GALWAY COUNTY PPN NEWSLETTER



Welcome PPN Members to our June '21 issue of the Galway County PPN Newsletter!

If you would like to include your info or event in this Newsletter please contact: mmullen@galwaycoco.ie

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PPN NEWS

Galway County Council Cathaoirleach 2021/2022 elected

Congratulations to Cllr. Peter Keaveney on his recent election as Cathaoirleach of the County of Galway. And to Cllr Jim Cuddy, who has been elected Leas-Chathaoirleach of the County of Galway.

The following were elected at the recent Annual Meetings of the Municipal Districts:

Athenry MD - Cllr. David Collins Ballinasloe MD - Cllr. Dermot Connolly Conamara MD - Cllr Seamus Walsh Loughrea MD - Cllr. Geraldine Donohue Tuam MD - Cllr. Donagh Mark Killilea



MY LOCAL

Galway County Council and the Heritage Council in partnership with Galway IFA need your help.

We are collecting information about holy wells in the Municipal Districts of Loughrea and Ballinasloe.









Tá do chúnamh ag teastáil ó

gcomhar le IFA na Gaillimhe.

Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe

agus ón gComhairle Oidhreachta i



Táimid ag bailiú eolais faoi

thoibreacha beannaithe i gCeantair

Bhardasacha Bhaile Locha Riach agus

- Have you any information about your local holy well?
 - Is there an annual pattern day at the well?
 - When do people visit the well?
 - Do you know any stories about the well?

galwayholywells@gmail.com

The Audit of the Holy Wells in the County of Gilway ion of Galway County Heritage & Biodiversity Plan 2017-2022









TOBA

BEANNAITI

AN CHEANT

- An mbíonn lá pátrúin ar siúl gach bliain ag an tobar?
 - Cén uair a dtugann daoine cuairt ar an tobar?
 - An bhfuil aon seanchas agat faoin tobar?

Seolaigí bhur gcuid scéalta, taithí agus grianghraf ar ríomhphost chuig galwayholywells@gmail.com

niúchadh ar Thoibreacha Bearinaithe i gContae na Gaillimhe Gníomh de chuid Phlean Oidhreachta agus Bithéagsúlachta Chontae na Gaillimhe 2017-2022





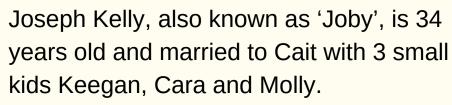


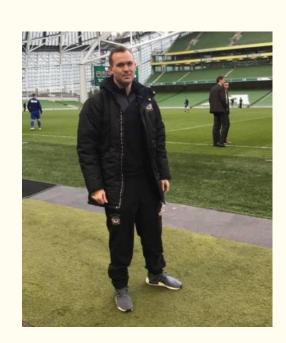




Meet your new PPN Rep

Joseph Kelly, Galway Sports Partnership Committee Rep





A publican by trade, Joe has been brought up in the pub game all his life. His business is situated in the heart of Ballinalsoe Town centre, on Society Street. The establishment is called Joe's Bar.

Joe is currently chairman of Ballinasloe Town AFC and secretary of the Ballinasloe Social Club. He also currently spearheads the Ballinalsoe GAA Academy U9s Boys and U8s girls for Gaelic football, along with been head coordinator for the Ballinalsoe Town AFC soccer Academy for Girls & Boys.

Joe was delighted to be nominated and named as the Galway winner in the Gala Retail Inspiration Awards in 2020 in association with Virgin Media for the voluntary work he has been doing with sporting organisations in the Ballinalsoe area.

Joe is delighted to take on his role on the Galway Sports Partnership Steering Committee and looks forward to working with Galway PPN and helping as many sporting organisations as they can into the future.





Gradaim Pobail an Chathaoirligh 2020 The Cathaoirleach's Community Awards 2020

Comóradh ar bhearta saorálaíochta i bpobail ar fud Chontae na Gaillimhe Celebrating voluntary activity in communities across County Galway

Community Heroes honoured at Cathaoirleach's Community Awards for 2020

In keeping with the "new normal", community and voluntary groups, individual volunteers, the Chief Executive and Elected Members of Galway County Council, and a host of well-wishers, met via "Zoom" to celebrate community & voluntary activity during 2020, at an event hosted by the Cathaoirleach Cllr. James Charity and MC for the evening Mr. Keith Finnegan of Galway Bay FM who welcomed everyone to the event live from the Galway Bay FM Studios on Sandy Road. The Awards were organised by Galway County Council in partnership with the Public Participation Network and 57 nominations were received for the 6 different categories of Awards.

