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END OF AN ERA
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Tuesday 7th June 2022 First Floor, The Boulevard, Quinsborough Road, Bray. A98 R6D7. Tel: 01 - 2869111 E-mail: wicklowed@localtimes.ie www.wicklowtimes.net

ARKLOW'S UKRAINIANS ARE GONE

The Ukrainians, 251 individuals and families, have gone from Arklow but are still in the Grand Hotel in Wicklow and the Royal Hotel in Bray.

In a statement, Wicklow County Council said "The emergency Rest Centre for Ukrainian refugees in Arklow is to close. As a result, the Coral Leisure Centre will return to full community use.

"At the end of March 2022 Wicklow County Council, was asked by Government to establish community facilities to provide emergency beds for arriving Ukrainian refugees. As part of this request Wicklow County Council initiated the set-up of 50/60 emergency contingency beds temporarily at

Coral Leisure Centre Arklow. Over a period of two months, the centre provided a short-term, safe and welcoming environment for 251 Ukrainian individuals and families. A warm welcome, help and assistance was always provided to often traumatised arrivals.

"Residents remained at the temporary centre for between four and seven days before being moved to more medium-term accommodation. Many arrivals to the centre sourced host families within the Arklow area and have

integrated into the local community through schools and work and local activities. While it is regrettable that this emergency response measure has had an effect on a small number of businesses at the Coral facility, the Council continue to liaise with the businesses affected. The Council acknowledges that local groups and community were inconvenienced through the unavailability of the Sports Centre and we express our sincere gratitude for the immense support and



Pictured are Minister Simon Harris, Deborah Coleman (SSE Renewables), Commodore Kyran O'Grady (Wicklow Sailing Club), Louise Glennon (SSE Renewables) and Senator Patrick Casey celebrating the partnership between Wicklow Sailing Club and SSE Renewables for the SSE Renewables Round Ireland at the library in Wicklow Town.

contributions of the Arklow community in making this emergency rest centre operational and providing temporary accommodation for Ukrainian refugees fleeing their war-torn country.

"The emergency rest centre was situated in an ideal location for our Ukrainian friends with access to many of the great facilities within the area. All materials, supplies, trades persons required throughout the operation of the rest centre were sourced locally. The success of the centre was greatly supported by the Ukrainian Hub that was set up in Bridgewater which provided clothing, bikes, children's toys etc to the refugees. The Hub's support and assistance to Wicklow County Council in making our Ukrainian residents welcome and safe is to be commended and a special Thank You to

all of the volunteers involved.

"Arklow Community Rest Centre at Coral was always intended to be a temporary emergency measure to provide accommodation for displaced Ukrainians. The centre was run effectively by Wicklow County Council staff and Civil Defence unit. Help was also provided by a small number of local volunteers.

"It is now the intention of Wicklow County Council to close this temporary centre and return to Coral Leisure for community use.

"Alternative emergency accommodation has now been provided for the Region covering Dublin, Kildare and Wicklow. The Ballyogan Regional Temporary Rest Centre will have the capacity to accommodate up to 300 displaced Ukrainian Nationals for short periods. Thereafter they will be allocated longer term

accommodation in other areas of the state. Immediate emergency and accommodation needs of Ukrainian

refugees continues to be met by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDI&Y)

and the International Protection Accommodation Services (IPAS), with the support of local authorities.

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6th Class teacher Niall Neville and Archbishop of Dublin, Most Reverend Dermot Farrell, pictured with students Adam Ryan, Margaret Dunne, Fainche Stone, Rebecca Fogarty, Zosia Zalewska and Toby Salley who made their confirmation in Barndarrig

Ballinaclash offers Community Hall to help Ukrainian Refugees

At a recent meeting of the Ballinaclash Community Association the war in Ukraine was discussed and it was unanimously agreed to contact Wicklow County Council and offer the use of the Community Hall.

According to the secretary, Stephen Kearon, "We had seen the request in the media from Wicklow County Council looking for premises, and considering the urgent humanitarian need of those fleeing from the war in Ukraine, we decided we had to act and would offer our hall, especially as we had been in receipt of public money with grants that had allowed the upgrade of the kitchen and toilets last year."

Photos and details of the layout of the community hall have now been sent to Wicklow County Council.



Hollywood Hurling

Léirithe le Mac Dara Ó Curraidhín (LMDÓC) are producing a new series for TG4 recounting the history of depictions of Gaelic on film. Based on Seán Crosson's book Gaelic Games on Film, Iománaíocht Hollywood / Hollywood Hurling will be the first screen exploration of this fascinating topic and will feature rarely screened or never before seen footage of Gaelic games from both international and indigenous productions. Contributors are being sought for the series - including past players, contributors to relevant productions, and followers of Gaelic games - who may recall the screening of Gaelic games on film in previous decades, perhaps in the highlights productions of All-Irelands produced by the National Film Institute between the 1940s and 1970, Amharc Éireann / documentary productions of Gael linn, or major productions

featuring Gaelic games like Rooney (1958). If you have memories to share and a contribution to make email lmdocdub@gmail.com.

Soccer in the Meadow

The 'Soccer in the Meadow' event will return to Enniskerry this weekend after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic.

Taking place on June 11th and 12th, the event at Bog Meadow, organised by Enniskerry Football Club, will see plenty of entertainment for adults and children from Enniskerry and surrounding area, centred around a two-day Mini World Cup tournament for boys and girls born between 2005 and 2017.

Approximately 300 children are expected to take part in the event.

There are limited spaces available so those wishes to take part. The children will be split into different mixed teams, with each team representing a country. The entry fee is €25 (€40 family). Register at enniskerryfc.ie, in the 'enrol & pay' section.

'Show and Tell at Signal Arts Centre

At the recent Signal Arts Centre committee meeting, it was decided that the artist 'Show and Tell' events would take place on a monthly basis going forward.

With this in mind, Signal would like to extend an invitation for artist members to get in touch to avail of this fantastic opportunity to promote their practice. This may be of especial interest to members who have an upcoming exhibition at Signal (or elsewhere) and would like to promote it. Please note, that having an upcoming exhibition is not requisite! This opportunity is free of charge. See www.signalartscentre.ie or call 01-276-2039.

Hike to the top of Lugnaquilla in aid of homeless charity

The annual Lugnaquilla Climb 2022 in aid of Peter McVerry Trust is back for the first time since 2019 and will take place on Saturday, 11th of June.

Peter McVerry Trust, the housing and homeless charity, provides housing and supports to young people across Wicklow who are at risk of homelessness after exiting State care, and also provide Housing First services across the county.

Lugnaquilla, or 'Lug', in Co. Wicklow, stands at 925 metres high and overlooks the Glen of Imaal and Glenmalure. Setting off from Baravore Car Park, the 14-kilometre guided loop will take hikers approximately 6 hours to complete and requires a good level of fitness. For the hiking-enthusiasts travelling by bus, the trail is just over an hour's drive south from Dublin City with buses leaving the city centre on Saturday 11th of June.

The Glenmalure Loop hike is described as the most scenic route to the peak. On completion of the hike, participants enjoy soup, sandwiches, tea & coffee, with a return bus to Dublin that evening.

Registration for the Lugnaquilla Climb 2022 in aid of Peter McVerry Trust is €50 per person,

with participants encouraged to raise an additional €300 each. Registration fee includes the guided hike, a participant t-shirt, return bus to Wicklow from Dublin and post-hike refreshments. All funds raised go to Peter McVerry Trust to help support more people experiencing homelessness into a home of their own.

As the provider of

Housing First in the Mid-East Region, Peter McVerry Trust work closely with Wicklow County Council to deliver the Housing First services required in the area.

These services include housing for the most complex and long-term cases of homelessness, as well as wraparound services like mental health and addiction support, education, training and employ-

ment, with the ultimate objective of helping people live independently in their own home and integrate into their respective communities.

For more information and to register, visit www.pmvtrust.ie/get-involved/events, or for any questions you might have before registering, get in touch at fundraising@pmvtrust.ie or on 01 823 0776.



June events in Wicklow Library

Wicklow Library are hosting two events for Cruinniú na Nóg on Saturday 11th June. 'Make a Movie on Your Smart Phone': This workshop is given by Michael Fortune, and is aimed at 13-15 year olds. A smart phone is required for this workshop and booking is essential as places are limited. Time 11am-1 pm; 'Irish Heroes for Children' Kevin Barry: A reading by Carmel Kelly, followed by a tour of the local archives. This is aimed at 8-11 year olds. Booking essential Time 2.00- 2.45 pm. Remember, every Saturday there's Story Time for children age 0-6, and every Thursday at 11.15 Comhrá agus Ceol, conversation and song for 0-4 year olds.

Are you interested in joining a knitting or sewing group?

For information and to book any of the above events contact Wicklow Library on 0404 67025 or email wicklib@wicklowcoco.ie



Kevin and Mary Doherty at the Holy Redeemer Church Bray for their Wedding Blessing on Saturday 28th May. Pic: Joe McQuillan

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Councillor Mags Crean announces resignation

Independent councillor for Greystones Municipal District Mags Crean last week announced she is resigning from her role after three years as a councillor.

In a statement released last Tuesday, Cllr Crean said "Since being elected in 2019, my work as a county councillor has been truly rewarding and it has been a privilege to represent my constituency and community in Greystones.

"However, due to a change in my personal, family and employment circumstances, I am unfortunately no longer able to continue to meet the demands and commitments that a county councillor role requires without it having an adverse effect on my health and family. For this reason, I have made the decision to resign my seat on Wicklow County Council.

"This is a decision that I have not taken lightly, and I have given it much thought and reflection over the past number of months.

"During the past three-years, I have upheld my representative duties to the best of my ability and attended all county council and local council meetings as well as additional committee meetings. I played an active role on the housing policy com-



Mags Crean

mittee, the Board of the Mermaid Arts Theatre, the East Coast Area Alcohol and Drugs Task Force as well as the Disability and Social Inclusion Committee, Joint Policing Committee and of late, the Ukraine Community Response Forum. I was successful in getting support for several motions, not least of which was full

council support for my proposal regarding exploration of a Community Wealth Building model for Wicklow going forward as the local economic plan is developed.

"A key highlight for me locally was researching and drafting the LivCom application and playing a collective role in winning the LivCom

Gold Award for Greystones. But more than any of this, the most important part of this role has been representing people in our community and advocating strongly on their behalf.

"It was a pleasure to work with all the elected county councillors here in Wicklow over the past three years, and in particular my councillor colleagues on Greystones MD. I wish them continued success in their work for the county. I'd also like to extend thanks to all the council staff who have assisted me during my work.

