



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.

Christmas Issue 18th December 2023, First Floor, The Boulevard, Quinsborough Road, Bray. A98 R6D7. Tel: 01 - 2869111 www.wicklowtimes.net

GLENDALOUGH MASTERPLAN FLAWED

Seven State agencies came to Wicklow last week to launch a Masterplan for Glendalough that had no local input and which neither local councillors, TDs and indeed local Ministers had sight of beforehand. Glendalough Hotelier and Fianna Fáil Senator Pat Casey is calling for an immediate re-structuring of the Masterplan as its 'implementation partnership' currently excludes the community which lives and works in the valley.

"I found myself in a very unique position at the launch as a lifelong resident of Glendalough, operating a family business in Glendalough that predates 1870 and as an elected public representative for the community since 2004, I was filled with very mixed emotions," said Senator Casey.

"On the positive side, after years of campaigning to get the recognition that Glendalough deserves at a national level, this iconic valley needs a strategic vision, a plan that encompasses the community, the visitor and enterprise experience. There is also a need to curate and protect the rich biodiversity and heritage contained within. The Masterplan sets out that vision, which was called for in the very first Laragh-Glendalough Settlement And Tourism Plan adopted in 2011, by the elected representatives of the Community. However, on closer analysis of the Masterplan, I am frustrated and annoyed for my community of Laragh and Glendalough as to how this Masterplan firstly evolved, how it was adopted, and how it is going to be implemented. This strategy evolved from behind closed doors, the first draft of the Masterplan presented in 2020, excluded any input from the community, and local stakeholders or anybody who lives or works in Glendalough, ever since then we have only had opportunity to amend the Masterplan and not influence its core objectives. The same group of State bodies who prepared the first draft returned in a secretive manner and adopted the Masterplan using European Regulations to ram it through. Prior to the launch no public representatives, no members of the community and no local stakeholders had seen sight of the final Masterplan. This is unacceptable and a clear breach of trust with the community and local stakeholders.



Stella Quinn with Santa at the switching on of the Christmas Lights in Laragh. Pic: Michael Kelly

"To add insult to the community, local stakeholders and our public representatives, the establishment of 'Glendalough Partnership' to implement the Masterplan comprises only State actors. They have all signed a

Memorandum of Understanding for 5 years which will establish a Steering Group and a Working Group to implement the Masterplan consisting of these state bodies only.

"This Partnership will work closely with a Local Advisory Group to be established on a biannual basis. How they can call this a partnership when there is no room for the critical local community, either at Steering Group or Working Group level? This is a severe breach of trust and basic governance principles and is quite simply unacceptable in the year 2023 and I remind the state bodies that the problems in Glendalough are not coming from the community."

Councillor Shay Cullen was of a similar view: "Twice these State bodies came to Wicklow County Council and assured councillors that

they would have an input, but nobody was consulted, neither public representatives, business or community. It was a repeat of the weird plan to put

1000 Ukrainians on the side of a mountain in Annamoe."

they would have an input, but nobody was consulted, neither public representatives, business or community. It was a repeat of the weird plan to put



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.alhhomecare.ie

Seasons Greetings
from all of us at

FELTON McKNIGHT
SOLICITORS LLP

Our offices will close for Christmas at
lunchtime on Friday 22nd December,
reopening at 9am on
Tuesday 2nd January, 2024.

Text or call 087 686 2139

Church Road, Greystones
www.feltonmcknight.ie

@ info@feltonmcknight.ie 01 287 4341

A TRADITION OF LEGAL EXCELLENCE

Large turnout at Bray community lunch



Orla Butler (IMPACT Initiative), Heather Redmond (Sunbeam House Services), Councillor Melanie Corrigan, and Renee Sutton (IMPACT Initiative)

Around 150 people from the local community in Bray and north Wicklow attended Bray Area Partnership's recent Festive Community Lunch in the Little Flower Hall in Bray.

The event provided a space for people from community groups, agencies and public representatives to network, share information and make connections that enable them to work together more collaboratively for the benefit of the whole community.

Attendees were also able to browse information stands from a range of local services and community groups and find out more about the vital services and supports they provide in the community.

Bray Area Partner-

ship's chairperson, Councillor Aoife Flynn Kennedy, welcomed everybody and said: "We are lucky to have such a vibrant community sector in Bray and

north Wicklow that works together so well to meet the needs of so many in the local area - including the emerging needs of new friends we have welcomed

into our community programme starting in January, and Julie Clodagh Whelan from Wicklow County Council then spoke about the new Healthy Age Friendly Homes pro-

gramme starting in January, and Julie Sammiller gave an input on the Community Climate Action Fund and how community groups can apply.

'We Can Quit' stop smoking programme for people in Bray and North Wicklow

Would you like to stop smoking? Or have you tried before and feel you could benefit from more support to help you quit? Are you considering quitting in the new year?

Bray Area Partnership is running a free We Can Quit stop smoking programme starting on 16th January 2024 in Bray - so it's a great chance to put those new year's good intentions into practice.

The course will take place in the evening and run for seven weeks, offering group and one-to-one support and free stop smoking medication. You must be living in the Bray or north Wicklow area to qualify to attend.

People who have attended the course to date have found it really beneficial - as one participant said: "We Can Quit gave me the confidence to try to stop smoking. The weekly meeting with other smokers really helped as you feel you are part of a

team working together to support each other. I especially appreciated the phone call after the weekend - when will power would be running low after struggling to socialise without cigarettes."

The We Can Quit programme is part of the SI-intecare Healthy Communities Programme, which aims to provide support to people in local communities to make real and tangible changes in their lives to improve their health.

Places are limited so to find out more and register call Karen Hammond at Bray Area Partnership on 01 286 8266 or 083 334 2590. See www.brayareapartnership.ie for more information.

BRAY
ACMEblinds Vevay Rd, Bray

- **Free Fitting**
- **Free Measuring Service**
- **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



Danielle Mervyn and Shane Lee (HSE Health and Wellbeing); with (front row left to right) Louise Curtin and Karen Hammond (Bray Area Partnership).

WICKLOW
LOCAL Times

Shay Fitzmaurice, Managing Editor - shay@localtimes.ie

Ian Colgan, News Editor - ian@localtimes.ie

Sales / General enquiries - info@localtimes.ie

is published by Wicklow Times,

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

DARGLE VALLEY PHARMACY
The Feel Good Pharmacy

Dargle Valley Pharmacy at the Egan Business Centre, A98 E367

A big thank you to all our customers and friends for their support

Merry Christmas and a Happy & Healthy New Year to all

Call us on 01 286 2210

Park at our door or we can deliver to yours!

Only 5 Minutes from Kilmacanogue, Enniskerry and Shankill, 3 minutes from Bray, and 12 minutes from Kilpeddar

National Learning Network
Learn to change your story

Don't know **what to do next?**

JobStart
Training in the Workplace

Our hands-on, FREE job-seeking **JobStart Training in the Workplace** course will teach you the skills you need to get a job. With full & part time options, we'll help you to find the job you want!

Our 'Place and Train' approach, means you'll train in a company of your choice for three days a week and train in our centre for the other two days.

Contact Colette O'Loan at NLN Bray:

☎ 086 0432869
✉ colette.oloan@nlm.ie
f @NLNWicklow
x @NLNWicklow
🌐 www.nln.ie

Free life-changing courses and supported **training**

kwetb
Kilwinchulla Wicklow Education and Training Board

Mixed news on Cliff Walk re-opening

HSE Your local health services

For health information, advice, supports and services visit hse.ie

HSELive is here to answer your questions. Open Mon - Fri, 8am-8pm, and Sat 9am-5pm.
Freephone 1800 700 700

HSE Injury Unit - St Columcille's Hospital

Loughlinstown, D18 E365. Open 7 days, 8am to 6pm, ages 14 and over.
For broken bones, sprains, minor burns and other non life-threatening injuries.

Check hse.ie/injuryunits before you go to see if you can be treated there, and for phone numbers and Eircodes. Opening hours for holidays may vary.



GP Out-of-Hours Services - Call ahead to book an appointment

North Wicklow	South Wicklow	West Wicklow
EDOC 01 223 4500 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Columcille's Hospital Loughlinstown, D18 E365. St Michael's Hospital Dún Laoghaire, A96 D628. 	Caredoc 0818 300 365 or 059 913 8100 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wicklow Primary Care Centre, Wicklow, A67 K5C7. The Health Clinic, Arklow, Y14 AE10. 	KDOC 045 848 701 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vista Primary Care Campus, Naas, Co. Kildare, W91 E6H2.

Call 112/999 for serious or life-threatening emergencies

Green Party Deputy Steven Matthews and Cllr Erika Doyle have welcomed an update on works needed to restore access to the Cliff Walk from Bray but expressed disappointment that reopening of the full walk is likely to be delayed by land ownership issues on the Greystones side of the walk.

The Cliff Walk has been closed since 2021 due to landslides and slippage and both Bray Municipal District and Greystones Municipal District have been engaged in negotiations with various stakeholders to restore access.

Cllr Erika Doyle said, "Things on the Bray side are progressing, although I understand it's not as quickly as we would all like. The tender for the rock fall stabilisation works issued in late November and the closing date for receipt of completed tenders is

mid-January. All going well a contractor should be appointed by mid-February.

"One of the most frequent enquiries I get from constituents is about the Cliff Walk closure and when it will re-open. It is loved by locals who miss it desperately for their daily or weekly constitutional, and obviously its closure impacts Bray's tourism offering. While it has taken some time, it's a relief to have some concrete information.

"However things are not look-

ing as positive on the Greystones side and despite the best efforts of council staff, it is likely that there will be a delay in progressing works.

Deputy Steven Matthews said, "The update regarding the Cliff Walk is that regrettably to date there has been no response to offers to purchase the required lands from the private land owners. It is very likely that the Council will have to initiate CPO proceedings to progress this matter."



Justine Breen, Fran Murphy and Melissa Byrne officially open the new Sensory Garden at Sunbeam House in Bray.



Do you want to stop smoking?

We Can Quit is a free stop smoking programme, offering group support, one to one support and stop smoking medication

Have you tried to quit before?

We Can QUIT

Do you want support to quit?

Make this stop your last stop

Where: Villa Pacis, Vevay Road, Bray
When: 7 - 8.30pm, Tuesday 16th January 2024 for 7 weeks.
For more information or to register contact Karen Hammond
Phone: 083 334 2590 or 01 286 8266
Email: karenhammond@brayareapartnership.ie
www.brayareapartnership.ie

CLLR. JOE INDEPENDENT BEHAN

Here to serve the people of:

- Ashford • Baltinglass
- Blessington • Bray
- Delgany • Dunlavin
- Enniskerry • Glenealy
- Greystones • Kilcoole
- Kilmacanogue • Kilpedder
- Kilquade • Laragh
- Moneystown • Newcastle
- Newtownmountkennedy
- Rathnew • Roundwood
- Wicklow Town



086 8375602
joebehan@outlook.ie
[indjoebehan](https://www.facebook.com/indjoebehan)

Mother and daughter get a new home for Christmas

'When you're a lone parent and far from home, you really rely on your community'



DBC

CHARTERED PHYSIOTHERAPY
& SPORTS MEDICINE CLINIC
AT EGANS BUSINESS CENTRE, BRAY

New Clinic Now Open

DBC Chartered Physiotherapy and Sports Medicine Clinic is a state-of-the-art spine and sports rehabilitation facility. Our new centre in Bray is one of Ireland's largest specialist medical exercise and rehabilitation facilities.

