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Tuesday 23rd July 2024 First Floor, The Boulevard, Quinsborough Road, Bray. A98 R6D7. Tel: 01 - 2869111 E-mail: wicklowed@localtimes.ie www.wicklowtimes.net

'SAFE AS HOUSES'

Last week PhoneWatch issued recommendations to address the recent CSO (Central Statistics Office) report that reveals a concerning rise in the number of burglaries across Ireland. Over the past 12 months burglaries have increased by 6% nationally (9,806 burglaries), but there was great news for the Wicklow garda division as burglaries decreased by 3% compared to the previous year.

The CSO data outlines that 19 of the 28 garda divisions have experienced an increase in burglaries. With the combined Roscommon and Longford garda division enduring the highest rate of increase in the country at 45% (235 burglaries), Cork City increased by 41% (351 burglaries), both Cork West and Westmeath increased by 40% (77 and 280 burglaries respectively) and Clare by 39% (224 burglaries). The report outlines positive decreases in burglaries within some divisions, as the Dublin Eastern garda division cited the highest decrease at -20% (348 burglaries), Kerry garda division at -13% (140 burglaries) and Kildare at -12% (437 burglaries). Minister Stephen Donnelly commented: "It's welcome to see a reduction in burglary rates in Wicklow. We know the importance of a Garda presence across the county and I will continue to work with the Minister for Justice to ensure that County Wicklow has sufficient and well-



Grace Bowen with Daphne and Gabriella De Jager at the Wicklow RNLI Open Day at Wicklow Harbour. Pic: Michael Kelly

Talbot Group

Dignity Respect Kindness Engagement

The Talbot Group is a leading provider of adult and children's intellectual disability services in North County Dublin, Meath, Louth, Cavan, Kildare and Wicklow. We are pleased to announce that we require the following staff to join our team in the Wicklow area.

CORU REGISTERED SOCIAL CARE WORKERS

DIRECT SUPPORT WORKERS

Full driver's license required for both positions.

If you would like to work with the Talbot Group and make a difference to the lives of our residents, please come along to our Walk-in Interview Day at:

The Bridge Tavern, Bridge Street, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow on Tuesday 6th August 2024 anytime between 9.30am and 4 pm.

Please bring an up-to-date copy of your CV with you.

Email elaine@talbotgroup.ie for further details or visit www.talbotgroup.ie

You can also find details on Instagram, LinkedIn and Facebook.

www.talbotgroup.ie



resourced Gardai."

Eoin Dunne, PhoneWatch Managing Director advised: "The increase in burglary incidents is a stark reminder of the importance of community awareness and individual action to safeguard homes. Although, it is reassuring to note that since pre-Covid times burglary and related offences fell from 16,410 in 2020 to 8,927 in 2021 which coincided with Public Health controls in place with Covid restrictions. As lockdown was lifted in 2022, the number of incidents rose to 9,257 and remained similar at 9,251 in 2023 before rising again to 9,806 incidents in the last 12 months.

"We would like to see this upward trend reversing within the next 12 months, so that the annual number of burglaries decreases, and we can be safer in our homes

PhoneWatch urges homeowners to always be vigilant and secure their homes."

The following home security safety tips will effectively reduce the risk of burglary:

- Get a monitored alarm: Having a monitored home alarm will keep you protected 24/7 whether you are at home and away. Some system also monitors against smoke incidents. Arm it and check for updates via app when you are way.
- Neighbour assistance: Ask a neighbour to take in your post and bins while you are away, so that it looks as if you are home.
- Maintain your garden: Keep your lawns cut and shrubs pruned, so it looks freshly done, especially if you are going on holidays.
- Lock windows and doors: Always lock your

doors and shut windows when you aren't home. Never leave spare keys

under the mat. • Social media updates: If you are posting holi-

day pictures on social media, do so when you're back home.

EVENT LINE UP

HER OUTDOORS WEEK

FOLLOW US @ACTIVEWICKLOW

AUGUST 12TH - 18TH

#EMBRACE YOUR SPACE

MON 12 WALK N'TALK - RATHDRUM SOCIAL 5K RUN - RATHDRUM	WED 14 ACTIVATOR POLES RATHDRUM SOCIAL 5K RUN - ARKLOW SUNSET KAYAK PADDLE - BALTINGLASS SOCIAL ORIENTEERING TINAHELY
TUES 13 BRAY HEAD WALK SUNSET KAYAK PADDLE - BLESSINGTON INTRO TO TRAIL RUNNING WEBINAR SURFING MAGHERAMORE BEACH	THU 15 5PM TO 8PM GREYSTONES BEACH FESTIVAL
FRI 16 WALK N'TALK - ARKLOW EVENING YOGA AT BLACK CASTLE INTRO TO TRAIL RUNNING WEBINAR	SAT 17 TINAHELY LOOP WALK
SUN 18 3X3 SOCIAL WOMEN'S BASKETBALL BRAY	

SCAN ME



Nuala Cullen and Hannah Ware at the Leinster Fleadh Cheoil in Wicklow Town.

A.J. Connors art exhibition

Bray-based artist A.J. Connors' new exhibition 'Chaos to Order' opens on Saturday July 27th, 5pm. This new unseen series of large scale paintings can be seen at his studio at Unit 7, Goldsmith Terrace, Quinsborough Road, Bray.

Emergency Services Day

An Emergency Services Day will be held on Bray Seafront on Sunday 8th September, 11am - 4pm. Come and meet your emergency services: An Garda Síochána, Fire Service, Coast Guard, Civil Defence, Mountain Rescue, Cardiac First Responders, Poseidon Lifesaving Club, Local Little Blue Heroes And The RSA. There will be demonstrations throughout the day. There is free parking at Bray Seafront on Sundays for anyone who will be travelling.

Clara Vale Summer Fair

Sunday, August 11th is the date of the annual Clara Vale Summer Fair. There will be a bake sale, raffle, refreshing teas and coffees, and plenty of fun activities for everyone! Don't miss out. Starting at 1.30pm, Clara Vale Church.

North Wicklow beach clean

The Clean Coasts North Wicklow Monthly Beach Clean takes place on 28th July. Meet at Rise at the Cove in Greystones, starting at 10am. Come along to help keep our beautiful beaches clean, keeping them waste free and minding our marine life. Equipment is provided and all are welcome.

Picnic in the Park

Picnic in the Park takes place in Burnaby Park, Greystones, on August Bank Holiday Saturday, 3rd August, 12pm to 5pm. This free event will be an unforgettable day of fun, games, entertainment, live music, dance and community spirit. In partnership with Greystones Cancer Support, who are celebrating 30 years of service. Bring a picnic and blanket and come along for a great day of fun. There will be a fabulous lineup of entertainment and events: Hosted by Laura Wood; Halfway Up The Stairs, Greystones' children's bookshop; much loved author Peter Donnelly, live readings and book signings; Talented singer Robbie Doyle; Greystones Baton Twirlers; Sensational local singer, Tadgh Conway; Juliette and Dee from JD Magicians; Kim Hayden Music School, Kate Kavanagh and Abiha Mansoor; Joe Daly, RTE Junior's favourite magician; Greystones Cancer Support Sing Group; Canadh le Cheile.

Summer Lectures

A wide range of talks are taking place over the summer, and the next will be on Thursday 25th July, 7.30pm, Heritage Hiking Wicklow: Hidden Stories of the Wicklow Mountains. By Isabel Clissmann. Free of charge. Allow between 1-1/2 hours for the talk and questions. Parking is available free of charge at the rescue base. Booking is not required. For more information, phone 0404 45425. Arrive early to get a seat! These events are organised by education staff based at Wicklow Mountains National Park who are employed by the National Parks & Wildlife Service.

Summer family Nature Days

A series of free fun Family Fun Days are taking place over the summer at Wicklow Mountains National Park. The Nature Fun Days take the form of a fact-finding treasure hunt with activities, aimed at children aged between 5 and 12 years. Family fun day HQ is in the National Park Information Office, by the Upper Lake in Glendalough, A98R221. To participate in the Nature Fun Day, drop in anytime between 11 am and 4pm. No booking required. This is a free event, although there is a parking charge at the County Council Upper Lake Car Park, A98W778.

Themes and dates are as follows: Oak Tree(s) 23rd July, Dragonflies 30th July, Squirrels 6th August, Freshwater Fish 13th August, Goosander 20th August. Events are organised by education staff based at Wicklow Mountains National Park who are employed by the National Parks & Wildlife Service under the aegis of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

A legend comes to life in Bray's newest festival

'Brave Maevae Family Festival', debuts July 27th & 28th

Brave Maevae Family Festival debuts this year, celebrating family, folklore, and fun, inspired by the mythical tale of Brave Maevae. Celebrate the mythical story of Brave Maevae, a legendary heroine awakening from a centuries-long slumber to bring magic, courage, and joy back to the land.

This family-friendly festival combines folklore with fun, offering enchanting activities and delightful experiences for all ages. Festivalgoers will witness the magical moment when Brave Maevae awakens from her long slumber at a scheduled short, interactive storytelling session and more.

The festival promises a magical experience for all and will take place along Bray Seafront on Saturday, July 27th, and Sunday, July 28th, 2024, daily from noon until 7pm.

The daily lineup is extraordinary, it's where you can get up close and personal with adorable animals at the petting farm daily from noon to 4pm. On Saturday, the festival's puppet shows will feature mythical tales as their theme.

Enjoy the vibrant Seafront Funfair, which stays open until 10pm and features classic rides, games, and attractions for thrill-seekers and families alike. Talented storytellers will recount the epic tales of Brave

Maevae's adventures and her heroic deeds.

Mythical-themed arts and crafts workshops will take place from noon to 4 pm daily. No pre-registration is required. When it comes to children's entertainment, Reuben the Entertainer reigns supreme. Experience his fantastic magic show daily at 2:30 pm and 3:30 pm.

Local dance groups will perform daily on the iconic seafront bandstand, showcasing special routines inspired by the legend of Brave Maevae. The live performances will also feature bands and acts from the local area.

In all honesty, who doesn't love bubbles? Well, the Bubble Guys will perform a Giant Bubble Show every 30 minutes on Sunday. Get your groove on at the lively open-air Disco Bambino, set against the charming backdrop of the bandstand.

As if that were not enough, all weekend food trucks will offer a variety of cuisines to cater to all tastes,

while artisan vendors will offer hand-made crafts and more...

Admission is entirely free (no tickets are required). Read more at brave-maevae-festival.com.

About Brave Maevae Story Trail

Along Bray's seafront, this kids' walking trail links up five brightly coloured murals created by children's author and illustrator Chris Judge in collaboration with 50 local children. Together, the murals tell the story of Maevae, a young giant who is searching for a home for her family, encountering monsters and mythical figures along the way. The trail is 1.5km long. Curated by Donna Carroll, this project received funding from Platform Pizza, Bray Municipal District, Megazyme, and Bray Credit Union. The stunning murals were brought to life by the talented team at Triskill. The trail earned the 'Best Use of Creativity in the Community' Award at the Business to Arts Awards in 2018.

Show time in Kilmacanogue

The Kilmacanogue Show is holding its annual show on Saturday 27th July with all the usual fun and activities for all the family. The annual show which starts at 10 am will be held in its usual location at Enniskerry Horse Farm in in Monastery, Enniskerry, by kind permission of Mary and Syl Fenelon Bourke.

The Kilmacanogue show continues to have all its favourite classes, like the horse and pony classes that accommodate all ages starting from the lead rein classes for children as young as 3 years old, moving to the junior riding classes that includes the every popular style and appearance classes and obedient pony classes that are always a delight to watch. Other classes include the working hunter, performance hunter, Irish draught, the challenging pairs riding and clear round jumping classes along with many more. The ever popular carriage class is back this year and no Kilmacanogue show would be complete without the fancy dress pony and rider class, an absolute must see for anyone attending the show. The sheep classes are also a firm favourite with eight classes in total and judging starts at around 2:30pm. There's one sheep class that you don't need a sheep to enter and that's the fun guess the weight of the lamb competition, all welcome to have a guess.

A highlight at the show is the fabulous dog show, there is literally a class for everyone's four legged canine friend. There are 14 classes in total including classes for the dog you'd like most to take home, the best puppy and best dressed/fancy dressed dog. There will also be a dog training demon-



stration given by Mattias Atta Boy Dog Training 1pm on the day.

There will be plenty of fun activities in the kids zone has been expanded to includes lots more fun games and activities, we will be joined this year by professional entertainers 'Fishy & Dishy' giving kids the chance to learn how to juggle and spin plates. There will also be the ever popular free pony rides, face painting and kids cookie decorating where kids can get creative and have fun with icing and sprinkles. Lots of fun and kids get to go to the show for free! Only adults have to pay.

There will also be a showcase of local food selling delicious food

produce such as bread, cakes, jams, chutney, sauces and an array of beautiful craft stalls much more. As is now tradition there is also a wonderful raffle for spectators and competitors to enter on the day. There will also be the vintage car classes with a class for both pre war and post war cars. K2 Alpacas were a firm favourite last year and are back again this year by popular demand. The show prides itself on being a community day out, run by the community, for the community and this year there will also be some individuals and groups from the community, this includes wool spinning demonstrations, exhibit from Enniskerry Tidy Towns and the wonderful Stedfast Brass Band are also making a reappearance.