"On a final note, I would like to thank the people of Greystones and its surrounding areas who gave me the opportunity to play a representative role in our community and to assure them that I will continue to be active locally and will support my successor in their efforts to ensure the people of the area are represented effectively at council level."

On hearing the news, Independent councillor Joe Behan told *Wicklow Times* "Cllr Mags Crean has made an outstanding



Emma and Sophie Collier with Edie Lynch pictured with Chitty Chitty Bang Bang at the Powerscourt Partish Veteran, Vintage and Classic Car Show in Emmiskerry

contribution to the work of Wicklow County Council in the three years since her election as a Councillor for the Greystones Electoral area.

Her articulate and sincere contributions to Council debates at county and local level added a new dimension to Council meetings and her genuine interest in speaking for marginalised and vulnerable people demonstrated her crystal clear priorities.

"Cllr Crean had a unique gift of being able to bring people with her in the campaigns she was engaged in and this was very evident in the LivCom Award which she and her colleagues achieved for Greystones and its people.

"I will always be personally grateful for the political insights Mags shared with me as we worked together and although I completely understand her decision to stand down at this

time, nonetheless, the entire County of Wicklow will be the poorer for her departure.

"I wish Mags every success in what I have no doubt will be an extremely bright future for her, her husband, Cathal, and her children."

Cathaoirleach of Greystones Municipal District, Green Party Councillor Lourda Scott, said "I am very sorry to hear of the resignation of Mags Crean from the

Council. She was a very diligent and hardworking public representative and she will be missed. Her contributions added greatly to any discussions we had and it's a pity that we will lose her voice. I hope that she leaves with pride in her achievements.

"I wish her the very best in all her future endeavours and I have no doubt that she will continue to do great work for her community."

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Permission granted for Arklow onshore grid

An historic decision by An Bord Pleanála means that SSE Renewables is the first developer to secure onshore grid consent for an Irish offshore project.

An Bord Pleanála has granted planning permission to SSE Renewables to develop the onshore grid infrastructure necessary to connect the 800MW Phase 2 of Arklow Bank Wind Park to Ireland's electricity transmission grid.

The landmark decision by the Irish planning board is an historic first for Ireland's offshore wind sector. It means leading renewable energy company SSE Renewables is the first renewable energy company to secure planning permission to

develop onshore transmission grid infrastructure for an Irish offshore wind farm.

The decision is also a significant milestone for the delivery of the next phase of the Arklow Bank project. The consent comes just ahead



An Bord Pleanála has approved the development of a 220kV substation at Avoca River Business Park

of the upcoming application by SSE Renewables to the Irish Government for a Maritime Area Consent (MAC) to allow it to proceed to apply for planning permission for the project's offshore infrastructure including offshore wind turbines, offshore substation platforms, and subsea cables.

In its planning decision issued last week to SSE Renewables through its subsidiary Sure Partners Limited, An Bord Pleanála has approved the development of a 220kV substation at Avoca River Business Park with an associated connection from the new substation to the existing national transmission network. The consented development also includes an underground cable route and associated infrastructure connecting the substation to the landfall point at Johnstown North, Arklow, where it will meet the planned subsea offshore cables connecting to the wind farm.

SSE Renewables is actively developing Phase 2 of Arklow Bank Wind Park which will be located in an area situated six to 13km off the Co. Wicklow coastline, to the east of Arklow.

The Arklow Bank Wind Park Phase 2 development, which builds

on the existing GE-owned seven turbines that comprise the operational first phase of the wind park, is targeting delivery of up to 800MW of installed offshore wind energy under the Irish Government's new Maritime Area Planning (MAP) Act process. This means the next phase of offshore wind energy development at Arklow Bank would have the potential to power almost 850,000 homes each year and offset around 830 billion kilos of harmful carbon emissions annually.

The offshore wind energy project is expected to require an investment of up to €2.5 billion and, under current planning timelines, is expected to deliver first power in 2028 and completion in 2029, subject to a final investment decision.

Kaj Christiansen, Arklow Bank Development Manager at SSE Renewables, said: "We're delighted to have received this decision from An Bord Pleanála, and to have achieved this critical milestone in the development of the Arklow Bank Wind Park, Phase 2. This consent is the culmination of almost three years of work by members of our project team, and our consultants, ARUP, as well as supportive stakeholders.

"This is the first ever planning decision for any component of an offshore wind farm of scale in Ireland. It marks a significant step forward for the country, for our planning authorities, and for industry as we work collaboratively to deliver offshore wind in Ireland at scale. The decision also brings SSE Renewables a step closer in delivering the next phase of Arklow Bank Wind Park, and our ambition to unlock investment, deliver jobs and local community benefits, and critically help achieve Ireland's climate action targets by 2030."

In another positive development for the project, SSE Renewables has been granted a Foreshore License by the Irish Government to enable it to commence key maritime site survey investigations. The survey works are expected to commence in May and will provide the Arklow Bank project team with a better understanding of the offshore site conditions. It is intended the results of the survey will help optimise the overall design of the wind farm.

The survey activities will be conducted by the DEMA vessel 'Neptune' and are planned to be completed by the end of August 2022, subject to weather.

Application submitted for Maritime Area Consent for Arklow Bank Wind Park project

SSE Renewables has submitted an application to the Irish Government for a Maritime Area Consent (MAC) for Phase 2 of its Arklow Bank Wind Park offshore wind energy project. The MAC application has been made via Ireland's recently introduced marine planning process announced in April 2022 by Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications, Eamon Ryan TD.

Phase 2 of Arklow Bank Wind Park will be located in an area situated six to 13km off the Co. Wicklow coastline, to the east of Arklow. The development, which builds on the existing GE-owned seven turbines that comprise the operational first phase of the wind park, is targeting delivery of up to 800MW of installed offshore wind energy under the Irish Government's new

Maritime Area Planning (MAP) Act process.

The MAC application being submitted is the next step forward in plans by SSE Renewables to progress this important offshore wind energy project for Ireland. It follows the landmark decision earlier this week by An Bord Pleanála to grant planning permission for the onshore grid infrastructure necessary to connect the

800MW Phase 2 of Arklow Bank to Ireland's electricity transmission grid.

The submission of a MAC application means the Arklow Bank project will now progress through the new marine planning regime alongside other qualified offshore renewable energy projects in the Irish Sea and off the west coast of Ireland.

If SSE Renewables suc-



cessfully secures a Maritime Area Consent from the Government, it can then apply to Ireland's planning board, An Bord Pleanála, for permission to build out the project's next phase. This future planning application would include

detailed proposals for the offshore infrastructure required, including offshore wind turbines, offshore substation platforms, and subsea cables, as well as an accompanying Environmental Impact Assessment for the wind

park's offshore infrastructure. SSE Renewables intends to commence a draft of this Environmental Impact Assessment later this year as part of the project's ongoing development.

The Arklow Bank pro-

posal also envisages the development of a dedicated operations and maintenance base located at Arklow Harbour's South Dock, where 80 people will be employed to support the wind park over its operational lifetime. This element of the project is subject to a separate planning application, currently before Wicklow County Council for consideration.

Barry Kilcline, Director of Offshore Development Ireland at SSE Renewables said:

"As the leading renewable energy developer in Ireland and the UK we're committed to realising the full potential of offshore wind energy for Ireland. We are continuing to make substantial progress in the development of our plans at Arklow Bank. We have already secured planning permission for the project's onshore grid infrastructure, which is the first ever successful planning decision for any component of an

offshore wind farm of scale in Ireland.

"With the submission of our MAC application for offshore infrastructure to the Irish Government, we are driving momentum in our project delivery and taking another step forward towards being able to submit a planning application to An Bord Pleanála to build out the next phase of Arklow Bank Wind Park."

The offshore wind energy that can be generated at Arklow Bank would have the potential to power almost 850,000 homes each year and offset around 830 billion kilos of harmful carbon emissions annually – contributing significantly to Ireland's climate action target of at least 5GW of offshore wind energy by 2030, to Ireland's security of energy supply, and to the national and local economy.

Once operational the wind farm will deliver a multi-million-euro annual community fund.

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

Nominate The Cove as designated bathing area

Social Democrats councillor for Greystones Municipal District Jodie Neary is encouraging local swimmers from Greystones, Kilcoole, Newcastle and Delgany to engage in the public identification process by Wicklow County Council and include The Cove in Greystones as a bathing site they'd like to see added.

Local Authorities must identify official bathing areas in their area every year so that they can be monitored for safety, water quality and their level of use. Wicklow County Council are now asking people who swim at beaches, lakes and rivers to tell them if they think they should maintain existing designated bathing waters designations or give a new official bathing area designation to areas that are commonly used for swimming, but not identified at the moment.

Speaking on this Cllr Neary says, "this is a great opportunity to have the popular Cove in

Greystones identified as an official bathing site. The Cove has been growing in popularity for many years now but lacks official status. A survey I carried out two years ago received over 500 responses and identified The Cove as the most popular swimming spot in Greystones, with 72 per cent of respondents saying they regularly swim there.

"Due to a public campaign in 2020, supported by Deputy Jennifer Whitmore, the Cove is now regularly tested for water quality and monitored by the Council. However, there needs to be more in terms of safety, and



Cllr Jodie Neary

getting designated status will help our case to get a lifeguard and other services in future which can make this area as safe as possible to swim in.

"I am regularly in touch with the Council on the status of the Cove and while water quality has been excellent for a number of seasons now, I believe it's now

time this much-loved beach received official status and a discussion on the provision of facilities facilitated. I would encourage everyone who swims to send in their nomination, and nominate The Cove as part of this process.

"If you wish to propose your favourite beach/river etc as a new bathing water site or comment on an existing site, visit WCC's consultation hub at <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/ConsultationHub> or post your submission to Michael McNamara, Administrative Officer, Planning, Development and Environment, Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Station Road, Wicklow Tel 0404-20236," concludes Cllr Neary. The closing date for submissions to Wicklow County Council is **9th June**.



The fireplace has been a focus-point of the home for many generations and everyone loves the comfort and warmth provided by a traditional fire. However, open fires and chimneys are major sources of heat loss.

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Rev Jack Kinkead, Joan Sinnott, Breda McCarthy, historian John Finlay, Deirdre Burns (Heritage Officer, Wicklow County Council), Greme Warren, historian John Goodman, Cathaoirleach of Wicklow Municipal District Cllr Gail Dunne, Cllr Mary Kavanagh and Cllr John Snell

New sign for Wicklow Town's round 'mound'

A new lectern sign highlighting the Round 'Mound' or 'Mount' which is visible from the Riverwalk in Wicklow Town was officially opened last Tuesday, 31st May by Wicklow Municipal District Cathaoirleach, Cllr Gail Dunne.

