

COUNTYWISE

Nuachtlitir Chomhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin
Newsletter of Wicklow County Council
Earrach/Spring 2018



NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTY



plus
SNOW HEROES
NEW WEB PORTAL
WEST WICKLOW FESTIVALS
NEW PLAY FACILITIES
€6.5M SICAP CONTRACTS SIGNED



WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL SAYS THANK YOU

Wicklow County Council wishes to say thank you to everyone who helped tackle the after effects of the recent unprecedented weather conditions experienced as a result of the “Beast from the East” and “Storm Emma”.

While the heavy snowfalls resulted in serious impacts and inconvenience for residents, businesses and everyone across the county, it also resulted in a remarkable display of community and co-operative spirit.

In the face of very demanding conditions people still came out to help their neighbours and the community in general by helping to clear snow and ice from footpaths, driveways etc and to ensure that the more vulnerable amongst us were taken care of.

The Council would like most sincerely to thank everyone involved in what was a huge logistical and on-the-ground response to some of the worst weather conditions experienced in Wicklow for generations.

The Chief Executive and the Cathaoirleach mentioned, in particular:

- **The Council’s outdoor and indoor staff**
- **Wicklow Fire Service**
- **Wicklow Civil Defence**
- **Gardai**
- **The Army**
- **Ambulance Service and HSE staff**
- **The Farming Community**
- **Local Residents and Communities**
- **Wicklow Mountain Rescue**
- **Coastguard**
- **ESB Crews**
- **Plant Hire Contractors**
- **National and Local Media**

The Chief Executive and the Cathaoirleach are particularly grateful for the contribution made by so few on behalf of so many.



Chief Executive of
Wicklow County Council
Frank Curran



Cathaoirleach
Councillor Edward Timmins

NEW WEB PORTAL FOR WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Everything you need to know about Wicklow County Council is available on the revamped Wicklow County Council website – wicklow.ie.

The new Web Portal is designed to help people find the information they want as easily as possible and to provide them with the best possible experience as they navigate around the site.

It also communicates the “Endless Opportunities” Wicklow Brand throughout, giving it a fresh new image.

The three main areas of the site are:

- Living in Wicklow
- Business in Wicklow
- Visit Wicklow

The *Living* area provides people with whatever Wicklow County Council information they might need: whether it is in relation to services or to the Council itself.

The *Business* part of the site is for those doing business in the County already and also those who would like to find out about establishing a business in Wicklow. It provides information in relation to Business in Wicklow, Business Supports and the Film and Maritime areas.

Visit Wicklow provides information about our beautiful County to visitors and residents who wish to enjoy life in Wicklow to the full.

Whether you chose to access what’s on offer in each or all of these areas, Wicklow County Council wants you to enjoy your journey through the new Web Portal and find the information that you need easily.

www.wicklow.ie



HOUSING ADAPTATION GRANTS

The following grants are available to those with mobility and health issues.

Scheme Name	Maximum Amount	Purpose (typical examples)
Mobility Aid Grant	€6,000	Stairlifts (straight or curved), level access showers, ceiling hoists, ramps and handrails.
Housing Adaptation Grant	€30,000	Ground floor bathroom and bedroom, widening of doorways, etc.
Housing Aid to Older People Grant	€8,000	Roof repairs, electrical re-wiring, installation of heating where none exists, sanitary services etc.



CURVED STAIRLIFT



LEVEL ACCESS SHOWER



RAMP & HANDRAILS

Application forms are available from the Housing Section at County Buildings or by telephone at 0404-20120. Eligibility will depend on household income. An Occupational Therapist may also have to assess the applicant. Applications will be prioritised on medical need.

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS WITHIN ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



New lighting installed on the 19 Arches Bridge in Arklow Town which is the longest handmade stone bridge in Ireland.



Arklow Municipal District receive an award from Chamber Ireland for commemorating the 100th birthday and birthplace of artist George Campbell RHA (1917 – 1979).



ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT NEWS



Representatives from Arklow Shipping & Servier presenting cheques to the Cathaoirleach of Arklow Municipal District towards the Ronnie Delany Fund.

ARKLOW TOWN TEAM MARK INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BY CELEBRATING KATE TYRRELL

Arklow woman Kate Tyrrell was celebrated as the town marked International Women's Day.

Ms Tyrrell was born in Arklow, second of four daughters born to Edward and Elizabeth Tyrrell, and blazed a trail as the first female ship's captain. Arklow Town Team decided that the fiery and charismatic Arklow woman and her love of life at sea and working on ships should be celebrated.

Her father had a shipping company that imported and exported goods between Ireland and Wales. From childhood Kate could be found around the shipyard learning her father's trade and it became clear that she would be his obvious successor.

He promised her that one day she would be the owner of her own ship and in 1885 her father purchased a 62-ton schooner called the "Denbighshire Lass" from Wales which Kate captained on its way back home to Arklow. A strong will meant she would fulfil the role she most wanted by becoming the first woman to be called Captain.



CONTRACTS SIGNED FOR 7 SOCIAL HOUSING UNITS IN ARKLOW



Wicklow County Council signed contracts with the Coyne Group to commence the conversion of the former Arklow Library on St Mary's Road into seven social housing units.

TOWN AND VILLAGE RENEWAL SCHEME

Rathdrum's Market Square was given a boost at the end of March as an eye-catching piece of artwork was unveiled in the town centre.

The sculpture of a man sitting on a bench with his dog by his side was created by Ellie McNamara, inspired by students from local schools and funded by the Town and Village Renewal Scheme. Fianna Fáil leader Micheál Martin was among those to admire the sculpture when he visited Rathdrum on Thursday the 29th March with Deputy Pat Casey and Councillor Pat Kennedy during his tour of County Wicklow.

In order to come up with a design for the sculpture, students from the four local schools were asked to submit drawings under the theme 'Fair Day in Rathdrum'. In total €100,000 was granted to Rathdrum, (plus €20,000 from Wicklow County Council) a condition of which was that a large portion was to be used for an artistic feature to be placed in a most prominent position in the town. Inspired by the drawings, local sculptor Ellie McNamara created a scale model which was put on display for public consultation and received an overwhelmingly positive response.



CONTRACT SIGNED FOR BRAY'S FLORENTINE CENTRE



Wicklow County Council and Oakmount have signed a contract which will see the development of a new Town Centre on the Florentine site located on Bray's Main Street.

Designed to exceptional architectural standards, the development will include two large retail anchors, eight medium size retail stores, several high-quality restaurants, a modern cinema and parking, and will undoubtedly reinvigorate the heart of Bray.



BEST CONNECTED COMMUNITY

Bray.ie has been crowned the 'Best Connected Community' in the Community and Council Awards. The awards recognise and celebrate community and councils working together. The awards are presented by IPB Insurance and LAMA.



ALL IRELAND DRAMA FESTIVAL



CARNEW TAKING CENTRE STAGE

Baltinglass Municipal District is delighted to support the South Wicklow Drama Festival Committee in hosting the All Ireland Drama Festival in April. The Festival will be hosted in Carnew with St. Brigid's Hall as the venue for nine nights of the best plays from around Ireland. The Festival will run from the 13th to the 21st of April and is the first time in the festival's 60-year history that a venue in County Wicklow will have the privilege of hosting the finals.

An exciting and busy time lies ahead for the South Wicklow Drama Festival Committee who are working hard in preparation for the event. The Festival heralds a real opportunity for Carnew to showcase everything that is good in the area. Visiting groups and their supporters will be encouraged to stay in the local area and avail of the local services and amenities. St Brigid's Hall will hold over 300 people each night, and after the drama, a Festival Club will be held each night in a local establishment.

The members of Baltinglass Municipal District were impressed by a presentation made by the South Wicklow Drama Festival and look forward to enjoying the fruits of its labour in April.





Baltinglass Municipal District is delighted to support the West Wicklow Festival to be held in historic Russborough House and St. Mary's Church, Blessington from May 17th to May 20th 2018.

Audiences can look forward to an exciting programme of internationally renowned artists performing over the four dates. In partnership with the National Concert Hall. There will also be a free Family Concert with additional free musical activities for children on the Estate.

The artistic programme for 2018 features internationally acclaimed clarinet virtuoso Julian Bliss, principal cellist of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Philip Higham, the award winning Benyounes Quartet, renowned Irish baritone Garvan Ring and the Festival's Founder and Artistic Director, Irish pianist Fiachra Garvey. Fiachra grew up in Ballyknockan on the Blessington lakes and although he is now a world class pianist of international renown he has retained his strong connection to his home town and established his own festival in his native County in 2017.

In addition to bringing world class artists to West Wicklow and supporting talented Irish musicians, the Festival also contributes to the local economy and enhances the cultural landscape of the West Wicklow region. Tickets are now on sale from www.westwicklowfestival.com



Benyounes Quartet

WEST WICKLOW HERITAGE TRAILS LAUNCH



Three new Heritage Brochures for West Wicklow were launched by the Baltinglass Municipal District of Wicklow County Council on Tuesday March 13th in Baltinglass Courthouse. The trails are: Lakeside Heritage Trail, South West Wicklow Heritage Trail and the West Wicklow Heritage Trail.

Each trail has been designed to showcase the wealth of heritage available to visit in West Wicklow in a driving or cycling circuit, highlighting archaeological sites, historical points of interest, natural areas and the many villages along the way, each with its own story to tell.

