

NATIONAL PARK
Page 4



FIREFIGHTERS
Page 7



MURROUGH EROSION
Page 10

Delivered to 44,500
homes & businesses

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

Tuesday 12th September 2023, First Floor, The Boulevard, Quinsborough Road, Bray. A98 R6D7. Tel: 01 - 2869111 E-mail: wicklowed@localtimes.ie www.wicklowtimes.net

'SUFFER LITTLE CHILDREN'

The start to the school year in County Wicklow has been described as 'shambolic' and 'disgraceful' with opposition public representatives saying the Minister for Education has been 'missing in action' and calling for her resignation.

Parents and school principals have been in contact with Wicklow Times telling stories of school transport failing to turn up and failure by the Department to approve Special Needs Assistants (SNAs) for the most vulnerable of students. In many cases not even replying to requests sent in to them at the start of the summer.

Independent councillor and former school principal Joe Behan said

"The shocking treatment of vulnerable young children and teenagers who have special education and care needs has been laid bare this week. As school life returns, so also does the cold and callous neglect of the most basic care needs of these young citizens of our country. The Special Needs Assistant scheme has been one of the most enlightened successes of our education system and these wonderful

people do magnificent work in providing basic care for pupils who need it to access education successfully.

"However, it is clear to me that here in County Wicklow, many of these young citizens and their parents and families have been cruelly deprived of rightful access to an SNA because of deep disfunction and disarray within the National Council for Special Education.



Laoise and Allanah Murphy and Grace Howard at the Newcastle Colour Run in aid of Will's Playground. The fundraising campaign is for a new playground for St. Francis National School in memory of former pupil Will Leeson. Pic: Michael Kelly

FAIRFIELD

GREYSTONES

Spacious 3 Bed Duplexes
and 2 Bed Apartments with
Exceptional Finishes Throughout

• OPEN VIEWING •
Saturday 16th September, 11 - 1pm

FAIRFIELDGREYSTONES.IE

dng.ie **DNG** NEW HOMES (01) 491 2600

DURKAN BER A3

"This Government organisation, through its Special Education Needs Organisers (SENO), is meant to be the body which provides the support to families in accessing the care supports their children and young teenage sons and daughters need. However, it has failed hugely in this task and has become unfit for purpose.

"Right across County Wicklow, I am aware that many School Principals are completely frustrated with the difficulties in getting successful responses from SENOs when they apply for SNA support for children who have recently entered the school or whose needs have only recently been determined.

"In addition, the SENO service appears to have been cut back in County Wicklow as, according to their web-

site, there is not one SENO based in our county now. Our children must wait to hear from County Wexford if they are to get the care support they need.

"School principals have been put in the appalling situation of distributing smaller numbers of SNAs among larger number of pupils with special educational and care needs. This has a knock on effect on every other child in the school and makes impossible every school's aim which is to help every pupil achieve their full human potential.

"We urgently need our Government Ministers of Higher Education and Health, Ministers Harris and Donnelly, to take full responsibility for the appalling distress being caused to these young pupils and their families. They need to

address publicly why the system has broken down on their watch and

what are they going to do about it. The people of County Wicklow

deserve better than this." *Continued on page 3*

PRESENTATION COLLEGE

- Bray, Co. Wicklow -

You are INVITED to an
OPEN EVENING
on Thursday September 21st
5.30-7.30pm

After the welcome from the Principal you will have a wonderful opportunity to meet Teachers and Students past & present and also to get a tour of the first class facilities. Refreshments will be served to Parents and Primary School students on the night

See you all on the 21st!



Derek Byrne and Sinead Walsh at the open house viewing to mark the launch of the second phase of the new Chancel Way development in Newcastle.

Recovery month

The Bray Community Addiction Team (BCAT) is celebrating Recovery Month throughout September at 12pm. The next events will be a Bake Off on Friday 15th September (venue to be confirmed). There will be baking, chats, fun, a guest judge and a prize for the winner. For more information Email: info@beat.ie/ www.beat.ie or call 01 2764692.

Anam Cara meeting

Anam Cara's monthly meeting for bereaved parents will take place on Monday 18th September in the Parkview Hotel, Newtownmountkennedy, from 7:30pm to 9pm. Anam Cara Wicklow offers a safe and comfortable setting in which parents who have lost a child have the opportunity to meet with others who understand what they're going through. This is a free event open to all bereaved parents, regardless of the age of their child when they died or the circumstances of their death. Professional facilitator will be Shirley Brennan. To fund out more call 085 2888 888 or email info@anamcara.ie.

La Touche Festival of History

La Touche Legacy in association with Greystones Archaeological and Historical Society have announced the 8th Festival of History - 33rd

La Touche Legacy Weekend, "Social Discourse of the 20th Century in Ireland", taking place from Friday 15th - Saturday 16th September 2023 in Greystones Golf Club, Whitshed Road. For bookings call Kay Coughlan at Greystones Municipal District Office (01 2876694 or Email Greystonesmd@wicklowcoco.ie. There will be fascinating history talks over the weekend, on such topics as 'The Early Irish Census Records in the Public Record Office of Ireland', 'Irish Horse Racing and the La Touche Connection', 'Parnell Country? A Picture of Wicklow on the Eve of the Revolutionary Period, 1912', Ireland (and Wicklow) in 3D; Stereoscopic Travel Photography at the Turn of the Century', 'Ireland (and Wicklow) in 3D: Stereoscopic Travel Photography at the Turn of the Century', 'Was There an Irish Revolution?'.

West Wicklow Historical Society

The upcoming lecture organised by the West Wicklow Historical Society is taking place on Tuesday 12th September at 8pm. Yvonne Whitty will give a talk on Early Medieval Burial in Ireland - Excavation at Moneycarroll. On Thursday 25 March 2021, three burials were discovered at Moneycarroll, Newtownmountkennedy, while construction work was underway for a housing development. These discoveries are of immense importance both locally and regionally, offering valuable insights into burial rituals and beliefs during the early medieval period, a time of significant social change in Ireland.

Yvonne Whitty, based in Tinahely, is a licensed archaeologist since 2005. She was involved in the Preban Graveyard Archaeological Projects in the 2010s.

Most recently she was appointed Wicklow Community Archaeologist, in an initiative to provide professional archaeological services to groups throughout the county.

The lecture will be held in the Lalor Centre (W91 XW57) near St. Joseph's Church in Baltinglass.

Admission is €5 (non members €8).

Clarification: Aughrim defibrillator campaign

In the 5th September issue of Wicklow Times, Page 2, a notice appeared about a GoFundMe fundraising campaign for a defibrillator in Aughrim. It has been brought to our attention that the campaign in question is for Aughrim in Co. Galway and not Aughrim in Co. Wicklow. We regret any mixup or confusion.

New website showcases greenway projects

Wicklow County Council has launched a new website, www.WicklowGreenways.ie dedicated to providing comprehensive information on three upcoming Wicklow Greenway projects.

This user-friendly online platform aims to engage and inform residents, visitors, and cycling enthusiasts about the exciting developments in Wicklow's outdoor recreational infrastructure.

The new website will serve as a central hub for all things related to the three forthcoming Wicklow Greenway projects: the Blessington eGreenway, the Arklow to Shillelagh Greenway and the Wicklow to Greystones Greenway.

While these transformative projects are at various stages of planning, they hold great potential to enhance the county's connectivity, promote sustainable tourism and encourage a healthy lifestyle. The website offers an ideal platform to keep the public informed and engaged as the projects progress.

Visitors to www.WicklowGreenways.ie will find a wealth of information about each greenway, including detailed maps, project timelines and key features that make them unique. The website will also feature updates on



Pictured at the launch of the Wicklow greenways website are: L/R - Michael Nicholson, Breege Kilkenny, Caroline Fox, Cllr Aoife Flynn Kennedy, Cathaoirleach, Wicklow County Council; Emer O'Gorman, Chief Executive, Wicklow County Council and Sheena Hubbard.

planning progress, upcoming events, and opportunities for public feedback and participation.

Speaking about the launch of the website Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr Aoife Flynn Kennedy, highlighted the positive impact the Greenways will have on the local economy, saying: "These Greenway projects hold great promise for boosting tourism in Wicklow. We believe that they will encourage residents and visitors alike to embrace the outdoors,

fostering a healthier and happier community in Wicklow."

Emer O'Gorman, Chief Executive, Wicklow County Council, stated: "The new website is an important milestone in our efforts to establish Wicklow as a premier destination for Greenway enthusiasts. While these projects are at various planning stages, we believe that showcasing their potential will generate excitement and encourage community engagement. We encourage everyone to visit the web-

site and stay updated on the progress."

Michael Nicholson, Director of Service, Wicklow County Council, added: "We are dedicated to creating opportunities for people to connect with nature and lead active lifestyles, in line with Wicklow County Council's goals set out in the Wicklow Outdoor Recreation Strategy. The Wicklow Greenways projects, even in their early planning stages, play a significant role in achieving these goals."



SSE Renewables recently supported Arklow Community Action Resource Centre with a donation to its food bank. Deirdre Keogh, Community Engagement Manager at SSE Renewables said: "SSE Renewables' Sponsorship Fund welcomed the opportunity to support an application made by Arklow Community Action Resource Centre towards its food bank appeal. The Centre seeks to help those who are experiencing difficulties and may need help be it temporarily, or in the more medium-term. We trust that our support will be useful in helping those who may need assistance from Arklow Community Action Resource Centre."

WICKLOW
LOCAL Times

is published by Wicklow Times,
First Floor, The Boulevard, Quinsborough Road, Bray. A98 R6D7. Tel: 01-2869111

Shay Fitzmaurice, Managing Editor - shay@localtimes.ie

Ian Colgan, News Editor - ian@localtimes.ie

Sales / General enquiries - info@localtimes.ie

BRAY
ACMEblinds Vevay Rd, Bray



- Free Fitting
- Free Measuring
- Free In Home Advice & Design Service
- No Obligation Quote

12 Month Guarantee on ALL Blinds

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

Plans for Ukrainian homes rejected

Councillors last week voted to reject plans for homes for Ukrainians in West Wicklow, citing a lack of consultation and concerns over the process by which the sites were selected.

Two disposal notices for separate sites in Baltinglass and Dunlavin came before councillors, which if passed would have allowed for the construction of modular homes specifically for Ukrainians, in a three-year lease agreement with the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration & Youth. The construction of the homes would be managed by the Office of Public Works (OPW) under an EU directive.

In April 2022 the Council was requested by the Government to identify suitable sites for the development of housing as part of the humanitarian response to the arrival of Ukrainian refugees in Ireland. As part of the criteria, the sites had to be Council land that was not zoned for housing. WCC identified five sites in Blessington, Dunlavin, Baltinglass, Carnew and Barnarrig, and the sites in Baltinglass and Dunlavin were ultimately selected.

Joe Lane, Director of Services in the Council's Housing Section, said "there was a lot of urgency at the time, we had medium-term solutions such as the adaption of buildings for emergency accommodation, and then the long-term solution

was to attempt to put modular homes in place and to identify sites for these. We had a timeframe of just two weeks to identify the sites, and these were the sites we had on our radar at the time which satisfied the criteria."

Speaking at last week's meeting, Cllr Edward Timmins raised a number of issues, saying that there were "fundamental flaws in how this whole process was conducted".

He said, "The first we knew about these possible sites was when we spotted diggers on the site last December. I asked the Council about what other potential sites were considered and was told very specifically that there were no other sites available that weren't zoned for housing."

"However, the Council own sites that are not zoned for housing all over the county. I did something I never did before in my 19 years in the Council, I put in a Freedom of Information request and I asked what sites do Wicklow County Council own. I got back a massive list of 137 sites that were greater than 4.5 acres. And the reason I picked 4.5 acres was because that was the size of the site at Baltinglass. Of those 137 sites, there

were 20 or 30 sites that certainly could have been considered. So the process was flawed from the start and we were misled. I felt I was treated with contempt and my fellow councillors were treated with contempt."

Cllr Timmins also made the point that during the County Development Plan process in early 2022 he had proposed that the Baltinglass site be zoned for a sports centre, due to a lack of sports facilities in the area.

"It was agreed unanimously, by all members, to put this zoning in for a possible sports centre. This was early 2022, before the Council received the letter," he said. "Obviously it wasn't ratified under the Council Development Plan that was finalised in October 2022, but it was there. It was flagged."

Cllr Timmins said that perhaps the Council didn't realise the site was zoned for a sports centre at the time they submitted the list of potential sites to the Department, but that nevertheless "to submit that as a possible site for modular homes was totally inappropriate given there's no sports centre in the town. This was a badly needed facility not just for Baltinglass, but for the wider Wicklow area."

With regards to the Dunlavin site, Cllr Timmins also questioned its selection, citing the lack of public transport which serves the village: "Dunlavin is really, really poorly served infrastructure wise. There is no CIE bus that goes through Dunlavin. Dunlavin is completely off the beaten track. It is one of the most poorly served villages from a public infrastructure point of view. How it was selected is beyond me."

The Dunlavin site is zoned for industrial use with plans for a fire station, and also a petrol station which the village currently lacks.

Speaking on the matter Cllr John Mullen said "What we are being asked to do undermines what has been an excellent response by both the staff in this building, the members of this Council, and more importantly, the people of Wicklow in welcoming and accommodating and integrating as best we can Ukrainian families fleeing from war. West Wicklow is the most rural district in the county and has the second highest accommodation of Ukrainians. That says a lot about the people of West Wicklow's commitment. But this has



Shauna Maher at the Vintage Car and Family Day in Avondale Forest Park.

been poorly thought out." Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council, Emer O'Gorman, explained: "The people of Ukraine are fleeing a war situation. We have been asked by the Minister to bring this today to a vote. We have been back and

forward with officials in the Department, back and forward trying to agree terms on the proposed draft disposal to secure the land that it would return to the people of Wicklow in three years' time. What we have before you today is the

best we could make of the situation of the two sites that were selected by the OPW. Plenty of private land in Wicklow has been given over to house Ukrainians and it is welcome and it's appreciated but it is not enough. That is why each local authori-

ty in the country was asked to put forward sites."

