

LOCAL Wicklow Times

WE DELIVER! - for 35 years



ROADS FUNDING
Page 4



KILMAC PARKING
Page 6



RURAL FUTURE
Page 11

Delivered to 44,500
homes & businesses

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

Tuesday 4th June 2024 First Floor, The Boulevard, Quinsborough Road, Bray. A98 R6D7. Tel: 01 - 2869111 E-mail: wicklowed@localtimes.ie www.wicklowtimes.net

MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT

This Friday residents of this county will be asked to come out and vote to elect councillors and members of the European parliament. Unfortunately, everybody who is entitled to vote will not come out. Wicklow Times asked our five TDs why people should vote and specifically why they should vote for their party.



An Taoiseach Simon Harris TD.

Fine Gael TD and Taoiseach, Simon Harris, said "The Local and European elections really matter. Who represents our communities on the Council, who represents our country in Europe over the next five years is an important choice."

"As a Wicklow resident, as a Wicklow TD and as Taoiseach I'm really asking people in Wicklow in the first instance to get out and vote on Friday 7th June, I'm also particularly asking you to vote for my team."

"We really want to have strong Fine Gael Councillors elected in each area so that I can work with them locally and nationally to continue to deliver investment for our county and make real progress. Your local Fine Gael election candidates stand for

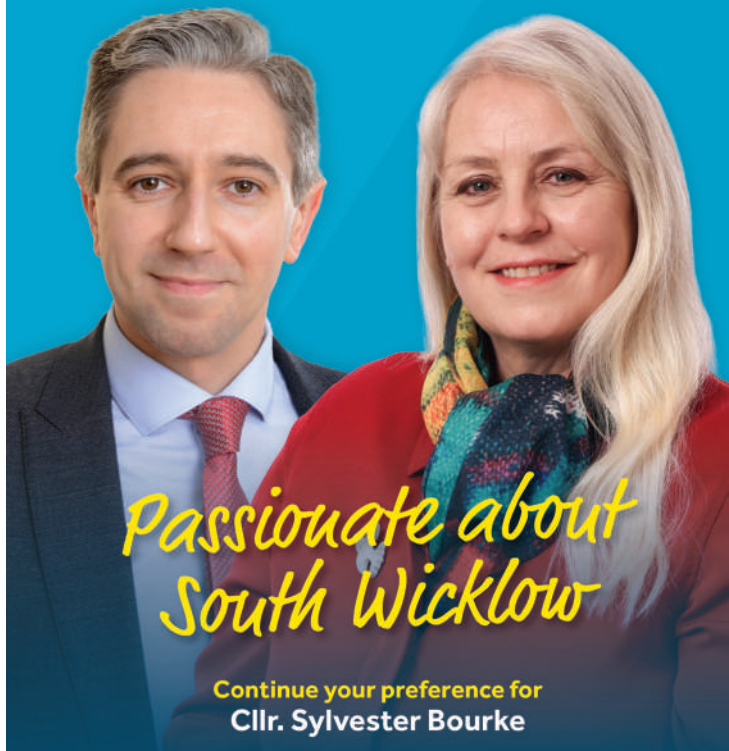


Carla Martin with alpacas Stan and Victoria at the Aldbrough Common Grounds Streetfeast in Greystones. Pic: Michael Kelly.

Laurie KEARON

VOTE 1

FINE
GAEL



Passionate about South Wicklow

Continue your preference for
Cllr. Sylvester Bourke

equality of opportunity, for giving all children an equal chance, for breaking down the barriers to education, for better public services in your community and for dignity in old age, delivered by a strong economy and full employment."

Fianna Fáil Minister, Stephen Donnelly said "We need to elect strong and vocal local Councillors on June 7th. It matters who repre-



Minister Stephen Donnelly.



Steven Matthews TD.

sents us. They help families, improve access to local services and enhance standards of living. Fianna Fáil is putting forward a strong team across Wicklow. They need to be your local councillors - your representatives, your voice. Fianna Fáil has always made a difference for Wicklow - Delivering for You."

Green Party TD, Steven Matthews said "Voting is important,

it's your voice in our democracy, it's a responsibility and privilege, and we should have. Every vote counts. Use yours to support and the choices we

Continued on page 3

CLLR. JOE BEHAN

INDEPENDENT

VOTE No.1

086 8375602

joebehan@outlook.ie



Terning the Tide

Little Tern Art Project inviting adults across Wicklow to take part in free creative workshop series this June

The Tern the Tide project, an initiative from the Creative Ireland Programme and in collaboration with BirdWatch Ireland, is calling on adults from across Wicklow to sign up for a series of free Creative Workshops which will take place in St. Patrick's Hall, Kilcoole on Saturday afternoons from 2-5pm throughout the month of June.

As Little Terns return to Kilcoole beach from their West African wintering grounds to lay their eggs, BirdWatch Ireland's conservation team is readying the area at the Breaches between Newcastle and Kilcoole which is situated alongside the Dublin-Rosslare Railway line.

This year, in parallel with the birds nesting period, artists Laura McMahon & Marie Gordon are leading a creative participation project entitled, 'Tern The Tide', to celebrate and raise awareness of BirdWatch

Ireland's excellent work at 'The Breaches' between Newcastle and Kilcoole.

The free creative workshops are accessible for all levels of experience and will incorporate painting, drawing, and learning from experts in BirdWatch Ireland about the life of the Little Tern. Sustainable art practices are embedded throughout the course of the project, from recycled paper and reused materials to eco-friendly paints.

Kilcoole is home to Ireland's largest Little Tern colony, housing over half

of the national population. This success is attributed to a consistent strategy led by scientists and conservationists involving monitoring, protection, and predator management, all supported by vital assistance and cooperation from local citizens.

Speaking about the project, artist Marie Gordon said, "We can sometimes feel overwhelmed by the task of tackling the global climate and biodiversity crises, but the Little Tern conservation project at

Kilcoole illustrates per-

fectly the lengths that conservationists, in partnership with local communities, can do in order to prevent certain species from going extinct - and the success of this project shows clearly that what we do matters. When we take science-led deliberate climate action, on a local basis, we really can turn the tide."

'Tern the Tide, Little Tern Art project in Kilcoole', is a recipient of

the Creative Climate Action fund, an initiative from the Creative Ireland Programme, which is funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media in collaboration with the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, and funded by Iarnród Éireann Irish Rail as part of the CIE Sustainability.

The conservation of



Bird with chick. Photo courtesy of BirdWatch Ireland.

Little Terns at Kilcoole is a National Parks and Wildlife Service project, run by BirdWatch Ireland since 1985. It involves 24/7 monitoring through the Little Tern breeding

season of May to August to protect nesting pairs and is assisted by locals and beach walking visitors alike who respect the conservation area boundaries and ensure all dogs

are kept on leads along the Kilcoole beach walkway.

To register for one or more of the free workshops, visit www.ternthetide.com

People invited to try an election candidate Gogglebox experience

Wicklow PPN and Wicklow Older People's Council have concluded their Meet the Candidate webinars for the Wicklow Local Area Elections and the feedback has been very positive.

Conor Kirwan from Wicklow PPN said "Candidates could not possibly reach everyone by knocking on doors and we also understand that some people in our communities may not be comfortable in speaking to them face to face, particularly if they have health issues of language difficulties. There are seventy-four candidates seeking election to the thirty-two seats available to them across the six Wicklow election areas and forty-eight of these are running for the first time. With such strongly contested elections we felt it was important to provide an alternative opportunity for people to find out about those that might soon be making important decisions on their behalf.

Unfortunately, and despite our best efforts we were unable to contact some of the candidates and five of them declared after we'd run the webinar for their electoral area. However, we are very grateful to the forty-six candidates who were able to attend the webinars and answer the questions submitted by Wicklow PPN and Wicklow Older People's Council members."

Carina Holmes from the Older People's Council said "We decided to record the webinars for our members that couldn't attend on the night, and we are delighted to see that the recordings are getting lots of views. We are encouraging groups and families to look at them together, discuss what they hear regarding what's important to them and where their priorities lie. We received some great feedback from a group of young people who did this. They felt it was a great experience for their first time being able to vote. People have also contacted us saying that they found the webinars to be interesting and helpful. People have said 'It was really useful & has definitely made me more aware of the interests, attitudes & abilities of the candidates' and 'That session really helped me to decide who I'll vote for in our local area'. The candidates have also reported that

they found the experience useful and appreciated the opportunity to hear the concerns of the community through their questions. We wish all the candidates well." Wicklow PPN and Wicklow Older People's Council would like to thank everyone who engaged with the webinars in any way and a special note of gratitude goes to Dr. Harriet Emerson and Sarah Wetherald who facilitated the meetings. The recordings are available on the Wicklow PPN YouTube channel.

Benville Robinson LLP
SOLICITORS

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.
--	---

24A Florence Road,
Bray,
Co. Wicklow.

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

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

Dr. Fergus Duddy
Dentist

Wishes his Brother

MALACHAÍ

and

All other Candidates

The Best of Luck in the Local Elections

Let's Start Working Together

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

FIANNA Fáil
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

VOTE No. 1

Cllr. **GAIL DUNNE**

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

WICKLOW 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

MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT

INDEPENDENT

Continued from page 1
support progressive, reliable and proven candidates. Voting Green number 1, means you support climate action, warmer homes, clean energy, good public transport, safer streets and welcoming communities."



John Brady TD.

Sinn Féin TD, John Brady said "There is a desire among the people of Wicklow for change at both a local level and a national level. If people want and need change, then they need to go and vote for change."

"Fianna Fáil, Fine Gael, and Green Party preside over chaos in housing, health, and immigration. We have experienced 100 years of Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael government in the State. Their corrosive influence of this has been enduring and is widespread. We see this on Wicklow County

Council where Fianna Fail, and Fine Gael's grubby deals with Independents have allowed them to maintain their grip on the levers of power across Wicklow.

"Wicklow is now the most expensive county in Ireland outside of Dublin to buy or rent a house. This is the legacy of Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael.

The fact is that today young people in our county are worse off than their parents' generation, for the first time ever. We are talking about a generation who currently, under this government have lost all hope of ever owning their own home.

"Our Sinn Féin team of local candidates here in Wicklow, are committed to standing up for local communities. They are the team that will demand more services, more amenities, more public transport for you. We are the party with the plan to build more houses, the party with the will to protect the rights of tenants. We are the party that will fight to give workers and families a break. Change is your right - it is your choice."

Social Democrat TD, Jennifer Whitmore said "Don't miss your chance to make a difference. Voting in Wicklow's local elections on June 7th is crucial for shaping our

community and impacting the political landscape. For the first time, the Social Democrats have five excellent candidates with long-standing commitment to various community needs.

"They have worked tirelessly to improve local facilities, transportation, business support, housing, healthcare, and education. These candidates will ensure a strong voice for Wicklow, advocating for equality, transparency, and sustainable development. By voting for the Social Democrats, you can drive meaningful change and help build a better Wicklow for everyone."

Independent councillor Joe Behan spoke for the Independent view point, saying "We get a chance every five years to elect people to be our representatives on Wicklow



Jennifer Whitmore TD.



Cllr Joe Behan.

County Council and, if we vote, we get to decide who are the people we trust to be our voice when decisions are made which can affect our daily lives.

"I have been a public representative for 36 years, as a Councillor and TD, and in that time, I have worked to address the needs of individual constituents and their families to the best of my ability. I firmly believe in being a voice for the people and I have had many clashes with local and central government politicians and officials when I believed that they were not acting justly or fairly in how they dealt with people and communities.

"We face many challenges in County Wicklow and also throughout this country. We are experiencing a disgraceful housing and homeless-

ness emergency situation, a dysfunctional health service, an increasingly chronic shortage of Garda, teachers, nurses, doctors, construction workers and healthcare workers which impacts people in their daily lives.

"Throughout the county, the lack of affordable housing for young workers who are going out to work hard every day is a scandal. It is completely unfair and unjust that these young families are being ignored by successive Governments and if I am elected on June 7th, it will be my top priority in the next Council.