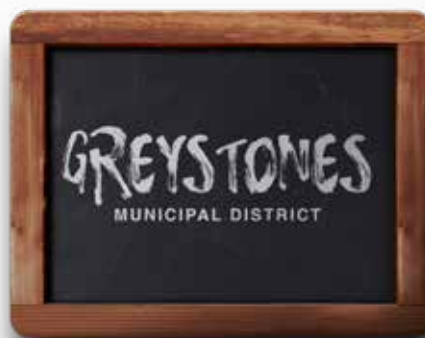
The Heritage Trails are a joint initiative of Baltinglass Municipal District and the Heritage Officer of Wicklow County Council as an action of the County Wicklow Heritage Plan.

The compilation of information for the brochures was co-ordinated by Deirdre Burns, Heritage Officer, Wicklow County Council, in association with local individuals, the Lakeside Heritage Group and the West Wicklow Historical Society and "Active Me" tourism.

The Heritage Trail Brochures will be available at Tourist Offices and Baltinglass Municipal District Offices in Blessington. For more about Our Wicklow Heritage visit www.countywicklowheritage.org. For more about visiting County Wicklow see www.visitwicklow.ie



GREYSTONES TIDY TOWNS



Every Cup Counts! Greystones

Please join in and help
the environment. Let's work towards
a plastic free Greystones.



Choose

the **GREEN** option
and use a reusable cup.



Reusable cup campaign by Greystones Tidy Towns

Supported by **SuperValu**

Members of **Conscious Cup Campaign**

www.greystonescupscount.ie

[facebook.com/greystonestidytowns](https://www.facebook.com/greystonestidytowns) [@greystonestidyt](https://twitter.com/greystonestidyt)

Staff in Greystones Municipal District have been working in partnership with Greystones Tidy Towns volunteers to develop wildlife habitats and reduce waste. Two recent initiatives include the development of Bug Hotels and the Reusable Cup Campaign. Bug Hotels provided by Greystones Men's Shed will be erected along Rathdown Road, where flowers and shrubs have been planted to provide habitats and nesting sites, food and berries for birds and insects. The Reusable Cup Campaign has been developed with the support of local businesses to encourage customers to purchase individual cups for re-use. It is intended to roll out the scheme to local schools to encourage pupils to re-use drinks bottles.

WORLD CLASS GOLFER

PAUL DUNNE



World class golfer and winner of the 2017 British Masters, Greystones native Paul Dunne, was honoured with a Civic Reception in Greystones Golf Club in recognition of his outstanding achievements in golf.

PEOPLE OF THE YEAR



Preparations are taking place for the Greystones Municipal District People of the Year gala presentation night which will be held in Greystones Golf Club on Thursday 24th of May. The awards honour people in the district who have contributed to and promoted sport, culture, community and economic activity in the town.



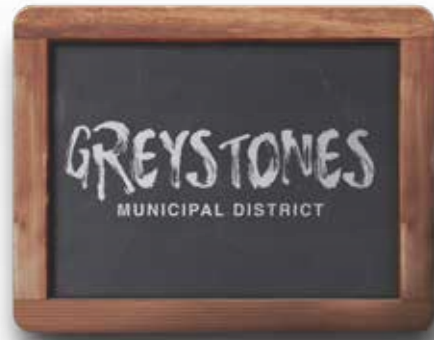
DID YOU KNOW?

Turn down your room thermostats. Aim for 18-20°C in your living room and 15-18°C in your bedroom. That is as good as the average highest temperatures in July and August in Ireland in the living room!



Councillor Derek Mitchell receiving the chain of office, from outgoing Cathaoirleach Councillor Gerry Walsh following his recent election as Cathaoirleach of Greystones Municipal District.

KILCOOLE WALKWAYS



The Greystones Municipal District Office in cooperation with a private landowner and Kilcoole Walkways successfully secured the public right of way of The Sally Walk, part of the Kilcoole to Kilquade Mass Path. This entailed the erection of a fence along by the hedgerow boundary of the field, thereby allowing the public unhindered access through the field from the back of the old convent wall through to the Kilquade Road and keeping them separated from livestock which graze in the field. This work further enhances the walks in Kilcoole being developed by Kilcoole Walkways and Wicklow County Council, see <http://www.kilcoole.ie/walks/> for further information



2018 PLANNED ROAD WORKS

Greystones Municipal District will carry out road resurfacing works at the following locations in 2018

- R762 Mill Road, Greystones
- R761 South of Newcastle village
- L10482 Sylvan Lawns, Kilcoole
- L5041 Old Downs Road, Willow Grove
- L50501 Church Lane, Newcastle.
- L10280 Glenbrook Park
- L99616 Seamount Drive, Newcastle
- L5049 Kilmullen Lane, Newcastle



WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT NEWS



Several projects will avail of public funding from the Wicklow Discretionary Fund 2018.

At the February meeting of the Wicklow Municipal District the members allocated €2,300 to the Wicklow Town St Patricks Day Committee to fund the cost of the Road Closure and also a contribution towards the running costs of the 2018 Parade. There is also extra footfall in the town on the day and local businesses benefit.

TOWN TWINNING

Funding of €4,200 was allocated to the Wicklow Town Twinning committee which will be used to fund future exchanges between the twinned towns of Portmadog, Montigny and Eichenzell.

Montigny and Eichenzell were well represented in Wicklow for the St. Patrick's Day Parade as over 50 visitors from these twinned towns were visiting for the weekend and Eichenzell Brass Band took part again in the Wicklow Town Parade.

The Wicklow Municipal District Members are fully supportive of the great work and effort the Tidy Town Committees put into enhancing the appearance of the towns and villages in their district and were happy to allocate the following funds:

Newtownmounkennedy & District Tidy Towns Assoc.	€1000
Wicklow Tidy Towns Committee	€5000
Glenealy Tidy Towns Committee	€1000
Rathnew Active Forum	€1000
Laragh Tidy Towns Committee	€1000
Roundwood Tidy Town Committee	€1000
Ashford Tidy Town Committee	€1000



Wicklow County Council has recently acquired the former Ulster Bank building on Wicklow Main Street for development as a quality library and county archive. O'Connell Mahon Architects will lead up the project. Contracts were recently signed between Wicklow County Council and O'Connell Mahon Architects.

DID YOU KNOW?

Install attic insulation or upgrade the existing insulation, as you may be losing 25% of heat through your roof. Grants are available from Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) for insulation - www.seai.ie/grants/home-grants/better-energy-homes/

LOCAL PARTNERSHIP COMPANIES WIN CONTRACTS WORTH €6.5M FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION

Wicklow Local Community Development Committee (LCDC), in conjunction with Wicklow County Council, is pleased to announce the successful outcome of the tendering competition for the Department of Rural & Community Development's Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018-2022. Bray Area Partnership based on Quinsboro Road, Bray, in conjunction with consortium partners Bray Community Enterprise and Bray Family Resource & Development Project based in Fassaroe, successfully bid to be the programme implementers for the Bray and Greystones Municipal District areas. Co. Wicklow Partnership based in the Bridgewater Centre, Arklow successfully bid to be the programme implementer for the Arklow, Wicklow and Baltinglass Municipal District areas. Both of these organisations have vast experience in the specialist area of social inclusion and have run similar programmes over the past two decades.

On Wednesday March 28th the SICAP 2018-2022 contracts were signed into effect in the Council Chamber by Cllr. Gráinne McLoughlin Chairperson LCDC, Frank Curran Chief Executive Wicklow County Council, Michael Nicholson Chief Officer LCDC, and the CEOs and Board Chairpersons of each of the Partnerships, Peter Brennan and John O'Brien on behalf of Bray Area Partnership and Brian Carty and Tom Gregan on behalf of Co. Wicklow Partnership.

SICAP is a key government programme replicated across the country to reduce poverty and strengthen marginalised communities. The programme provides national funding for local actions to tackle social exclusion, with the responsibility on the local programme implementers to design and deliver the most appropriate types of interventions, initiatives and projects for the most disadvantaged individuals and community groups in their area. If you require further information on the programme please contact Bray Area Partnership at www.brayareapartnership.ie and Co. Wicklow Partnership at www.wicklowpartnership.ie





Rising star Moe Dunford was on hand to open the 'Vikings in Focus' photo exhibition at the Mermaid Arts Centre in Bray. This is an exhibition of spectacular 'behind the scenes' photo stills taken on the set of internationally acclaimed television series 'Vikings' by official photographers Jonathan Hession and Bernard Walsh.

Moe Dunford took some time out of his busy schedule promoting his latest film 'Black 47' to declare this unique exhibition open to the public. The launch was also attended by Morgan O'Sullivan producer of 'Vikings', costume designer Joan Bergin, award winning film hairdresser Dee Corcoran and many other 'Vikings' crew. All were blown away by the spectacular pictures, blown up to a square meter, showcasing the talent of the crew working on this award winning series.

This exhibition offers a rare glimpse into the world of photographers Jonathan Hession and Bernard Walsh, who were the official still photographers on the first two series.



MOE DUNFORD OPENS SHOWCASE 'VIKINGS' EXHIBITION



The exhibition was supported by Wicklow County Council, World 2000 Entertainment and Mermaid Arts Centre.

FIRE SAFETY AT HOME



**FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS
TO KEEP YOUR HOME
SAFE FROM FIRE.**

Living / Sitting Room

Use a sparkguard in front of open fires
Clean the chimney regularly – recommended twice a year.

Don't overload sockets – plug out appliances that are not being used rather than using a number of extension leads.

If you live in an old house with very few sockets, employ a qualified electrician to install additional sockets if required.