Opening the virtual ceremony, Cllr. James Charity, Cathaoirleach said; "Every year, these Awards recognise the commitment of individuals and groups who go above and beyond to support their communities through voluntary work and acknowledge the significant impact their actions have on quality of life. This has been particularly evident over the last 18 months when the Community & Voluntary sector has been to the forefront of the COVID-19 Community Response across the County and never has it been so important to acknowledge and recognise volunteerism and the amazing community spirit and kindness displayed across the County. As Cathaoirleach of the County, I am very proud of all who came together to keep people safe by ensuring they could reach out for help from their home, and kept people connected by interacting with them through phonecalls, texts, technology, Care Packs, creative activities and getting them to interact with and appreciate the beauty of nature."

The first Award Category of the night was the **COVID-19 Community Response Award** to recognise the efforts of Groups to maintain the resilience of individuals and communities by providing practical and social supports. There was an Award per Municipal District under this category, but as Keith pointed out afterwards, there were 6 Awards because there was a tie and the nominees couldn't be separated by the Judging Panel. The Winners of these Awards were:

Accessibility Ballinasloe

For their efforts in maintaining the resilience of People with Disabilities throughout the pandemic and involving People with Disabilities in that process to empower them

Athenry Music School

For their efforts in maintaining the resilience of young musicians by developing a methodology for online orchestra tuition which was replicated nationally

Cairdeas, Forbairt Chonamara Láir

For their efforts in maintaining the resilience of their community by delivering a range of practical and social supports including establishing a Meals on Wheels service

Gort Cancer Support Group

For their efforts in maintaining the resilience of cancer patients through practical and social supports, extending their premises, and extending supports to the Brazilian community in their native language

Killannin Parish Covid 19 Community Response Team

For their efforts in maintaining resilience and co-ordinating practical and social supports by structuring assistance through volunteers in every townland of the parish

Solas Family Resource Centre Headford

For their efforts in maintaining the resilience of the community by structuring the delivery of practical and social supports including coping with increased demand for Meals on Wheels

The next Award Category was the **Culture and Creativity Award** which recognises groups who enhance their local area by promoting the arts, culture or heritage through creative activities. Introducing the category, Keith Finnegan pointed out that the Judging Panel stated that this was a very competitive category with several of the projects a deserving winner, which reflected highly on the strength of the arts & cultural sector in the County. The Cathaoirleach announced that the Judging Panel had made a decision and the Award went to:

Gliondar Community Arts Group Athenry

For bringing the arts out into their community during COVID restrictions by organising the first Digital St. Patricks Day Parade in Ireland, and delivering light filled spectacles in housing estates throughout the town through the "Make A Joyful Noise" project and a Christmas Carol event

Award to recognise Groups who enhance their local area by caring for the environment and natural heritage, or promoting environmental projection and sustainability. Describing the nominees, Keith Finnegan M.C. remarked upon the importance of our natural environment which really came to the fore during COVID-19 restrictions when everyone appreciated more what was within their 5k and there were some wonderful projects again in this category. After commending each of the project, the Cathaoirleach announced the Winner of this Award as:

The Walks Project Group Loughrea

For their continued cross-community efforts to conserve and protect the medieval walls and 13 bridges of "The Walks" to improve this historic walkway as a key amenity and tourism asset for the town of Loughrea

The next Award Category was the **Health and Wellbeing Award** to recognise Groups who enhance their local area by implementing proactive initiatives to support physical, mental and social wellbeing. In introducing the Award, the Cathaoirleach stated that this project had helped a vulnerable group maintain wellbeing during COVID-19 and was a project which was innovative in its approach and would have added value over time – and he announced the Winner as:

East Galway and Midlands Cancer Support

For developing an Activator Pole Walking Programme for individuals living with and beyond cancer, in conjunction with a pilot study with Athlone Institute of Technology to measure the effectiveness of the programme on physical and psychosocial health of individuals, which will be the first of its kind in Ireland

An chéad ghradam eile ná **Gradam na Gaeilge**. Tugtar aitheantas sa chatagóir seo don méid atá á dhéanamh ag Grúpaí chun úsáid na Gaeilge a chaomhnú, a chur chun cinn agus a neartú. Cuimsítear ceantair Ghaeltachta agus taobh amuigh den Ghaeltacht maidir leis an nGradam seo. Is í Oifigeach Forbartha Gaeilge Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe, Una Ní Eidhin, a bhronn an Gradam seo ar an oíche. Sular chuir sí an buaiteoir in iúl, luaigh sí an tábhacht atá le haitheantas den chinéal seo a thabhairt don Ghaeilge agus an obair iontach atá ar siúl ag grúpaí cosúil le buaiteoir an ghradaim seo, chun an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn agus a choinneáil beo i measc an phobail. Bíonn obair den scoth ar siúl ag an ngrúpa deonach seo agus déanann siad gach iarracht nasctha le muintir an phobail freisin agus am a chaitheamh ar an togra fiúntach seo. Is iad buaiteoirí an ghradaim ná:

Biseach

Dá gcuid oibre chun an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn agus a chur i mbéal an phobail lena n-iris Ghaeltachta 'Biseach'. Bailíonn an fochoiste seo ábhar don iris bhliantúil agus nascann siad le muintir an phobail, scoileanna, eagraíochtaí spóirt agus eile don togra fiúntach seo freisin.

