# WE DELIVER! - for 34 vears



**FUNDRAISER** Page 2



**CLEANING UP** Page 4



JPC MEETING Page 10

DELIVERED TO HOMES & BUSINESSES IN: SHANKILL, ENNISKERRY, BRAY, GREYSTONES, DELGANY, KILCOOLE, NEWCASTLE, KILQUADE, ASHFORD, KILPEDDER, NEWTOWNMOUNTKENNEDY, KILMACANOGUE, LARAGH, MONEYSTOWN, ROUNDWOOD, RATHNEW, WICKLOW, GLENEALY, BRITTAS BAY, AVOCA, WOODENBRIDGE, ARKLOW, SHILLELAGH, TINAHELY, REDCROSS, BALLINACLASH, AUGHRIM, RATHDRUM, DONARD, DUNLAVIN, CARNEW, COOLATTIN, BALTINGLASS, BLESSINGTON.

First Floor, The Boulevard, Quinsborough Road, Bray. A98 R6D7. Tel: 01 - 2869111 E-mail: wicklowed@localtimes.ie www.wicklowtimes.net Tuesday 10th May 2022

# OP MICKEY-MOUSING AROU

Senator Pat Casey (FF) has condemned the rail service south of Greystones, branding the service to Wicklow town and Arklow as 'a joke'. He said it's time to stop "Mickey-Mousing around" and take action on the matter.

Wexford Senator Malcom Byrne argued Casey. for more investment in the rail network on the has 34 sailings going Rosslare to Dublin into it weekly, whereas route.

to Minister of State at the Department of not even match up with Health Deputy Frankie the ferry services that Feighan, as Minister for Transport Eamon Ryan was not present.

Arklow at the moment is east cost by getting peoa joke. It is not worth ple into our counties. I

Senator Casey was even considering it as a speaking in the Dáil last mode of public transport Thursday, where he and to get into and out of work," said Senator

"Rosslare Europort there are only 26 or 27 Their views were put train departures from the town. The service does are coming in, so realistically something has to be done. Rail has signif-"The service to icant potential for Wicklow town and tourism all along the

refer to towns in County Wicklow such as Rathdrum, Arklow. Wicklow town and Greystones, where people can disembark and enjoy the countryside. County Wicklow is being strangled by a lack of investment in public infrastructure, one part of which is rail. We have to stop mickeymousing around with what we are doing. We are talking about one additional train service between Grevstones and Dublin, and perhaps with hybrid technology,



Members of the Fire Service attend the scene of a car fire opposite Bray Dart Station last Friday. The taxi rank was evacuated during the incident. Photo by Shayne Phelan.







Our New Virtual Google 360° Showroom

# CONTACT US NOW FOR A FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTATION



NO MIDDLE MAN, WE SELL, MANUFACTURE AND INSTALL

K&K Windows Ltd, Craanford, Gorey, Co. Wexford, Ireland WWW.KKWINDOWS.IE

Freephone: 1800 250 260 Phone: 053 9383526 Post Code: Y25 N2T7 Email: info@kkwindows.ie

Wicklow town. Either we are serious about public transport or we are not.

"On top of all this, there will be no further investment in the upgrade of the N11in County Wicklow for another year. The national planning framework clearly indicates Bray as a growth town Wicklow of 33%. There is no connection between national policy and what the National Transport Authority, NTA, is saying in respect of both public transport and rail transport. The rail service to County Wicklow is unacceptable."

Deputy Feighan said he would convey the senators' views to the Minister for Transport. He read from a pre-prepared reply from the Department of

railcar carriages that the Minister of State mentioned is going to serve the Rosslare rail line. Senator Casey also slammed the response as "totally unacceptable": "The Minister of State might relay our frustration to the Minister that Wicklow and Wexford are again being forgot-

larnród Éireann intends

to undertake an analysis

of post-Covid travel

trends throughout the

network, including the

Dublin-Rosslare line, to

adapt its timetable to

meet customer demands.

process will also take

into account the delivery

of 41 intercity railcar

carriages, commencing

none of the 41 intercity

Senator Byrne said

in mid-2022.

He said that this

Deputy Feighan said that subsequent fleet orders for DART+ will be deployed. "The pub-Transport, stating that lic consultation on

ten about," he said.

DART+ Coastal South will examine options for frequency, which will will commence later this the southside DART line year. This consultation to facilitate improved rail services."

benefit Rosslare-Dublin



COMMUNITIES TOGETHER



Ladies & Men's Knitwear & Homeware Collection

SUSTAINABLE • ETHICAL • LOCAL IRISH HANDCRAFTED IN WICKLOW TOWN





CEART, Crinion Park, Wicklow Town, County Wicklow. A67 AR20

www.shuttleknit.ie sales@shuttleknit.ie Call: +353 (0) 404 25641



Suzanne and Lia from Nick's Coffee opened from 4am on May 7th to greet all the walkers/swimmers/runners taking part in the Darkness Into Light fundraiser for Pieta. The staff have been huge supporters of the event for many years.

# **Open Day at Bray Adult Education Centre**

For the past five years, Bray Adult Education Centre has been located in The Civic Centre, right in the middle of town.

But it's been operating for more than two decades, making sure that the adults in this part of the country are fully prepared for a changing modern world.

The Centre trains people for specific jobs and it also teaches people skills they might find useful in almost any job and in their lives. Being a true adult education centre, the experience is always a positive one.

Bray Adult Education Centre is holding its annual Open Day on Friday 13th May. The purpose is to begin

signing up new applicants for the courses that will start in August 2022. Full-time and part-time options are on offer. Most of the learners get their courses free of charge.

The Centre has survived Covid; now it's ready to look to the future again, offering the adults of Bray and

North Wicklow superb opportunities to stay ahead and feel fully in control of their lives. As everyone knows, the more you learn, the more you earn. The future starts with the Open Day.

### **Energy Master Plan launch** in Newtownmountkennedy

On Saturday the 14th of May, at 2pm, Newtown SEC (Sustainable Energy Community) will present Energy Master Plan Newtownmountkennedy in the local community centre. People will be able to find out what grants are available to make their house or business in Newtownmountkennedy more energy efficient and reduce energy bills. People will also discover the results of the Newtownmountkennedy Energy Master Plan. The event will be from 2pm to 5m.

### **Active Retirement Laragh**

The active retirement group meets every Tuesday morning from 11am - 12pm in the Brockagh Centre. So if you fancy a chat, a cuppa and some light exercise, dancing and music come along on Tuesdays. "We always welcome new members to join our group. We would like to encourage anyone who loves arts & crafts to share your skills with other members, come along and join us. If anyone would like to offer their services or share their



\*12 Month Guarantee on ALL Blinds\*

Tel: 286 5057 Fax: 201 4335 www.acmeblinds.com email: bray@acmeblinds.com

skills with the group please contact us by calling Denise on 0404 45600, email brockaghoffice@gmail.com or drop in to the

### Craft bags for Ukrainian children

Greystones Folk Group recently held a Fun Craft Morning for Ukrainian families.

Another Craft Morning will be held shortly.

Special thanks to all who donated toys and items. You could help by contributing a Craft Bag for the children. It is easy and fun to do. Simply collect craft items and place in a Zip Lock Bag. Lock the bag and put a sticker on the bag indicating the age and gender of the child. Greystones Folk Group will do its best to make sure your Craft Bag gets to the child. Craft items include colouring books, markers, colouring pencils, Pritt stick, pencils

Rubbers, sharpener, bubbles, small toy, plus other suggestions of your own.

Craft Bags can be left with Greystones Folk Group. The choir sings each Sunday at the 11.30 am Mass, Holy Rosary Church. Craft bags may also be left in Holy Rosary Church.

### **Forest Immersion Walk** at Glendalough

This event is on Saturday 14th May, 6pm and it is a chance for people to slow down and connect with nature in a different way. Refreshments included. 6-8.30pm. To book contact us at hello@walkofleaf.ie or phone us on 089 257 8210. This event takes place under permit from the Wicklow Mountains National Park and will cost €28 (early bird/unwaged) - €35. Facebook:

### Walking group in the Brockagh

On Monday mornings weekly at 10am join the Can Moliday Informings weekly at Total John the Laragh walking group at the Brockagh Resource Centre for a walk around the Glendalough area for approximately one hour. No need to book, just show up on the day.

# **Fundraiser started for 10yo** girl's leukemia treatment

A GoFundMe campaign has been set up by Ewa Mo whose 10-year old niece Lenka has been diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL-B).

devastating news and decided to set up this fundraiser to support her during her treatment. "My heart broke into 1,000 pieces," she says.

Over the past two weeks in the tests, Lenka has had a bone marrow puncture, chemo in her spinal cord and two blood transfusions. The treatment will go on for approxitime in a pediatric oncological hospital "Cape Hope" Wroclaw, Poland, together with her mother Izabela.

Ewa uses the GoFundMe (page to write, "If you would kindly like to support her fight against acute lymget her health back, please support

On the 15th of April, Ewa, who is with any donation. No donation is living in Oldcourt, Bray, heard the too small. All money raised will be spent on the non-refundable medicine, rehabilitation and all that Lenka will need during her treatment and after."

Lenka has also left a note on the hospital, apart from undergoing daily fundraising page that reads, "My biggest dream is to be healthy again and make my dreams come true. Now, it is a very difficult time for me and my family. I have a long way of mately two years and for the next treatments and expensive rehabilita-few months, Lenka will be spending tions. I truly believe that I can overcome this illness. My parents and my family are fighting for it every day. Thanks to your help I will have a chance to get my health back."

donate, To go https://www.gofundme.com/f/helpphoblastic leukemia and to help her lenka-to-fight-acute-lymphoblastic-



10-uear old Lenka

# Pre-loved clothes sale for Ukraine

The Eco Conscious way to shop for designer and vintage clothes at a bargain price while supporting Ukraine

Save the date for this Pre-loved clothes sale on the 14th of May in Greystones Tennis Club from 11-5pm. Irish designers, fashion Models and Stylists, will be clearing out their overflowing wardrobes of designer, vintage & high street clothes and selling them at the event.

Drop by for an eclectic mix of treasures and pick yourself up a piece or two at a fraction of its original cost. There will be something for everyone at all budgets.

Alongside the sale we have a luxury raffle online brimming with incredible including a spa day for two in the 5 star Powerscourt resort, an overnight stay for two at the beautiful Tinakilly House hotel, two nights glamping in the Mill House, Slane, County Meath, Mona Swims silk kaftan, Chacha Cashmere Cashmere shawl, bag from Una Burke, pearl set from Fleur jewellery, vouchers for Shanahan's on the Green Burton House and Glas restaurants, a Gold Pass for Killruddery House and Gardens, vouchers for Howbert & Mays and Hedgroe & Home, and so many more.

For a full list of prizes and enter the luxury raffle draw see https://www.idonate.ie/ raffle/LuxuryIrishRaffl

eForUkraine. All raffle proceeds go to the Red Cross Ukraine appeal.

All raffle proceeds will be directly donated to the Irish Red Cross Ukraine appeal, Along with 100% of the stall fees from the event on the 14th of May and there will be one stall where all monies raised will be donated.

For further information email prelovedclothessale@gmail.com For the Raffle, go to https://www.idonate.ie/ raffle/LuxurvIrishRaffl







**Shay Fitzmaurice**, Managing Editor - shay@localtimes.ie lan Colgan, News Editor - ian@localtimes.ie

CDETB

Sales / General enquiries - info@localtimes.ie is published by Wicklow Times,

First Floor, The Boulevard, Quinsborough Road, Bray. A98 R6D7. Tel: 01-2869111

# 'Surge in data centres evidence of Government's see-no-evil approach'

With two data centres granted planning permission in County Wicklow, one in Arklow and another in Newtownmountkennedy, many industry experts warned that we do not have sufficient grid capacity to power these. Now, Wicklow TD Jennifer Whitmore has ioined the debate saving the government is 'asleep at the wheel' regarding data centre development.



"We are still awaiting the government's updated policv statement on data centres - which has not been revised since 2018. The surge in energy consumption by data centres underscores the government's 'see-no-evil, hear-no-evil' approach to the climate emergency", according to ment voted against this Social Democrats Energy motion Spokesperson Deputy Whitmore TD.

The country has been convulsed in recent weeks Meanwhile, the cocinforms us that data centres ply.

"Electricity consumption" "Electricity cons tricity in Ireland than every

highlights a central problem of the government's "see-no-evil, hear-no-evil" efforts to reduce our carbon emissions. All of the responsibility to reduce emissions is put on the individual, while the State continues to facilitate and that data centres must use incentivise energy-guz-

zling industries.
"In the Dáil last year, the Social Democrats attempted to secure a moratorium about efforts to reduce our on the construction of new carbon emissions, and data centres. The govern-

and rubbished the notion a moratorium was required. Subsequently, a de facto moratorium in Dublin was by attempts to ban turf put in place by Eirgrid sales by the government. because of the precarious Meanwhile, the CSO nature of our energy supput in place by Eirgrid on data centres - which has because of the precarious

by data centres is currently single rural dwelling com- at 14pc - having jumped by document in September

overall consumption by 2030

This mushrooming of data centres has taken place without any significant investment in upgrading our energy grid and without any preconditions renewable energy or incorporate district heating.

"How can the government claim to be serious achieve our climate action goals, when it has adopted strictly hands-off approach to data centres?