Take care with portable heaters – keep a safe distance away from curtains, furnishings and

Take care with candles – **NEVER** leave them unattended and place on a non-combustible surface (e.g. metal, glass or delph plate) – make sure and blow them out before leaving the room.

Smokers!! – Extinguish cigarettes properly and empty the ashtrays

Keep matches out of childrens' reach.



Kitchen

Provide a Fire Extinguisher / Fire Blanket – these only cost a few euro and may be purchased in supermarket or DIY stores around the county.

Turn off all electrical appliances after use – e.g. Cookers, Toasters, Sandwich Makers, Juicers, etc.

Turn handles of pots on cooker inwards while cooking – avoids anybody knocking against them and getting badly burnt.

Keep the cooker clean – avoids build up of grease and oil.

Take extreme care with chip pans – **NEVER** leave them unattended.

Bedroom

Close all doors at night – especially the kitchen and living room doors - this stops fire spreading throughout the house and protects the escape route out of the house to give people time to escape.

Electric Blankets – check them regularly for wear or damage.

NEVER SMOKE IN BED!!!!

Around the Home

Install smoke alarms to give early warning of fire – a minimum of 2 is recommended for most homes.

Test smoke alarms regularly – at least once per week.

All flammable materials such as paints, solvents, adhesives (glues) and chemicals should be stored outside the house – e.g. in the garden shed.

Avoid the build-up of newspapers and refuse in storage areas – clear out regularly – avoids providing fuel for fire.

20th VOLVO ROUND IRELAND RACE 2018



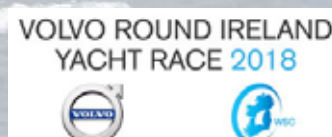
In June 2018, Wicklow County Council is delighted to welcome the **20th Volvo Round Ireland Race**. Currently, the Marine Officers of Wicklow County Council are assisting Wicklow Sailing Club to prepare for this international event, which takes place every two years in Wicklow Harbour. This international yacht race has the support of the whole town, giving the famous 'Warm Wicklow Welcome'.

The competitors will have pre-race preparations in Wicklow Harbour on the Thursday and Friday before the race. These focus on safety equipment checks, navigators planning and stocking of boats with provisions for a weeks journey.

There will be a festival atmosphere for the weekend with music events and family fun at the Black Castle and stalls along the South Quay.

Volvo have generously sponsored this race, including an amazing prize of a trip to one of the finishing stages of the Volvo Ocean Race. See website www.roundireland.ie for competition details.

The race will commence at 2pm Saturday, 30th June. The start is a wonderful spectacle, with colourful sails and racing yachts fighting for a place on the start line.



MAKING WICKLOW AN ACCESSIBLE AND INCLUSIVE COUNTY



In 2017, Wicklow County Council announced it was leading the way in making Wicklow a more inclusive place for people with disabilities. Wicklow County Council enlisted the support of Laura English, a Community Worker with Disability Federation of Ireland (DFI).



Wicklow4all Workshops

At the end of 2017, public meetings were held in Bray, Arklow and Blessington to identify issues most affecting people with disabilities.

Support from the Public Participation Network, County Wicklow Partnership and Bray Area Partnership ensured the events ran smoothly.

Priorities identified included:

- Invest in repairing and dishing footpaths,
- Improve access to public transport for people with disabilities
- Work with business owners to make their buildings more accessible
- Create more opportunities for young people with disabilities to participate in sports

Representative Groups

Participants in the workshops were clear that they didn't want the events to be "talking shops". In an effort to ensure progress is made on the issues discussed, a number of attendees agreed to come together and establish representative committees in their area. Groups meet in Bray, Arklow and Blessington and are still open to new members. Anyone wishing to become involved, please contact Lauraenglish@disability-federation.ie or 086 8206736.



Disability Awareness Training

Training was delivered to Wicklow County Council staff from across all departments. A second round of training will be scheduled this year. Tutors at the Kildare Wicklow Education and Training Board (KWETB) also participated in training and had an opportunity to ask questions about how they could adapt their classes to better suit the needs of students with disabilities.



Sports Inclusion Workshops

The Disability Access Officer teamed up with Wicklow Local Sports Partnership to hold Inclusive Sports Workshops in the North, South and West of the county in February and March of this year. The purpose of the workshops was to bring representatives from local sports clubs and parents of children with disabilities together, to identify the barriers that prevent children with disabilities participating in local summer and mid-term break camps (and in the activities of clubs more generally). Follow up actions will be identified in April.

DID YOU KNOW?

If you've got long curtains in your rooms, make sure they're not covering a radiator when they're drawn. Keep curtains drawn at night in every room to stop heat escaping from the window.

Accessible Tourism

In February, the support of the Blessington Forum was sought to launch an accessible tourism pilot project in the area. The project will be based on the tried and tested 'Goldstar' project, currently running in Cashel, County Tipperary. It aims to support local businesses, services and community groups to apply for 'Goldstar' status, which indicates they have met a certain accessibility standard.

Accessibility will be judged in broad terms – for example, if you are a small independent café without an accessible toilet, which provides menus in large print and braille, this will be acknowledged. More updates about this project will follow in the next edition of Countywise!

Make Way 2017 initiative identified the top five serial offences as:

- Parked cars on footpaths (25%)
- Sandwich boards on the footpath outside business premises (18%)
- Bikes/mopeds chained to lamp-posts/railings (16%)
- Wheelie bins on footpaths outside residential driveways (14%)
- Greenery (hedges, trees, bushes etc.) which is overgrown and impeding footpaths etc. (10%)

If you would like to get involved in Make Way Day 2018, or any of the projects mentioned above, please get in touch with:

Lauraenglish@disability-federation.ie or 086 820 6736.



INCREASE IN FINES FOR PARKING IN A DISABLED PARKING BAY



There has been substantial increase in fines for parking in a disabled parking bay without displaying a valid permit.

The Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport has raised the fixed charge from €80 to €150 with effect from Thursday 1st March 2018.

WICKLOW LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE FOOD ACADEMY PROGRAMME

Wicklow County Campus was a foodies paradise in February as Wicklow Food and drink producers made their pitch for a listing on SuperValu shelves to the Musgraves /SuperValu buying team.

All of the food producers presenting their wares are graduates of the 2017/2018 Local Enterprise Office Food Academy Programme run in conjunction with Bord Bia and SuperValu. Food Academy is a tailored programme that provides new and early-stage food business owners with a solid foundation to progress confidently onto retail shelves.

The nine Food Academy graduates, food and beverage producers from all over Wicklow, have participated in a number of workshops and mentoring sessions since September of last year. During those workshops the companies have developed an in-depth knowledge of the tools which can be used to access market background. They have examined the core technical issues facing their food or drink business and have learned how to grow sales for their product range through better branding and packaging design.

Crucially SuperValu also provides successful participants with the opportunity to trial their product in Wicklow stores for a period of 12 weeks. This provides a real advantage to small businesses in terms of real retail learnings, as they are in a position to liaise with the store to gain feedback on their product from both the store staff and consumers. Such learnings will help the producer to

further develop their product, marketing approach, packaging and distribution.

So look out for a selection of products in your local SuperValu store from the end of May 2018. The products include **ROHAN'S SAUCES** – a range of homemade pasta sauces using a high quantity of vegetables with no salt, sugar or artificial preservatives, the **NUTRIQUICK** range of nutritionally balanced ready made meals, **MELODY STREET FOODS** Mayo and Spicy sauces handmade in small batches with natural ingredients, **COOLATTIN RAW MILK CHEDDAR** direct from the farm, **LE PAYSAN** range of handmade Pates - Vegetarian and Chicken liver options, and for an authentic Indian meal try cooking with **SUKKI'S INDIA MASALA** Spice and Pankora mix.

What better accompaniment to delicious food than a refreshing beverage. SuperValu will also soon be stocking the refreshing **MONT LAGER** from Manor Kilbride in addition to the **WICKLOW BREWERY** range of Craft beers and for those who prefer the non alcoholic option. Check out **COCORIDGE COCONUT WATER** as a revitalising alternative.

If you have a food business and would like to learn more about the Supports available from the Local Enterprise Office, please email Business Advisor Annette Rowsome on arowsome@leo.wicklowcoco.ie



Mega Trend Seminar the highlight of Local Enterprise Week

Entrepreneurs and business owners came out in great numbers to hear all about the mega trends that are shaping our future lives and the way we do business during Local Enterprise Week.

During an event packed week, the flagship seminar on Mega Trends, which took place on Wednesday 7th March, attracted a full house, with over seventy participants eager to find out how to drive the growth of their businesses by knowing what the future will look like and applying market analysis.

Renowned international speaker Iain Jawad, of global growth consulting company, Frost & Sullivan, presented the participants with tools to assist them in building new opportunities through market research and information on mega trends such as urbanization, new modes of transport, connectivity and convergence.

Local Enterprise Week is a collaboration on a local and national scale between Local Enterprise Offices (LEO), local business communities, Government Departments, other units within Local Authorities, and State support agencies. The focus of the week is to increase awareness of the range of LEO supports and services available to micro and small enterprises.

Speaking about the week in Wicklow, Head of Enterprise Sheelagh Daly said “Local Enterprise week is a great opportunity for us to highlight the services we offer to the business community in County Wicklow. By embracing this rare opportunity to hear about mega trends, SMEs in County Wicklow are proving to be tech savvy and innovative, two key elements to staying successful in business. We want to encourage more businesses to engage with us and explore how we can support and grow their business into the future.”

Over 200 local business people engaged in activities organised by the Local Enterprise Office Wicklow over the course of the Local Enterprise Week, many of whom will continue to get follow up advice/ training and support for their businesses into the future.


Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil
Local Enterprise Office



Sheelagh Daly, Head of Enterprise, Local Enterprise Office Wicklow and guest speaker Iain Jawad, Frost & Sullivan



EUROPEAN YEAR OF CULTURAL HERITAGE MAKE A CONNECTION



2018 is the European Year of Cultural Heritage (EYCH) and across Europe a range of different events, activities and initiatives are underway to showcase the importance of heritage to us. Here in Ireland the Heritage Council is the national coordinator of the EYCH and has adopted the theme of 'Make a Connection'. This theme aims to deepen the connection between people and heritage, and build a legacy of increased public engagement.

In keeping with the year, a calendar of events is being developed covering a range of different undertakings such as education and awareness-raising campaigns; festivals, conferences, studies, surveys, training and workshops; research activities; performances, exhibitions, shows and much more.

One of the initiatives under the EYCH, that may be of particular interest to Wicklow, is a pan-European event taking place over the June Bank Holiday weekend 2018. This is the Rendez-vous aux Jardins weekend or Meet in the Garden, where gardens are opened up to the public and a range of activities taking place.

Objectives include awareness raising on many issues (natural heritage, biodiversity, sustainable development, etc.) and organisers are encouraged to get creative by organising different activities such as concerts, guided tours and other such events. The Friday is geared primarily towards school-goers and Saturday and Sunday, geared towards the wider public.

Gardens and parks nationwide are asked to arrange cultural heritage events and activities for the June Bank Holiday Weekend 2018. All garden owners are being asked to get involved.

Other priorities for Wicklow will include exploring our existing European connections in areas such as our town twinings, Natura Sites for wildlife conservation, Pilgrim paths, Early Christian and Viking heritage and discovering new Wicklow connections throughout Europe, whether geographic or thematic.



"The European Year of Cultural Heritage is an excellent opportunity to showcase how heritage can benefit from research and innovation."

Commissioner Tibor Navracsics

All interested groups and individuals are being encouraged to get involved by reading more, and registering their event on www.eych2018.com. EYCH events must achieve one or more of the objectives of the EYCH and as such, encourage people to explore Europe's rich and diverse cultural heritage; celebrate, understand and protect its unique value and/or reflect on the place that cultural heritage occupies in all our lives.

Only registered and approved events will be permitted to use the European Year of Cultural Heritage Logo. If you have an idea that you wish to discuss more please contact Deirdre Burns, Heritage Officer at: dburns@wicklowcoco.ie or Tel: 0404 20100.



New Pollinator Animation: Making the Garden County Bloom

Ever wondered what makes Wicklow so beautiful? What really makes the Garden County bloom is our pollinating insects. Ireland has 99 different bee species: one Honeybee, 21 Bumblebees, and 77 solitary bee species. Together they pollinate our flowers hedgerows, trees, and our food crops, making an enormous contribution to our wealth, health and quality of life. Key fruit species such as apples, pears, strawberries, tomatoes and blackberries and food crops such as oilseed rape and clover would not exist without bees for pollination.

Unfortunately our bees are in trouble. Since 1980, more than half of Ireland's bee species have suffered huge declines and today one third of our 99 species are threatened with extinction. Key problems faced are lack of food, lack of shelter (habitat loss) and the use of pesticides.



The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan was launched in 2015 to address these issues. Wicklow County Council and local authorities, state agencies and partners across Ireland are all working on a targeted set of actions to create landscapes where pollinators can survive and thrive.

There are small things that we all can do that will make a huge difference, these include;

- Reduce mowing
- Let dandelions and clover bloom
- Allow hedgerows to flower.
- Reduce pesticide use;
- Plant pollinator-friendly plants

The Heritage Office of Wicklow County Council together with Kildare County Council and Biodiversity Ireland have teamed up with funding from the Creative Ireland programme to produce a short animated film highlighting the role of pollinators and how we can all help.

.....
Please watch, like and share to spread the word:
www.wicklow.ie/www.countywicklowheritage.org
or visit www.pollinators.ie for a series of practical guidelines tailored for gardeners, farmers,



PARKRUN

Parkruns are free timed runs for adults and children. Adult Parkruns take place every Saturday at 9.30am and cover 5KM. Junior Parkruns take place every Sunday at 9.30am and cover 2km. Participants can walk, run or jog and the event is managed by volunteers.

Where are the Wicklow Parkruns?

Wicklow currently has 2 parkruns: Russborough Parkrun in Blessington and Bray Junior parkrun.



Where next?

Wicklow Local Sports Partnership is in the process of setting up a new parkrun in Avondale Forest Park and this will be up and running in April.

How do I take part?

If you would like to take part in a parkrun, all you need to do is register at www.parkrun.ie, follow the instructions and then turn up on the day. For more information contact wicklowlsp@wicklowcoco.ie



ACTIVE SCHOOLS WEEK

The Department of Education and Skills and Healthy Ireland encourage ALL schools to organise an Active School Week (ASW) as part of their annual school calendar.

The ASW initiative is about providing FUN and INCLUSIVE physical activity opportunities for ALL members of the school community. It allows schools to reinforce the message that not only is physical activity good for you but it also very enjoyable. It provides schools with an excellent opportunity to raise awareness about the physical activity opportunities that are available in their locality and to work collaboratively with students, parents and members of the community.

WHY NOT TAKE PART IN OUR 'ONE MILLION STEP CHALLENGE' FOR ACTIVE SCHOOLS WEEK?



We have a number of schools who have completed our **One Million Step Challenge** and more schools taking part in the coming months. This programme challenges both the pupils and teachers to reach One Million Steps within 5 days!

Pedometers and a Step Chart are given to each school to track their progress daily and make sure everyone is meeting their daily target of 10,000 steps.

This programme is completely **FREE** to take part in just email wicklowlsp@wicklowcoco.ie to register.

CHILD PROTECTION UPDATE Children's First Act

The Department of Children and Youth Affairs announced the commencement of the Children's First Act 2015 last December. It is now a legal requirement for all sporting organisations working with children to have a Child Protection Policy in place. It is now mandatory to report allegations of abuse to a mandated person who would be the National Children's officer of the relevant national governing body.

For example, if it was a soccer club, the mandated person would be the National Children's Officer of the Football Association of Ireland (FAI). Clubs are also required to name their Children's Officer and also their Designated Liaison Person and make this information available to everyone involved with their club.

Wicklow LSP runs Safeguarding 1, Safeguarding 2 (Club Children's Officer) and Safeguarding 3 (designated Liaison Person) courses throughout the year. These courses are extremely popular and book out fast so we recommend booking places as soon as possible. We can also deliver these courses within your club. If you have any questions in relation to any of the above we would be happy to help.
Contact: wicklowlsp@wicklowcoco.ie

PRIMARY SCHOOL DANCE PROGRAMME



This programme is aimed at developing basic motor movement for kids aged between 5 and 8 years of age through dance. The programme consists of 4 classes over 4 weeks and is thoroughly enjoyable. The dance programme took place in 8 schools across Wicklow and the feedback from both the kids and staff in the schools was extremely positive.

HEALTHY IRELAND

Wicklow Sports Partnership is rolling out a number of programmes under the

Healthy Wicklow Programme, these include:



PROGRAMME	TARGET GROUP	TARGET AREA
Buntús Refresher Courses	Pre school & Primary school teachers	Countywide
Buggy Fit	Mothers	Arklow, Baltinglass & Wicklow Town
One Million Step Challenge	Primary School Children	Countywide
Mid Term Activity Camp	Children with Disabilities	Wicklow Town
Healthy Eating & Exercise	Parents of children aged 0-5 years	East Wicklow
Physiotherapy referral scheme	Those with chronic diseases i.e. back pain, osteoarthritis, bone health issues	Blessington, Bray & Wicklow Town
Older Adult Exercise Classes	Older Adults	Arklow, Blessington & Wicklow Town
Parkrun	All demographics	Blessington, Avondale & Bray
Woodlands for Health, lead by Coillte	Those accessing Mental Health Services	East Wicklow

SNOW HEROES



SNOW HEROES



SNOW HEROES



Safe Boating

14 Steps to Safe & Enjoyable Boating



1 Check condition of boat and equipment, hull, engine, fuel, tools, torch.



2 Check the weather forecast for the area.



3 Check locally concerning dangerous currents & strong tides.



4 Do not drink alcohol while setting out or during your trip.



5 Carry on alternative means of propulsion e.g. sails and oars or motor and oars.



6 Carry a first aid kit on board and distress signals (at least two parachute distress rockets and two red hand flares).



7 Carry a fire extinguisher and hand boiler or bucket with lanyard and an anchor with rope attached.



8 Carry marine radio or some means of communication with shore.



9 Do not overload the boat - this will make it unstable.



10 Do not set out unless accompanied by an experienced person.



11 Leave details of your planned trip with someone ashore - including departure and arrival times, description of boat, names of persons on board.



12 Wear a Personal Flotation Device at all times.



13 Keep an eye on the weather - seek shelter in good time.



14

MARINE EMERGENCIES

Call 999 or 112 and ask for Marine Rescue

999 OR **112**



REMEMBER THESE RULES - ENJOY YOURSELF - COME HOME SAFELY



Irish Water Safety
Sábháilteacht Uisce na hÉireann

Irish Water Safety is the statutory & voluntary body committed to promote water safety in Ireland.
Tá Sábháilteacht Uisce na hÉireann ina bhainneadh comhoibrithe a leanann a hábháilteacht a cur a chiall ar fáil.