Over the last 52 years, the show which is run exclusively by volunteers, raises funds to support local charities - none of this would have been possible without the support from local businesses and individuals who provide support and sponsorship to keep the show on the road year after year. This years show is shaping up to be another fantastic day and the committee looks forward to welcoming everyone to the field.

Further information on the show and all the activities along with the full 2024 schedule, is available at www.kilmacanogueshow.com

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National advocacy services resume strike action

National Advocacy Service staff, in their second week of strike action, protested outside the constituency office of the Taoiseach, Simon Harris, in Bray last Wednesday to highlight their demand that a Labour Court recommendation on their pay and conditions is respected so they can return to work assisting vulnerable people with disabilities.

Strike action was deferred but talks have got no closer to an agreement to implement the labour courts ruling to increase the pay of advocates.

The National Advocacy Service is a free and independent service that represents people with disabilities across Ireland.

SIPTU Sector Organiser, Brendan Carr, said: "Our members in the National Advocacy Service were left with no choice other than strike action due to the refusal of their employer and its funder, the Department of Social Protection, to respect a Labour Court recommendation on their pay and conditions. This comes at the same time as the Government is calling on Aer Lingus pilots to respect the Labour Court."

He added: "With the announcement of the end to the HSE staff embargo the flow of staff out of the service is likely to greatly increase, this will result in thousands of vulnerable people with disabilities losing a service which is vital to their independent living."

SIPTU Activist and National Advocacy Service staff member, Suzy Byrne, said: "I and my colleagues are appalled with how we have been treated. We carry out vital and confidential work with some of those most at risk, providing in-person advocacy interventions in areas including housing, access to justice, health care, safeguarding and decision-making support."

"We are all very committed to the service and the people we

assist. It is with a very heavy heart that we decided to take strike action. This was only done after we had fully exhausted the state's industrial relations mechanisms and received a positive Labour Court recommendation which the Government is not minded to instruct its agencies to implement."

Supporting the strike, Bray Social Democrats councillor Caroline Winstanley said "The Taoiseach promised to prioritise the rights of disabled people. Disabled people are suffering because the National Advocacy Service are on strike."

Cllr Winstanley is appealing to the Taoiseach to intervene and ensure that the labour recommendations are enforced.

Two major planning refusals in Bray

Last week saw two major planning refusals for Bray, with the decisions by An Bord Pleanala to reject proposals for the former home of Sinead O'Connor and the former site of Everest Music Centre.

There were plans submitted to develop Sinead O'Connor's former home on Strand Road into five apartments. Wicklow County Council refused permission, and ABP has now upheld WCC's decision, saying that the proposed design would be out of character with the existing streetscape and would be 'overbearing', intruding on the views of protected structures in the area.

ABP has also turned down plans from Bray Property Development Ltd for a development of a six-storey apartment block with 49 apartments at the former Everest Music Centre on Castle Street.

ABP stated "The proposed development would result in a level of density which is considered to be excessively high [...] The development site has not been identified for development of this intensity in the Bray Municipal District Local Area Plan 2018-2024 or in the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028 and as such would be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area."

ABP said the proposed development would "result in an inappropriate scale and height and would fail to present a high-quality response to the existing and emerging streetscape."



Pictured is Peter Flanagan of Flanagan Kerins furniture store in Bray presenting a €5,000 Flanagan Kerins voucher to the delighted winner Stuart Webster of the Delgany Golf Club President Draw.

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

Penneys from Heaven

Bray based Independent councillor, Joe Behan warmly welcome the arrival of Penneys to Bray Town Centre last week.

"The sense of anticipation of the official opening, throughout the town and further afield, over the past number of months indicated that Penneys is an extremely popular store with people of all ages," said Cllr Behan.

"I was delighted to be asked to attend the official opening and I saw for myself the huge crowd of shoppers queueing to enter the first Penneys to open in County Wicklow at 10.00 am on Thursday last. The fact that there will be almost 100 new jobs in the new store will give a much needed boost to the local economy and I was very happy to see many familiar faces among the group of new employees beginning their retail careers in Penneys.

"The opening of Penneys of Bray is one of the final pieces of the jigsaw which makes up what was originally known as the Florentine Centre. The concept of a shopping centre in the heart of the town was agreed many years ago and although it has taken far too long to become a

reality, we can now see the realisation of that concept taking place. The earlier arrival of other big name stores was very welcome and now with the opening of the main anchor store we can begin to plan for a more vibrant and welcoming town centre.

"Of course, the centre is not complete yet as there are a number of high profile locations still to be let, both within the Centre and in the Main Street area and I will be calling on the Developer to move ahead without delay in opening the Stella Cinema complex which was part of the original plan but has not been delivered yet.

"The Bray Municipal District Council also needs to come up with imaginative proposals to enhance the environment of the town centre area and the many good ideas in the recent Bray Town Centre Health Check should now be top of the agenda.

"We also need to have increased Garda visibility in the Town Centre to prevent any anti



Cllr Joe Behan.

social behaviour from occurring and I look forward to continued engagement with Chief Supt Hughes and his team in Bray Garda Station to ensure that every person using the Town Centre for shopping, entertainment or dining will always feel safe and at ease while doing so.

"We are very fortunate in Bray that we have a magnificent Seafront of which we can all be

proud. Our next challenge is to achieve the same success in the Town Centre and the arrival of Penneys will certainly help us to meet that challenge."

The new Penneys store was officially opened last Thursday by Emer Higgins TD, Minister of State with responsibility for Business, Employment and Retail, following an investment worth over Á4 million by the retailer which has in turn created 100 jobs for the local economy.

The Minister of State said: "I am delighted to announce the opening of Penney's new Á4 million store in Bray, which marks a significant boost to the local economy and the wider Wicklow area. This investment will create 100 new jobs, providing valuable employment opportunities within the community. Penney's expansion into Bray with their 38th store, along with their broader investment plans for Ireland, highlights the crucial role that retail plays in fostering vibrant communities across the country. This new store, which is a fantastic addition to Bray town cen-



The Penneys store in Bray which opened its doors last week.

tre, is expected to increase foot traffic and benefit surrounding retailers."

Fintan Costello, Head of Penneys Ireland and Northern Ireland, said: "We are delighted to finally open our doors in Bray today, welcoming customers and colleagues alike who we know have been eagerly anticipating this new store for some time. I've seen first-hand all the hard work that's gone into getting the store ready and it's been fantastic to experience such a positive reception and feel the love

today from the Bray community."

Lisa Rocca, CEO of Oakmount - Bray Central Developer, added: "We want to extend a huge welcome to Penneys and all their wonderful customers to Bray Central. There is so much excitement and anticipation about the opening and we are so proud that such a fantastic Irish retailer and success story is now opening in Bray. We wish everyone many happy shopping and visitor experiences at Bray Central."

'Deposit return scheme unfairly penalises disabled persons'

Sinn Féin TD John Brady has criticised the failure of the government to make the deposit return scheme accessible to disabled persons. He described the government failure as being an unacceptable penalisation which needs to end.

Deputy Brady said: "The operating buttons on the deposit return machines are above the eye-level of a person of a wheelchair user, which make it difficult to believe that designers gave any thought to disability proofing the machines to ensure that everybody would be able to avail of the scheme.

"The absence of any attempt to cater for visually impaired and mobility impaired users is wrong. If you are being forced to pay additional charges for a product because there is an option to recycle that product, you must be given the right and the means to recycle that product.

"While the government have attempted to sidestep criticism of their failure to provide the means for disabled persons to avail of the scheme, it is very clear that no-one is prepared to accept the governments attempt to recycle excuses for their mismanagement.

"I accept that there was a public consultation process, but Minister Ossian Smyth to attempt to pass the blame for this onto the public is plain ridiculous. The fact of the matter is that the machines are not accessible to everyone. And this is something that the government needs to address.

"The reality here is that the

government is penalising disabled persons as the return scheme machines are not designed to be accessible is not acceptable and needs to be remedied. If the government are serious about promoting the active and full participation of disabled people in Irish society, they have a responsibility to ensure that policies and practices are proofed of to ensure that they meet the needs of disabled persons.

"The question arises as to whether disabled people were directly consulted in the development of the scheme: Where their needs, experiences, and concerns as individuals given consideration? The answer to these ques-

tions is no. The government failed to consider the needs of disabled persons, they made no effort to evaluate the practices of the scheme in operation to ensure that disabled persons could fully participate in the scheme.

"If you pay a deposit on a product and are unable to claim that deposit back as a consequence of government failure to make the machines accessible to you, you are being unjustly taxed. Disabled persons already face existing financial burdens, they do not need to be further burdened by government ineptitude. This unfair penalisation of disabled persons needs to end immediately."



John Brady TD at a deposit return machine in Bray.

Benville Robinson LLP
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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.

<p>Brian Robinson B.B.L.S., L.L.M. State Solicitor</p> <p>Eilish Bradshaw B.A., L.L.B., L.L.M. Clare-Ann Temple L.L.B.</p>	<p>Ciara O'Sullivan B.B.L.S., (Euro) Hannah Stockwell-Quinn B.C.L., L.L.M. Peter McQuillan B.A. (Mod) Leg Sc TCD</p>
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*In contentious business, a solicitor may not calculate fees or other charges as a percentage or proportion of any award or settlement



Peter, Anita, Padraic and Kerry Byrne at the Wicklow RNLI Open Day in Wicklow Town.

DBC Chartered Physiotherapy & Sports Medicine 1st Anniversary

DBC Chartered Physiotherapy & Sports Medicine are excited to mark a successful first year, since the opening of their physiotherapy, orthopaedic and sports rehabilitation facility in Bray, Wicklow. DBC Chartered Physiotherapy Clinics are at the forefront of medical science using modern methodology to assess and address physical injuries and providing expert and beneficial care to clients in a professional environment. Our team of skilled chartered physiotherapists include Lead Clinician Stephen Brownlow, Catherine Fitzgerald and Nikita Polakovs who possess over 17 years of clinical experience.

The cutting-edge rehab facility, complete with specialised physiotherapy devices, is designed to treat all musculoskeletal conditions. The custom built, 2,500 square foot state-of-the art physiotherapy centre located in the Egan Business Centre mirrors the clinics in UCD, Athlone, Mullingar and Ashleaf Shopping Centre. The clinic serves elite athletes from multiple disciplines such as professional football, athletics and hockey. Alongside elite sport, the clinic serves to facilitate general physiotherapy and day to day complaints. Aside from the standard physiotherapy services, DBC Bray also offers Senior Strength classes led by a Chartered Physiotherapist and TPI golf fitness screening. The classes led by Catherine Fitzgerald take place weekly in our onsite exercise studio in Bray. All exercises are tailored to participants' individual needs as identified in their initial assessment.

With the business goal to expand the reach and access to specialist services in multi-purpose state of the art clinics, the opening of

the Bray practice at the Egan Business Centre has allowed the team at DBC Chartered Physiotherapy Clinic to provide enhanced care to clients from its new Wicklow base. Renowned as a centre of excellence, particularly in the provision of specialist back and neck rehabilitation, the Bray practice further enhances the clinic's reputation as a specialist treatment provider with proven success, as consultants and GP's continue to refer patients to the rehabilitation facility.

The first DBC Chartered Physiotherapy Clinic was founded in 2001 by Athlone native, Liam Heavin, whose vast expertise and wealth of experience within the Chartered Physiotherapy spectrum, has benefited our ever growing client base. DBC Clinic commenced business from its Ashleaf base in Dublin 12, before opening specialist practices in UCD, Athlone and Mullingar.

Our Services Include:

- Specialist spinal assessment and rehabilitation
- Post surgical rehabilitation
- Sports specific rehabilitation
- Specialised physio-led senior strength classes
- 3D biomechanical assessments
- Orthotic prescriptions
- Extracorporeal shockwave therapy (ESWT)
- Dry needling
- Manual therapy
- Fast track access to orthopaedic specialists
- TPI Golf Assessment and Training

Located in the Egan Business Centre, Upper Dargle Road at the Bray/Fassaroe Exit off the M11, DBC Clinic Bray is ideally situated for clients travelling with free onsite parking.

DBC Bray opening hours are Monday-Friday
For more information please call 01 531 0333,
visit www.dbc.ie or email bray@dbc.ie



An Taoiseach Simon Harris at DBC Bray.



Pictured are Lead Clinician, Stephen Brownlow with Athlete Chloe Watkins.



An Taoiseach Simon Harris pictured with Catherine Fitzgerald, Stephen Brownlow and Liam Heavin.



DBC

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

**INTRODUCING OUR NEW
SPECIALIST CHARTERED
PHYSIOTHERAPY & SPORTS
MEDICINE CLINIC
NOW OPEN IN BRAY**



Not all Physiotherapy is the Same...