"Meanwhile, we are still awaiting the government's updated policy statement not been revised since 2018. Enterprise Minister

Varadkar promised to prepare a revised policy



Keith Corrigan and Emma Nolan at the Knockananna GAA/Camogie Dinner Dance in the Woodenbridge Hotel. Pic: Michael Kelly

# NPWS Action Plan welcomed

Green Party Minister for Heritage and Electoral Reform, Malcolm Noonan TD, has announced the details of a plan to renew the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

gic actions, the plan will Party. We are delivering see the NPWS estab- for biodiversity in lished as an executive Government through this agency and restructured plan by equipping and to deliver better out- resourcing the NPWS to comes for nature.

confirmed that a funding authoritative and respectinvestment of €55m has ed voice for nature that been endorsed by Cabinet Ireland needs." to deliver the plan over Minister

outcome key Programme for Speaking following the Government commitment launch of the plan, Green to review the role and Party

Comprising 15 strate- secured by the Green lead on conservation and Minister Noonan also restoration, and to be the

This Strategic Action the lifetime of this Plan aims to deliver an Government. This builds NPWS that is more upon the gains already resilient, better resourced, made. In Budget 2022, and better equipped to Noonan play its part in Ireland's increased NPWS funding response to the biodiverto \$\sigma47m\$, an increase of sity emergency, on the 64% since he became national and international Minister, bringing it back stage. The Plan will equip up to levels not seen the NPWS with the since before the financial organisational capability and supporting structures Minister Noonan said to enable it to deliver its "My action plan is mandate in protecting our a natural heritage

TD Steven



Steven Matthews TD

one of the largest investments in the NPWS since it was established in the country to declare a 2003, and acts on the recommendations identified in the review process. This was a key Green win Committee for Climate during the Programme for and Biodiversity Action. Government negotiations and its extremely reward- have been pushing for sity and climate emergening to see it come to since last year, and I will

"It is very welcome upgraded to an Executive to more funding and duce national heritage. This Matthews concluded. change in status recognises the work of the NPWS that our native plants and animals can thrive.

"In light of these new

believe that this is the full-time, permanent position for a biodiversity officer at Wicklow County Council. We were the first local authority in biodiversity emergency and to establish a Strategic Policy Policy

continue to work with the Minister for Housing, that the NPWS will be Local Government and Heritage and Wicklow remit of the NPWS, Matthews said: "This is Agency, which will lead County Council to intro- begins straight away."

administrative resources administrative supports for the organisation in which will enhance and future and enhance its expand our local initiaability to deliver its man-date in protecting our versity," Deputy

BirdWatch Ireland has also welcomed the Action as crucial to restoring our Plan. Chris Corrigan, ecosystems and ensuring Acting CEO of Acting CEO of BirdWatch Ireland said: "Today is an important day for nature in Ireland. supports for the NPWS, I It has been clear for many years that the critiright time to establish a cally important NPWS was not fit for purpose to deal with the colossal scale of wildlife loss in

"Today, Minister for Heritage Malcolm Noonan has put in place plans for a much stronger organisation capable of restoring nature and the means to ensure that we "This is a role which I can address the biodivercies together.

congratulate Minister Noonan for this achievement and hope that implementation



Irish Oaked Smoked Salmon

Baked Goats Cheese Salad

Succulent Chicken Wings Tossed in a sticky sweet chilli s a light garlic dip

### MAIN COURSE

Oven Baked Fish of the Day Served on a bed of creamed mash potato

Half Honey and Thyme Roast Duck Served on creamed mash potato with

Spinach and Ricotta Tortellini

SELECTION OF DESSERTS

€*32.50*pp

f castle.inn.7



(O) the\_castle\_inn\_co\_wicklow

The Castle Inn, Newcastle, Co Wicklow castleinnnewcastle@gmail.com





 A Family-run business with over 30 years experience in the construction industry.

- Fully insured and Vat registered
  - Established builder in Wicklow and South Dublin
    - Luxury, custom-built homes and renovations
- Extensions
- Renovations
- Maintenance
- Garages and Garden rooms

# Over 100 Wicklow groups join National Spring Clean

The National Spring Clean is Ireland's official anti-litter campaign and over the past 23 years, the initiative has been highlighted the collective responsibility we share in tackling and preventing our national litter problem.

National Spring Clean operated by the Environmental Education Unit of An Taisce in partnership with Local Authorities and supported by the Department Communications. Climate Action and Environment & Mars Wrigley Ireland.

This year, the campaign returned to it's usual month long clean up after 2 years of restricted clean-ups due to the Covid-19 pandem-

Over 100 groups from Wicklow registered to\_carry out\_clean-ups throughout the country. an increase on the number of registered groups this time last year mak-Spring Clean22 Ireland's largest anti-litter campaign to date. Over 3,000 Wicklow



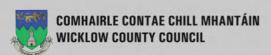
Cleaning up in Greystones

volunteers have participated in organised teers collected an esticlean-ups throughout the

Nationwide, volunmated 2,800 tonnes of



Volunteers cleaning up in Blessington Abbey estate



### WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR THE **FUTURE OF THE COUNTY PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENTS**

The County Wicklow Local Economic and Community Plan and the County Wicklow Wellbeing Statement are being developed at the moment by Wicklow County Council, Wicklow Local Community Development Committee and County Wicklow Public Participation Network. We want to hear from as many people as possible on their views for the future of the county, concerning economic development, community development and community wellbeing. There will be five events, plus an online event (to be announced later).

Monday 9th May in An Tairseach, Wicklow Town at 7pm Wednesday 11th May in the Old School House, Delgany at 7pm Monday 16th May in the Parish Centre, Baltinglass at 7pm Wednesday 18th May in the Town Hall, Bray at 7pm Monday 23rd May in Arus Lorcain, Arklow at 7pm

For further information contact Wicklow County Council at lecp@wicklowcoco.ie or County Wicklow PPN at info@countywicklowppn.ie

National Spring Clean has been a starting point for a large number of groups to organise regular clean-up events all year long!

National Spring Clean 2022 has been an amazing opportunity for communities to come together and do their bit for their local environment, contribute to creating a more sustainable community, be with likeminded people and make a difference

This year the theme of community pride was at the forefront of the campaign with The National Spring Clean urging people of all ages to gather friends, family, classmates, neighbours or colleagues to unite in cleaning their shared green spaces together.

National Spring Clean, Chairperson, Michael John O'Mahony, added: 'The work and efforts of volunteers, groups and Local Authorities all over the country for National Spring Clean in 2022 has been truly amazing. A big thank you to everyone who made it such a success; in fact the most successful National Spring since the first National Spring Clean in 1999! Go raibh mile maith agaibh go

Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications Eamon Ryan TD, said of the initiative: "The statistics for what the National Spring Clean achieves every year are staggering and are a real testament to the energy, drive and community commitment of volunteers up and down the country, who come out and work hard together to protect, enhance and clear up our local environments. It's unpaid, largely unsung and often unseen work that improves the quality of life for all of us. I would like to salute your work and express my gratitude for the hours of selfless volunteer work that help make National Spring Clean such a critical part of the annual environ-



Enniskerry Tidy Towns cleaning up

mental calendar here.

"I would also like to acknowledge the key support to the campaign role played by An Taisce and I look forward to the in overseeing the cam-

paign. My Department held countrywide. will continue to provide

Even though April is coming to an end, there are plenty of campaigns many events that will be and activities that The

National Spring Clean run and endorse that you can get involved in.

of few include:

When you are out for a walk, visiting a park or a beach, do a quick #2minutestreetclean or #2minutebeachclean

• Avoid single-use plastic when possible, by choosing more sustainable alternatives, such as reusable bottles and coffee cups, cotton bags, metal straws, etc.

• Don't litter and if a bin is overflowing, keep your waste until you find a waste to dispose of it properly

• If you can't reduce or reuse, recycle; know where and how to recycle all types of waste.

• Recent statistics show that, in Ireland, discarded cigarette butts make up for 60% of litter on the streets. Always bin your butt!

• Make sure to bin your chewing gum when you're done to avoid a €150 gum littering fine and keep our streets



Volunteers cleaning up on Bray Head

# Bray Coastcare and Ukrainian Community coming together for clean-up

Local Ukrainian refugees in Bray will be joining Bray their solidarity and friendship things like picking them up Coastcare's monthly clean up of Bray's coast during their to those who have been wel- from the airport, offering them May clean up and action day on Saturday May 14th from 12midday until 2pm.

Bray Coastcare founder and next clean up. chairperson Séamus Connor refugee Marianna, who is currently living with his family, heard about the voluntary group which was founded 15 years ago this month and asked if she and other members of the Ukrainian community could help the voluntary group to

"It is great to have the extra was delighted when Ukrainian help but it is also an opportunity for our local residents and volunteers to mix and make friends with those refugees who have been welcomed into our town," savs Seamus.

"So it would be great if people were free on the day, even just for an hour, to come along keep Bray beautiful at their and volunteer but to also share

comed so generously into our wonderful town.

We will be meeting at the Raheen Car Park, just below Bray Head, at 12 midday on Saturday the 14th of May and will finish up by about 2pm. Bray Coastcare will provide all volunteers with gloves, litter pickers, bags and high viz jack-

Séamus' brother John has been tirelessly working to help and support the incoming Ukrainian volunteers through and Ukraine Community"

accommodation, and helping them find work.

John and others held a charity coffee morning recently raising money to support the Ukrainian community and to help them to mix with fellow Ukrainians and also local Bray and Wicklow residents.

Séamus would like to encourage as many people as possible to come along on the day. He recently established the Facebook group called "Bray











Planning and designing your bathroom can be a challenge when inspiration is short. That's why our Wicklow showrooms are arranged to stimulate your creativity with a diverse range of the most quality and attractive bathroom fixtures and products. Heat and water are the two foundations that turn a building into a home so we also supply some of the most competitively-priced heating and plumbing products on the market today.

Unit 8, Charvey Lane Industrial Estate, Charvey Lane, Rathnew. A67 NP66. Tel: 0404 20088. Email: info@skc.ie Open: Mon - to Fri: 7:30am - 5pm. Sat: 9am - 1pm.

FREE PARKING

FREE DELIVERY SERVICE

www.skc.ie



Pictured announcing a new framework and certification for Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) for the financial services and insurance sectors were: Minister for Further and Higher Education, Simon Harris: Sandra Healy, CEO, and founder of inclusio: Damian Rossiter, Development and Programme Manager for Centre for Insurance Risk Data Analytics Studies (CIRDAS); Catriona Murphy, Cluster Manager at Ireland South East Financial Services Cluster (ISEFSC). The overarching aim of the initiative is to provide a blueprint for achieving and implementing EDI in the workplace, and for it to become a key organisational and business concern. The initiative has been included under the Government's five-year 'Ireland for Finance' strategy and in their action plan for 2022. Commenting on the new collaboration, Minister Harris said: "We each have a responsibility to commit to positive change. To acknowledge the opportunity for structural and cultural change within organisations is a great starting point. It goes to show what can be achieved when collaboration on this level takes place. We welcome this initiative and look forward to supporting it."

# **Growing frustration at failure** to allocate funding to Citizens **Information Service**

Sinn Féin TD John Brady has outlined his ongoing frustration at the continuing failure of the Department of Social Protection to give a firm commitment to provide the much-needed funding which is required to allow the offices of the Wicklow Town Citizens Information Service (CIS) to reopen at a suitable venue.

Deputy Brady said "Since last quent meeting with the CIB, that to Arklow. The Bray Women's year I have been attempting to get an undertaking from Minister new premises Heather Humphries, who has responsibility for the Citizens Information Board which operates under the aegis of her department, that they will honour a previous commitment to provide the funding that is required to allow the CIS office in Wicklow Town to reopen.

"In the latest reply from the Minister, she states that discussions are currently taking place between her Department and CIB to complete the new premises development for Wicklow Town. The Minister also states that they are hoping to source funding from within the current 2022 budget for CIB.

"The CIB had previously approved funding for appointment of a project manager. It had also secure the new premises, which it did. Consequently, the CIS submitted funding applications in relation to these developments in April, and June 2021, and again in October.

funding will not be granted for the

"The Citizens Information Service in Wicklow Town provides vital assistance to many of the most marginalised and vulnerable members of our community. In an average year the CIS deals with over 4,500 appeals for help. It provides a free, non-judgemental, and confidential service, providing advice and advocacy on a wide range of issues including social welfare, employment rights, housing, health, and immigration.

"The original CIS office in Wicklow was forced to close under HSE guidelines during the Covid-19 pandemic. But the reality is that the service has outgrown its previous location, and needs to be granted the promised funding, to allow it to enter its new offices, and to coninstructed Wicklow Town CIS to submit planning permission to people of Wicklow Town. It is not just the CIS which is affected. The Money and Budgeting Service (MABS) in Arklow, was able to avail of the CIS office in Wicklow Town to provide clinics for clients Only to be informed at a subse- who were not in position to travel location.

Refuge will also avail of the new CIC premises if and when the funding is granted.

"There are no other organisations in Wicklow Town which can provide the service that the Citizens Information Service does. It is an important service to the local community and needs to be resourced. Our country, our county, and our local communities are facing a very difficult time. With rising living costs, utility bills, rents, and heating costs going through the roof, ordinary people are coming under more and more pressure, and the work that the Citizens Information Service provides will become even more important, as the government's mismanagement of the economy and disregard continues to

Brady continued: "It is simply unacceptable for the Minister to state that 'it is hoped' that funding can be sourced. We need to see iron cast guarantees Government will allocate the required funding necessary for the CIS offices to reopen at their new

# Summer promises improved water supply for Newtown

Before the first half of the year is out Newtownmountkennedy will have a much-improved water supply, Irish Water has said.