Councillors voted 19 to 9 against the Baltinglass site and 15 to 12 against the Dunlavin site.

West Wicklow councillors were unanimously against both.

'SUFFER LITTLE CHILDREN'

Continued from page 1

Meanwhile Social Democrats TD Jennifer Whitmore says she has been working with a number of schools during the summer trying to resolve the SNA problem.

"Wicklow pupils must not be left behind by Department of Education. The Minister for Education must immediately act to ensure that all schools in Wicklow are fully resourced with required SNA numbers," said Deputy Whitmore.

"I understand there are still SNA shortages in a number of schools throughout the county. This is due, in part, to SNAs not being in place in time for the beginning of the new school term and a lack of resources within the National Council for Special Education, that has been an ongoing issue for many months now.

"It is vital that the Minister for Education takes urgent steps to ensure that our most vulnerable children are not left behind in our education system and that all schools in Wicklow are adequately resourced with SNAs and any other supports they require. School staff and parents should not have to fight for these resources.

"Every child has a right to an education, yet this is not the case for many children in our community currently. In addition, the

Minister must intervene to end the scandalous gaps that remain in the School Transport Scheme in parts of Wicklow, an issue which is also impacting on students in mainstream and special education settings. More than two weeks into the school term, driver shortages have resulted in promised bus services not materialising, leaving stressed parents scrambling to make alternative arrangements at short notice.

"It is beyond unacceptable that this situation has not yet been resolved. The Minister of Education is missing in action when it comes to these critical issues for children and parents. The Minister and Bus Eireann, which operates the scheme on behalf of the State, must immediately pull out all the stops to end this nightmare for Wicklow parents."

Wicklow Times asked both County Wicklow's Ministers for their assessment and comments on the situation facing parents and schools.

Minister for Health Stephen Donnelly said: "I know there are schools across the county seeking additional supports and I'm more than happy to help them get the resources they need. There is a review process within the National Council for Special Education whereby schools can seek a review of their SNA allocations. The

NCSE have continued to recruit to address vacancies as they occur including in County Wicklow. I would ask any schools looking to recruit SNA's to get in touch with my office and we will do everything we can to help."

Wicklow Times repeatedly called the Press Office in the Department of Education but the phone went unanswered. An email to the Department solicited this reply the following day: 'Thank you for your email which I would like to confirm has been referred for the attention of the relevant unit within the Department. A reply will issue to you as soon as possible'. This was followed by another email: 'Thanks for your enquiry, can you provide your query in writing and we can provide a response'.

Wicklow Times also contacted Minister Simon Harris who angrily said "Special Needs Education is an issue very close to my heart. I am very frustrated to hear of these delays and I want to hear directly from any parent or school impacted in county Wicklow. We are investigating record amounts in special needs education and proper order that this is the case. Any bureaucratic or administrative delays in assisting children with special educational needs in their schools will not be tolerated and if they arise, I want to hear about them."

FREE ONLINE APPLICATION:
www.bfei.ie
Tel: **01 288 9717**
Email: **office@bfei.ie**

OPEN DAY
Wednesday
17th Jan 2024
10am to 4pm

BLACKROCK FURTHER EDUCATION INSTITUTE

BUSINESS & LAW

COMPUTING, NETWORK & DIGITAL DESIGN

BEAUTY THERAPY, HOLISTIC THERAPIES, MAKE-UP ARTISTRY

COMMUNITY, EMERGENCY & HEALTH CARE DESIGN

80% CAO success rate in 2022

90% Employment success in 2022 for Beauty / Holisitc / Makeup graduates

Reduced Fees & No Tuition Fees for 2023

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Go-Partner by the EUROPEAN UNION

SOLAS learning works

ddletb
Raid Chláir na hÉireann agus na hEilinn
Adults' Skills and Training Board

f i YouTube Twitter in

OUR TRACK RECORD SPEAKS FOR ITSELF

Petition calls for National Park expansion

ReWild Wicklow chairperson and local election candidate, Danny Alvey, has launched a petition calling on 16,000 hectares of land to be added to the Wicklow Mountains National Park.

The current National Park is 23,000 hectares in size so this plan would mean almost doubling it to 39,000 hectares (390km²). This would not cost the State anything according to Danny as the public already own the land and it would just mean transferring its management from the state agencies Coillte to National Parks and

Wildlife Service. The petition has already received nearly 1,000 signatures.

"Recently, both the Taoiseach and the Minister for Heritage expressed their desire to increase National Parks in Ireland but were concerned about the costs. Specifically purchasing just 560 hectares at Conor Pass in Kerry for €10

million," said Danny Alvey. "This plan is an opportunity to expand our national park coverage by a dramatic 16,000 hectares and it won't cost the state a penny as we already own the land! Ireland has one of the lowest national park coverages in Europe at just a meagre 0.9% of our total land. In contrast, our nearest neighbours the

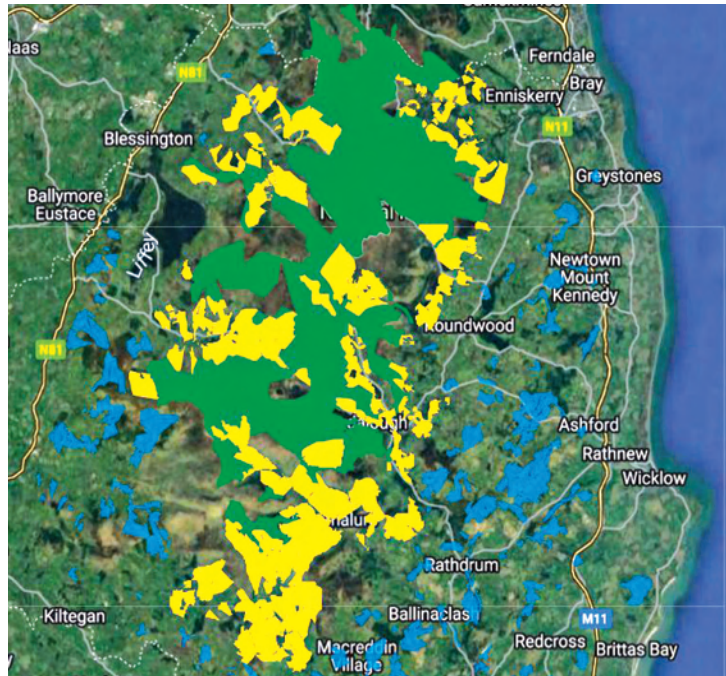
UK have 8.2% of their land set aside as national parks and France has 9.5%.

"In the midst of a biodiversity crisis and with a new law coming into force in the EU on nature restoration, we need big and ambitious plans here in Ireland. I think we have the perfect opportunity here in Wicklow to do something really significant and the result would have so much benefit for biodiversity and carbon sequestration but also all of our local Wicklow communities through the recreation and eco-tourism opportunities it would present."

The petition outlines how Glendalough is currently the only valley in the Wicklow Mountains planted with native woodland with the rest being managed by Coillte for clearfell timber harvesting. Instead this plan seeks to add approximately nine of these valleys to the National Park, namely Glencree, Inchavore, Glenmacnass, Glendasan, Lugduff, Glenmalur, Ow River, St. Kevin's Way and Kippure. It proposes that as each section of these valleys is clear-felled



Danny Alvey at the entrance to Wicklow Mountains National Park



over the coming years, it is ecologically assessed and where suitable replanted with mixed native woodland or restored to its original peatland habitat.

"Across Europe, rewilding projects of this scale are already happening. The Affric Highlands in Scotland, the Central Apennines in Italy and

the Greater Côa Valley in Portugal to name but a few," Danny added. "This project would be of appropriate size to become one of Ireland's flagship nature restoration initiatives. Its scale and ambition has the potential for significant funding from the EU LIFE and Natura 2000 programmes, as well as

many other international bodies. It's time to stop dragging our heels on biodiversity. It's time for bold and ambitious action. And we have the perfect opportunity for that right here in Wicklow!"

The petition comes with an interactive Google Earth map showing the colour-coded

zones for the land being referred to. Green is the current National Park boundaries and Blue and Yellow is all land managed by Coillte in the county with the latter being the proposed expansion. The petition can be read in more detail and signed on change.org at the link chn.org/FFdPZFb4CT.

Behind the beach biodiversity at Brittas Bay

Wicklow County Council is continuing its biodiversity awareness programme at Brittas Bay for the Summer/Autumn season. This series of free outdoor public workshops and activities aims to increase awareness and appreciation of the rich ecology of coastal habitats and species that lie behind our popular beaches, and to highlight the vital role that healthy dune systems play in creating a more climate resilient environment.

Following a butterfly identification and recording workshop held in August for Heritage Week 2023, a Dune Clean up was then held on Saturday, 9th September.

Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr Aoife Flynn Kennedy, stated: "County Wicklow is fortunate to have several beautiful beaches which provide

wonderful amenities to enjoy throughout the year. For swimmers, surfers, local residents and all beach visitors this clean-up is an opportunity to show your appreciation

and to give something back."

Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council, Emer O'Gorman, added: "Brittas Bay North and South beaches together with Greystones South beach are all Blue Flag beaches managed to the highest standard by Wicklow County Council. We welcome

opportunities such as this for members of the public to get involved and play an active role in managing these facilities."

This event was part of a biodiversity programme co-ordinated by the Council and supported by the National Biodiversity Action Plan fund through the Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government.

Further dates for the diary for upcoming 'Behind the Beach' events include: 'Dynamic Dunes' ecology workshop

Saturday, 16th September, 11am-1.00pm and

Bird Migration workshop, 30th September, 8-11am led by Alan Lauder, ecologist.

*Sea Buckthorn (invasive species) removal volunteer days are also planned over the period Mid October-February and will be announced next month.

For queries or further information please contact Deirdre Burns, Heritage Officer wicklowheritage@wicklowco.ie.



Brittas Bay

Benville Robinson LLP

Riverview House
Seapoint Road,
Bray, Co. Wicklow

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

Personal Injury Lawyers*

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

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

Benville Robinson LLP

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

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

Four species removed from open seasons order for wild birds

Following an internal analysis, a public survey and stakeholder consultation, the decision has been taken to amend the Open Seasons Order for wild birds to remove four species. The Scaup, Goldeneye, Pochard and Pintail have been removed.

Minister of State Malcolm Noonan stated "Last year, I established a review of the Open Seasons Order to consider the 21 species of wild bird that can be hunted in Ireland. This includes 15 species that are listed as 'Red' or 'Amber' in Birdwatch Ireland's Birds of Conservation Concern Ireland report and 14 that are the subject of national-level concern, as outlined in NPWS's 2019 Article 12 report to the European Commission.

"This is only the second time that species have been removed from the Open Seasons Order for 30 years, the first being the Curlew

in 2012. While this announcement is a significant step forward for the protection of wild birds, I would stress that this is just the starting point of a process of change as to how the Open Season Order can work better for the conservation of birds in Ireland.

"I'm committed to strengthening the evidence base that informs decision-making around the OSO, and to that end I am prioritising the collection of biological and hunting data evidence for five key species (red grouse, golden plover, common snipe, jack snipe and woodcock) and commencing the development of

management plans for key species and sites. "I also intend to establish a 'Sustainable Hunting of Wild Birds Stakeholder Forum' and will be making an announcement on the details of this in the coming weeks.

"Furthermore, I fully recognise that the threats and pressures affecting these precious species go further than hunting. Habitat loss, degradation and fragmentation are also significant problems and I intend to work with my colleagues across Government to progress measures that will support the necessary changes. "As I have said in the past, my aim is to continue to restore and preserve the conservation status of vulnerable bird species, and in the context of hunting and the Open Seasons Order, to support sustainable hunting practices."

Live-in Care Works for My Family!

Joyce Hanna's beloved father John died last year. "He was 100 and a half," she says. A wonderful man with a terrific spirit, he had lived by himself for almost a decade, since the loss of his beloved wife Peggy in 2013.

Initially John, a doctor, was her mother's primary carer but as Peggy declined and needed more care, she moved into a nursing home, in 2009. "Had ALHomecare been around then, I'd have used them," says Joyce now.

John became a widower at 91. Though Joyce visited often and called every day, she could see that over time it was becoming harder for her father to live alone.

"He didn't need help at that stage, but he was lonely. He often said that if he didn't have his dog, Soldier, he wouldn't hear his own voice at all," she says.

Joyce researched visiting home help agencies, but they didn't suit. "There was no guarantee that the same woman would come in and, with different people coming in, he wouldn't be the main man anymore, they'd be telling him what to do, which wouldn't do at all," she adds.

Then she found ALHomecare, which

stands for Affordable Live-in Homecare, online. It seemed to offer the perfect solution, including a three-week trial to ensure John and his carer were compatible.

"The whole thing, from beginning to end, was a win win. It was affordable, it was good value, and the beauty of it was that if he had gone into a nursing home, he wouldn't have been able to bring his beloved

dog Soldier," she says.

Through ALHomecare, she found a woman in her 60s from Poland, Danuta. "As soon as Dad met her, he said, "she's the one". They hit it off instantly and she did everything right. We called her Angel Danuta, because she was like someone who had dropped from the sky for us. She looked after Dad like I would, maybe even better," says Joyce.

Having Danuta there also meant that for her own visits, Joyce could sit and talk with

her father, as Danuta had everything else under control.

The year passed happily but unfortunately, her father caught pneumonia and Covid. By the time he had recovered in hospital well enough to come home, he had lost his mobility. "Danuta organised the hospital bed for him. We put it in the sitting room, where he could look out over the garden," she says.

For Joyce her sad loss is softened by knowing that her father was so well looked after and died peacefully at home.