- Custom-built, 2,500ft² state-of-the art physiotherapy centre replicates our clinic at the UCD Institute for Sport & Health
- Our skilled Physiotherapy & Sports Medicine Team have over 17 years of Clinical Expertise
- Includes our Advanced DBC Back & Neck Rehabilitation Clinic
- High-Performance Rehabilitation Gym on site
- TPI Golf Fitness Screening Assessment
- Senior Strength Classes

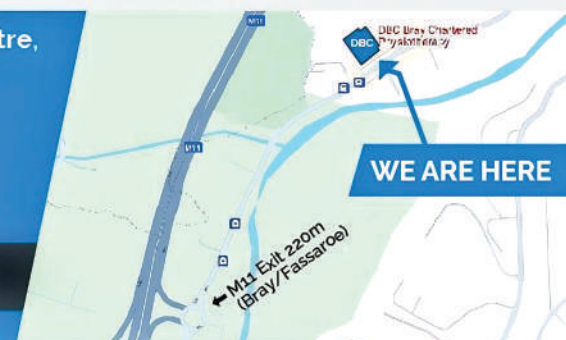
- Our goal has been to develop an all-encompassing Sports Medicine, Physiotherapy & Rehabilitation facility in Wicklow
- Our team of Chartered Physiotherapists include Lead Clinician Stephen Brownlow and Cathy Fitzgerald.

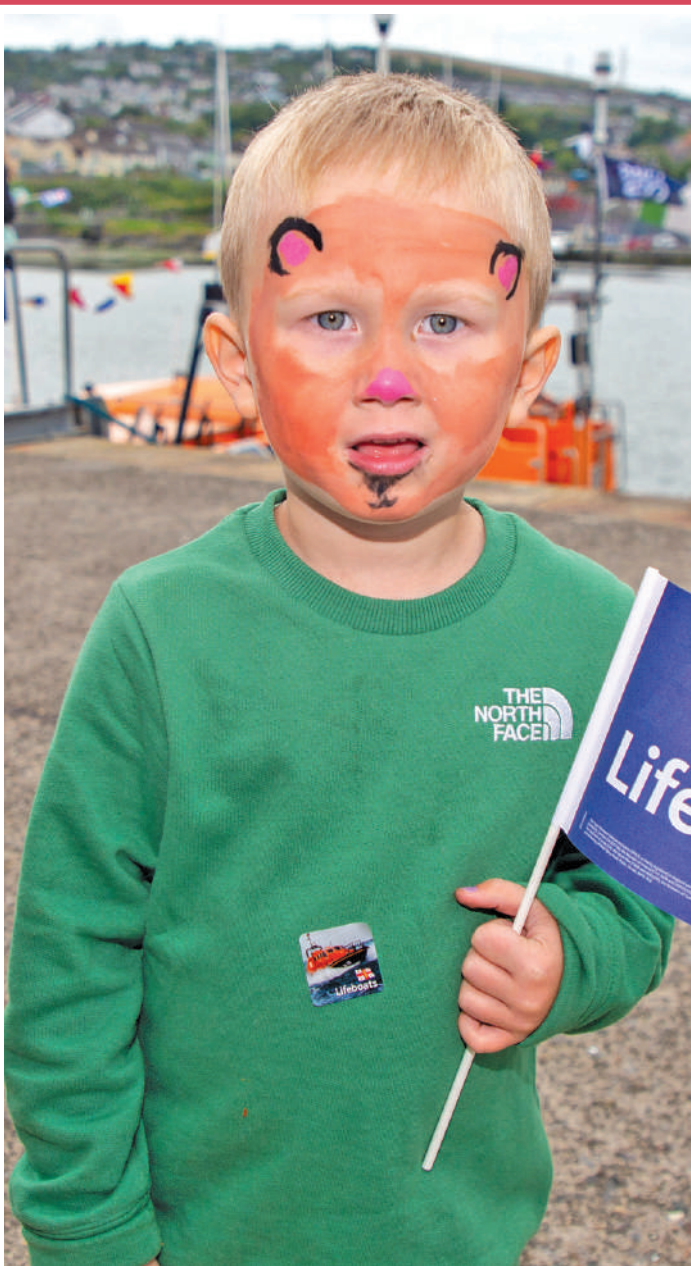


Call us today to see one of our specialist team:

Unit 7, Egan Business Centre,
Upper Dargle Road,
Bray Commons, Bray,
Co. Wicklow, A98 AE27
T: (01) 531 0333
E: bray@dbc.ie

WWW.DBC.IE





Donagh Keddy at the Wicklow RNLI Open Day in Wicklow Town

Maintaining trails on the Wicklow Way

County Wicklow Partnership and Wicklow County Council have announced the appointment of Bernie Byrne, a new employee dedicated to trail maintenance on the Wicklow Way.

Bernie brings a lifetime of experience in upland Wicklow from farming to hill running. She will be responsible for the inspection and preventative maintenance of the Wicklow Way, ensuring that it remains safe, accessible, and enjoyable for residents and visitors alike.

Funding for this position has been generously provided by both Wicklow County Council and landowning members of the Wicklow Outdoor Recreation Committee. This initiative reflects their commitment to promoting outdoor activities, supporting local tourism, and sustainably managing our wonderful outdoor infrastructure.



Bernie Byrne, dedicated to trail maintenance on the Wicklow Way.

€8.5m for walking & cycling paths

Green TD Steven Matthews has called on all new and returned councillors on Wicklow County Council to prioritise the completion of all pedestrian and cycling infrastructure projects funded by the NTA's record €8.5 million investment in Wicklow earlier this year.

Projects include cycle and pedestrian improvements for Ashford, Bray, Kilcoole, Blessington, Delgany and Killinacraig, and also includes further transport plans for Greystones, Rathnew and Arklow. Safe school zone funding has also been allocated for Greystones, Kilmacanogue and Dun-

lavin. Deputy Matthews said: "I am calling on all Councillors in Wicklow to ensure that all these projects are completed as soon as possible. Safe pedestrian and cycle routes in towns and villages can transform communities. Providing this infrastructure gives an alternative to car dependent journeys and makes walking or cycling a more accessible, attractive and

safe option for people of all ages.

"I am constantly meeting with residents in Wicklow who tell me they would like to walk or cycle but don't feel safe enough. There is a need for more cycle lanes and footpaths across the county and particularly in rural villages which lack this infrastructure. Providing separate footpaths and cycle lanes means that

cyclists and pedestrians don't have to take their chances in traffic. We must ensure that everyone has the option to travel in comfort and safety using active modes of transport.

"Since the Green Party entered Government, spending on cycle lanes and footpaths has increased more than six-fold. I have seen the benefits of this approach in County Wicklow with

massive investment made each year into local road, footpath, and cycle improvements. However there is more to be done.

"I look forward to working with Councillors from all political parties in the coming months on both the NTA funding projects and on other concerns impacting local residents in Wicklow," Deputy Matthews concluded.

BirdWatch Ireland launch Hen Harrier appeal

BirdWatch Ireland have launched a campaign to save the Hen Harrier, a bird which they say is "disappearing in front of our eyes".

The results of the 2022 National Hen Harrier Survey show that time has almost run out for these iconic birds of prey in Ireland, and that the species is now faring even worse than the Curlew and the Corncrake - species often held up as prime examples of biodiversity loss in Ireland. Since the last national survey, the Hen Harrier has declined by one-third in just seven years, with only 85-106 breeding pairs believed to remain in the country.

Without strong and swift intervention, the Hen Harrier faces the very real prospect of extinction in Ireland in just 25 years.

"As the Hen Harrier is one of our best-studied birds, we know what we need to do to save it," BirdWatch Ireland said.

"We know that we need a strong and fit-for-purpose national plan to save the Hen Harrier and the other species that depend on the same habitats. To date, BirdWatch Ireland staff have invested over 230 hours in fighting for a more robust Hen Harrier Threat Response Plan that will save the species.

"However, this work is only

just beginning. As we move to the implementation phase of the plan, we need to focus our energies on ensuring a fit-for-purpose plan that actually delivers benefits for Hen Harriers and the upland landscapes on which they depend. BirdWatch Ireland will advocate for a strong Hen Harrier Threat Response Plan and call for the most ambitious actions to save this species, as well as monitor the implementation of the plan.

"In parallel to this, we will advocate for and continue to undertake Hen Harrier surveying and monitoring work so that we can build on our knowledge of this species and inform targeted conservation measures. To do all of this, we need your help. That is why we are counting on you to donate to our Hen Harrier Appeal.

"We know that we need a strong and fit-for-purpose national plan to save the Hen Harrier and the other species that depend on the same habitats. To date, BirdWatch Ireland staff have invested over 230 hours in fighting for a more robust Hen Harrier Threat Response Plan that will save the species. However, this work is only just beginning. As we move

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"If you lend us support we can advocate for a robust Hen Harrier Threat Response Plan which delivers for Hen Harrier Conservation and review its implementation on an ongoing basis to ensure it is delivering for Hen Harrier populations."

To donate to the BirdWatch Ireland Hen Harrier Appeal go to BirdWatchIreland.ie/donations/henharrier

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New special education teaching room announced for Rathnew school

An Taoiseach Simon Harris has confirmed that a new special education teaching room will be made available for Gaelscoil Chill Mhantain in Rathnew. The school will have a mainstream classroom reconfigured to cater for this new special education classroom.

Speaking last week, An Taoiseach Simon Harris said: "Today I am delighted to announce Gaelscoil Chill Mhantain is providing a new special education teaching room for one to one teaching or group work. It is so important that all schools in County Wicklow are able to provide for all children and

cater for each of their needs.

"We are very fortunate in County Wicklow to have some of the most state-of-the-art schools for primary and second level. As a TD for Wicklow I have placed a particular focus on education and on school builds. So far since April over a dozen major school building pro-

jects have progressed.

"I know from speaking to parents across the County that we have so much more to do for schools, especially in terms of adding new school places to cater for the increase in students across the country.

"As Taoiseach I intend on keep-

ing a particular focus on children and education at the heart of every decision in Government.

"As a TD for Wicklow I will continue to work with schools and principals to represent their needs in Government and provide for extra capacity to meet Wicklow's growing population."



An Taoiseach Simon Harris.

Refurbishment for Nun's Cross National School

A new refurbishment project has been announced for Nun's Cross National School in Ashford by the Department of Education. The project will see an existing space in the school reconfigured to provide an extra mainstream classroom.

"This is fantastic news for the local community, and will contribute to ensuring that children across Wicklow have the facilities they need to succeed," said An Taoiseach Simon Harris.

"This is incredible news for students and staff of Nun's Cross National School, as well as for families across Ashford. For too long, the school has had to worry about setting up temporary accommodation for a new class in the coming academic year, and I am delighted a permanent space is now being delivered.

"I would like to thank the staff of Nun's cross for their continued efforts to get this project over the line. As Taoiseach, and in my role as TD for Wicklow, I have always, and will continue to put children and education at the heart of Government, and will work night and day to represent the needs of

schools across Wicklow, and the whole country.

"I am conscious that there is more work to do, but I am delighted that we are beginning to see the fruits of those efforts."



Nun's Cross National School.

37 Wicklow primary schools operating Hot School Meal Programme

Green TD Steven Matthews has welcomed the strong uptake of the Hot School Meal Programme in Wicklow Primary Schools. This is an issue that Deputy Matthews has worked on extensively with the Department of Social Protection and several local schools since being elected in 2020.

Discussing the large uptake of the programme, Deputy Matthews said: "This is hugely positive news for families in these schools. When visiting schools, this issue is one that is constantly raised with me by parents, principals, and teachers. The provision of hot meals to children is a hugely worthwhile investment in their wellbeing and development. This is particularly welcome at a time when food prices are at such a high level.

"The provision of school meals is a key intervention to tackle educational disadvantage and assist those children to achieve their full potential. The simple reality is, if children are hungry in classrooms, they can't concentrate, and the negative knock-on impact has been shown in countless studies.

"One thing I have consistently raised with the Ministers for Social Protection and Education is the need to avoid excess waste as part of the national rollout. I believe that any vendors tendering for these contracts to provide hot school meals should include how they propose to reduce the use of single-use plastic and ensure that food waste is minimised.

"Work is ongoing with a number of other Wicklow primary schools at earlier stages of introducing this scheme and I will be working with the Department of Education to ensure any unnecessary delays are avoided.

"I have worked with a series of schools across the county that had been included in this programme in earlier rounds of funding to ensure that funding was allocated as quickly as possible and that any other teething issues were resolved. If there are any other schools or families are experiencing any problems with this service, I would be more than happy to assist them directly," concluded Deputy Matthews.



Steven Matthews TD.

14 new special classes

Minister for Health Stephen Donnelly has welcomed the news that there will be 14 new special classes in County Wicklow. Every one of these special classes will have six pupils, one teacher and one special needs assistant in the following school areas Moneystown, Bray, Barndarrig, Kilbride, Tinahely, Rathnew, Blessington, Arklow and Greystones.

This budget funding has been used to provide so many new special classes for Wicklow for the 2024/2025 school year.

"I want to thank all our local schools who are working so hard to

make this happen in conjunction with the Department of Education and the National Council for Special Education. In government we are committed to delivering an inclusive education for all our children," said

Minister Donnelly.

"Bringing the Wicklow total to over 100 special classes for children with additional educational needs. Additional building work is being carried out in schools across the coun-

try to provide either new classrooms or refurbish existing classrooms for the new special classes.

"We now have more than 40,000 professionals working in special education - over 21,000 special needs assistants and over 19,000 special education teachers. That is the highest number of SNAs and teachers ever working in the area of special education.

"The Department of Education and the National Council for Special Education are actively engaging with school patrons and a small number of schools to finalise the arrangements necessary for the remainder of special classes to open for the coming school year in the areas where they are needed. The number of Special Educational Needs Organisers (SENOs) who help parents to find school places and health services for their children has increased from 73 to 120."