"As an Independent candidate, I can speak freely on the issues that are raised with me and I can work with all parties and independents to have these issues addressed while also seeking accountability from the people in power whose actions/inaction cause people to suffer in so many ways.

"I salute every single candidate running in this election for their courage and public spirit in participating actively in the democratic process and if I am elected on June 7th, I will work with every other elected Councillor for the good of all of the people of County Wicklow."

Bray East
LEA



MALACHAI
DUDDY

1

VOTE • VÓTÁIL

1

YOUR WICKLOW SINN FÉIN 2024 LOCAL ELECTION TEAM

Change starts here

TOSAÍONN ATHRÚ ANSEO

EU2024 IN THE EUROPEAN ELECTIONS

Vótáil
KATHLEEN FUNCTION 1
and Paul Gavan 2

BRAY			WICKLOW EAST	
 Cllr Mick Ryan <small>mickryansf@gmail.com 085 182 1089</small>	 Cllr Dermot O'Brien <small>dermotobriensf@gmail.com 086 063 5195</small>	 Denise Cahill <small>denisecahillsf@gmail.com 089 612 0685</small>	 Anthony Hill <small>anthonyhillsf@gmail.com 089 495 9303</small>	 Abbie O'Loughlin <small>abbieoloughlinsf@gmail.com 083 307 2020</small>
GREYSTONES		ARKLOW		BALTINGLASS
 Esther Kelly <small>estherkelly2024sf@gmail.com 087 7680 883</small>	 Brian Fogarty <small>brianfogartysf@gmail.com 086 066 9830</small>	 Shiela Busher <small>shielaushersf@gmail.com 086 076 4150</small>	 Warren O'Toole <small>warrenotoolesf@gmail.com 085 202 8466</small>	 Aidan Kinsella <small>aidankinsella2009@gmail.com 087 057 2700</small>
 Connor Byrne <small>connorlukebyrne@gmail.com 085 203 6191</small>				



Ciarán Hogan

A 10-point plan to solve traffic problems in Bray

Ciarán Hogan, Aontú candidate for Bray East has announced an ambitious 10-point plan which he says will attack every factor leading to traffic jams on and leading into Main Street in Bray.

"A quick and obvious observation is that the worst of traffic grind comes from three sources;

A) school runs, B) office hour commuters, and C) day visitors to Bray. Resolving for these main factors will alleviate the majority of the problem," said Ciarán. "We're not the first town to deal with traffic issues, it has been solved elsewhere and it can be solved here too, and quickly. None of these measures I've proposed are financially burdensome, nor complicated to enact, it can

all be done within a few months' time.

"I am publishing this list here as a promise to get this issue solved and will be making a full presentation to the Council, in either case of being elected or not, on their first meeting. We need candidates who have solid plans, with pricing, timelines and viability plans in order before the election. We CAN NOT have newly elected councillors scrambling to solve the lofty promises they made on the

campaign with no clue how to deliver. These are just bullet points, any questions or issues that arise can be addressed in a much longer format. I hope to hold a public meeting to discuss these issues and clarify these points in the first half of June so that we can take action on these points quickly and to everyone's satisfaction.

"I encourage residents to engage with me and if possible attend the council meetings in any case," concluded Hogan.

Ciarán Hogan's 10-point plan

1. Subsidised school bus program
2. Staggered and delayed school start times
3. Child and carrier Bolt bikes
4. Building jobs base in Bray
5. Carpooling committies
6. Active traffic wardens; guiding traffic to parking locations
7. Study of traffic light signalling program.
8. Main street loading time restrictions + out of hours storage
9. Remove bike lane bollards from Main street
10. Don't close Herbert road to N11 and instead widen it.

€721,000 for Wicklow road repairs

An Taoiseach Simon Harris has announced €721,000 for roads repairs and road improvements in County Wicklow. The Taoiseach says he is determined to tackle the issue with every lever at his disposal.

Announcing the funding for Co. Wicklow last Friday, An Taoiseach Simon Harris said: "The bad weather at the start of the year has seriously damaged our roads in County Wicklow and

across the country.

"It was clear to me when I became Taoiseach that we needed to invest huge amounts of funding in our roads, especially to improve safety. As Taoiseach I have been

travelling the length and breadth of our beautiful country and I have listened to the concerns of many regarding the state of roads and it's clear to me we need to invest heavily in roads, especial-

ly remote ones.

"We need to tackle the state of the roads and make sure no matter what road it is we make sure it's safe to drive, cycle or walk on."

Cathaoirleach of the Baltinglass Municipal District, Councillor Edward Timmins, a long-time campaigner for road improvements in rural

West and South West Wicklow, expressed his delight with the news: "I have been advocating for increased funding for roads in West and South West Wicklow for a long number of years, so I welcome this additional funding allocation to Wicklow County Council. Recently we have seen €500k allocated for the Blessington Bypass, €250k for Vallemount, along with funding for Bridge Works in Colbinstown, Ballyhubcock and Kilbride, and funding for the safety improvement works in Kiltegan Village, the Carnew Road in Shillelagh and the N81 Tinode to Sraghmore.

"This additional €721,000 investment will allow for much needed pothole repair, road maintenance and road improvement in South and West Wicklow. This will both improve driving conditions and make our roads safer. Many of the roads in the area were negatively impacted by bad weather earlier in the year, and they can now be enhanced and restored by Wicklow County Council.

"Keeping roads in West and South West Wicklow safe is a top priority for me as people in this District are heavily reliant on their cars due to a lack of other public transport options. I will be continuing to advocate for the Luas extension to Blessington and the provision of more buses to connect our rural villages. Public transport improvements are a top issue for people in this District."

Laurie Kearon, Fine Gael candidate for South Wicklow, said "This funding is crucial in dealing with the deterioration of certain parts of the local and regional road network, which have suffered significantly due to persistent rainfall over the winter and spring months. The additional €721,000 in funding is a vital invest-



Cllr Edward Timmins

ment to ensure the safety and maintenance of our regional and local roads.

"Persistent wet conditions have caused substantial damage, including potholes and pavement collapse, due to water seepage. This emergency investment will help us address the worst-affected areas and improve the overall quality of our road network.

"The funding aligns with the Government's commitment to support local authorities in the



Laurie Kearon on the Mill Road in Ballinacash, one of the roads in need of repair as well as a footpath

maintenance and renewal of regional and local road networks. The emergency investment will assist in addressing the most severely impacted areas, ensuring that the roads remain safe and reliable for all users.

"In line with our commitment to supporting local authorities, this funding will play a critical role in repairing and maintaining our roads. By addressing these issues promptly,

we can enhance the resilience of our infrastructure against future climate-related challenges."

Laurie Kearon emphasises the importance of working together to improve the community's infrastructure and resilience: "This funding represents a significant step towards achieving these goals and ensuring that Co Wicklow's roads are well-maintained and safe for all residents."

VOTE 1

LOCAL
ELECTION
CANDIDATE

FINE
GAEL

Peter STAPLETON

Baltinglass LEA



087 972 5067

peterstapleton.finegael@outlook.ie



Continue Preference for Cllr Avril Cronin & Cllr Edward Timmins

VOTE

CHARLIE KEDDY

The unelectable candidate

INDEPENDENT NON-PARTY



- ✓ To protect LIFE and our natural environment
- ✓ To stop corruption and collusion
- ✓ I asked the Gardai... they refused

THE RECORD SHOWS THAT I AM NOT A 'YES MAN'

€2.7m for housing adaptation grants

An allocation of over €2.7 m in funding has ben announced for Wicklow for housing adaptation grants for older people and disabled people. This represents a 16% increase when compared to last year's funding for Wicklow and is part of €93m in funds allocated nationally in 2024.

Housing adaptation grants for older people and disabled people assist the people of Wicklow with the necessary adaptations, repairs or improvement works in order to make the accommodation more suitable to the needs of older and disabled people supporting them to live in their homes. 80% (€2.18m) of the grant comes from exchequer funding through the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The remaining 20% (€545k) in funding comes from Wicklow County Council, who administer the scheme.

Grants of up to €30,000 are available to assist disabled people carry out necessary works to make a house more suitable for their needs. Additionally, grants of up to €8,000 are available to assist older people to have necessary repairs or improvements carried out on their homes and grants of up to €6,000 are available for mobility aids.

Wicklow Fianna Fáil Senator Pat Casey said "I am delighted that my party colleague and Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage Darragh O'Brien, has allocated increased funding this year to ensure delivery of these much needed grants which will allow Wicklow County Council to continue to support older and disabled people to live independently and in their own homes. Fianna Fáil in Government want to empower and enable people to live independently in their own homes for as long as possible - these grants help us to do just that. They also provide a boost to our local economy, creating employment opportunities for local contractors."

Fine Gael South

Wicklow candidate Laurie Kearon said "The Housing Adaptation Grant is so important as it assists with the necessary adaptations, repairs or improvement works in order to make accommodation more suitable to the needs of older and disabled people supporting them to live in their homes."

"It is really important to me that we support people to live in their own homes for as long as they possibly can. These grants have a really positive impact on the quality of life of the people who benefit from them and they play an important role in helping people with a disability and people who are reaching an age in life when they are less mobile, to continue to live independently in their own homes."

Anne O'Connell of Arklow Active Retirement said, "This funding is a lifeline for many in our community. It allows older people to continue living independently in their own homes, which is invaluable."

Ms Kearon concluded "As I travel around South Wicklow I am regularly meeting and speaking with people who have received assistance through these grants and the difference they make in helping people to live independently for as long as possible is remarkable. These grants also support local economies, creating employment opportunities for local contractors and businesses which is very important."

Fianna Fáil local election candidate in West Wicklow Kieran Burke said the €2,728,709 allocation for Wicklow County Council will make a real difference for people in the county.

"On my canvass I have

met so many older and disabled people who have received this grant to adapt their homes. The grants assist people with a disability to have necessary

adaptations, repairs or improvement works carried out in order to make their accommodation more suitable for their needs.

"They are hugely

important to assist older and disabled people living in poor housing conditions to have necessary repairs or improvements carried out."



"The funding is a lifeline for many people" said Anne O'Connell from Arklow Active Retirement, pictured here (left) with Fine Gael Arklow candidate Laurie Kearon.

Tom Fortune Independent Integrity | Enterprise | Fairness

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Delivered Community Centre / Playgrounds / Tidy Towns Support across the District
- Footpaths across Greystones / Kilcoole / Newcastle
- Delgany & Killincarrig Village improvement plans
- Increased Local Bus & Train services for Greystones District
- School Development - Greystones / Charlesland / Kilcoole
- Local Area Plan Development
- Tree maintenance - Greystones / Delgany / Newcastle / Kilcoole

Representing
Greystones,
Kilcoole,
Newcastle
& Delgany

**YOUR VOICE
IS VERY IMPORTANT**

Draft Local Area Plan will be published in the next few months for public input. The LAP will determine how our community is developed in the future

**AN EXPERIENCED
VOICE IS
IMPORTANT**

The next two years are VITAL for the Greystones District.

**HAVE YOU
QUESTIONS?**

Plans for District?
Local area plan?
Information to fact check?
General questions?
Concerns?
CALL OR EMAIL
ME

As an experienced Independent Councillor for the community living in area I will always seek out what is right on your behalf. I advocate for the community. Independent is better for local Government.

**Independent
is better
for you**

086 248 8195

tom.fortune49@gmail.com

Cllr.TomFortune

Cllrtomfortune

Cllrtomf

#TheVoiceOfReason



Senator Pat Casey.

'Greater garda resources needed to tackle antisocial behaviour'

Garda resources are not being deployed to adequately deal with the problem of anti-social behaviour in Bray and drug dealing, Independent candidate Malachai Duddy believes.

Mr Duddy, a candidate in the Electoral Area, has welcomed the appointment of Garda Superintendent John Fitzgerald whom he hopes will take a 'zero tolerance' approach to anti-social behaviour which is plaguing parts of the town of Bray.

Mr Duddy has written to the new Superintendent at Bray Garda Station, as well as the Chief Superintendent for the Wicklow Garda Division. He said, "I appreciate that this is about resources and that the Gardaí can only work with the resources they have, so obviously Bray needs more resources allocated to the town."