"ALHomecare was really transformation-

al for us as a family. Our father was happy and secure. Danuta gave more than 100 per cent to my father and we so appreciated her," she says.

"Before I found it, I didn't know this agency from Adam. But I recommend it now. My father had the perfect end, after the perfect final year, and I can never thank them enough."

To find out more about ALHomecare's affordable live-in homecare service and avail of their 3 week trial period, visit www.alhomecare.ie or phone their inquiry lines: **087 991 6791** or **087 744 0729**.



Affordable Live-in Homecare

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

Nationwide Enquiry Line

087 744 0729

Carer Duties:

Housekeeping, Meal Preparation.
Companionship, Personal Care (if required)
Night only care also available.
All our carers are Garda vetted and
provided with ongoing training and support.

Three week trial period
Nationwide Service

www.alhomecare.ie



Joyce Hanna with her beloved father John.



Fergus Browne and Gerry Coyne at the launch of the open house viewing to mark the launch of the second phase of the Chancel Way development in Newcatle

Protest walk to Wicklow Head lighthouses over access route

Keep Ireland Open are supporting a planned protest walk to the Lighthouses on Wicklow Head on Saturday 16th September at 2pm. The protest will leave from the Glen Turn carpark and walk out along the public footpath to the Lighthouse Road and the lighthouses. Protesters are unhappy with the closed gate blocking access and say they want Wicklow County Council (WCC) to re-establish and make permanent access to the first two Lighthouse sites together with access right out to Wicklow Head.

Concerns have been raised by councillors during the year following the closure of part of the access road to the Lighthouses on Wicklow Head, a Special Protection Area, by a local landowner, and there has since been a lack of progress on sorting out the issue. "Whilst WCC are to be commended for their registration of the Cliff Walk as a Right of Way and development and maintenance of the looped cliff walk, this is only accessible to those with good mobility," Keep Ireland Open said.

Many locals use the Lighthouse Road for exercise, birdwatching, photography and other outdoor pursuits as it is a suitable surface to access the countryside within walking distance from the town. Traditionally this walk has been enjoyed by townspeople but recent years have seen locked gates, security guards and confrontations between one landowner and walkers.

Fintan Clarke, a local activist, recalls this

route has been used for as long as he can remember: "This Irish Lights roadway has provided the only connection that people have with Wicklow Head, the most Easterly point of the Republic. It is a place of enormous national interest not alone because of its natural beauty but also because of its built heritage dating back to the late 1700's. The people of Wicklow and potential visitors from further afield deserve better than to have this priceless heritage snatched away and one might ask what our public representatives intend to do about it."

Wicklow Head Preservation Group member Sam Conway remembers when they entered the Lighthouse Road in the Pure Mile competition and won the Best Natural Heritage award. In order to enter the competition, permission was sought from the Irish Lights who maintain the road: "Irish Lights stated at the time that they had no problem with members of the public walking the road down through the years. Now

we have the very sad situation that people are deprived of walking the full length of the road [...] and the Irish Lights and Wicklow County Council it would seem are unable or unwilling to get involved."

"Locals during the recent pandemic experienced the importance of access to a quiet, natural landscape for health, both physical and mental - and this benefit should not be denied," Keep Ireland Open said. "Direct action now is called for."

Chairperson of Keep Ireland Open Robert Dowds believes the situation is an example of the problems with current legislation: "Even if Wicklow County Council negotiate a solution under the current legislation this could arise again. This is why Keep Ireland Open are campaigning for legislative change".

To show support for keeping the Lighthouse Road open meet at 2pm Glen Turn Carpark on Saturday 16th September.

Council agrees to sell site for new coast guard station

The Council has agreed to sell the long prepared site and part of the slipway at Greystones Harbour to the Office of Public Works (OPW) which will build the new Coastguard station.

"Minister Simon Harris has contacted the OPW in detail and they hope to be ready to go to tender this year," said Cllr Derek Mitchell. "This station has been planned for many years and the slipway was built for the purpose 15 years ago and it is long past time to finish it. When completed it will allow the Garda station to be refurbished with the extra space."

Speaking last summer about the new station, Minister Harris said "The transfer of the Coastguard to a new purpose built facility will

also provide us with an opportunity to extend Greystones Garda Station. So the benefits for the town are very significant on every level [...] The Office of Public Works (OPW) has confirmed to me that the Greystones Coast Guard Station project remains the number one priority project for the coastguard service nationally and that the ring-fenced funding which I secured remains in place. 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 site of the new coastguard station at Greystones Harbour

New live beach camera in Greystones creates a virtual window to the shoreline

As part of the Wicklow Blueway project, Wicklow County Council in conjunction with Wicklow Sports & Recreation Partnership, have installed a Greystones Live Beach Camera, offering an immersive real-time experience for beach enthusiasts.

People are encouraged to experience the beauty and conditions of Greystones Beach first hand through this live stream, available at wicklowsp.ie/live-beach-cam/. The camera live streams the beaches conditions, while no footage is recorded or stored respecting individual's privacy.

Cllr Aoife Flynn Kennedy, Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, stated: "The Greystones Live Beach Camera presents an innovative opportunity for our community to connect with the sea. It offers a shared experience of our natural environment."

Emer O'Gorman, Chief Executive, Wicklow County Council, noted the camera's versatility: "From checking sea conditions before a swim to observing the tides, the live feed enhances beachgo-

ers' engagement. It's an excellent tool for planning safe and enjoyable outings."

Michael Nicholson, Director of Services, Wicklow County Council, highlighted the camera's real-time advantage: "The Greystones Live Beach Camera offers a real-time window to our shoreline and will be an asset to Wicklow's Blueway."

This live stream feature serves as a valuable tool for beachgoers as it allows for:

*Pre-Visit Insights: Gauge beach activity levels to plan your outing for maximum comfort and enjoyment.

*Safety First: Stay informed about sea conditions before heading out for water-based activities.

*Immerse in Nature: Embrace the stunning coastal beauty from the convenience of your screen.

Marrakesh

Marrakesh Ltd is a family run business specialising in Construction and Demolition Waste Management & Recycling, Site Clearance and Supply of Material from 4" down to Blinding, Recycled Screened Soil, Sand, Gravel etc.

EPA LICENCED FACILITY • ALL TRUCKS CARRY WASTE PERMITS

Recycled:

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

Also available:

- Granite • Pebble • Sand

We also accept for recycling: • Clay • Stone • Concrete • Tarmac • Sand

We can organise SITE CLEARANCES - no job too big or small

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

'Wicklow robbed again in LPT funding allocations'

Wicklow has been robbed in the revised allocation of baseline funding from Local Property Tax, according to local Social Democrats TD Jennifer Whitmore.

Deputy Whitmore said: "The Minister for Housing, Local Government, and Heritage has announced a €75.4m increase in LPT baseline funding to local authorities following a review of how the money is allocated. The baseline is the minimum amount of funding each council area will receive from the property tax, which is supplemented by exchequer funds in cases where a Local Authority's LPT income is lower than its baseline.

"However, there appear to be glaring disparities between the amounts of funding allocated to various local authorities. Wicklow, despite experiencing a population growth of nine per cent, has received a baseline funding allocation of just over €11 million for 2024. Mayo, by comparison where population rose by five per cent in the same period - will get more than €21 million. "It is also worth noting that Wicklow has a higher

population than Mayo, which means there is increased demand on the vital services provided by our local authority. "A working group established by the Minister earlier this year recommended that baseline funding should be distributed in line with population, area, deprivation levels, a local authority's income-raising capacity and national policy priorities. "From the increases in baseline funding annou-

nced this week, I can see no evidence that population growth has been factored into the revised allocations. The Minister must immediately publish methodology used by the working group as part of their review. He also needs to clarify if census population data was used in their assessment and, if so, the census year it was derived from. "The allocation of funding from LPT is an essential source of revenue for Wicklow County Council.

It is vital that the county gets its fair share and that there is full transparency in how baseline funding for each local authority is calculated. Government TDs must explain how Wicklow is, yet again, treated so unfairly when it comes to funding." Social Democrats Cllr. Mark Barry, Cathaoirleach of Greystones Municipal District, said "Since becoming a local Councillor on Wicklow County Council, it has been clear to me that the county does



Deputy Jennifer Whitmore with Cathaoirleach of Greystones, Cllr Mark Barry.

not receive the funding necessary to provide all its essential services. This places huge pressures on the council and indeed leads to much competition between the areas and services for funding. This is hard to understand, particularly when Wicklow residents pay so much on local property taxes. There is a clear funding gap here that needs to be resolved immediately."

Retained firefighters accept WRC proposals

SIPTU Retained Firefighter members have accepted the Workplace Relations Commission proposals aimed at resolving their industrial relations dispute. Discussions at the WRC were led, on behalf of the local authorities, by the LGMA and supported by representatives of the Chief Fire Officers Association (CFOA) and officials from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in a supporting advisory role.

The WRC agreement proposals were built on the foundation of a previous Labour Court recommendation that provides for: *A minimum of 12 retained firefighters per station, with 6 available to respond, *An increase in staff numbers of circa 20% (approx. 400 new retained firefighters) to provide that minimum of 12 firefighters in all fire stations. *50 additional promotional positions created; *Structured time off, that would enable a retained firefighter to be away from their station fire-ground area for up to 24 weeks a year. *Individual flexibility with regard to availability. *Flexibility to attend calls when scheduled on

leave, if desired. With the acceptance of the WRC proposals, new Retained firefighter recruits will now enter service with guaranteed fixed minimum earnings of over €18,000 and will reach the top of the scale after eight years. Speaking last week, Sinn Féin TD John Brady urged the government to act immediately to deliver on the proposals. Deputy Brady said: "The fact that the WRC proposals only received 63% of support from SIPTU Retained Fire Fighters is indicative of the longstanding government failure to address the issues that underlie the recruitment and retention crisis in the RFF, and the level of distrust that this



Deputy Whitmore with firefighters in Greystones

has created with RFF members. The treatment of the RFF membership by the government has left a legacy of dissatisfaction.

"It is critical that at the very least that the government works to ensure that the WRC proposals are acted upon immediately. And that the political commitments given by Minister Darragh O'Brien are carried through. Minister O'Brien has committed to delivering a deal for Retained Firefighters in the national pay talks as the second phase of addressing the core remuneration issue for the RFF. "The proposal brought forward by the WRC reflects a concession to the tenacity, commitment, and cohesion of the RFF in respect of the need to address the difficulties within the service. I acknowledge the tremendous effort that the members of the RFF have undertaken to ensure the continuing safety of not just their serving members, but also members of the public. "Key problems remain in the RFF, today's decision must mark the beginning of a process where the government acknowledges its responsibilities to

firefighters and the public, and works to bring the service into the twenty-first century. "There is an urgent need for a complete overhaul of structures of the Retained Fire Service. The proposals that the WRC have brought forward do not represent the totality of what is needed to resolve the problems in the Retained Fire Service. Without a comprehensive overhaul which will drag the service into the 21st century, we will be left in a situation, where nothing has been achieved other than a patch up job, that will enable the service to limp on for a few more years, before it completely collapses. Without this necessary overhaul, we are going to end up back here sooner rather than later." Social Democrats TD Jennifer Whitmore said "I know the decision to take industrial action in the first place was not easy, and every retained firefighter did so with the community's concerns in mind. While it is most welcome that an agree-

ment has been reached to return to work, the Government cannot allow a repeat of this situation in the future. There are still issues with how our fire services are structured, and further work will be required to resolve them. Since all the stations in Wicklow are manned by retained firefighters, this issue has been very close to home in Wicklow.

"Speaking to members of the fire service in my Wicklow constituency today, I know how difficult this has all been for them. This news will come as a relief to them and their families. There are still many outstanding concerns which must be addressed. The government must implement this deal in full for the



John Brady TD

sake of the fire service. It should also be noted that this deal will not bring back the fire service members who have left in recent years, and a recruitment drive will be needed to increase staffing numbers to the required levels. "A lot of good faith will need to be established between the parties in the future. In the meantime, the Government must deliver on the commitments made in the WRC and rebuild trust with retained firefighters."



St. Joseph of Cluny Secondary School
Secondary School for Girls

OPEN EVENING

We would like to invite all parents and guardians of sixth class girls who are starting secondary school in September 2024 to visit our school on **Thursday the 21st of September from 5 to 7:30 p.m.**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Phone: 01-2855027
Email: office@clunykillyiney.ie
Website: www.clunykillyiney.ie
Address: St Joseph of Cluny, Ballinclea Road, Killiney, Co. Dublin, A96 DK13

PRESENTATION COLLEGE
- Bray, Co. Wicklow -

You are INVITED to an
OPEN EVENING
on **Thursday September 21st**
5.30-7.30pm

After the welcome from the Principal you will have a wonderful opportunity to meet Teachers and Students past & present and also to get a tour of the first class facilities. Refreshments will be served to Parents and Primary School students on the night

See you all on the 21st!



Positive Ageing Week 1st - 7th October



Fitline telephone mentoring service from Age & Opportunity

FitLine is a volunteer-led telephone mentoring service that supports people aged 50+ to be more active. It is designed to help people who want to feel healthier but just don't have the motivation, confidence or information to get moving.

"We are launching a call-out for FitLine participants and volunteers in Wicklow," says Meg Hegarty, FitLine Coordinator with Age & Opportunity's Active Programme. "It's a nationwide initiative that has supported many people to date and we're excited to be growing FitLine in Wicklow."

"If you sign up as a FitLine participant you will receive regular calls from our friendly volunteers who understand the challenges of getting active. They will discuss your life situation and preferences and help make suggestions to encourage you to be more active."

"For those interested in becoming a volunteer, we will train and support you to mentor older people to improve their physical and mental health by becoming more active. You would need to be able to make a time commitment of two to three hours per fortnight."

Feedback from both FitLine participants and volunteers has been resoundingly positive.