Minister for Health Stephen Donnelly TD, Principal of Blessington Community College Kieran Burke and Cllr Patsy Glennon.



COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

SOCIAL HOUSING ASSESSMENT 2024 IMPORTANT NOTICE IF YOU ARE AN APPLICANT ON WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL'S LIST FOR SOCIAL HOUSING SUPPORT

Wicklow County Council intends to carry out a Social Housing Assessment in accordance with Section 21 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2009.

The Social Housing Assessment 2024 is a review of all applicants approved for social housing support with Wicklow County Council prior to 5th July 2023.

The Council has written to all relevant Applicants using the current, most up to date address on file. If you have moved address please contact the Housing Section in writing (hna@wicklowcoco.ie) to update your address details as soon as possible.

Each approved Applicant is required to complete a form and return it with supporting documents (where necessary) before 31st July 2024. If you have any difficulty with completing this form, you can contact the Housing Section for assistance by emailing hna@wicklowcoco.ie Tel: 0404 20100

If you are in receipt of Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) you are not required to complete this Social Assessment Housing Form.

If you fail to return this information within the specified time period, your application for Social Housing will be closed and you will be removed from Wicklow County Council's list for Social Housing Support.

All approved Social Housing Applicants should return their forms by 31st July 2024 to:

Caroline Fox,
A/Senior Executive Officer,
Social Development (Housing & Community),
Wicklow County Council, County Buildings,
Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow.





Mikey Lee and Sophie Bonus at the Leinster Fleadh Cheoil in Wicklow Town.

Innovation blooms at Powerscourt

accesso Technology Group, the technology solutions provider for attractions and venues, has worked with Powerscourt Estate and Gardens to introduce a new Powerscourt Gardens Audio Tour app, enhancing visitor engagement and sustainability efforts in the heart of County Wicklow.

The newly launched app is now available for download on iOS and Android.

Powerscourt Estate, has teamed up with accesso's Professional Services team to introduce an innovative digital solution aimed at enhancing visitor engagement and experience.

The new Audio Tour app, offers visitors a seamless and immersive journey through the estate's outdoor attractions, including its world-renowned Italian Garden, Japanese Garden, Walled Garden with a bee sanctuary, picturesque Triton Lake, the Herbaceous Border and enchanting woodland walks. By harnessing state-of-the-art technology, the app provides an interactive platform for guests to explore the estate's rich heritage, curated tours, and sustainable initiatives.

The new Audio Tour app is designed to promote sustainability and enhance well-being by encouraging visitors to switch off from digital distractions and reconnect with nature.

This offline functionality minimizes the need for brochures or physical materials and supports Powerscourt's commitment to environmental sustainability.



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 roads:

Roads to be closed:

Adelaide Road, Bray (R766) between Quinsborough Road and Florence Road.

Period of closure:

Thursday 8th August 2024 to Friday 20th September 2024
24 hour closure.

Alternative routes:

Southbound: Via Quinsborough Road, Station Road and Florence Road or Quinsborough Road, Wyndham Park and Florence Road.

Northbound: via Florence Road, Wyndham Park and Quinsborough Road.

Reason for closure:

This closure is necessary to facilitate the installation of paving and site clearance for the Bray Transport Interchange Project.

Linda Healy,
Senior Executive Officer,
Transportation, Infrastructure Delivery
& Emergency Services.

Wicklow welcomes Her Outdoors Week 2024

Embrace the outdoors with a week of exciting activities for women

Wicklow is thrilled to announce the return of HER Outdoors Week, celebrating females of all ages and abilities embracing the outdoors. Running from August 12th - 18th, this year promises an even more exciting lineup with increased collaboration from local clubs, offering a wide range of events designed to inspire and engage. This year's theme, #EmbraceYourSpace, encourages women to get outside and embrace the unique outdoor opportunities that Wicklow has to offer.



The launch of Her Outdoors Week in Greystones.

HER Outdoors Week is a national event that aims to celebrate and encourage more females to get out and enjoy the benefits of being in the outdoors, while bringing visibility to the opportunities for females to get involved in outdoor physical activity. This week is all about providing more opportunities for ALL females to escape to the outdoors and try something new.

Participants can look forward to Sunset Kayak

events hosted by Poulaphouca Paddlers and Baltinglass Kayak Club, sailing with Bray Sailing Club, orienteering in Tomnafinnoge Wood, surfing at Magheramore Beach, and various social walks, runs, and mountain hikes across Wicklow.

Additionally, on Thursday 15th August, Wicklow Sports and Recreation Partnership are hosting a HER Outdoors Beach Festival, that will take place on Greystones

South Beach from 5pm to 8pm. The festival will see a range of drop-in and play activities such as Beach Volleyball, Beach Tug Of War, Beach Tennis, Beach Olympic Handball and Stand Up Paddle Boarding. Leinster Rugby will also be showcasing their first Women's Social Beach Rugby 7s event, with clubs from Wicklow and surrounding counties taking part.

Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council,

Cllr. Paul O'Brien, stated, "HER Outdoors Week is a fantastic opportunity for women to experience the natural beauty that Wicklow has to offer."

Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council, Emer O'Gorman, added, "We are proud to support HER Outdoors Week."

"As a leading county for outdoor recreation, Wicklow offers a fantastic opportunity to showcase our outstanding outdoor clubs and the diverse

physical activities available."

Aisling Hubbard of Wicklow Sports and Recreation Partnership shared, "This year's HER Outdoors Week is set to be our best yet, with more events and greater collaboration from local clubs. We invite all women and girls to get out and embrace their space."

For more information and a detailed schedule of events, please www.wicklowsp.ie

Bray again named one of the world's most underrated travel destinations

Bray has once again been named one of the world's most underrated travel destinations by Time Out. Bray has earned a spot on the list for the second time, with Time Out highlighting its appeal among 24 other global destinations. Other locations recognised include Prince Edward Island in Canada, Tasmania in Australia, Karpathos in Greece, and Plymouth in England, with Bray ranking 24th.

Eugene Finnegan from Bray Tourism highlighted the significance of this recognition: "Being acknowledged again by Time Out is a testament to Bray's enduring appeal. The support from the Bray Municipal District and Wicklow County Council has been instrumental in maintaining and enhancing the town's amenities and public realm."

Bray first appeared on the list in 2023, receiving praise for its diverse range of activities and dining options. This year, the town secured the 24th spot. Time Out's article recounts how Bray's popularity soared with the arrival of the railway in 1854, earning it the nickname "the Brighton of Ireland." Bray's Victorian seafront has been revitalised, bustling with cafés and restaurants. Visitors can enjoy a scenic walk from the harbour along the esplanade to Bray Head, an 800-foot-high vantage point offering stunning panoramic views.

Time Out contributor Stephen Emms elaborated on Bray's charm, noting its histori-

cal significance and the vibrant atmosphere that has re-emerged in recent years.

Cllr. Dermot O'Brien, Cathaoirleach of Bray Municipal District, welcomed the news, stating, "We are delighted that Time Out has once again recognised Bray.

This accolade underscores our town's unique charm and vibrant appeal. Being featured among the world's most underrated travel destinations is a testament to our community's hard work and dedication. It highlights Bray as a beloved tourism destination and sets us

on the right footing for continued growth and success."

Despite strong competition, Bray's unique offerings earned it a spot on this year's list. Topping the list is Filandia in Colombia, showcasing the diversity of destinations highlighted by Time Out.



Bray Seafront.



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Átha Cliath agus Dhún Laoghaire Education and Training Board

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SOME TERMS AND CONDITIONS MAY APPLY

Former President of Wicklow Rotary elected head of Rotary Ireland

'Joining Rotary was the best decision I made this century'

A former President of Wicklow Rotary has been elected as the new District Governor of Rotary Ireland. Seamus Parle from Wicklow Town said his main aims will be to maximise the organisation's community impact and increase public awareness of the benefits of Rotary membership.

Mr Parle said Rotary was dedicated to serving communities both here and abroad and through its voluntary work provided an excellent platform for people to develop socially and professionally. He said he hadn't looked back since joining the organisation 12 years ago.

"Rotary members are people with a social conscience who want to put their skills and expertise into the service of the community. Whether it's supporting a health or education project here in Ireland, providing housing for families in Ukraine or funding a water pump project in rural Kenya, Rotary has no shortage of projects to become involved in. Through Rotary I've learned so much and met

so many wonderful people from all over the island of Ireland and beyond. Quite simply, joining Rotary was the best decision I made this century."

Partnership with Cancer Fund for Children

The all-island nature of Rotary, something which Mr Parle holds dear, is very evident in his nominated charity for the year ahead which is Cancer Fund for Children.

The charity aims to provide emotional support for children diagnosed with cancer and their families across Ireland. One of the ways it does this is by providing therapeutic short breaks for families at its Daisy Lodge centre in Newcastle, County Down. Its plans for a sec-

ond lodge in Cong, Co Mayo, which will cost around E20m to build, are well advanced.

"A cancer diagnosis for anyone is a devastating blow, but especially for young people. Providing space and support to these children and their families in a caring and calm environment is an essential emotional support," Mr Parle said.

"At any one time there is a waiting list of over 50 families for Daisy Lodge in Newcastle Co. Down. This second lodge at Cong on the shores of Lough Corrib will enable the charity to increase the number of children and parents it supports each year from 1,800 to 4,000. Helping to progress this project will be one of our flagship projects this year."

Rotary Highlights

Mr Parle, an accountant in practice in Wicklow, though now semi-retired, is originally from Drinagh in Co Wexford but has lived in Wicklow town for over 40 years. In addition to serving as Club President of Wicklow Rotary the married father of two grown up daughters has also held the roles of Assistant District Governor and District Treasurer. He says there have been many highlights to his time in Rotary, but two especially come to mind.

"The first one was when we secured government funding of €250,000 under an anti-dumping initiative for Rotary's Bikes 4 Africa project. Through this project old or unwanted bikes

are repaired and forwarded to people in Africa. As well as providing students and adults in rural areas with a vital mode of transport the scheme also involves the support of the Irish Prison Service, with the bikes being repaired at a Bike Shed at Loughan House Open Centre. It's a win win for people in Africa and individuals here who develop new skills while making a valuable contribution to this excellent project.

"The other is Wicklow's own Simon Harris, a graduate of Rotary's Youth Leadership Development Competition, some 20 years ago, becoming Taoiseach. Simon learned a lot through his involvement in Rotary and it shows the benefits of becoming involved at



Seamus Parle, new head of Rotary Ireland

a young age regardless of whichever party you support or are a member of. Simon has been a very strong supporter of the organisation down

the years and is an honorary life member. This year two young girls from Wicklow Lucy Curran and Juno Cherry-Roberts won the

same competition. "I am sure they and all the other participants from all over the island of Ireland will go on to achieve great things."

Slow, switch, grow: how one person can make a difference

Jane Jackson, an environmental scientist specialising in climate change and biodiversity solutions that are fair, effective and bring many side benefits, is the founder of '80 Max climate solutions' and has been its coordinator since 2016. Her ideas are taking root in Wicklow where ReWild Wicklow and the the Men's Sheds groups in Newcastle, Bray and Greystones have gotten on board.

The main projects 80 Max climate solutions are running at present are SLOW SWITCH GROW: 1). Slow Down to 80 kph as your top speed; 2). Switch Energy Providers to 100% renewable energy suppliers; 3). Grow Trees in our Duneman Boxes; 4). Annual Tree festival in Belmont Demesne Greystones.

Jane explains: "The logic behind SLOW SWITCH GROW is that each action reduces our emissions by one tonne. Thereby reducing our average personal budget of 12 tonnes by 25%."

The 'Slow' objective involves reducing top speeds to 80km/hr.

"By cutting top speed to 80km/hr we reduce our car emissions by one third. The average driver in Ireland produces 3 tonnes CO2 / yr. So that's one tonne," explains Jane.

"The SLOW Down to 80kph campaign is what I have been doing for the past six years. In the first year we did a great many markets and events around the country. 1,300 pledged to keep to 80km/hr as their top speed. Unfortunately the covid lockdown ended that campaign for a long while.

"In 2020 I commissioned a National survey (see attached)

which saw 43% support for the initiative to cut the top speed to 80km/hr on all roads. I don't know if you realise but that is a huge support in light of the fact that we had not even launched a national campaign. I like to compare it with a similar survey taken a week before the smoking ban in 2004, which was a great success, but it had only 37% support for the initiative after a 15 year campaign.

The 'Switch' aspect involves switching energy providers to get people to switch to 100% renewable energy companies.

"The average home produces 1 tonne CO2 from their electricity so by switching to 100% renewable that's another tonne," says Jane.

Regarding the Grow Boxes project, Jane says "If each person grows 100 trees they save a tonne per year in an average lifetime. Having grown trees from seed for many years myself and distributing them at events, I asked Coillte, during lockdown in 2021, if they could donate a further 3000. We distributed these from our gate. This then grew into the tree festival in 2022. I felt it would be a good idea to expand this project into the local community to get a

supply of local native seed.

This has become a community project with 25 people growing and producing over 2500 trees in the first year. To make the boxes I have teamed up with the Men's Sheds in Newcastle, Bray and Greystones who make the boxes and the Happy Pear who provided used pallets to make the boxes and coffee sacks for storing the trees.