Irish Water announced plans to replace old cast iron water mains along the R772 in Newtown-mountkennedy, with works due to begin in the coming days.

The benefit from these works for homes and businesses in the Wicklow town are 'immense', Irish Water says, with improved water quality and fewer outages expected to impact customers. The project will also reduce the amount of clean drinking water lost into the ground.

Joe Carroll, Leakage Reduction Programme Regional Lead with Irish Water, said he is looking forward to ensuring customers in Newtownmountkennedy experience improved water quality along with fewer disruptions to their water

"Working in partnership with Wicklow County Council, we have prioritised leakage reduction works to those areas which need it most," he said.

"This project will see the replacement of approximately 1.5km of old cast iron water mains, which will significantly reduce the amount of water lost through leakage in Newtownmountkennedy. The works will safeguard the supply in the region now and into the future and support growth and development in the area." Joe added: "We are aware that works of this nature can cause some disruption. We would like to assure the public that, together with Wicklow County Council and our contractor Ward & Burke Construction, we are working to minimise any inconvenience over the course of the works

Customers may experience some short-term interruptions to the water supply, but the team said they will ensure that customers are given a minimum of 48-hour notices prior to any planned water outages. Details of any supply interruption associated with the project will also be provided on the Water Supply Updates of the Irish Water website

Customers can also phone Irish Water on 1800 278 278 if they have any queries relating to the pro-

Irish Water are also currently progressing works along Woodstock Road, Newtownmountkennedy to replace a further 1.2km of problematic water mains to provide a secure, safe and robust water supply. These works are on track to be completed next month. These works are being carried out under the



Joe Carroll, Leakage Reduction Programme Regional Lead with Irish Water

# Benville Robinson

Riverview House Seapoint Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow

Tel: 01 276 1330 Fax: 01 276 1336 Web: www.benvillerobinson.ie E-mail: info@benvillerobinson.ie

# Personal Injury Lawyers\*

Medical Negligence\* Catastrophic Injuries\* Workplace Accidents\* Road Traffic Accidents\* Trips and Falls\*

For professional, confidential and expert legal advice regarding Personal Injuries suffered, please do not hesitate to contact Brian Robinson or Clare-Ann Temple.



Rory P. Benville B.C.L. State Solicitor Brian Robinson B.B.L.S., L.L.M. Eilish Bradshaw B.A., L.L.B., L.L.M. Clare-Ann Temple L.L.B.

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

# Avondale closed to facilitate works

Coillte has announced that Avondale Forest Park will be closed to visitors from Monday 9th May until mid-June of this year to ensure the health and safety of all visitors while construction works are underway on the site. The closure is required to facilitate necessary works as the Forest Park approaches its opening date.

next chapter of Avondale House & Forest Park will unfold in early summer 2022 with the opening of 'Beyond the Trees Avondale', an exciting new visitor destination in Ireland's Ancient East following a □16 million development project by Coillte in partnership with Fáilte Ireland and EAK Ireland

Works are currently ongoing at the forest park to develop: A new 38 metre (c10 storey high) wooden viewing tower, offering near completion, and as

The highly anticipated visitors spectacular 360degree views of Coillte's Avondale Forest Park; A unique 1.2km Treetop Walk with breath-taking views of Avondale's diverse forests; A Visitor Centre with a new café and renovated courtvard buildings and walled gar-

Deborah Meghan, Stewardship, Risk & Advocacy Director, Coillte said, "We've done everything we can to keep the park open for as long as possible but as works

the forest park approaches its opening date, the level of construction on site has increased. We regret having to close the park but it is necessary to ensure the safety of all visitors and workers on site. We sincerely apologise for any inconvenience caused and kindly ask people to refrain from visiting the forest park until its opening next month."

Construction works on site are expected to continue into June after which the park is expected to open to the public. People are politely asked not to visit the park while works are underway, to respect all closure notices and not seek out alternative access points into the

Alternative and nearby forest walks are available

Coillte's Ballygannon Wood, on the Laragh Way and Jubilee Walk in Road just 1km outside and around Rathdrum.

Approx. 4 acres, small yard and residence for an Equine Facilitated Learning (EFL) and Equine Facilitated Therapy (EFT) centre.

Budget of up to €500k available.

Please email

EFLandEFT@gmail.com

# 'The best way to congratulate Katie Taylor is to provide facilities for boxers'

John Brady TD said the most fitting way to celebrate Katie Taylor's achievements is for Wicklow County Council and the government to provide suitable, permanent homes to the boxing clubs in the county that are currently without one.



Iohn Bradu TD

Taylor's win in Madison Square Garden against Amanda Serrano extended her unbeaten record to 21 wins and keeping hold of her WBC, WBA, IBF, and WBO titles.

Deputy Brady said "Firstly I want to add my voice to the chorus of voices congratulating Katie Taylor on her fantastic win in Madison Square Garden over the weekend. What Katie has achieved is breath-taking and she is not only a trailblazer for women in boxing and sport, she's also a role

model for so many girls and boys, showing that with hard work and determination you can achieve any-

"Over the years many things have been done to mark Katies many achievements including the establishment of the Katie Taylor Sports Scholarship, this is something I proposed a number of years ago to Wicklow County Council. It is now awarded annually to a young Wicklow sportsperson.

"While it's understandable for people to want to put a statue up to mark the fantastic achievements of Katie Taylor. This was put to her team previously and I'd imagine because Katie is so humble it was something at this point she didn't want to pursue

"However, knowing Katie I'd say her preference would be for Wicklow County Council and the government to provide suitable, permanent accommodation to the boxing clubs in the area that currently have none

"I believe that it's absolutely crazy that we have homeless boxing clubs in the same county where the undisputed and undefeated champion of the world is from. We also need to see the legal squabble over the purpose-built boxing club in Bray Harbour ended and for the kids to be allowed back in, to follow in the footsteps of their hero."



Local Artist extraordinaire Gibb took the initiative to repaint the old an post sign on Albert avenue, Bray, over the bank Holiday May weekend. Photo by Shayne Phelan

# 'Fisherman's life in ruins as ministers pass the buck'

Sinn Féin TD John Brady has again expressed his frustration at the tified by the EU. continuing apparent impasse between two government Ministers regarding the issue of the MV Mary Kate, a trawler purchased by the Arklow fisherman C.J Gaffney

has been offered to the government by the EU Commission, Deputy Brady says

"This situation is getting more ridiculous. I just cannot understand the refusal of two senior government Ministers, name

There is a ready-made Charlie McConalogue, to Gaffney, has been left with solution to the issue that come to an agreement as willing to take responsibility for making a decision in relation to the issue of the MV Mary Kate, despite being offered a clear solution by the EU, said Deputy Brady.

"The issue here is that ly, Eamonn Ryan, and Arklow fisherman, CJ

his life in ruins as a result to whose department is of the callous indifference of the coalition government to take on board the guidance and advice of the EU commission and provide compensation for the costs incurred due to the stability flaws in a fishing vessel, the MV Mary Kate, which had been cer-

"Magda Kopczynska, Director of Waterborne Transport at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport, wrote to Sean Kelly MEP on behalf of the EU Commission, and laid out in explicit terms that the EU advised the Irish Government that compensation for CJ Gaffney could be drawn down under the European Fund for Maritime and Fisheries, but the Irish gov-

themselves as the EU had no authority to put forward the request themselves, but if the Irish Government did so the funds would be granted.
"I again want to call

upon the three government TDs to act in support of the Gaffney family, to bring government focus to this very solvable issue, to get the Ministers to sort themselves out and start to do the job that they were elected to do.



# Women inspiring action,

The winners were Ray Comerford, Orla Finn, Clare Comerford, and Patrick O'Riordan

# Soroptimists fundraising table quiz returns



President of the Soroptimist Ireland Bray

Soroptimist International Bray held their first Fund-Raiser Table Quiz since January 2019 in Bray Golf Club on Thursday 28th April, and were delighted to welcome all the participants to enjoy a fun evening in aid of the Ukrainian Refugees and local charities.

Pat Hastings did a wonderful job as Quiz Master, ably assisted by Jacinta Hastings who collated the marks, and Anne Cloney and Mary Savage marking the answers. We had 14 tables taking part in total, and everyone enjoyed the raffle at the end. Many thanks to all those local businesses, members and friends, who donated the prizes, and to Bray Golf Club for hosting the event. It was a very close finish at the end with only a point between 1st and 2nd! The winners were presented with their prize by Tanja Haak, President SI Bray.

# Marrakesh Marrakesh Ltd is a family run business specialising in

Construction and Demolition Waste Management & Recycling, Site Clearance and Supply of Material from 4" down to Blinding, Recycled Screened Topsoil, Sand, Gravel etc.

### **EPA LICENCED FACILITY • ALL TRUCKS CARRY WASTE PERMITS**

# **Recycled:**

- Screened Topsoil
- Screened no 2 soil
- 4" Down Crushed Concrete
- 4" Clean Crushed Concrete
- 3" Down Crushed Concrete
- 3" Clean Crushed Concrete
- Crushed Concrete Fines
- Crushed Tarmac Fines
- No 2 Stone

Also available:

• Granite • Pebble • Sand



Tel: 01 286 8119 Mobile: 087 664 1866 ww.marrakeshltd.com

# **Water catchments surrounding Avonmore River selected under EU-funded €20m scheme**

Catchments surrounding the Avonmore River near Laragh have been selected for inclusion in the EU-funded Waters of LIFE project to protect Ireland's most pristine river catchments.

Managed by the Department of Housing, Local Government and involves 16 partners including government departments, State agencies, Local Authorities, and local development companies, with an overall budget of €20 million. The aim is to reverse the long-term trend of decline in Ireland's "high status" waters. High status rivers are those considered to be in pristine condition and rich in biodiversity and Ireland is one of a small number of EU member states that still has a number of high status water bodies. However, the number of remaining high-status sites has declined from 31.5% (1987-1990) to 19.9% (2017-2020), representing an almost 37% decline in number according to EPA data.

The six catchments included in this scheme are: The Shournagh, Co Cork,ear Tower and Blarney; The Awbeg, Co. Cork, near Kanturk; The Island River in the Galway/Roscommon area near Ballymoe; Rivers in the catchment of Lough Graney, Co. Clare; The Avonmore, Co. Wicklow; The Sheen, Kerry, as a control river for

The total budget under this "I look forward to engaging to be delivered through this LIFE Integrated project is with Wicklow County Council, scheme." The total budget under this

€20,369,805 of which €9,500,000 local community groups and others Heritage, the strategic project European Union. The LIFE pro-involves 16 partners including gramme is the EU's funding instru-government departments, State ment for the environment and climate action. Since its creation in 1992, it has co-financed some 5000 projects across the EU, with a total contribution of approximately €6.5 billion for the protection of the environment and climate action. These programmes are typically run by government agencies such as the National Parks and Wildlife Service, local authorities, with involvement of community groups, third level institutions, and private compa-

Speaking following the launch of the project, Green Party TD Steven Matthews said: "I am particularly happy that the Avonmore River, has been selected as one of six river catchments for the Waters of LIFE Project. The Avonmore includes an area of 141km with streams, rivers and lakes that flow through the Wicklow Mountains and the villages of Annamoe and Laragh. Historically, these rivers have achieved high ecological status but are now under stress and need restorative action.

has been committed by the on how we can increase public awareness of the ecological, social and economic importance of the Avonmore and develop solutions to maximise water quality and maintain the high-status designation of the river catchment.

"The Waters of LIFE Project will help the Avonmore to reach its potential as an area of rich biological diversity with pristine water conditions. I would like to thank my Green Party Colleague and the Minister of State for Heritage and Electoral Reform, Malcolm Noonan TD, for championing this initiative which will lead to improvements in our high-status water bodies in Wicklow and across the country," Deputy Matthews concluded.

Minister Noonan launched the Waters of LIFE Project on Sunday, stating that "The ongoing loss of high-status waters is among the most concerning, protracted and persistent water quality trends in Ireland. The six high-status rivers selected for this scheme - and the communities, industries, and local economy surrounding them - will benefit greatly from the implementation of locally tailored solutions

ments at Market square

# Wicklow Library and archives shortlisted for prestigious awards

Wicklow Town's new library and archives have made the final shortlisting for two national awards.

success

on being shortlisted in the

competitions and he

In the Irish Construction Awards, the library and archives have been shortlisted under the 'Public Building' category for the contractors Byrne & Byrne Construction

The Irish Construction Awards are the original and premier recognition of performance excellence for the contracting sector in Ireland. The awards are an opportunity for the construction industry to highlight best performance across the full range of construction dis-ciplines and project cate-

Separately, the architects on the project, O Mahon Connell Architects, have been shortlisted for their work on the library and archives in the 'Building and Architect of the Year Awards 2022' under the category 'Building refurbuilding or development'.