The next Award of the evening was the **Social Inclusion Award** which recognises Groups who create opportunities for everyone to participate by providing positive environments and initiatives to care for those who may be vulnerable, isolated or marginalised. In introducing the winner, the Cathaoirleach James Charity acknowledged the role played by the Public Participation Network (PPN) and its Member Groups in reaching over 10,000 people through a range of outreach activities and events during 2020. He acknowledged that the Winner had created many opportunities for people to participate in activities and were innovative in overcoming the problems posed by the pandemic, and announced that the Award winner was:

Connemara Care

For their efforts to combat social and geographic isolation during the pandemic by implementing a multi-faceted programme including befriending phone calls to the elderly, a Walk and Talk Programme, Mindfulness through painting, Plant Box painting and planting, and a Musical Memories Programme on Connemara Community Radio

Introducing the prestigious Individual Volunteer of the Year Award, Chief Executive of Galway County Council, Jim Cullen, praised the work of all volunteers around the County and stated that these unsung heroes selflessly give their time and talent and contribute significantly to the quality of life in their area, making a measurable difference in people's lives, and we are lucky to have so many across our towns, villages, parishes and streets. Introducing the winner, the Cathaoirleach James Charity stated that they were so eloquently described by their nominee as their role model and the backbone of community development in their area, and announced that the winner was:

Venetia McEllin, Headford

Venetia was nominated for being the driving force behind the establishment and integration of many community groups to further social inclusion and the preservation of natural heritage in Headford, and in 2020, for developing artwork for biodiversity signage, but particularly for being a role model, motivator and inspiration to others.

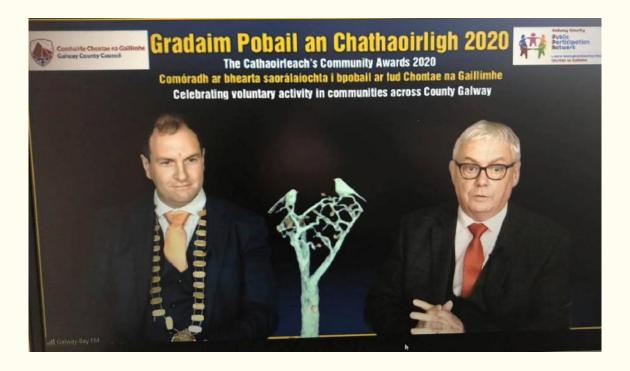
James Charity, Cathaoirleach, then surprised everyone by announcing that there was a further Award to be announced, and that as Cathaoirleach during 2020 and part of the COVID-19 Community Response Forum, he had decided to issue a **Cathaoirleach's Special Award** for a group which he felt had made a significant impact during COVID-19. He proceeded to give a few clues about this Group as follows:

- · They were the first Group to sign up to the Community Call in the County
- · They distributed over 5,000 leaflets as well as posts on social media and Church Notice Boards advertising that they were there to help
- · They looked after a huge geographical area covering multiple Municipal Districts including areas such as Loughrea, Oranmore, Turloughmore, Colemanstown, Clarinbridge and Clareglaway.
- · They enlisted the help of numerous Groups, Individuals, Sports Clubs and Elected Members.
- · They had their own unsung hero who co-ordinated every single request for help and ensured it was resolved by one of their many volunteers.

The Cathaoirleach announced that the Winner of the Cathaoirleach's Special Award was **Athenry Community First Responders Group** and called on Gearóid Ó Cinnéide to accept the Award. Gearóid gratefully accepted the Award and acknowledged the contribution of the many Community First Responder Groups, other Groups and Individuals, who had all contributed to the mammoth effort over the last 18 months.

Closing the Awards Ceremony, the Cathaoirleach stated that in 2020, all of our volunteers were heroes and winners, and their 'can do' attitude, leadership and kindness was greatly valued and appreciated by all who had witnessed it and benefited from it and he was truly humbled by their hard work and dedication. He asked all of the attendees to join in a "Bualadh Bus" for all community and voluntary activity in 2020.