The sign is part of local initiatives to promote awareness of the rich archaeological heritage of Wicklow town and sheds light on a site which is otherwise inaccessible. The Round 'Mound' is thought to be a 'motte' - an earth and timber castle, possibly the earliest Anglo-Norman castle in Wicklow town.

Also featured in the sign is information about a decorative Viking sword found at the Murrough in the late 19th Century, and references to a 'White Castle' of Wicklow town which appears on a Dutch Naval map of 1715.

This lectern complements the existing Wicklow Town Heritage Trail and will form part of the guided walk which takes place each Saturday morning at 11am from Fitzwilliam Square (duration c. 2 hours).

This project was funded by the National Monuments Service through the Community Monuments Fund 2021 co-ordinated through the Heritage Office of Wicklow County Council. As part of this initiative the archaeology of Wicklow Town is due to feature as a pull-out supplement in a forthcoming Archaeology Ireland magazine in Autumn 2022.

Mast in Djouce Woods gets go-ahead

An Bord Pleanála has overruled a decision by Wicklow County Council and granted permission for a 30-metre communications tower on Coillte land in Djouce Woods.

Wicklow County Council refused permission to Cignal Infrastructure Ltd for the development in April of 2021, and Cignal then appealed the decision to ABP. The tower is to be located in Deerpark Townland near Powerscourt, Enniskerry. In making its decision, ABP cited the objective in Wicklow's County Development Plan to facilitate the improvement of telecommunications provision in the county. ABP stated that the forest would help to hide the mast from view and therefore it "would not have an unacceptable impact on the visual or residential amenities of the area."

A revised design was submitted to ABP with the appeal and details of the design and proposed colour scheme are to be agreed with the Council prior to commencement of the development. Wicklow County Council had refused permission for the mast due to: The proposed development being located in an area of outstanding natural beauty; the site being visible from a prospect listed in the plan for protection; a loss of all trees and screening within the site; the absence of justification for the proposed tower at this location, and the elevated location within Djouce Woods. The mast would be an obtrusive feature in the landscape, according to the Council.

'Closing Bray level crossing would result in chaos'

Sinn Féin TD John Brady has said that any plans to close the level crossing which is located at Bray Daly station on the Quinsboro Road that leads to Bray seafront will result in chaos and put public safety at risk.

As part of the Dart+ Coastal South Project, Irish Rail is considering closing the level crossing leading to Bray Seafront to allow for an increase in capacity and frequency of the Dart service. Proposals are however still at an early stage.

Deputy Brady said "It is very concerning that discussions are taking place with a view of possibly closing the vital level crossing which is located at Bray Daly Station. This vital crossing over the rail tracks leads to Bray Seafront is an extremely busy crossing. I have very serious concerns that Iarnród Éireann, the National Transport Authority (NTA) or any other body would contemplate its closure as it would cause chaos and result in no added benefits for rail users."

"For anyone to think that redirecting traffic from this crossing down the Seapoint Road with its height restricted bridge would work, is showing a real lack of knowledge of the area. This is a recipe for disaster. The height restricted bridge on the Seapoint



The level crossing at Bray Dart station

Road is not designed for a high volume of traffic, it is neither wide enough nor high enough. Fire tenders are unable to pass under it due to height restrictions, so closing the level crossing would seriously restrict access to the seafront for emergency vehicles, putting public safety at risk."

"Safety on the Seapoint Road is currently under threat due to plans to develop a bridge over the Dargle River leading onto the road. The

road is not suitable for the increased volume of traffic from a bridge such as that. However, the notion of all traffic redirected down Seapoint coupled with that of a bridge is a recipe for chaos and disaster and must be opposed."

Deputy Brady concluded "I have written to the Minister for Transport Eamon Ryan, the NTA and to Iarnród Éireann asking for a meeting to discuss the plans and to voice my total opposition."

Greystones Coastguard Station is 'number one priority'

Greystones Coastguard Station is the number one priority project for the Coast Guard and funding approval is in place, according to Minister of State at the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, Patrick O'Donovan TD.

Minister O'Donovan was speaking last Tuesday in The Dail where Social Democrats TD Jennifer Whitmore requested an update on the project.

"The OPW are actively engaged with Wicklow County Council in relation to the formal transfer of the site identified for the new Coast Guard Station," said Minister O'Donovan. "Agreement

has been reached revised boundaries and layouts of the site. Parking arrangements for the Coast Guard vehicles have been agreed."

Formal legal documents are at an advanced stage, he added, and are expected to be completed in a matter of weeks.

Minister Simon Harris TD secured ring-fenced funding for the project during his time as

Minister for the Office of Public Works.

Speaking last week, Minister Harris said: "This project needs to urgently progress. The Coastguard need it to happen and so too does the community. The transfer of the Coastguard to a new purpose built facility will also provide us with an opportunity to extend Greystones Garda Station. "The benefits for the

town are very significant on every level. The new station will provide a much-needed modern facility for the coastguard including a boathouse, proper parking for coastguard vehicles and an operations and training room. I am looking forward to this progressing and I continue to monitor the project very closely."

The new station will consist of a boathouse /vehicle store along with support facilities which will include an operations/training room, a drying room and toilets.

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Tena Sheil (Coordinator), Marc O'Dwyer (CEO Big Red Cloud), Eileen Cullen (Head of Training Services and Innovation, KWETB), and Garry Allen (Training Officer, KWETB), pictured at the launch of the collaboration between the KWETB and Big Red Cloud at Marine House, The Murrrough, Wicklow Town.

KWETB collaborate with Big Red Cloud

Kildare Wicklow Education and Training Board (KWETB) and Big Red Cloud are delighted to have collaborated on a suite of new Accounts and Payroll courses designed by industry experts specifically for the Irish market.

These blended courses combine flexible learning and practical skills-based tasks enabling a learner with little or no prior knowledge to gain employment or upskill themselves to work in a accounts or payroll department of a company.

Eileen Cullen, Training Services and Innovation Manager, KWETB:

"It is important that learners develop employer-based skills in accounts and payroll that focuses specifically on the Irish economy and Revenue Commissioners requirements. These courses keep abreast of the regulatory changes as specified by the Irish Government and that is why they are so appealing to the Irish SME market".

These courses are supported by industry led tutors, live online classes and comprehensive course material that supports the learner through-

out their studies. The introductory Accounts and Payroll courses allow a learner to study with no prior knowledge of the subject required.

Intermediate and advanced courses build on a learner's knowledge to confidently undertake payroll, book-keeping, accounts assistant/specialist or payable roles.

Marc O'Dwyer, CEO, Big Red Cloud, said "After consulting with industry and having helped 75,000+ business over the years, I am acutely aware for the need of practical skills-based courses and working with KWETB has allowed this innovative suite of course offerings to happen".

KWETB is the largest provider of Further Education and Training in Kildare and Wicklow and the Big Red Cloud are industry leaders in cloud based accounts and payroll

software, having over 28 years' experience in supporting Irish businesses and sole traders.

KWETB are launching introductory and advanced payroll, along with introductory, intermediate and advanced accounts courses. All course materials and tutor supports, along with access to Big Red Cloud and Big Red Book Payroll software is provided for the duration of the course. The skills learned on these courses will allow a learner to easily work with all the popular accounts and payroll software on the market.

These funded courses are available to all, please email our Enterprise Engagement Team at enterpriseengagement@kwetb.ie and a member of our team will be delighted to get you enrolled. More information is available at www.bigredcloud.com/training.

Harris visits St Kevin's after letter from pupil

Fine Gael Minister Simon Harris TD last week visited 5th class in St Kevin's National School after 11-year-old Cian Cronin wrote a letter to him requesting he participate in his class project about making their community in Greystones a better place.

Minister Harris said: "I was delighted to receive a handwritten letter from Cian last week outlining his class project and asking if I would call to the school and participate.

"Ms Sherry's 5th class pupils are at present working on a project about how people can make our community a better place. I was delighted to answer their questions on how people work together in the community to improve amenities and services and how they do can take practical small steps to make their neighbourhood a better place.

"I especially want to thank Cian Cronin for writing to me and inviting me to meet his class and to class teacher Ms Sherry who asked me to read some selected poetry and discuss with the students my favourite books as part of their reading week."

Minister Harris also met with the school principal Ms Bailey regarding his work to progress the school's extension to facilitate its ASD Unit.

Minister Harris concluded: "I am supporting St Kevin's work in securing an extension for their new autism classes. St Kevin's is a great school and I look forward to helping the school expand and develop its extension as speedily as possible".



Minister Harris at St. Kevin's National School

Brittas Bay school loses teaching post

Green Party TD Steven Matthews has criticised the decision of the Department of Education to reduce the teaching allocation of Scoil Mhuire Réalt na Mara - Brittas Bay National School following the results of a final appeal.

This will leave the school with just five teachers for the coming school year, one less than school management and parents believe is required. However, Deputy Matthews has written urgently to the Department of Education and Minister Norma Foley to ask for further engagement given the potentially detrimental impact this decision will have on the school.

Discussing the issue, Deputy Matthews said: "This was first brought to my attention a number of months ago by several parents who were understandably concerned about the loss of a teacher for the coming academic year. If the decision of the appeals board is allowed to stand, some teachers will have 32/33 students with split classes which completely contradicts Government's recommended teacher-pupil ratio of 1:24 and

will lead less individual support for students.

"Prior to the commencement of the appeals process, I wrote to the Minister for Education, to raise these concerns and spoke directly with a number of Department officials to outline the basis for the appeal. For such a small school community, the loss of a teacher will have a detrimental impact on the operations of the school. If a 40-teacher school loses a teaching post it is a huge challenge, but in circumstances like this with 6 teachers, to lose a teacher provides enormous challenges for school management in how to operate on a daily basis.

"Throughout this appeals pro-



Steven Matthews TD

cess, I have been in frequent contact with the school principal and other school management to offer any support I could, and I will be meeting with them in the coming weeks to engage with them fur-

ther on the matter. I am hugely disappointed by the short-sighted nature of this decision. Based on projected enrolment, the school will meet the requirements for a 6th teacher for September 2023, so to remove a teacher for the coming schoolyear is unnecessarily disruptive.

"I will do all I can to support the school as I fully disagree with the outcome of the appeals process. I am calling for the Minister to allow for a further avenue of appeal and to reflect upon the impact this decision will have on such a small but tight-knit school community. I am in

regular contact with parents from the school and if any other parents wish to get in touch, I would be more than happy to include them in any updates that I receive."

Progress made in addressing school 'rat run'

Sinn Féin TD John Brady and councillor Grace McManus have welcomed progress that has been made to address the serious road safety and maintenance issues along the road that serves the Colaiste Ráithín and Ravenswell schools on the old Bray Golf Club land.