"FitLine gave me the push I needed to stop making excuses to get up and be active," says Anne, a participant from Cork City, while Joe from Dublin says: "I live on my own and I love having someone from FitLine ring me regularly. They have good advice."

Margaret, living in Cavan, was an Age & Opportunity's FitLine volunteer. She says: "Nothing gives you that warm glow inside more than knowing you've helped another person in a meaningful way. If you're thinking about becoming a FitLine participant don't hesitate at all."

FitLine is a free initiative of Age & Opportunity, a national organisation that provides a range of opportunities for older people who want to get more involved in arts and culture, sport and physical activity, civic engagement and personal development. FitLine is an initiative within Age & Opportunity's Active programme, funded by Sport Ireland and the HSE.

In 2023, Positive Ageing Week (October 1st - 7th) is dedicated to the theme of 'Challenging Ageism'. This week-long celebration, taking place from October 1st to 7th, aims to highlight the significance of ageing and the invaluable contributions made by older individuals. The central focus is on combating ageism, transforming our perceptions, emotions, and actions toward ageing and older people.

People of all backgrounds and affiliations are encouraged to participate in Positive Ageing Week (PAW). The event welcomes community-driven initiatives, whether organised by groups or individuals, as well as national events in collaboration with Age Action or independently. This inclusivity ensures a representation of the diverse experiences and circumstances of older individuals.

Positive Ageing Week 2023 continues the theme of 'Challenging Ageism - Reframing How We Think, Feel, and Act' towards ageing and older individuals. It is an Age Action initiative dedicated to promoting the agency of older people and celebrating their contributions to families, workplaces, communities, and society as a whole. For two decades, individuals, groups, local authorities, and businesses have been organising events to mark Positive Ageing Week.

The week also coincides with the United Nations International Day of Older Persons on October 1st, which focuses on the 'Resilience of Older Persons in a Changing World'. This aligns with PAW's theme, highlighting the remarkable adaptability and strength displayed by older individuals in the face of life's challenges. PAW aims to foster a society that not only acknowledges but celebrates the enduring spirit and contributions of older persons, emphasising their resilience in an invaluable resource enriching communities.

Everyone is encouraged to join in celebrating ageing and work towards creating a more inclusive, respectful, and intergenerational society. Age Action will be announcing event details in the upcoming weeks.

The concept of ageism is at the core of PAW's mission. Ageism encom-

passes how people think (stereotypes), feel (prejudice), and act (discrimination) based on age, whether directed at others or oneself. It can be both conscious and unconscious, affecting interpersonal interactions, institutional practices, and self-perception.

Ageism is a deeply ingrained prejudice in society, causing unjust divisions and disadvantages that undermine human rights. It revolves around categorising and dividing people based on

age, resulting in harm, inequality, and a breakdown of solidarity across generations.

Ageism has detrimental effects on health and well-being and poses a significant obstacle to implementing effective policies for healthy ageing. Recognised by the World Health Organization (WHO),

ageism prompted the launch of a global campaign to combat it. The WHO, in collaboration with partners, developed the Global report on ageism, emphasising the urgency of addressing this issue.

Age equality stands in contrast to ageism. It involves proactive efforts to overcome age-related

stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination, thereby eliminating age-based barriers to equality for older individuals. This entails advocating for policies and laws that address age-based discrimination, promoting educational activities to enhance understanding and empathy about ageing, and encouraging intergenerational interactions to foster cooperation among people of different ages.

If you're seeking inspiration for events during PAW, consider these ideas from previous years or create your own. The key is to ensure participation from individuals of all ages:

Tea - Afternoon Tea & Technology Event to support digital inclusion; Intergenerational mornings - Gatherings of mixed age groups to share stories; Age-Friendly Community - Organise a discussion about the age-friendliness of your community; Eco, Historical, and Forest Walks; Dancercise, Chair Zumba, Musical or Ceol agus Craic Evenings; Scrabble, Chess, Bridge, and Boggle Clubs.



Hummingbird Haven

Hummingbird Haven is a holistic and wellness service based in Annamoe.

"Hummingbird Haven came about from the practices I do everyday that I am truly passionate about, that I have studied for many years and that I know really work and have had a life changing impact on me and on many of my clients," says Sue.

"Located in the peaceful and serene area of Annamoe I share with others the tools it takes to create the life you truly desire weather that be through Reiki or meditation where the day is let go and we give ourselves permission to rest and rejuvenate our energy."

"The benefits of meditation, mindfulness and energy healing have a hugely positive effect on our mental, physical and emotional wellness. When we look after ourselves it can only be a positive and life will flow in a more positive direction."

1:1 appointments available, monthly guided meditations and courses running throughout the year.





HUMMINGBIRD HAVEN

Holistic Healing & Wellness

An alternative & holistic approach to healing the mind, body & soul.

Improve your overall wellness with a range of treatments tailored to bring the body into balance with a choice of Reiki, Rahanni & Meditation.

Offering 1:1 Appointments to suit you.

Next guided meditation is Thursday 21st Sept @ the Annamoe Centre 7:30pm

Details from Sue on: 087 2750335

Call: 1800 303 545
or 0876211767
ageandopportunity.ie



Incorporating Age & Opportunity Active,
The National Sport and Physical Activity Programme
for Older People



A FREE, nationwide telephone mentoring service supporting people aged 50+ to be more active.

FREE initiative for over 50s





IT MAKES SENSE!

Get your Degree;
Diploma or Certificate
locally with

- ✓ No Fees
- ✓ No Transport Costs
- ✓ No Accommodation Costs

NO FEES

All Tuition, Exam & Course Material Fees are abolished (flat registration fee will apply)

BRAY INSTITUTE OF FURTHER EDUCATION

Dedicated • Professional • Passionate

ART

- FULL KA** Art Portfolio Preparation
FULL KB Art, Craft & Design
KC Fine Art Practice

DESIGN

- FULL DA** Graphic Design
DD Architecture Design & Technology
DN Jewellery Making & Woodcraft
FULL DI Furniture Design & Carpentry/Joinery
DC Fashion & Textiles HND

MUSIC

- MI** DJ Techniques & Music Production
MJ Music Production
MK Music Performance
MF Sound Engineering

COMPUTING & ENGINEERING

- FULL NB** Computer Science
FULL NC Computer Networks and Cyber Security
FULL HV Engineering Pre-University

SPORT

- FULL EA** Sport, Exercise & Fitness Instruction
EC Personal Trainer, Strength & Conditioning
ED Soccer Coaching & Sports Management
EF Sports Injury & Massage Therapy / Pre-University Physiotherapy

ANIMAL CARE

- HA** Animal Care
HI Animal Care & Management Pre-University
HJ Animal Science Industry
NEW HT Dog Obedience & Training - Start Your Own Business
HX Equine Studies

SOCIAL STUDIES & CHILDCARE

- FULL OA** Special Needs Assistant (Primary & Post-Primary)
FULL HD Early Learning & Care / Childcare
HE Social Studies & Community Care

HAIR, BEAUTY & WELLNESS

- FJ** Professional Make Up & Hairstyling
FULL FF Hairdressing - Junior Stylist
FH Barbering
FD Nail Technician & Salon Administration

SCIENCE

- HS** Forensic Science - Pre-University
HK Science - Pre-University
HZ Food Science with Dietetics - Pre-University
JF Pharmacy Assistant
JJ Pharmacy Technician
HU Applied Ecology and Biodiversity Studies

BUSINESS

- FULL JA** Business Management & Administration
JC Business Management - Advanced Certificate
JD Accounting Technician
LD Business Tourism Advanced Certificate
SD Legal Administration Pre-University Law
SF Medical Administration (Mornings Only)
SE IT & Office Administration (Mornings Only)

HOSPITALITY & TOURISM

- LA** Tourism, Reception & Event Management
LB Tourism with Airline Studies
LH Restaurant & Bar Management
FULL LC Culinary Arts
FULL LG Pastry, Baking & Barista
FULL LE Culinary Arts Advanced
LI Hospitality & Business Management Advanced

ADULT LEAVING CERT

- RB** Adult Leaving Certificate

HEALTH

- HB** Nursing and Midwifery Studies - Pre-University
HH Healthcare Assistant & Activity Coordinator
HP Occupational Therapy Assistant
JK Emergency Care Studies (Pre-paramedic, Fire & Ambulance)
HL Applied Psychology

FILM & COMPUTER GAMING

- FULL MA** TV & Film Production
MB TV & Film Production - Advanced
NEW MC Immersive Media Production Degree
FULL ME 3D Game Design

ACTING & DANCE

- PA** Acting for Theatre & Film
PB Acting for Stage & Screen Advanced

ENGLISH LANGUAGE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

- FULL AA** English Language and IT Skills for International Students
FULL AB English Language and Business for International Students
FULL AL English Language and Healthcare Studies for International Students
FULL AD English Language and General Studies for International Students

APPRENTICESHIPS

- JG** Accounting Technician Apprenticeship



www.bife.ie

01 2829668
bifeenquiries@wicklowvec.ie



BORD OIDEACHAIS AGUS OILIÚNA
CHILL DARA AND CHILL MHANTÁIN
KILDARE AND WICKLOW
EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD



Erosion at The Murrough

'We have to do all in our power to save The Murrough'

Independent councillor Mary Kavanagh raised the matter of the disappearing Murrough path at last week's meeting of Wicklow County Council, with Chief Executive of the Council Emer O'Gorman. Cllr Kavanagh pointed out that the Murrough is an area much loved by the people of Wicklow for generations and that the Council - as the custodians of council-owned land - must work to protect the Murrough for future generations.

Speaking at last week's meeting, Cllr Kavanagh said "one more storm will decimate what is left of the path and there will be no access from the pedestrian side, or from the promenade side of the Murrough [...]. I am aware it is an ecologically sensitive area, but I am also aware that people have been using this area for hundreds of years. It is one of the most beloved amenities in the whole town. Everybody uses it or has used it, and I know that they want this to continue for the foreseeable future."

As a member of the Save the Murrough committee dating back as far as 2015, Cllr Kavanagh

has been raising the issue of coastal protection works for a number of years. Irish Rail commenced the East Coast Railway Infrastructure Protection Projects (known as ECRIPP) three years ago - a long term 10-year coastal erosion plan to protect the railway lines.

Cllr Kavanagh sought assurances that the Council will install a pedestrian path so that people will still have access to the Murrough. Chief Executive O'Gorman confirmed that talks had taken place with Irish Rail the previous week and a plan had been put in place.

Chief Executive O'Gorman said "We expect Iarnród Éireann to be in the area this month doing works. And we have asked them to really, really look at the path. It is a Special Area

of Conservation (SAC) so we can only do limited works in the area. We cannot do hard landscaping or anything like that. But we are doing everything in our power with Iarnród Éireann to carry out some works on the site. They are acutely aware of the storm damage and acutely aware of the need to reinforce that part of the Murrough."

Cllr Kavanagh requested that the temporary access path installed last March should be extended up past the local landmark known as the monkey pole. Cllr Kavanagh said that she was pleased to hear that a path will be included in the upcoming works.

"Climate change is taking a huge toll on the Murrough", Cllr Kavanagh said, "but we have to do all in our power to save it."

bife BRAY INSTITUTE OF FURTHER EDUCATION *Dedicated Professional Passionate*

EVENING CLASSES 2023

BIFE Night Classes - Mondays, Starting September 25th 2023



- **Art.** Drawing, Sketching and Painting. 6.45-8.4pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Adobe.** 6.45-9.45pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **ESOL.** 7.30-9.30pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Film Special FX.** 7.00-9.00pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Employment Opportunities** in Ireland: Understanding your Potential (through Ukrainian language). 7.00-9.00pm. Duration 6 weeks.
- **Ukulele.** 7.45-9.15pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Pilates** - Level 1. 7.30-8.30pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Pilates** - Level 2. 8.30-9.30pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **First Aid and Cardiac first responder.** 7.00-9.00pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Dress Making.** 7.30-9.30pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Bridge** - Beginners. 7.30-9.30pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Yoga** - Beginners. 6.45-8.00pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Yoga** - Improvers. 8.00-9.15pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Tai Chi.** 7.00-8.30pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Digital Photography.** 7.30-9.30pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Furniture Making** - Woodwork for Beginners. 7.30-9.30pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Italian** - Beginners. 6.45-8.10pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Italian** - Improvers. 8.15-9.45pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Conversational Irish** - beginners. 6.45-8.15pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Conversational Irish** - Improvers. 8.15-9.45pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Pottery/Ceramics.** 6.40-9.10pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **French** - Beginners. 8.15-9.45pm. Duration 8 weeks.
- **French** - Improvers. 6.40-8.10pm. Duration 8 weeks.
- **Spanish** - Beginners. 6.45-8.15pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Spanish** - Improvers. 8.15-9.30pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Beekeeping** for Beginners. 7.30-9.30pm. Duration 8 weeks.
- **Introduction to Make-Up Artistry.** 7.30-9.30pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **TEFL.** 7.30-9.30pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Leaving Certificate Irish.** 7.15-8.30pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Guitar.** 7.30-9.00pm. Duration 10 weeks.
- **Social Media Marketing** (Online). 6.30-8.30pm. Duration 10 weeks.

Further details on courses are available on www.bife.ie/morning-and-evening-courses/evening-classes

Classes begin Monday September 25th. Please note that classes can only be formed where numbers warrant it. If classes do not form full refunds will be issued promptly.

Full Terms and Conditions are published on the Website.

Please go to **BIFE.IE** for full course details



The disappearing Murrough

SSE Renewables concludes successful survey campaigns at Arklow Bank

Survey completions mark another successful milestone in delivery of Arklow Bank Wind Park



John O'Sullivan,
Project Manager, SSE
Renewables

Leading renewable energy developer, owner and operator SSE Renewables has announced the successful completion of two offshore survey campaigns for the Arklow Bank Wind Park 2 project.

The surveys took place over an eight-week period during July and August. Irish contractor Ground Investigation Ireland undertook a nearshore borehole campaign and Danish contractor Geo carried out cone penetration and Vibrocore testing.