Speaking after the announcements, the Chief executive of Wicklow County Council, Mr Brian Gleeson, congratulated Byrne

he encouraged everyone to visit the Treaty exhibition which is on display in Connell Mahon Architects

wished both firms every Cullen, added his con-He added that it was no surprise to see the library and archive receiving such recognition as it is a said building that the Council Wicklow Library and

itself is very proud of and Archives was one of the best projects ever undertaken by the Council and along with the refurbishthe building 17th of May. ment of Fitzwilliam The Cathaoirleach of Square and the improve-

the Council, Cllr Shay

transformed gratulations to the Wicklow town for locals builders and architects and tourists. and wished them well in The results of both both competitions. He competitions will be that the new known in the next few



Construction and O The lobby in Wicklow Library

# Timframe established for new BusConnect routes in Wicklow

introduced in the county through BusConnects are scheduled to be up and running by the middle of 2023.

routes announced in when operational next year will provide a muchcommunities.

new services in Wicklow Road, Putland Road, Meath Road, Strand Road, will be called X1 and X2. DART Station and out to Palermo, it will be called new service direct the L14.

submission as part of L15.

John Brady TD said, "I Dalton launched a petition ing firmation that the new of a new bus loop service to link Newtownthrough mountkennedy to Kilcoole BusConnects, these routes and Greystones. This proposal was taken onboard by BusConnects and new needed service to local routes called L1 and L2 have been developed. This "When operational the new route loop Bus services will link Greystones, will include a new bus Newcastle, Kilcoole, route around Bray taking Newtown. The morning in the Full Southern Cross peak services similar to 84x will continue, they

"There will also be a between Bray and called L12. "This is something that Enniskerry, this service The existing the BusConnects consultation process.

Enniskerry route direct to the City Centre will be "In 2017 myself and retained, but will be my colleague Muireann renamed L88. The exist-

will also Laoghaire remain. It will be called

"It is really disappointing however in the changes to the bus services in the area that the poor decision to withdraw the service from Fassaroe wasn't reversed.

"This is something that I will continue to push for. the NTA in relation to There will be a new feeder from current Ballywaltrim/ routes will be a welcome Southern Cross Terminus to Bray DART. It will be

"I would also like to I have long campaigned will not divert to Palermo stress though that there is with a comprehensive for and had included in and it will be called the an accompanying onus on transport plan for the planners to ensure that there is adequate public the expanded and consultation with local improved rail services communities.

want to welcome this con- calling for the creation Kilmacanogue to Dun rounding the possibility that parking spaces may be lost in parts of Bray, where motorists currently struggle to find suitable parking outside their homes

"We also need to see rogress on the delivery of badly Park and Ride services in Wicklow, I will continue to engage with

"The new BusConnects addition to the provision of public transport in Wicklow but it must be developed in conjunction county that will include mmunities. alongside upgrades to the "I am aware that there N11/M11 and N81."



Cllr Shay Cullen, Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, with Garda Emma Jane Doyle, Sgt Lorraine Heffernan, and Sgt John When at the Wicklow County Council Joint Policing Committee meeting in Newtownmountkennedy. See more on page 10

# **COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

### BLESSINGTON INNER RELIEF ROAD PROJECT NON-STATUTORY PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON **EMERGING PREFERRED ROUTE**

Wicklow County Council has appointed DBFL Consulting Engineers to progress the Blessington Inner Relief Road Project through all phases of the Scheme. The scheme has now progressed and Wicklow County Council wishes to inform you that the Emerging Preferred Route for the scheme has now been identified.

Wicklow County Council plans to deliver a purpose built route connecting existing sections of the Inner Relief Road already completed between the Naas Road and the Blessington Industrial Estate junction (opposite Maxol filling station) and between the N81 south of the town and the Kilmalum Road. There are two primary sections of the Inner Relief Road yet to be completed which are subject to the emerging preferred route, one section is located to the south of Blessington and the other to the north of

Southern Section - The section of road to be constructed lies between the roundabout on the R410 Naas Road and Roundabout on the L8364 Kilmalum Road.

Northern Section - The proposed route of this section of road heads northwards from the existing roundabout on the Blessington Inner Relief Road just to the west of Woodleigh Estate and traverses the quarry to emerge onto the N81 in the vicinity of the existing quarry entrance.

New pedestrian and cycling infrastructure are proposed along the route to encourage alternative more sustainable transport modes.

### What's happening now?

Wicklow County Council is now inviting interested parties, residents of the local area and members of the public, to participate in a Non-Statutory Public Consultation for the scheme in order to provide their feedback on the identified Emerging Preferred Route. This consultation event will run from the 12th May 2022 until the 26th May 2022 inclusive.

### Consultation:

The emerging preferred route for the proposed scheme may be inspected at the following locations:

- Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Whitegates, Wicklow Town, A67 FW96.
- Baltinglass Municipal District, Civic Offices, Blessington Business Park, Blessington,

On working days between the hours of 9:30am to 12:30pm and 2:00pm to 4:00pm for a period running between Thursday 12th May 2022 and Thursday 26th May 2022. Plans and particulars of the emerging preferred route are also available to view on www.wicklow.ie/Living/ConsultationHub

### How to provide your views on the Emerging Preferred Route Corridor:

Observations with respect to the proposed emerging preferred route may be made in the following ways:

- at www.wicklow.ie/living/consultationhub or
- In writing to the SEO, Transportation, Water & Emergencies Services, Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Whitegates, Wicklow Town, A67 FW96 clearly marked "Blessington Inner Relief Road Project" on or before 12 noon Friday 27th May 2022.

Helena Dennehy, Senior Executive Officer, Transportation, Water and Emergency Services, Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow,

# **Public transport fares in Greater Dublin Area reduced from this week**

Minister for Transport Eamon Ryan and the National Transport Authority (NTA) have launched the 20% fare reduction for public transport services in the Greater Dublin Area. The 20% fare reductions take effect Monday 9th May and will remain in place until the end of

Area (GDA) are to be reduced by an average of 20%. with reductions applying to services provided by Dublin Bus, Luas, Go-Ahead Ireland and Iarnród Éireann's Commuter and DART services. The TFI 90-Minute Fare introduced last year will fall to €2.00 for adults and €0.65 for children

While Iarnród Éireann's online fares were reduced last month, from Monday, all intercity and commuter fares across the country will drop. Fares on Bus Éireann and Local Link services were also reduced by 20% last

Customers will get their 20% reduction in fares when they pay for their journey in the usual way, whether s by Leap, cash or online payment.

The plan to cut public transport fares was announced by Minister for Transport Eamon Ryan in February and was among the measures included in the Government's package to reduce the cost of living. This national fare reduction is the first since 1947, seventy-five years ago.

The fares reduction will be accompanied by a national TV, radio and outdoor campaign launching on May 9th.

Minister for Transport Eamon Ryan said: "Public transport plays such an important role in Dublin City. On average over 140 million passengers are carried by Dublin bus every year and another 41 million by Luas,

for example. Now, that we are all moving back to work or travelling around the city more after the pandemic, we want to make it even more attractive and easier for people to be able to choose public transport. This saving of 20% transport costs is one practical

way we can do this.
"But this cost reduction is also important at this particular time. People are coming under more and more pres-

Fares on all subsidised services in the Greater Dublin sure as the price of essentials continues to increase. As one element of a suite of measures being introduced by the government, this fare reduction will go some way to easing some of the financial strain that households are experiencing.

He also said that choosing public transport, even for one trip a week, can have wider benefits.

"Choosing public transport over the private car, even for one trip a week, can begin to help us reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. It will also help improve the air quality and cut down on congestion in our capital city

And at a time when fuel security is a greater concern than it has been in decades, leaving the car behind, if at all possible, is one of the best things we can all do to help reduce our energy use, and save money", the Minister

NTA CEO Anne Graham added: "With these fare reductions, we look forward to seeing more people using public transport to get to work or college or even to get out and about with their friends and family.

"In the first three weeks of the 20% discount being available on Bus Éireann services, passenger journeys have climbed by nearly 10% in the regional cities, with Galway and Limerick now ahead of pre-Covid levels.

"There's particularly good news for rail commuters Cork with Mallow being brought into the commuter

rail fares area for the first time. This means that an adult can travel from Mallow to Cork city or any other station within the Cork commuter area for just €3.90 when paying with Leap

"We're appreciative of support that the Government has given us, that has enabled us to make public transport even more affordable for our cus-



Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, Roderic O'Gorman, with NTA CEO Anne Graham and Ray Coyne, CEO of Dublin Bus.

# Important issues raised at JPC meeting

Issues such as community policing, CCTV, drug statistics and traffic management were raised at a public meeting of Wicklow Council Joint Policing Committee (JPC) held in the Parkview Hotel, Newtownmountkennedy, on Wednesday 4th May.



Pictured at the JPC meeting in the Parkview Hotel were Cllr Tom Fortune, Chief Superintendent Anthony Pettit, Cllr Gerry Walsh, Helen Purcell (Senior Executive Office, Wicklow County Council), Brian Gleeson (Chief Executive, Wicklow County Council), Superintendent Pat Connell and Lorraine Gallagher (Director of Services, WCC).

is to provide a forum where the Authority, Senior Garda Officers, Public Representatives and Community Representatives can consult, discuss and make recommendations on matters affecting the policing of

Cllr Gerry Walsh, Chair of Wicklow County Council Joint Policing Committee, welcomed the return of in-person meetings, which he said provided a great opportunity to engage with the community. He thanked all present for taking the time to attend the meeting.

Superintendent Pat Connell gave a presentation outlining the specialist services provided in the Bray District which include Roads Policing Unit, Forensic Collision Investigator, Community Policing Unit, Detective Unit, Crime Prevention Unit, Scenes of Crime Unit, Immigration Unit, Victim Service Office, Juvenile Liaison Office.



Sean Larkin, Cllr Peir Leonard, and Cllr Joe Behan at the JPC Meeting in the Parkview Hotel.

Criminal Intelligence Office, Family Liaison, Ethnic Liaison & Crime Prevention Officers, Continuous Professional Development National Support.

Issues raised related to the area, traffic management, illegal dumping and to the local community.

Chief Superintendent Chief Anthony Pettit and Superintendent all questions raised.

Many also paid tribute to the working relationship vide an excellent service

Executive, Pat Council, thanked every Connell provided com- one for their attendance prehensive responses to and contributions and took the opportunity to attendees acknowledge the great community policing, Gardaí in Newtown- between the Council and CCTV, drug statistics in mountkennedy who pro- the Gardaí, particularly addressing many joint issues which arose during

# **New car registrations** increase in Wicklow

The Society of the Irish Motor Industry (SIMI) has released the official 221 new vehicle registration figures for April.

New car registrations for April were up over 22% in Wicklow when compared to April 2021. Registrations for the year to date in Wicklow are up 14% on the same period last year (1,237 to 1,411). So far each month of 2022 has seen an increase in new registrations compared to last year.

Toyata has been the most popular make of passenger car in 2022 so far among Wicklow motorists, with a 77% increase in sales, followed closely by Hyundai, and then Volkswagen, Kia and Skoda. Over 40% of new car registrations in Wicklow are either Toyota or Hyundai. The most popular car in 2022 so far has been the Hyundai Tuscon, with 90 units sold, followed by the Toyota Corolla, with 74 units sold.

Nationally, Light Commercials vehicles (LCV) are down 31.8% (1,626) compared to April last year (2,383) and year to date are down 19.9% (10,992). HGV (Heavy Goods Vehicle) registrations are down 36.1% (209) in comparison to April 2021 (327). Year to date HGV's are down 15.9% (1,030).

Used car imports for April (4,223) have seen a decrease of 25.6% on April 2021 (5,676). Year to date imports are down 34.2% (15,864) on 2021

# **Dusk Chorus at East Coast** Nature Reserve

Experience one of nature's greatest performances! Join this Dusk Chorus Walk at the East Coast Nature Reserve in Newcastle, organised by Birdwatch Ireland.



Photo by Birdwatch Ireland

May is the height of the bird-breeding season when birds are most active pairing up and defending territories. "We will be listening to and observing the array of bird species present on the reserve," said Ireland. Birdwatch "Events on the reserve are kindly sponsored by Wicklow County Council and Heritage Council. Please dress for the weather and wear suitable footwear as there is some uneven ground."

Meet at the main Sea Road entrance at 8pm on Friday 13th May

# Hospice sunflower days are back!

Together for Hospice, The National Hospice Movement, has announced that Hospice Sunflower Days will return to towns and villages all over the country and this year's event will take place on Friday 10th June and Saturday

are calling on you to volunteer to sell sunflower merchandise over the course of the two days

Hospice Sunflower Days aims to raise much needed funds for hospice and specialist palliative home care providers across Ireland enabling them to continue to provide person centred, holistic and loving care to patients and their loved ones free of charge. Hospice care is provided either in a hospice in-patient unit or in the person's own

home with specialist palliative home care nurses.

Hospices nationwide need to raise approximately €20 million each ar and as our population ages, demand for hospice and specialist palliative homecare services continues to grow. Funds raised will help to purchase new equipment, upgrade hospice facilities and support local hospice services, with every euro raised locally, staying locally.

Hospices nationwide are calling on the public to volunteer to help

Hospice and specialist palliative homecare providers nationwide them sell sunflower merchandise on Friday 10th and Saturday 11th June 2022 for Hospice Sunflower Days.

Speaking about the return of the traditional on-street collection, Audrey Houlihan, Chairperson, Together for Hospice, The National Hospice Movement, and CEO at Our Lady's Hospice & Care Services said, "We are delighted to be able to return this year to our traditional on-street collections as people across Ireland are always so supportive of their local hospice. Hospices nationwide are always on the look out for new volunteers to help with the collections and we hope as many people as possible will be able to offer some of their time on the 10th and 11th June to support their local hospice."