A specialist firm, PMCE, has now been appointed to undertake a traffic safety review of the access roads and bring forward proposals to address safety issues.

Deputy Brady said "I welcome the progress that has been made in addressing the serious road safety issues on the access roads to Colaiste Ráithín and Ravenswell School on the old Bray Golf Club lands. I have been working on trying to get the safety issues on the road addressed since the school's first opened. Thankfully through working with officials in the Department of Education and the National Development Finance Agency (NDFA) we have

now made some welcome progress.

"A specialist firm, PMCE, has now been appointed to undertake a traffic safety review of the access roads and bring forward proposals to address safety issues. I'm very conscious of the upcoming school summer holidays, so it's important that this survey is done as quickly as possible. As part of the process the Gardaí and the local authorities will be engaged to ensure any previous incidents or concerns that they have, are considered as part of the review. The schools will also be engaged to ensure the bus-ness traffic times are considered in the review.

"The PPP company with

responsibility for the management of the schools continue to be engaged to ensure that the of maintenance of the access roads and landscaping is properly looked after. This includes grass cutting, keeping down weeds and ensuring roads are clean."

Cllr Grace McManus added "It is very positive news to hear progress is being made on these issues. I think we all agree that we want the highest level of safety for children on their journey to school, and that involves scoping the extent and types of issues and moving quickly to address them. Getting this work done before the new term in September is really important. I've had many

constituents raise their concerns about this road with me, and I'm sure they will be eager to see results of this work quickly."

Deputy Brady concluded "Whilst positive progress has been made on

the issue of addressing the safety issues on the old Golf Club 'Rat Run', we need the process to be brought to an end and the necessary measures installed to ensure the safety of school children,



Deputy John Brady and Cllr Grace McManus at the new road through the old Bray Golf Club



Wicklow Town prepares for SSE Renewables Round Ireland Race 2022

The next edition of the SSE Renewables Round Ireland Race, the 705-nautical miles premier yacht race in Ireland, is set to take place from Wicklow Harbour Saturday, 18th of June. The classic biennial offshore event will be hosted again by Wicklow Sailing Club and will feature with boats ranging in size from 30 feet to over 70. For this year's event, there will be a fleet of at least 52 boats, including Pen Duick VI, the largest boat in the race at 73-feet.



The 2022 SSE Renewables Round Ireland Race is Ireland's premier offshore yacht race. First staged by Wicklow Sailing Club in 1980 and held biennially since, the Round Ireland is the second longest race in the Royal Ocean Racing Club calendar.

However, the Round Ireland is more than just a race – it is an incredible opportunity for Wicklow Sailing Club and for County Wicklow as a whole, providing significant economic opportunities for the area.

This year's event is the first to be sponsored by SSE Renewables, Ireland's leading developer and operator of renewable energy, including offshore wind energy. The association with the Round Ireland is an ideal one as the company is an active member of the community in County Wicklow as it continues to progress its plans for the development of the next stage of Arklow Bank Wind Park.

Undoubtedly, the highlight of the SSE Renewables Round Ireland weekend is the opportunity for visitors to Wicklow to take in the spectacle of the fleet of competing boats, all of varying sizes, and their crews assemble in Wicklow Harbour ahead of the official race start at 1pm on Saturday 18th June.

Continued on next page...



Pictured are Sue Snow, Tammy Billington Dynes and Hillary Fisher celebrating the partnership between Wicklow Sailing Club and SSE Renewables for the SSE Renewables Round Ireland which was held at the library in Wicklow Town.



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Round Ireland Yacht Race 2022



The SSE Renewables Round Ireland 2022 course follows the traditional route first contested in 1980 that states "leave Ireland and its islands to starboard" while starting and finishing at the scenic port of Wicklow on the east coast of Ireland. Main berthing facilities for competitors are provided at Wicklow Harbour's pier and quays close to Wicklow Sailing Club's base, plus marina options are available at Greystones and Dun Laoghaire to the north for bigger boat entries.

To celebrate this landmark yacht race, Wicklow Sailing Club is hosting a series of festival events that will take place from the 16th to 19th June at the Wicklow Sailing Club and on Black Castle Hill.

Proceedings kick off with a 'Meet the Sailors' party on Thursday 16th June at 8pm, followed by the 'Rock-a-Round Ireland Party' with a BBQ and live music on Friday

17th June at Wicklow Sailing Club.

On Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th June, a family fun festival will take place at Black Castle Hill from 12pm-9pm each day, with entertainment, live music, a funfair with children's Bounceworld, and food stands from local businesses.

For lovers of music and live entertainment, there's a free, open-air live music stage at the Round Ireland Festival, with gigs at the Black Castle from Friday 17th to Sunday 19th June. Brought to you by SSE Renewables and supported by Wicklow County Council and the Department of Arts, Culture and Heritage, the line-up includes local and national artists on Friday evening and all-day Saturday and Sunday from lunchtime, with headline performances by Big Love on Saturday night and Leslie Dowdall on Sunday night.



Senator
Pat Casey
Representing the people of Wicklow

Best wishes to the organisers and participants in SSE Round Ireland Yacht Race

Contact me:

✉ pat.casey@oireachtas.ie

☎ 0402 42105

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Constituency Office:
Market Sq., Wicklow



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THE REPUBLICAN PARTY



Congratulations to the organisers and sponsors of the SSE Round Ireland Yacht Race. Wishing the competitors the best of luck and a safe journey

John

BRADY TD



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Tues-Thurs 10am-3pm

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MINISTER
SIMON HARRIS

Congratulations to the Organisers & sponsors of the SSE Round Ireland Yacht Race and wishing all competitors a safe journey

5 WAYS TO CONTACT SIMON

✉ Wicklow Constituency Office: @ simon.harris@oir.ie
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📺 STEVEN MATTHEWS TD



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SSE Renewables Round Ireland Yacht Race 2022



Pictured are Gus and Emer Cullen with Wendy and Michael Herbst celebrating the partnership between Wicklow Sailing Club and SSE Renewables for the SSE Renewables Round Ireland which was held at the library in Wicklow Town.

The race will officially conclude on Friday 24th June with a Sailors' Prize Giving Ceremony, BBQ and live music at

Wicklow Sailing Club. After Covid has set back so many plans, to have a strong fleet of over 50 boats entered is a

testament to the appeal of this unique race that will see a sprint to the finish along the east coast to Wicklow with the finish-

ing-line and Wicklow Sailing Club's legendary hospitality at the end.

Kyran O'Grady, Commodore of Wicklow Sailing Club said: "The anticipation is building at Wicklow Sailing Club with the 2022 SSE Renewables Round Race almost upon us. We cannot wait to welcome all contestants from across the world to this year's competition."

Cllr Shay Cullen, Cathaoirleach, Wicklow County Council said: "I am delighted to see the SSE Renewables Round Ireland Race fast approaching the start line from Wicklow Harbour on the 18th June. The country's premier sailing competition being hosted by Wicklow Sailing Club will be an excellent economic and tourism opportunity for County Wicklow as the counties most popular summer event. The economic benefits that the Round Ireland Race brings with it are significant and it is positive to see organisers and sponsors seeing through on this event for the local community."

SSE Renewables' partnership with Wicklow Sailing Club on the Round Ireland comes at a time when the company has made headway in the development of the next phase of its Arklow Bank Wind Park offshore wind project. SSE Renewables was recently granted planning permission to develop the onshore grid infrastructure necessary to connect the 800MW Phase 2 of Arklow Bank Wind Park to Ireland's electricity transmission grid, a historic first for Ireland's offshore wind sector.

Continued on next page...

World Record holding offshore sailor is going around Ireland again

At 3am on the 17th of October 2020, Irish Offshore Sailor and Ocean Racer, Pamela Lee from Greystones set three World Records for the fastest time sailing around Ireland. Now in June 2022, she's coming back to sail around the country as fast as possible, again, this time competing in the SSE Renewables Round Ireland Race

In 2020 Pamela created the project 'Iarracht Maigeanta' (Magenta Challenge) in order to use her world record attempt to boost female participation in water sports in Ireland. She collaborated with 'The Magenta Project' and invited a female co-skipper, Catherine Hunt, to take on the challenge with her. The duo went on to smash three records in one - for fastest under forty foot boat, doublehanded crew and all female crew.

Since then, Pam has been tirelessly continuing her work towards two considerable goals; firstly, to make sailing and water sports more accessible for Irish Women, and secondly, to lead a boat to race around the world in 2023.

Her return to Ireland in June is linked to both these goals. She will be racing on a new Class40 design, skippered by Italian Andrea Fornaro. Pam's job is to prepare the boat for racing, to skipper deliveries and to race onboard. The ultimate goal for Fornaro and the boat is the Route-du-Rhum race in November. Pam will support him in this goal, along the way gaining invaluable experience for running her own boat and racing project next.

The team are coming to Ireland to compete in the new Class40 division of the race and Pam hopes to use the opportunity to demonstrate, once again, that females can participate and compete on the same level as men in extreme water sports - and thus, everything else too. The team will keep the boat in Pam's hometown, Greystones Marina, as before in 2020 with the World Record Project.



Pamela Lee



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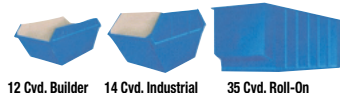
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Wishing all involved with the SSE Round Ireland Yacht Race the very best

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Wicklow County Council congratulates
SSE Renewables and Wicklow Sailing
Club on their partnership for the
SSE Round Ireland Yacht Race 2022.
Best wishes and safe sailing
to all competitors.





Round Ireland Yacht Race 2022



Leslie Dowdall who will headline the Round Ireland Festival's music stage on Sunday night, 19 June, with local rock and blues band, 'Feel The Pinch'.

SSE Renewables also submitted a Maritime Area Consent Application (MAC) to the Department of Environment, Communications and Climate this week, and the company has also been granted a Foreshore Licence by the Irish Government to enable it to commence key maritime site survey investigations. SSE Renewables is also expanding its offshore wind portfolio with projects off the coasts of Louth and Waterford before the end of the decade.

Cllr Gail Dunne, Cathaoirleach of Wicklow Municipal District said: "It is great to see SSE Renewables partnering with Wicklow Sailing Club to host the event and there is huge excitement building in Wicklow ahead of race day. This event really shines a positive light on Wicklow and we look forward to welcoming locals and visitors to the town on June 18."