"People can now collect a box and care for the seeds in large numbers and when they are a year old they give them to us to grow on in a nursery in Newcastle on land very kindly provided by a land owner which we have developed with the great help of Rewild Wicklow.

"21 of their members arrived and constructed 11 raised beds of the Dunemann type, with scaffolding boards kindly supplied from two building firms, SIJ fit out and Turnkey kitchens. They then moved 18 tonnes of soil over 100m manually to fill the beds and planted over 1000 year old saplings. All in the space of 4 hours."

Jane is also behind the annual Tree Festival in Belmont Demesne where her and her team give out, for free, 3,300 bare root native trees.



Sean Boland and Arklow historian Pat Power at the Shelton Abbey Open Day in Arklow.

Council commences Social Housing Assessment 2024

Wicklow County Council have commenced the Social Housing Assessment 2024. This social housing assessment is a review of all applicants approved for social housing support with Wicklow County Council, prior to 5th July 2023. Each local authority must carry out the Social Housing Assessment in accordance with Section 21 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009.

Letters have issued to all relevant applicants using the current, most up to date address on file. Any applicant that has changed address recently should contact the housing section in Wicklow County Council as soon as possible to update their address on file.

A person in receipt of Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) is not required to complete this Social

Assessment Housing Form.

It is vitally important that all approved Social Housing Applicants return this assessment form, as failure to do so will result in their application for Social Housing being closed and the removal of that applicant from Wicklow County Council's list for Social Housing Support.

All approved Social Housing Applicants should return their forms via post

to Caroline Fox, A/ Senior Executive Officer, Social Development (Housing and Community), Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow Town, Co Wicklow, by Wednesday 31st July 2024.

For further information please visit the website, www.wicklow.ie, or contact the housing section by emailing hna@wicklowco-co.ie or by telephone on 0404 20100.



Margaret Healy and Aoife O'Neill at the Shelton Abbey Open Day in Arklow.

1,266 new home commencements in first six months of 2024



Senator Pat Casey.

Figures represent 87.8% increase on same period in 2023

Wicklow Fianna Fail Senator Pat Casey has welcomed new figures showing 1,266 new homes have commenced construction in Wicklow in the first six months of this year. This represents an 87.8% increase on the same period in 2023, when 674 homes commenced construction.

Nationwide, a total of 33,784 homes started construction between January and the end of June. This figure is more than double (up 117%) from the 15,561 units commenced in the first half of 2023.

Senator Casey said:

"I'm delighted to have received confirmation from my party colleague, Minister for Housing Darragh O'Brien, that 1,266 new homes were commenced here in Wicklow in the first six months of this year, an increase on the same

period last year.

"Not only are the number of new residential homes being built in Wicklow increasing, the figures nationwide are also rising, up 117% on the same period last year. "Fianna Fail's top priority in government

remains doing everything we can to help people to afford to buy or rent a home. These statistics are evidence that our Housing for All plan is working and my focus is on doing whatever I can to keep this positive momentum going."

Taoiseach hails success of First Home Scheme for County Wicklow

The success of the First Home Scheme is helping to ensure families in Wicklow can secure their new home, An Taoiseach Simon Harris said. So far, 342 Wicklow home buyers have been approved for the First Home Scheme, meaning more homeowners in the County.



An Taoiseach Simon Harris TD.

The scheme is a shared equity scheme, designed to help bridge the gap for first-time buyers and other eligible homebuyers between their deposit and mortgage, and the price of their new home. It was established in July 2022 with the aim of supporting up to 8,000 affordable purchases over a four-year period.

Data shows that a total of 10,669 prospective buyers have now registered their details with 4,856 application have been approved across 26 counties.

Speaking last week the Taoiseach said: "This scheme has been a significant success in bridging the gap for potential homeowners Wicklow. The figures today show the impact it is having in a relatively short period of time, with a total of 342 buyers approved with live eligibility certificates by Wicklow County Council.

"This clearly demonstrates that there is now momentum behind the scheme in Wicklow and is making home ownership a reality for many young people across the county. It has proven to be a very effective measure to support close to 4,000 individuals or families to achieve home-ownership across the country, a key objective under Housing for All.

"Housing is Fine Gael's number one priority. It is the greatest societal challenge we face. We've now seen almost 52,000 new homes commenced construction in the 12 months to the end of May. I am confident that we will exceed our output target for 2024, making it the third year in a row where we exceed our targets.

"We are now using more and more Modern Methods of Constructions, we have increasing number of apprentices, we're promoting careers in construction, and we know we have so much left to do to face the housing challenge. Every week, my Government takes new measures to respond to the challenge and we are seeing the benefit of those measures."

Home sales prices have risen 5.3%

County Dublin tops chart at a median of €450K (Dublin city €505K)

Home sales prices in the Republic of Ireland have risen 5.3% compared to the same period last year, the Q2, 2024 Geowox Housing Market Report reveals. The median price for an Irish home sold in the first quarter of 2024 is €335K, +€17K compared to the same period in 2023.

The report includes all Q2 2024 entries in the Irish residential property price register. Energy-efficient existing homes (A-B) achieved a median sales price of €405K, a €90K premium over the €315K for non-efficient homes (C-G). This energy-based comparison excludes new homes to gain a more precise understanding of the energy efficiency premium.

A total of 12,212 homes were sold in the 2nd quarter of the year -/- 13.5% vs the same period in 2023. Co. Dublin had the highest number of sales in Q2'24 at 3,594 units. Median prices in Co. Dublin reached €450K. Meanwhile, home prices in Dublin city rose to €505K.

Total new home sales dropped year over year, at 2,411 homes, a change of -/-6.9%. New homes transacted at a median value of €399K, a €99K premium over the median for existing homes, at €300K.

Summarising the latest market trends, Geowox's Head of data, Marco Giardina, observed, "Home transaction volume is on a strong downward trend. Meanwhile, prices maintain a steady growth path in rural and urban areas."



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.

Road to be closed

R764 from the junction at Roundwood Church to the junction of the L1076 Roundwood Park.

Period of closure

4.00 pm on the 4th August until 4.00 am on the 5th August 2024.

Alternative Routes

R765 Knockraheen to Diamond Hill R764 to L1076 Roundwood Park.

Reason for Closure

This road closure is necessary in order to facilitate the Roundwood Village Festival.

Classic car lovers to flock to Newcastle



Rev your engines and gather the whole family for an unforgettable day of excitement and nostalgia for the inaugural Leinster Classic Car & Motor Show, taking place on Bank Holiday Monday, 5th August, 11am to 5pm at Newcastle Aerodrome (A63 RX03).

This exciting event promises a full day of automotive delights and family fun while supporting two vital community causes - Wicklow Hospice and Newcastle Community Centre.

Event Highlights:

- **Classic Car Showcase:** An array of vintage and classic cars that will transport you back in time.
- **Modern and Exotic Cars:** View the sleek lines and cutting-edge technology of today's most luxurious vehicles.
- **Food Vendors:** A variety of food options to satisfy all tastes from local delicacies to international cuisines.

- **Meet the Owners:** An opportunity to chat with the passionate owners and learn the stories behind their beloved vehicles.
- **Auto Jumble and Trade Stands:** Browse through a variety of auto parts, memorabilia and more at the trade stands.

Organisers stated "The Leinster Classic Car and Motor Show has chosen two very worthy causes to benefit from the event, Wicklow Hospice which provides an incredible service at the most testing of times for people and Newcastle Community Centre which is the hub of the village, surviving solely on the goodwill of the community."

Tickets are priced at €10 for adults, with free admission for children under 12. A family pass, covering entry for two adults and three children, is available for just €30. All proceeds from the event will be donated to the two nominated charities.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit Eventbrite or the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/leinsterclassicarshow.

Join us for a spectacular day celebrating automotive history, modern marvels, and community spirit while supporting two incredible causes.

€20,000 for two non-profit organisations in Wicklow

The Ireland Funds, the global philanthropic network, has awarded €20,000 to two organisations in Wicklow. This support, through the Heart of the Community Fund grant round, will assist a diverse group of initiatives that provide critical services and strengthen communities.

The Wicklow recipients of this year's Heart of the Community Fund are the Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation and Shuttle Knit.

The Heart of the

Community Fund this year is awarding €930,000 to 93 community and voluntary organisations across the island of Ireland to support their vital local activity. Made possible by

generous philanthropic gifts and fundraising events of The Ireland Funds America, the largest chapter of The Ireland Funds, these grants exemplify the power of collec-

tive giving.

Caitriona Fottrell, President & CEO of The Ireland Funds, said: "We recognise the significant challenges organisations face, especially in meeting core and operational costs. It is our aim that the Heart of the Community Fund fuels organisations to continue their essential work within communities. We

are deeply grateful for the steadfast generosity of our donors, which continues to bolster crucial initiatives across the island of Ireland."

Sheila Cannon, Chair, Board of Directors, Shuttle Knit CLG, said: "The Heart of the Community Fund grant from The Ireland Funds is invaluable as core funding

provides crucial flexibility, allowing us to focus on innovative ideas rather than being tied to programme commitments. It enables activities like visioning days to reflect and plan with our community, which are essential but often hard to find time for."

The Heart of the Community Fund strategi-

cally supports non-profits under The Ireland Funds' four funding pillars: Arts and Culture, Community Development, Education, and Peace and Reconciliation. Emphasising community integration and inclusion, this fund prioritised projects that centred around belonging and organisations addressing youth and family sup-

port needs.

This year's Heart of the Community Fund is a testament to the enduring commitment of The Ireland Funds and its supporters. By providing timely funding, these grants will enable non-profits to address pressing community needs and create a lasting impact on the lives of many.

'Dare to bare' in aid of Wicklow Hospice care

Our Lady's Hospice & Care Services (OLH&CS), Wicklow, is daring the brave men of Wicklow and surrounds to bare all and take part in its male-only Dip in the Nip, on the morning of Sunday 13th October 2024 on Greystones South Beach, Wicklow. The annual event has been running since 2019 and is again being supported by offshore renewable energy project, Codling Wind Park.



Pictured launching the male-only Wicklow Hospice 'Dip in the Nip' is Wicklow Hospice Community Ambassador, Richard Davis. Join Richard on Sunday 13th October and Dare to Bare all to support the patients and families under the care of Wicklow Hospice.

Wicklow Hospice hopes that men will dare to bare in support of hospice care by lining up on the

Greystone South Beach. By participating and aiming to achieve sponsorship of at least A200 each, our fearless heroes, groups, clubs, and workplace colleagues are raising vital funds to help us

continue to provide high levels of specialist care and comfort for patients and their families.

On dip day, men and their supporters can expect live music on arrival to the beach, before our brave dippers head to a more secluded section of the shoreline. With a fearsome roar, the group will join together for Wicklow Hospice and run headlong into the sea! After their dip, each participant will be served a welcome hot drink, and everyone goes home with a goody bag including an exclusive 'Dip in the Nip' gift.

Codling Wind Park Project Director, Scott



Pictured L-R launching the male-only Wicklow Hospice 'Dip in the Nip' is Pamela McCann, Scott Southerland (Codling Win Park), Richard Davis (Wicklow Hospice Community Ambassador), Susie Cunningham (OLH&CS) and Pat Sammon (Codling Wind Park).

Sutherland, said: "The Codling team are proud to be strong supporters of Wicklow Hospice and the incredible work they do with families across the county."

He added: "As well as being an important fundraiser for the Hospice and the work they do, Dip in the Nip is a really fun, community event. We are really looking forward to supporting Dip in the Nip and some of us will be participating too!"

Eleanor Flew, Director

of Fundraising & Communications at OLH&CS said: "We are delighted to continue our important partnership with Codling Wind Park as they sponsor Dip in the Nip. Community fundraising played a vital role in ensuring we were able to open the doors of Wicklow Hospice in 2020, the first dedicated palliative care facility in Wicklow."

"Fundraising and community support continue to be the life blood of our work at Our Lady's

Hospice & Care Services, Wicklow, whether that's in our inpatient facility which cared for 207 inpatients last year or our Community Palliative Care Team, which made 2,037 visits to people's homes.

"Initiatives like Dip in the Nip help ensure the continued provision and development of our services, so we urge the people of Wicklow and surrounds to come out and support, whether that be through participation or

sponsoring one of the brave participants," she added.

This year's event takes place on the morning of Sunday 13th October 2024.

The women of Wicklow are also asked to show their support by encouraging the men in their lives to sign up and supporting their fearless friends or family taking part.

For more information and to register, please go to: www.olh.ie/event-campaign/dip-in-the-nip/

Kilcoole A.C.'s Fionnuala to make history at Olympics

Kilcoole Athletic Club's Fionnuala McCormack will be one of twenty-three athletes at the Olympic Games in Paris. The track and field events will be taking place in the Stade de France, and the marathon events will take place on the streets of Paris starting at the Hotel de Ville and finishing at the Esplanade des Invalides.



Fionnuala McCormack.

The officially selected number of athletes competing for Team Ireland has now reached 122, which has now passed the previously largest team ever (116 in Tokyo 2020). The athletics team are travelling to Paris on a high, following on from the phenomenal performances of the Athletics Ireland team at the European Championships last month.