If you would like to volunteer and take part in the on-street collection, please contact your local hospice or home care service today. Contact details for your local hospice can be found at www.togetherforhospice.ie/hospices



Pictured at the announcement for the call to support the Hospice Sunflower Day is Karen Reid, Senior Staff Nurse from Our Lady's Hospice & Care Services, Harold's Cross. Pic: Bryan Brophy

# ng with a DISABIL



There are nearly 20,000 people in Co. Wicklow living with a disability and there are over 5,000 carers. There are approximately 4,000 people in Wicklow with a disability related to mental health, nearly 2,000 with an intellectual disability, about 1,500 with blindness or severe vision impairment, 3,000 with deafness or severe hearing impairment, and 5,000 with a learning difficulty.

About a quarter of people with a disability in Co. Wicklow are in employment. This is compared to about 54% of the general population. About a fifth of people with a disability living in Co. Wicklow, meanwhile, have no access to a car or van. This is compared to just eight percent of the general population.

There are over 7,000 people in Wicklow who have

difficulty with basic physical activities

All of this means the topic of disability is becoming closer to our hearts for many of us, as we are increas ingly likely to have a friend or family member who has a disability. However, thanks to the many support services in place, living with a disability doesn't have to mean being held back in life. In Co. Wicklow, there are many services and organisations to provide support, care, education and employment, to improve the everyday lives of those with a disability who live, work and socialise in Co. Wicklow.

# Free training for employment and education

A year ago, Cian (not his real name) struggled to get a job. His anxiety and chronic shyness meant he struggled to get past the interview stage.

Meets every Monday in Villa Pacis on the Vevay Road, Bray. between 10am and 12 Noon

Contact Michael for further details: 086 872 9255

www.sjogdse.ie **[60]** @sjogdse

lic employment service referred him to National Learning Network in Bray and it was there he found the support he

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

2021 statista ✓

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

With his enhanced CV and new positive attitude. he landed a great job last week with a local employer.

Leaning and get qualifications.

See their ad on this



and supported **training** 

National Learning Network

Learn to change your story



Pictured are some of the Camogie participants from the annual Cumann na mBunscol Wicklow County Skills Final which took place in the Wicklow GAA Centre of Excellence, Ballinakill on Wednesday April 27th. The skills on show were of a high standard and all participants performed to the best of their ability and displayed great sportsmanship. The top performing pupils will represent their school and county during the half-time of selected All Ireland Semi-Final or Final games during the summer.

# 'My Open Library' service now available in Arklow and Wicklow Libraries

"My Open Library" (MOL) is now available in both Arklow and Wicklow libraries. This enables the public to use both libraries from 8am-10pm all year round.

The initiative ran successfully in Arklow library for almost a year, until the onset of Covid-19, but is now back, while the new Wicklow library is experiencing MOL for the first time.

This service allows the public to have all the usual benefits of the library outside of normal staffed hours, including borrowing items, studying, using public PCs and printers, holding meetings in the community room, enjoying an art exhibition or just relaxing and reading books, magazines or newspa-

Wicklow Council Chief Executive Brian Gleeson, said: "It is great for the public to have the benefits of the service for an additional 50 hours per week. Wicklow County Council is to the fore in having this service."

Cathaoirleach Wicklow County Council, Cllr Shay the reintroduction of the upcoming exams, but I'm separate MOL access ensure people's safety.



The Community Room in Arklow Library

service saying: "The ser- sure it will also be a vice was very popular in Arklow previously and I'm sure it will be successful in both locations. It will be particularly welcomed by students as Cullen, also welcomed they prepare for their ask at the library for a staff are not there to

great benefit to families and the general public as well".

To avail of the service, members of the public need to be aged 16+ and

given a tour of the library, to ensure they are aware of Health & Safety issues. There is a security guard present in both buildings when library

# Innovative programme on climate action in primary schools

Codling Wind Park has teamed up with STEAM Education Limited - a Cork-based team of experts aiming to bring science, technology, engineering, arts and maths to life in a fun way for children - to provide a solution-focused education programme on climate change to primary schools in the Wicklow and Greystones municipal districts.

gramme explores what cli-school children to love mate change is, the causes and effects on humans, nature, and the environment, and looks at engineering and technology solutions for a sustainable

The five-lesson pro- also help to inspire primary children in understanding planned for May. STEAM subjects and to become the future generaof tion Scientists, future. Technologists, Engineers, Artists and Mathematicians.

Using arts, communi-Delivered by STEAM cation and active citizenexperts from industry and ship, the hands-on, creacademia, the sessions will ative sessions engage

play in contributing their ideas towards a greener

Following an initial successful trial at St. Coen's NS in Rathnew, the programme has since been Kevin's NS in Greystones, with two further schools

iaison Officer at Codling Wind Park, said: "These sessions were great fun, and the children were really engaged. They asked lots of interesting questions about their environment delivered to children at St. and came up with great suggestions of small changes they could make

and creating a better Ms Griffin, teacher at St Kevin's NS said: "This was a very worthwhile series of workshops for 6th class, the students really engaged with the topics in a range of hands-on ways. In the weeks since the workshops ended, the children are far more aware of and interested in

> biodiversity in Ireland." Codling Wind Park is a proposed offshore wind farm in the Irish Sea, set in an area called Codling Bank, approximately 13-22 kilometres off the County Wicklow coast, between Greystones and Wicklow Town. Representing one of the largest energy infrastructure investments in Ireland this decade, the project will deliver substantial benefits to the regional and national economy. including more than 1,000 construction jobs and around 75 long-term. locally based jobs.



Pupils from St. Coen's National School in Rathnew

Pupils from St. Kevin's National School in Greystones during a creative session as part of the solution-focused education programme on climate change

# **South East Technological University officially opens**

Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science Simon Harris TD has welcomed the establishment of the South East Technological University (SETU).

Technology and IT Carlow are now dissolved and a stand-alone university presence in the region has been created.

On 1st May the South University Teicneolaíochta opened its doors, and stu- creation, current 2021/2022 academic year will do so with university level qualifications.

Professor Veronica Campbell will become the Technological University, appointment by the first be chaired by Dr Paddy Prendergast.

many, many people, staff, investment in research." students and wider regional stakeholders who

Waterford Institute of years or more have arrived at this point.

"Now for the first time a university stands in the South East. This new university can build on the enormous strengths of both Technological institutes and really put a (Ollscoil mark on the quality of an higher education, employ-Oirdheiscirt), officially ment, enterprise and skills expanded dents graduating in the research, socio-economic and regional development in the vibrant South East. The new university will be building on and with very firm foundations.

"Today would not be first president of the new happening if it were not for the hard work put in across subject to her formal the past decade by staff, management, students and governing body of SETU. the people of the South The governing body is to East. While today is the start of a brand new journey, it is only one step on Minister Harris said: the road. This will be "This really is a red letter matched by investment, day for the South East. I investment in infrastrucam tremendously proud to ture and new buildings, be a part of the team of investment in education,



Minister Simon Harris

said: "I, too, wish the new TU, Professor Campbell and the incoming govern-ing body and the staff and students of SETU all the very best as they take their rightful place in an Irish higher education landscape that has changed immeasurably in the last four "I am sure the new TU

Professor under will bring immense drive and ambition in overseeing Minister of State for the delivery of SETU's Further strategic objectives and

advancing the regional development agenda."

The Chairperson of the

Governing Body, Prof Patrick Prendergast said: The creation of South Technological University is a momentous day for the south east of Ireland.

"It marks a new dawn for the region, and we in the Governing Body share an immense pride with the staff and students of SETU in all that has been achieved to make our new university a reality.

Prof Campbell added: "We are ambitious for our new university and for our region. We want to become a leading European technological university, transforming lives, and driving growth through excellence in learning, research, collaboration and innovation. SETU will play a pivotal role in regional develop-Campbell's stewardship ment, attracting talent, inward investment and research opportunities to the south east.'

Professor Veronica

Callum McKenna, and Sam Carroll during her recenbt visit to the school. neuropharmacology and Teicneolaíochta an academic year of was the first person in Oirdheiscirt) follows the 2021/2022 will do so with neuropharmacology and Teicneolaíochta Ireland in the modern era to investigate the pharmacology of cannabinoids. She is a TCD Fellow, former dean of graduate studies and served as the College's Bursar and director of innovation from 2015 until 2021. Professor Campbell has a proven

The establishment of South East Technological University

track record of strategic

project delivery during the

time at Trinity

submission of an application by Waterford and Carlow institutes of technology on 30 April 2021, the assessment by an international advisory panel of the application and a report thereon by the Higher Education Authority (HEA) report, and thereafter the designation by the Minister of the new technological university (TU) on 11 February 2022. Students of the predecessor

university qualifications.

Minister of Education Norma Foley with Avondale Community College students Kyle Doyle,

In February 2022, Minister Harris appointed the first governing body to the new TU. The governing body, which came into effect on 1st May, is being chaired by Dr Prendergast, the former Provost of Trinity College.

He is joined by Mr Jim Bergin, CEO of Glanbia, and Ms Ruth Beadle, who holds a key leadership role at Sanofi, which has a

Waterford and Mr Kevin Lewis, Chief Executive of Waterford Education and Training Board.

This first governing body has 6 months from the date of establishment to fill out the entirety of the governing body of between 14 - 22 members through legislatively prescribed election and appointment procedures.

The new TU has total student population of some 18,500 students at four



Free in-person digital skills classes for older people are being rollout across the country as part of the Hi Digital partnership initiative between Vodafone Ireland Foundation, Active Retirement Ireland and

the first class will be held tal literacy and confiat Brockagh Resource dence with guidance and Laragh Wednesday 11th May at

A first of its kind, fiveyear programme, Hi trained ARI digital Digital was developed to bridge the worsening digital divide in Ireland and support older people with little or no digital skills to a relaxed and supportive

Active Retirement Ireland's in-person classes course consists of biteare now available to book and are open to any person aged 65+ who would including internet basics

In County Wicklow, like to develop their digion support alongside other ay at older people in their community.

> Classes are run by ambassadors who offer face to face training and guidance so older people can develop their skills in environment.

The Hi Digital training sized lessons organised around key digital themes

and how to use online devices, as well as digital apps and features such as social media or video calling that can enhance lation. Topics covered

- · Online banking and government services online
- Looking up information for hobbies or travel
- Reading, watching and

daily life and combat isoinclude:

- Sending emails
- Keeping in touch with friends and family through social media or video calling

- listening to news online
- Online shopping
- Using the internet on
- your phone
   Using your phone to

take and share pictures or Ireland, said: "We're so videos

• Online safety and more. Maureen Kavanagh, CEO of Active Retirement

pleased to announce the national rollout of the Hi Digital face-to-face digital skills classes. Through this

Digital programme, our digital ambassador-led, inperson classes will further support older people's parhelp ensure they have the skills to engage with digi-tal services, along with expanding the possibilities digital shift.

The Hi Digital promore choices and empowering them to learn the skills they need if they do want to get online. Classes are free and I encourage any older person who would like to improve their digital skills to get in tal@activeirl.ie

next stage of the Hi touch and sign up.

The Hi Digital programme is delivered across the strands: online learning using Vodafone ticipation online. This will Ireland Foundation's Hi Digital online platform. learning run by Active Retirement Ireland, and the upskilling by ALONE on offer to them from the of organisations who work to support older people so that they can provide Hi gramme is about giving Digital training and guid-older people in Ireland ance to their service users ance to their service users directly.

Anyone wishing to attend a class can book their place by contacting Active Retirement Ireland on 1800 20 30 30, or by emailing hidigi-



5th and 6th class boys took to the playing field of Emmet Park, Bray recently for the first Cumann na mBunscol outing in over two years. Pictured is the team from St. Cronan's, The North East section had 12 participating schools with 21 teams in all. Divided into 5 round robin groups each team played a minimum of 3 games. As ever, there were some excellent displays of skill and teamwork as well as the odd glimpse of individual brilliance.

# Students encouraged to enter **Twenty Two Competition**

Minister Simon Harris TD has encouraged Wicklow school students to enter the Twenty Two Competition developed by Fine Gael's Commemoration Committee to encourage young people to learn about the historic events of 1922.

Minister Harris said: "This year marks the 100th anniversary of the foundation of the state and will see extensive commemoration of these historic events including the foundation of the state, the tragic events of the civil war and the foundation of the many institutions that form the basis of our modern democracy. Fine Gael's Twenty Two commemoration committee have now launched a competition for five to eighteen year olds to outline what this year's 100th anniversary means to them.

"Further information is available on how to enter at finegael.ie/22competition/. There are essay and art competitions and the winning entries will be included in a commemorative book to be published at the end of the year". The closing date for entries is May 31st and the prizes to be won include a visit for the winner and their class to Dáil Eireann with a visit to An Tánaiste Leo Varadkar's Office. Other prizes include €250 Perx Cards, Vouchers for OPW sites throughout Ireland and lots more.

# Wicklow student produces award-winning podcast



Zara King, who presented the award on the night. Katie Hackett was

Wicklow native Katie Hackett won two awards at the National Student Media award-winning author Anne Griffin, Awards, which returned to the Aviva Stadium for the first in-person awards award-winning director and screenwriter Awards, which returned to the Aviva Stadium for the first in-person awards ceremony since 2019 on 28th April.

over the country to be honoured for their hard work in media and journalism over the last 12 months.