Barry Killeen, Director of Offshore, SSE Renewables said: "SSE Renewables is delighted to partner with Wicklow Sailing Club to deliver an eagerly anticipated event which we hope will offer the domestic and international sailing community an exciting competition, a significant economic benefit to Wicklow and environs, and of course a superb family experience for the local community and visitors to Wicklow Town. The SSE Renewables Round Ireland 2022 reflects the potential that Irish waters offer and we look forward to seeing competitors sail past our proposed offshore wind energy development sites for Arklow Bank Wind Park Phase 2 in Wicklow, Braymore Wind Park off Louth and Celtic Sea Array off Waterford."

The SSE Renewables Round Ireland Festival - at a glance

FREE ENTRY

Thursday June 16th
'Meet the Sailors' Party, 8pm at Wicklow Sailing Club (WSC)
Live music by 'The Sessions'

Friday June 17th
Festival at the Black Castle, 5-8pm with free live music
'Rock-a-Round Ireland Party' at WSC, 9pm
BBQ & Live music by 'New Dimension'

Saturday June 18th
Race Day - Race Start at 1pm
Festival at the Black Castle, 12 noon-9pm with free live music
Music Stage headliner: Big Love, 8.30pm

Sunday June 19th
Festival at the Black Castle 12 noon-9pm with free live music
Music Stage headliner: Leslie Dowdall, 7.30pm

Friday June 24th
Sailors' Prize Giving Ceremony, 6pm at WSC
BBQ and Live Music by 'The Man in the Kilt'

Stephen Donnelly TD

Minister for Health

Congratulations to the organisers and sponsors of the 2022 Round Ireland Yacht Race and wishing competitors a safe journey



Constituency Office:
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Cathaoirleach Wicklow County Council

Have a great race and safe sailing

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'Greystones is used as Wicklow's cash cow'

Analysing Wicklow County Council's proposed budget in advance of this week's Budget Meeting on Tuesday 7th June, Cllr Derek Mitchell said that he's found, once again, that Greystones is being used as a 'cash cow'.

Greystones receives 40% less expenditure than any other of the county's Municipal Districts, with just €190 spent per person compared to €369 per person in the Baltinglass Municipal District and €288 on average in the other Districts. With this in mind, Cllr Mitchell says he plans to vote against the Budget.

"I will not be voting for the overall budget unless moves are made to correct this," he said. "Management have justified this in part because the rural areas need more libraries and fire stations. However I did a five-year analysis and this shows the underfunding is consistent. Management

agreed to analyse the staff by area in January but this is not available. The latest figures are for 2019 when other areas had at least 2.5 times the staff. This needs correcting.

"Also, the Capital Expenditure in Greystones is a quarter of any other area even though Area populations are similar. A lot of work is needed to cope with all the new houses and many projects are needed."

Cllr Mitchell believes Greystones is getting the short end of the stick when it comes to the spending of development levies in the area.

Development Levies are paid by developers on each house and are meant to fund infrastructure to



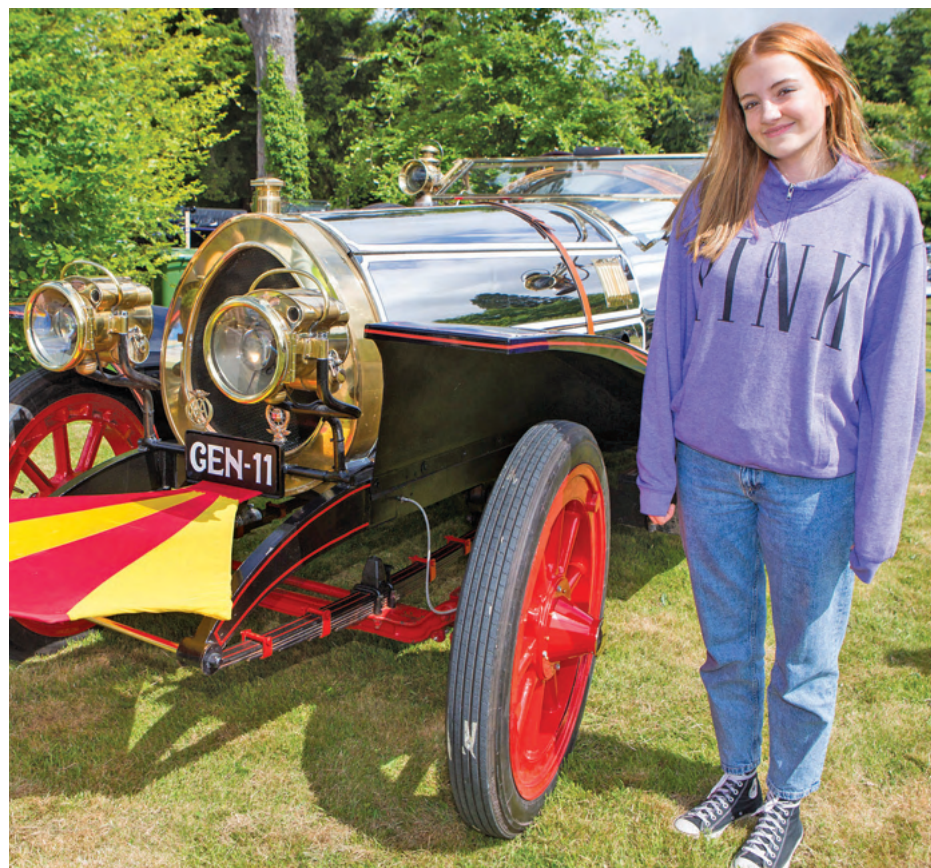
Cllr Derek Mitchell

support those houses such as footpaths, roads, playgrounds and Social facilities, however Cllr Mitchell says the levies spent in Greystones are not enough to cope with the amount of development taking place.

He was critical of a recent proposal from

council management to use €1m of development levies towards rural areas and West Wicklow. "There is little development in rural areas compared to the fast growing areas of Greystones, Newtown and Wicklow Town where there is much need of new infrastructure," he said.

"The capital funding for West Wicklow is already 20 times more than Greystones and its revenue spend is over twice as much even though the population is equal. 'This imbalance slows down providing for all the new residents in the new houses. I'm calling for the Development levies to be spent where the levies are raised."



Lily Flanagan pictured with Chitty Chitty Bang Bang at the Powerscourt Parish Veteran Vintage Classic Car Show in Enniskerry.

Bogmeadow bus terminus is opened in Enniskerry



At the opening of the Bogmeadow bus terminus were Cllr Aoife Flynn Kennedy, Harry Traynor, Manager, Dublin Bus Donnybrook Garage; Peter Kearns, Chief Inspector, Dublin Bus; Wicklow County Council Chief Executive, Brian Gleeson; Conor Page, Cathaoirleach Cllr Shay Cullen; Director of Service, Leonora Earls and Director of Service Lorraine Gallagher.

The Bogmeadow Bus Terminus in Enniskerry was officially opened on Thursday June 2nd by the Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr Shay Cullen, in the presence of Cathaoirleach of Bray Municipal District, Cllr Aoife Flynn Kennedy.

The completion of this project is the first phase of the Enniskerry Accessibility Improvement Scheme.

By relocating the bus terminus from the village centre to the existing Bogmeadow car park and creating improved cycle shelters and parking facilities, it has allowed the removal of on-street parking from the village centre and a much improved and safer pedestrian environment in the heart of Enniskerry.

Brian Gleeson, Wicklow County Council Chief Executive, said: "Bogmeadow Bus Terminus development is one of many National Transport Authority (NTA) projects in progress and its completion and opening, is a clear demonstration of Wicklow County Council's commitment to sustainable transport and active travel measures for the future

in conjunction with the NTA."

The success of the project is testament to the combined effort of the staff of Bray Municipal District, the Active Travel Team, Wicklow County Council and the local community groups.

Cllr Shay Cullen, Cathaoirleach Wicklow County Council, stated: "This completed project has significantly enhanced the area. Thank you to the local community who continue to make Enniskerry the beautiful village it is."

Anne Graham, Chief Executive Officer, National Transport Authority, added: "This project is just one of several hundred, not just in the Greater Dublin Area, but across the country, being funded by NTA as part of the overall plan to make cycling and walking easier and safer for more people."

Charities Regulator issues reminder over Ukraine support

The Charities Regulator is reminding the public and registered charities in Wicklow to consider carefully how they support the people of Ukraine, to ensure the significant funds and volunteering efforts being donated achieve their intended purpose.

Registered charities, in particular, are being urged to plan fully before undertaking any initiatives. Helen Martin, Chief Executive, Charities Regulator says: "Charities have a serious and significant duty of care. They must have all required safety and safeguarding procedures in place, along with the necessary resources and capacity."

The Charities Regulator Chief Executive adds: "People across the country, including in Wicklow, continue to be moved by the plight of the people of Ukraine and understandably want to help in whatever way they can. Donating time or money to an established registered charity is a much more effective way of assisting people at a time of crisis than seeking to set up a charity from scratch. We urge the public to support registered charities with a track record of providing the kinds of practical supports and assistance that the Ukrainian people need at this time. They can check simply and quickly whether a specific charity is on the Register of Charities at Charitiesregulator.ie.

Ms Martin also reminds registered charities that they must think and plan carefully before they undertake any new initiatives including those relating to the conflict in Ukraine. "Any new activities must align with the charity's stated charitable purpose and should be well thought through so that charity assets and volunteer efforts are targeted properly and effectively," she said.

Greystones gets new chess tables

Members of Bray-Greystones Chess Club have warmly welcomed the two new chess tables in the Burnaby Park. The tables are made from metal and have movable seats to make them wheelchair friendly.

Local chess player Stephen Stokes said: "They are good quality tables. In fairness to Wicklow County Council, they took on board a lot of key suggestions from chess players in County Wicklow. There are some ways to enhance the chess tables further. But overall, they have done a wonderful job. We look forward to further engaging with Greystones Engineer Ruairí O'Hanlon and all the Wicklow County Council Team. They deserve credit for their hard work".

During the planning phase there was a lot of discussion between Wicklow County Council, Bray-Greystones Chess Club and other stakeholders, particularly about the location. The local chess club members are delighted with the final position.

Local chess enthusiast Bernadette Stokes stated: "The Burnaby Park southwest corner is ideal. It is a quiet area, and it is shielded from a lot of wind. The location is also easily accessible for walking, cycling and car parking. Thankfully the white squares are in the bottom right-hand corners. That is important for chess boards."

Two chess tables are being introduced in all Wicklow Municipal Districts. Funding is expected to be in place next year for an additional two tables in each district.



Mother and son Bernadette and Stephen Stokes enjoying a game of chess in Burnaby Park, Greystones

End of an era at Wicklow RNLI



Brendan Copeland

Station mechanic Brendan Copeland retires after final call out in 31 years

Last week marked the end of an era at Wicklow RNLI as long serving crew member and station mechanic, Brendan Copeland officially retired from saving lives at sea.