Marathon runner Fionnuala McCormack will be making history by becoming the first Irish woman to compete in five Olympic Games, when she competes on the roads of Paris on the 11 August. The marathon route takes in some of the famous Parisian landmarks, including the Chateau de Versailles, the Grand Palais and the Hotel de Ville.

The track and field events take place in the Stade de France, which transforms from the Rugby Sevens events earlier in the Games to a bespoke athletics stadium, with a purple track.

Olympic Federation of Ireland Chef de Mission for Paris 2024, Gavin Noble said, "The athletics events are always some of the most anticipated ones, and this year won't disappoint. We are excited to select a really strong team, many of whom are coming to the Games as ones to watch. The Stade de France will be buzzing during August, with the track and field events.

"We are also pleased to see that this announcement sees the official number of selected Team Ireland athletes surpass our previously biggest team - and we still have a few more announcements to come!"

Wicklow rugby players get a big send-off before Olympics

Wicklow Elmes Kinlan and Lucy Rock from Wicklow RFC will be part of the Irish Women's Rugby Sevens Squad competing in the Olympics in Paris, with Lucy captaining the 12-player team.

Vicky Elmes Kinlan was given a fantastic send off from her Wicklow RFC teammates last week on the eve of her departure for Paris.

In a statement posted to social media, Wicklow RFC said "Vicky started Rugby with Wicklow RFC at U14s and played all the way through the Youths and into Senior rugby with the Club. Along the way she also represented, the South East U18s, Leinster and Ireland at 15 aside and Leinster and Ireland u18s at Sevens. She has played with the Senior women's team in the All-Ireland and has travelled the world with the Irish Senior Women's 7s squad since 2021. Vicky will be the first Olympian to come through the ranks at Wicklow RFC and the club are so excited to see her represent her club and her country on the biggest sporting stage of them all in the coming weeks.

"Vicky will be joined on her Olympic adventure by another Wicklow woman Lucy Rock. We would like to wish both Vicky and Lucy and the entire squad the very best in Paris. We will be watching with pride and who knows, we might have a gold medal or two back in Ashtown Lane in August."

Lucy has had a "remarkable career" with the Irish sevens side over the past decade, Wicklow RFC said. She played gaelic football with Tinahely and for Wicklow before taking up rugby. She joined the Irish Women's Sevens programme in 2015.

Joining Wicklow via Rathdrum RFC, Lucy has captained the squad for several seasons and has also featured in the Ireland 15s team.

The Women's Sevens Tournament will commence on 28th July.

Bray boxer to compete in Paris

Bray's 50kg Daina Moorehouse (Enniskerry Boxing Club), and Head Coach Zauri Antia will be part of the Irish Boxing Team at the Paris Olympics which begin on Friday 26th July.



Daina Moorehouse.

A 4' 11" pocket-rocket from Bray who famously used to rise daily at 6am to train before school, Daina won gold and 'Best Boxer' at the European Juniors in 2017 when she was just 15.

In 2018 she beat a Russian to clinch the European Youth title and made the quarter-finals of World Youths. In 2019 she won another European Youth medal (bronze) and in 2023 she reached the quarter-finals of European U22s and was deemed unlucky not to get past the same stage at the European Games.

She made the last 16 at the first Olympic Qualification tournament in Italy but had to go to the final qualifiers in Bangkok in June where she beat boxers from Armenia and Guatemala before a unanimous victory over Bulgaria's Zlatislava Chukanova punched her first Olympic ticket.

Zauri has been a proud resident of Bray for almost two decades, and is Ireland's most successful Olympic coach in any sport, guiding Irish athletes to 9 of our Olympic 38 medals.



Mary Ocarroll and Ger Cassidy at the Blainroe Golf Club annual Club Cancer Day in aid of Play in pink and Wicklow Cancer Support.

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Izzy Hayward with her mum Emma.

Rathnew girl named ambassador for Children's Health Foundation

The Woodie's Heroes campaign, celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, has announced Izzy Hayward, a 5-year-old from Rathnew, as the ambassador for the Children's Health Foundation in the 2024 fundraising initiative.

Running from now until 10th August, this year's campaign aims to raise critical funds for four children's charities: Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland, Children's Health Foundation, ISPC Childline, and Down Syndrome Ireland.

Izzy, the youngest of three children, was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis shortly after birth, requiring immediate and ongoing medical care. Her family's journey has been supported by the exceptional staff at Crumlin, whose compassionate care and cutting-edge treatments have been a lifeline for Izzy.

Emma Hayward, Izzy's mother, their journey: "When Izzy was born, we were overjoyed but had to rush back to the hospital the next day because she wasn't feeding and began intensely vomiting. The urgent procedure she needed for a bowel obstruction was just the beginning. At six weeks old, we received the diagnosis of cystic fibrosis. The support from Children's Health Foundation has been crucial, providing not only medical care but also emotional and logistical support."

Thanks to research funded by

Children's Health Foundation, Izzy became eligible for a groundbreaking wonder drug therapy that will enhance her long-term health. Every contribution, big or small to the Woodie's Heroes fundraiser will make a difference in funding the purchase of a digital mobile X-ray machine for Children's Health Ireland at Temple Street. The digital mobile X-Ray machine will enhance the quality of care for children, allowing for quicker and more accurate diagnoses. It will also assist medical teams to provide immediate, on-the-spot imaging,

which will reduce the stress and discomfort for young patients.

Children's Health Foundation raises vital funds to support sick children and their families in Children's Health Ireland hospitals and urgent care centres in Crumlin, Temple Street, Tallaght and Connolly.

Supporting Woodie's Heroes is simple. Donations can be made in-store at the till or online via the iDonate QR code. Every euro raised goes directly to the chosen charities, ensuring they can continue their vital work.

Thalidomide survivors respond to Government leaders

The Irish Thalidomide Association (ITA) held a Press Conference last week to officially respond to a letter that their acknowledged members received the previous week from the three leaders in Government: The Taoiseach Simon Harris, The Tanaiste Micheal Martin and Eamon Ryan, former leader of the Green Party.

After receiving the letter, members of the Irish Thalidomide Association met for hours to discuss it and were unequivocal in their rejection of it. "This letter is not an apology," they said.

"An expression of general regret blaming the regulatory standards of the time is not an apology. Any expression of sympathy is not an apology. Saying that mothers of Thalidomide babies were not to blame is not an apology. Excluding any reference to our 'unacknowledged' survivors is not an apology.

"We are the survivors of the biggest medical tragedy the world has ever witnessed. Some of our group sadly passed away and have the lost chance of recognition of the wrong done to them. Sixty

years on, we are still seeking justice for both recognised survivors and those whom we know have been damaged by thalidomide but have not yet been officially recognised by the State or the German manufacturers of thalidomide.

"It is unforgivable that our members who remain 'unacknowledged' as thalidomide survivors are still excluded to this day. They have never been recognised, never helped and despite 15 years of campaigning remain completely ignored in the letter from the three leaders in Government. The ITA journey started with our parent's campaign for justice in the 1970s when families were already dealing with a decade of catastrophic disabilities endured by their children.

"Thirteen Taoisigh have abandoned the Thalidomide Mothers of Ireland and their catastrophically disabled children. Thalidomide, even just one tablet, caused malformations to limbs, ears and internal organs. The letter from the three leaders included many expressions of regret and sympathy. It looked like an apology. It sounded like an apology. Many news outlets interpreted it as an apology. It was not an apology. An apology must include an acceptance that the State acted wrongly in the past. There was no such acceptance of wrong in the letter we received. This, seeming apology, caused unfathomable hurt and anger amongst our members.

"We believe we are

owed an apology for the following reasons:

"THE FAILURE TO RECALL THALIDOMIDE:

In 1961, the then government refused to recall thalidomide in line with the international withdrawal of the drug. The state took a very conservative and paternalistic approach towards women in Ireland at the time. This is very evident by the lack of any nationwide appeal or campaign to advise or warn women about the internationally known dangers of the Thalidomide drug in 1961.

"THE INADEQUATE REGULATION OF MEDICATIONS:

The State failed to properly regulate the thalidomide drug unlike

other nations including the USA although it had the statutory tools to do so.

"THE FAILURE TO BRING THE DEAL MADE WITH THE STATE AND GRUNENTHAL IN THE 1970'S BEFORE THE HIGH COURT:

The only reasons for not putting the awards before the High Court were either the Government were hiding their culpability in not making a public announcement for the removal of the drug in 1961 or they knew the deal made to support children with thalidomide was inadequate and would not be ruled on. In 1975, when we were minors, under the age of 18 years of age, our parents were promised that all our healthcare and personal

support needs, including equipment etc would be provided for by the Irish state for our lifetime. These promises were never ruled upon by the High Court, as is the legal norm for minors. We are the only case we know of where this failed to occur.

"THE FAILURE TO PUT IN PLACE A HEALTH CARE PACKAGE IN 1975:

As part of the package partially developed in 1975, the State had promised to develop a comprehensive health and social care package for children affected by thalidomide to be in place for the rest of their lives. The health care package announced last week is the one they were supposed to develop almost 50 years ago. Due to the lack of such a package being in existence until now some of our members have had unnecessary deteriorations in their health and functioning.

"THE FAILURE TO KEEP UP TO DATE WITH THE DIAGNOSTIC CRITERIA FOR THALIDOMIDE WHICH HAVE CHANGED.

A number of people were not acknowledged on the basis of diagnostic criteria created in the 1960/70s. However, with advancing medical knowledge these criteria have changed. People who are still fighting for recognition have been diagnosed by medical experts as having thalidomide related disability under these new criteria. The Government should have kept up to date on this.

"The State Claims Agency report 'Compensation for Thalidomide Survivors' in April 2010 was undertaken without

any consultation, discussion, or involvement whatsoever with thalidomide survivors in Ireland.

"This report never disclosed all the true facts or our lived reality; it has no credibility, yet it appears to dominate the States thinking and strategy to this day. Who or what is the State trying to protect still in 2024?

"Furthermore, this flawed report ignored the state's failure to withdraw thalidomide at all or in a timely manner. It also ignored the state's obligation - and every child's fundamental right - to have a High Court Judge examine any offer made to a minor. This government and the State need to own up to the actions of the past and fix the historical and continuing injustice towards thalidomide survivors in Ireland. The Irish state needs to acknowledge its failures and omissions. Even at this late stage it needs to cherish us - the acknowledged and unacknowledged survivors alike.

"This Government and this State needs to give all Irish thalidomide survivors, their mothers both living and deceased, the respect and decency of a D-I-L apology to acknowledge once and for all, that this was the fault of the State, no one else.

The Association also pointed out that the state left the drug on pharmacy shelves long after it knew it caused catastrophic damage in utero, at birth and beyond. Instead of offering a public apology from the Taoiseach to the surviving mothers, instead of providing a comprehensive package of compensation, the ITA says its members are shocked by the Government making a big deal of a health care package and a free travel pass, which were already

promised to survivors in the 1975 but never delivered upon.'

The Health, Social Care and Independent Living Supports Package has also been misrepresented as signed off where it provides nothing more than what ought to have been delivered over the past 50 years as part of the original 1975 arrangement brought up to date. Also, it was not signed off, as it was still subject to further ongoing discussions. The Health, Social Care and Independent Living Supports Package is also incomplete for the following reasons: a.) It doesn't address the unacknowledged thalidomide survivors at all; b.) It relates to services within the Irish state but doesn't deliver anything to those thalidomide survivors who have had to leave Ireland or emigrate; c.) It has no enforceability. The last arrangement was not fulfilled for 50 years. We cannot approve a repetition of history, where we again will be forgotten about as we age, and will no doubt move down the priority list.

"The issues that remain outstanding to be resolved are: 1. Acknowledgement of wrongs; 2. Apology for those wrongs; 3. A fully completed Health, Social Care and Independent Living Supports Package as detailed above; 4. Fair and just compensation for all thalidomide survivors. "The expression of sympathy from the three leaders was in stark contrast to the apology offered by the Prime Minister of Australia to those affected by thalidomide under the watch of his nation. This apology was devised in collaboration with those affected by thalidomide in Australia."



Alexion, AstraZeneca Rare Disease, has announced a three year partnership with Hometree, an environmental charity, to accelerate the regeneration of Atlantic rainforests in Ireland. The partnership includes a €90k investment from Alexion to support the reintroduction of rainforest ecosystems across eighteen acres (12 GAA pitches) of land in the Maam Valley, Connemara, Co. Galway. Pictured at Hometree's site in Avoca, Co. Wicklow, a site that has been left largely undisturbed for the last 30 years: Shane Doyle, Senior Vice President, Head of Operations and Sustainability, Alexion; Matt Smith, CEO of Hometree; and Bryan Mulchinock, Head of Environment, Health, Safety, Alexion. Picture Jason Clarke.

€230,000 for Creative Therapeutic Supports for Greystones and Bray children

Health Minister Stephen Donnelly has announced funding of €230,000 to fund a new initiative to provide further mental health supports to primary school children in Bray and Greystones. Minister Donnelly has been working with Rachel Harper, Principal of St. Patrick's National School in Greystones and the HSE to co-design and produce this project.

The programme will be run as a pilot for the next two school years, commencing in September 2024. The project involves providing creative therapeutic supports, including play therapy, in an agreed number of primary schools in the Greystones and Bray areas.