Katie won two awards at the ceremony Podcast of the Year and Radio Documentary of the Year. Unfortunately, Katie was unable to attend on the night but her awards were collected by classmates and friends presented by journalist and podcaster Zara King and radio legend Sean Defoe.

Judge Nicoline Greer said of Katie's work, Pressing Pause: A Six Month Adventure on the Great Blasket Island, "this was a great choice of story that brings the listener on a journey into another experience. Nice use of sound Blasket Island to transport the listener to another place. By zoning in on the experience of one character and her story the listener comes away with a real insight into what it was like to spend this time on the Great Blasket Island."

The National Student Media Awards have been running for the past 22 years and have Some of the celebrated judges included;

Students joined the ceremony from all seen media and journalism stars such as Samantha Libreri (Editor of the Year, 2004), Sean Defoe (Radio Journalist of the Year, 2015) and Colm Flynn (TV Production of the Year, 2010) on the podium over the years. The SMEDIAS have a long history of celebrating Irish student's achievements in media and have introduced a number of new award categories over the years to reflect the changing skills and and opportunities available in the Irish media indus-

> Hosted by Oxygen.ie, the SMEDIAS are ne of the most important dates in the student calendar. They allow students to showcase their work in Journalism, Radio and TV Production, Broadcasting and Writing to prominent figures from the Irish media industry to judge.

> The impressive lineup of judges for the 22nd annual awards ceremony included; journalists and editors from national publications, leaders and stars in Irish media.

Robbie Walsh

The 22nd SMEDIAS ceremony kicked off with a keynote speech from Dee Forbes, director general of RTÉ. The awards were visited by a number of famous faces and media leaders such as Fionnan Sheahan, Ireland Editor of the Irish Independent, Aoife Moore of the Irish Examiner, Ray D'Arcy, Sean Defoe, Zara King and Gavan Reilly.

Of the evening's final awards -- Trinity College Dublin's The University Times took home the Irish Times Newspaper of the Year Award, NUIG's Elizabeth Hunt took home the prestigious Irish Independent Editor of the Year Award for her work on Ethereal Magazine, making Ethereal the first magazine to take home an Editor of the Year award. Finally, Sophie Finn from University College Dublin was awarded the Irish Examiner Journalist of the Year.

Recently added category Failte Ireland Journalism Relating to Travel was taken home by TCD's Charles Alexander Moody-

# University research confirms elevated rates of sea-level rise on East Coast

Maynooth University research on sea level trends in Dublin Bay over eight decades has confirmed elevated rates of sea level rise in recent years. The researchers compared sea level records for Dublin Port. gauges at Arklow and Howth Harbour, and international datasets from the UK and France for their data quality checks.

the Hamilton Institute and ing from 1982 to 1988, ICARUS Climate before falling from 1989 Maynooth University, has rising from 1997 to 2016 generated an updated sea at a rate of 7 mm per level dataset for Dublin stretching from 1938 and

Overall, the trend sea level rise between according to the research published in Ocean University.

New research led by tified with sea levels ris- fluctuations over decades Centre at to 1996, and once again year

This recent sea level rise is faster than expected at approximately doushown in the data corresponds to an estimated level rise." said Amin Shoari Nejad, lead author 1953 and 2016 of 1.1 mm of the research and a PhD per year in Dublin, student at the Hamilton Institute at Maynooth

"If you look at too "Fluctuations are iden- short a timeframe, the reasons behind such

could impact estimates of trends. But this research has taken a longer view and what we are most confident about from looking at the stretch of years is the overall rise," said Dr Gerard McCarthy, of ICARUS Climate Research Centre and the Department of Geography

at Maynooth University. The researchers at Maynooth, in collaboration with colleagues at UCC and DCU, are continuing to explore the

fluctuations

The Dublin Port record was calibrated by adjusting the 'biased' high water level measurements that affect the overall calculation of mean sea level. High waters were seen to be rising faster than nearby gauges so a model was built using the stable low water levels to compute mean sea level.

"To correct these mean sea level values, we use a novel Bayesian linear regression that includes the Mean Low Water values as a predictor in the model. We validate the re-created MSL dataset and show its consistency with other nearby tide gauge datasets," said Amin Shoari Nejad

"Overall sea level rise is in line with expected trends but large multidecadal variability has led to higher rates of rise in recent years," he added.

The research was carried out in collaboration with Prof Andrew Parnell at the Hamilton Institute at Maynooth University, Dr Brian Kelleher of the School of Chemical Sciences, DCU and Emeritus Professor Robert Devoy, Department of Geography, UCC, Professor Peter Thorne and Alice Green of the **ICARUS** Climate Research Centre.

The article, 'A newly reconciled data set for identifying sea level rise and variability in Dublin Bay', published in Ocean Science is available at articles/18/511/2022/.

# Students can apply for enhanced student grants for the new academic year

Fine Gael Minister for Further and Higher Education Simon Harris TD has reminded Wicklow students to apply to the Student Grant Scheme for the 2022/23 academic year.

Minister Harris said "This year I introduced a number of changes to the student grant scheme including: An increase in the annual maintenance grant by €200; Increase the income threshold by €1,000; The distance for the higher non-adjacent student grant will be reduced from 45km to 30km.

These changes will deliver much-needed assistance to students and families across County Wicklow. The deadline for SUSI applications for 2022/23 is, June 9th for renewal applications and July 7th for new applica-

Further information is available at susi.ie/grant-process/or please contact simon.harris@oireachtas.ie

Minister Harris added: "I will continue to make changes to assist students. We strongly believe there is a need to reduce the cost of education for families and we are working with Government colleagues to outline our priorities on how we can help people with these significant costs. For any student experiencing difficulties currently, there is a significant allocation to the Student Assistance Fund and I would encourage students to contact their access offices to avail of these funds."

# Nine Wicklow schools to benefit from expansion of DEIS programme

Nine Wicklow schools are to be included in the expanded DEIS programme.

Welcoming the news, Minister Simon Harris said: "I'm delighted that DEIS - Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools programme will be expanded to include an additional nine Wicklow schools."

The Wicklow Schools included in the expanded DEIS scheme are as follows: All Saints National School, Carnew; Scoil Naomh Mhuire Stratford-on-Slaney; Carnew National School: Padraig Naofa National School. Wicklow Town; Clochar Muire National School, Rathdrum; Rathdrum Boys National School; St John's Senior School, Arklow: St Michael's and St Peter's Junior School, Arklow; St Coen's National School, Rathnew.

Minister Harris continued: "This is the first time since 2017 the DEIS programme is being significantly expanded and eligible schools will now gain access to targeted supports to address educational disadvantage. From September 2022 these Wicklow schools can avail of a range of targeted supports aimed at tackling educational disadvantage, including additional classroom teaching posts, home school community liaison coordinator posts, DEIS grant funding and access to the School Completion

Our education system rightly places a strong emphasis on equal opportunity for everyone, no matter their background, and this is something as Minister for Further and Higher Education I prioritise. I want to congratulate the nine schools included in the expanded programme and they can continue to count on my wholehearted sup-



Mary McCall (A.B.E. Co-Ordinator), Denise Sheridan (I.T. tutor) with Moira Redmond, Kay O'Neill, Mary Byrne, Breda Christopher, Ann O'Connell and Lydia Kincaid who completed the KWETB Digital Skills course at the Arklow Further Education and Training Centre.

# Happy Birthday **Dear Alice**

A play by a Greystones playwright will have its first professional revival next week in twenty five years.

Bernard Farrell, many of whose plays premiered at The Abbey Theatre, wrote his dark comedy, Happy Birthday Dear Alice, initially for Red Kettle theatre in 1995. It is being staged by Four Rivers for a five night run at the Pavilion Theatre in Dun Laoghaire.



Plauwright Bernard Farrell

are stars of stage and urban Irish family to comscreen Catherine Byrne mit their widowed mother and Mark Lambert. Catherine is a veteran of Irish film and stage who played Dr. Judith Dillon in Fair City for four years, and Mark, appeared in Breakfast on Pluto and Veronica Guerin, They will assume the principal roles of Alice and Jimmy in the Four Rivers revival of Farrell's much loved

play.

With a five night run at the Pavilion Theatre in Dun Laoghaire (May 17-21), Happy Birthday Dear theatre. Most of his 21 Alice also marks the return to the national premiered at either the stage of Bernard, author over twenty plays including I Do Not Like Thee, Dr. Fell and The Last Apache Reunion

Alice perceptively drama-

Among the stellar cast tizes the efforts of a subto a nursing home.

The issues raised in the play when it was first performed in 1995 continue to resonate today: people living alone in family homes are encouraged to consider 'right sizing' by availing of 'incentivised measures' from lending institutions. We11 known

Greystones, Bernard worked for Sealink until 1980, when he resigned to write full-time for the stage plays have been Abbey Theatre or the Gate Theatre in Dublin or Waterford. These include

Favour Said No! (1981), All The Way Back (1985), Say Cheese Forty-Four Sycamore (1992), The Last Apache Reunion (1993), Happy Birthday Dear Alice (1994), Stella By Starlight (1997), Flynn, The Beauty Queen Kevin's Bed (1998), The Spirit Of Annie Ross Lovers Versailles (2002), Many Happy Returns (2005) which was specially commissioned by The Laguna Playhouse, California and premiered there in 2007.

He has also written television drama for both RTE and BBC and his radio plays have been widely broadcast and at Red Kettle Theatre in have represented Ireland at the Prix Italia. Many of Do Not Like Thee, his stage plays are in Happy Birthday Dear Doctor Fell (1979), translation and have been Canaries (1980), All In performed extensively in Night.

North America, Europe and Australia. He is a recipient of The Rooney Prize for Irish Literature, the Sunday Tribune Comedy of the Year Award, the Dublin Theatre Festival award for Best Irish Production and his Kevin's Bed was nominated for Best Play of 1998 in the Irish Times/ESB Theatre Awards.

He has been Writer-In-Association with the Abbey Theatre, served on the Advisory Council of the Abbey and, for eight vears, was a Director on the Board of the Abbey.

The cast for Happy Birthday Dear Alice also includes Mark Fitzgerald (Cormac) who has established a strong screen presence with roles in Vikings: Valhalla, The Northman, Dark Red, Little Women, Muse, The Irish Mob and Loving Hatto; Sarah Miss Madigan (Barbara) who has appeared in Tarry of Leenane, Translations (National Theatre, London), Unmanageable

Sisters and Jimmv's The Verdi Girls Hall at The Abbey; Andrew Macklin (Barry) who has appeared on tele-vision in The Holiday, Doctor Who, Doctors Jubilee Nurse, Mr Selfridge and Fair City and Elishka Lane (Sandy) whose theatre credits include Tender Napalm, Wexford Playwright Readings, The Hamlet CHARMS! Review, Supermoon and Twelfth



Catherine Byrne and Mark Lambert at rehearsals for Happy Birthday Dear Alice



Happy shuttle knitters at the 20th Aniversary Party on 4th May

# **Shuttle Knit celebrates 20 years** of knitting communities together

business in Wicklow Town for 20 years. Since 2001, Wicklow Traveller women have been designing, handcrafting, and selling beautiful Irish knitwear.

"We are a social enterprise, which means our customers' support does 'more good' for communities as our profits are reinvested into the local Wicklow economy and the Traveller Community. We are dedicated to 'Knitting Communities Together' and we now employ 16 staff across both settled and Traveller commu-

"Our staff at Shuttle Knit are highly skilled knitters, seamstresses and designers who have created a range of ethical, sustainable knitwear. Our collection is showcased online, at local and national markets and in our partner retailers throughout Ireland and worldwide.

"Happy 20th Anniversary Shuttle Knit and many more successful years to come!
"For online sales please check out our

Shuttle Knit have been a much-loved website www.shuttleknit.ie or drop into our premises at CEART, Crinion Park, Wicklow Town, Co Wicklow, A67 AR20 or call us at 0404 25641.

> Shuttle Knit is supported by Pobal, ReThink, County Wicklow Partnership and Wicklow County



The Shuttle Knit team

# Annual celebration of arts and culture for children returns to Wicklow

Children and young people across County Wicklow are invited to get creative and take part in Cruinnú na nÓg 2022 which takes place on Saturday, 11th June.

Cruinniú na nÓg celebrates and encourages participation by children and young people in creative activities. It is a flagship initiative of the Creative Ireland Programme's Creative Youth Plan to enable the creative potential of children and young people.

engaging programme of activities which will give the whole family the opportunity to try something new and celebrate creativity.

Amongst the highlights in a packed programme are:

• Wicklow County Arts Office has created a special West Wicklow programme with candle making, forest school activities, juggling, movie making and a cooking demonstration by Catherine Fulvio to name just a few.

· Garageland Galaxyz is an electrifying new nationwide festival featuring young musicians aged 12-18. With eight Live Stages all over Ireland and a giant online multicast featuring hundreds of young artists, special guests and music industry orkshops, Garageland Galaxyz is set to be one of the biggest events ever seen for supporting young Irish musicians. Anyone interested in taking part can send an email with the subject line "YES Galaxyz Wicklow" to info@garageland.ie by Thursday, 13th May.

This year Wicklow County Arts • In partnership with Youth Theatre Office has selected an exciting and Ireland, Mr Sands Youth Theatre and Making Waves Youth Theatre are both providing taster workshops where aspiring young actors and performers can get to meet existing members, see the things they've made and play drama games.