**Not all Physiotherapy
is the Same...**

*A big thank you to all our
patients and customers in our
first year - wishing you all a
Happy Christmas*

Unit 7, Egan Business Centre, Upper Dargle Road,
Bray Commons, Bray, Co. Wicklow, A98 AE27

T: (01) 531 0333 E: bray@dbc.ie

www.dbc.ie

In 2010, working as a public relations professional in Brazil, Deusa knew learning English would be an advantage for future job opportunities supporting Brazil as the host for the 2014 World Cup and 2020 Olympics. With that in mind, Deusa moved to Ireland from Minas Gerais, Brazil, planning to spend a year or two in the country studying English. While studying, she was also working at an insurance company and extended her stay after her first two years in Ireland to continue to improve her language skills.

When Deusa became pregnant in 2014, she considered going back to Brazil as she was no longer in a relationship with the baby's father. Her family encouraged her to stay in Ireland to have the baby as Deusa was employed and had earned maternity leave entitlement and Deusa knew that Ireland could offer quality prenatal care for her baby and her.

Deusa went back to work after finishing maternity leave when her daughter, Lilly, was born, only to lose her job three days after her return. Needing to find a means to support herself and her daughter,

Deusa became a childminder. Money was tight and Deusa and Lilly had no choice but to share a bedroom in a house with a number of other people. Looking for a better option, Deusa put her name on the list with the local council for social housing. Over time, she qualified for the Housing Assistance Payment and was able to move into a private-rented apartment. While she was happy where she lived, she was highly aware that her situation could quickly change if her landlord decided to sell or make changes to her apartment so it was with both a bit of surprise and a lot of joy when she

received the notification that she qualified for a new, social rented home from Co-operative Housing Ireland in Kilrudey Glen in Bray.

Deusa got the keys to her brand new, light-filled, 2-bedroom apartment late last month and she is excited about spending her first Christmas in her new home her daughter. She is already feeling the benefits of her new community. When Deusa and Lilly were moving in, the couple from across the hall lent a hand to help them get their boxes into their apartment - more than halving the time it would have taken Deusa and Lilly alone.



Wicklow's Golf Pro Louise D'Arcy and the Junior Committee want to congratulate the Juniors for their dedication and commitment to improving their golf game over the year, and they are wishing all the Wicklow Golf Club Juniors a fantastic Christmas. Pictured (L-R) are Killian Jameson, Jack Murphy, Tiernan Nolan, Captain Christine Ryan, Joe Murphy, Sadhbh Tyrrell (front) Louise D'Arcy P.G.A Wicklow Golf pro, and Brian Tracey.

MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

multimetals

Authorised Treatment Facility

recycling ltd.

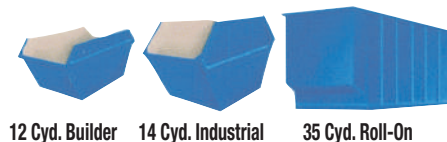
**Ferrous and Non-Ferrous Metals
Environmental Waste Solutions**

- Friendly, efficient service
- Responsible Work Culture
- Substantial Ferrous and Non-Ferrous Recycling Activities
- Providing Local Employment

Tel:
0404 64 934

**WE ACCEPT ALL TYPES OF FERROUS
AND NON-FERROUS PRODUCTS FROM:**

- Resident Associations • Farmers
- Mechanical & Engineering Businesses
- Demolition • Factory Clearouts



12 Cyd. Builder 14 Cyd. Industrial 35 Cyd. Roll-On



The Murrough, Wicklow Town. Email: office@multimetals.ie

www.multimetals.ie



Rosemary Scallan
& Company Solicitors

Established 2006

Personal Legal Services

- Family Law • Conveyancing • Wills
- Estate Administration • Personal Injury • Litigation.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish our valued clients and colleagues a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas and happiness, peace and good health for 2024

Please contact:

Rosemary Scallan and Ed Allen
1, Westview House, (Above Sonny's Restaurant),
Church Road, Greystones, County Wicklow.

Email: rosemary@rosemaryscallan.ie

Email: ed@rosemaryscallan.ie

Tel: 01 287 2905

Rosemary Scallan
Partner

Ed Allen
Partner

www.rosemaryscallan.ie



Tá tacaíochtaí fuinnimh ar fáil



Bíonn teaghlaigh faoi bhrú a mbillí fuinnimh a íoc nuair a thiteann na teochtaí sa gheimhreadh.

Más duine atá breacaosta nó ar a bhfuil míchumas nó breoiteacht fhadtéarmach thú, is féidir go mbeidh an aimsir fhuar ina fadhb ar leith duit.

Tá sé tábhachtach go bhfanfadh gach duine te an geimhreadh seo. Mar chabhair, tá an Rialtas ag soláthar tacaíochtaí éagsúla chun ualach na gcostas fuinnimh a mhaolú.

Nuair is gá, coinneigh te na seomraí a úsáideann tú sa bhaile agus lean d'úsáid a bhaint as aon fhearais nó aon ghléasanna lena gcoinnítear sábháilte agus compordach thú.

Tacaíochtaí

Má tá deacrachtaí agat do bhillí fuinnimh a íoc, agus/nó má tá inní ort go ndícheanglófaí thú, labhair le do sholáthraí. Chun comhairle agus faisnéis a fháil faoi chearta tomhaltóirí, cuir glao ar an **gCoimisiún um Rialáil Fóntais (CRU)** ag **1800 404 404**

Má tá tú os cionn 60 bliain d'aois agus inníoch faoi bhillí fuinnimh nó ag déileáil le deacrachtaí eile, cuir glao ar **Alone** ag **0818 222 014**

Má tá tú ag streachailt le fiacha eile atá de bhreis ar bhillí fuinnimh agus má tá cabhair le pleananna aisíocaíochta ag teastáil uait, cuir glao ar an **tSeirbhís Bhuiséadta agus Chomhairle Airgid (MABS)** ag **0818 07 2000**

Le haghaidh deontais a bhaineann le huasghráduithe fuinnimh tí dóibh sin atá i mbaol, tabhair cuairt ar **seai.ie/reduceyouruse**

Is ar fáil ag **gov.ie/ÚsáidNíosLú** atá leideanna agus comhairle faoi conas is féidir leat fanacht te agus tú ag sábháil fuinnimh ag an am céanna, mar aon le faisnéis faoi na tacaíochtaí uile atá ar fáil.

ÚSÁID NÍOS LÚ



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Tracey Walker with Santa at the switching on of the Christmas Lights in Arklow

Public thanked for Giving Tree donations

Soroptimist International Bray and Bray Rotary thank Bray shoppers for generous gifting of the Bray Giving Tree

This month over 300 gifts have been distributed to local charities, such as Open Door, Purple House, SVP Ballywaltrim, Ark Housing, Bray Women's Refuge, Five Loaves, as well as some of the refugees centres, to spread some Christmas Cheer. This year, Bray Rotary Club and Soroptimist International Bray & District jointly worked on the Bray Giving Tree project.

The Giving Tree has gift tags with the gender and ages of local needy children and older people, which are supplied by the charities mentioned above. The public then takes a gift tag and buy that child or older person a present and return it to the Giving Tree. In addition, some large donations of toys were received from private and corporate benefactors.

Soroptimist International Bray (SI Bray - further information as: bray.soroptimistsinternational@gmail.com) and Bray Rotary Club would like to thank the public for their generous contribution which makes such a difference to lives of those who need our support.

SI Bray is looking forward to continue with this great Christmas tradition in Bray for the years to come and would like to thank Bray Rotary Club for their many years of dedication to the Giving Tree.



Ray and Clare Comeford with Patricia MacKay and Allen Bernstein



COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

MOTOR TAX OFFICES WICKLOW, BRAY & BLESSINGTON

Motor tax can be renewed online at www.motortax.ie

Wicklow Motor Tax Office – Christmas Opening Times

Monday 18th December	9.00am – 3.30pm
Tuesday 19th December	9.00am – 3.30pm
Wednesday 20th December	9.00am – 3.30pm
Thursday 21st December	9.00am – 3.30pm
Friday 22nd December	9.00am – 1.00pm
Monday 25th December	Closed
Tuesday 26th December	Closed
Wednesday 27th December	Closed
Thursday 28th December	Closed
Friday 29th December	Closed
Monday 1st January 2024	Closed

Normal office hours (9.00am – 3.30pm) will resume on Tuesday 2nd January 2024.

Bray Motor Tax Office – Christmas Opening Times

Tuesday 19th December	10.30am – 2.00pm
Wednesday 20th December	10.30am – 2.00pm
Thursday 21st December	10.30am – 2.00pm
Tuesday 26th December	Closed
Wednesday 27th December	Closed
Thursday 28th December	Closed

Normal office hours (10.30am – 2.00pm Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday) will resume on Tuesday 2nd January 2024.

Blessington Motor Tax Office – Christmas Opening Times

Tuesday 19th December	9.00am – 12.30pm and 2.00pm – 3.30pm
Tuesday 26th December	Closed

Normal office hours (9.00am – 12.30pm and 2.00pm – 3.30pm Tuesday's only) will resume on Tuesday 2nd January 2024.



Do you have old photos of the Leinster 200 Motorcycle Road Races from 1950 – 1957?

If so, we need your help for a planned history of the Wicklow Rathnew Circuit!



Please contact:
Eddie Youngs at
youngs173@btinternet.com

On behalf of everyone in Purple House, we wish the community Peace, Health and Goodwill this Christmas and Always. We are Closing Thursday 21st December 2023 RE-OPENING 2nd January 2024.



Tiglin and Rise at the Cove would like to thank everyone who has supported us throughout 2023. Happy Christmas.

Tel: 085 869 5964
Email: admin@tiglin.ie
Tel: 0404 400 10 Residential

www.tiglin.ie

PRICES GARAGE
Tel: 01 – 281 8128 / Mob: 086 – 838 2677 Roundwood, Co Wicklow

- Diagnostic Health Check
- Service & Maintenance
- NCT & CVRT Prep.
- Mixed Fuel Removal
- Clutches & Gearboxes
- Crash Repairs
- Engineer Reports
- Batteries & Tyres
- Air Conditioning Service

Castrol **CRYPTON** **CIRCOL** **ELT** **SIMI** **BrainBee**



**WICKLOW
COUNTY
COUNCIL**

Have a GREEN CHRISTMAS

This Festive Season RECYCLING

for December & January



CHRISTMAS TREE SHREDDING JANUARY 2024

Bring your Christmas Tree to any of the collection points below.
They will be shredded, composted and used again!

The Christmas tree collection service is a free service for households (domestic) only. Up to two trees per household. No commercial collectors. Litter fines will be issued to those depositing trees outside the times specified and to individuals or other entities operating unauthorised collections.