The surveys were completed on schedule despite somewhat unset-

led weather conditions experienced over the last couple of months and were facilitated by the cooperation of other marine users including members of the commercial fisheries industry.

The information collected as part of these surveys enhances the project's understanding of seabed conditions and will support ongoing

design refinement and project development work.

Completion of these surveys marks another successful milestone achieved by SSE Renewables in the delivery of the Arklow project.

John O'Sullivan, Project Manager, SSE Renewables said: "The successful completion of these survey campaigns

represents another important milestone in the delivery of the Arklow Bank project and equips our team with the most up to date information as we move through the detailed design process.

We acknowledge and appreciate the meaningful engagement that has been ongoing with key local stakeholders throughout the process."

SSE Renewables is currently working towards submission of the final outstanding consent for Arklow Bank Wind Park 2 to An Bord Pleanála in the coming months.

Consent has already been secured for the onshore grid infrastructure and for the operations and maintenance facility in Arklow Harbour's South Dock.

Work is also progressing well to secure a route to market for the 800MW project. This follows a commitment by SSE Renewables earlier this year following disappointment in the first Offshore Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (ORESS) auction, that the company would seek to deliver the project without state subsidy at no cost to the taxpayer.



Presentation College Bray to host Open Evening

Presentation College, Bray has announced an Open Evening on Thursday, September 21st for anyone interested in sending their son to the school in the next two years.

Parents and pupils in recent years having from fifth and sixth class first opened its doors to admit 52 new students on the evening which will begin with an address from Principal Martin Locke in the Sports Hall. Afterwards, attendees will be welcome to tour the school and inspect both its educational and sporting facilities, while light refreshment will also be served.

"This a great opportunity to meet staff and students both past and present," Mr Locke said. "We look forward to welcoming anyone who is considering sending their son to the school in the next two years."

The school, located on Putland Road in Bray, celebrated its centenary

in recent years having first opened its doors to admit 52 new students on September 5, 1921.

There are currently more than 600 students housed in a modern building which was built in 2011, replacing the older building constructed in the 1960s.

Well-known alumni of the school include rugby internationals Maurice Mortell Snr, Reggie Corrigan and Tony Doyle, Republic of Ireland national football team goalkeeper Darren Randolph, cricketer Ed Joyce, Olympian and leading surgeon Gary O'Toole, Trinity Professor Luke O'Neill, RTÉ's Robert Shortt, poet David Wheatley,



Presentation College, Bray students Patryck Herod, Matthew Doyle and Max O'Neill after a preseason rugby match against Wesley College recently.

businessman Pat Byrne and former Barnardo's chief executive Fergus Finlay.

Director of Rugby, former-Ireland international Bernard Jackman, will also be in attendance on the evening.

Presentation College,

Bray is the most successful non-fee paying school in Leinster Schools Rugby, having won the the Senior Cup in 1932 and the Junior Cup in 1930, 1975, 1985, 1988 and 1990 with approx 200 boys playing rugby across 15 teams.

As well as rugby, the college also offers many other sports and extra curricular activities which will be demonstrated on the evening.

For more information please call the school on 01-2867517 or email info@presbray.com.



Kate Whitston at the launch open house viewing to mark the launch of the second phase of the Chancel Way development in Newcastle.



COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

PREPARATION OF THE WICKLOW TOWN – RATHNEW LOCAL AREA PLAN

PRE – DRAFT PLAN PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Wicklow County Council intends to review the existing plan and prepare a new Local Area Plan for the settlement of 'Wicklow Town & Rathnew'. An online consultation portal has been created, which makes reference to the significant planning topics that the Local Area Plan will address. The portal can be accessed by scanning the QR code here or through the consultation hub at www.wicklow.ie/living and is accepting submissions up to 28 September 2023.

PUBLIC INFORMATION DAY

Everyone is invited to a public information day that will be held in the Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Station Road, Wicklow Town, A67 FW96 on Thursday 14 September 2023. From 10.00am to 13.00pm and 16.00pm to 19.00pm. The plan team will be available on the day to answer any questions on the plan, the plan process and to help guide the public on how to make a submission.

SUBMISSIONS

Submissions regarding the review of the existing plan and the preparation of the new Local Area Plan are invited from the public and interested bodies up to 28 September 2023. Submissions may be made in either of the following ways:

1. Write to: 'Wicklow Town-Rathnew LAP', Administrative Officer, Planning Department, Wicklow County Council, Station Road, Wicklow.
2. Through the online consultation portal at www.wicklow.ie/living (consultation hub)

NOTE

All submissions should include your name and an email address/contact address and, where relevant, details of any organisation, community group or company etc., which you represent. Please make your submission by one medium only, i.e. hard copy or through the portal. The planning process is an open and public one. In that context, all submissions are a matter of public record, and may also be placed on the County Council's website.





Aoibhinn Kenny

Arklow girl to cut hair for Arklow Cancer Support

Nine-year-old Aoibhinn Kenny from Arklow is planning to cut her hair, which she's been growing for the last four years, to raise funds for Arklow Cancer Support.

Aoibhinn's family has been touched by cancer, and the support of Arklow Cancer Support in these difficult times inspired Aoibhinn to give something back.

Aoibhinn will cut 14 inches off her hair and will donate it to the Rapunzal Foundation.

Aoibhinn is the granddaughter of beloved member of the Arklow community, Denis Kenny, who sadly passed away in July. Denis was a fireman for 30 years and a volunteer with Arklow Cancer Support, and his bravery and dedication to his community has also been an inspiration to Aoibhinn.

Explaining her generous decision, Aoibhinn says, "In 2019 my auntie got diagnosed with breast cancer and she had to go through her treatment throughout Covid-19. I couldn't visit her so that's when I decided to grow my hair for the Arklow Cancer Support because they were there for her when she needed them the most."

"My grandmother Adrienne Kenny is a founding member and treasurer on the Arklow Cancer Support Board and works hard to keep it going. My grandfather Denis was also a volunteer at the support group, he was a brave special

hero, my Superman, he was a dedicated fireman for 30 years keeping Arklow safe, he was so special to me and I miss his hugs and cheeky smile. He died in July this year, and he fought hard against cancer, the money raised will help people fight cancer because it's a bully that can take the people you love, so please help us fight it, please donate, even a little will help. Thank you."

To help Aoibhinn reach her fundraising target, you can make a donation at: www.idonate.ie/fundraiser/SupportArklowCancerSupport.



Aoibhinn's grandfather Denis Kenny, who passed away in July

Sugarloaf Lions Club to support children with cancer

Families affected by childhood cancer in Wicklow will be helped by a new project by Lions Clubs across Ireland in partnership with the registered charity, Childhood Cancer Ireland.

An average of seven children, adolescents and young adults (aged 0-24) are diagnosed with cancer each week in Ireland.

This month, which is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, Childhood Cancer Ireland and Sugarloaf Lions will 'Light It Up Gold' to raise awareness of childhood, adolescent and young adult cancer, a disease which has been increasing annually by 1-2% over the last 25 years in Ireland. Sugarloaf Lions Club will be fundraising locally for Childhood Cancer Ireland during September.

Greystones library was lighted up gold from 1st

- 3rd September and more events are planned:

- Awareness stands in local supermarkets selling Childhood Cancer Ireland pins;
 - Greystones Town Council building will be Lighting Up Gold for the month of September.
 - Table Quiz at 8pm on Thursday 21st September in Greystones Rugby Club. Book tickets at sugarloaflionsclub@gmail.com or phone 086-3992651.
- Childhood Cancer Ireland raises funds to provide a number of practical and emotional supports to children and families including:
- Beads of Courage and Sibling Beads Programme at the National Children's Cancer Service in Children's Health Ireland at Crumlin.
 - Refurbishment of paediatric oncology isolation rooms in Shared Care facilities (regional hospitals).
 - A new series of workshops for parents in 2023, which will enable parents to process what they have been through since their child was diagnosed

and to begin to heal.

- Parent peer support, which is a vital support to parents both during and after treatment.

Sugarloaf Lions Club was founded in November 1967. It consists of a group committed individuals who give voluntarily of their time to make a difference in the community locally, nationally and internationally through the Lions Club worldwide organisation. Our aim is to identify needs in the community and seek to assist in finding solutions to those needs either through direct action ourselves or working with other charities. All administrative costs of the Lions organisation at all levels from local to international are paid for by the members themselves. As a result the bureaucratic needs of the charity are kept to a minimum and all funds raised for charity are used exclusively to address the needs identified by the Lions organisation.

For further information please contact Margaret Gerrard at 0863992651

Did you know that you can

READ WICKLOW TIMES ON LINE

NO PASSWORDS, NO PAYWALL, NO PROBLEM!

PLUS get access to over a year's worth of back issues!

Go to:

www.wicklowtimes.ie

and click the link

or email info@localtimes.ie and we will email you a copy!



Margaret Gerrard of Sugarloaf Lions, with Cathaoirleach of Greystones Municipal District Mark Barry and John Connor of Sugarloaf Lions, launching the Light it Up Gold campaign.

Sunbeam House Services go wild

Sunbeam House Service had their first "Wild Festival" recently. It was a huge success with over 500 clients and staff from various disability services throughout Wicklow, Wexford and Dublin attending.



Niamh Waters and her daughter Evie

The festival took place in the Taylor centre on the Vevay road. It was a super location with plenty of space to enjoy all the activities on offer.

Festival goers arrived to the sounds of the many local artists who kindly supported this event. There was a choice of workshops and activities to enjoy which included drumming workshops, a silent disco, a karaoke tent, face painting, nail painting and an art workshop

hosted by Signal arts centre in Bray. There was a well-being tent where revellers could pick up tips on supporting their mental wellbeing and a vintage clothing stall which had some classic styles and hidden gems for sale. The grounds were decorated with many handmade colourful props which really added to the already buzzing atmosphere. A selection of food trucks were available and the Wild bar was open with mocktails



Cathal McKiernan, SLG Student

flowing and plenty of ice-cold non-alcoholic beer to enjoy.

With so many of us heading to Electric picnic each year, the staff at

The Student Learning Centre in SHS wanted to make going to a festival an experience for all. Heading to a festival is something many of us

take for granted but staff Niamh Waters is so passionate about clients being able to attend such a special experience that her energy and enthusi-

asm created this fantastic event.

"Watch out Electric Picnic we aim to be back next year even bigger and better," SHS said.

Wicklow authors join campaign to champion Irish kids' books

Sam Blake and Alan Nolan, children's authors from Wicklow, and Trish Hennessey, a children's bookseller from Wicklow, have joined internationally celebrated authors and illustrators such as Eoin Colfer, Marita Conlon-McKenna, Chris Haughton, Shane Hegarty and Laureate na nOg Patricia Forde, to launch Discover Irish Children's Books, a new initiative to champion children's books written by those living and working in Ireland.

Discover Irish Children's Books estimates there are upwards of 350 published children's writers and illustrators from or living in Ireland. Yet for 15 weeks between May and early August 2023, no Irish books charted in the weekly children's top ten sellers list. In the same period, 96 Irish writers charted in the equivalent list for adult's fiction.

To highlight the range of Irish titles available to young readers, the campaign will launch a new top ten bestsellers list dedicated to Irish children's books. The list will be informed by the top ten bestsellers in a different independent bookshop across Ireland,

including Halfway Up The Stairs, each week throughout September and October. The list will be available each week on www.discoveririshkidsbooks.ie.

Award-winning children's writer and illustrator Chris Haughton has also designed a sticker to be made available to bookshops, libraries and schools to highlight Irish children's books for young readers and adults. The campaign will raise awareness of titles for all ages on social media using #DiscoverIrishKidsBooks and work directly with teachers to recommend novels for class groups. Resources will be available on the website.

Children's writer and bookseller, Sarah Webb says this trend shocked her: "Out of interest, I asked children attending my summer workshops who their favourite writer was. Even when prompted, they struggled to name an Irish writer. On the international stage, Ireland's storytellers for children are much celebrated. Eoin Colfer's 'Artemis Fowl' was a New York Times bestseller. John Boyne's 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' has been translated into 56 languages. Oliver Jeffers has sold over 14 million books worldwide. Catherine Doyle, Judi Curtin, Roddy Doyle, Derek Landy, Mary Murphy - these are well-known names in children's books globally."

"Yet at home there's a lack of knowledge and awareness that Discover Irish Children's Books is determined to tackle. We want to see new and well-established Irish writers and illustrators at book festivals, hear them on the radio and published in newspapers, and

find them front and centre in bookshop and library displays.

"Almost a quarter of all books sold in Ireland are children's titles, but celebrity authors and big marketing budgets dominate that pool. There will always be a place for international writers and for the classics we all know and love, but there is a diverse wealth of new Irish books available, we need to give them an equal opportunity to find their way into children's hands."

Children's author and Laureate na nOg, Patricia Ford said: "Ireland now has a wonderful canon of literature for children in both English and Irish. We owe it to our young people to promote that work and to make sure that they are aware of books that are written and illustrated here. We all need to see ourselves and our culture in the books that we read, and our writers and illustrators, in Wicklow and across Ireland, need our support to continue making that work."

Local development companies support Ukrainian Choir

A National Ukrainian Choir, brought together by local development companies across Ireland, including Bray Area Partnership and County Wicklow Partnership, has released a new version of Phil Coulter's single 'Steal Away' in collaboration with the singer. The choir is made up of 40 people who have fled Ukraine as a result of the war and who are currently based around Ireland.

The single, translated into Ukrainian, was launched at a special event in Saint Stephen's Church, Dublin recently where the choir performed the new single with Phil Coulter.

The song, originally written by Phil Coulter

40 years ago, tells the story of a couple who escape from the Troubles and there are many parallels with the current situation facing Ukrainians today. The song is available for download via Spotify, and the road to the

launch forms the subject of a documentary due to be released in coming months.