• Circus Explored aims to encourage every child in Ireland to learn to juggle. Over 5000 FREE juggling balls are being distributed to every county in Ireland. Children and Young people can pick up a set by registering with www.isacs.ie and then receive four online tutorials in ball juggling.

• Wicklow Libraries are hosting a range of fun fill activities and workshops including junk work shops, traditional singing, smart phone film making, puppet shows

• Finally, in collaboration with the Historic Houses of Ireland, Killruddery House is providing a weekend of art, culture and heritage for children. 'I See You' will workshops by Aduantas Aerial, Me & The Moon and circus per- ext 4910.

formers Ben Carpenter, Bróna Howard and Stephen McGinley.

Cathaoirlach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr Shay Cullen, said he was pleased that the Council can present a full range of in person events which capture children's imaginations after the two years of COVID-19 prevented such activity.

Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council, Mr Gleeson, is delighted with the range of opportunities and the number of locations that the programme reaches in the county in 2022 and commented: "We hope that children and young people unleash their creativity and celebrate the day with us."

All these events are free, book

today to avoid disappointment.

Take a look full programme of Cruinniú na nÓg events HERE and on Creative Ireland's website. For further information, please contact Síle Stewart, Art Services Coordinator, Wicklow County Arts Office, at sstewart@ wicklowcoco.ie or on 0404 20100

Pictured at Sing Ireland's announcement of Bursaries for the Irish Youth Choir are (clockwise from bottom left); Aodh Quigley, Ellen O'Driscoll, Patrick Barrett, Dermot O'Callaghan, CEO of Sing Ireland, Bernie Sherlock, Artistic Director of the Irish Youth Choirs, Moses Ylroy Eusebio and Emily Cox at the Irish Institure of Music

Sing Ireland, the organisation which promotes group singing and oversees the Irish Youth Choir, is encouraging young singers between the age of 18 and 28 years old to sign up for this year's Irish Youth Choir Summer Course, which take place in Limerick in August. The Irish Youth Choir provides enthusiastic young singers with the opportunity to immerse themselves in the world of group singing over the course of 10 days. Sing Ireland wants our choirs to represent the diversity of Ireland's young people and celebrates every individual from any background.

Apply online via the Irish Youth Choir 2022 Application Form and the 2022 Irish Youth Choir Bursaries by completing the form and uploading a recording of you singing any song. Sing Ireland will follow up with an online audition slot. The deadline for applications to Irish Youth Choir 2022 is the 13th of May. See www.singireland.ie

# **Tom Ollendorff Trio**

Whale Theatre, Friday 20th May 8pm (doors 7pm). *Tickets* €20 available at www.whaletheatre.ie or call the booking office on 01 2010550 for tickets.

Guitarist Tom Ollendorff has been fast building a reputation as an outstanding improviser and imaginative composer. His debut album A Song For You (Fresh Sound Records) is an elegantly accomplished mix of gracefully grooving songlike themes, warmly conversational improvising, baroque-like unaccompanied etudes, and headlong fast-bop swing. Traditional, but very classy (The Guardian) Tom Ollendorff is one of the world's finest guitarists. His music is complex, yet rooted in melody and feeling. (Gilad Hekselman) A Song For You is a stunning debut (All About Jazz)



# May at Whale Theatre...

# The Blizzards - Unplugged & Unfiltered

Sunday 15th May, 8pm (doors 7pm)

Irish rock band The Blizzards return with their highly anticipated new album "Sometimes We See More In The Dark" being released on 13th May 2022. Having moved to Co. Wicklow during the pandemic, frontman Niall Breslin explains "our fourth studio album was essentially conceived and born in

So, after the official launch party on 14th May in Dublin, members of the band including Niall Breslin (aka Bressie) and bassist Louize Carroll will be appearing at the Whale Theatre for a very special evening of unplugged (sort of) live music, and unfiltered (definitely) interviews about the new album and its origin story.

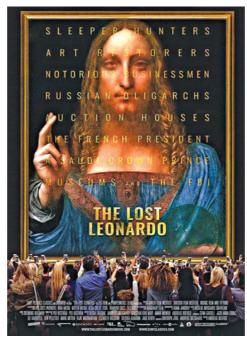
This is a rare and unique opportunity to hear brand new songs like "Play God" and "Friction Burns" as well as some of their hits in a beautifully intimate setting. Audiences will also hear about the stories behind the songs through live interviews with Andrea Splendori, host of the highly popular Social Fabric

Tickets €20 available at www.whaletheatre.ie or call the booking office on 01 2010550 for tickets



# **Greystones Film Club: The Lost Leonardo**

Thursday 19th May, 8pm (doors 7pm)



screening, the Greystones Film Club present one of the most acclaimed documentaries of the past year. In 2008, the world's most distinguished Leonardo Da Vinci experts gathered around an easel at the National Gallery in London to examine a mysterious painting – an unassuming Salvator Mundi (Latin for Savior of the World). Despite not seeking experts' formal opinions, the National Gallery presents the Salvator Mundi as an autograph Leonardo da Vinci painting in their 2011 blockbuster exhibition, setting in motion one of the most beguiling and perplexing art stories of our times. The Lost Leonardo is the inside story behind the

at \$450 million. From the moment the painting is bought for \$1175 at a shady New Orleans auction house, and the restorer discovers masterful Renaissance brushstrokes under the heavy varnish of its cheap restoration, the Salvator Mundi's fate is determined by an insatiable quest for fame, money and power. As its price soars, so do the questions about its authenticity: is this painting really by Leonardo da Vinci? Filmed over a three-year period, The Lost Leonardo meticulously unveils the whole story behind the Salvator Mundi and unfolds as a gripping real-life thriller featuring major characters from the world of art. finance and politics includ-Salvator Mundi, the most ing the restorer Dianne

For its May New Cinema expensive painting ever sold Modestini - who for the first time allows behind the scenes access. Unravelling the hidden agendas of the richest men and the most powerful art institutions in the world, The Lost Leonardo reveals how vested interests in the Salvator Mundi are of such tremendous power that truth becomes secondary Director Andreas Koefoed positions this stranger-thanfiction story squarely at the intersection of capitalism and myth-making, posing the question: is this multimillion dollar painting actually by Leonardo, or do certain powerful players simply want it to be

> Tickets €10 available at www.whaletheatre.ie or call the booking office on 01 2010550

# On the Road Again with Fiachna Ó Braonáin & Tom Dunne

Saturday 21st May, 8pm (doors 7pm).

Despite having shared stages were always united by a love of thought could bring to their cof- including some new songs neidecades, Tom Dunne of Something Happens and those different schools of they could perform together enced a singer singing harmony Fiachna Ó Braonáin of with him until Fiachna sang Hothouse Flowers had never actually performed together until they were invited to do so on RTE Radio 1's Ray Darcy show where they performed a Christy Moore song, "John O Dreams" and a Willie Nelson song, "On The Road Again". Ray loved it, Fiachna and Tom had a ball.. and were joking they should do more of it! Or perhaps... only half-joking! Since then several coffees were had and they decided to make it happen! Their respective bands were from different musical worlds but Tom and Fiachna

across the world over several performance and song writing fee table. Since then they have ther have performed publicly and were very taken with what been working on what songs before. Tom had never experi-



with him on John O'Dreams this was one of the sparks that created a longing for more! Fiachna's lifelong role as an ensemble vocalist as well as a later life lead vocalist fanned those sparks further! On The Road Again promises to be a fun evening of songs and stories as these two old pals hit the stage together for the very first

Tickets €35 available at www.whaletheatre.ie or call the booking office on 01 2010550

# **West Wicklow Chamber Music Festival returns** to Russborough

The West Wicklow Chamber Music Festival returns to Russborough and St. Mary's Church, Blessington from 18-22 May, with five days of music featuring brilliant international and Irish artists, and an exciting programme that includes a wide variety of music from Haydn to Charlotte Bray, three world premieres, a day of family-friendly events plus free Festival Talks.



The award-winning Quatuor Arod will be performing in Ireland for the first time

artists includes the extraordinary flautist Adam Walker, performing with the acclaimed Wicklow pianist Fiachra Garvey who closing matinee perforis also the festival's mance (Sun 22 May, 3pm). founder and artistic director. Described by The Chamber Music Festival Guardian as a 'stunning talent', Walker made waves on the global stage when he was appointed principal Blessington (2020) by flute of the London Gerald Barry, was written Symphony Orchestra aged

19 May, 8pm), the awardwinning Quatuor Arod (Fri 20 May, 8pm), who are of their performances, the splendidly stylish

The Festival's line-up of the brilliant Polish mezzosoprano Hanna Hipp, who will be joined Neapolitan pianist Emma Abbate for the festival's The West Wicklow

will present the world pre-

mieres of three new works this May. The first of these, Gerald Barry, was written to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the sinking Also featured are the of the Blessington Lakes highly sought-after Berlin- and will be premiered by based Trio Gaspard (Thu flautist Adam Walker and pianist Fiachra Garvey at Russborough on performing in Ireland for 8pm. Local historian the first time and are cele- Séamas Ó Maitiú will give brated for the rare energy a free talk on this momentous period in West Wicklow's history in Brew (Gramophone) Eblana 21, Blessington at 4pm on

miere at the Festival will be Sebastian Adams' Ceiliúradh, part one of a two-part commission for the Decade of Centenaries by Sebastian Adams and Amanda Feery. Ciliúradh tival's founder and artistic celebrates a diverse, includirector says: "The prosive and progressive Ireland in 2022 and will be performed by Trio Gaspard at Russborough on Thursday 19 May at 8pm.

Audiences can also look forward to the festival's Rising Stars concert with they will finally get to clarinettist Cathal Killeen and pianist Órán Halligan (Sat 21 May, 1pm), which programmes feature a wide features the world premiere of A New Species by Wednesday 18 May at Michael Cummins, this year's West Wicklow Chamber Music Festival

This year's Festival also sees the return of the huge- bkg fee) and are now on String Trio (Sat 21 May, the day of the concert. Iy popular Family Fun Day, sale from www.westwick-8pm) from Ireland/UK and The second world prepacked with a creative and lowfestival.com.

fun programme of indoor and outdoor events for children and their families on Sunday 22 May, 10am-2pm. Venture through the Musical Maze, get into a groove at Percussion Workshops, celebrate the festival spirit with some Face Painting or join us for Mozart's The Magic Flute as you have never experienced it before in a bitesized musical romp for all the family. Presented in partnership with the NCH Learning & Participation Programme.

There will also be an opportunity to discover the secrets of violin-making during a free talk with instrument-maker Paul Bradley at Russborough 11am-12pm on from Saturday 21 May. Visitors are also welcome to drop in and see some instruments from Paul's workshop from 12-4pm.

Fiachra Garvey, the fesgramme for May 2022 has been a long time coming. Most of the incredible artists joining us were due to perform at our 2020 festival and I'm beyond excited to think that this year enthral our wonderful West Wicklow audiences. Their selection of exciting works from Mozart to Charlotte Bray and everything in between, and I look forward to seeing everyone in Composition Competition May for summer sunshine and glorious music!"

Tickets cost □ -□ 8 (+



# Cinema at Mermaid Arts Centre

Acclaimed filmmaker Joachim Trier (Oslo, August 31st, Louder Than Bombs) returns with THE WORST PERSON IN THE WORLD, a wistful and subversive romantic drama about the quest for love and meaning. Set in contemporary Oslo, it features a star-making lead performance from Renate Reinsve as a young woman who, on the verge of turning thirty, navigates multiple love affairs, existential uncertainty and career dissatisfaction as she slowly starts deciding what she wants to do, who she wants to be, and ultimately who she wants to become. As much a formally playful character study as it is a poignant and perceptive observation of quarter-life angst, this life-affirming coming of age story deservedly won Reinsve the Best Actress award at the 2021 Cannes Film Festival. Nominated for two Academy Awards including Original Screenplay and International Feature Film, and two BAFTA awards including Leading Actress and Film Not in the English Language.

Director: Joachim Trier

Cast: Renate Reinsve, Anders Danielsen Lie, Herbert Nordrum

Monday 30th May, 8pm €9 Full Price,€7 Concession Price. Norwegian with English subtitles.

# **Coming up at The Hot Spot**

Set Adrift - Dance Party, 7pm KILA Tickets €10

dance. A place to let go and get lost in music. Come join this Blues Session 4pm night of music, DJing and dancing soundtracked by The Drifter.

SATURDAY 14th MAY

Celtic Soul's VAN MORRI-SON SONGBOOK - Back in May due to popular demand

**SUNDAY 15th MAY** 

FRIDAY 20th MAY

Greystones needs a place to SUNDAY 22nd MAY

Urban Mojo Blues - Accoustic

FRIDAY 27th MAY

LOL @ the Hot Spot COME-DY CLUB - Another Fantastic

**SUNDAY 29th MAY** Greystones JAZZ JAM 4pm

The Dublin Trio - Kevin Conneff, Joe McKenna, Tony

FRI 17th JUNE

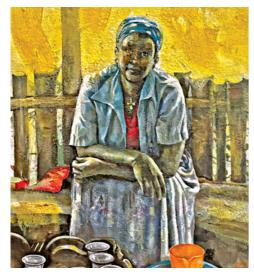
Freddie White is back!

SUN 25th JUNE REGGAE NIGHT WITH BAJJNA & Reggae DJ

> For Tickets | Gig listings | Private Event Rental - visit www.thehotspot.ie.