Minister Donnelly said: "I'm delighted to be able to announce this funding today. It is important that

we recognise that the school setting is one where children should feel safe, where they can express themselves, and where they can seek support when they need it.

"This programme recognises the creative therapeutic supports a school can provide to a child and their parents and recognises the benefits that supporting a child in the school environment can have. I am confident that

we will design and implement this programme so that it can be rolled out further and that all children and all schools can benefit in the future."

This project will be run under the auspices of Bray Sláintecare Healthy Communities (SHC) and will provide a range of creative therapeutic supports to primary school aged children, their teachers and their parents as well as facilitating the

signposting of children and their families to the wider supports available in the community.

A steering group is being established with representation from the HSE, Wicklow CYPSC, Wicklow County Council SHC Local Development Officer, the Department of Education and local community service providers to finalise a detailed project plan. The entire project will be co-designed

and co-produced to meet the identified need of the children and the school community.

Minister Donnelly added: "Children spend a significant amount of their time in the school environment, and this will further support them to flourish and thrive in their school community. New and innovative ways to support our children's wellbeing will help to build resilience and

improved mental health.

"I've been involved with Rachel on the 'It Takes A Village' campaign for the voluntary pact to keep smartphones out of primary schools in Greystones, as we know the very negative impacts on children's mental health from smartphone and social media use. I'm delighted that we are also able to provide a new and innovative mental health support in schools in



Minister for Health Stephen Donnelly.

North Wicklow with the impact of the pilot on

North Wicklow with the impact of the pilot on referral rates to other services within the county. An evaluation will be commissioned post pilot to examine the effectiveness of the programme and to determine the

impact of the pilot on referral rates to other services within the county. The evaluation will also assess the scalability and reproducibility of the project.

Blessington cancer survivor shares story to support call for increased education around early detection



Mary Keating Foundation breakfast briefing.

Cancer survivor Raymond Poole based in Blessington has spoken out about his own cancer diagnosis to support the Marie Keating Foundation 'Early Cancer Detection is Key' campaign. The Foundation is urging the Government to improve cancer outcomes by prioritising early detection in Ireland.

Raymond is an international project manager, keynote speaker and published author, and was diagnosed with an aggressive form of prostate cancer in 2016 aged 53. Due to early intervention and continuous monitoring of his bloods, Raymond received a very hopeful prognosis, but treatment has left him with severe side effects.

On average, 41,767 cancers or related tumours were diagnosed each year during 2019-2021. This is approximately 1 diagnosis every 15 minutes.

At a breakfast briefing last week, the Marie Keating Foundation called for

increased education around early cancer symptoms and the expansion of cancer screening programmes in Ireland. Lack of symptom awareness, long waiting lists, the impact of the pandemic, inequalities in access to treatment, an overcrowded health system and lack of screening programmes were cited at the breakfast briefing as contributory factors to why cancer patients in Ireland are not given the best chance of surviving cancer.

The Marie Keating Foundation is committed to being there for people and their families at every step of their cancer journey, providing

information, education and support services.

Speaking to the launch of the report, Marie Keating Foundation CEO Liz Yeates said, "Early diagnosis is essential to improving cancer survival rates. Ireland-specific data is lacking when it comes to early detection, but we also know from research in the UK that the health service could save millions in treatment costs and benefit many more patients if earlier diagnoses of cancer are made.

"Not only does early diagnosis of cancer offer increased chances of curative treatment, but it also leads to cost savings

for health and social care systems so it is critical that we place renewed pressure on the Government to act on the policy recommendations outlined in our Supporting Early Cancer Detection report that will transform cancer outcomes for people across Ireland."

The breakfast briefing was held at the Garden View restaurant at Bord Bia Bloom 2024 in Phoenix Park, where the Marie Keating Foundation had a show garden based on the same theme 'Early Cancer Detection is Key'. It was designed by award-winning landscape architect David Gallagher.

'Political priority must be given to expanding newborn babies screening programme for rare diseases

Sinn Féin TD John Brady has appealed to both serving Minister for Health Stephen Donnelly, and Taoiseach and former Minister for Health Simon Harris to put aside the political rhetoric and act immediately to address the suffering of the 200 plus babies born in Ireland every year suffering from a rare disease.



John Brady TD.

Many babies undiagnosed until their illness manifests itself at a later date, when much time that could have been spent addressing the illness has been lost. A simple and inexpensive screening process called the heel-prick test carried out on newborn children can identify a wide range of rare diseases. Ireland currently carries out less screenings of newborns for rare diseases than 75% of other European countries. Austria, Italy, Portugal and Russia test for a minimum of 30 conditions, while Slovakia, Ukraine, Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Finland, Denmark, Norway, Netherlands and Sweden screen newborn babies for a minimum of twenty rare diseases.

Deputy Brady said: "For over five years I have been pushing to get the heel-prick test for newborn babies expanded to the level of European norms. During that time, we have heard a lot of rhetoric, and have witnessed considerable political posturing from the government, but have witnessed next to nothing in terms of results. Over the tenure of two Wicklow Ministers for Health, first Simon Harris, and then Stephen Donnelly, the Newborn Bloodspot Screening (NBS) heel-prick test has only been expanded to include one more disease. Taking the total to nine here in Ireland, which is only a fraction of that elsewhere in Europe. In fact, it is less than 75% of European countries." Some 120 babies born annually are identified with one of the diseases screened for in the heel-prick tests. In the last five years, one solitary disease has been added to the Newborn Bloodspot Screening (NBS) heel-prick test, taking it from 8 to 9. Many European countries screen for a minimum of 30 diseases. Italy tests for 48 conditions."

Only 4% of teens meeting dietary guidelines

Although 98% of Irish adolescents consume dairy, a recent report from the Irish Universities Nutrition Alliance has revealed worryingly low intakes, with only 4% meeting the recommendations set out by the Department of Health's dietary guidelines.

On average, teenagers were found to consume just under 2 servings of dairy per day. However, the guidelines suggest 5 daily servings from the 'milk, yogurt and cheese' food group for those aged 9-18 years, due to higher calcium requirements during the teenage years, with 3 servings recommended for other age groups.

Speaking at The Nutrition Society Annual Congress held in Belfast, Lead researcher on the study, Dr Breige McNulty from University College Dublin, said "Consuming enough calcium and vitamin D during the teenage years is critical in helping our bodies to build strong bones for life. We were particularly concerned to see such high levels of inadequate intakes of these key bone nutrients. These nutrients are particularly important as we lay down our bone mass, with vitamin D needed to absorb calcium. It is important that teenagers consume a healthy, balanced diet to support this rapid phase of growth and development."

Almost 500 delegates from across the UK and Ireland attended the Congress earlier this month to

discuss and present the latest research in Nutrition Science.

The IUNA National Teens' Nutrition Survey assessed food and nutrient intakes in 428 teenagers aged 13-18 years across the Republic of Ireland. A sub-study was commissioned by the National Dairy Council to further explore the contribution of the 'milk, yogurt and cheese' food group to the nutritional quality of Irish teenagers' diets. Lead researcher Emma Kane said "Higher consumers of dairy had a significantly better-quality diet balancing all the necessary nutrients whilst having no difference in their body weight or BMI as compared to low dairy consuming teenagers. More than half of those surveyed were found to have inadequate intakes of calcium with 94% having inadequate vitamin D intake.

Intakes of fruit and vegetables were also low in this age group, while 'top shelf' foods such as 'biscuits, cakes and pastries' and 'sugars, confectionery, preserves and savoury snacks' accounted for 21% of calorie intake.



Martina Byrne and Maura Murphy at the Leinster Fleadh Cheoil in Wicklow Town

Fired Up!: A celebration of Irish and Greek ceramics

Signal Arts Centre, Sunday 11th August 3pm-5pm

Opening by Liz McManus. Runs until Sunday, 25th August

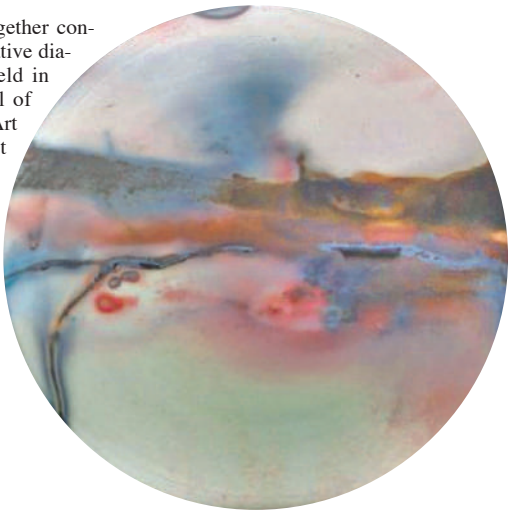
Following their presentation at St Carthage Cathedral in Lismore, Ireland in May-June 2024 and Loggos, Paxos in July 2024, eight prominent Irish ceramicists (Isobel Egan, Sinead Fagan, Jane Jermyn, Ann McBride, Marcus O'Mahony, Eileen Singleton, Kathleen Standen & Bernadette Tuite) will be exhibiting in the company of their Greek colleagues (Ilias Christopoulos, Mirka Drapaniotou, Manos Kalamenios, Haroula Koropoulis, Iosifina Kosma, Ifigenia Tsirou, & Giorgos Vavatsi) in The Courthouse Arts Centre.

The project for these three exhibitions - bringing together contemporary Greek and Irish ceramicists in a dynamic creative dialogue - was initiated last summer in an exhibition held in Paxos for the fifth edition of the annual Irish festival of Paxos - Irish Wings, 2023: "Irish and Greek Ceramic Art in Paxos" (Old Schoolhouse, Loggos, 14 July - 8 August 2023). Since 2017 the Irish Wings festival, under the direction of Kathryn Baird, has brought important Irish contemporary musicians, poets, writers and artists to Paxos in events and exhibitions attended every year by an enthusiastic international audience and by the Irish Ambassador to Greece.

This is a unique opportunity to discover the variety in form, texture, colour, technique and expressivity of contemporary Irish and Greek ceramics.

Exhibition curated by Chris Boicos and Jane Jermyn.

Exhibition Opening Hours
Tuesday to Saturday 10am - 4pm
Sundays 12pm - 4pm



Rónán Ó Snodaigh & Myles O'Reilly

Mermaid Arts Centre, Saturday 27th July. 8pm. €21 Full Price / €19 Concession Price. Duration: 1 hour 45 mins approx

Musicians Rónán Ó Snodaigh and Myles O'Reilly's second album *The Beautiful Road*, a soulful blend of folk, traditional, and ambient crossover follows the success of their debut album *Tá Go Maith*, which was warmly received by Irish audiences after its release in May 2020.

Pat Shortt & Mike Hanrahan: Songs of Ireland

Whale Theatre, Friday 13th September.
Production by The Short Comedy Theatre Company

On the back of Pat Shortt and Mike Hanrahan's very well received TV series "Songs of Ireland", recently aired on RTE 1. The show sees the pair take a musical road trip around the island of Ireland combining the richness of Irish music, culture and the camaraderie of shared stories. Now Pat and Mike have decided to take a live show throughout a limited number of venues in Ireland.

The show will feature the two musicians taking an eclectic musical tour through the nation's most beloved songs, putting their own twist on each of these prolific songs which have survived through the decades.

In some of the most intimate and iconic venues in Ireland, this limited tour is guaranteed to be a night of good music, chat and laughter.



Rónán and Myles have been showcasing their unique sound live to an ever-growing fan-base, touring sold out shows nationwide to enraptured audiences in February 2024.

In *The Beautiful Road* the pair set out to create a soothing listening experience by focusing on higher frequencies, inspired by the calming effects of nature, while also seeking to counter the increased levels of intrusive ambient 'white noise' caused by traffic, machinery, and other unpredictable sounds arising from the world's post pandemic return to frenzied norms. Rónán and Myles' unique sound and devoted friendship make for a truly magic live show not to be missed.



Rónán Ó Snodaigh and Myles O'Reilly



Film at Mermaid: That They May Face the Rising Sun (Cert: 12A)

22nd - 25th July. €10 Full Price / €8 Concession Price.
English with Open Captions.
Duration: 111 mins

Joe and Kate Ruttledge return from London to live in a small rural community. They quickly become close friends with many of the older men and women living in the area. Over the course of a year, Joe and Kate grapple with major life decisions, while also witnessing their neighbours' moments of joy, disappointment, conflict and loss.

Based on John McGahern's final novel and directed by acclaimed filmmaker Pat Collins (*Song of Granite*), *That They May Face The Rising Sun* is a beautifully bittersweet portrait of a very particular time and place. It's a perfectly-observed slice of life - full of humour and warmth, while also tenderly reflecting on the people and traditions that Ireland has lost.

'Spectre of emigration haunts the Arts sector in Ireland'

Sinn Féin TD John Brady has called for urgent action to ensure Ireland's Arts sector is not undermined by financial barriers and the growing threat of artists emigrating.

His comments came following the recent launch of the preliminary results of Sinn Féin's Arts Survey, in which over a thousand artists, arts workers and people who enjoy the arts across different art forms answered questions relating to barriers, facilities, state bodies and funding.

People across the country were invited to take part in the online survey in English or in Irish between 6th April and 30th April 2024 as part of a consultation process

aimed at developing a more comprehensive policy for the arts so that the sector has the best possible policies in place to enable it to thrive.