Commenting on his involvement in the initiative, Phil Coulter said: "When I wrote Steal Away in 1983 the song was in response to

the conflict that was happening in Northern Ireland at the time. I couldn't have imagined that 40 years later it would have a connection to the situation facing Ukrainians today. I have travelled all over the world with my music and have seen how it can cross borders and create friendships as a universal language. It has been an honour to work on the recording of this single. I hope that the initiative has provided a source of unity and has given the choir some semblance of hope for a brighter future."

Commenting on the single launch, Carol Baumann, CEO at the Irish Local Development Network said "We are delighted to have been able to co-ordinate this initiative in conjunction with local development companies across Ireland. The role of Bray Area Partnership and County Wicklow Partnership and our 49 local development companies (LDCs) is to create vibrant and inclusive communities where peo-

ple feel supported and welcome. Music is a universal language and has been a great way for the participants make meaningful connections and express themselves through song.

"The single 'Steal Away' is just one positive outcome from this initiative, the most important outcome is the impact on the community. Some of our national choir members have started their own choirs locally providing an opportunity for further integration. Along with initiatives like the Ukrainian National Choir, local development companies assist communities and disadvantaged individuals and groups with personal development and well-being; education and training; employment services; family supports and urban and rural development. Our LDCs are doing remarkable work in Wicklow and across the country, and we hope to continue to help build inclusive communities where all members are valued and supported."

The choir director,

Yulia Boyko, is originally from Ukraine and has been living in Co. Cavan for the last twenty years. Yulia now runs her own

music school and was responsible for translating 'Steal Away' into Ukrainian. Ms. Boyko, Phil Coulter and the 40-

strong choir have worked together since April, resulting in the translated version being recorded.



Photographed at the launch was members of the National Ukrainian Choir with Jonas Krauklys on guitar, Phil Coulter, Yulia Boyko, choir director, Viktor Boyko on trumpet and Sergej Balan on accordion.



COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

SECTION 75 - ROADS ACT, 1993 PROVISION FOR TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF PUBLIC ROAD

Wicklow County Council hereby gives notice that it proposes the temporary closure of the following public road.

Road to be closed

L-1970 Convent Avenue, Bray (between Meath Road and Strand Road)

Period of closure

09:00 am 10th October to 06:00 pm on the 11th October, 2023

Alternative Routes

Via Meath Road northbound.

Albert Avenue, Victoria Avenue and Strand Road southbound.

Pedestrian access will be accommodated

Reason for Closure

This road closure is necessary in order to facilitate Gas Works.

Any person wishing to object to the proposed road closure must lodge their objection in writing to Transportation and Roads, Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Co. Wicklow or via email at roadtrans@wicklowcoco.ie not later than 12.00 noon on Tuesday 19th September, 2023.

Taoiseach's tour of Wicklow

An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar was in Co. Wicklow last Wednesday, first attending a Cabinet meeting at Avondale House before going to Greystones where he was shown St. David's Secondary School, the Tiglin centre at Coolnagreina and the Rise at the Cove Café.

It was the first Cabinet meeting of the new term. Speaking last week, Minister Harris said "I am absolutely delighted to welcome Cabinet to our beautiful county today. I am particularly delighted that the Taoiseach has agreed to join me for the afternoon in Wicklow, where we will be visiting St. David's Secondary School and Tiglin. This is a great opportunity to showcase our stunning county to members of Government and for the Taoiseach in particular to meet with the people of Wicklow and hear about the issues that are impor-

tant to us here in County Wicklow."

Minister Harris and An Taoiseach were welcomed to St. David's by school principal Simon Carey who showcased the school's recently completed upgrades and renovations.

After visiting the new building, Minister Harris and An Taoiseach met with students and had a questions & answers session.

Speaking afterwards, Minister Harris said, "It was fantastic to be able to welcome the Taoiseach to my own former secondary school and see first-hand the fantastic

new school building and facilities.

"I am delighted that the Government has been able to deliver such an incredible school right here in the heart of Greystones. I am proud to say I am a past pupil of St. David's and today saw that the school is still raising bright young students, as during our questions and answers session the students put a number of very well-thought-out questions to the Taoiseach and I. This afternoon was a great opportunity for the Taoiseach to hear about and listen to the concerns of County Wicklow's

young people, and I want to thank Principal Simon Carey and the staff at St. David's for making it possible for us to visit them here today."

Rise at the Cove, an initiative inspired by Wicklow County Council in association with Tiglin, employs individuals from a vulnerable cohort including those who fled from the war in Ukraine and those exiting Tiglin's services.

This Tiglin initiative has brought together the power of the overcomer and the power of the community that surrounds them. Some of the overcomes that Tiglin are supporting are those who have fled the war in Ukraine while others are recovering from homelessness and addiction.

In March 2022 Tiglin open the doors of its Coolnagreina centre to some of the first Ukrainians to seek refuge in Ireland. The success of this initiative was due to collaboration between Tiglin, the community around them and the various voluntary and statutory organisations who mobilised themselves to make this place and the town of Greystones as homely and welcoming as possible at a time when pain, tragedy and separation were etched on the faces of those arriving at our doors.

Knitting the newest residents of Greystones into the town and its



Seven-year-old Siena Murphy chats with An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar, Tiglin Chairman Aubrey McCarthy, and Minister Simon Harris in Greystones

facilities became one of the key focus points of the efforts. Local schools, sports clubs and voluntary bodies clubbed together to try and ease some of the shock of being uprooted from your home, your community and your family.

Chairman of Tiglin, Aubrey McCarthy, said "Collaboration and the strengths of community, spearheaded by Tiglin is the recipe that has made Rise at the Cove the social enterprise of the year. Wicklow County Council, the people of Greystones and the amazing staff who work in the cafe all play their part in making sure that the transactions that take place in Rise at the Cove are more than monetary. These transactions are investments in people, their health and well being, their value to society and their place in community."

From those who work behind the counter to those who make much of the products, they are the people who Tiglin support. Some are on the journey of overcoming homelessness, some have fled the war in Ukraine and some are standing strong in their recovery from addiction.

The impetus of Rise at the Cove sprung from a discussion between Wicklow County Council and Tiglin about the importance of ensuring that stigma was not something that separated the residents of Tiglin from the community around them.

The manager of Rise at the Cove, Gavin Murphy was selected to run this unique concept because of his knowledge of the food industry and his attention to detail.

The overwhelming narrative that came from the Ukrainian residents in Tiglin's facilities was that they were extremely appreciative and that

they were also eager to work. Many of those seeking employment were mothers who had to try and juggle childcare issues. To bridge this gap, Tiglin, along with funding from The Community Foundation of Ireland created a bakery to produce baked goods for sale at Rise at the Cove, paid employment for the bakers and a work scheduled that bridged the gaps between child care and meaningful employment.

Jerry O'Connor, Public Affairs Director, Community Foundation Ireland added: "Equality for all in thriving communities is our mission as a philanthropic hub. In Greystones our partners

Tiglin are making that mission a reality. Their response to the impact of war gives an insight into how communities across Ireland are responding to the needs of people seeking safety and shelter.

"We are proud of the partnership and all that has been achieved in assisting people in the most difficult of times."

Minister Harris joked to An Taoiseach about how Rise at the Cove was becoming his second constituency office and certainly the source of his favourite brew!

Speaking after the Tiglin visit, Minister Harris said, "I have been a supporter of Tiglin and of the work done at

Coolnagreina for a long time. I am proud to be able to say that the people of Wicklow have stepped up in many ways and have welcomed the Ukrainian people with open arms. Many Ukrainian people have been accommodated and have found jobs and activities which is a testament to the work of Tiglin. It is great to be able to show the Taoiseach first-hand the work that Tiglin does, and I want to thank Aubrey McCarthy, along with all the other staff and volunteers here today, for the incredible effort they put in day in and day out to support people in need."



An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar samples the local confectionary with Eleanor Maree during his visit to Tiglin



Minister Simon Harris and An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar meeting with students from St. David's



Superintendent Rory Sheriff welcomes Minister Simon Harris to Avondale House where the first Cabinet meeting of the new term was held.

Arts Office announces Harp Concert Series in Wicklow libraries

Wicklow County Arts Office has announced 'The Harp Concert Series' to be held in County Wicklow libraries from 22nd September to 20th October.

Between September and October in every library across County Wicklow, harpist Aisling Ennis will perform a very special harp concert inspired by the fairies and their frolics.

Funded by the Arts Council and Wicklow County Arts Office through the Strategic Projects Award Scheme and supported by Wicklow Library Services, the concert series will feature music from the Irish tradition as well as captivating works by 19th and 20th Century harp virtuosos.

Created and performed by Aisling Ennis, each concert explores the fairy hysteria that swept the world and how the harp, especially the Irish harp, played an

important role in this enchanting genre.

A passionate performer, arranger and educator, Aisling's music has been described as 'breathtakingly beautiful' her musical and poetic rhythm is sublime and 'her stunning creative voice' filled with serenity and questioning'.

Enjoying a varied career as a soloist as well as a chamber, orchestral harpist and educator, Aisling has gained international recognition for her evocative renditions across a broad spectrum of genres, as well as her ongoing experimental collaborations and innovative approaches to programming. A current member of Wicklow Artists Panel, she works tirelessly to support and enrich the

arts in her beloved County Wicklow.

Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr Aoife Flynn Kennedy, stated: "This project encompasses all the aims of the Strategic Project Award in order to nurturing practice and cultivate new audiences for the harp within County Wicklow."

Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council, Emer O'Gorman, said she was pleased to see Wicklow County Arts Office support an ambitious and inclusive concert series by a Wicklow Artist.

Admission is free but booking is essential. Contact the local library to secure tickets. For more information about this event contact: www.aislingennis.com



Ulrich Loos, Cathal Gaffney and James Burke at the Abbey Lane Mural community event in Arklow. The medieval themed event featured mural painting, arts & crafts and a busking competition.

Immersive contemporary dance performance to premiere in Bray

What Is Not Ours To Carry is an immersive, contemporary dance work from Bray-based choreographer Ali Clarke. Co-producer by the Mermaid Arts Centre the work will premiere in Bray (September 14th, 8pm, Mermaid Arts Centre) before continuing on to a run in the Samuel Beckett Theatre as part of the Dublin Fringe Festival.



Who would you be if you hadn't tried so hard to be yourself? Questioning the perceptions and expectations which have shaped our sense of self and how we define those we meet, What Is Not Ours To Carry is an immersive performance fusing contemporary dance and live music.

Through a series of visual obstructions, the performance asks us to find comfort in the hazy and unclear space in which the self resides. Can we give space to ourselves and others to live in this haze, free from expectations and stereotypes, or are we doomed to live in the boxes built for us by others? Exploring the intricate tapestry of bias which clouds our daily interactions, this immersive performance challenges preconceived notions and invites reflection into the true authentic self.

With direction and choreography by Ali Clarke and live music by Ruben Monteiro the work comes to life in an immersive set designed by Emma Fisher and lit by Zia Bergin-Holly.

Ali Clarke is a Bray based choreographer and director of dance and circus. She explores the interface between public and performer by creating immersive and interactive performances influenced by a desire to reimagine the role of contemporary dance in society. Ali is a recipient of the Next Generation Award from the Arts Council of Ireland as well as a number of other awards.

Art Centre campaign starts in Greystones

Over 40 people attended a meeting last Monday evening to start a campaign for an Arts Centre in Greystones.

Almost all artists in the area say they want a centre for art & artists. A campaign group was formed and more people are welcome to join the group. Those who are interested should contact Michelle Owens (michelle@lucca.ie).

"Greystones has grown rapidly and as a larger town it needs a centre to encourage art, especially visual art," said Cllr Derek Mitchell. "Mary Kelly and I called the meeting and I hope this can progress."



Cllr Derek Mitchell

Line-up announced for Baltinglass Culture Night

Creative Places Baltinglass is delighted to announce the line-up for the Baltinglass Culture Night Extravaganza on Friday, 22nd September. Culture Night is an all-island annual event that celebrates creativity and the arts.

Curated by local artists and creatives, Mark Caplice, Vincent Gethings, Rachel Kane, and Karen Allison, in collaboration with Wicklow County Arts Office, the Baltinglass Culture Night Extravaganza programme features a rich, diverse and dynamic range of experiences and live performances for people of all ages to enjoy free of charge.

East Coast Radio will host a live broadcast of the 'Morning Show' with Declan Meehan in Horan's Bar from 10am-12pm. Come along or tune in to catch a taster of what's in store for Culture Night this year in Baltinglass.

From 5pm-10pm, the Main Street Square Outdoor Stage line-up includes performances from:

- Amy Barrett, a Dunlavin singer-songwriter. In 2018 Amy's debut single 'Emilio' went straight in as the highest new entry in the Irish iTunes charts and reached number

two in the Singer/Songwriter Chart behind George Ezra.

- Taylor Hayes, an exciting young performer from Baltinglass with tonnes of energy and charisma on stage. Taylor and his band are tipped as 'ones to watch' - now, and in the future.

- Flowers of Ukraine, a newly formed group of 16 dancers from Ukraine and living in County Wicklow. As a mechanism for expressing their sense of identity, the group are excited to share with the world the beauty of the Ukrainian Culture.

- James Nelson, a Baltinglass native and member of popular singing trio "The Celtic Tenors". James's undeniable talent and experience comes to the forefront in his new solo show that's not to be missed.

- Leslie Dowdall, who first hit the headlines as lead singer with Celtic rock band 'In Tua Nua'.

Touring the world, Leslie has shared the stage with names including: U2, Simple Minds, Bob Dylan,

and The Pretenders.

- Mark Caplice, a multi award-winning songwriter, artist, and producer from Baltinglass. Mark has worked with The Recording Academy (The Grammy's) in America, represented Ireland in the Eurovision finals along with writing and producing numerous songs for TV and Film across the world.