NO WREATHS, PLASTIC TREES OR DECORATIONS PLEASE.

Town	Location	Collection Dates	Operating Times for Acceptance of Christmas Trees
Arklow	Arklow Recycling Centre, Croghan Industrial Estate, Emoclew Road, Arklow	3 rd to 17 th January 2024	Monday to Thursday: 9.00am – 4.00pm Friday: 9.00am – 3.00pm Saturday: 9.00am – 1.00 pm
Avoca	Avoca Recycling Centre	3 rd to 17 th January 2024	Tuesday to Thursday: 9.00am – 4.00pm Friday: 9.00am – 3.00pm Saturday: 9.30am – 1.00pm (closed for lunch 1-2pm each day)
Baltinglass	Rampere Recycling Centre, Rampere Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow	3 rd to 17 th January 2024	Monday to Thursday: 8.30am – 4.00pm Friday: 8.30 am – 3:30pm Saturday: 8.30am – 1pm
Blessington	County Council Yard, Naas Road	3 rd to 17 th January 2024	Monday to Friday 9.00am – 4 pm
Bray	Bray Recycling Centre, Beechwood Close, Boghall Road, Bray	3 rd to 17 th January 2024	Monday to Thursday: 9.00am – 4.00pm Friday: 9.00am – 3.00pm Saturday: 9.00am – 1.30pm
Greystones	Carpark to front of the Council Offices on Mill Road adjacent to the bottle banks	3 rd to 17 th January 2024	Monday to Friday 9.00am – 4 pm Saturday: 9.00am - 1:pm
Wicklow	The Murrough Recycling Centre, Wicklow Town	3 rd to 17 th January 2024	Monday to Thursday: 9.00am – 4.00pm Friday: 9.00am – 3.00pm Saturday: 9.00am – 1:45pm (closed for lunch 1-1.45pm each day)

Christmas 2023 / 2024 Opening & Closing Times Wicklow County Council Recycling Centres

	Arklow	Avoca	Bray	Wicklow Town	Rampere, Baltinglass
Friday 22 nd December	9:00am -3:30pm	9.00am – 4:00pm (closed for lunch 1pm-2pm)	9:00am – 4:00pm	9.00am – 3.30pm (closed for lunch 1pm – 1.45pm)	9:00am 3:30pm
Saturday 23 rd December	9:00am -1:45pm	9:00am -1:45pm	9:00am -1:45pm	9:00am -1:45pm	8:30am -1pm
Sunday - Christmas Eve	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Monday - Christmas Day	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Tuesday - St. Stephens Day	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Wednesday 27 th December	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Thursday 28 th December	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Friday 29 th December	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	8:30am - 1 pm
Saturday 30 th December	9:00am -1:45pm	9:00am -1:45pm	9:00am -1:45pm	9:00am -1:45pm	8:30am -1pm
Sunday 31 st December New Year's Eve	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Monday 01 st January 2024 New Year's Day	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Tuesday 2 nd January 2024	9.00am – 4.30pm	9.00am – 4.00pm (closed for lunch 1-2pm)	9:00am - 4pm	9.00am – 4.30pm (closed for lunch 1pm – 1.45pm)	8.30am – 4:00pm

HOW ARE YOU LEAVING YOUR MARK?



BEWARE OF UNLICENSED WASTE COLLECTORS

“Plan Your Festive Food” to avoid Food Waste this Christmas

Planning your festive food can help you avoid food waste and reduce stress and hassle while shopping for food and cooking over the Christmas season.

1. Planning your Christmas menu – it’s never too late to start
2. Stick to your Christmas shopping list – only buy what you need
3. Store your Christmas food properly – make the most of it
4. Cooking enough Christmas fare – give family-style serving a go
5. Amazing festive leftovers – can save you time and money

More information at www.stopfoodwaste.ie





Theresa and Jennifer Wood at the National Learning Network's Christmas Market in Bray

Inaugural Light Up a Light greatly supported by the people of Wicklow

During one of the busiest shopping weekends in the lead up to Christmas, people paused and remembered their loved ones by lighting a candle and placing a ribbon on the special Memory Tree at Bridgewater Shopping Centre, in aid of Wicklow Hospice.

In place at the Shopping Centre since 25th November, the inaugural year of Wicklow Hospice's Light Up a Life concluded with an inclusive blessing of the tree under the guidance of local clergy from the Arklow district areas, followed by the lighting of the candles by the tree, accompanied by music and song from Avondale Voices.

Allison Ryder, Fundraising Co-ordinator at Wicklow Hospice said: "The conclusion of our inaugural Light Up a Life over the weekend was very special. It

offered an opportunity to pause for a moment and remember loved ones, amidst the busy festive period. The hundreds of ribbons adorning the Memory Tree and candles were a magical spectacle for shoppers and passersby on the day.

"The funds raised are immensely appreciated by Wicklow Hospice and will help us continue our work at the Hospice and throughout the community. A sincere thanks goes to all those who donated and the volunteers who supported the efforts since November," she added.

For those who could not make it to Bridgewater Shopping Centre, but would still like to support, visit www.lightupalife.ie to dedicate a light on the tree at Magheramore in memory of a loved one.

There are also special Christmas decorations and cards available to purchase on the site, with all proceeds going to Our Lady's Hospice & Care Services.



Blessing of the names on the Memory Tree



24A Florence 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
Clare-Ann Temple or Hannah Stockwell-Quinn.



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.
Ciara O'Sullivan B.B.L.S., (Euro)
Hannah Stockwell-Quinn B.C.L., L.L.M.

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

Charlie KEDDY

ANTI-ABORTION
CANDIDATE



"We are a banana republic, top heavy with foreign business. By continuing to feed this commercial monster it will eat us up. We should be an independent nation with full control, but I think we are not in control. Even sports bodies can weaken us as a proud republic by denying our independence by not having our national anthem played or wearing our national colours of green, white and orange as do all other proud nations. At the recent requiem mass for Liam Gordon, one of our members of the 1967 All Ireland winning team, Fr Doyle said people see things differently; one person sees the glass half full, another sees it half empty. I am no different than anybody else. I write with that in mind.

I stand because I think abortion is wrong. Other people fight for various causes, none as important as saving the life of an unborn human being.

Fianna Fail and Fine Gael took the knives out of each other's backs and agreed to share the spoils that each had wanted for themselves since the State began a hundred years ago.

Being a banana republic there is no keeping the law. The Regional Plan of 1999 protected all of Kilcoole and its environs from becoming a building site. Earlier today (5th December 2023) I looked at last night's [RTE Investigates] programme about planning and saw how An Bord Pleanála behaved. The developer said he broke no law, but the Regional Plan of 1999 was statutory. Wicklow County Council insist on not having a blade of grass in Kilcoole. That was its duty -

to keep the green belt. The law was for it - not me. I even tried the High Court and the Supreme Court to no avail. There is also an unauthorised development beside me. The developer was told to put back a site to its original form, it wasn't done.

I told the Council it wasn't, I got a reply saying the work was carried out and the case closed. Corruption at its best. An interesting thing about the site, in the night when the farmer was in bed the new illegal fence was extended further into the field that a family has worked for many years. The corn he sowed grew on the heap of clay that was left and not put back to restore the field. It reminded me of 1798 when the corn grew from their graves (Seamus Heaney, Requiem for the Croppies).

On Friday morning, 24th November, I was told of the trouble in Dublin City. Straight away I wondered had what I was writing any relation. I heard that laws would be brought in to deal with the behaviour of the previous night. The law. What happened to the laws that were broken to allow Kilcoole to become a building site. The Regional Plan 1999 covered by the 2000 planning laws left Kilcoole as a Green Belt. I reminded the Council, An Bord Pleanála, the High Court and Supreme Court of this and yet the building continues.

On Tuesday evening 28th November 2023 on television many speakers including Ministers castigated the people who caused the disturbance in Dublin. When will the people who allowed Kilcoole, a rural farming area, become a dan-

gerous juggernaut bypass be castigated. When will the people who made the relatives pay for their father or mother in nursing homes knowing they should not. When will the people who put the one honest garda through hell in the pulse file case be castigated. Then there is the case of the Kerry baby and the treatment a family had to suffer. Were the Far Right with the hoodies involved in any of the cases above. Is it possible the Far Right are paying more attention to what is going on than the better known Right.

Now believe it or not, I got two jail sentences for one case. During the Covid shutdown my phone packed in. I went to Bray to get a new one. Little or no traffic. I parked at a side door, not used to the premises on Fatima Terrace. Not causing any holdup. Someone who should not have been out because of the covid put a ticket on my car. I went to court to put my case why I should not pay the fine. I got a fine and didn't pay. A Garda rang to say there is a warrant for me. I went to the court and told a different judge my reason for not paying the parking fine. Although he was judge on the day he wasn't man enough to dismiss the case. He said 'pay the bill or jail', I said 'I am not paying'. The judge said 'seven days'. About a month after the same garda rang to say there is a warrant for you. I said 'there is a mistake', he said 'you will have to tell the court that'. I went to court and told the judge 'there is a mistake'. He said 'I have a bill against you, are you going to pay?' I said 'no'. He said 'do you want a solicitor?'. I

said 'no'. The judge said 'pay or jail', I said 'I am not paying', he said 'jail'. I was put straight into a cold cell and later brought to Portlaoise. When I was in the jail in Portlaoise I didn't see any of the people who put misery and hardship on the people I mentioned earlier.

During this time I started to write Sadhbh O'Neill questioning reducing cattle numbers while at the same time the Government is looking for more countries to buy our meat. I also think that a bit odd. The next day the same Sadhbh was on The Planning Trap programme. It sounded as though she had read my submission to Wicklow County Council and appeals to An Bord Pleanála when trying to save the best agricultural land in the country from becoming a building site. After listening to this programme and hearing the corruption within An Bord Pleanála my many appeals should be investigated. At the present time I am trying to preserve the farm that was the Convent Farm in Kilcoole with little success. St. Catherine's School started in the grounds of Newcastle Hospital where there are areas of land not being used and that is where its expansion should be, not Kilcoole. This was two of my appeals. One still outstanding on this farm. Then I heard Helen McEntee saying why she was elected. It was because of ABCDEF and didn't mention pro-life. The latest news. As I see the rugby organisation undermining my Irish Republic have been given millions. This is wrong. As Fr Doyle said, people see differently.

Charlie Keddy

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

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

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

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

ALHomecare

The Live-in Care Specialists

Nationwide Enquiry Line

087 744 0729

www.alhomecare.ie



Affordable Live-in Homecare

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

Wishing You & Yours a Merry Christmas & a Very Happy New Year!

Our enquiry lines will remain open throughout the Christmas period.

Bray Chamber urges support for local businesses

STEVEN MATTHEWS TD

Wishing everybody a Happy, Safe and Peaceful Christmas
Please shop local to support Wickow traders



STEVEN MATTHEWS TD

TO BOOK A CONSTITUENCY CLINIC PLEASE CONTACT:

✉ steven.matthews@oireachtas.ie

✉ @stevensgreen1

f STEVEN MATTHEWS TD

🌐 www.stevenmatthews.ie



green party
comhaontas glas

Having just turned on the town's Christmas Lights, and in the spirit of togetherness and community support, Bray Chamber of Commerce is encouraging people to embrace the season of giving, by choosing to shop local.