In 2023 Bray Garda Station benefited from just two Probationer Gardaí being assigned to it, a drop from a high of

16 in 2018, with just six Probationer Gardaí being assigned so far in 2024. At the end of March this year the strength of Bray Garda Station is - according to a parliamentary answer - 68 Gardaí, 11 Garda Sergeants, 4 Garda Inspectors and one Garda Superintendent, which represents approximately one Garda (excluding other ranks) per 493 people.

"This of course cannot represent the number on duty at any one time as Gardaí operate on a shift basis," said Mr Duddy. "But this figure puts Bray far below the EU average of one officer per 293 of general population, according to Eurostat."

"As someone whose grandfather was an early



Independent candidate Malachai Duddy outside Bray Garda Station.

member of An Garda Síochána stationed in Bray I fully understand and sympathise with the plight of Gardaí where resources are concerned but is not merely Garda visibility that is needed but Garda activity on the ground around the roads and streets of B," concluded Mr Duddy.

'Kilmac residents have had enough of illegal parking'

The Residents of Kilmacanogue Village have had enough of vehicles parking on the wrong side of the road at the northbound side of the Circle K garage, according to Fine Gael councillor and Cathaoirleach of Bray Municipal District Melanie Corrigan.

Cllr Corrigan met with some residents last week and also received emails in relation to the ongoing problem. She has raised this several times with the District Engineer of the Bray Municipal District and also with the Gardaí. The District Engineer has referred the matter to Transport Infrastructure for Ireland TII, but councillor Corrigan wants this looked at and resolved as a matter of priority.

Cllr Corrigan said "The cars parking on the wrong side of the road is forcing cars exiting the garage to head back towards Kilmacanogue Village to have to go around the corner on the wrong side of the road. I have had reports of incidents of local people being knocked to the ground by cars having to mount the pavement to avoid collision in this area, and it's simply not good enough anymore".

Councillor Corrigan also met last week with locals from Kilmacanogue with a petition that she is bringing to TII, the NTA and Dublin Bus to try and get the terminus of the 45A, 45B, and 145 moved over to the Northern side of the N11. Currently it stops at the Southbound side and elderly people, people with Disabilities and children have to navigate the Bridge in all weathers to get to their homes in the nearby housing estates, on the opposite side of the Road.

The bus currently terminates on the southbound side, and when starting its route crosses the vehicle bridge to its first

stop on the Northern side. Cllr Corrigan is asking that this be looked at and thanks the community for contacting her.



Kilmacanogue



Cllr Melanie Corrigan



Pictured out on the canvas trail last week were Labour Party candidate for Bray west, Bryan Kenna with former Labour TD and Minister, Liz McManus. Liz McManus was supporting Mr Kenna as he went door to door at an estate that Liz got refurbished in 1996 while minister for housing.



VOTE NO.1

Sonia Casey Shortt

NEW WICKLOW LEA CANDIDATE

A New Experienced Voice for our Community.

FIANNA Fáil
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

Get in touch:
soniacaseyshortt@gmail.com

Cllr. Anne

FERRIS

Experience Counts - Working Harder For YOU

VOTE No.1

for ANNE FERRIS
in Bray East on 7th June

Contact me at
086-2364780 or Email:
anneferris7@gmail.com



Labour Women

LOCAL
ELECTION
CANDIDATES



**Aileen
LENNON**

☎ 083 173 3413 ✉ aileen.lennonfg@gmail.com

**Louise
FENELON
GASKIN**

☎ 087 251 4233 ✉ louisefenelongaskin@gmail.com



VOTE 1,2
in the order of your preference

As your Wicklow TD and neighbour, I am asking you to support my team Aileen Lennon and Louise Fenelon Gaskin on Friday. I love our community and want strong representation to support your needs in the coming years. I want to see continued improvement in the Greystones Ward for everyone. Louise and Aileen will be your voice on Wicklow County Council.

An Taoiseach
Simon Harris TD

Working in your area with An Taoiseach Simon Harris TD, Cllr. Derek Mitchell, Sean Kelly MEP, Deirdre Clune MEP, & European Election Candidate John Mullins.



Joan Evans, Yvonne Evans and Mary O'Loughlin at the Delgany ICA Alzheimer's Tea Day in St. Kilian's Hall, Greystones.

'More playgrounds needed for South Wicklow's children'

An increase in funding is needed to deliver more playgrounds that will benefit communities in South Wicklow, Fine Gael Arklow LEA candidate Laurie Kearon has said.

Ms Kearon is calling for more funding from Government to help Wicklow County Council meet the cost of large-scale new playground projects and also to expand and upgrade existing playgrounds.

Mrs Kearon said: "As a local representative, I know how important these spaces are in terms of physical and mental well-being for the whole family. The Department of Rural and Community Development provides significant funding towards the establishment and improvement of playgrounds through various schemes that it operates. The Capital Grant and Play Recreation scheme operated by the Department of

Children, Equality, Disability and Youth, supports Local Authorities in improving access to quality play and recreation facilities within our communities. It offers funding of up to €18,000 per project, with a total of €450,000 awarded to 29 councils last year."

She continued, "However, this funding is contingent on Wicklow County Council matching funding of at least 25% of the amount provided by the department, which could be a barrier particularly as construction and material costs are on the rise. This is why more funding is required from Government with an increased cap for project awards to ensure Wicklow County

Council can deliver playgrounds and play spaces where they are needed. Concerns have been expressed regarding equipment in some public playgrounds falling into disrepair and upgrading or replacing these pieces can be challenging and some councils can find it difficult getting projects off the ground.

"This is why a boost in funding and a change to the criteria for the Play and Recreation Scheme would be ideal. Playgrounds are vital spaces for our children and families in South Wicklow and I am committed to their future development and to delivering stronger and safer communities."

'Council need to submit application for funding for West Wicklow community pool'

Sinn Féin local election candidate for the West Wicklow area Connor Byrne, and Sinn Féin TD John Brady have called on Wicklow County Council to make the submission of a funding application to bring a swimming pool and all-purpose sports campus to West Wicklow their number one priority over the summer.

The deadline for funding submissions under the Large-Scale Sports Infrastructure Fund is July 31st, with a fund of €120 million, and having already been turned down in 2019, the time for Wicklow to act is now, they said.

West Wicklow remains the only municipal district in the

county of Wicklow without a swimming pool. Connor Byrne said: "As a native of West Wicklow, I am very aware of the demand on the ground for sporting facilities, especially for a community pool in the area. In 2022, the local Community Pool Committee, working with

Wicklow County Council and Swim Ireland were able to bring a pop-up pool into the area for three months, the success of which across all age groups clearly underlined the support and need for a pool in the area.

"This level of support and the fact that an application for funding was turned down in 2019, coupled with the fact that we remain the only municipal area in the county of Wicklow without a pool needs to be taken into account by the Council, and they should their main priority to

ensure that an application is submitted to the Large-Scale Sports Infrastructure Fund."

Deputy Brady said "We in Sinn Féin have given strong support over the years for the campaign for a community pool for West Wicklow and continue to do so. The potential that a pool and a sporting campus has to deliver for the area is vast. That West Wicklow remains the only area in the county without a swimming pool is not acceptable. West Wicklow is an area that is growing in population.

'Bray sea swimmers need changing facilities'

Bray's Aontu candidate in the Local Elections Ciaran Hogan says it's about time that Bray's dedicated sea swimmers were provided with some proper facilities and attention from the Council.

Mr Hogan said "There is a very active community of sea swimmers who enjoy a quick dip or a low impact training session in our wonderful Bray waters. On any day of the week regardless of temperature you can almost be assured to see someone taking a splash. And yet with this great amenity on

our doorstep, it is ignored by local council, and receives no funding or thought."

Nora Collins, a member of Bray Beach Bathing and who goes swimming daily said "The council gives nothing, zero, ever, to Bray's bathers. They won't even ban dogs on the beach in the summer

and the amount of dog fouling is disgraceful. If you even had a shower, so you could rinse the sand off, or a foot tap. Or a changing area. But the council provides us with nothing."

The North end of Bray beach is a preferred changing and swimming spot for many, as it is

more sandy than other mostly stoney areas, and somewhat sheltered from wind by the seawall.

Mr Hogan has called for development and amenities to support the sea swimmers: "Sea swimming has been a big part of my life; especially during lockdown. We in Bray were blessed to have such a fantastic resource right here. But it could be made so much better. In other areas around Dublin Bay sea swimmers have changing facilities and walk ways into the Water. On Clontarf's Bull wall there are separate men's and ladies changing area apparently designed by Herbert Simms in 1934. In Blackrock Galway they have a diving platform which dates back to 1885. Why do we have nothing

similar in Bray? At least a walkway with rails leading into the water. I know very well what it feels like to hobble along the stones after a cold swim looking for any bit of soft sand, or any cover from the chilling wind."

Despite the challenges, sea swimming events such as Bray Lions New Years Day swim has been a long-standing and growing tradition for many Bray families. Since being first held in 1983 this event has raised over a third of million Euro for good causes.

"It is clear time that investment and development to aid sea swimming has huge potential for major returns to Bray, and something I'll hammer at if elected to council," concluded Mr.Hogan.



MARY KAVANAGH
INDEPENDENT
Wicklow Municipal District

VOTE No.1

Wicklow LEA

Your Voice in the Community

087 7823513 mkavanagh@wicklowcoco.ie Mary Kavanagh Cllr



Bryan KENNA
Working for you in Bray West

VOTE 1

Labour

Ph: 086 377 1028 Email: bryan.kenna@votelabour.ie
facebook: Bryan Kenna Bray West Candidate

Nora de Buítléar remembered at BIFE 2024 Show

Malachai Duddy remembers his aunt Nora de Buítléar at BIFE 2024 Art & Design Graduates Exhibition

The annual BIFE Art & Design Graduates Exhibition Show is currently underway at the Bray Institute premises on Novara Road, Bray formerly St Thomas's Community College. The Bray Institute of Further Education was founded in 1995 in St Thomas's Community College. The then Bray V.E.C. began a Vocational Training Opportunity Scheme in January 1990 with just 20 students sitting the Leaving Certificate in June 1991. Later a Higher Education Centre was opened in the old Presentation College buildings on Putland Road in Bray which catered for courses from certificate to diploma and to degree level.

Nora de Buítléar was appointed Art teacher in 1972, when the equally great Mrs. Annie (Nanna) Keogh retired after 50 years as Arts and Crafts teacher with the Bray Vocational Education Committee Technical School, where she had developed a particular reputation for embroidery. A predecessor of Nora included the Breton artist Prof. Yann Renard Goulet, RHA Professor of Sculpture and Aosdána member. Nora de Buítléar was instrumental along with other staff in establishing the Art and Design and Portfolio course which specialised in preparation for entry to the National College of Art & Design.

Having been trained under the painter Seán Keating RHA at the National College of Art, then in Kildare Street, Dublin, Nora de Buítléar was an accomplished oil painter, and was commissioned to paint a presentation landscape painting for Bray born President of Ireland Cearbhall Ó Dalaigh. She was also a gifted crafts teacher, instructor and adjudicator at Irish Countrywoman's Association (I.C.A.) classes and county shows. In 1972 Nora de Buítléar won a Gael Linn 'Showcase' award for designing a vinyl record album cover for Ó Riada (1972), a

posthumous release of traditional Irish music of the famous Irish composer Seán Ó Riada, which also featured Seán Ó Sé and Ceoltóirí Chualann. The record was made up of selected pieces from two of Seán Ó Riada's most important concerts: Ó Riada sa Gaiety in 1969 and a Cork City Hall Turlough O'Carolan commemoration in 1970.

While living in Canada, Nora de Buítléar became engaged in theatrical scenery and set design. An Irish speaker and enthusiast, she also had a life in television, creating and animated her own children's musical cartoon series for RTÉ, Luidín Mac Lu, about an Irish speaking leprechaun, voiced by family member Éamon de Buítléar with traditional music played by Paddy Moloney, of future Chieftains fame. She worked with Éamon de Buítléar and Gerrit Van Gelderen on RTÉ's Amúigh Faon Speir and on a series of six bird and animal life nature films featuring the Rift Valley of Ethiopia and Kenya in 1975. This included production roles such as titling, scripting and general editing as well as working on location. An accomplished traveller and having lived in Canada in the late 1950s before returning to

Ireland in the 1960s, Nora de Buítléar in the 1960s, 70s, and 80s was a wide ranging traveller, visiting Iceland, Greenland, Ethiopia, Kenya, France, Cuba, USA and Russia, often camping in all kinds of conditions.