The live performance ends with headliner Jerry Fish, renowned as much for his showmanship as he is for his music. He's a carnival creator, circus ringmaster - complete with Vaudeville moustache - a playwright, singer, songwriter and poet.

From 5pm-7pm, the Baltinglass Library Indoor Stage features:

- Noel Boland, an up-and-coming country singer / songwriter taking the Irish country scene by storm. Living among the beautiful Wicklow hills, he is no stranger to the music scene and has been gigging in venues throughout the country for over 10 years.

- Three Creative Writers from Dunlavin Writers' Group: Florence Grace, founder member of the

group, has written two children's books; Maria Kelly from Grangecon, has written about family dynamics from a child's perspective; Ursula O'Toole, a nurse in Baltinglass and originally from the midlands. An avid reader of stories, she is now enjoying creating her own.

- Suzanne Toomey, a singer and musician based in the hills of West Wicklow. Suzanne is known for her beautiful voice and she plays Guitar, Tin Whistle and the Accordion.

- Cormac Doyle, a singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist from Baltinglass. Cormac has toured extensively with various folk bands and will be joined on stage by talented uilleann piper and guitarist Aidan O'Brien.

- Three Creative Writers from Rathangan Writers' Group: Alpha Connelly, based in Donard contributed two short stories to the group's book 'Our Store of Stories' published in December 2022; Henrike Lehmeier (Rike) originally from Germany and now living in Kiltegan; Nicky Butler was born in South Africa, and has a passion for history, mythology, fantasy and fairy tales.

Across the street from the live entertainment, from 5pm - 9pm in Germaine's, Inis Fail, Wicklow Marketplace, a local online craft market, and Crafty Craic Candles, (a craft gift shop in the scenic, Glen of Imaal), have selected a range of stallholders to spotlight artists and crafts people from all over Wicklow.

With over 20 stalls and craft demonstrations, in the lobby, every half hour, confirmed, just some of these will include Eamonn Heffernan (Bog Oak Craft), Edel Horgan (Visual Artist), Karen Ryan Allison (Candles), Maeve Hunter (Textile Artist), Rosella Doherty (Jewellery), Gemma Willis (Cards), Una Lambert (Natural Skincare Products), Natalie Alers (Porcelain), Rose O'Driscoll (Ceramics), William Kenny (Woodcraft), Sally Joyce (Mixed Media Artist), Michelle Lenehan (Visual Art), Tomomi McElwee (Quilting Craft), Mairead Kelly (Writer), gourmet delights by Teevans family (Russborough Honey), Grainne McGough, Gra Aran (Baked goods) and many more.

Now in its second year,

Creative Places Baltinglass is a community led three-year project that celebrates Baltinglass people and place. Funded by the Arts Council, Creative Places provides an opportunity for places that have had fewer opportunities to showcase their arts in the past, by co creating programmes which will benefit the local community.

Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr Aoife Flynn Kennedy, said she was delighted to see local and nationally acclaimed artists and musicians coming together in Baltinglass for a night of music, creativity and cheer.

Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council, Emer O'Gorman, said she was pleased to see that the Arts Council's Creative Places programme was enabling Creative Places Baltinglass to offer a wide range of arts and creative experiences, events and activities for everyone to enjoy and explore.

All events are free and booking for the main stage is recommended but not essential.

See the full Wicklow Culture Night programme at culturenight.ie/wicklow.

Junior Eurovision hopeful releases new song in aid of Make-a-Wish Ireland

'Ar scáth a chéile a mhaireann na daoine' - 'People live in each other's shadows. So reads the inscription on Niamh Beatrix's second cover being released this week on 11th September in aid of Make-a-Wish Ireland.



Niamh Beatrix

"It means people are shielded from the sun by each other and I chose it because for me this song is about spending time in the shelter of those we love," says the 12-year-old singer from Roundwood of her personal interpretation of the hit-song, Chasing Cars by Snow Patrol.

Her first release in aid of the Irish charity, a cover of the Afrikaans hit, Klein Tambotieboom by Die Heuwels Fantasties, was streamed more than 2,000 times and watched more than 21,000 times in less than a month. Both Chasing

Cars and Klein Tambotieboom can be streamed from major platforms and the music videos, featuring beautiful footage of Wicklow and other county landscapes, can be watched on Niamh's YouTube Channel @NiamhB.

But there is more good news for supporters of this rising star with her big heart and voice. Following auditions earlier this year, Niamh has been selected for the Junior Eurovision Song Contest Eire heats which started airing on TG4 on Sunday 3rd September. The search for Ireland's

2023 Junior Eurovision representative can be followed weekly at 20:30 on the Irish channel.

Niamh has been a singer since early childhood, and would always sing instead of talk when she played with dolls. She was very shy, however, and never thought of singing in front of people. When she was about eight, a friend's mother heard her singing while they were playing karaoke at their house, and she told Niamh's mum that she should sign her up for singing lessons.



Since then, Niamh has been making the most of her incredible talent. She was awarded best junior overall vocalist at the Talent Africa Championships in 2022, represent-

ed Ireland in the Oscar Hammerstein International Musical Theatre Solo Finals, was selected for the children's choir in Irish Women and Harmony's Christmas Single, appe-

ared on Donncha's Two Talented and performed a solo part in the 2020 Late Late Toy Show. To follow Niamh's progress visit Instagram @niamhbeatrix.

Classical Cabaret

Culture Night at Whale Theatre

This year for Culture Night (Friday 22nd September), Whale Theatre will present a very special evening of Classical Cabaret featuring some of Ireland's finest classical musicians. With an engaging, entertaining and exhilarating programme, Wicklow-based violinist Lynda O' Connor, cellist Ailbhe McDonagh and pianist Máire Carroll will take you on a journey through a selection of much-loved classical chamber music repertoire.

Lynda O' Connor

Lynda O'Connor is one of the greatest Irish violinists of her generation. Showing particularly early promise she made her debut solo performance at the age of four in the National Concert Hall, Dublin, which began her International career as soloist, chamber musician and orchestral leader.

Ailbhe McDonagh

Ailbhe McDonagh is a renowned Irish cellist who has earned international recognition as both a soloist and chamber musician. Ailbhe has performed at prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall and has given performances for the Irish President at Áras an Uachtaráin.

Máire Carroll

Máire Carroll is a pianist, composer and collaborator who has performed throughout Europe, Asia, United States and Canada including performances at Wigmore Hall and Carnegie Hall. Driven by a passion for contemporary music and adventurous collaboration, Máire regularly works with composers at home and abroad. Máire is the Artistic Director of Hidden Pianos, which she launched in 2018 with the aim of sharing classical and contemporary music in site-specific locations. Hidden Pianos is an intimate performance experience bringing the piano to exciting venues and has been featured on RTÉ Radio 1, RTÉ Lyric FM, RTÉ Culture and The Irish Times.

8pm (doors 7pm). Free Admission but advise to book a ticket in advance at www.whaletheatre.ie or call the booking office on 01 2010550.



Culture Night at the Courthouse

Friday 22nd September 2023, 8pm (doors 7pm). Free Admission but advise to book a ticket in advance at www.whaletheatre.ie or call the booking office on 01 2010550.

"First we invite families to come sing, dance and celebrate Culture Night with an early start at this free, family friendly concert in the Shillelagh Courthouse. The music is ideally suited to primary school aged children but all ages are welcome, children and adults alike. Come along after school and stick around after the concert for some complimentary local treats. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Featuring new original music by Róna Sally Hartman, performed with Izumi Kimura, Matthew Halpin, Neil O'Loughlen and Michael McCarthy. Then we shift our focus back to St Vincent De Paul Resource Centre in Tinahely, with an uplifting evening of music from 8pm with TheTinahely Comhltais."



Pictured above left Róna Sally Hartman, and right Izumi Kimura

Pop Vocal Workshop with Jono McNeil



Whale Theatre, Sunday 17th September 2pm (doors 1.30pm). Tickets are €10 and available at www.whaletheatre.ie or call the booking office on 01 2010550.

Hosted by Linsey Dempsey, this is a public masterclass with UK Voice Coach Jono McNeill who will be working with Ireland's rising talent.

- Watch individuals being coached by Jono - bring your questions about the music industry.
- Learn about vocal health, how to move on stage and mic technique - enjoy performances from participants.

"We will also have Aisli Moran from Little Mix. The Search available to chat all things music on the day!"

The workshop will run from 2pm-5pm with short breaks throughout the afternoon.

Please note, ticket holders will be observing only.

BIFE - meet the new members of the team

Liza Marron - Fashion Design Teacher

Liza, an NCAD Honours Graduate, has a distinguished career in Ireland's fashion industry, working as both Lecturer and Fashion Designer. Liza currently lectures in third level colleges in both Fashion Design and Art & Design, and has held the role of Course Director on Fashion Buying & Merchandising curriculums. Her past Industry history includes luxury womenswear brand Louise Kennedy as Senior Fashion Designer and Production Manager. She managed the supply base globally, ensuring strong manufacturing relationships with luxury Italian tailors, Portuguese ateliers, Indian artisans, bespoke shirt makers Turnbull & Asser and Irish jersey manufacturers, and counts herself fortunate to have worked with highly skilled craftspeople specialising in cutting edge technologies in textile design, surface decoration, knitwear, styling, photography, illustration, pattern cutting, garment construction and transformation. She is passionate about nurturing future generations of creatives and giving them the skills and knowledge to be innovative agents in this ever-changing Fashion industry and is hugely looking forward to her new role in BIFE.



Emeka Onwubiko - Soccer Studies Co-ordinator



Emeka will be coordinating the new look "Soccer Coaching & Sports Management" course which will be run in collaboration with Liverpool FC.

Emeka is a Former Irish Underage International and was the First African-born player to play for the Republic of Ireland. He played with Manchester City and West Bromwich youth teams. He has also 100 League of Ireland games under his belt with Bray Wanderers FC and Athlone Town FC.

Emeka has a great passion for Soccer, he is currently the head coach at Bray Institute of Further Education and enjoys imparting his knowledge and experience to the students at BIFE. He is looking forward to his new role at BIFE.

Emma Butler - Occupational Therapist

Emma graduated from TCD with a B.Sc in Occupational Therapy in 2005. As part of her training she worked in acute stroke rehabilitation, care of the elderly, a mental health day hospital and paediatric disability services. For the past 18 years, she has worked as an OT in both public and private settings with babies, children, young adults and their families, schools and communities. Emma completed an M.Sc in child and youth studies in 2018 and is currently a PhD candidate on the health research board SPHeRE programme based in RCSI.

Emma is passionate about occupational therapy, the benefit it provides in adding quality to people's lives in relation to things that are meaningful to them and the contribution that the profession offers to the health service. Occupational therapy assistants (OTA) are a much needed part of the OT workforce and she is excited about teaching the inaugural OTA students at BIFE.



Matthew Curtis - Applied Ecology & Biodiversity Studies Lecturer



Bray Institute of Further Education (BIFE) is delighted to welcome Matthew Curtis onto their teaching staff. He will be the lead teacher for BIFE's new "Applied Ecology & Biodiversity Studies Course".

Matthew graduated from Maynooth University with a B.Sc in Biotechnology and then in 2021, graduated from UCD with a M.Sc in Environmental Science - achieving a First Class Honours. Since then he has worked in the education department of the zoo in Tayto Park, and for the past year, he has been teaching Environmental Science in the Progression Unit of Mountjoy Prison.

His interests lie in all things environmental, with a particular focus on the areas of ecology, biodiversity, and conservation.

Wicklow makers shortlisted by Design & Crafts Council

Design & Crafts Council Ireland (DCCI) has announced the shortlist for Future Makers 2023. Established in 2009, Future Makers is a DCCI initiative which recognises talent, potential and creativity. Its aim is to support the next generation of makers, designers, and craftspeople to take the step from training into enterprise as well as fostering the growth of Ireland's renowned design and craft sector. Makers from Wicklow include silversmith Eva Lynch and stone worker Killian O'Flaherty.



Killian O'Flaherty with one of his stone sculptures

It is one of the largest prize-funded award programmes in Europe. This year's competition saw an impressive range of entries from all around Ireland, with each one demonstrating a unique approach to creating beautiful and functional works of art. From furniture and fashion design to ceramics and glassblowing, the shortlisted makers have proven their mastery of their chosen crafts, as well as their ability to push the boundaries of tradition and innovation in their chosen field.

Mary Jo Hoyne, Head of Craft & Education at Design & Crafts Council Ireland, said "Future Makers is a fantastic initiative that recognises and rewards vision, innovation, and excellence in both making and the creative process among students and emerging makers. This is a crucial time in the career path of young makers and Future Makers creates a platform to showcase talent, as well as providing much-needed financial support. The design and craft sector is a major contributor to Ireland's economy,

society and culture and programmes like Future Makers are key to ensuring this continues."

Previous award winners over the past number of years include Emerging Maker winner, designer Michael Stewart of Standing Ground, ceramicist Chloe Lennon, jeweller Genevieve Howard, fashion designers Natalie B. Coleman and Sorchá O' Raghallaigh, designer-maker Na Burke, furniture designer Simon

Doyle, ceramic artist Kate O'Kelly, and print block artist collective, amongst many others.

The judges for this year's Future Makers include Laura Quinn, a multi-award winning maker and designer of contemporary glass sculpture and wearables, Mary Jo Hoyne, a successful senior leader in higher education and skills training, Angela Brady, chair of GANS group '10 Hands Crafts' based in

West Cork, Kim Ling Morris, one of three founding directors of Sample Studio, which is

among the biggest artist-led studio groups in the country, and Roisin Pierce, an Irish womenswear designer committed to furthering innovative and artisanal techniques through the tradition of craftsmanship.