Brendan's last day started with a trip to Dun Laoghaire Harbour to bring Wicklow RNLI's all-weather lifeboat back to station after a lift out and hull clean. As the lifeboat was departing Dun Laoghaire for Wicklow, a call came in regarding a motor cruiser that had suffered engine failure in Dublin Bay.

As Wicklow RNLI's lifeboat was close by and the motor cruiser was drifting in busy shipping lanes and a danger to traffic at Dublin port, the lifeboat diverted to assist and was on scene in minutes.

A tow line was quickly established, and the cruiser was towed to the nearest safe port of Dun Laoghaire. Once the boat and occupants were safely landed ashore, the crew returned to Wicklow and Brendan quietly retired after 31 years with the RNLI, helping to save 23 lives and assisting over 334 people.

Brendan, a former lighthouse keeper with The Commissioners of Irish Lights, joined Wicklow RNLI as a volunteer in 1991. In the early years he served on both the all-weather and inshore lifeboats as a crew member and emergency mechanic.

In 2007, Brendan was appointed Wicklow RNLI's full time station mechanic, a position he held for the last 15 years.

His role involved a wide range of duties that included maintaining the Tyne class lifeboat, Annie Blaker, a labour of love he continued up to Friday 5

April 2019, when she was officially retired as the last operating Tyne class lifeboat in the RNLI Fleet. At the time former Lifeboat Operations Manager, Des Davitt said: 'I want to pay a special thanks to our station mechanic Brendan Copeland who looked after Annie so well for all these years. Her incredible life-saving record is a measure of how well she was maintained.'

When asked in April 2019 how he felt prior to Annie Blaker launching for the final time at Wicklow, Brendan replied: 'You're asking me if I'm sad or emotional today? I'm more than that, I'm heartbroken, to borrow a quote used for the Blasket Islanders, 'the likes will never be seen again'.'

While the Tyne lifeboat had twin propellers with a top speed of 18 knots, the new modern Shannon class lifeboat which was to follow, was capable of 25 knots and considered the fastest and most technologically advanced in the RNLI fleet.

To prepare for the arrival of the Shannon class, Brendan and a panel of mechanics travelled to Poole for training on the new jet-propelled lifeboat powered by two Scania engines.

The training paid off and with great determination and huge commitment from Brendan and the crew, the Shannon went on service much quicker than anticipated.

Brendan has gone to sea on countless call outs

during his time with the lifeboat and one shout that stands out to him occurred in the early hours of 22 March 2013 after a fishing vessel with three crew lost power and was in danger of being washed ashore east of Wicklow head. He recalled: 'Annie was launched, and I can honestly say as we went around the pier the sea was boiling.'

"We managed to get a line to the boat which was larger than Annie and towed it back to Wicklow, it felt like we were in a teapot that was being shook to make the tea stronger."

For their actions in bringing the vessel and three crew to safety, Brendan and the crew received a letter of commendation from RNLI Operations Director Michael Vlasto.

Brendan took part in his last afloat exercise on the lifeboat on Saturday 28 May with his volunteer team deciding to mark this milestone for their much-loved mechanic, who has been a mentor, friend and the backbone of Wicklow RNLI for many years.

As Wicklow lifeboat returned to station, a flotilla of local boats and Arklow RNLI's lifeboat accompanied Brendan into Wicklow Harbour. From the East pier the arrival was witnessed by a large turnout made up of Brendan's family, friends and his lifeboat family, while a lone piper played as the boat passed and the Dublin based Coast Guard helicopter made a flypast.

As the lifeboat reached the south quay berth, local emergency services lined up in a guard of honour and sounded their sirens as the lifeboat passed. Brendan was overwhelmed and thanked everyone.

Commenting on his retirement, Mary Aldridge, Wicklow RNLI Lifeboat Operations

Manager, said: "The crew and I wish you and Betty all the happiness in the world on your well-deserved retirement. You have provided excellent service as a community lifesaver with the RNLI since 1991, you will be severely missed at the station."

Golden years for Bray runner

Seamus Mallin's mid-80s are proving to be his golden age, as the Bray resident's recent performances on the running track continue to earn him medals.

Seamus added another gold medal to his collection at the Athletics Leinster Outdoor Track & Field Championship over the weekend of 28th and 29th May, coming in first place in the 200m sprint in the Over-85s division, in a time of 69.83 seconds.

When he joined Bray Runners last year, Seamus so impressed the coaches that they suggested he take part in the National Masters Track & Field Championships, which he did, winning two Gold Medals in the 100m and 400m races in

the M80 Category last autumn.

It was an especially proud weekend for Bray Runners Athletics Club last week, as members Anna Watson and Niamh Murray both won gold medals and set new Championship records in the Junior Women's 1500m (4:41.86) and Junior Women's 400m (55.46 secs) events respective-

ly. Also, in only her second ever Senior Women's 800m race, Antonia Vitori, also from Bray Runners, won Bronze with a time of 2:23.61.

Originally from Tullow, Co. Carlow, Seamus has lived in Bray for some time and trains with Bray Runners Athletics Club. Seamus has always been interested in sport,

and played hurling and Minor football in his native Tullow in the 1950s, where he was part of the 1961 and 1963 Junior Hurling Championship winning teams.

He was also Club Secretary of Erin's Own GAA Club in Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow. In the 1980s, Seamus got into running, joining Dundrum

Athletics Club and competing in his first marathon in 1981. He took part in eight marathons over the next four years and kept improving - his finish time going from 3:54 in his first one to 3:05 in his last. He continued to run into his 70s and survived a brush with Cancer in 2014.

Now, Seamus is turning his attention to competing at the World Masters Track and Field Championships in Tampere, Finland in June, in the 100m and 200m events.



Seamus Mallin

Beach clean-ups in North Wicklow to mark World Ocean Day

World Ocean Day (8th June 2022) is celebrated across the globe and is shaping up to be the most impactful yet with activities, celebrations, and other events planned throughout the month of June.

Thousands of events are expected, hosted by youth groups, schools, aquariums, zoos, and businesses in 150 countries. Co Wicklow is not to be left behind, with Clean Coasts North Wicklow North Wicklow organising beach clean-ups to mark this day.

Clean Coasts co-ordinator Cllr Lourda Scott said: "For 2022, World Ocean Day is raising awareness for the global movement to protect at least 30% of the world's ocean by 2030 (30x30)."

This action can help ensure a healthy ocean and climate. Locally we can take our own actions right now by helping to keep our beaches clean. After visiting our coast we should "leave no trace" by bringing our rubbish home and remembering to pick up after our dogs and bin it. You can join in an organised beach clean or do a quick 2 minute litter pick anytime yourself. By taking these small actions we can help to have a big impact on the health of our ocean."

Clean Coasts North Wicklow are teaming up with Junior Tidy Towns Greystones with a beach clean on June 8th, South Beach 3 - 5pm (meeting by the Arch near the playground) and in Kilcoole June 10th 5 - 6.30pm (meeting in Kilcoole Rail Station car park). Families are welcome.

Monthly clean-ups continue on the last Sunday of every month. See Facebook for details or call 087 9867532



Green Party councillor Lourda Scott on Greystones South Beach



Caitlyn McAllister shining up her car at the Powerscourt Parish Veteran Vintage and Classic Car Show

Grants for creative community projects

A new grant scheme to support community activity as part of the Creative Ireland Programme 2018-2022 has been announced by Wicklow County Council's Culture & Creative Team. Applications are now invited by closing date of Friday 24th June.

Wicklow County Council seeks to support community projects that communicate and celebrate aspects of Wicklow People, Place and Topics in creative and innovative ways in keeping with the aims of the Creative Ireland programme.

Projects that effectively capture and showcase the richness of County Wicklow's culture, heritage, nature and history in a wide variety of formats and to a range of audiences will be favoured. Projects outputs may include a wide range of formats such as podcasts, video/film, exhibition, trails, oral recordings, publications, interpretive signage or a mixture of these.

This fund is open to not-for-profit organisations, local community groups, arts, heritage and cultural groups, venues and societies. Applications by individuals must be in partnership with a community, cultural or heritage group.

The nominal amount of funding to any one project will typically be between €500 and €2,500 and applications received will be assessed based on an agreed selection criterion.

Mr Michael Nicholson, Director of Services for Community, Cultural and Social Development, said: "Wicklow County Council aims to place creativity and culture at the heart of communities throughout Wicklow, recognising that creativity provides us with a strategy for individual wellbeing, social cohesion and economic success".

The Creative Wicklow Fund 2022 is being administered by Wicklow County Council and will be evaluated by the Council's Culture Team. Closing date for receipt of applications is Friday 24th June. Applications must be made online, visit <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Arts-Heritage-Archives/Creative-Ireland-Wicklow/Creative-Wicklow-Grant-Scheme-2022> for the application link and further information.

All queries via email to either wicklowheritage@wicklowcoco.ie or to wao@wicklowcoco.ie. To speak with a member of Wicklow County Council's Culture & Creative Team contact Deirdre Burns, Heritage Officer, or Catherine Wright, Archives; T: 0404 20100 or Arts Office T: 0404 20155



At the recent BIFE Graduate Show were Alana, Laura, Leelah, Course coordinator Annette Vella, Olivia, Josh and Penny. Pic: Joe McQuillan

Arts Council announces €375,000 for Creative Places Baltinglass

The people of Baltinglass will benefit from an investment programme to develop and sustain new creative opportunities for all age groups.

The Arts Council has expanded its Creative Places programme nationally and a successful application was led by Wicklow County Council in partnership with local community development organisations in Baltinglass and West Wicklow.

The opportunity was open to places which had not benefitted from sustained arts investment in the past. It will build upon existing cultural strengths in the town to create a new momentum which will ensure more people in the town can choose, take part in and benefit from brilliant arts experiences. Baltinglass, will be one of 12 places who are now part of the expanded national Creative Places programme, which includes small towns, urban areas, rural and island communities.

Director of the Arts Council, Maureen Kennelly said, "We are delighted to be awarding Creative Places Baltinglass; it is not a place where we have not been able to invest before and it is very important to us that public investment in the arts reaches and benefits more people in a sustained and meaningful way. We are very excited to see how the people of Baltinglass will respond to what matters to them most, and we look forward to working further with the community and Wicklow County Council".

Reacting to the announcement, Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council Shay Cullen said "The community of Baltinglass is extremely excited to have received this investment through the Arts Council's Creative Places programme. The amount of investment is unprecedented and will be really well received. The application was well supported by the community and voluntary sector from the area who will now work collaboratively with Wicklow County Council and the agencies to ensure the initiative will have maximum impact."

Over the summer the programme will be getting established, a coordinator will be appointed and conversations with the community will get underway.