Key findings include that money is the key barrier to creating, performing or enjoying art for 4 of every 5 participants, almost three quarters are not satisfied with the arts facilities and spaces in their area, and a substantial majority say they or artists and arts workers they know are considering emigrating.

Deputy Brady said: "There were 1,123 people who gave their time to participate in our survey. These preliminary results make for stark reading and should be a wakeup call for everyone who wants to see Ireland's Arts sector flourish and thrive."

"The responses set out starkly what has been clear to artists and others in the Arts sector for some time now: the housing and cost of living crises, particularly in Wicklow, are significantly hampering the ability of artists and

arts workers to create and perform, and the spectre of emigration is haunting Irish arts. Meanwhile, struggling to find an affordable place in which to live is compounded by a lack of affordable spaces in which to work.

"It was damning that when our party questioned Arts Minister Catherine Martin recently if she had analysed the impact of the housing crisis on the arts or at least spoken with the Housing Minister about it over her four years in office, she had nothing to say. While the basic income and increased funding from the Arts Council are welcome,

they will not keep a roof over artists' heads when the vast majority of artists and arts workers receive no state funding whatsoever.

"We need action on housing, we need action on the cost of living, and we need a concrete plan to deliver suitable arts spaces and cultural infrastructure to communities up and down the country. We also need to take a serious look at how the arts are supported nationally, with one in five identifying bureaucracy and elitism as major barriers to art work, and more respondents describing their experience of the Arts Council,

other state bodies funding the arts, and the basic income for the arts as 'negative' than 'positive'. A substantial majority would rather have the basic income distributed based on financial need or merit than the current random lottery system.

"The results published represent the initial, preliminary results and we will be publishing more comprehensive findings in the coming months to discuss what needs to be done for the arts. Sinn Féin is committed to standing up for artists and the Arts sector to ensure that they get the support they need."



John Brady TD.

Delgany girl wins 'Get SunSmart!' art competition

The Minister for Public Health, Wellbeing and the National Drugs Strategy, Colm Burke TD has announced the winners of the third annual Get SunSmart! Children's Art Competition.

More than 1,000 entries were received across the four age categories for pre-school and primary school children. Following shortlisting by a panel, Chloe Forde from Delgany, was chosen as the overall winner in her pre-school category with judges commenting that they were 'very impressed with her art piece'. Chloe received an OPW Family Heritage Card, a Dublin Zoo Family Day pass, a National Book token worth £20 and a Healthy Ireland SunSmart Goodie Bag.

The nationwide competition for pre-school and primary school children is a Healthy Ireland initiative in collaboration with the Health Service Executive's National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) and is designed to educate young people about the importance of protecting their skin from the sun and reminding everyone to be SunSmart by following the 5Ss.

The SunSmart 5 Ss are:

- Slip on clothing that covers your skin such as wearing long sleeves, collared t-shirts.
- Slop on broad-spectrum (UVA/UVB) water resistant sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 30+ for adults and 50+ for children, with high UVA protection. Reapply regularly.
- Slap on a hat with a wide brim: Protect your face, ears and neck.
- Seek shade: Sit in cover of trees to avoid direct sunlight and use a sunshade on your buggy or pram. Keep babies and children out of direct sunlight.
- Slide on sunglasses to protect your eyes.



Film at Mermaid: The Iron Claw



Monday 5th August. 7pm. €10 Full Price / €8 Concession Price.
Language: English with Open Captions. Duration: 132mins

Texas, 1979. Former professional wrestler Fritz Von Erich now owns a wrestling company, and piles pressure on his four surviving sons - Kevin, David, Kerry and Mike - to become great athletes. Kevin and David are both set for major success in the wrestling ring. But as their careers blossom, a series of devastating tragedies leads Kevin to believe his family may be cursed.

Based on the extraordinary true story of the Von Erich wrestling dynasty, The Iron Claw is a richly-textured family and sporting drama. Elegantly directed by Sean Durkin (Martha Marcy May Marlene, The Nest), the film features several exceptional performances - with the ensemble cast capturing the highs and lows of this one family's gruelling emotional odyssey.



Ken Doyle and Simon Murphy at the Leinster Fleadh Cheoil in Wicklow Town.

New ‘Big Belly bins’ installed in Greystones Municipal District

Cllr Stephen Stokes has welcomed the installation of new Bigbelly bins in the Greystones Municipal District. Cllr Stokes had proposed at a District Council meeting that six new Bigbelly bins be purchased from the Councillors discretionary fund. Each Bigbelly bin is valued at around €5000 each.

However there is a discount for buying bins in bulk. Cllr Stokes stated: "To keep our streets and countryside clean, we must tackle litter. As such I am delighted to see these bins rolled out. The installation of additional Bigbelly bins across the district, marks a significant step towards improved waste management and environmental sustainability. They can collect and compact up to five times a normal bin."

The new Bigbelly bins are being placed in Delgany, Greystones, Kilcoole and Newcastle. Bigbelly Bins are advanced, solar-powered waste stations designed to optimise waste collection and reduce the environmental footprint. Cllr Stephen Stokes added: "The allocation of extra Bigbelly bins is a pivotal move towards making the Greystones Municipal District a cleaner and greener area. When fewer collections are required, it reduces operational costs, and lowers the carbon footprint."

The initiative is also aimed at promoting responsible waste disposal and recycling practices among residents. Residents are encouraged to take advantage of these new bins. This follows on from the recent Gum Litter Roadshow hosted in the Burnaby Park, Greystones. Cllr Stephen Stokes believes that the Greystones Municipal District should also pursue a recycling centre for the district.

Cllr Stokes concluded: "By investing around €30,000 into these new bins, it is a vote of confidence for waste management. This innovative technology not only enhances the efficiency of our waste management system but also aligns with our sustainability goals. I am committed to creating a healthier environment for our residents and future generations."



Cllr Stephen Stokes with one of the new bins in Delgany.



Dina Rizo at the Wicklow RNLI Open Day at Wicklow Harbour.

Volkswagen Golf celebrates 50th birthday

The iconic Volkswagen Golf has celebrated its 50th birthday. One of the greatest stories in automotive history began in March 1974 when Volkswagen began series production of the Golf in Wolfsburg, Germany.

By Martin McCarthy

It was a very important car for Volkswagen at the time, as the firm struggled to produce a model that could sell on the scale of the aging VW Beetle, the world's best-selling car in its day. The Beetle's robustness, clever and minimalist engineering (air cooling) and use of reliable Bosch electrics appealed to the over 20 million buyers around the world. The Beetle was assembled initially in Ballsbridge and later at MDL's Naas Road factory for the Irish market and for many years from 1950 - 1970 it was Ireland's best-selling car. Today, with more than 37 million units sold, the Golf itself has since become one of the most successful cars in the world. The first new Golf models began to arrive in dealers' showrooms from

July 1974. It was developed by Giorgio Giugiaro and Volkswagen Design and had to live up to lofty expectations. And it did so in every way: enjoying phenomenal success, the Golf quickly became a household name and a member of the family due to its reliability and versatility.

To celebrate this 50th anniversary, Volkswagen

has welcomed the new updated Golf, with prices starting from €32,680 in Ireland. In addition, a brand-new, limited, anniversary edition trim, 'Edition 50', has been added to the line-up.

Starting from €37,500, the 'Edition 50' trim comes with a host of new features that commemorate the Golf's golden anniversary. 'Edition 50' models, which are limited

in number, include a 3D-Plakette 50-year logo on the B-pillar, scuff plates with an 'Edition 50' year logo, leather-wrapped multi-function steering wheel with 50-year logo, 18-inch alloy wheels and a large, 12.9-inch touchscreen Navigation system.

Speaking on the 50-year anniversary of the Golf, Alan Bateson, director of Volkswagen Ireland

said: "We are very proud of the Golf's legacy in Ireland and the fact it has played such a pivotal role in Irish family life over many generations, offering reliability and versatility for our customers."

"We look forward to marking this milestone with a carefully crafted marketing campaign to celebrate 50 years of Golf in Ireland and welcome the addition of a special, limited 'Edition 50' trim that is sure to be a hit with customers."



The 50th anniversary VW Golf

APPLICATION TO WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL FOR A WASTE FACILITY PERMIT

Notice is hereby given in accordance with articles 7 and 8 of the waste management (facility and registration) regulations 2007 – 2015 as amended; that Sturdy Products Limited intends to apply for a Waste Facility Permit at, Blessington Industrial Estate, Blessington, Co. Wicklow to recycle end of life plastic products. The class of activity in accordance with the third and fourth schedule of the act is as follows, **principal activity R5 Recycling/Reclamation of other inorganic materials, R13 Storage of waste pending collection, Class 10 The recovery of waste.** The application for a waste facility permit will be made to Wicklow County Council within 10 working days of the date of this notice. A copy of the application for the waste facility permit will as soon as practicable after receipt by Wicklow County Council, be available for inspection or purchase at the waste management section, Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Station Road, Whitegates, Wicklow Town, during office hours (Monday-Friday: 9:00am to 5:00pm)

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

PLANNING

We, Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Douglas & Angela Evans seek Permission for a proposed extension to the rear with solar panels & rooflights, refurbishment of the existing side & rear extension, proposed loft conversion with dormer roofs, windows & rooflights and all associated site works at Mountainview, Friars Hill, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow A67 AW25. 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.

Ian Barton intends to apply for retention permission for development at 11 Dromont, Kindlestown Upper, Delgany, CO. Wicklow – A63 A977. The development will consist of: · Retention permission is sought for:- (a) Front Porch Extension; (b) Plan layout and elevational changes along with increase in footprint. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the planning authority, at Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Whitegates, Wicklow Town during its public opening hours. The planning application may also be viewed online at www.wicklow.ie, under planning online enquires. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the planning application. The planning authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions or may refuse to grant permission.

ATTENTION

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'Food from Our Farms' back on the menu at the 2024 Tinahely Show

The Food Tent is one of the main attractions at the Annual Tinahely Agricultural Show which takes place on Monday, August 5th this year.

Organisers said "We hope to welcome a record number of exhibitors who come mainly from County Wicklow and are dedicated to producing food

to the highest standard. There is, as always, a great variety of tasty gourmet foods and added to these this year we have Ki Ki Doughnuts with freshly made doughnuts which are cooked on site for the Show goers.

"We also hope to have Philip Tallon of Lacystown Apple Farm. He has a small orchard and his juices are made from chemically free grown apple which give the juice a delicious and distinctive flavour. This year we have Kinsale Mead which we look forward to welcoming to the Tent also. Many exhibitors will be doing tastings and are delighted to give advice on preparation and cooking methods.

"The beekeeper with his hive of bees always draws a crowd of people, young and old. The IFA Stand is a very important aspect of this Tent where people can get advice and help with every problem. This year the emphasis will be on social farming and there will be advisors in the tent to discuss all aspects of this with people.

"The IFA Farm Safety Competition, is held each year in the Tent and we want to acknowledge the valuable prizes sponsored by M.A. Healy & Sons Ltd and also the sponsorship received from FBD Insurances. The Judging takes place during the morning with the Presentation of Cups and Plaques in the early afternoon.

"There is much to see and do this year at the Tinahely Show and a visit to The Food from Our Farms Tent is definitely not to be missed."



The team behind the Food From Our Farms exhibit at the Tinahely Agricultural Show

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. B.H.

Grant awarded to Old Dublin Society

Cataloguing Society's collection is good news for anyone with an interest in local history

The Old Dublin Society is delighted to share some good news with everyone who has an interest in local history and heritage in Ireland. The Heritage Council has agreed to award a grant, under the Community Grant Scheme, towards the cost of cataloguing a collection of c.700 books. This enables them to be made widely available for reference by historians, students and everyone who is interested in finding out more about an aspect of their heritage and surroundings.

The Old Dublin Society was founded in 1934 - the first local history society in Dublin -

to promote the study of history and archaeology, particularly relating to the City and County of Dublin. One of its principal objects has been to assemble a collection of books, documents and other records which have a historical interest. For many years the Society was based in the former City Assembly House in South William St. - many of you will remember the Civic Museum there, which was a joint venture with Dublin Corporation.

In a statement, the Old Dublin Society said "The City Assembly House had become structurally unsound by the early 2000s; the Civic Museum was closed and the Old Dublin Society had to make new arrangements. The Royal Dublin Society agreed to house the library collection and the catalogue was upgraded to international professional standards. "In the intervening years, donations of suitable books have been accepted from members of Old Dublin Society

and, in 2020, a very substantial donation was accepted from one particular donor.

Work has now started on the cataloguing of all these donations and the creation of an integrated catalogue of about 1,500 books.

"This catalogue will be completed and made available online by autumn 2024, enabling them to be within reach of everyone. The result will be a unique collection of books mainly relating to the history and heritage of Dublin -

all in one catalogue and under one roof i.e. The Old Dublin Society Collection, housed in Royal Dublin Society library.

"Access to the Collection will be available to everyone through the RDS Library & Archive catalogue which is freely available to the public via the RDS website <https://library.rds.ie> or through a link in the Library & Archive section of <https://old-dublinsociety.ie/>

"The Old Dublin Society is extremely

grateful to the Heritage Council for this funding when the work has been awarded. The Old Dublin Society will announce the finalised."

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