fine linen and feast magnificently every day. And at his gate there lay a poor man called Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to fill himself with the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even came and licked his sores. Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried.

'In his torment in Hades he looked up and saw Abraham a long way off with Lazarus in his bosom. So he cried out, 'Father Abraham, pity me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.' 'My son,' Abraham replied 'remember that during your life good things came your way, just as bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted here while you are in agony. But that is not all: between us and you a great gulf has been fixed, to stop anyone, if he wanted to, crossing from our side to yours, and to stop any crossing from your side to ours.'

The rich man replied, 'Father, I beg you then to send Lazarus to my father's house, since I have five brothers, to give them warning so that they do not come to this place of torment too.' 'They have Moses and the prophets,' said Abraham 'let them listen to them.' 'Ah no, father Abraham,' said the rich man, 'but if someone comes to them from the dead they will repent.' Then Abraham said to him, 'If they will not listen either to Moses or to the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead.'

C.J.

## Home Instead announces 30 new jobs in Wicklow

Home care service provider Home Instead recently announced the creation of 30 new jobs in Wicklow.

The care company is recruiting for 30 additional caregivers in Wicklow, as part of its recruitment of 1,000 additional caregivers, who will be hired across the country.

Home Instead delivers home care to almost 7,000 clients across every county in Ireland, and has been building its caregiving team over the past 12 months, with 1,000 new roles also announced in 2020.

Home Instead's caregivers deliver a range of relationship-based non-medical care services to older people. In addition to helping keep older people safe and well, such care services can also facilitate early hospital discharge, freeing up vital capacity, or can help prevent hospitalisations in the first instance.

'Building the Caregiving Workforce Our Aging World Needs', a new Global Workforce Report commissioned by Home Instead with the Global Coalition on Aging, highlights the urgency and necessity of expanding and professionalising the caregiving workforce around the world.

The increasing demand for caregiving of older people represents a challenge never before experi-

enced, with the global population aged 65 and older set to more than double by 2050.

Commenting on the announcement, Michael Lowe, General Manager of Home Instead in Wicklow said: "The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the vital support that caregivers provide to their clients and the link they provided to the outside world to those they were caring for.

"We're tremendously proud of our caregiving team, and the work that they do to keep older people safe and well. We know that where possible older people want to continue living independent lives in their own homes and in their own communities.

"In the years ahead, Ireland, like so many countries, will face the challenge of an ageing population. Home care can play an increasingly important role in providing care to our oldest and most vulnerable citizens.

"For the vast majority of older people, ageing at home has better health outcomes, is less expensive than institutional care, and can help prevent unnecessary or premature admission to long-term residential care."

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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.O.C.

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# Almost half of parents believe their child's mental health has been negatively impacted by Covid

As students across Wicklow return to classrooms, Irish international rugby players Ciara Griffin and James Lowe teamed up with Rugby Players Ireland, Zurich and the Z Zurich Foundation to invite Post primary schools to take part in the 2021/2022 Tackle Your Feelings Schools mental wellbeing programme as part of the #ImTakingControl campaign.

The programme is designed to instil a positive proactive approach to mental health and wellbeing among young people, reducing stigma and encouraging the development of positive wellbeing habits which they can bring throughout their school career and into adulthood.

The Tackle Your Feelings Schools Programme is a classroom based, teacher led, life skills development programme which enables students to build healthy habits and personal coping strategies as well as kindness and understanding when it comes to mental health and wellbeing.

The content for the app-

based programme, is developed using positive and sport psychology principles and is supported with comprehensive lesson plans for teachers, whilst students can easily access the content whilst in school or at home. The 2021/22 programme includes an 8-lesson schedule, covering awareness, emotions, wellbeing characteristics and self-care.

Recent research, commissioned by Zurich & Rugby Players Ireland and conducted by iReach with 1,000 parents across the island of Ireland in August 2021 revealed the stats for parents in Leinster, excluding those based in Dublin:

\* Almost half (47%) of parents believe their child/children understand the importance of mental wellbeing.

\* 36% of parents agree their child prioritises their physical health over their mental health and that schools prioritise physical health over mental health (45%).

\* 43% of parents agree their children's interpersonal skills have suffered

as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

\* 36% of Leinster parents say home-schooling had a negative impact on their child's mental wellbeing.

\* 46% of parents reported their child's mental health has improved once they returned to school after the first lockdown.

\* 42% of parents believe that their child's school has put more emphasis on mental wellbeing since the beginning of Covid-19.

\* 46% parents think that their children would be more open to discussing mental health with their friends if they have downloaded the Tackle Your Feelings App and completed the TYF School programme.

\* Over half (53%) of parents agree that seeing role models like rugby players take control of their mental health inspires their children to do the same.

Since its launch in 2016, Tackle Your Feelings has impacted the lives of people all over the world, with campaign content being viewed in excess of 23 million times.

TYF Schools information packs have been sent to Post primary schools across the island of Ireland, giving them the chance to sign up for the programme for 2021/2022.



Irish international rugby players James Lowe and Ciara Griffin

## RECRUITMENT

Possibilitiesplus

### NEW TEAM MEMBER: PART-TIME JOB

We are looking for a new team member to support a young man, who lives in the North Wicklow area. This young man enjoys trying out new things and exploring what's the best way to make his mark and contribute to the community.

The new team member needs to be confident, outgoing, adaptable, intuitive, and creative with a sense of humour and a good community networker. You should be able to share practical skills, useful to a young man looking to develop his skills, interests and independence. You will be paid a competitive wage and will be supported by a professional management team. Start date for the role will be September 2021.

In this role, you will be working on a 1:1 basis for up to 10 hours per week, with some flexibility on days (days and times to be agreed). You will have the chance to learn and apply some of the most progressive ways of supporting a person living with disability, to live a good life.

If this exciting opportunity sparks your interest, please email an up to date CV and covering letter to [Sarah@daracommunityliving.ie](mailto:Sarah@daracommunityliving.ie)

Closing date for completed applications is Friday 17th September, 2021

## Discharge of Effluent to Waters

Notice is hereby given that Anita van Rheenans intends to apply to Wicklow County Council for a license to discharge Sewage effluent from a residence in The Old Church, Knockanode, Avoca, Co. Wicklow Y14 A259 following Treatment via Klargest BioDisc Domestic Sewage Treatment Plant and Reed Beds to Avoca River Surface Water.

### WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

I, Samuel Woolmington, intend to apply for permission for development at Rockstown, Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow. The development consists of deposition of soil and stone over an area of c. 1.56ha for the purposes of land improvement with an agricultural end use. 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. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application.

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**Daata Greystones, Hillside Road, Church Road, Co. Wicklow.**

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Contact Muhammad Waseem Saeed via email [greystones@daata.ie](mailto:greystones@daata.ie) or [Shamim Akhtar bray@daata.ie](mailto:Shamim Akhtar bray@daata.ie)

## ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER

**Wicklow Times** are seeking a talented and experienced Advertising Sales Manager to lead our sales team; Experience in advertising sales would be desirable but not essential, however candidates should be able to demonstrate energy and enthusiasm for the sales role. A past career that proves their initiative and work ethic would be beneficial.

On offer is an attractive package that includes generous basic salary, on target bonuses, and commission.

The positions are based in our Bray office but there may be an opportunity to work from home also.

Send your letter of application with C.V. to

[shay@localtimes.ie](mailto:shay@localtimes.ie)

## TELESALES EXECUTIVE

We are also seeking to recruit a telesales executive. Ideal candidate will have experience of sales, (not necessarily in advertising sales), have a pleasant telephone manner, a welcoming personality and a good work ethic.





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