As the town twinkles with festive lights, the Chamber emphasizes the importance of supporting local businesses and shops that form the backbone of Bray's economy. By shopping locally, residents can contribute to the unique character of the town, fostering a sense of community this festive season.

Incoming President,

Kieran Ward, expressed the Chamber's gratitude for the ongoing support from the businesses who supported the Christmas lights campaign and highlighted the positive and lasting impact of local spending. "Our local businesses are the heart and soul of Bray, and by choosing to shop locally, we can ensure a thriving and vibrant com-

munity. This Christmas, let's come together to support our neighbours and friends who operate and work in the area," said Kieran.

With an array of diverse and delightful offerings, Bray's local businesses provide a personalized shopping experience that adds a special touch to Christmas. The Chamber encourages res-

idents to explore the variety of goods and services available in town, and with free parking at weekends, make the most of the festive atmosphere.

The Bray Chamber of Commerce wishes everyone a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year filled with the warmth of local support and community.



Lorraine and Olga would be delighted to greet you at Hiltons Pharmacy at their brand new, bigger premises at 8 Main Street, Bray (just two doors down from Dubray Books).

Nollaig Shona



My Priorities for 2024



Making it easier for people to renovate their homes in line with EU targets



Boosting Irish trade through EU trade agreements and supporting SMEs



Supporting EU policies to reduce energy prices and promote renewable energy



Prioritising consumers through EU policies such as right to repair



Ensuring a green deal that supports rural communities and farmers

Seán KELLY MEP

Wishing you all the best for the New Year!

✉ seankelly.eu
✉ sean.kellymep
✉ @seankellymep
✉ eppgroup.eu
✉ EPPGroup
✉ @EPPGroup



FINE GAIL

John

BRADY TD

Nollaig Shona agus Athbhláin Faoi Mhaise

I urge everyone to shop local and support local business



Sinn Féin Office
1st Floor, 27 Main Street, Bray,
Tel: 01-276 2623 Mon-Fri 10am-3pm
* Accessibility needs accommodated by request.



Sinn Féin Office
18a Upper Main, Street, Arklow
Tel: 0402-41853.
Wed-Thurs 10am-12pm

Email: john.brady@oireachtas.ie

Free parking to help support local business

Fine Gael Minister Simon Harris T.D. has encouraged shoppers to shop local this Christmas. To help promote local businesses, Minister Harris is delighted to confirm that Wicklow's Municipal Districts have introduced free parking arrangements over the holiday season.

Minister Harris said, "I am delighted to confirm that Wicklow County Council are now allowing free parking arrangements across the County in the run up to Christmas. This will help promote local business and I would like to encourage people to shop local this Christmas, as we have some of the best local businesses in the country, and it would be fantastic to be able to help support them."

"In Bray's Herbert Road car park, parking is now free on the weekends in the Wicklow County Council section until the 1st of

January 2024. Arklow Municipal District are now allowing two hours free parking in all Council owned car parks, on top of the pre-existing free parking arrangements on Sundays. In Greystones shoppers can park for free on street for up to two hours every Saturday until the 23rd of December. Wicklow Town is also allowing two hours free parking in all Council carparks, along with one-hour free parking on Wicklow Town's main street up until the 2nd of January 2024. Blessington and Baltinglass are fortunate

enough to already have free parking in place for their town centres, and I look forward to seeing local shoppers take full advantage of this in the lead up to Christmas. Christmas and the holiday period is one of the most special times of the year, and a very important time for families and communities.

"That's why I'd love to see people supporting local businesses and initiatives, to help local families, especially at a time when costs have been on the rise." Minister Harris concluded.

This holiday season, Wicklow County Council would like to encourage everyone to support our community by embracing the spirit of giving and choosing to shop local for Christmas.

Small businesses are the heart and soul of our community, and when you shop local, you're investing in the dreams and aspirations of your neighbours, adding a personal touch to your gift-giving, and nurturing the vibrant character of our local economy.

- <https://visitwicklow.ie/top-destinations-to-meet-santa-in-wicklow/>
- <https://visitwicklow.ie/wicklow-christmas-gift-guide-2023/>
- <https://visitwicklow.ie/wicklows-top-christmas-events/>



Liz Doyle with the Boland family meeting Santa in Laragh

MINISTER Simon HARRIS TD

Wishing everyone across County Wicklow a happy and healthy Christmas. Representing you and our community in Dáil Éireann is an honour and privilege I never take for granted. Excited about working as hard as I can for you in 2024.

*Every good wish,
Simon*



(01) 2813727



simon.harris@oireachtas.ie



DeputySimonHarris



@SimonHarrisTD

FINE GAEL

SENATOR Pat CASEY

*Wishing everybody
in Co. Wicklow a
Happy & Safe
Christmas*

FIANNA Fáil
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

Stay Local & Shop Local

Seanad Éireann, Leinster House,

Kildare Street, Dublin 2. ☎ 01 618 3516

The Bluebell, 13 Main Street, Arklow, Co. Wicklow.

☎ 0402 42105 ☎ 086 264 9483

🌐 patcasey@oireachtas.ie @ www.patcasey.ie



Gift vouchers make it easier to shop local in Wicklow Town

Surprise your loved ones while also supporting local jobs and local economy with the fantastic Wicklow Town Shop Local Vouchers.

Wicklow Town Shop Local Gift Vouchers (supported by Wicklow and District Chamber of Commerce) are the perfect gift idea and are not just for Christmas. They give the opportunity to treat family and friends while allowing all the freedom to choose where to spend the voucher.

Gift Vouchers are perfect for all sorts of occasions such as Birthdays, Communion, Anniversaries or as a simple "Thank You" to that someone special. To see the full range of participating stores please see Wicklowchamber.ie.

Vouchers are available in denominations of €5, €10, €20 and €50 to suit all budgets and occasions and come with a decorative sleeve for easy personalization.

Wicklow Town vouchers can be spent in many local stores and businesses such as book shops, greengrocers, butchers, cafés and supermarkets to name just a few. A full list of participating retailers will be provided with purchase.

To purchase your vouchers now please call directly to the Wicklow Chamber office in the Wicklow Enterprise Park from Monday to Thursday 9am-12pm. You can also purchase vouchers from Bridge Street Books or Connolly Menswear.



Wicklow Chamber of Commerce
President Stephen Delaney



Members of the Voices of Ukraine ladies choir, pictured with Sean Olohan from Wicklow Lions Club, at their recent performance in Wicklow Town

GRACE O'SULLIVAN MEP
MEP for Wicklow

Nollaig Shona

agus athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh
go léir

Wishing you all a peaceful holiday
season and a safe and healthy
2024.

If there is anything I can do for you
in Wicklow or Europe, please
reach out to me.



Contact Me



grace.osullivan@europarl.europa.eu



Councillor Edward Timmins

*Wishing everyone
a Happy Christmas
and a peaceful
New Year*

*Shop Local to
support your
community*

FINE GAEL



☎ 087 235 7914 ✉ ETimmins@Wicklowcoco.ie



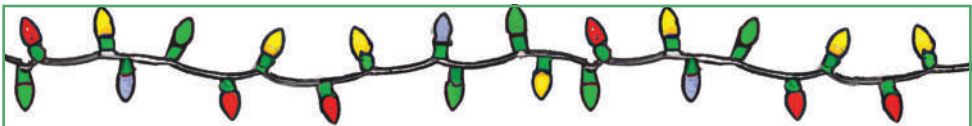


Shay Hiney of NLN Bray, with Cathaoirleach of Bray Municipal District Melanie Corrigan, Grainne Austin and Jackie Smith at the NLN Christmas Market in aid of local charities.

‘Support Arklow by shopping local’

Arklow Chamber of Commerce President Paul Lynch is encouraging the people of Arklow to support the town by shopping local.

At this important time of the year we are reminding people and businesses how important it is to shop local,’ he said. “As we are all aware, every local purchase directly impacts our town’s economic health. It helps to sustain Jobs in our community, encourages new start-ups and adds to the overall success of our town here in Arklow. We know that there is multiplier effect of 3 to 4 times with every €1 that is spent as this gets recycled back to suppliers and through payroll. We can all make a difference for local businesses this Christmas through our spending decisions. We can all save time, money, effort and the environment by devoting at least a portion of our festive spend to local businesses this Christmas.



Cllr. Erika DOYLE
Wicklow County Council
Bray Municipal District

Working for you in Bray

*Seasons
Greetings
to all my
Constituents*

*Support your local
shops this Christmas*

087 2639516
@erikadoylegreen
@erikadoylegreen
@MissErikaDoyle



*Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas
and a Healthy New Year*

Minister Stephen
Donnelly TD
Minister for Health & TD for Wicklow

Tel: (01) 201 7300 / Email: stephen.donnelly@oireachtas.ie



A Christmas message of support from Purple House

With Christmas approaching, Purple House CEO and founder Veronica O'Leary has shared the following message.

"Christmas time is nearly upon us. And as we approach a Season that is for many of us, the most emotive and challenging time of the year. We wanted to ensure you that help, and support is available every day in Purple House Cancer Support. Our broad suite of community-based support services for both adults and children alike will hopefully offer you the coping skills and practical supports you may need as you navigate your way through. We have several activities arranged over the next weeks that may offer some solace to you and your family."

"Most important is that our Centre will remain open each day for support and information of any

kind, so feel free to pop in any day between now and Friday the 22nd of December, although our classes and courses will be finishing for the winter on the 8th of December all other vital services are open and available. We are reopening Tuesday 2nd of January for drop in facilities and transport only. Counselling, complementary therapies and cancer rehabilitation physiotherapy will resume on Monday the 8th of January. Classes and workshops will resume on Monday the 15th of January.

"I would like to acknowledge and thank the following for their generous support to our Christmas Giving Campaign. These include our Christmas Corporate

Sponsors and our many other generous individuals, shops and organisations that offer their support to bring each year a little light to people at this time. Christmas is the season of giving and to be of service to others going through a difficult time, can be of immense

value as it is by giving that we receive ten-fold.

"If you need us, we are here, just Drop In, our door is always open. All of us in Purple House wish you Peace, Health and Goodwill at Christmas time and Always. Take care and see you soon."