LO CALL 1890 420 202
WWW.IWS.IE
INFO@IWS.IE

Irish Water Safety is supported by

Allianz
Direct 1850 48 48 48

Providers of Pressure Craft Insurance
www.allianzdirect.ie

Allianz Corporate Ireland plc trading as Allianz Direct is regulated by the Financial Regulator

CELTIC ROUTES



County Wicklow is to benefit from a €2m Wales/Ireland INTERREG project aimed at encouraging visitors to explore lesser known areas of both regions.

Called “The Celtic Routes” project and backed by €1.6m of EU funds, it aims to encourage visitors to explore new areas of Wales and South-East Ireland on route to their final tourist destination.

The project will operate across Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire and Ceredigion in Wales, and Wicklow, Wexford and Waterford in South-East Ireland.

The main aim of the project is to transform less well known areas from transit zones to new touring sites, increasing the time tourists spend in these regions

and capitalising on the opportunities to boost local economies.

The project will be developed through customer research, trade events and workshops as well as cross border visits by businesses in Ireland and Wales to bring together expertise and ideas. One of the aims of the project is to develop new trails under seven themes, including: Local Culture, Natural Environment, Film Tourism, Pilgrim Routes, Wildlife, Folklore and Traditions.

The Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Councillor Edward Timmins, and Chief Executive, Mr Frank Curran, have both welcomed the approval of the Celtic routes INTERREG Project which will see an overall investment of €2m in the six participating counties.



Cyngor Sir
CEREDIGION
County Council



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae Phort Láirge
Waterford City
& County Council



Comhairle Contae
Loch Garman
Wexford
County Council



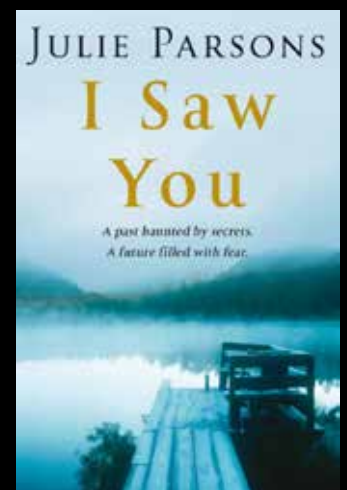
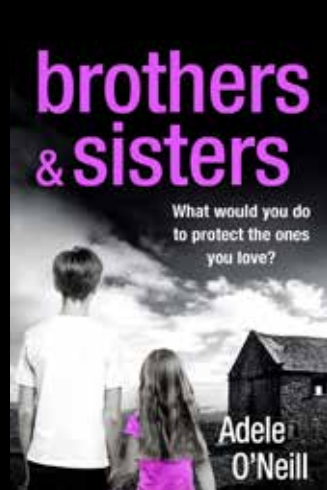
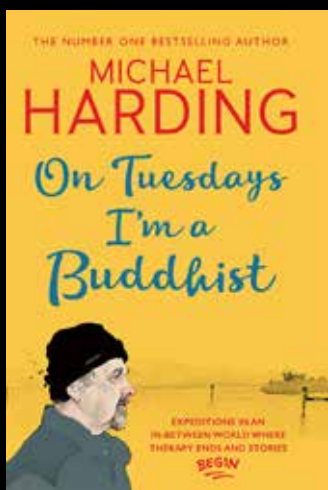
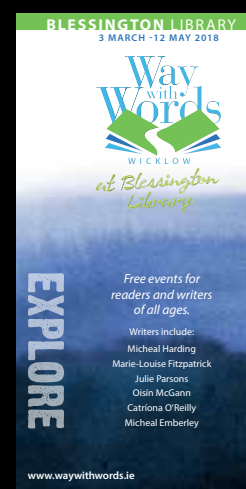
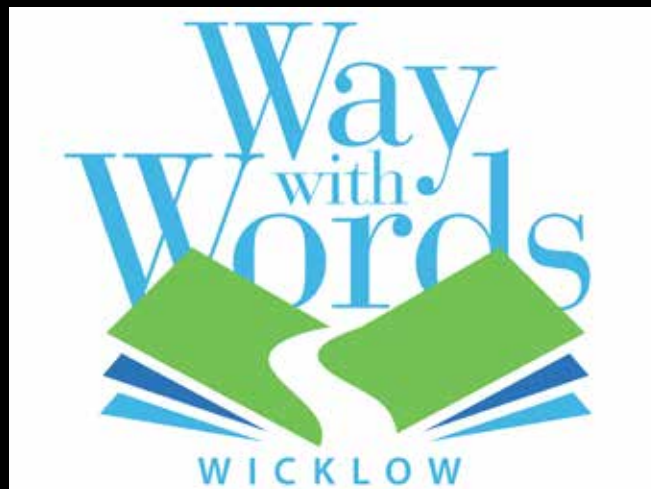
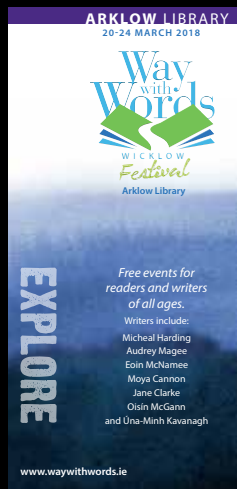
Wicklow County Council
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL MHANTAIN

Wicklow looks forward to working with our local partners in Wexford and Waterford and our partners in Wales and we expect to see increased capacity and confidence in our respective tourism sectors as we combine our unique natural, cultural and heritage assets to drive tourism in our areas, and the resultant economic boost.

The project is supported by the Ireland/Wales 2014-2020 Co-operation Programme, which is helping to strengthen collaboration between Ireland and Wales, to address common economic and social challenges.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

LEADING AUTHORS AND POETS HEADING TO WICKLOW
FOR “WAY WITH WORDS” EVENT



Leading authors Michael Harding, Eoin McNamee, Adele O'Neill, Julie Parsons and others will feature on the programme for the “Way with Words, Wicklow”, a pilot literature project for County Wicklow. These are just some of the writers and poets headed for Arklow and Blessington Libraries in the coming months to give free readings, talks and writing workshops for all ages.

Others included on the programme, which has just been announced, are Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick, Michael Emberley, Peggie Gallagher, Joe Brennan, Oisín McGann, Catriona O'Reilly, Moya Cannon, Jane Clarke and Una-Minh Kavanagh.

The “Way with Words, Wicklow” event takes place in Arklow and Blessington Libraries from March to May of this year. Led by Nell Regan, Wicklow County Council Literature Curator, “Way with Words” is a Wicklow County Council initiative supported by Creative Ireland, in collaboration with Wicklow Arts Office and Library Services. As well as the packed programme taking place in the libraries, writers and poets will be out and about visiting men's sheds, schools, community groups and working with creative writing groups all over the county.

The official launch of “Way with Words, Wicklow”, took place in Arklow Library on Thursday, 22nd March.

Environment

Tidy Towns groups around the county are busy working on new projects for the 2018 National Tidy Towns competition. Such projects can take a year in the planning, a few years to implement, and require ongoing maintenance by volunteers. There are 29 active Tidy Towns groups covering nearly every town in County Wicklow. The groups work closely with Wicklow County Council, County Wicklow Partnership and the Public Participation Network to deliver larger projects.



One such group is Arklow Tidy Towns. The Riverwalk project is their big Wildlife and Natural Amenities project for this year's national tidy town competition. It is an ambitious project over a two to three year period. It will include widening the path along the Riverwalk, planting for wildlife and generally cleaning the area to make it more inviting for residents and visitors alike. By enhancing the overall appearance of the Riverwalk they hope to provide a pleasant welcoming space as a gateway for the proposed Greenway from Arklow to Shillelagh.



Projects such as this one provide amenities that all of us can enjoy as well as creating a great visitor attraction. Wicklow County Council and County Wicklow Partnership is supporting the work done by several towns along this route to move this project forward in the near future and also with other towns elsewhere in the county to develop similar projects.

Bray Tidy Towns sign up local cafés for the Conscious Cup Campaign

Bray Tidy Towns has been promoting a new campaign called the Conscious Cup Campaign which aims to encourage people to switch from disposable to reusable coffee cups.

The group has worked with local students from North Wicklow Educate Together Secondary School to promote the campaign in local businesses and have been very successful with eleven coffee shops in the town signing up.



Participating businesses pledge to encourage and welcome customers who bring their own reusable coffee mug. Some will even offer customers a discount when they reuse their own mug.

Other Tidy Town committees in the county also are promoting reusable coffee cups. Greystones Tidy Towns have taken a slightly different approach, with local businesses in the town working with them, selling reusable coffee cups. Newtownmountkennedy Tidy Towns hosted a sustainable resource use seminar for Tidy Towns groups last November which featured a talk by the Environmental Awareness Officer of Wicklow County Council on the campaign.

Tidy Towns groups across the county are leading the charge to create more sustainable communities. It's nice to see that a disposable single use item like a coffee cup, which often ends up as road side litter, may soon become obsolete with a move to reusable containers.

Knockananna Book Exchange in a Phone Box.



Knockananna is one of the towns in County Wicklow provided with a mobile library service by Wicklow County Council.

Now people in the town also have a second option for sharing books. Knockananna Tidy Towns have restored an old phone box and fitted it out with shelves as a book exchange space for the community.

The project was undertaken by Knockananna Tidy Towns with the help of their junior Tidy Towns team from the adjacent national school. The Tidy Towns team restored the phone box and installed shelving inside to hold the books. Anyone in the community can leave or take books. This restoration of the phone booth for the book exchange won Knockananna Tidy Towns an award in the recent Wicklow County Council Tidy Towns, Estates and Environmental Awards under the Sustainable Resource use category.