A lover of poetry, Irish handicrafts, folklore and traditional culture everywhere, Nora de Buítléar loved and promoted the arts. From a musical family, Nora was schooled with the French order of the Religious Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Mary, Ferrybank, Waterford, where she was involved in school plays, operetta and the convent chapel choir. With this great love of music, be it traditional Irish, Irish folk and its relation American folk, or classical music, Nora de Buítléar became the first director of the then V.E.C. Bray Music Centre, Florence Road in 1982, to give local music enthusiasts a local venue in which to attend music classes. She was also a significant patron of Bray Brass & Concert Band, under Gerry Stafford, to the extent of once obtaining a credit union loan to secure instruments for the band. Active in the Parish of the Most Holy Redeemer, Bray, Nora followed family tradition and was a member of the principal parish choir. Annually she installed and decorated the

Christmas crib, and was at hand to provide banners and other decorations for major feasts and celebrations such as First Holy Communions and Confirmations, as well as assisting in required artistic works, including the funding of the restoration of some of the historic stained glass.

Education and sport was also a focus of Nora's summer activities, when she established the Summer School at Presentation College, Bray. Together with dancing teacher Annette Hynes, former Sadler's Wells Opera Company member, voice and music teacher Patricia McCarry, swimming coach Audrey Collins and 1970s RTÉ television art personality Bláithín Ní Chnaimhín, the annual Summer School took place each June for many years.

Having lived and raised her family of six on the banks of the River Dargle in Bray, Nora was a conservationist with a great appreciation of nature and the environment, realising long before it was either popular or fashionable that the planet needed protection from human degradation. She was many decades before her time. The Dargle River was then one of the best small salmon and sea trout rivers on the Irish east coast, abundant as a natural habitat, once famed for its natural beauty. Nora de Buítléar did much to attempt to preserve the river and was active in the Dargle Residents Association. She understood the River Dargle having long observed it, knowing that the best flood protection was to protect the Dargle flood plain, knowing that the immense power of the river will always make its own course. She joined Irish wildlife expeditions to the Saltee Islands and the Wexford Sloblands, both in Co. Wexford. A national political party sought Nora de Buítléar to stand as a general election candidate but her modesty as well as her unfailing faith in the power of the grassroots stopped her from achieving a more forefront profile.



Malachai Duddy, BIFE Principal Ray Tedders and Chairperson Cllr Tom Fortune.

The de Buítléar household was an open-house where all were welcome and welcomed, be they young curates recently arrived in the parish, to artists and travellers who discovered the best hospitality that the family could share and where wine flowed freely. Unfailingly, almost every Sunday Nora de Buítléar hosted what surely must have been the equivalent of a salon of artists, composers, musicians, conservationists, and of course family, which to her and her beloved husband Rúairí, the greatest

love of her life, was number one.

Nora de Buítléar contributed significantly to the esprit de corp of the school, where inspectors frequently commented on the positive atmosphere imbibed through the institute. BIFE now has over 1,000 full-time students studying at degree, diploma and certificate level. For almost 40 years the Bray Institute has been a centre of excellence in the field of Further Education. The BIFE Art & Design course is one of the leading Art, Craft

and Design programmes in the country. Nora de Buítléar made a significant contribution in setting the foundations and making the Art and Design department what it is today. Graduates have the opportunity to gain advanced entry onto higher education degree courses and in some instances complete an honours degree with one extra year of study in Higher Education Institutes. Awards are portable with the standard recognised internationally which gives the graduate every opportunity of success in their chosen field.

BIFE principal Ray Tedders spoke of his regard and genuine appreciation for Nora de Buítléar even so many years after her death. He said "no day passes here that I don't think of Nora". Malachai Duddy in remembering his aunt Nora de Buítléar, said "Nora was special to anyone who came into contact with, she always went out of her way to assist anyone who sought her assistance. Nora really was an inspiration."

Cllr. Paul O'BRIEN

Wicklow LEA

VOTE No.1

Contact:
☎ 086 036 6947
✉ pobrien@wicklowcoco.ie

Labour

Cllr. Melanie CORRIGAN

LOCAL ELECTION CANDIDATE

FINE GAEIL

On June 7th VOTE 1

I am committed to delivering results that matter to the community and I will continue to be a strong voice for you in the council

083 364 2439 | melaniebraywest@gmail.com | @MelanieBrayWest | @MelanieBrayWest

Working in your area with An Taoiseach Simon Harris TD, John Mullins and Seán Kelly.

Have your say on the Wicklow Heritage Plan

Wicklow County Council is preparing the fourth County Wicklow Heritage Plan and you are invited to make your voice heard to help shape the process. As part of that, a series of drop-in clinics are scheduled to take place in libraries across the county over the coming weeks.

Clinics have already been held in Arklow and Wicklow Town libraries. Running between 4pm and 7pm, the next ones are taking place in: Thursday 13th June - Blessington Library; Tuesday 18th June - Bray Library, Eglinton Road; Thursday 20th June - Greystones Library.

All are welcome to drop in to speak to the Heritage Team in Wicklow County Council, to discuss the process and make a submission to the pre-draft Plan. Written submissions may be made by completing an online survey available on the Consultation Hub at www.wicklow.ie

Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr. Aoife Flynn Kennedy, said "The natural, built and cultural heritage of County Wicklow is a valuable asset which

contributes enormously to our quality of life and wellbeing. This new plan will help us better manage our heritage into the future and I encourage everyone to get involved."

Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council, Emer O'Gorman, commented that: "The County Heritage Plan is a road map for how we can protect our heritage and give everyone an opportunity to connect with it in a sustainable way. The plan supports communities, organisations and agencies across the county to engage and collaborate to manage our heritage in practical ways."

Leonora Earls, Director Of Services for Planning, Economic and Rural Development welcomed the preparation of the new plan stating, "The previous Heritage Plans,

co-ordinated by the Heritage Officer, have spearheaded multiple worthwhile projects such as the Wicklow Community Archaeology Project, Wicklow Barn Owl Group, Glendalough Heritage Forum, Wicklow ICAN Communities, The Brittas Bay Biodiversity Project, Historic graveyard recording and the Geological Heritage Audit of County Wicklow. We encourage everyone to take this opportunity to shape the next plan by letting us know your priorities for how we can best protect and celebrate our heritage."

The County Wicklow Heritage Plan is a five year plan, overseen by the Wicklow Heritage Forum and co-ordinated by Deirdre Burns, Heritage Officer, Wicklow County Council. For all queries please email dburns@wicklowcoco.ie



The Wicklow Town Heritage Trail continues to gather momentum with visitors last Saturday from Michigan, New York, Australia and local visitors to Wicklow Town. All of the visitors were enthused by the rich heritage of Wicklow Town and were extremely complementary of the new murals throughout the town and their back stories. The Wicklow Town Heritage Trail takes place every Saturday until the end of September, commencing at 11am from outside the Tourist Office in Fitzwilliam Square, Wicklow Town.

National Famine Commemoration Day marked in Shillelagh

On Sunday 19th May, Wicklow's National Famine Commemoration Day event took place at Coollattin House, Shillelagh. The event was supported by Wicklow County Council, with thanks also to the many volunteers in the local community and the owners of Coollattin House.

The programme of events included addresses by Leas Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Councillor Gail Dunne and Cathaoirleach of Baltinglass Municipal

District Councillor Edward Timmins. The emigrant songs Isle of Hope and Irish Heart were beautifully performed by Ellie Willoughby and the

keynote lecture 'Faces of Famine' was delivered by historian Kevin Lee. There was a brief address from Canadian Paul Burns, who was on a visit to his ancestral

home in Coollattin. Paul is a descendant of Simon Burns, who, as a 12-year-old boy, sailed with his family on board the ill-fated 'Star', bound for St John, New Brunswick. A memorial to all those who lost their lives in the Famine concluded the day, with a ceremonial tree planting followed by a

lament from a lone piper.

Coollattin House was the Irish residence of the Earls Fitzwilliam who owned 85 thousand acres of land mainly in Co Wicklow. It is one of Ireland's finest period houses and is now in the ownership of a consortium of seven business people, who are the process of restoring the property. Kindly hosting the event, the owners conducted a fascinating tour of the house on the day. A history exhibition

about the Coollattin emigrant programme was also on display.

The story of this emigrant programme and its influence in the development of the nation of Canada is documented in a book called Shoeboxes, From Wicklow Roots to Canadian Branches, by Kevin Lee and Canadian Tom Jenkins, a descendant of Coollattin emigrants. The history of the Coollattin Estate is also documented in a recently published book

entitled Coollattin by Kevin Lee, further details of which can be found on www.coollattincanadianconnection.com

The digitised collections of Wicklow County Archives include the workhouse registers of nearby Shillelagh Union and also Rathdrum Union, both dating from pre-Famine times are available to view on www.wicklow.ie, and also at www.coolattinlives.ie.

Commending the Wicklow Famine Commemoration event, Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr. Aoife Flynn Kennedy, said "It is truly fitting that this event took place at Coollattin House where so many left their homes on that estate during the Famine to make new lives in Canada resulting in countless thousands who can trace their ancestral home to south-west County Wicklow."



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





Pictured at the commemoration event were (L-R) Councillor Vincent Blake; Councillor Edward Timmins (Cathaoirleach Baltinglass MD), Kevin Lee (Historian), Catherine Wright (Wicklow County Council Archivist), Eleanor Lee (Historian), Councillor Gail Dunne (Leas Cathaoirleach Wicklow County Council), Councillor John Mullen and Conor Lenihan (Historian).

Our rural future

Taoiseach announces €176,338 in funding to successful applicants to the Local Enhancement Programme 2024

An Taoiseach Simon Harris announced the successful projects in Co. Wicklow on Tuesday evening, 21st May at an Awards Ceremony held in the Tramway Theatre, Blessington. The Local Enhancement Programme 2024 was launched in December 2023 by Heather Humphreys TD, Minister for Rural and Community Development and Joe O'Brien TD, Minister of State with Responsibility for Community Development and Charities.

€176,338.11 was allocated to Wicklow County Council, €29,389.69 of which has been reserved for Women's groups in recognition of the fact that there are a growing number of Women's Sheds, Groups and Networks across the country. The funding will provide capital supports essential for the many small community groups and organisations, particularly those who serve disadvantaged areas in rural and urban areas. The Department of Rural and Community Development's Local Enhancement Programme 2024 is administered by Local Community Development Committees, with support from the Local Authority, in each area. Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr. Aoife Flynn Kennedy thanked all those in attendance, particularly An Taoiseach,

Simon Harris, fellow Councillors and Michael Nicholson, Director of Services Wicklow County Council and Chief Officer of Wicklow Local Community Development Committee, and Cllr. Melanie Corrigan, Chair of Wicklow Local Community Development Committee.

The Cathaoirleach then went on to thank the local groups and organisations throughout County Wicklow, "This funding is

invaluable to the many groups and organisations who work tirelessly in their area to improve facilities for everyone and foster a sense of community and inclusivity. Your work helps to build communities and leaves a legacy for those who follow."

Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council Emer O'Gorman stated, "This funding will provide a welcome boost to local volunteers in their efforts to develop facilities and encourage participation in community activities."

Cllr. Melanie Corrigan, Chair of Wicklow Local Community Development Committee, also welcomed the funding which is administered via the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC), "The LEP funding is about giving a helping hand to our communities, local groups and clubs and to ensure local priorities are identified and met, so as to improve and enhance community facilities for all."