The winners and runners up will be announced for each category at the Future Makers awards on Wednesday 19th September. For further information on Future Makers, visit <https://www.dcci.ie/dcci-future-makers/>



WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Application is being made to Wicklow County Council by Colin Keenaghan for Planning Permission for a one storey extension to an existing dwelling including all ancillary site works at 10 The Hollows, Tinahelly, Co Wicklow. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

We, Psidium Property Company Ltd, intend to apply for Planning Permission for (1) the demolition of 1no. existing 2-storey building, (2) erection of 3 storey single block containing 2no. 1 bed units and 2no. 3 bed units, connection to existing site services and all ancillary works at Ivy Leaf, Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application. The planning authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions or may refuse to grant permission. Signed: Psidium Property Company Ltd c/o Michael Fitzpatrick Architects MR/IAI, Main Street, Butlersbridge, Co. Cavan. Tel: 049 4365800

ATTENTION

Architects, Planners & Builders

Reach the widest readership for your planning notices in County Wicklow with Wicklow Times

Call **01 286 9111** or email paoline@localtimes.ie



Cian Doyle, Ravi Kasinathan, Joe Shelton, Glen Kinsella and Eoghan Kinsella at the Abbey Lane Mural Community Event in Arklow. The medieval themed event featured mural painting, arts & crafts and a busking competition.

LITTLE POPPETS CRECHE ARE HIRING!

REQUIREMENTS:

- Can work Full Time
- Minimum of QQI Level 5 in Early Years Education
- Be enthusiastic, kind and energetic
- Experience Helpful but not essential



Please contact
littlepoppetscreche@gmail.com
to apply

RECRUITMENT

**ST. DAVID'S HOLY FAITH
SECONDARY SCHOOL**
Greystones, Co. Wicklow

CLEANING SUPERVISOR

St. David's Holy Faith Secondary School,
Marine Road, Greystones, Co Wicklow.

**20 hours per week Monday
to Friday (afternoons).
Experience an advantage.**

All applications with C.V, including
name/phone number of referees to be
placed in a sealed envelope and
addressed to:
School Principal Simon Carey
This can either be posted to the
school or dropped into the school office
**Deadline 4 p.m on Thursday.
21st September 2023.**

When you
need to
reach the
**RIGHT
PEOPLE**



reach for
**WICKLOW
TIMES**
Reaching the people
of County Wicklow
for 34 years
T: 01 286 9111



COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

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

• LIBRARIAN

Salary: €47,339 – €56,721 gross per annum (includes 2nd LSI).

REF: 47/2023

• SENIOR LIBRARY ASSISTANT

Salary: €31,551 – €50,345 gross per annum (includes 2nd LSI).

REF: 48/2023

**CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS
IS 12 NOON ON THURSDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2023 SHARP.**

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

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

Wicklow County Council Is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

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

Phone: 0404 20159

Fax: 0404 20112

e-mail: recruitment@wicklowcoco.ie

Healthcare Assistants Required

Full and part time positions available.

*We are a small family, friendly
30 bedded Nursing Home.*

Please email your CV to Nicola at:

darglevalleypic@gmail.com

Drop in to:

**Dargle Valley Nursing Home,
Cookstown Rd, Enniskerry,
Co. Wicklow. A98 N478**

Or phone Nicola: **Tel: 01 286 1896**



GLENVIEW HOTEL
DELGANY CO. WICKLOW

Wishes to recruit a :

FRONT OF HOUSE TRAINING MANAGER

Must have experience of training hotel staff to the
highest possible standards of guest relations and
monitoring performance of new and existing staff
Annual Salary – € 40000 – 39 hour week

Apply with CV to hr@glenviewhotel.com



An tSeirbhís Chúirteanna
Courts Service

Competition for appointment to the position of Clerical Officer in Wexford and
Bray Court Offices

The Courts Service are currently recruiting CLERICAL OFFICERS in the Wexford and Wicklow area.

The duties of a Clerical Officer may vary but will include general clerical / administrative
tasks such as preparing and resulting Court lists, public counter duties, filing,
photocopying, answering/making telephone calls, dealing with e-mails, receipting cash,
supporting line-managers and colleagues, working as part of a team, use of IT, and more.

The starting salary for this position is €27,131.00, rising with length of service.

Further information in relation to salary, terms and conditions of employment and
application process are available in the Information Booklet under the role listing at
www.courts.ie/careers.

Applications by way of a CV and a one-page cover letter outlining how you meet the
requirements and why you should be considered for this position should be made by
applying directly for the role listed at www.courts.ie/careers by **22nd September 2023
at 2pm.**

This recruitment campaign is being undertaken in compliance with the Code of Practice
for Appointment to Positions in the Civil Service and Public Service prepared by the
Commission for Public Service Appointments (CPSA).

The Courts Service is committed to a policy of equal opportunity.



An tSeirbhís Chúirteanna
Courts Service

Comórtas cheapachán do phost mar Oifigeach Cléireachais in Oifigí Cúirte Loch
Garman agus Bhré.

TÁ OIFIGH CHLÉIREACHAIS á earcú ag an tSeirbhís Chúirteanna i gceantar Loch Garman agus Chill Mhantáin.

Bíonn dualgais Oifigh Chléireachais éagsúil ach áireofar leo tascanna ginearálta
cléireachais/riaracháin mar leithéid liostaí Cúirte a ullmhú agus na torthaí a chur isteach
orthu, dualgais chuntair phoiblí, comhdú, fótachóipeáil, freagairt/glaonna gutháin, déileáil
le ríomhphoist, airgead a admháil, tacú le bainisteoirí agus comhghleacaithe, scileanna
obair foirne, úsáid TF, agus go leor eile.

Is é an tuarastal tosaigh don phost seo ná €27,131.00, ag ardú le fad seirbhíse.

Tá tuilleadh eolais maidir le tuarastal, téarmaí agus coinníollacha fostaíochta agus an
próiseas iarratais ar fáil sa Leabhrán Faisnéise faoin liostú ról ag www.courts.ie/careers.

Ba cheart iarratais ar CV agus litir chlúdaigh leathanach amháin a sheoladh go díreach go
dtí an ról fógraithe ar www.courts.ie/careers roimh **22 Meán Fómhair 2023. ag 2pm.**

Ba choir go leagfadh an litir chlúdaigh amach conas a chomhlíonann tú na ceanglais agus
cén fath a gceapann tú go bhfuil tú oiriúnach don phost seo.

Tá an feachtas earcaíochta seo á dhéanamh de réir an Chóid Chleachtais um Cheapacháin
chun Poist sa Státseirbhís agus sa tSeirbhís Phoiblí a d'ullmhaigh an Coimisiún um
Cheapacháin Seirbhíse Poiblí (CPSA).

Tá an tSeirbhís Chúirteanna tiomanta do bheartas comhdheiseanna.

The
CURTAIN & BEDLINEN
Store

WE'RE HIRING

The **Curtain & Bedlinen** store in Quinsborough
Road, Bray are looking to hire for a temporary
position for the coming busy months.

Retail experience in the curtain & household
would be an advantage. Flexible days and
hours available for the right candidate. Finally
there is a possibility of a long term contract.

If you want to join our amazing team please
drop a CV in store or email:

kelsodavid286@gmail.com

or call: **01 204 0876**

Wicklow female entrepreneurs encourage others to apply for free business development programme

Wicklow female entrepreneurs are encouraging others from the county to join the latest cycle of ACORNS - a highly-successful free development initiative to support early-stage female entrepreneurs living in rural Ireland. The call for applications for the 9th cycle of ACORNS was recently launched by Charlie McConalogue T.D., Minister for Agriculture, Food, and the Marine. ACORNS is funded through the Department's Rural Innovation and Development Fund.

The programme comes highly recommended by previous participants, with 100% of those surveyed at the end of the 8th cycle saying they would recommend the programme to others. The 46 entrepreneurs in ACORNS 8 made significant

progress over the six months of their involvement, reporting significant growth in their new businesses. Their combined turnover almost doubled in the six months to April 2023 - from €1.9m to €3.6m. Participants in ACORNS 8 employed 96 (55 full-time, 41 part-time) staff at the end of the cycle, an increase of 16. There were also five new exporters over the cycle.

There are 50 places available for ACORNS 9 which will run from October 2023 to April 2024. Those wishing to receive an application form for ACORNS 9 should register on the website (www.acorns.ie). The deadline for applications is midnight, September 22nd.

Past participants from Wicklow include Klara O'Leary of Care Box Collection, a wellness-focused gift company. Klara started her company at just 23, from her home in Enniskerry, during 2020.

Klara was a participant on ACORNS 7 and says ACORNS encouraged participants to focus on the fundamentals of their businesses and that it was hugely beneficial to network with other business-women.

"I would highly recommend ACORNS to any female entrepreneur looking to grow their early stage start up. The programme creates a strong sense of community and provides significant support throughout the 6 months and beyond."

Only early-stage female entrepreneurs operating in rural Ireland, and who have had no sales before the end of June 2020, are eligible to apply.

There will be no charge for those selected to participate in ACORNS 9, thanks to the continuing support of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and the voluntary contribution of time by the Lead Entrepreneurs.



Klara O'Leary and Annamarie McNally, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine



Rob Hallinan and Lauren Forde at the open house viewing for the launch of the second phase of the Chancel Way development in Newcastle.



Greystones Music Academy

PIANO • GUITAR • VIOLIN • CELLO
SAXOPHONE • CLARINET

...and much more. Highly qualified teachers and high quality instruments in big bright classrooms

Shoreline Leisure Centre,
Mill Road, Greystones.
E: greystonesmusicacademy@gmail.com
T: 087 754 2575

www.greystonesmusicacademy.com

BRAY STROKE CLUB

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

The club is open to anybody who has suffered a stroke, no matter your age.

Contact Michael for further details: **086 872 9255**

ALLSHADES BLINDS

• Roller • Vertical • Wood Venetian
• Pleated • Velux • Roman

Tel: 087 2201600

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

LOUISE D'ARCY
PGA HEAD PROFESSIONAL
THE PRO SHOP @ WICKLOW GOLF CLUB

AFTER-SCHOOL JUNIOR GROUP LESSONS

6 weeks from 19 Sept. Open to all!
ADULT BEGINNERS evening lessons,
6/8 weeks from 19 Sept.

Tel: 0404 67379 | Mob: 087 751 0727
Email: louisedarcypga@yahoo.ie
thelouisedarcygolfschool.com

BACK TO SCHOOL CLASSES

Call to book your free trial class!

Hapkido Self Defence & Kickboxing Classes

- Adults Ultimate Kickboxing and Hapkido Self Defence classes for beginners.
- Kids train with their own age group:
 - Tiny Dragons (3-4yrs old)
 - Little Dragons (5-6yrs old)
 - Red Dragons (7-9yrs old)
 - Blue Dragons (10-14yrs old)
- Safe, secure and fun
- Learn life skills, character building
- Build self confidence and self belief
- Enthusiastic and motivated students - in school and at home

Master Temple Martial Arts
Perfect Theatre Studios, 1st floor, Bray Bowl, Quinsborough Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow, Phone 086 8350062
www.mastertemple.com Facebook: Masters Temple Martial Arts Bray

Have Fun and Learn Gymnastics

Wednesday/Thursday/Friday Afternoon's
Saturday/Sunday 10am-2pm

FROM 3-14 YEARS OLD

Floor Gymnastics
Gymnastics Games
Mini Equipment
Qualified Coach
Garda Vetted

Address: Unit 3 Bray, South Business Park, Bray, Co Wicklow
Phone: 0892039210 (Piri)

New Class Over 65's Yoga

Whether you are new to yoga or have been practicing for years, this class will be suitable for you.

6 week term €100
Monday 4th Sept. Time 12pm

The Yoga Barre, Kilcoole
Contact Hazel to book: 085 280 0565

Zumba Gold for Seniors

Specially designed DANCE FITNESS Program for age 50+

Light fun workout to great Latino music and easy moves!!
Increases flexibility, coordination and strength.

- Every Mon. @ 10.30-11.30 am
St. Patrick's Centre, Church Rd. Greystones
- Every Tues. @ 10-11 am
Shoreline Leisure, Southern Cross Road, Bray

Phone or text 087 247 6673 to book

yes you can

BYRNES PUB, KILCOOLE
MONDAYS: 5.30pm & 7.00pm
THURSDAYS: 5.00pm & 6.30pm
Call/text Trevor: 085 2499982

slimmingworld.ie **Slimming World**

Raven's Den MUSIC SCHOOL
located in the Egan Centre, Bray

- €10 trial class
- Tuition to all ages and abilities
- You can join our term anytime

New to Ravens Den, Cello classes

Tel: 083 046 2762
www.ravensdenmusicschool.com

O'BRIENS ROOFING & GUTTERING

Gutters Cleaned & Sealed **From €49** Roof Repairs **From €199**

Call Richard: 087 348 8516
www.obriensroofingandguttering.ie

ANTO'S TREE SERVICES

Fully Insured Tree Surgeon

Pruning, Reductions and Removal

All Aspects of Tree Surgery

Tel: 087 610 9128

Cara School of Irish Dancing

Fun, Friendly Dancing Classes for children of all ages (3+) inspiring confidence in your child

St. Patrick's Hall, Kilcoole

Mon: 5-6pm,
Wed: 2-3pm, Age 3+ 3-4pm
Fri: 2-4pm, Age 3+ 3-4pm & 5-6pm

Competition not compulsory, dancing for fun and friendship encouraged.

Tel: 087 706 7822
E: caraschoolofirishdancing@gmail.com

Bed event NOW ON



Flanagan Kerins
Furniture for Life

The Great Bed Scrappage Scheme

Trade in your old bed. Get a discount on a new one!



Posture Supreme 4ft6 Mattress
WAS €1125

NOW €875

(Image for illustration purposes)



Eve Double Bed Frame WAS €699

NOW €595

Free Recycling of replaced bed or mattress



www.fk-shop.ie



+353 1 281 3338



sales@flanagankerins.ie

Unit 3, Bray Retail Park, Southern Cross Rd, Bray, Co. Wicklow, A98 W985