The project is one of several book exchange spaces operated by Tidy Towns groups but is by far the biggest and most eye catching example in the county. The involvement of students from the national school is a great way to engage them in the community playing a part in Tidy Towns.

The phone booth in Knockananna has a promising future for years to come continuing to function as a community resource for all to use.

Do you know where your waste goes?



Householders are responsible for the proper disposal of their waste. The only legal way to dispose of waste is by using the services of an Authorised Waste Collector who holds a valid waste collection permit or at an Authorised Recycling Facility.

You can find a list of Authorised Waste Collectors for Wicklow on www.nwcpc.ie

The Waste Management section in Wicklow works tirelessly to investigate waste related complaints. In 2017 2432 cases of illegal dumping were investigated. Evidence was found relating to numerous people who had innocently handed over their waste to people who they thought were going to bring it to an authorised facility. They were wrong! - Many ended up with a court conviction and a fine.

Don't let this be your waste – check out the guidelines below for proper waste management tips!

- 1** Wicklow County Council operates five RECYCLING CENTRES at The Murrrough (Wicklow), Bray, Arklow, Avoca and Rampere, Baltinglass. A wide range of materials can be recycled free of charge. Almost 4000 tonnes of materials were recycled at the centres last year. They take all electrical goods free, polystyrene packaging and large and small scrap metal items like old ironing boards or bikes.
- 2** Bring glass bottles, jars and drinks cans to your nearest bottle bank facility. Please keep these sites clean, having respect for the local community and businesses that provide space.
- 3** Only use waste collectors who can show you a permit for waste collection. Bogus collectors will dump your waste illegally. A cheap or handy option can lead to a heavy fine for you. If the price seems too good to be true – it is!
- 4** Home Composting or using an organic waste collection is the solution for thirty percent of the typical household's waste including your garden and food waste.
- 5** Inform yourself about waste materials. For information about waste management, disposal options for different waste materials and available services contact the Environmental Awareness Office –see our contacts list below

CONTACT DETAILS

Environmental Awareness Office
Wicklow County Council
The Murrrough Environmental Centre,
Email: eao@wicklowcoco.ie
Tel: 1890 222278 / 040464120

WASTE ENFORCEMENT

Wicklow County Council
Email: wastemanagement@wicklowcoco.ie
Tel: 0404 20127

“DUMP THE DUMPERS”

Report illegal dumping via the 24 hour lo-call telephone number 1850 365 121. Wicklow County Council, the Gardaí and the EPA will follow up on the information provided by the public, as appropriate.

Spring into action for National Spring Clean

The National Spring Clean campaign for 2018 is underway. This year it is celebrating its 20th anniversary and going from strength to strength. National Spring Clean is run by An Taisce with support from the Department of Communications, Climate Change and Environment, with support from local authorities on the ground.

It is the most popular and successful anti-litter initiative in the country. Last year there were 5171 registered clean ups in Ireland involving over 500,000 people. It is estimated that 2660 tonnes of litter were picked up during the campaign last year.



An Taisce

DID YOU KNOW?

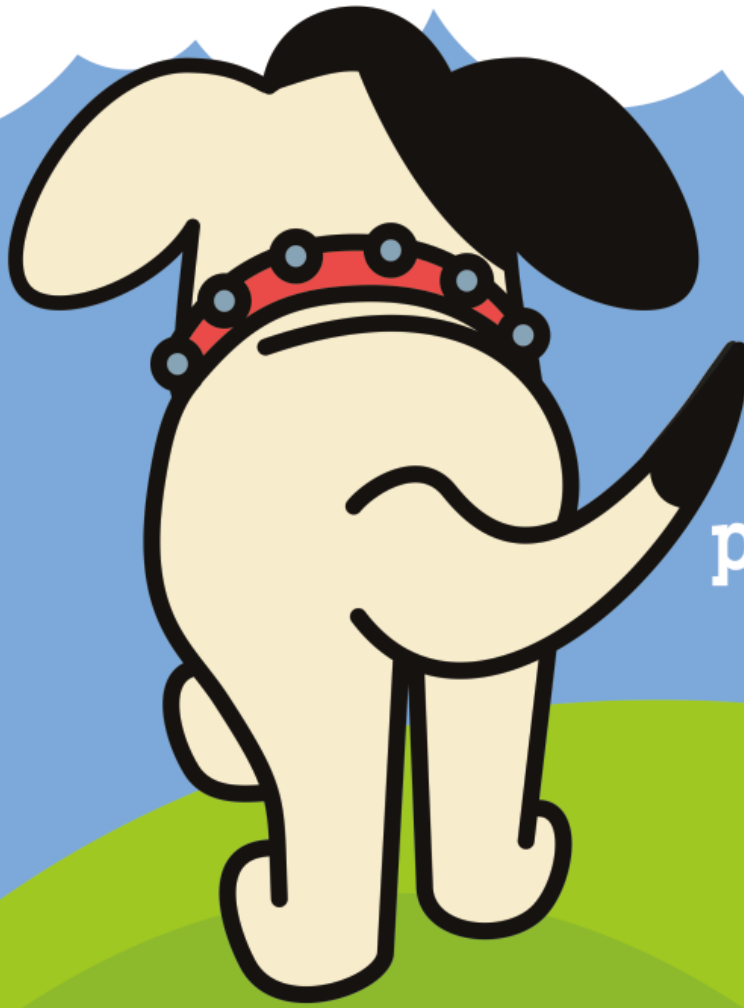
Turn down the temperature when washing clothes. Traditionally, most of us wash our clothes at 40°C. However, modern detergents are equally effective at 30°C and you'll use less energy and could reduce your energy bill by up to 40%. Only wash when the drum is full.

Who can get involved? The answer is anyone can participate in a clean up. Tidy Towns and PURE mile are always looking for volunteers to help out. Residents associations or a group of neighbours might organise a clean up of an estate. Schools, businesses, youth groups or sports group will often take part. An individual can sign up by themselves.

To participate go to www.nationalspringclean.org to register to do a cleanup. An Taisce will supply some materials for your event. You should also contact the Environmental Awareness Office of Wicklow County Council, eao@wicklowcoco.ie or Locall 1890 2276. The Environmental Awareness Office can provide more materials for your cleanup including bags, litter pickers and gloves and will coordinate a pickup of the bags of litter following all registered events once notified by organisers.

€150

On The Spot Fine If You Don't Bin It



leave
only
pawprints...

Bin the Poo
Bin the Poo Bag



Comhshool, Pobal agus Rialtas Aitúil
Environment, Community and Local Government



Wicklow County Council



eastern-midlands
waste region

COMHAIRLE NA NÓG



Wicklow County Council is extremely proud of all the Wicklow Comhairle na nÓg members. Comhairle na nÓg members have had a very busy year to date.



Comhairle na nÓg members were represented at the national “Safer Internet Day “where they launched their Cyber Bullying charter by Tristan, Adam, Erica and Colm.



Tara and Jade presented the Cyber Bullying charter to members of the Oireachtas and also appeared on the RTE news. They gave a presentation to the Dáil.

CYBER BULLYING CHARTER

THIS CHARTER WAS DEVELOPED BY CO. WICKLOW COMHAIRLE NA NOG IN CONSULTATION WITH YOUNG PEOPLE FROM ACROSS THE COUNTY. CYBER BULLYING IS DEFINED AS THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY TO HARASS, THREATEN, EMBARRASS, INTIMIDATE OR TARGET ANOTHER PERSON.

““

To the Bullied

Talk to someone you trust. It's worth it.
You have rights, they are there to protect you.
You are NOT the problem! Technology is not the problem. The behaviour of the bully is the problem.

””

““ TO THE BULLIES

Think about the consequences of cyber bullying.
You are causing harm, you can also help repair the harm.
Your behavior is not acceptable, you must understand this and learn how to change for the better.

””

”” To the bystanders

Take a moment, do you have the courage to do something to stop the bullying?
Think about who might be able to help with this situation. Go to them.
Take responsibility, show courage and compassion. Don't stand by.

””

““ TO THOSE IN AUTHORITY

GARDAI, SCHOOLS, COUNCILS, OFFICIALS ETC.

You need to have a plan for dealing with Cyber Bullying.

We want to rely on you to protect us and our rights.

We hope you understand how important our Cyber safety and well being is.

””

““ To all young people

Remember that our digital behavior can affect others. Treat others as you would like to be treated.

Understand what Cyber Bullying is. Take responsibility for your actions on social media.

All action has consequences, think about the potential impact on everyone who is involved. Make good choices.

””



Comhairle na nÓg
Young Voices. Local Issues.