Announcing the successful projects for Co. Wicklow, Taoiseach Simon Harris said: "The Local Enhancement Programme is about giving a helping hand to our local groups and clubs, who are the building blocks of Irish community life. I want to congratulate the successful applicants and to thank them for the vital work they do in providing services in our local communities. These grants



Pictured alongside Taoiseach Simon Harris and Cllr. Melanie Corrigan, Chair of Wicklow Local Community Development Committee at the awards ceremony held in the Tramway Theatre, Blessington on Tuesday 21st May was a representative from Newtown Mount Kennedy Community Care, one of the successful applicants to the Local Enhancement Programme. Photo: Mick Kelly.

'A new partnership with Wicklow farmers'

Fine Gael's National Agricultural, Food, and Rural Development Forum (NAFRD) has developed a comprehensive plan to create a new partnership with farmers in South Wicklow, Fine Gael's Arklow LEA candidate, Laurie Kearon has said.

Since its formation, NAFRD has held a series of public meetings with farmers, rural dwellers and agri-businesses around the country. At the Fine Gael Ard Fheis, Taoiseach Harris requested that NAFRD bring forward a report detailing a plan on how action could be taken on the feedback received.

NAFRD Chairman Eddie Downey said: "When I put my name forward to chair Fine Gael's National Agriculture, Food and Rural Development Forum, I did so because I believed this party sees a future

for Irish agriculture. Agriculture is Ireland's oldest and most important indigenous industry; its future must never be dominated by uncertainty or indifference. That is why this group was formed. Over the last two years, we have travelled the countryside canvassing the views of farmers, rural dwellers and business people. The report is a summary of the main issues raised at our meetings and a set of recommendations formulated by this forum."

The report covers five main areas - the future of CAP, farm succession, a

reform of land leasing, climate and environmental issues, and protecting rural life. It will be considered by Fine Gael in the formulation of future agricultural and rural policy.

Laurie stated: "Fine Gael values the essential role farmers in South Wicklow play in our economy and our society. The agri-food sector employs over 170,000 people nationwide, making a hugely significant economic and social contribution to rural and coastal communities, including communities here in South Wicklow.



Laurie Kearon.

There is a bright future for this sector. We must continue to work with the farming community to address the challenges ahead and this policy contains a number of significant recommendations and charts a pathway forward."



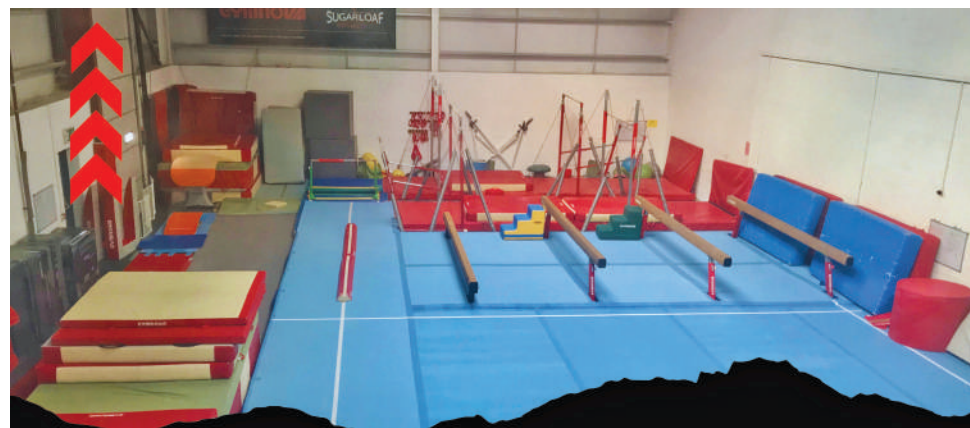
Pictured alongside Taoiseach Simon Harris and Cllr. Melanie Corrigan, Chair of Wicklow Local Community Development Committee at the awards ceremony held in the Tramway Theatre, Blessington on Tuesday 21st May was a representative from Tramway Theatre Events Committee, one of the successful applicants to the Local Enhancement Programme. Photo: Mick Kelly.

will help hundreds of community organisations, clubs, men's and women's sheds, youth centres and parish halls, to continue to provide their valuable services to the people in their areas.

I'm really delighted that close to 150 organisations in County Wicklow are receiving funding which will go a long way in benefiting so many in the localities. On top of this 26 Women's Organisations in County Wicklow are receiving ring-fenced funding as part of the LEP allocation."



Pictured alongside Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr. Aoife Flynn Kennedy and Cllr. Melanie Corrigan were representatives from Happy Hooves Therapeutic Riding LTD.



GYMNASTICS SUMMER CAMPS

Through July & August
Monday - Thursday*

*Tues - Thurs week 6 & 8

10am - 1.30pm age 5.5 yrs+
2.15 - 3.30pm age 4-6 yrs

Amazing fun! Suitable for beginners or experienced gymnasts, both boys & girls!

www.sugarloafgymnastics.ie

Unit C2 Network Enterprise Park, Kilcoole, CF3



SCAN ME



Pure remove 4 million kilograms of rubbish from Uplands

The environmental initiative, Pure (Protecting Uplands & Rural Environments), which was established to combat illegal dumping in the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands recently recorded a landmark number with the collection and removal of over 4,000,000kg (4,000 tonnes) of litter and rubbish from the beautiful, scenic, Wicklow/Dublin Uplands, since the project was launched in 2006.

Pure is the first initiative of its kind in Ireland incorporating statutory and non-statutory organisations and stakeholders, including, the Department of Environment, Climate, and Communications, Wicklow County Council, South Dublin County Council, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, Coillte, National Parks & Wildlife Service, and the Wicklow Uplands Council and was established to combat illegal dumping in the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands.

Pure has been recording and mapping every location and incident of illegal dumping in the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands since 2006 and they have built up a base-line-data of all illegal dumping activity in this region, the location of dumping, type of dumping, landowner, approximate amount of dumping, and for several years now they have been recording an annual reduction. The data collected by Pure is valuable information providing indicators into the nature and extent of illegal dumping in Wicklow/Dublin

Uplands, and statistical evidence for all illegal dumping incidents in this region.

Pure utilises a multidisciplinary approach in combating illegal dumping, incorporating a number of educational initiatives, environment/community/heritage projects - The Pure Mile, public awareness campaigns, regional /national media campaigns, enforcement and preventative measures, GPS/GIS database to record all illegal dumping sites, and they also have a dedicated vehicle, the Pure Truck, which removes all illegal dumping from the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands.

Although illegal dumping continues to plague our environment the Pure initiative has made huge progress in reducing dumping in the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands. If you compare the amount of dumping collected by Pure in 2023, which was 120,000kg (120 tonnes) tonnes of waste, to 2008 which was the projects busiest year, when they removed 440,000kg (440

tonnes), the initiative has seen a 72% reduction in illegal dumping in Wicklow/Dublin Uplands.

Earlier in the year, Minister of State at the Environment, Climate and Communications, Ossian Smyth TD, commented on the success of Pure, stating, "I think all of us who get to enjoy the Wicklow/Dublin uplands every year owe a debt of gratitude to all the local volunteers, both young and not so young, who take part in Pure Project and the Pure Mile for their continuing efforts to fight the scourge of illegal dumping in their local areas. I am delighted to confirm that my Department have recently committed to funding this important work for another 3-year period until 2026".

The Pure Truck is on the road every day, and since Pure was established in 2006, and it has now removed over 4,000,000kg (4,000 tonnes) of rubbish from over 14,800 illegal dumping sites in the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands, with the project processing over 15,900 reports/com-

plaints. If you were to put all the rubbish that Pure has removed from the uplands into standard household rubbish bags, they would fill over 800,000 bags. If you lined up all these bags on the road, they would stretch all the way from Dublin Airport to Mizen Head in Cork, and back again.

Ian Davis, Manager of Pure since the project was initiated in 2006 commented, "The Pure partnership approach, incorporating statutory and non-statutory organisations, and members of the public, has proven extremely successful in combating illegal dumping in the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands. However, we have been extremely busy in 2024 and in the first four months we removed 60,000kg of illegally dumped waste which is an increase compared to past years. A recent dumping site of 1,500kg of timber decking in the remote and scenic Wicklow Mountains, reported to us on our call line 1800 365 123 by the National Parks and Wildlife Service, is now



under investigation by Wicklow County Council. We have made huge progress in reducing illegal dumping, but we cannot become complacent, and it is vital that we continue to monitor the situation, if not we will unfortunately see a return to the old days, with an increase in illegal dumping in the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands".

There are now over 950 miles (1,529 Kilometres) of roads, mountains, woodlands, valleys, forests, upland amenities, car parks, pull-ins, and even some coastal areas, involved in the Pure Mile, the largest number ever since the initiative began. Thousands of litter picks and clean-ups undertaken by Pure Mile Volunteers have resulted in the removal of hundreds of tonnes of illegally dumped waste and thousands of bags of litter and rubbish from the Wicklow, South Dublin, and Dun-Laoghaire, uplands. The success of the Pure Mile demonstrates the importance and necessity of the initiative and the need for continued collaboration and engagement to protect the Wicklow/Dublin upland environment.

2024 is the 15th anniversary of the Pure Mile and Pure are currently working with all types of groups and businesses who are assisting Pure to 'Clean Up The Wicklow/Dublin Uplands'. A num-

ber of litter picks and cleanup events have already been held this year and recently Pure had to cancel an event due to the lack of litter in the environment. The Wicklow/Dublin Uplands is a unique landscape and environment and although Pure have removed tonnes of illegal dumping from this beautiful scenic landscape, they only have one truck and one driver, so they are unable to remove the unsightly small-scale litter from the area. The Pure Mile Groups make a huge difference to the appearance of the Wicklow/

Dublin Uplands and Pure would like to congratulate all of the Pure Mile Volunteers involved in the initiative over the past 15 years. Further Pure Mile litter picks, clean-ups, anti-dumping initiatives, community projects, biodiversity, and heritage projects, are currently being organised throughout the year. Pure supply all Pure Mile Groups with Pure Mile Signs, Pure Mile Bags, Pure Mile High-Vis Vests, litter pickers and gloves, and the Pure Truck collects all rubbish and litter gathered by groups. All groups who register with

the Pure Mile are invited to the Pure Mile Awards Night, and all receive a Certificate of Participation, a selection of Native Irish Trees, and all feature in the Pure Mile Calendar.

To celebrate the 15th anniversary of the Pure Mile, Pure are looking for groups, communities, individuals, schools, walking groups, cycling groups, running groups, scouts, businesses, organisations, every one, to get involved. People can contact Pure at info@pureproject.ie or download an application from www.pureproject.ie/what-we-do/the-pure-mile/.



€80,000 for sports clubs

Wicklow Sports & Recreation Partnership has announced the recipients of the Club Development Grant Scheme for 2024. A record number, 78 clubs, will receive financial support through this grant scheme for 2024.

One of the remits of Wicklow Sports & Recreation Partnership is to support sports clubs to provide opportunities for people to participate in organised sport and physical activity. This Club Development Grant Scheme aims to support initiatives that will lead to an increase in participation levels in sports clubs across Wicklow.

This particular scheme focused on: Training and education of club volunteers; Delivery of programmes or initiatives that will increase club membership; Small equipment purchases to facilitate increased membership; Youth development programmes to support the youth section of the club by training or upskilling youth members; Programmes and initiatives with a focus on inclusion of new communities, women and those with disabilities.

Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council Cllr. Aoife Flynn Kennedy said "The benefits of people being involved in sports clubs cannot be underestimated, from the health and wellbeing benefits, to the social connections that are made. I would like to thank all of the coaches and club administrators that keep these clubs at the centre of our communities."

Aisling Hubbard, Coordinator Wicklow Sports and Recreation Partnership, speaking at the announcement said, "We would like to thank the clubs for submitting applications that really focused on the target of the scheme of participation, inclusion, training and education. We congratulate all recipients on their allocations." "To keep up to date with further funding and activity opportunities visit www.wicklowlsp.ie or find Active Wicklow on Social Media.

Annesley calls for development of all-weather community pitches

Fianna Fáil candidate in the upcoming local elections Cllr Tommy Annesley, has emphasised the pressing need for resources and facilities for young people in Arklow and the surrounding areas.



Cllr Tommy Annesley.