To keep in touch with how the project develops, the programme will be managed by Wicklow Arts Office, Jenny Sherwin jsherwin@wicklowcoco.ie

Free drama workshops for teens

To celebrate Cruinniú na nÓg - A Day of Free Creativity for Young People - Making Waves Youth Theatre is hosting two dynamic, fun and free drama workshops for teens who'd like to find out what theatre making is all about.

It's taking place at The Rise, Coolnagreina, Trafalgar Road, Greystones on Saturday, 11th June, 10am and 1.30pm.

It's aimed at young people aged 14-18. Contact youththeatre.greystones@gmail.com or phone Joanne O'Shea on (089) 412 9272.

These taster workshops will include concentration and communication games, fun improvisation and a range of other activities. You'll also get to meet and interact with Making Waves' current members, who will welcome you into this inclusive and



non-competitive group, where you can be yourself, express yourself creatively and most importantly of all, have lots of fun. No experience is necessary to join!

Founded in 2018, Making Waves Youth Theatre is a non-profit, inclusive community drama group for teens aged 14-18. We hold weekly workshops and have staged a number of productions at the Whale Theatre, Greystones.

Line-up announced for Garageland Galaxy Wicklow at Cruinniú Na Nóg 2022

Young Wicklow bands and performers are to be given a stage for their talents in a unique partnership between Wicklow County Council, Garageland and Creative Ireland, and supported by RTÉ.

Taking place at the North Beach Skate Park in Arklow on Saturday, June 11th, this event is as part of Cruinniú na nÓg 2022. Garageland Galaxy Wicklow, which supports the performance and creativity of young musicians while putting them on stage alongside experienced artists in the environment of a festival, will take place in eight separate locations around the country at the same place on the same day, all broadcasting live on multiple platforms.

In a first of its kind, this ambitious project seeks to connect hundreds of young artists and performers in a way that has never been seen before in Ireland, with live stages in Arklow, Castleblaney, Kerry, Tipperary, Waterford, Donegal, Meath and Dublin.

All stages go live at 12pm until 5.30pm on Saturday, 11th June alongside a live and pre-recorded 12-hour broadcast from www.garageland.ie across multiple platforms.

Wicklow's line-up of young artists includes Florence Road, Fionn Vigors, Róisín Vigors, Ewan Macadam,

Kingdom, Bobby Dowling and Aoife Reilly with more to be announced.

In addition, there will be workshops with The Beardfire Project and special guests Crispr Kid.

Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr Shay Cullen, said he was happy that Arklow will be hosting such an ambitious festival for children and young people and that "this event will give our young artists first-hand experience of performing live in front of an in-person and online audience which helps to showcase the immense talent within County Wicklow."

Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council, Mr Brian Gleeson, also stated that he is excited to see such range in musical ability and styles. "For the first time, young Wicklow artists will feature alongside seven other counties in this national strategic project thanks to the support of Creative Ireland."

This event is free to the public, and tickets for the Wicklow event are available on eventbrite.ie by searching for: garageland galaxy wicklow

Find the 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 ss Stewart@wicklowcoco.ie or on 0404 20100 ext 4910

Say Cheese! Make your own camera

Courthouse Arts Centre, workshops for children aged 5-12, Sat 11th June



In the Courthouse Arts Centre garden under an orange tent, you will create your very own Polaroid camera to capture portraits and create collage photos.

This one-hour workshop will be a junk model-making session to explore Polaroid cameras and collaged photographs, which can be hand-pushed out of the cardboard camera.

Come along and work your creative magic to create unique cameras and photos that can capture:

- Your alter-ego
- Your spirit animal
- Your inner cartoon character

These workshops will be loads of fun and plenty of imagination will be required to create one-off 'photos'. Places are limited so booking is essential and please arrive 10 minutes early for registration on the day of the event.

If it is a sunny day, please bring water, a hat and apply sunscreen before attending. In the event of a rainy day, the event will take place inside The Courthouse.

Suitable for ages 5-12.

Workshop 1: 10am-11am

Workshop 2: 11.30am - 12.30pm



Kieran Fitzgerald and Ella Forde at the Rathdangan Drama Group's comedy play 'Nobody's Talking to Me' at Rathdangan Community Hall.

Anna Newell Theatre Adventures presents: Still Here

Mermaid Arts Centre, WEDNESDAY 13th & THURSDAY 14th June, 12:30 pm
€8 adults / €5 children - Book through Box Office on 01 272 4030

A wordless physical theatre piece with a unique musical score played live on baroque guitars, *Still Here* is a quirky playful exploration of the journey from restriction, suspicion and fear to collaboration and celebration, gently exploring some of the feelings of the last couple of years and our changing times.

Presented as part of the 2022 Network For Extraordinary Audiences programme (www.extraordinaryaudiences.com) and funded by Arts Council of Ireland, *Still Here* was originally commissioned by South County Dublin Arts Office & Ruaille Buaille Children's Festival. This show is aimed at children aged 3-6. Duration: 28 mins



Wordless theatre piece *Still Here* can be seen at the Mermaid Arts Centre on June 13th and 14th

'Nursesey' by Aoife Martyn

Whale Theatre, Saturday 18th June, 8pm
(doors 7pm).

Tickets €18/€15 and available at
www.whaletheatre.ie or call the booking
office on 01 2010550 to book.

Nursesey is a highly physical and comedic, one woman-show set in a 1970s Dublin hospital.

'Nursesey' is an overzealous, young nurse from the West of Ireland who leaves the loving embrace of her Mayo home to fulfil her destiny by healing the sick, the sad and the destitute of Dublin. This vigorous, multifaceted, hilarious play written and performed by Aoife Martyn puts the duality of the nursing profession under the microscope in all its catastrophic and uplifting glory.

Duration: 75 Minutes (No interval)



Member opportunity at Signal Arts Centre

At the recent Signal Arts Centre committee meeting, it was decided that the artist "Show and Tell" events would take place on a monthly basis going forward.

With this in mind, Signal would like to extend an invitation for artist members to get in touch to avail of this fantastic opportunity to promote their practice.

This may be of especial interest to members who have an upcoming exhibition at Signal (or elsewhere) and would like to promote it. Please note, that having an upcoming exhibition is not requisite! This opportunity is free of charge

See www.signalartscentre.ie or call 01-276-2039.



Artwork from (above left) Janny Petters' Show and Tell Event and (above right) Myra Jago's Show and Tell Event

Inspired by Light: An Exhibition By Khatuna Petsyukha

Signal Arts Centre, Monday, 15th August to
Sunday 28th August

Khatuna Petsyukha is a local artist based in Dublin, working primarily in oil and mixed media. This exhibition represents the ever-changing character of nature, cityscapes and us, the inhabitants.

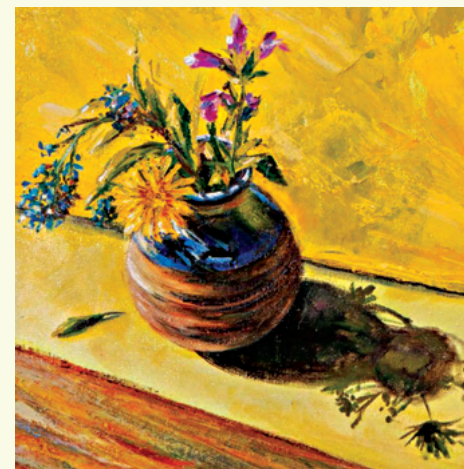
A dedicated life watcher and an intrinsic explorer, Khatuna's true passion is about researching and reflecting on the surrounding space, people and elements, noticing all the details and feeling the colours, shades and ultimately the light.

Could something be as simple and at the same time as complex, as light? We can see it, yet can't touch. We may not even notice it during the day but we quickly realise when it's gone. Sun, moon, clouds, natural surfaces and man-made objects – all together generate, reflect, cast, absorb and share light. Shades, colours and glare around us are purely magical. Isn't it worth getting on canvas? The very present moment will never be repeated. And

the light allows us to see it as is, fully and clearly.

Khatuna had moved to Ireland in 2016 and graduated from NCAD in 2021, though she had earlier collected degrees and certificates in art, music, medicine and psychology. Khatuna has

been working as a professional artist since 2014. She is a professional member of Visual Arts Ireland, Greystones Art Group, Dublin Art Society and Signal Arts Center. Her works can be found in private collections across Europe.



Slipped, Fell and Smacked My Face Off The Dance Floor

A live site-specific performance By Lisa Freeman on 10th, 11th, 17th, 18th June. On a loop from 1-4pm each day.

Lisa Freeman's new scripted performance work features actors, a saxophone player and a significant location: the once-busy sea bathing pool at Naylor's Cove, Bray.

Drawing on the town's history as a site of leisure and respite, this work positions the human body in this now-defunct site of relaxation. The actors create intimate moments of dialogue in this public space, where the script touches on ideas of therapeutic infrastructures, tourism and the body as an archive.

These moments are woven through this site of failed architecture, set to a live musical score performed by a saxophone player. This project stems from Freeman's research

into sites of failed and poorly designed civic architecture, and how these sites can negatively impact our health, identity and leisure pursuits. "I'm interested in the work travelling through different moments in time, bringing bodily felt experiences from other times into the present," she says. "My research across memory, politics and place is often informed and driven by experiences, feelings and emotions relating to the body. In my performances, I work with mul-

tiples actors and musicians to deliver site-responsive dialogue, choreography and sounds. My scripts often allude to inner sensory change and provoke questions about wider issues of change across natural and built environments."

About Naylor's Cove

Naylor's Cove has a long history as swimming destination and is located just below the start of the popular Bray to Greystones cliff walk.

The Cove was named

after local fisherman and boat builder Bart Naylor, who

leased the land from Town Commissioners in the 1870s. He erected bathing boxes and a small pier, and the spot became a popular sea bathing spot. It fell into disrepair following Naylor's death in the First World War, but was revived in the 1930s when Bray Urban Council built small children's swimming pool.

The spot became so popular that three further sea pools were built, and it remained busy until the advent of the package holiday in the late 1960s. In 2011, Bray Municipal Council* removed the then derelict remaining structures leaving it in the condition it is in today.

Lisa Freeman works across scripted performance, moving image, text and sculptural installation. She investigates content from archival material, mainstream media and local knowledge to explore representation and precarious economies of labour. Through employing intimacy as a form of resistance, she aims to reveal social anxieties along with deeper economic and power structures.



Lisa Freeman at Naylor's Cove (above), and old postcards of Naylor's Cove. Imagery courtesy of the artist



Wicklow students win top prizes in Texaco children's art competition

Two Wicklow students have won top prizes in this year's 68th Texaco Children's Art Competition.