Ellie, Mia and Yvonne O'Reilly at the Newcastle Christmas Market

Cllr. Paul O'BRIEN

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year

Shop Local to support your community

Contact:

086 036 6947

pobrien@wicklowcoco.ie

Labour

Wishing Everyone a Safe & Peaceful Christmas

FINE GAEL

Cllr Irene Winters

Quilca, Greenhill Road, Wicklow Town

087 244 3610

IWinters@wicklowcoco.ie



Cllr. Gerry Walsh

FIANNA FÁIL THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

Greystones Municipal District

Wishing everybody a Happy Christmas and best wishes for a safe & healthy 2024

Ph: 085 863 9848
E: gerrywalsh00@gmail.com

Sensible Politics with Practical Solutions

Wishing everybody a Happy Christmas and a Safe and Healthy '24

Cllr. RORY O'CONNOR

INDEPENDENT

Tel: 083 461 0357

Aaron McAllorum A Fresh Voice for Bray

Wishing everyone in Bray a Merry Christmas and all the very best in 2024



@AMC4BRAYEAST

@Amc4BrayEast

@McA4Bray

Aaron.McAllorum@socialdemocrats.ie

Social Democrats

MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR

FIANNA FÁIL THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

Cllr. GAIL

DUNNE

Email: gDunne@wicklowcoco.ie Tel: 086 821 4368

Cllr. MELANIE CORRIGAN

WORKING FOR YOU IN BRAY AND BRAY WEST
Cathaoirleach of Bray Municipal District (To include Kilmacanogue & Enniskerry)

Wishing everybody a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy & Happy New Year

Remember to Support Local & Shop Local

1 The Granite Byre, Ballybrew, Enniskerry, Co. Wicklow. A98 YD56
083-3642439
MelanieBrayWest@gmail.com
MelanieBrayWest
MelanieBrayWest
MelanieCorriganFG

Boxing clever at Christmas for a happier New Year

Cllr Dermot 'Daisy' O'Brien

**WISHING YOU ALL WELL
AS 2023 DRAWS TO A
CLOSE AND HOLDING A
SPACE IN MY HEART FOR
THOSE WHO HOPE FOR
BETTER IN 2024.**

 dermotobriensf@gmail.com

 @CllrDaisy

 **Sinn Féin**



With just several days of Christmas shopping to go, Champion Green is urging consumers to stay local and gift our communities a sustainable future.

"Use it or lose it" is the message, according to Evelyn Moynihan of Champion Green, who is asking consumers to shop local, online or in-person, in the run up to Christmas. "If we rely on convenient nearby shops and services, all year round, it is important that these small businesses get their share of spending now, so they are still trading in January."

Recent research shows 70% in Ireland now shop regularly online, so it is important to remind shoppers that money spent locally, stays local, the Champion Green campaigners say.

"Every euro spent with a small local business supports Irish business development, jobs, community investment and exchequer contributions that are needed to fund public services," David Broderick, Director of the Small Firms Association, says. Champion Green economists, Jim Power and Eoin McGee, say that every €1 spent locally generates up to €2.50 in the local economy, while spend with e-retailers at the other side of the world, is completely lost to Ireland.

Online shoppers can also be let down, unless they check that the website they are buying on is really local or Irish, Chambers Ireland CEO, Ian Talbot, adds.

"A .IE domain is not necessarily Irish. Global purchases can incur customs duty and taxes. They may be delayed or lost, and returns and complaints are not easy to deal with. Some festive banter with a local business owner, as you stock up for Christmas is a better proposition all round!"

In the month up to Christmas, consumers here spend about €5 billion, according to Retail Ireland, and the 'stay local' campaigners believe this spend can achieve much more, if this money stays in the country.

Small businesses employ around 1.2 million people in Ireland. That is over 70% of all jobs in the 'non-financial' business economy, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment reports.

"We are a nation of talented entrepreneurs, makers, and service providers, so let's maintain that proud reputation, and not put all of our eggs in the multinational's' basket," David Broderick of the Small Firms Association, says. Champion Green is supported by Visa, Kilkenny Design, Aviva, Maxol and An Post, and by trade groups Retail Excellence, Small Firms Association and Chambers Ireland.

One night in Bethlehem

Due to popular demand, One Night in Bethlehem is back in St. Patrick's Church, Greystones and will take place on Friday, 22nd December from 5-8pm. Tickets available on Eventbrite.

The fun filled family event will showcase a live nativity, an alpine food market, crafts, games, face painting and activities for everyone. The child friendly petting zoo will return again and the children can look forward to meeting a pig, rabbits, a turkey, goat, pony, llama, chickens, lamb and donkey.

Speaking about the live nativity, Canon David Mungavin said "It is great to come together as a community and parish to celebrate this special time of year. One Night in Bethlehem is a magical event which transforms our church grounds into the stable in Bethlehem. The live nativity, music and animals will help the children try to imagine the night that Jesus was born. We have lots of animals looking forward to greeting the children and everyone is welcome so be sure to put it in your diary."

There will be a new instalment this year, The Little Donkey Depot will be a quiet spot especially for anyone who needs some time out away from the sounds, lights and crowd. This depot is particular good if a little one is feeling overwhelmed and needs somewhere to sit quietly. This comfy corner will be overlooking the animals but without the bustle, and will feature the Tovertafel Sensory Machine, wooden toys, coffee and tea. Everyone is welcome. Raffle tickets can be bought with cash on the night. All proceeds from the event will go to Make a Wish Foundation Ireland and the Parish Funds.

Cllr. Pat KENNEDY

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year

Please remember to Shop Local and Support Wicklow this Christmas

 patkennedy1@outlook.com  087 419 8022

 **FIANNA Fáil**
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

Cllr. Anne

FERRIS

Peace Commissioner

Wishing everybody a Happy Christmas & a Peaceful New Year

 **Labour Women**

Contact me at
086-2364780 or Email:
AFerris@wicklowcoco.ie



LABOUR

Cllr. John Mullen

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all

 **FIANNA Fáil**
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

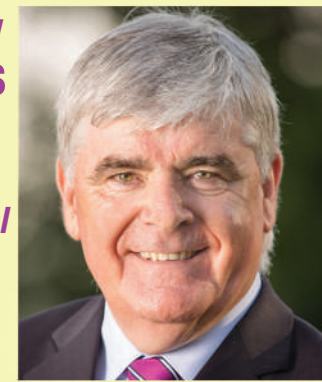
E: jmullen@wicklowcoco.ie

T: 086 417 7808



Cllr Tom FORTUNE INDEPENDENT

Wishing Everybody a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
Stay Safe • Support Local



#TheVoiceOfReason

Ph: 0862488195 Email: tom.fortune49@gmail.com
Web: tomfortune.ie X: @CllrTomF
Facebook: Cllr Tom Fortune #TheVoiceOfReason

Cllr. Patsy GLENNON
A fresh voice for the people of Wicklow

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all

Continuing to fight for the forgotten parts of Wicklow

Tel: 087 190 9133

E: pglennon@wicklowcoco.ie

 **FIANNA Fáil**
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY



Roundwood & District Athletic Club launches a Cookbook



William Belton, launching *Relishing Recipes from Roundwood*, with Aileen Leacy of RADAC

It was standing room only in the Parish Hall, Roundwood on Friday 8th December for the launch of the local athletic clubs newly published cookbook, called *Relishing Recipes from Roundwood*.

The community gathered to a delightful LIVE cooking demonstration along with instrumental music and song. Local legend, William Belton, launched this beautiful book. The production first came about when a few of the club coaches recognised that there is a link between what we eat and how we perform. To this end and with the athletic clubs' grounds and clubhouse nearing construction it was decided to compile a book of everyday meals, tips on nutrition, running and advice on when to

eat. This beautiful production is also bursting with photographs of old and new faces, history and more, it's a must-have for everyone.

There is a huge variety of recipes within this volume, from local club families, friends, grannies, local chefs and more. There are also recipes from Superstars, Fionnuala McCormack, Catherine Fulvio, Daniel Davey, Derval O'Rourke, Tarja Owens and Catherine McKiernan. The recipes within include waffles, pancakes, overnight oats, soups, salads, dinners, pastas, cakes, muffins, flapjacks, energy balls, a full Gluten-free section, breads & boxty, jams & chutney and much more.

This fantastic cookbook, which makes a great stocking filler, can now be purchased in Roundwood Stores, Keeleys Hardware, Roundwood Pharmacy, Avondale Sports Shop, The Roundwood Inn, Keith Grant Butchers, Altura Credit Union (local branch) and the local Centra. Be sure to pick up a copy of this popular cookbook, *Relishing Recipes from Roundwood*, it's selling well so get yours quickly.



Louise Lawlor who presented a wonderful Live Cooking Demonstration at the Book Launch, *Relishing Recipes from Roundwood*.



Local children watching the live cooking demonstration.

Archive photos sought from Leinster 200 motorcycle races 1950-57

Do you have any old photos of the Leinster 200 Motorcycle Road Races from 1950 to 1957? Author Eddie Youngs is looking for archive race photos for a future book on the history of road racing circuits.

Of the various circuits used since 1923 to host the Leinster 200 Motorcycle races the triangular 8.43 mile long Wicklow - Coolbeg - Rathnew circuit was the only circuit to successively host a series of international status races sanctioned by the FIM (Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme), these being between 1951 and 1957.

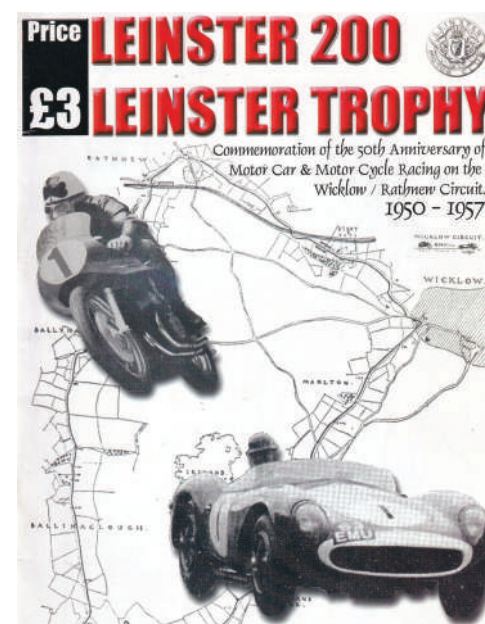
The start line position and pits to the circuit was located on the R750 road in Bollarney, a short distance beyond the railway bridge. The circuit continued into the outskirts of Wicklow before turning right onto the Marlton Road (R751) where it wound its way through Marlton and Woolaghans Bridge to the crossroads at 'The Beehive' pub at Coolbeg at which point it turned right on the road towards Rathnew (R772 and R752) passing through Nabarny. At Rathnew the circuit turned right again towards Wicklow to complete the lap.

These races attracted competition from all of the top Irish racers of this era as well as a number of accomplished international status motorcycle riders who competed at rounds of the World Championship Grand Prix races as well as the Isle of Man TT. The distinguished Irish riders who achieved notable success on the circuit included Reg Armstrong, Billy McCandless, Louis Carter and Sammy Miller, with distinguished U.K. riders including Dickie Dale, Arthur Wheeler and Jack Wood. Distinguished overseas riders included Bob Brown from Australia and G.A. Murphy from New Zealand.

With Wicklow County Council's decision later in 1957 to no longer permit the temporary closure of the

section of the circuit between Coolbeg and Rathnew (route of the important Dublin to Wexford Road) the Leinster 200 road races were relocated to a new circuit at Dunboyne, County Meath."