Highlighting the significant gap in available services, Annesley who is running in the Arklow Local Electoral Area called for the development of urban municipal all-weather community pitches and the utilisation of school buildings after hours to better serve the community.

"Our young people deserve access to safe, high-quality recreational facilities year-round," he said. "Currently, there is a glaring lack of such resources in our

community. By investing in all-weather pitches, we can provide a reliable space for sports and physical activities, regardless of the season or weather conditions."

In addition to the call for new pitches, Tommy emphasised the importance of maximising existing community assets. "Many of our school buildings, including their halls, sports fields, and gym's remain unused after hours."

"We have a great

opportunity to open these facilities to the community, ensuring that our young people have access to the spaces they need without the need for significant new construction.

"By implementing these initiatives, we can address the immediate needs of our young people while making efficient use of our existing infrastructure. This is a practical, cost-effective solution that will have a lasting impact on our community."



Vandalism to Wicklow Town AFC's fencing

'Lack of funding for Wicklow Town clubs is frustrating'

Cllr Gail Dunne has welcomed significant funding for County Wicklow sports clubs but has said it is frustrating to see comparatively little funding allocated to Wicklow Town clubs and clubs in the surrounding villages.

The funding was announced recently by Minister of State for Sport, Physical Education and the Gaeltacht, Thomas Byrne TD, as part of a record total overall allocation of €26 million in equipment grants nationwide under the latest round of the Sports Capital and Equipment Programme (SCEP).

Cllr Dunne said: "I am delighted to see significant funding right across the county of Wicklow, but I must say I am dismayed by the lack of funding that is allocated to the Wicklow town area."

He continued, "In particular, Wicklow Town AFC has recently had their property vandalised, and they have not been allocated funding despite applying for it. I am

calling on the minister to revisit this issue, as funds for the repair of the damage and further growth of the club is critical.

"These funds are vital for clubs across our communities, and they contain a lot of committed volunteers and club members. It is disappointing for these clubs not to be allocated funding, and it is much needed for their continued growth."

"I will be in contact with the Minister to raise these issues. Despite the disappointment, I want to extend my gratitude to the volunteers and club members across our county for all the invaluable work they do and continue to do across our communities."



Cllr Gail Dunne.

Comfort
SINCE 1981
BED OUTLET

All the
LEADING BRANDS
at
OUTLET PRICES...

Deposit secures for 8 weeks
w: bedoutlet.ie

UP TO 70% OFF

Tallaght Outlet
phone: 01-4940200

Opening Times
Mon - Sat (10.00am - 5.00pm)
Sun & Bank Holidays - Closed
Unit B7, South City Business Pk, Tallaght, D24

FREE PARKING

Ballybrack Outlet
phone: 01-2720788

Opening Times
Mon - Sat (10.00am - 5.30pm) Thurs 7.30 pm
Sun - Closed (Bank Hols 2.00pm - 5.30pm)
Church Road, Ballybrack, Co. Dublin

FREE PARKING



Students from Woodbrook College in Bray were presented with a Gaelbhhratach (Irish flag) at a ceremony in Mary Immaculate College, Limerick recently. Run by Gael Linn, 'Gaelbhhratach' is a national initiative that encourages primary and secondary students to speak Irish outside of the formal classroom setting. Students from Woodbrook attended the ceremony which marked the 10th year of the scheme in post-primary schools. Photographed receiving their Gaelbhhratach were students Malachy Blunden and Emma Kenny from Woodbrook College with Síomha Ní Ruairc, Réamonn Ó Ciarán, Príomhshéidhmeannach/CEO Gael Linn, Caitlín Ní Chonghaile, Foras na Gaeilge and Eoin Ó Droighneáin, An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán, tríd an Crannchur Náisiúnta agus an Straitéis 20 bliain don Ghaeilge.

Greystones school building to go to construction

It was confirmed on Friday that the long-awaited Greystones Community College school building is to go to construction after the letter of acceptance was issued from the Department to the successful contractor.

An Taoiseach Simon Harris said "this news will be of huge relief to the thousands of parents in Greystones and will be an invaluable resource for future generations.

The permanent building project for Greystones Community College will deliver a new 1,000 pupil post-primary school with accommodation, including 4 classrooms, for children with special educational needs. The project is being delivered under the Department's Design & Build programme."

The Taoiseach confirmed that diggers will be on site in a month's time with work to commence over the summer months.

The Taoiseach said: "I am absolutely thrilled to announce that Greystones Community College's long awaited new school build will soon go to construction after it received its letter of acceptance.

"I have been tirelessly campaigning to get this project to construction as soon as possible and it has been for years a key priority issue for me.

"This is hugely positive for the community. Parents in Greystones

have been put through an unfair amount of stress with school shortages over the past few years.

"It is about time action was taken and that we got projects to construction. This new school building will cater for 1,000 pupil in the post-primary school.

"This new building also includes 4 classrooms, for children with special educational needs.

"As a Greystones resident, as a TD for Wicklow and as Taoiseach I know the impact this will have on the community who has been waiting for this news for so long.

"I look forward to seeing boots and diggers on the ground over the summer months and will continue to watch this development evolve. As always I will keep the people of Greystones informed of any updates in the coming months. I want to thank everybody who has worked so hard to see this project get over the line."

Health Minister Stephen Donnelly said "This is a tremendous day for children and their parents in Greystones, Principal Ruairí Farrell, all the teachers and the entire school

community. The letter of approval to the developer was the last piece needed to allow us to get diggers on to the site and the building underway. I understand the contractor can now mobilise on site and initial site works will begin within a month.

"The children in Greystones deserve the very best school accommodation and I'm delighted that we can now proceed with the building of what will be a state-of-the-art, modern and permanent home for Greystones Community College.

"GCC is a school providing the highest academic standards since it was established in 2020 and has done so in temporary accommodation. Ruairí and the team deserve huge credit for the work they do for the students, and I know today will be a huge relief to them that we know that the commencement of construction is now only weeks away.

"I've been working with Cabinet colleagues to ensure the funding is in place for this project and that it is the first in the bundle of schools being built for construction to commence."

Glenart College and SSE Renewables complete second Business in the Community Ireland Student Mentoring Programme

For several sixth year students in Glenart College, the benefits gained from having undertaken the Student Mentoring Programme should serve them well as they prepare for the future world of work having benefitted from the support and advice of volunteer mentors from SSE Renewables across Ireland and the UK.

For sixth year students around the county, it's the start of state examinations and thereafter, new and exciting possibilities for training, further education and careers.

For several sixth year students in Glenart College, the benefits gained from having undertaken the Student Mentoring Programme should serve them well as they prepare for the future world of work having benefitted from the support and advice of volunteer mentors from SSE Renewables across Ireland and the UK.

May, saw the conclu-

sion of a third year of the Student Mentoring Programme delivered through one-to-one monthly sessions over the course of the 2023/24 academic year. The programme is designed to facilitate personalised sessions covering topics such as: goal setting, career exploration, interview skills' preparation etc. Sessional content was drawn from a suite of Business in the Community Ireland approved resources and student soft skills and resilience building was encouraged throughout the year's programme.

Niall Walsh, Progra-

mm Co-ordinator at Glenart College said: "We at Glenart College were delighted to partner again with SSE Renewables for a third year of the Business in the Community Ireland Student Mentoring programme. The feedback from our students has been overwhelmingly positive. It has boosted their confidence and challenged them to think creatively about their future education and career options. We're very grateful to the mentors for their enthusiasm, preparation, encouragement, and integrity demonstrated throughout the mentoring sessions".

Alison Norman, Regional Co-ordinator, Business in the Community Ireland said: "The Student Mentoring Programme is well-established across the country. 254 students and 240 mentors are participating this year with almost 3,000 students and 2,800 mentors having participated to date. Currently, there are 36 programmes involving 32 companies in Ireland mentoring to 32 schools.

The mentoring programme encourages retention, increases self-esteem, and develops an awareness of workplace practices and expectations. The support from SSE Renewables' mentors alongside the management and staff in Glenart College, have brought tangible benefits to the students who participated. We look forward to continuing the very positive relationship with Glenart College and SSE Renewables in the next academic year".

Deirdre Keogh, Community Engagement Manager, SSE Renewables said: "Corporate social responsibility is an important tenet of SSE Renewables' company values. Members of our Arklow Bank Wind Park 2 project team were delighted to participate in the programme for a third year and we had a great mix of



Glenart College 6th year students Jamie Byrne, Isabelle Chadwick, Emily Kavanagh, Leanna Walsh and Darragh Kennedy, with Alison Norman (Regional co-ordinator, Business in the Community Ireland), Niall Walsh (teacher and in-school programme co-ordinator), Gwen Campbell (Deputy Principal) and Deirdre Keogh (SSE Renewables)

new and previous mentors taking part. Being part of the mentoring programme gives us a chance to give something back as a company, and most importantly, help support and contribute to talent and skills development for young people in Arklow.

We remain firmly committed to local communities close to our development sites, and our commitment to Arklow schools is evidenced through the mentoring programme, sustainability support initiatives, and a variety of other resources and supports provided to local primary and

post-primary schools.

The Student Mentoring Programme has become a stalwart example of our company's commitment and as we move forward to submit our offshore planning application in the coming weeks, we very much look forward to progressing the project and our Sustainable Education Centre which will be housed in our offshore operations' base at the South Dock in Arklow. This will provide exhibition space and offers the potential to support local schools (and those from further afield) and will provide the chance for stu-

dents to visit the centre, learn about offshore wind, local heritage, and sustainability.

On behalf of our mentors, it was a pleasure to be involved with the programme and mentor such bright, earnest, and ambitious students. We wish our mentee students and all those sitting state examinations, every success".

Glenart College students on the mentoring programme 2023/24 included: Darragh Kennedy, Jack Bermingham, Donnacha Walker, Ben Burke, Jamie Byrne, Victoria Tarnogorska, Isabelle Chadwick, Paloma Palach,

Emily Kavanagh and Leanna Walsh.

SSE Renewables mentors included: Deborah Coleman, Aaron Henry, Ann Fahy, Hugh Connell, Robert Sheldon, Arthur Wright, Tom Guiney, Mairi Muir, Mulvihill, Niall, Jack Mooney, and Deirdre Keogh.

For more information on BITCI's Student Mentoring Programme contact Diane Beekingham, Business in the Community Ireland at dbeekingham@bitci.ie

For information on SSE Renewables Arklow Bank Wind Park 2 project, contact deirdre.keogh@sse.com



Isabelle Chadwick, 6th year student, Glenart College, a participant in the Business in the Community student mentoring programme.

NWETSS projects focus on environment and biodiversity



Ella Kells weeding around the oak trees during biodiversity week at NWETSS.

Students at North Wicklow Educate Together Secondary School undertook a number of projects for Biodiversity Week recently.

A Treasure Hunt saw teachers from Climate Action, History, Geography, Ethical Education, Science, and Woodwork co-create a Treasure Hunt on the theme of Biodiversity - which looked at sub-themes of deforestation and tree planting, groundwater depletion and organic food growing, species decline and habitat restoration and human migration and creative acts of solidarity.

Meanwhile, Transition Year students from the Outdoor Learning class and the 2nd year Climate

Action class planted sunflowers and other flowers to increase biodiversity in the school. The national flowers painted on wood are an act of solidarity, to show support to other countries in the world experiencing war and sufferings. Sunflowers (soniashnyk) are also the national flower of Ukraine; they are important for the economy and are part of Ukraine's history. In 1986, when an explosion at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant in Ukraine released radioactive material into the environment, scientists planted sunflowers-hyper-accumulators capable of extracting toxins from soil to remove radioactive elements from surrounding soil and ponds. Today, sunflowers are a symbol of peace, unity and hope.

The main art project undertaken by Transition Year students was entitled Starling Murmuration. In the Irish skies on winter evenings, thousands of Starlings will be seen swirling through the sky, joined together with migrant Starlings from as far away as Russia, Finland and Estonia. Known as a murmuration, the swirling flock helps to confuse predators, keep the birds warm and provide a chance to communicate about good feeding places.

This artwork was co-created by Transition Year students from 2023-2024.