ROAD SAFETY

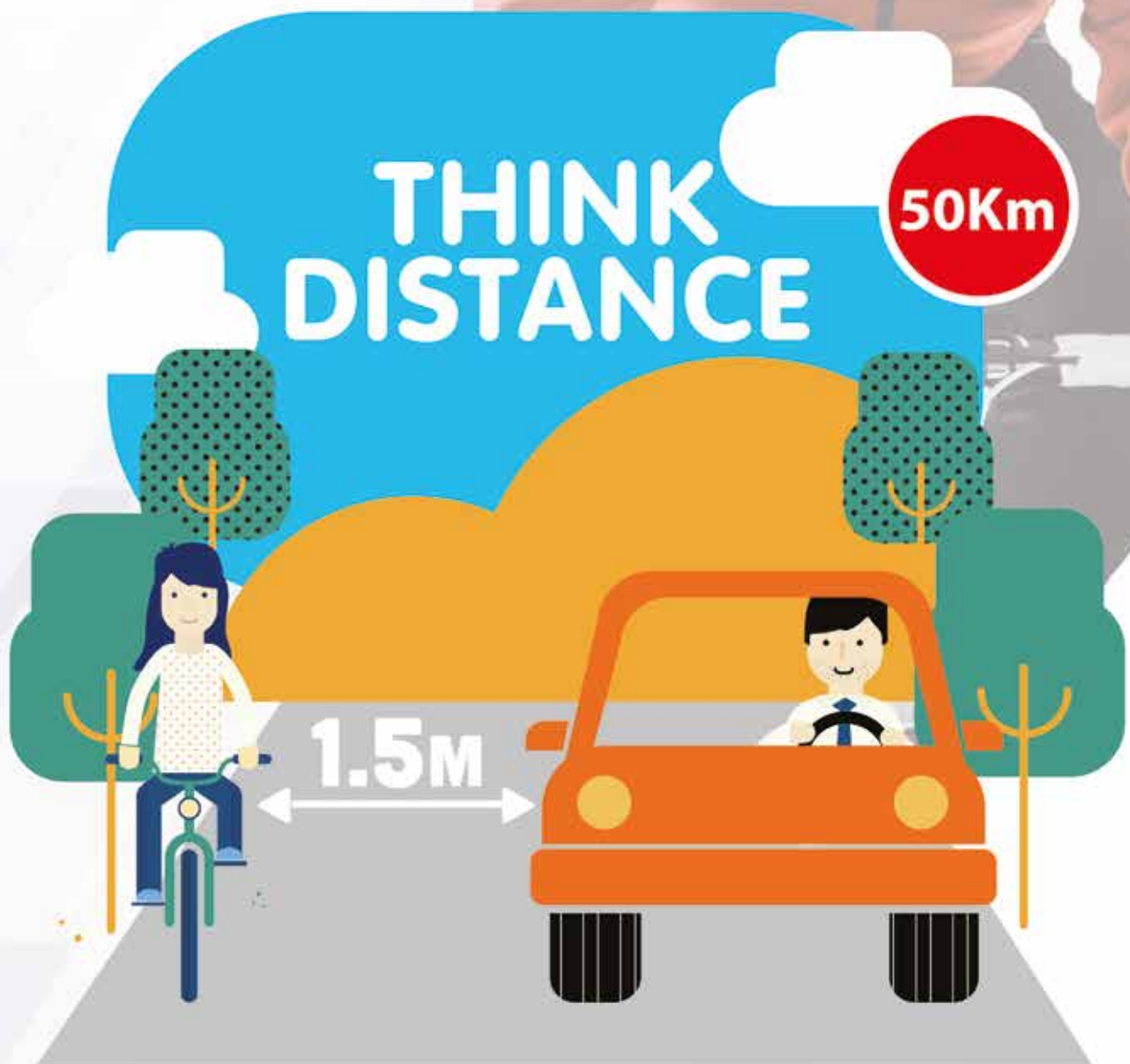
Cyclists are entitled to road space as much as cars, vans, goods vehicles or any other vehicle on the road. Motorists must keep a safe distance when over taking cyclists on urban and rural roads.

The message is clear give a 1 metre clearance when over taking a cyclist in areas 50km/h and under and 1.5 metres in areas over 50km/h.

Drivers are urged to properly observe the road at all times for the presence of cyclists, be they commuters, shoppers, family or racing groups. However, it focuses specifically on a number of key manoeuvres. These include:

- Anticipating cyclists at junctions and checking the various driver blind spots.
- Checking mirrors and blind spots when getting out of a parked vehicle to avoid the risk of 'dooring' a cyclist that might be passing by.
- Allowing plenty of space when over-taking a cyclist, particularly when they are cycling in groups or two abreast.

Motorists are asked to be respectful of cyclists and mindful of how they use the road. We all share the road, and if we're considerate of each other, we'll see fewer needless accidents and deaths.





LEADER

Rural Development Programme in Wicklow

€2 MILLION IN GRANT AID TO BE COMMITTED IN 2018

The LEADER programme has been supporting communities and businesses in County Wicklow for 25 years. Since the programme was introduced in 1992 in excess of €15 million has been invested in 632 projects. The projects supported have ranged in size from small projects worth €2,000 to large flagship projects requiring up to €500,000 in a diverse range of sectors but primarily in the areas of farm diversification, enterprise, rural tourism, heritage, town and village renewal, community facilities and amenities, renewable energy and environmental projects.

The roll out of the new LEADER programme 2014 – 2020 is quite different from previous LEADER programmes. While the focus of the programme is still on the development of vibrant rural communities and a strong rural economy, there is a new multi-organisation delivery approach involving the following bodies: Local Community Development Committee, County Wicklow Partnership and Wicklow County Council

LEADER applications are now being received on a rolling basis
Targeted calls will take place on the direction of the Local Community Development Committee
to ensure funding is spent strategically
Grants from €1,250 to €200,000 available to enterprises and communities



APPLICATION DATES FOR 2018

7th June
2nd August
4th October



Types of projects being sought by LEADER

Tourism

Enterprise Projects

Food
Craft
Renewable Energy
Social Enterprise

Rural Towns
Activities that promote
economic activity
in towns and villages

Rural Youth
Actions that improve quality
of life of young people

Protection of Water

Biodiversity
Walks / Trails
Information & Training

**CONTACT COUNTY WICKLOW PARTNERSHIP
ON [INFO@WICKLOWPARTNERSHIP.IE](mailto:info@wicklowpartnership.ie) OR (0402) 20955
FOR INFORMATION ON HOW TO MAKE AN APPLICATION**

PEOPLE OF THE YEAR 2018

Wicklow County Council in partnership with the Wicklow/Bray people and the Wicklow Hospice host a County Wicklow People of the year awards Gala Dinner every second year.

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE to nominate for recognition anyone you believe is deserving of a County Wicklow people of the Year Award – a dedicated coach, a carer, a good neighbour, a sportsperson, a health worker, a committed volunteer or an inspirational older person who deserves recognition; community group, a sports club or a tourism body in your area that has done extraordinary work.

The People of the Year Award's were launched in April, and the application form will appear in the Wicklow/Bray People on the following dates:

- 11th, 18th and 25th April
- 9th and 23rd May
- 6th, 20th and 27th June
- 4th and 11th July

The Gala Dinner and presentations will take place on September, 2018.

DID YOU KNOW?

Adjust your fridge/freezer temperature. Your fridge should be between 3-5 degrees and your freezer between -15 to -18 degrees.

Keep your freezer full as it will consume less energy.

CARING FOR THE WELL-BEING OF CO. WICKLOW'S COMMUNITIES:

LATEST NEWS FROM CO. WICKLOW PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NETWORK (PPN)

What does well-being mean to you? Wicklow is one of four PPNs nationally trying to find out! To begin this task two public consultation sessions were held in Hollywood and Carnew on February 21st and 22nd.

Animated discussions took place among attendees on future aspirations for their area under the headings of: physical and mental health; economy and resources; social and community development; participation, democracy and good governance; values, culture and meaning; environment and sustainability.

Also in attendance was guest speaker Seamus Boland CEO of Irish Rural Link and facilitator Sara Bourke of Social Justice Ireland.



All of the information arising from these sessions will be available shortly on the PPN website, and further comments and opinions will be welcome there.

Once the community statement on well-being has been finalised it will become a key tenet and aspiration of the PPN and all of its representatives, particularly when participating in policy development and decision-making on committees, structures and forums.

For more information see www.countywicklowppn.ie

CREATIVE IRELAND INITIATIVE 2017 - 2022



Creative Ireland is the Government's five year programme to encourage everybody to realise their full potential and it follows on from the huge success of the 1916/2016 commemorations, and leads into the next big set of celebrations planned for 2022. Each County has completed a strategy and a five-year action plan.

An element of the approved funding will be spent on the development of a Healthy Wicklow Strategic Plan that will inform future Healthy Ireland Applications.

A Creative Ireland (Wicklow) committee has been working on the Country's strategy for the past number of months and a number of public consultations took place around the County in January 2018.

The Creative Ireland (Wicklow) strategy has now been finalised and submitted to the national committee.



CREATIVE WICKLOW GRANTS 2018

A new grant scheme to support community activity as part of the Creative Ireland Programme 2018-2022 has been announced by Wicklow County Council. The Creative Wicklow Grant Scheme 2018 aims to nurture creativity and cultural heritage among communities in Wicklow in keeping with the aims of the Creative Ireland programme.

Wicklow County Council seeks to support innovative ways to increase engagement between people and their cultural heritage. This fund is open to not-for-profit organisations, local community groups, arts, heritage and cultural groups, venues and societies. Applications by individuals must be in partnership with a community, cultural or heritage group.

Collaborations between artists and heritage practitioners are encouraged, as are events, activities and projects that Make a Connection in line with the theme of European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018, and those projects that seek to lay the foundations for longer term engagements. The nominal amount of funding to any one project will typically be between €500 and €2,500 and applications received will be assessed based on an agreed selection criterion.

Wicklow County Council aims to place creativity and culture at the heart of communities throughout Wicklow, recognising that creativity provides us with a strategy for individual wellbeing, social cohesion and economic success. The Creative Wicklow Fund 2018 is being administered by Wicklow County Council and will be evaluated by the Council's Culture Team. Closing date for receipt of applications is Thursday, 31st May.