If you have any photos, email youngs173@btinternet.com



Claire Harte and Emily Campbell Fogarty at the National Learning Network's Bray Christmas Market. The market was in aid of the Shauna Kavanagh Foundation which supports people who face long-term health challenges and unexpected financial burdens. There were plenty of stocking fillers, Christmas cards, hot chocolate, baked goods, handmade crafts and more. The NLN students have focussed on the circular economy and made beautiful decorations from old books.

This Christmas
get them a gift that
will change their lives

Bray Institute of Further Education

NIGHT CLASS VOUCHERS

Available in denominations of
€5 €10 €20 €50 & €100

Vouchers are redeemable against any of BIFE's
Spring Evening Classes starting Jan next year

- Art - Drawing, Sketching & Painting
- Adobe
- ESOL English for speakers of other languages
- Film Special Effects
- First Aid & Cardiac First Responder
- Dress Making
- Bridge beginners
- Tai Chi
- Digital Photography
- Furniture Making & Woodwork for beginners
- Italian beginners
- Italian improvers
- Conversational Irish beginners
- Conversational Irish improvers
- Pottery & Ceramics
- French beginners
- French improvers
- Spanish beginners
- Spanish improvers
- Beekeeping for beginners
- Leaving Cert Irish
- Guitar
- Crochet for beginners
- Oil Painting for beginners
- Pilates
- Yoga

Course Details
on www.bife.ie

PLUS our new Daytime Hobby Courses

- Art Craft Design • Crochet • Pilates

To book a voucher go to:

<https://ams.enrol.ie/BIFE/Sept/2023/index.php>

bife

BRAY INSTITUTE OF
FURTHER EDUCATION

DEDICATED | PROFESSIONAL | PASSIONATE

Novara Avenue, Bray.
Tel: 01 286 6111. www.bife.ie

kwetb
Kildare and Wicklow
Education and Training Board

eth
Bray Institute of Further Education
Education and Training Board



Pictured at the launch of safefood's annual 'Trust the Meat Thermometer' Christmas campaign is safefood ambassador, Chef Gareth Mullins.

Festive food safety

More than four in ten (42%) home cooks say the cost of food is their top concern when cooking Christmas dinner this year, as one in three (33%) say they will cook a turkey crown, new research from safefood has revealed.

The research was commissioned by safefood as part of its annual Christmas food safety campaign, as it encourages home cooks to use a meat thermometer to make sure their Christmas turkey is safely cooked through to 75 degrees Celsius and ensure everyone has a safe and tasty Christmas.

Trish Twohig, Director of Food Safety with safefood said: "Our research shows more people are opting for turkey crowns this year which would suggest people are changing their choice of Christmas turkey with an eye on food costs. Whatever kind of turkey you cook this year, using a meat thermometer takes the guesswork out of knowing when it's safely cooked. To check that it's cooked, take the turkey out of the oven, and pop a meat thermometer in the thickest part of the meat between the breast and the leg

- when it reads 75 degrees Celsius, it's safely cooked. Meat thermometers are affordable, easy to use and can be used on other meats during the year like chicken, pork, burgers, and sausages to ensure they are cooked all the way through.

"If you don't own a meat thermometer, that's not a problem," Trish continued. "To check your turkey is safely cooked, pierce the thickest part with a clean skewer or fork and check that it is piping hot, with no pink meat left and the juices run clear."



As the holiday season approaches and our kitchens take centre stage, Clean Coasts, in collaboration with Uisce Eireann, urges the public of Wicklow to think twice before pouring fats, oils, and greases down the sink to prevent blockages in your wastewater pipes. This Christmas and New Year keep the Greasy Grinch out of your home and 'Think Before You Pour'.

STAY SAFE THIS CHRISTMAS...

As the holiday season approaches, our homes often transform into a wonderland of lights, decorations, and festivities. While the spirit of Christmas brings joy and warmth, it's crucial to remember the importance of safety and security in our homes.

While the Christmas season is a time for celebration, it's also a time to be vigilant about home safety. By following these simple yet effective tips, you can ensure that your holiday season is not just merry and bright, but also safe and secure. Remember, a safe home is the best gift you can give to your family this holiday season.

Lighting up Safely

Christmas lights and decorations add a magical touch to our homes, but they also bring potential electrical hazards. To ensure safety:

1. Inspect Decorations: Before decorating, inspect electrical decorations for damage. Frayed wires or loose connections can lead to short circuits or fires.

2. Use Certified Products: Always use lights and electrical decorations that have

been tested and certified by recognized safety testing laboratories.

3. Avoid Overloading Sockets: Plugging too many decorations into one socket can overload electrical circuits. Use power strips wisely and don't exceed their wattage limits.

Fire Prevention: Keeping the Hearth Merry and Safe

With the increased use of candles, fireplaces, and heating devices, fire safety becomes paramount during the holidays.

1. Candle Caution: Never leave candles burning unattended. Keep them away from flammable materials and use sturdy holders to prevent tipping.

2. Fireplace Safety: Ensure your fireplace is clean and the chimney is inspected before use. Use a screen to stop sparks from flying into the room.

3. Christmas Tree Care: If you have a real tree, keep it watered to prevent it from drying out and becoming a fire hazard. Position it away from heat sources.

Home Security: Protecting Your Festive Haven

The holiday season unfortunately sees a spike in home burglaries. To protect your home:

1. Lock Doors and Windows: Ensure all entry points are securely locked. Use deadbolts for added security.

2. Be Discreet About Gifts: Avoid displaying gifts where they can be easily seen from the outside.

3. Use Timers and Smart Devices: Automated lights and smart security systems can give the impression that someone is home, deterring potential burglars.

Keeping your home safe for visitors

Christmas is one of the busiest times of the year for hosting visitors in the home. New research by Liberty Insurance has identified some of the pitfalls and watchouts for Irish households to ensure safety when welcoming guests this festive season.

The research, conducted by Red C on behalf of Liberty, has identified the most common incidents and accidents that have happened to visitors in Irish homes, and the insurer is advising of simple measures householders can take ahead of the holidays.

Key measures that householders can take this Christmas.

1. Ensure Christmas Lights are plugged in safely

Loose Christmas light cords can be one of the biggest trip hazards at Christmas. When hanging Christmas tree lights, do so as close to an outlet as possible. If not, run any long, loose cords along the wall, or behind

furniture. If for any reason you need to run a cord across a major walkway in your home, consider taping it down.

2. Keep pathways clear

Coats and bags can be another common trip hazard - particularly if lots of guests were to visit at the one time. Ensure you have a safe place to store guests' coats and bags, such as a coat rack, to avoid leaving any potential trip risks on the floor - especially as many guests may be moving freely around your home.

3. Kitchen safety

Food and drink at Christmas is an important part of hosting guests at Christmas. While it's a busy time, make sure to store

knives or other sharp implements safely, and be vigilant when using the oven. Many guests will offer to help preparing food, and while their help is always great to receive, if they're not familiar with your kitchen, they run the risk of inadvertently getting a burn or cut. Have a look around your kitchen for the things you take for granted, but which guests may not - especially children - and let anyone volunteering to help know.

4. Consider child gates or protective rails

If you're likely to be hosting children in your home, there may be additional risks of falling

on stairs or over low railings. Especially for those not familiar with the layout of your home, consider if there are any places where children might potentially trip or fall, and if you could install a child gate to keep them safe.

5. Bonus Tip: Pet Safety

Many cats and dogs love nothing more than welcoming new visitors to their homes. However, this is not always the case. To minimise risk of any unfortunate incidents, have a separate area available for your pet if you can, inform visitors of any potential risks, and ensure pets are comfortable and well-behaved during gatherings.

Launch of Operation Tairge

Last week saw the launch of 'Operation Tairge - Operation ShopSafe & Christmas Enforcement Campaign Christmas and New Year 2023/24' in the Bray District. The Campaign will run until the 7th January 2024. The primary operational aim of this policing plan will be dedicated high visibility hot spot beat patrols over the main trading periods within Bray and Greystones Town Centres and Shopping Areas and increased enforcement in terms of inspections of licensed premises.

The overall objective of the Operation is to prevent and detect criminal offences especially those affecting commercial and retail premises. Provide a high visibility reassuring Garda presence to the public and business alike. Liaise with local businesses and promote crime prevention and awareness and Liquor Licensing Inspections and enforcement.

At the launch, Superintendent Bray District, Pat Connell said "it can be envisaged that there may be an increased level of demand in the retail environment given a condensed period of time for the traditional Christmas shopping period. The aim of these operations is to provide high visibility foot beats and patrols, to liaise and promote crime prevention and awareness with local businesses and to ensure all businesses and their staff feel protected from this criminality."

Also at the launch was new Bray Chamber President, Kieran Ward. Kieran welcomed the policing plan, "It's great that Bray Chamber and its members are actively involved in supporting An Garda Síochána efforts in the run-up to Christmas and beyond. Community collaboration is essential for promoting safety and well-being in our town."



Superintendent Pat Connell Bray District, President Bray Chamber Kieran Ward and Inspector Siobhan McCarthy, Beat Patrols Garda Kellie Kearney & Garda Conor Byrne

Christmas Road Safety Campaign launched

New 30km/h speed limit campaign focuses on urban areas

The Road Safety Authority (RSA), An Garda Síochána, and the Department of Transport and Department of Justice are together urging road users to act responsibly and safely when using the roads throughout the Christmas and New Year period.

The call was made at the launch of a new road safety campaign highlighting the benefits of 30km/h speed limits in urban areas.

As the festive period approaches, the RSA, An Garda Síochána and the Department of Transport are calling on people to refrain from driving while under the influence of alcohol and illegal drugs, and they will be also targeting other road traffic offences such as mobile phone use, speeding and non-wearing of seatbelts.

This year's road safety campaign focuses on 30km/h speed limit in urban areas, a strategic initiative aimed at reducing road traffic fatalities. There is overwhelming evidence that lower speed limits make streets safer and more pleasant places for children and adults to live, socialise, work and play. When parents and children can walk and cycle in their neighbourhood, families benefit from healthier children, less stress and more money in their pockets.

In addition, data consistently indicates that higher speeds significantly escalate both the incidence and severity of

road accidents:

- If hit at 60km/h 9 out of 10 pedestrians will be killed.
- If hit at 50km/h 5 out of 10 pedestrians will be killed.
- If hit at 30km/h 9 out of 10 will survive.

Minister of State at the Department of Transport, Mr. Jack Chambers said: "Although we have made great strides in the past 20 years, it is clear from the current trends that we must redouble our efforts to restore the downward trend of deaths and serious injuries on our roads.

"We are working on multiple fronts to address this problem. My Department has published a speed limit review, containing a range of recommendations focused on ensuring that we have safe and appropriate speed limits on all classes of roads. We are also drafting new legislation to introduce mandatory drug testing at the scene of serious incidents, amending penalty points legislation for motorists committing multiple offences, and continuing to work with An Garda Síochána to support it in its enforcement of road traffic legislation. I urge

everyone to remember that responsible driving is not just a personal choice, but a responsibility we must all share. Let us make this festive season a safe one for everyone."