As each bird is unique, it represents students' own individuality and the acceptance of difference and diversity we promote in our school. Each ceramic sculpture coming together to create one art installation symbolises the value of community and working collectively for a shared goal.

"We hope that this artwork will represent a future Ireland where all who seek refuge are protected by their communities, with warmth and generosity, just like a flock of starlings," said art teacher Kate Minnock.

Finally, 1st year stu-



Aya David Ramati tending to the sunflowers during biodiversity week at NWETSS.

dents who are part of a Tree Planting lunchtime club along with the support of their school, planted 1,000 acorns last

November. The school started their native Irish tree nursery in 2018 with the plan to plant their trees on the grounds of their

new school in the near future. Tree boxes were sponsored by 80max climate solutions and Greystones Men's Shed.



Roisin Ni Bhrian and Tom Smith mixing up the compost.



NWETSS students with their Starling Murmuration project

Whitmore meets WETSS Student Council to discuss new school needs

Deputy Jennifer Whitmore recently met with the Student Council of Wicklow Educate Together Secondary School to discuss the urgent need for progress on their permanent site and building.

This follows on from a response from the Minister for Education to a parliamentary question asked by Deputy Whitmore recently on the matter, where it was confirmed that a site has been

identified for the school.

Deputy Whitmore said: "The Student Council, under the guidance of their president Ayah Mohammed, highlighted several issues due to their current temporary accom-

modations, including limited classrooms affecting subjects like music and science, an inadequate sports hall, and a lack of social areas impacting student well-being.

"Earlier this month I

received a very positive response from the Minister this month in relation to an architect being appointed and a site being assessed and deemed suitable. However, there is a necessity to dig deeper to keep the momentum moving. Meeting and hearing the lived experiences of the student council today will further inform this campaign.

"The students, teachers and entire school community of WETSS have been waiting nearly six years for a resolution to their accommodation challenges and have faced increasing demands amidst population surges in Wicklow town and surrounding areas. The current sixth years have completed their entire secondary schooling in unsuitable classrooms

and it is crucial at this point, that progress continues at pace so that the first years enrolled for the coming term in September are not in the same situation in six years-time.

"Wicklow Educate Together Secondary School is dedicated to providing quality education despite operating in temporary accommodations, the school has maintained a high standard of education, serving over 300 students in Wicklow Town and surrounding areas. This is evident in the really effective student council and I am extremely happy to be involved with this bunch of socially conscious teenagers and will continue to engage with them over the coming months on the issue."



Deputy Whitmore with the WETSS Student Council.



COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

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

Wicklow County Council hereby gives notice of the temporary closure of the following public road:

Extension of Road Closure

Road to be closed

Quinsborough Road, Bray.

Section between Station Road and Strand Road.

Period of closure

From Wednesday 6th March to Friday 14th June 2024.

EXTENDED TO 19th July 2024.

24 hour closure.

Alternative Routes

Diversion route via R766 - Strand Road to Putland Road to Meath Road and Adelaide Road.

For vehicles not exceeding 3.2m in height diversion will be via Sidmonton Avenue.

Reason for Closure

This closure is necessary to facilitate the installation of storm water drainage either side of the railway tracks for the Bray Transport Interchange Project.

Linda Healy,

Senior Executive Officer,

Transportation, Infrastructure Delivery & Emergency Services.

'THE ISLAND'

Written & presented by Tina Noonan

'The Island' by Tina Noonan debuted at The New Theatre, Temple Bar, on Tuesday May 28, and can be seen in the Mermaid Arts Centre from June 25th to 27th.

25 JUNE to 27 JUNE, 8.00 pm - MERMAID ARTS CENTRE

Set over an evening in 2022 - four successful South Dublin school friends, now in their mid 50's gather around a kitchen island to celebrate a win 42 years later over a rival elite rugby school and to piece together news of the death of an estranged school pal 'Gonzo', his rise and his demise, which brings all of them back to their school days and one by one, to unearth dark truths they have never shared with each other until this night.

Tina Noonan is based in

Wicklow and was selected for the Abbey 5 x 5 2020 for her play 'The Linen Room', which was performed by Wicklow Town Direct Provision Residents. In 2019, she was commissioned to write & direct 'Glimpses of High Society' with Southside Travellers Action Group (STAG), which was performed by Traveller women at the Lexicon Theatre as part of Festival of Inclusion. Her first play, 'The Prodder', premiered at The New Theatre in 2012 and toured Northern Ireland as part of

WW1 Centenary Commemorations 2016. Her second, 'The 3 Kings', which she wrote and directed, was performed at Theatre Upstairs in Dublin 1 in 2014. Tina's first radio play, 'Leonie Summers' set on a council estate was shortlisted for the P J O'Connor Award in 2007. Her screenplay 'Broken' was a finalist in the Kerry International Film Festival 2021 and her screenplay 'The Golden Nugget' was a finalist at the Waterford International Film Festival 2022. She also wrote and



directed 'Under Surveillance' a short film which was screened at The Mermaid Arts Centre, December 2021.

THE ISLAND evolved from a conversation in December 2021,

with an outspoken survivor of an elite rugby school, who simply asked Tina 'would she write about what happened to us'. However, the challenge was overwhelming and it took 3 years of research and

private reads with various said survivors to finally bring THE ISLAND to the stage.

TICKETS: €20/25
DURATION: 70 mins (approx.)

Drama workshops for disabled young people

Mermaid Arts Centre, Friday 7th and Monday 10th June

On each day there will be three sessions for differing age groups: 11-13 years old: 11:30am - 12:30pm; 14-16 years old: 1:00pm - 2:00pm; 17-19 years old: 2:30pm - 3:30pm. Tickets: Free, but booking is essential

Drama isn't just about acting. Drama is about play. Drama is a place to share and explore what matters to you. Drama is about making life-long friends. Youth drama is for everyone! These free workshops are aimed at disabled and neurodivergent young people, giving an opportunity to play games and make new friends.

Facilitator Casey Hallahan will work with a group of no more than 12 participants per group, for a focused but relaxed hour of fun and play.

All are welcome, regardless of drama experience, but booking is essential! If you need assistance with booking your place, please call our Box Office 01 272 4030. Carers/support assistants welcome (no need to book a spot, just come along with the workshop participant).



Paulo Post Future - curated by Dennis McNulty

2-3:30pm Sunday 9th June, Mermaid Arts Centre

The Listening Group is Mermaid Arts Centre's occasional sound art gathering, inviting artists working with sound to share new work, influences, and discoveries with peers, sound art devotees and those keen to discover more.

The second edition of Mermaid Arts Centre's new sound art gathering invites artist Dennis McNulty to reflect on work created for the 2004 São Paulo Bienal. This event takes its title from curator Valerie Connor's concept for Ireland's presentation at the Bienal that year. With guest Tom O'Dea.

In 2004, McNulty developed a multi-faceted project in response to commissioner Valerie Connor's invitation to be one of Ireland's representatives at the São Paulo Bienal.

Entitled alpha60.info, it comprised five improvised sound-performances, a website and a CD. This Listening Group session is centred on a recording of the performance that took place at the Baby Barioni swimming pool in São Paulo, Brazil, on September 19th 2004.

As we approach its twentieth anniversary, McNulty will discuss some of the material that informed the work with artist Tom O'Dea, touching on classics like Alvin Lucier's I am sitting in a room and John Cage's Imaginary Landscape

No. 4., and topics such as psychoacoustics, the concept of post-occupancy evaluation and sound-designer Walter Murch's practice of worldizing sound recordings.

The conversation will also reference a selection of McNulty's sound-related works, including his anti-tours project (2006-2007), the sound-performance La Ladera (2007) and the installation I reached inside myself through time (2015). A recording of the Baby Barioni performance was released on the cassette SP, 2004 by Diet of Worms in 2023.

Over the Moon in Arklow

Arklow Roots Music welcomes Canadian folk/country duo Over the Moon to the Bridge Hotel, Arklow on Mon 3rd June.

Over the Moon are award-winning vocal and multi-instrumentalists, Suzanne Levesque and Craig Bignell. They were 2022 Juno Award Nominees for "Best

Traditional Album" and 2023 "Ensemble Of The Year" nominee for The Canadian Folk Music Awards. Their music can be found via their website

overthemoonband.com and on Spotify, YouTube and usual platforms. The event is on a donations basis and can be booked through Eventbrite or by

email arklowrootsmusic@gmail.com to reserve. Playing support on the night is local singer Jennifer Lee.

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. M.C.

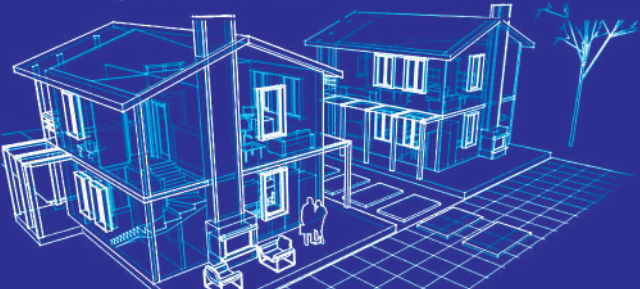


Canadian duo Over the Moon

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



WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Full planning permission is sought to construct 1 no. single storey dwelling house with new access driveway from existing driveway and domestic entrance on to same, to install proprietary treatment system and associated percolation area, bored well, all ancillary site works and services at Kiltegan, Co. Wicklow on behalf of Pat Hourigan. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Full planning permission is sought to construct 1 no. single storey dwelling house with new access driveway from existing driveway and domestic entrance on to same, to install proprietary treatment system and associated percolation area, bored well, all ancillary site works and services at Kiltegan, Co. Wicklow on behalf of Pat Hourigan. 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.



COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

NOTICE OF POLL

- Local Electoral Areas of Arklow, Baltinglass, Bray East, Bray West, Greystones and Wicklow.
- 1 A poll for the election of members for these local electoral areas will be taken on 7th of June 2024, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 10 p.m.
 2. The following are particulars of the candidates, whose names will appear on the ballot papers in the order shown:-

LOCAL ELECTORAL AREA: ARKLOW

Surname	Other name(s)	Address	Description		Name and address of proposer, if any
			Occupation	Name of Political Party, if any	
Annesley	Tommy	Clydebank, Dublin Road, Arklow, Co. Wicklow	County Councillor	Fianna Fáil	
Bodley	Viktoria	St. Thomas's, Dublin Road, Arklow, Co. Wicklow	Language Teacher	Non-Party	
Bourke	Sylvester	Three Oaks House, Killiniskyduff, Love Lane, Arklow, Co. Wicklow	Councillor/Farmer	Fine Gael	
Busher	Shiela	26 Church View, Arklow, Co. Wicklow	Voluntary Community Worker	Sinn Féin	
Farrell	Lorraine	Woodlands Green, Lamberton, Arklow, Co. Wicklow	Retail Sales	People Before Profit - Solidarity	
Fitzgerald	Pat	32 Oaklands, Arklow, Co. Wicklow	Public Representative	Fianna Fáil	
Kearon	Laurie Way	An Tígín Rua, Ballinacarrig Lower, Ballinacdash, Co. Wicklow	Public Servant	Fine Gael	
Kennedy	Pat	Kirikee, Greenane, Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow	Public Servant	Fianna Fáil	
Leonard	Peir	Southwinds, South Quay, Arklow, Co. Wicklow	County Councillor/ Ceramic Artist	Non-Party	
Murphy	Miriam	4 Avondale Crescent, Arklow, Co. Wicklow	Public Representative	Non-Party	
O'Gorman	David	Old Ashwood Farmhouse, Arklow, Co. Wicklow	Director	Independent Ireland	
O'Toole	Warren	66 Fernhill, Arklow, Co. Wicklow	Mechanical Contractor/Carer	Sinn Féin	