They were Aidan Bolger (16), from Colaiste Bhríde, Carnew, for his work entitled 'We Have Been Warned (David Attenborough)', and Sadhbh Kilpatrick (13) from Temple Carrig School, Greystones, for her untitled work.

Both were winners of Special Merit Awards for artworks that Final Adjudicator, Professor Gary Granville said "displayed high levels of skill and creativity."

The Texaco Children's Art Competition is popularly

regarded as the longest-running sponsorship in the history of arts sponsoring in Ireland, with an unbroken history that dates back to the very first Competition held in 1955.

This year, as has been the case throughout its life, it has been a platform on which young artists from Wicklow and counties throughout Ireland have had their talents recognised and their creativity commended.

From 31st May to 30th June, Belfast's Royal Ulster Academy of Arts is hosting an exhibition of the top 126 winning paintings in this year's Competition. Admission is free and the Academy is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9am-5pm.



Above left, portrait of David Attenborough by Aidan Bolger from Colaiste Bhríde, Carnew, and right, an untitled work by Sadhbh Kilpatrick from Temple Carrig School.

Food for Thought

An Exhibition by Little Bray Family Resource Centre at Signal Arts Centre, June 7th - 19th



Writers' Group at Little Bray Family Resource Centre

Food for Thought is a collection of written pieces by the Little Bray Creative Writers Group who meet regularly in the Resource Centre in Fassaroe.

They reflect the multiplicity of talents in the group plus age and experience. Highly talented, these writers have gained the wisdom of mature years and bring their gems of creativity and experience to you.

The exhibition will also feature the artwork of our Porcelain Painters Group who meet weekly in the Resource Centre. They have been decorating pieces of porcelain (can be anything from a plate to a teapot or anything else) for many years and enjoy each others' company and the peace of leaving the world outside the door to bring out their inner creativity.

You will leave with plenty of 'Food for Thought'! All are welcome to attend.

PLANNING
PLANNING

New Brockagh Digital Hub officially opened

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

We, Eoin MacMahon & Karen MacMahon, intend to apply for permission for development at this site: Ithaca, Herbert Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow, A98 D427. The development will consist of: (1) The demolition of the existing sheds to the rear of the existing house. (2) The relocation of the existing vehicular gate on Herbert Road. (3) The provision of a new single-storey, four-bedroom house to the rear of the existing house. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours. A submission/observation may be made on payment of €20 within a period of 5 weeks from the date the application is received by the planning authority.

A new Digital Hub was officially opened at the Brockagh Centre in Laragh on Thursday 26th May.



Stephen Kearon and John Byrne at the opening of the Brockagh Digital Hub

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Sarah-Jane & Fergus Brown seek permission for the conversion of the existing attic space to new storage space (Non-Habitable Status), 3 no. rooflights to the front of the house, 1 no. rooflight to the side of the house, new stairs & all associated works at 55 Glenheron Park, Greystones, Co. Wicklow, A63 FD72. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

John Langan seeks permission for the conversion of the existing attic space to new storage space (Non-Habitable Status), 3 no. rooflights to the front of the house, new stairs & all associated works at 57 Glenheron Park, Greystones, Co. Wicklow, A63 F951. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Kevin & Salley Bell seek permission for the conversion of the existing attic space to new storage space (Non-Habitable Status), 3 no. rooflights to the front of the house, new stairs & all associated works at 7 Glenheron Park, Greystones, Co. Wicklow, A63 X624. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Full Planning Permission Sought for:
1. Change of opening hours under Planning Permission 20/1039, Condition No.2 'The hours of operation shall be between 08.00 hours and 18.00 hours' to 08.00 hours to 20.00 hours for Thursday, Friday and Saturdays at No. 7 & 8, Albert Tce, Meath Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow. A98 XW13 & A98 W188.
Signed: Meabh Kilroy
The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

We Stephen and Siobhan Maguire seek permission for a single and a two storey extension at the rear and at the side of the dwelling, including altering the existing ground floor front window to form a bay window and to extend outwards the hallway and front door at the front of the dwelling at 47, Hollybrook Park, Bray Co. Wicklow A98HK18. 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 of €20 within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Caitlin & Barry Kelly seek permission for the conversion of the existing attic space to new storage space (Non-Habitable Status), 3 no. rooflights to the front of the house, new stairs & all associated works at 4 Glenheron Park, Greystones, Co. Wicklow, A63 H963. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

Chairperson Cormac O'Sullivan said the new hub is another cog in the ever-turning wheel at the Brockagh Centre.

Speaking at the opening, Manager of the Brockagh Centre Storm Pyper said "The Brockagh Centre is very proud to announce the launch of its remote working Digital Hub. Nestled in the scenic village of Laragh with stunning views of the Glendalough Valley, the Brockagh Hub will provide the local and wider community a place to work remotely.

"Since taking over as Manager of the Brockagh Centre in March of this year my main focus has been the completion and launch of our remote working digital hub. Our hub will officially open for business on Monday May 30th.

"We have daily, weekly and monthly rates available so whether you are a sole trader or working for a larger organisation we have a desk to suit all needs. The centre provides

high speed broadband, desks in a shared space with various meeting rooms available to suit all business needs.

"The Brockagh Centre has been in operation for 21 years now and we believe our new hub will add another successful string to our bow. Our hubs mission is to meet the diverse needs of professionals living throughout the local and wider wicklow area and we are excited to finally open our hub door."

Senator Pat Casey performed the honours of officially opening the centre saying "I am proud to open the new Digital Hub, as I was here 21 years ago when the Centre first opened. I would like to remember the people who are no longer with us, who believed and worked hard to make the Centre the success it has been, it is our duty to carry on the great work into the future with this state-of-the-art hub, we have a great team here who are very proud of the Centre.



Claire and Finian McEvoy at the official opening of the Brockagh Digital Hub

"It's open to anyone from Wicklow or south Dublin. The Brockagh Centre is very centrally based in Laragh, so we have a good catchment area. The new digital hub will be useful for people

who are working remotely, especially if they have issues with their connectivity. Individuals can rent desks or companies can so their staff will be able to just walk in and start working. The Centre

would also be ideal for anyone involved in the film industry who need fast upload speeds when filming locally, or creative people in the county who need to upload without any delays."



Senator Pat Casey cuts the ribbon to officially open the Brockagh Digital Hub.

Greystones social entrepreneur receives SEI Impact Award for grief education programme

Greystones based social entrepreneur Liz Gleeson, founder of Shapes of Grief received the Social Entrepreneurs Ireland Impact Award at an event in Dublin.

Shapes of Grief provides comprehensive grief education and resources to individuals, mental health professionals and healthcare workers, and there are currently over 300 grief-trained professionals as a result of the programme. The programme's accompanying podcast has been listened to over 150,000 times. Shapes of Grief was one of five organisations to win a place on the SEI Impact Programme in August 2021 after the programme drew more than 110 applications from all corners of Ireland. Liz has plans to significantly grow the numbers of people accessing this training programme in Ireland and abroad.

The SEI Impact Programme is a nine-month accelerator programme that identifies high-potential social entrepreneurs and supports them through significant funding and mentoring, as well as providing access to a network of support. The 2021-2022 Impact Awardees received training in areas such as fundraising, governance, leadership, and storytelling, in addition to €20,000 in direct, unrestricted funding.

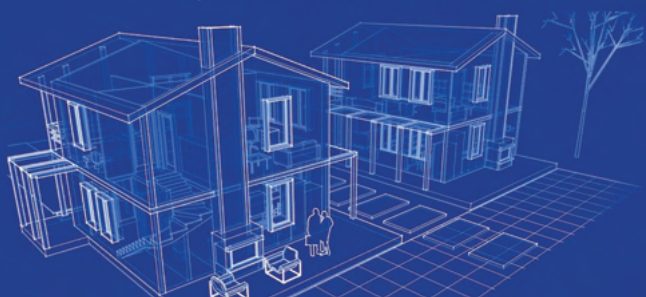
Since its foundation in 2004, Social Entrepreneurs Ireland has supported more than 500 social entrepreneurs across the country to move from idea to action and develop solutions that are transforming Ireland's approach to social problems. Alumni of SEI include AsIAm, the Irish Men's Sheds Association, FoodCloud, Grow Remote, jumpAgrade, Ó Cualann and The Shona Project.



Liz Gleeson

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Garden designer and floreal artist awarded at Bloom

On the opening morning of Bord Bia Bloom in the Phoenix Park in Dublin, Enniskerry garden designer Robert Moore was awarded a silver medal for his Enable Ireland Respite Garden at the much-loved flower, family and food festival. Also from Wicklow, in the Botanical and Floral Art Exhibition, Lynn Stringer from Kilcoole was awarded a gold medal for her work, 'Making Hay'.



Kerrie Gardiner, Bord Bia Bloom showgarden manager, Robert Moore Wicklow garden designer and Tara McCarthy, Bord Bia CEO.

This is Robert's second show garden at Bord Bia Bloom. He was awarded a Silver Gilt medal and won the People's Choice Award for his garden in the 2019 show. Planting in the garden is inspired by the rural setting of Rathmore House in Wicklow, which provides respite for Enable Ireland's adult service owners.

Mike Neary, Director of Horticulture, Bord Bia said "As Bord Bia Bloom returns as an in-person event for the first time in three years, we are hugely encouraged by the calibre of new horticultural talent emerging alongside some of our incredibly creative and experienced show garden designers. The judges were hugely impressed by the attention to detail, quality of planting and sense of atmosphere created in this year's displays. For many, more time spent at home over the last two years has resulted in a new-found appreciation for our outdoor spaces as we realised the benefits of gardening for our mental and physical wellbeing. This year's gardens embrace this trend and celebrate the role of the garden as a place for relaxing and connecting with nature, while also providing an engaging outdoor room to entertain friends and connect with family."

Mike Neary, Director of Horticulture, Bord Bia said "As Bord Bia Bloom returns as an in-person event for the first time in three years, we are hugely encouraged by the calibre of new horticultural talent emerging alongside some of our incredibly creative and experienced show garden designers. The judges were hugely impressed by the attention to detail, quality of planting and sense of atmosphere created in this year's displays."

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Zara Cooke enjoying some ice-cream at the Powerscourt Parish Veteran, Vintage and Classic Car Show in Enniskerry

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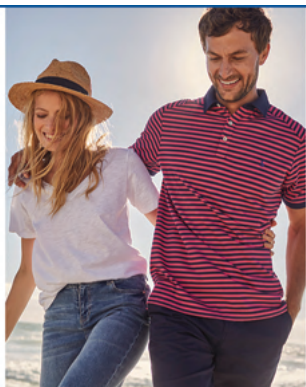
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