Minister for Justice, Ms. Helen McEntee said: "This year, we've witnessed a concerning increase in road fatalities, highlighting the urgent need for heightened awareness and caution. The Department of Justice, together with the RSA, An Garda Síochána and the Department of Transport, is committed to making our roads safer for all road users. For the forthcoming holiday period, we are collectively asking all road users to act with great care, follow the Rules of the Road, to share the roads

safely and to slow down and never, ever, drink and drive. I know that An Garda Síochána will be working night and day to enforce the law when it comes to road safety, using every technological tool and team member to best effect to make this period safe for all road users. I am asking all members of the public, regardless of what mode of travel they use, to

work with our police force to achieve safety on our roads."

Mr Sam Waide, CEO of the RSA said: "The Christmas period should be a time of joy and celebration, not tragedy. Slower speeds save lives, and by complying with these limits, every road user contributes to a safer, more responsible road environment. We implore all road users to slow down and adhere to speed limits, including those in urban areas like 30km/h speed limits where they are in place, avoid driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and respect all other road users. Together, we can ensure that this Christmas is remembered for the right reasons."

Paula Hilman, Assistant Commissioner, Roads Policing & Community Engagement, An Garda Síochána said: "Our Christmas and New Year Road Safety Campaign, which will run 4th January 2024. This campaign focuses on detecting known offences that contribute to death and serious injury on our roads - speeding and drink and drug driving.



Our Roads Policing and Regular Members will be focusing on detecting those who continue to take risks on our roads and to play our part in making our roads safer. We want everyone to enjoy their Christmas, it is imperative we all do so responsibly - never get behind the wheel having consumed alcohol or drugs, drive at an appropriate speed to the road and weather conditions,

do not get distracted, focus on what you are doing and wear your seatbelt. We do not want to be visiting your family with devastating news this Christmas or New Year."

According to research conducted by Behaviours & Attitudes:

- More than two-thirds (68%) of adults support the introduction of 30km/h speed limit on at least one of the

listed road types.

- Almost three in four people (73%) agree that 30km/h is safer for pedestrians than 50 km/h speed limit roads.
- Almost seven in ten (69%) agree that 30km/h is safer for cyclists than 50 km/h speed limit roads.
- Over half (59%) agree speed limit will make urban roads safer.

There has been an increase in fatalities on

Irish roads in 2023, and with the period between Christmas and New Year a traditionally dangerous time on the roads, the new campaign, aims to encourage road users to reduce their speed and be extra cautious over the festive period.

As of 29th November 2023, there have been 172 people killed on Irish roads 31 more than the corresponding period in 2022.

Happy Christmas
and a Peaceful & Healthy New Year
to all our Readers,
Customers & Friends from
all at

LOCAL Wicklow Times

Jerry Fish at Whale Theatre

Thursday 28th December, 8pm (doors 7pm). Sold Out but register at www.whaletheatre.ie or call the booking office on 01 2010550 for any retruns

Jerry Fish is 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.

Spawned from his Electric Sideshow Electric Picnic shows which became so popular that they gave him his very own area "Fish Town" "Wherever Jerry Fish goes, the circus is not far behind," he says. "It's a monster, but I love that whole fraternity. My motto is 'unity through diversity'. In a circus, everyone mucks in."

With two recent releases, both penned by the late Daniel Johnston; 'The Story of An Artist' and 'True Love Will Find You in The End' (feat. Wallis Bird) and a new album in the pipeline things look to get busy for Jerry.

Mr. Fish's genre bending and idiosyncratic style of entertainment has made him a household name within the Irish Music industry. With two Platinum selling solo albums, an MTV award and IRMA Music Award, and a solid reputation as a supreme and spectacular showman.

We invite you to join Jerry Fish for a very special stripped back, intimate show to 'Celebrate' the life of Ireland's Greatest Showman.



Jerry Fish. Photo by Alex Sapienza



Sleigh Belles Lorraine Farrington, Martina Breen and Noelle Kelly performing at the Rathdrum Christmas concert in St. Saviour's Church, Rathdrum.

Christmas film at Mermaid: Elf

Friday 22nd of December | 8pm. €9/7

A human baby raised as an elf. A city where no one remembers the true meaning of Christmas.

Will Ferrell stars as Buddy, a human raised in the North Pole to be an elf. After wreaking havoc in the elf community due to his size, Buddy heads to New York City to find his place in the world, and track down his father. But life in the big city is not all sugarplums and candy canes. His father is a 'Scrooge' and his eight-year-old stepbrother doesn't believe in Santa. Even the snowmen aren't friendly in New York. In fact, they don't even speak. Worst of all, everyone has forgotten the true meaning of Christmas, and it's up to Buddy and his simple elf ways to win over his family, realise his destiny and, ultimately save Christmas.



Niamh Regan announces solo tour

Feb 9th, Whale Theatre

Niamh Regan has been teasing some new songs on the road around Ireland and the UK recently, be the first to hear them in full early 2024 as she embarks on a tour across Ireland.

The acclaimed songwriter has spent much of 2023 in the studio working on her next record. Niamh's debut album Hemet (2020, Black Gate Records) anno-unced her arrival as one of the most

distinctive songwriters in Ireland today. Earning nominations for both the RTE Folk Awards' and the Choice Awards' Album of the Year, it received soaring praise and led to capti-vating performances on

The Late Late Show, OtherVoices, and La Blogothèque.

In recent months, Niamh has popped up on stages at home and over-seas - Sounds from a Safe Harbour festival saw her collaborate with Olafur Arnalds, Talos, Ye Vagabonds + many more; she previewed some new songs with a full band for Other Voices UCC; played to packed festival tents on a month-long country-

wide tour of Australia in March; did a run of shows in intimate venues across Switzerland; and opened for CMAT, Sam Amidon, Sorch Richardson, John Grant, Patrick Watson, and SOAK, across Ireland and the UK.

From January - March 2024, she embarks on a solo tour across Ireland. Tickets are on sale now at: <https://shor.by/zC6c>

Niamh said "I'm excit-ed because I'm bursting

with new songs, but I'm also a little nervous stick-ing my neck out again after spending a lot of time doing support slots and hiding away writing the past while. I had seri-ous fun supporting CMAT in the UK and Sorch Richardson, John Grant, and Pa Sheehy around Ireland, it was so great to meet so many new lovely people and hopefully I might see you at one of these shows."



Niamh Regan

Brittas Bay Music Academy raises the roof at the home of green angel

Members of Brittas Bay Music Academy were decking the halls at their annual Christmas recital 'Harmony of Angels' which took place at The Home of Green Angel, in Kilbride on Sunday, 10th December.

The audience of parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters, friends and neighbours were treated to an enchanting afternoon of festive favourites from rock to traditional and everything in between. Performances from students as young as six and up to seventeen sang and played piano, violin, percussion and guitar.

After the concert, The Home of Green Angel kindly treated each performer to a special gift while attendees enjoyed festive treats from the Christmas-decked cafe.

Much fun was had under the very encouraging tutelage of Brittas Bay Music Academy's Director, Siobhan Kennedy-Perri, who is a musical maestro, and member of the well known tribute band, Mack Fleetwood.

Commenting on the success of the event, Siobhan said, "It's always great as a performer to get a chance to showcase your talents on stage and our students certainly did that here today. We're a small community but we have a lot of bright and shining stars at the Brittas Bay

Music Academy. It makes it extra-special to be able to put on a performance at a local venue and we'd would like to extend thanks Mary, Chris, Sarah-Jane and Amy at The Home of Green Angel for hosting us".

The 'Harmony of Angels' performers were Luca and Sebastian Gould, Frank, Maebh and Jane McNamara, Zoe Carolan, Aaron, Isla and Joshua Lynn, Kat Knopf, Noa Haviv, Susan Howe, Cole Kennedy-Perri and Emmelyn Oborskyi.



Members of Brittas Bay Music Academy

Arts Office now accepting applications for 2024 Arts Act Funding Schemes

Wicklow County Arts Office invites applications for 2024 Arts Act Funding schemes which are designed to support artists, communities, arts festivals, arts participation and art form development across Wicklow.

Open for applications from now, these schemes are integral to Wicklow County Council's broader efforts to encourage excellence in the arts and enhance community involvement in artistic endeavours across the county. The deadline for receipt of applications is Friday, 16th February 2024 at 4pm.

In 2024, Wicklow County Arts Office will be accepting applications for the Artist Award Scheme,

Artist & Community Collaboration Award Scheme and Arts Festival Award Scheme. Applications are welcome from all art forms including film, music, visual arts, theatre, dance, literature, architecture, animation, performance, circus, traditional arts, music and drama.

The Artist Award Scheme is designed to support professional artists to develop and realise a particular body of work or

undertake professional development. Open to artists at all career stages that reside in or are native to County Wicklow, professional artists working in any art form, discipline or genre are eligible to apply.

The Artist & Community Collaboration Award Scheme is designed to support artist and community collaboration in any discipline or genre of the arts to co-create a high-quality project or pro-

gramme which will support both the artists and the community's creative development.

The Arts Festival Awards Scheme was created to support the production and commissioning of new work for festivals, to enable the engagement of professional artists or ensembles as part of the festival line-ups, to enhance audience development and public engagement or to assist with the development of

new strategies or approaches to the delivery of Festivals in County Wicklow.

For the first time, Wicklow County Arts Office is offering a new application support service from Wednesday, 10th January to Friday, 9th February 2024. This service offers artists, communities, and festivals the opportunity to engage in a 30-minute consultation which will enable participants to pose questions and

seek advice from a member of the Arts Office team. To avail of this opportunity, please email wao@wicklowcoco.ie to schedule a suitable date and time.

Wicklow County Arts Office will also provide two Funding Clinics in early 2024. Leading the first session on Monday, 15th January 2024 is well-known curator and writer on art and architecture Marianne O'Kane Boal. For the past 11 years Marianne has delivered professional development workshops for

Visual Artists Ireland focusing on tendering, creative proposals, work presentation, and public art. This Clinic will focus on the Artist Award scheme and the Artist & Community Collaboration Award scheme.

The second clinic takes place on Thursday, 18th January 2024 and will be facilitated by arts consultant, coach and curator Helen Meany. Helen is an experienced assessor of funding applications for grants and awards for the Arts Council and local authority Arts Offices. This Clinic will focus on the Arts Festival Award scheme.

Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr Aoife Flynn Kennedy, said she "Welcomes the return of the Arts Act Funding Scheme which enables Wicklow County Council to continue to support of Wicklow artists, communities, and festivals to showcase ambition, innovation, and excellence in the Arts."

Chief Executive of

Wicklow County Council, Emer O'Gorman, stated: "The introduction of application support will ensure that these awards will continue to enhance Wicklow artists' work, support an artist and community collaboration, or strengthen the development of Arts Festivals in County Wicklow."

All applications must be submitted through Submittable, an online submission management platform. Downloadable guidelines relating to each scheme and further information can be found on www.wicklow.ie.

Questions relating to the application process can be directed to wao@wicklowcoco.ie.

The closing date for applications is Friday, 16th February 2024 at 4pm

Greystones finds its perfect shot of 2023

It was a bumper year for Greystones' annual photography competition, with over 100 entries for 2023.