LOCAL ELECTORAL AREA: BALTINGLASS

Surname	Other name(s)	Address	Description		Name and address of proposer, if any
			Occupation	Name of Political Party, if any	
Burke	Kieran	Belan Street, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow	Principal	Fianna Fáil	
Byrne	Connor	The Banks, Manor Kilbride, Blessington, Co. Wicklow	Technical Analyst	Sinn Féin	
Cronin	Avril	Station Road, Dunlavin, Co. Wicklow	Parliamentary Assistant	Fine Gael	
Glennon	Patsy	"Oak Lodge", Hollywood, Blessington, Co. Wicklow	Barrister-at-Law	Fianna Fáil	
Kinsella	Aidan	Ballingate, Carnew, Co. Wicklow	Self-employed Plasterer	Sinn Féin	
McCormack	Deirdre	Deerpark View, Blessington, Co. Wicklow	Administrative Assistant	Social Democrats	
McNulty	Anthony	Parkbridge, Shillelagh, Co. Wicklow	Herbalist	People Before Profit - Solidarity	
Mulhall	Jason	151 Burgage Manor, Blessington, Co. Wicklow	Engineer	Non-Party	
Mullen	John	6 Pound Lane, Tinahely, Arklow, Co. Wicklow	Public Representative	Fianna Fáil	
O'Neill	Gerry	Butterhill Lane, Blessington, Co. Wicklow	Public Representative	Non-Party	
Plant	Dominic	Manor Kilbride, Blessington, Co. Wicklow	IT/GDPR Manager	Non-Party	
Stapleton	Peter	Ballinacor House, Bridge Street, Tinahely, Co. Wicklow	Business Owner	Fine Gael	
Timmins	Edward	Grangecon, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow	Chartered Accountant and Public Representative	Fine Gael	

LOCAL ELECTORAL AREA: BRAY EAST

Surname	Other name(s)	Address	Description		Name and address of proposer, if any
			Occupation	Name of Political Party, if any	
Cahill	Denise	5 Old Connaught View, Bray, Co. Wicklow	Family Support Worker	Sinn Féin	
Cremins	Finnian	9 Sydenham Mews, Sidmonton Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow	Landscape Design	The Irish People	
Donnelly	Lee	51 Newvale, Shankill, Co. Dublin	Unemployed	Non-Party	
Doyle	Erika	Sidmonton Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow	Public Representative	Green Party/Comhaontas Glas	
Duddy	Malachai	18, An Chlólan, BR. na Deargaile (Dargle Road), Brí Chualann, Co. Chill Mhantáin	Abhcóide/Gníomhaí (Barrister/ Activist)	Non-Party	
Ferris	Anne	10 Seapoint Court, Bray, Co. Wicklow	Public Representative	The Labour Party	John Nolan, 10 Seapoint Court, Bray, Co. Wicklow
Fitzgerald Doyle	Fergal	66 Ashton Wood, Bray, Co. Wicklow	Barrister	Fianna Fáil	Garrett Donohoe, 16 Cuala Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow



COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

NOTICE OF POLL

- Local Electoral Areas of Arklow, Baltinglass, Bray East, Bray West, Greystones and Wicklow.
- 1 A poll for the election of members for these local electoral areas will be taken on 7th of June 2024, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 10 p.m.
 2. The following are particulars of the candidates, whose names will appear on the ballot papers in the order shown:-

LOCAL ELECTORAL AREA: BRAY EAST

Surname	Other name(s)	Address	Description		Name and address of proposer, if any
			Occupation	Name of Political Party, if any	
Flynn Kennedy	Aoife	Melford, 7 Ballywaltrim Lane, Bray, Co. Wicklow	County Councillor/ Housing Professional	Fine Gael	
Hayes	Frank	1 Kenmare Heights, Delgany, Greystones, Co. Wicklow	Retired	People Before Profit – Solidarity	
Hogan	Ciarán	2 St. Cronans Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow	Company Director	Aontú	
McAllorum	Aaron	7 Kilmantain Place, Bray, Co. Wicklow	Public Servant	Social Democrats	
Neary	Ian	23 Dargle Heights, Bray, Co. Wicklow	Embroidery Machine Operator	Independent Ireland	

LOCAL ELECTORAL AREA: BRAY WEST

Surname	Other name(s)	Address	Description		Name and address of proposer, if any
			Occupation	Name of Political Party, if any	
Behan	Joe	55 Richmond Park, Bray, Co. Wicklow	Public Representative	Non-Party	
Carry	Rob	139 Cromlech Fields, Ballybrack, Co. Dublin	Business Owner	Non-Party	
Corrigan	Melanie	The Granite Byre, Ballybrew, Enniskerry, Co. Wicklow	Business Owner and Public Representative	Fine Gael	
Flood	Colm Joseph	24 Ard na Gréine, Boghall Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow	Student Nurse	Non-Party	
Kenna	Bryan	Brookdale Grove, Quill Road, Kilmacanogue, Co. Wicklow	Social Care Worker	The Labour Party	John Kenna, Brookdale Grove, Quill Road, Kilmacanogue, Co. Wicklow
Manning	Keith	Swallows Nest, Kilmolin, Enniskerry, Co. Wicklow	Company Owner	Non-Party	
O'Brien	Dermot 'Daisy'	68 Fairy Hill, Bray, Co. Wicklow	Public Representative/Trainer	Sinn Féin	
Pigot	Alex	Enniskerry, Co. Wicklow	Businessman/Farmer	Green Party/Comhaontas Glas	
Ryan	Mick	81 Herbert Park, Bray, Co. Wicklow	Public Representative/Electrician	Sinn Féin	
Winstanley	Caroline	Strand Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow	Speech and Language Therapist	Social Democrats	

LOCAL ELECTORAL AREA: GREYSTONES

Surname	Other name(s)	Address	Description		Name and address of proposer, if any
			Occupation	Name of Political Party, if any	
Barry	Mark	291 Charlesland Park, Greystones, Co. Wicklow	Public Representative/ Operations Director	Social Democrats	
Burke	Anne Waithira	Burnaby Lawns, Greystones, Co. Wicklow	Post Graduate Student	The Labour Party	
Commons	Jack	3 Wendon Park, Delgany Wood, Delgany, Co. Wicklow	Teacher	Fianna Fáil	
Fenelon Gaskin	Louise	7 The Bawn, Victoria Road, Greystones, Co. Wicklow	Self-employed – Accounting And Business Services.	Fine Gael	
Finn	Orla	85 Burnaby Heights, Greystones, Co. Wicklow	Community Activist	Non-Party	
Fogarty	Brian	88 Kindlestown Park, Greystones, Co. Wicklow	HR Manager	Sinn Féin	
Fortune	Tom	'DeLacy', Sea Road, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow	Business Consultant/ Public Representative	Non-Party	
Goldsmith	Antony	18 Priory Drive, Eden Gate, Greystones, Co. Wicklow	Security	Irish Freedom Party	
Keddy	Charlie	Sea Road, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow	Plumber	Non-Party	
Kelly	Esther	3A New Road, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow	Care Support Manager	Sinn Fein	
Lennon	Aileen	Lynn Cottage, Delgany, Co. Wicklow	Community Activist	Fine Gael	
McConnell	Kellie	Constituency Office, 13 Lower George's Street, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Wicklow	HSE General Dentist	People Before Profit-Solidarity	
Scott	Lourda	Redford Park, Greystones, Co. Wicklow	Public Representative/ Veterinary Surgeon	Green Party/Comhaontas Glas	
Stokes	Stephen	43 Charlesland Court, Greystones, Co. Wicklow	Education Director/ Public Representative.	Non-Party	



Local Electoral Areas of Arklow, Baltinglass, Bray East, Bray West, Greystones and Wicklow.

1. A poll for the election of members for these local electoral areas will be taken on 7th of June 2024, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 10 p.m.
2. The following are particulars of the candidates, whose names will appear on the ballot papers in the order shown:-

LOCAL ELECTORAL AREA: WICKLOW

Surname	Other name(s)	Address	Description		Name and address of proposer, if any
			Occupation	Name of Political Party, if any	
Alvey	Danny	49 Glendarragh, Wicklow Hills, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow	Fundraising Manager	Social Democrats	
Casey-Shortt	Sonia	Boleynass, Ashford, Co. Wicklow	Public Servant	Fianna Fáil	Bernadette Shortt, Boleynass, Ashford, Co. Wicklow
Dunne	Gail	9 St. Manntans Road, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow	Public Representative	Fianna Fáil	John O'Neill, 51 The Meadows, Marlton Road, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow
Fahey McCarthy	Mia	Killadreenan, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow	Sustainability Professional	Green Party/ Comhaontas Glas	
Hill	Anthony	24 Broad Lough View, Greenhill Road, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow	Social Care Worker	Sinn Féin	
Kavanagh	Mary	58 Seafield, Wicklow, Co. Wicklow	Public Representative	Non-Party	
Kavanagh	Tim	Ashton House, The Meetings, Avoca, Co. Wicklow	Shop Assistant	Non-Party	
Langrell	Shane	Knockadreet, Ashford, Co. Wicklow	Self-employed	Fine Gael	
Larkin	John	178 Season Park, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow	Retired Senior Executive Officer	Non-Party	Shannon McMahon, 4 Glenbrook Heights, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow
O'Brien	Paul	11 Castle Park, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow	Public Representative	The Labour Party	
O'Loughlin	Abbie	Dusan, Milltown Lane, Rathnew, Co. Wicklow	Third Level Student	Sinn Féin	
Richmond	Graham	Keatingstown Lodge, Ballynerrin, Rocky Road, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow	Secondary School Teacher	Fine Gael	
Snell	John	No. 81 Seaview Heights, Rathnew, Co. Wicklow	Public Representative	Non-Party	

**Lorraine Gallagher,
Returning Officer,
County Buildings,
Wicklow Town.
20th day of May, 2024.**

ALLSHADES BLINDS

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

Tel: 087 2201600

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



DELTA
ROOFING





Full Insured Covering All Of Wicklow Tax & VAT Registered

- Flat Roofs • Roof & Gutter Cleaning • New Roofs
- Lead Valleys • Emergency Repairs • Fascia Soffits
- Guttering & Downpipes • Ridge Pointing
- Free Scaffolding Supplies • Chimney Repairs

CONTACT:

M: 087 6459553 T: Southside Office: 01 5143697

Email: deltaroofting2020@gmail.com www.deltaroofting.ie

COVERING ALL WICKLOW & DUBLIN







LOCAL BUSINESS LOCAL BUSINESS



Irish Building Supply
Homevalue

FATHERS DAY SPECIAL OFFER AT IRISH BUILDING SUPPLY

Buy online or visit us in-store:


Block E, Bullford Business Campus, Bullford, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow, A63 HV26


(01) 223 4650


7am - 5pm Monday - Friday

**ENHELL POWER COMBI CORDLESS
DRILL & ACCESSORY KIT**



RRP €119.95

NOW ONLY
€84.99

Includes 1 x 2.5Ah Power X-Change battery and fast charger Includes 22pc drill bit accessory kit

WWW.IRISHBUILDINGSUPPLY.IE

SELF-STORAGE
24hr access own door/key.
Secure dry storage units/
containers various sizes. Suit house
contents etc. Reasonable rates.

ASHFORD AREA
Tel 086 259 1538



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

Total DIY



Total Nature

€10 off Pet Food
10 & 12 kg bags

Unit 1, Druids Court, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow.
www.totaldiy.ie T&Cs apply

Roofwise

- ✓ ROOF REPAIRS
- ✓ GUTTER REPAIRS
- ✓ ROOF MAINTENANCE

• New roofing • Lead valleys • Emergency repairs
 • Fascia soffits • Attic insulation • Flat roofs
 • Guttering downpipes • Chimney repairs
 • Roof clearing • Ridge pointing

Wicklow Call: 087 601 3265
www.roofwise.ie

Sofa Scrappage Scheme **NOW ON**



Montana Manual Recliner
Chair & Ottoman WAS €675
NOW €495



Titian 2.5 Seater Power
recliner WAS €2485
NOW €1895



Raphael 2 Seater Power
Recliner WAS €2495
NOW €1595



Linden Armchair
WAS €1535
NOW €1225

UP TO €100
ALLOWED FOR REPLACED SUITE



Flanagan Kerins®
'Furniture for Life'

Ask about our
Interest free credit
available with
hum®
T&Cs apply



www.flanagankerins.ie



+353 1 281 3338



sales@flanagankerins.ie