# Dancing with the Bear: An exhibition by Maggie Wright

Signal Arts Centre, Monday, 23rd May to Sunday, 5th June



Ethiopian Coffee Maker by Maggie Wright

Maggie Wright is a figurative and portrait artist originally from Belfast.

Graduating from the University of Ulster with a BA honours degree in Fine Art; Wright has been based in Dublin for the past number of years. Her work is housed in both public and private collections and she has exhibited widely in the Royal Hibernian Academy, the Royal Ulster Academy, the Éigse Arts Festival and the Boyle Arts Festival.

A member of the Dublin Painting and Sketching Club Wright has been drawing with the RHA selfdirected drawing group since 2010. She has long been intrigued by the interactions of all living things and believes that in a lot of our waking hours we are all engaged in a form of dance. This she believes to be a primal commonality shared by all of us across all cul-

Wright's current exhibition entitled Dancing with the Bear draws heavily on this belief. The title was inspired by a piece of music produced by A.P.Kaczmarek for the film Finding Neverland. The theme is really about engagement and acceptance and so she invites you to join her in Dancing with the Bear.



Women on the Road to Lalibela, by Maggie Wright



Enterprise Ireland invested E28m in Irish start-ups and supported over 125 start-up companies in 2021. Entrepreneurs and representatives from these early-stage businesses attended the annual Enterprise Ireland Start-Up Showcase 2022 event which was held at the Aviva Stadium recently, alongside investors, mentors and other members of the broader Irish start-up ecosystem. Pictured at the Enterprise Ireland Start-Up Showcase 2022 is Lorcan Kavanagh, CEO and Co-Founder of Play House Studios from Co Wicklow, which was one of the 125 new start-ups supported by Enterprise Ireland in 2021, with Brian O'Malley, Senior Development Adviser,





FACTORY: Unit 10, Block 1, Broomhall usiness Park, Rathnew. Tel: 0404 20344





**RENTAL PROPERTIES REQUIRED 8** 087 241 6913 @ katie@katiechadwick.ie



# **Supports for hard**pressed families - Your local Citizens Information Centre may be able to help! To mark the International Day of Families on May 16th Citizens Information Centres (CICs)

in County Wicklow will be focusing on the supports that are available to families who are struggling to make ends meet. With the cost of living rising all the time, many people are not aware of the assistance that is there for them.

working families is the Working Family Payment (WFP). WFP is

weekly tax-free payment for employees with children. It supports people who are on low pay with at least one child living with them and who is under the age of 18 (or between 18 and 22 if they are in full-time day education).

To get WFP, your average weekly family income must be under a certain amount for your family size. The WFP payment you get is 60% of the difference between your average weekly family income and the WFP income limit for your family size. WFP is

The key support for taken into account in the means test for a medical card. You cannot get WFP if you are selfemployed only.

For people who are parenting alone, the One Parent Family Payment (OPFP) may be available, provided your income is below a certain limit and your children are under a certain You can get the WFP at the same time as the OPFP and may also be entitled to the Fuel Allowance. Medical Card and help with your

Martina Cronin. Development Manager, South Leinster Citizens Information Service/ County Wicklow area said that more than ever, not taxed and is not they see that families are

struggling to cope finan- vices, housing, educa-

know that they may have an entitlement to supports. Your local CIS can provide a benefits check for your circumstances and help you to apply for those payments you may be eligible for. The CIS can also provide advice and assistance if you need to talk about separation, divorce, access rights or maintenance payments. We can also help you to apply for legal aid to cover the legal fees which are often involved in these matters.

"Funded by the Citizens Information Board, the CIS provide an information, advice and advocacy service on a range of issues including social welfare rights and entitlements, and other issues such as employment, health ser- and confidential.'

tion, family matters and "Many people do not consumer rights on which people need access to information.

"Our Advocacy service provides in-depth assistance to people who are dealing with complex issues which they feel unable to cope with themselves. The service is free of charge to everyone. So if you have an issue that you cannot deal with yourself, your local CIS may be able to assist you.
"To find out our open-

ing hours or if would like us to address a specific query or to book an appointment with a member of our team please contact your local Citizens Information Centre in Bray CIC on 0818 07 6780. We are available from Monday to Friday

# Swift walk in Rathdrum

Oran O'Sullivan from Irish Garden Birds will be leading a walk in Rathdrum later this month as part of the ongoing work to survey Swifts in Wicklow.

This iconic species are the last to arrive from their African Winter quarters but have already been appearing on Ireland's South Coast over the past week. The "Swift Walk" will begin from the Fair Green in Rathdrum on 19th May at 7pm.

If you would like more information on Swifts and how we can help them you can download this excellent booklet from BirdWatch and Wicklow Co Council at: https://www.wicklow.ie

# oo he Muddle

### **IRISH HANDMADE CRAFT GIFTS** WOOL • KNITTING • POTTERY • FELTING

Classes and training in arts and crafts for all levels and abilities plus Kids Parties, Corporate groups, Guilds,

SUMMER CAMPS COMING SOON

ntact Sharon <mark>087 2020560</mark> for more inforn Jnit 2, Egan's Business Centre, Upper Dargle R Bray, Co. Wicklow, A98 EY72

**1** themuddlebray o themuddle.ie www.themuddle.ie



# **Affordable** Live-in Homecare

Night and/or Daytime Care available For less than the Cost of a Nursing **Home or Private Visiting Care Service** 

**National Enquiry Line:** 

or call Eileen: 087 991



Carpet, upholstery, tile & grout cleaning

Ph.: 087 915 3830 E: enquiries@chemdryonline.com www.chemdrywicklow-wexford.ie



# DACIA POWERS AHEAD PLANNI WITH GREAT VALUE 7-SEATER JOGGER

Dacia celebrated making its 10 millionth vehicle recently - and coincidently the same week it set the cat among the pigeons in Ireland with the unveiling of a new, great value, 7-seater for Irish motorists - the Jogger.

# CLASSIFIEDS

### **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. 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 By Martin McCarthy

Since Renault set up the enterprise in Romania in 1968, the brand has gone from strength to strength, and today the Dacia Sandero and Sandero Stepway are the best-selling vehicle to private customers in Europe. In addition, with 2.1 million Dacia Dusters sold, that model has become the best-selling SUV to private customers in Europe.

Here is Ireland, the

brand has become the bestselling economy car (Sandero) and Country Manager, Blessington stalwart Paddy McGee, explains how the new Jogger will challenge in the most competitive sector of the Irish market – the C segment SUV: "Dacia is very much focused on the private customer and providing features and pricing that will suit Irish customers. speced a car that will thrill Irish car buyers.'

Paddy knows Wicklow better than any other car company principle - from his family's incessant involvement with Blessington GAA club and the Wicklow league. He knows our roads and our motorists and the practicalities of bringing teams to matches all over the coun-

The Jogger national launch was held at beauti-

Initially priced at €23,995, but set to go up €950 from June 1st., The new Jogger is an amazing value for money proposition in a sector where some rivals have increased in price by up to €10,000 in the last three years.

The All-New Jogger is available exclusively with Comfort, and Extreme SE. All versions are generous-

It's fair to say that

ful Orlagh House, located above Rathfarnham at the start of the Wicklow mountains near Killakee. Over 30 motoring writers put the car through its paces over the test route through the Wicklow Mountains to Laragh and

7-seats and in three trim Essential,

Joseph Kinsella t/a jurthouse Developments Limited, seeks permission to change of use of existing two retail units at Courtplace Weaver Square, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow W91YWD8 into residential use. The original planning file reference 04/2010. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council. County Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of

ly equipped with air conditioning, cruise control, and rear parking sensors as standard across the range. In the interests of keeping things simple for customers, the All-New Jogger is offered with just two options - metallic paint and a spare wheel.

Outstanding features include the stepped-up cabin roof – for good headroom in all five rear seats. The very flexible seating arrangement, where the back seats can be easily removed and middle row fold away in seconds, allows 60 different combinations of seats and luggage space arrangements.

From launch, the All-New Jogger is powered by Dacia's new TCe 110 1.0litre three-cylinder direct

Developing 110hp and

Michael Bolger seeks planning permision for FIRST FLOOR EXTENSION TO SIDE OF EXISTING DWELLING AT 50 ARDMORE PARK BRAY CO. WICKLOW. The planning application may be nspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council County Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission of observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

maximum 200Nm of torque at 2,900rpm, it uses technical innovations such as variable valve timing, a variable displacement oil pump, an integrated exhaust manifold, and a particulate filter to achieve impressive performance while reducing fuel consumption (5.7 - 6.0)1/100km WLTP combined) and CO2 emissions (132g/km). Road tax is

€200 per annum. Euro 6D-Full compliant and equipped with Stop & Start as standard, the TCe 110 is coupled to a smooth-shifting, low friction six-speed manual transmission to help deliver the best possible perfor-

In 2023, the All-New Jogger will gain the option injection turbocharged of a hybrid petrol-electric petrol engine. of a hybrid petrol-electric powertrain, the first model in the Dacia range to do so

# **ATTENTION** Architects, Planners & Builders Reach the widest readership for your planning notices in County Wicklow with Wicklow Times Call **01 286 9111** or email pauline@localtimes.ie



### COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to form a panel from which future positions may be filled.

**HEALTHY IRELAND COORDINATOR -**(ANALOGOUS TO GRADE VI) **Temporary 3 Year Contract** 

Salary €49,530 – €60,512 gross per annum (includes 2nd LSI) RFF: 22/2022

PERMANENT BUSINESS ADVISOR -LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE (ANALOGOUS TO GRADE VI)

Salary €49,530 – €60,512 gross per annum (includes 2nd LSI) REF: 23/2022

CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS IS 12 NOON ON THURSDAY 2ND JUNE 2022 SHARP.

Application Forms and further details may be obtained from Enterprise & Corporate Services at 0404 20159 or by emailing recruitment@wicklowcoco.ie and on the Wicklow County Council website www.wicklow.ie

Wicklow County Council reserves the right to shortlist candidates in the manner it deems most appropriate

Wicklow County Council Is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

Lorraine Gallagher **Director Of Services Enterprise & Corporate Services** Wicklow County Council **County Buildings** 

Phone: 0404 20159 Fax: 0404 20112

e-mail: recruitment@wicklowcoco.ie

### **MOWLAM HEALTHCARE**

Applications are invited for the position of Healthcare Assistant with Mowlam Healthcare. This position will be based in our Nursing Home in Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow. This is a fantastic opportunity for the successful candidate to further their career with Ireland's largest and most respected independent healthcare provider of quality nursing home care in Ireland

Candidates must possess \*QQI Level 5 in Healthcare or equivalent. Job Type: Full time, 39 hours per week Salary: €27,000 per annum Location: Kilcoole Lodge Nursing Home, Lott Ln, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow

### Contact:

recruitment@mowlamhealthcare.com



The Dacia Jogger

### **Personal Assistant required** to assist a woman to live an Independent Life

# PART TIME POSITION

 GREYSTONES AREA CO. WICKLOW Role: To support a woman with a physical disability both in her home and in the community,

- Social Care or Health Care Background required
- Knowledge and experience of working with people with disabilities and Independent Living Philosophy.

Competitive Rates of pay depending on experience. For full job description or to apply please email your CV to: mary@theatnetwork.com

Closing date 5pm the 13th May 2022.

Ref G24022 in the subject line For more information on our organisation please visit our website www.theatnetwork.com/

# **Exciting Opportunities In DUNLAVIN**

With Neylons Facility Management

# **CLEANING GENERAL OPERATIVE ROLES**

- Flexible Shifts
   Full & Part-time Contracts Weekend and Weekday work
- Відправьте ваші заявки на емейл який вказаний нижче

For more information, please contact Alexandra at 087 2124892 or 091 880764 Applications to careers@neylons.ie

**Facility Management** 

### **Exciting Opportunities In TURLOUGH HILL POWER STATION** With Neylons Facility Management

# **CLEANING GENERAL** OPERATIVE ROLES

- Do you hold a valid Safe Pass? • Are you looking for a cleaning role?
- Do you have access to your own transport? If the above applies to you this might be the role for you.

For more information, please contact Alexandra at 087 2124892 or 091 880764 Applications to careers@neylons.ie

**Facility Management** 

### **Personal Assistant required** to assist a woman to live an Independent Life

### PART TIME POSITION

GREYSTONES AREA CO. WICKLOW

Role: To support a woman with a physical disability both in her home and in the community,

- Social Care or Health Care Background required
- Knowledge and experience of working with people with disabilities and Independent Living Philosophy.

Competitive Rates of pay depending on experience. For full job description or to apply please email your CV to: mary@theatnetwork.com

Closing date 5pm the 13th May 2022.

Ref G14022 in the subject line For more information on our organisation please visit our website www.theatnetwork.com/



# Flanagan Kerins®

Furniture for Life

# SOFA SCRAPPAGE SCHEME NOW ON



TILLY
EX LARGE SPLIT SOFA
Was €3185 Now €2595



SCARLETT
LARGE SOFA DISPLAY MODEL
Was €2375 Now €1375



RAPHAEL
LEATHER 3 SEATER - POWER RECLINER SOFA
Was €3545 Now €2895



COMO 3 SEATER RECLINER Was €1395 Now €795

We are offering scrappage up to €100 for a full suite, €50 for a sofa and €25 for a chair

Bray Retail Park, Southern Cross Road., Bray, Co. Wicklow. Mon-Sat: 10am - 6pm P: (01) 281 3338 www.flanagankerins.ie