Jon Pierce's Harbour Feeling

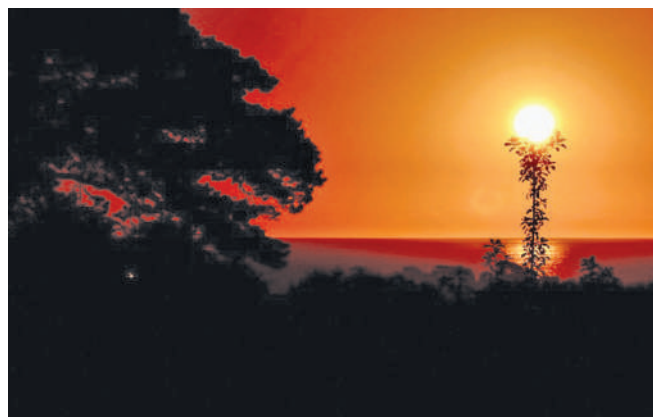
Which made the judges' job that little bit more difficult when it came to picking the winner of this year's Brian Keeley Award, named after the late Greystones photographer renowned for his nature shots.

When it came to the public vote, there were two clear winners, Jon Pierce's Harbour Feeling and Peter Quinn's Delgany Dawn leading the pack from day one, and ending up too close to call. So, Pierce and Quinn shared the public vote win.

For the judges, it was John McKiernan's I Believe I Can Fly, a comic but beautiful moment as a diver took to the water at Greystones' Cove.

"I was just lucky, really," says McKiernan. "With a photograph like this, it's all about being in the right place at the right time. But I did see it in my mind's eye, especially with this particular diver's technique. "I just had to wait for my moment..."

Sponsored by McGovern Estates, the annual Greystones Rocks photography competition has been running since 2017, garnering close to 1,000 entries over that time. "There were more masterful photographs than mine this year too," says McKiernan, "but I guess my shot just hit a certain mark..."



Peter Quinn's Delgany Dawn



John McKiernan

Turn2Me Launches Free Christmas Support Groups

Turn2Me, a national mental health charity, has launched free Christmas support groups for those struggling over the holidays. The support groups cover issues including the Christmas blues, family issues, bereavement, and feeling alone.

The support groups are entirely anonymous and are facilitated by a psychotherapist who will guide people through the difficulties they're facing. Any adult in

Ireland can sign up for these services by creating an account on Turn2Me.ie and clicking into the support group listings. Turn2Me's Christmas

support groups are listed below:

- Monday the 25th at 5pm - 'Christmas Blues' support group
- Tuesday the 26th at 5pm -

'Family Issues' support group

- Wednesday the 27th at 5pm - 'Bereavement' support group
- Thursday the 28th at 5pm - 'Family Issues' support group
- Friday the 29th at 5pm - 'Bereavement' support group
- Sunday the 31st at 5pm - 'Feeling Alone' support group

"For many, Christmas is a time of joy, celebration, and togetherness, but for some, the festive season brings a multitude of challenges and difficulties, stirring emotions that aren't always tied to the cheer and merriment typically associated with the holidays," said Fiona O'Malley, CEO of Turn2Me. "Some people find the Christmas period difficult because of feelings of isolation or loneliness. This time of year, with its emphasis on family gatherings and social connections, can magnify

the sense of being alone for those who may not have strong social support networks or who live far away from loved ones. This isolation can trigger feelings of sadness or exacerbate mental health issues like depression and anxiety.

"Financial strain is another prevalent issue during Christmas."

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Ian & Louise Stanley seek permission for the redesign and reconfiguration of the existing entrance hall and roof to the existing entrance hall and the addition of a new master bedroom to the existing house together with any associated demolition, drainage and site works at Annacrivey Woods, Kilmolin, Enniskerry, County Wicklow. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

I, Aoife O'Connell, seek permission for the construction of a single storey dwelling (229.00 sq.m.), an on-site effluent disposal system to current EPA standards, a bored well, the construction of new boundary fences, a new entrance driveway with car parking and all associated works at Derrybeg, Templecarrig Lower, Delgany, Co. Wicklow. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

I, Emma O'Connell, seek permission for the construction of a single storey dwelling (240.00 sq.m.), an on-site effluent disposal system to current EPA standards, a bored well, the construction of new boundary fences, a new entrance driveway with car parking and all associated works at Derrybeg, Templecarrig Lower, Delgany, 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.

PLANNING

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Planning permission sought to construct a single storey dwelling house, domestic garage, O Reilly Oaktown sewerage treatment system, new, entrance and all ancillary site work at Kilbaylet Lower, Donard, Co. Wicklow.

Signed, Julie-Anne Healy
The planning application may be inspected, or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the planning authority during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the planning authority in making a decision on the application. The planning authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Arc Design seeks full planning permission on behalf of Eimear Hill for the development at 11 Castle Villas, Killincarrig, Greytones, County Wicklow, A63 T296 which consists of amendments to previously permitted PRR 22/653 for new detached single storey two-bedroom dwelling with new entrance arrangements and connection into public mains.

The planning application may be inspected, or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the planning authority during its public opening hours. The planning application may be viewed online at www.wicklow.ie, under planning online enquires.

A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the planning authority in making a decision on the application. The planning authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Barry & Bernadette McHugh seek planning permission for a new vehicular gateway access and off-street parking area to the rear side garden of No. 30 Seapoint, Dunbur, Wicklow Town, Co Wicklow. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

I, Lauren Kelly, intend to apply for permission for development at Blackhouse Lane, Kilmolin, Enniskerry, Co. Wicklow. The development will consist of the Proposed new Agriculture vehicular entrance gate with low level timber fence to improve road sight lines at the junction of Blackhouse Lane and Local route L1011, provisions to be made for new road layout to existing stables, removal of existing hedgerow, Trees and Foliage and associated site works. 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, County 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 the receipt by the authority of the application.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

I Aoife Murphy wish to apply to Wicklow County Council for permission for the demolition of an existing single storey dwelling & domestic shed, permission for the construction of a replacement dormer style dwelling, bored well, septic tank & percolation area, use of existing entrance, and all associated site works at, Rathbane, Hacketstown, 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 the Planning Authority, during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the planning authority in making a decision on the application. The planning authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission. Signed James Kealy Planning & Design Services 085-100 2 200

RECRUITMENT



COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

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

• IS PROJECT LEADER

Salary: €55,847.00 – €72,602.00 per annum gross (Includes 2nd LSI)

REF: 59/2023

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

CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS IS THURSDAY, 11th JANUARY, 2024 AT 12 NOON SHARP.

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



COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

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

• COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER (GRADE VI)

Salary: €53,345 – €65,172 per annum gross (Includes 2nd LSI)

REF: 45/2023

• DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER (GRADE V)

Salary: €48,089 – €57,572 per annum gross (Includes 2nd LSI)

REF: 46/2023

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

Closing date for receipt of completed application forms is 12 noon sharp on Thursday 11th January 2024.

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



COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

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

• ASSISTANT CIVIL DEFENCE OFFICER

Salary: €32,301.00 – €51,100.00 per annum gross (Includes 2nd LSI)

REF: 60/2023

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

CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS IS THURSDAY 18th JANUARY, 2024 AT 12 NOON SHARP.

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

ATTENTION

Architects, Planners & Builders

Reach the widest readership for your planning notices in County Wicklow with Wicklow Times
Call **01 286 9111** or email pauline@localtimes.ie

Santa arrives at OutdoorLiving

Families gathered at OutdoorLiving's showroom on the N11 to see Santa and his team arrive in an old-fashioned vintage American Firetruck.



Santa and Wicklow County Council Cathaoirleach Cllr Aoife Flynn Kennedy cut the ribbon to open the Christmas experience at OutdoorLiving

There is a kid's puppet show, face painting as well as market stalls to peruse and food trucks and hot chocolate to warm you up.

While you are there check out the extensive collection of Christmas Trees, there will be a pop-up real tree shop as well as a stunning display of artificial trees, some are even pre-decorated bringing instant holiday spirit into your home with minimum fuss.

The new Santa experience and Christmas Market at OutdoorLiving in Glen of the Downs got off to a great start. Don't worry if you missed out on the festive fun our Santa Experience is taking bookings and limited walk-up appointments as well as the Christmas Market which will be back for this weekend. Christmas under the Sugar Loaf continues again on the 16th and 17th for the last weekend.



Cham Homan at OutdoorLiving's Santa Experience

CLASSIFIEDS

THE MIRACULOUS PRAYER

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

THE MIRACULOUS PRAYER

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

THE MIRACULOUS PRAYER

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



Eireann O'Reilly, Katie Daly and Charlotte Kinsella at the Newcastle Christmas Market

LOCAL BUSINESS

ALLSHADES BLINDS
• Roller • Vertical • Wood Venetian
• Pleated • Velux • Roman
Tel: 087 2201600
FACTORY: Unit 10, Block 1, Broomhall Business Park, Rathnew. Tel: 0404 20344

DRAIN SERVICE & PLUMBING
PROMPT PLUMBING SERVICES you can depend on.
• DRAIN CLEANING AND UNBLOCKING SERVICE
• DRAIN CCTV SURVEY
• EMERGENCY PLUMBER 24/7
• SOUTH DUBLIN & NORTH WICKLOW
• FULLY INSURED
CALL 085 816 7910
info@drainageservice.ie Glencullen, Dublin 18
www.drainageservice.ie

LOUISE D'ARCY
PGA HEAD PROFESSIONAL
THE PRO SHOP @ WICKLOW GOLF CLUB
BE WINTER READY
Re - Grip • Re - Stud
BE SEASON READY IN 2024
Start Your Lessons Now
Tel: 0404 67379 | Mob: 087 751 0727
Email: louisedarcypga@yahoo.ie
f/thelouisedarcygolfschool

STAFFORD ECO-FUEL EST. WEXFORD 1891
WILLOWWARM
CARBON NEUTRAL BRIQUETTES
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all our customers
COAL, FIREWOOD, GAS & MORE FUEL PRODUCTS
Delivering in Dublin and East Wicklow: Bray, Greystones, Enniskerry, Roundwood, Ashford, Rathnew, Wicklow and Arklow.
✓ Stockists of Solid Fuel, Gas & Willow Warm Carbon Neutral Briquettes
T: 0404 67027 / E: info@staffordfuels.ie
ORDER ONLINE www.ssff.ie

Manufacturers & Installers of Roller Shutters, Aluminium Shopfronts & Garage Doors
Leinster Shutters & Shopfronts
FREE survey & quotation
Call 01 281 0081
Email: info@leinstershutters.ie
Over 30 years in business serving Wicklow & Nationwide
www.leinstershutters.ie

DERMOT FORTUNE
PAINTING & DECORATING
20 Years Experience
REASONABLE RATES
NO JOB TOO BIG OR SMALL
FREE QUOTE ON:
086-861 3651

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



Together,
let's step
into a future
powered by
clean, Irish
energy

Nollaig Shona
daoibh go leir
agus blian úr faoi
mhaise ó Codling
Wind Park

codlingwindpark.ie

generating a
greener Ireland