Applications and accompanying additional documentation by post should be sent to: Wicklow Creative Ireland Grant Scheme 2018, Community Social & Cultural Development Section, Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow. Alternatively, a signed version of the application form may be scanned and emailed to creativewicklow@wicklowcoco.ie.

For application forms and guidelines see www.wicklow.ie. All queries and requests for hard copy application forms can be emailed to creativewicklow@wicklowcoco.ie.

SKATE PARK & PLAYGROUNDS OFFICIAL OPENINGS



February 2018 saw 4 new recreation areas opened in Wicklow.

Minister Michael Ring officially opened a new skatepark in Baltinglass, a Multi Use Games Area in Knockananna and a playground in Rathdangan.

Minister Simon Harris officially opened a beautiful new playground in Carnew. The cover photo shows Eirinn Deegan who was the first person into the new Carnew playground as she had fundraised a substantial amount of money by cutting her hair for charity.

Three of the facilities were funded by Minister Ring's department under Clár and Town and Village Grants and the amount funded was in excess of €180,000. Credit was paid to the huge community involvement in getting the play facilities opened and credit was given to the CCSD department for accessing the funding and bringing the projects to fruition.





The Chief Executive, Mr Frank Curran, said at the openings that Wicklow County Council recognises the benefits of play both to children and society in general adding that Play is the main method by which children learn to live.

During the Official Opening Minister Ring said: “People should have the opportunity to have a decent quality of life, no matter where they choose to live. By having a practical, workable growth plan and backing it up with smart and significant investment in our rural communities, towns and villages, Project Ireland 2040 can enable rural Ireland to realise its potential.

The Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Councillor Edward Timmins, said the Council’s Play Policy came about as a result of children making their voices heard and the fact that policymakers are listening to what they have to say.

Responsible Dog Ownership



- Keep your dog under control at all times (to prevent sheep worrying and nuisance – have consideration for others - Guide dogs, elderly, children etc. and keep your dog on a lead in a public place).
- Make sure your dog has collar identification and a registered microchip (this will help re-unite you with your pet if he is lost or stolen).
- Clean up after your dog if it fouls in a public place – It is an offence under the Litter Pollution Acts not to clean up after your pet and you could be liable to fines from €150 +
- Have your dog neutered unless you intend to breed from it
- Buy an annual licence for your dog
- Microchip and register your dog
- Feed your dog according to its size, age, and lifestyle
- Worm and de-flea your dog regularly
- Exercise your dog regularly
- Consider purchasing pet health insurance for your dog
- Vaccinate your dog and have an annual veterinary check-up for your dog

Dog Licences

All dog owners must have a current dog license for each pet. Licenses are available from any Post Office at a cost of €20.

Lifetime licences (€140) and General Dog Licences (€400) are only available from the Water & Environmental Services Section, Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow Town. Tel: 0404 20296 or env@wicklowcoco.ie

Microchipping

From the 31st March 2016 all dogs are required to be microchipped, their details registered on an approved database, and their owners must have a certificate from the database to prove this. Further to this from this date it is illegal to sell, supply, buy or even take ownership of a dog that does not have a certificate of microchip registration from an approved database. If in any doubt you should contact your vet or veterinary nurse.



Green Dog Walkers is a non confrontational friendly way to change attitudes about dog fouling. If you see someone wearing the Green Dog Walker armband / bag dispenser, it means they have taken the 'pledge' to:

- Always clean up after their dog
- To carry extra doggie bags
- To gladly give you a bag for your dog

Would you like to get involved in this initiative as an individual or a Community Group? For further information please contact Wicklow County Council Environmental Awareness Office at Lo Call 1890 222276 or email eao@wicklowcoco.ie

Dogs for Rehoming

Please contact the pound directly if you wish to rehome a dog. Dogs for rehoming are also available on the following website:

www.ispca.ie/rehoming/



Dog Pound Opening Hours

Monday - Friday
11.00am - 12.30pm
and 3.00pm - 4.00pm

Saturday
10.00am - 12.00 noon

Recent Sheep Kills

An alarming number of attacks on livestock have occurred on farms throughout the county over recent months. Marauding dogs have carried out these attacks. In almost all attacks, these dogs are domestic pets that have just strayed out from towns.

The attacks have resulted in the death and worrying of sheep. When dogs worry pregnant ewes it can cause the miscarriage of their lambs. During the lambing season ewes are obviously more vulnerable to this.

It is the dog owners' responsibility to ensure their dog is under control and does not attack sheep or livestock or indeed humans or other animals. You may not be aware of the serious consequences if your dog attacks or worries livestock.

As the Owner:

- You will be convicted of an offence and liable to a fine and/or a prison sentence
- You will have to compensate the farmer for all costs and losses he has suffered
- Your dog could be shot by a farmer if he considers it involved in worrying or attacking livestock

Loose or stray dogs should be notified to Dog Warden and local Gardai.

So, dog owners, please keep control of your pets at all times and do not allow them to stray. It will keep the dog alive, livestock safe and it could save you a whole lot of money in compensation, fines and legal costs.



Contact Wicklow County Council...

	Telephone	Fax	Email
General enquiries	0404 20100	0404 67792	
Arklow Municipal District	0402 42700		ArklowMD@wicklowcoco.ie
Baltinglass Municipal District			BaltinglassMD@wicklowcoco.ie
- Blessington	045 891222	045 865813	
- Tinahely	0402 38174		
Bray Municipal District	01 2744900	01 2860930	BrayMD@wicklowcoco.ie
Greystones Municipal District	01 2876694	01 2877173	GreystonesMD@wicklowcoco.ie
Wicklow Municipal District	0404 20100	0404 67792	WicklowMD@wicklowcoco.ie
Arklow Recycling Centre	0402 32759		eao@wicklowcoco.ie
Avoca Recycling Centre	087 2288132		eao@wicklowcoco.ie
Bray Recycling Centre	01 2116666		eao@wicklowcoco.ie
Rampere Landfill and Recycling Services Baltinglass	059 6481677		eao@wicklowcoco.ie
Wicklow Recycling Centre	0404 64120 (LoCall 1890 222 276)		eao@wicklowcoco.ie
Arts Office	0404 20155		wao@wicklowcoco.ie
Civil Defence	0404 67402	0404 67294	mrichardson@wicklowcoco.ie
Community, Cultural & Social	0404 20208	0404 20113	dce@wicklowcoco.ie
Enterprise & Corporate Services	0404 20158	0404 20112	corporate@wicklowcoco.ie
Environment - General Office	0404 20236	0404 67792	env@wicklowcoco.ie
Environmental Services	0404 20185		env@wicklowcoco.ie
Waste Management	0404 20127		env@wicklowcoco.ie
Litter Line	(Lo Call 1890 548 837)		
Environmental Awareness Officer	0404 64120	0404 64100	eao@wicklowcoco.ie
Fire Services - HQ Fire Prevention & Administration	01 2862929	01 2861535	firehead@wicklowcoco.ie
Freedom of Information	0404 20158	0404 20112	foi@wicklowcoco.ie
Heritage Officer	0404 20191	0404 67792	dburns@wicklowcoco.ie
Housing & Corporate Estate	0404 20120	0404 67792	housing2@wicklowcoco.ie
Law Agents	0404 20122	0404 20144	lawagents@wicklowcoco.ie
Local Enterprise Office	0404 30800		enterprise@leo.wicklowcoco.ie
Local Sports Partnership	01 2878184		ahubbard@wicklowcoco.ie
Motor Tax - Wicklow	0404 20118 (Lo Call 1890 333 339)	0404 20293	motortax@wicklowcoco.ie
Motor Tax - Bray	01 2744937	01 2744955	motortax@wicklowcoco.ie
Motor Tax - Blessington	045 858031	045 891248	motortax@wicklowcoco.ie
Planning	0404 20148	0404 69462	plandev@wicklowcoco.ie
Register of Electors	0404 20161	0404 20112	franchise@wicklowcoco.ie
Revenue	0404 20128	0404 20140	finoff@wicklowcoco.ie
Roads & Transportation	0404 20181	0404 20101	roadtran@wicklowcoco.ie
Wicklow Family History	0404 20126	0404 67792	wfh@eircom.net
Wicklow Film Commission	0404 30800		wfc@wicklowcoco.ie

Out of Hours Calls Service

Wicklow County Council has put in place an out of hours call service to deal with calls which are considered to be of an emergency nature and require immediate assistance outside of the normal office hours i.e. 9.00am to 5.00pm.

The service is provided between the hours of 5.00pm and 9.00am, Monday to Friday and all day Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays.

Calls relating to:

- Y Public Water or Sewerage matters; callers will be advised to call Irish Water directly on **1850 278278**.
- Y For all other Council Services they will be directed to ring the Wicklow County Council out of hours emergency service at **01 2916117**.
- Y For emergency services such as Fire Service, Ambulance or Gardai etc callers are advised to ring **999** directly.



www.wicklow.ie



@wicklowcoco



Workplace Partnership



Libraries

County Library
Headquarters
Tel: 01 2866566
Fax: 01 2865811
library@wicklowcoco.ie

- Arklow
0402 39977
- Aughrim
0402 36036
- Ballywaltrim
01 2723205
- Bray Eglington Rd.
01 2862600
- Baltinglass
059 6482300
- Blessington
045 891740
- Carnew
053 9426088
- Dunlavin
045 401100
- Enniskerry
01 2864339
- Greystones
01 2873548
- Rathdrum
0404 43232
- Tinahely
0402 38080
- Wicklow
0404 67025