The full online ceremony can be viewed at https://youtu.be/rkcb2B2olB4



Each Winner of a Cathaoirleach Award receives a Certificate, a specially commissioned Award and a cash prize of €500. The Awards for 2020 have been specially commissioned and are hand-crafted by Liam Butler and his son Ronan. Liam and Ronan are self-taught Sculptors who live and work in Furbo, Connemara, and specialise in using recycled copper to create beautiful and unique pieces inspired by nature, people and traditions around him. The recycled copper-based sculpture of birds building their nest in a tree signifies the hard work of volunteers as they build their community around them using their own resources.



The bespoke copper sculpture, made by Liam Butler (butlersculptures.com)

HAVE YOUR SAY!



National Outdoor Recreation Strategy Public Consultation



Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys, T.D. has launched a public consultation seeking the views of stakeholders and the public to inform the Government's new National Outdoor Recreation Strategy, which is currently being developed by Comhairle na Tuaithe (The Countryside Council). More information available **HERE**.



Public Consultation for the Draft Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028 has begun.

The Draft Plan and associated documents can now be viewed <u>HERE</u>. Submissions can be made online or in writing to: Galway County Council, Áras an Chontae, Planning Department, Prospect Hill, Galway.

Galway County PPN & Galway County Council will be holding an info event on 22 June 2021 @7pm.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meeting	Date
County Development Plan Info Webinar	22 nd June, 7pm
Planning SPC	23 rd June
Age Friendly Alliance meeting	24 th June
PPN Secretariat Meeting	29 th June, 7pm
Bio-diversity & Climate Change SPC	30 th June
Traveller Interagency Meeting	30 th June, 10am
Intercultural Forum Meeting	8 th July, 7pm

For more details on upcoming meetings/ events check out our Events calendar **HERE**

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT(S)



- Minister Catherine Martin welcomes €7.2m in new funding for Irish TV and radio. 31/05/2021. Press Release HERE.
- Minister Martin launches the Music and Entertainment Business Assistance Scheme (MEBAS). 02/06/2021. Press Release <u>HERE</u>.
- €3.46m fund announced by Minister Martin and Minister of State Chambers for the language planning system. 03/06/2021. Press Release HERE.
- Minister Chambers publishes guidelines for safe return of spectators to sports events. 07/06/2021. Press Release <u>HERE</u>.
- Minister Martin announces a new Mná 100 Podcast Series. 10/06/2021. Press Release HERE.
- Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, Catherine Martin, T.D., announces €455,000 in funding for the promotion of Irish arts globally. 15/06/2021. Read Press Release HERE.
- Minister Martin announces recipients of funding under Live Performance Support Scheme (LPSS) 2021. 15/06/2021. Read Press Release <u>HERE</u>.
- Máirtín Ó Cadhain's Dictionary to be Published Online for the First Time. 18/06/2021. Read Press Release <u>HERE</u>.
- Minister Martin approves over €300k in funding for local and regional museums. 18/06/2021. Read Press Release HERE.
- Minister Martin announces funding for Small Scale Local Festivals and Summer Schools. 21/06/2021. Read Press Release <u>HERE</u>.



- Minister Joe O'Brien announces the opening of seven new Volunteer Centres. 17/05/2021. Read Press Release <u>HERE</u>.
- Minister Humphreys announces return of SuperValu TidyTowns Competition. 21/05/2021. Read Press Release <u>HERE</u>.
- Our Rural Future: Ministers Humphreys, McConalogue and Hackett announce final call for applications to the LEADER Food Initiative. 25/05/2021. Read Press Release <u>HERE</u>.
- Minister O'Brien urges Government Colleagues to prioritise measures to help address Traveller disadvantage. 27/05/2021. Read Press Release HERE.
- Minister O'Brien launches #SicapStories social media video campaign.
 31/05/2021. Read Press Release <u>HERE</u>.
- Our Rural Future: Minister Humphreys launches National Connected Hubs Network. 31/05/2021. Read Press Release <u>HERE.</u>
- Our Rural Future: Minister Humphreys launches public consultation on the first ever National Outdoor Recreation Strategy. 02/06/2021. Read Press Release <u>HERE</u>.
- Minister O'Brien publishes the Dormant Accounts Fund Annual Report 2020. 18/06/2021. Read Press Release <u>HERE</u>.

FUNDING / SCHEMES



NUIG 1916 Bursary Fund is now open for applications

The Bursaries are targeted at new entry students (entering first year) who are underrepresented in higher education and who are from one or more of the target groups that have low participation rates in higher education. Each student who is awarded the 1916 Bursary will receive a bursary in the amount of €5,000 for each year of their undergraduate programme of study. Closing date is 9th July 2021. For more details or to apply see HERE.

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund

Department of Rural & Community Development via State Agencies, including Local Authorities and Local Development Companies

Category 2: Small villages and towns. Deadline 16th July 2021. See

HERE for application guidelines and more info.

Covid-19 Supplementary Community Grant.

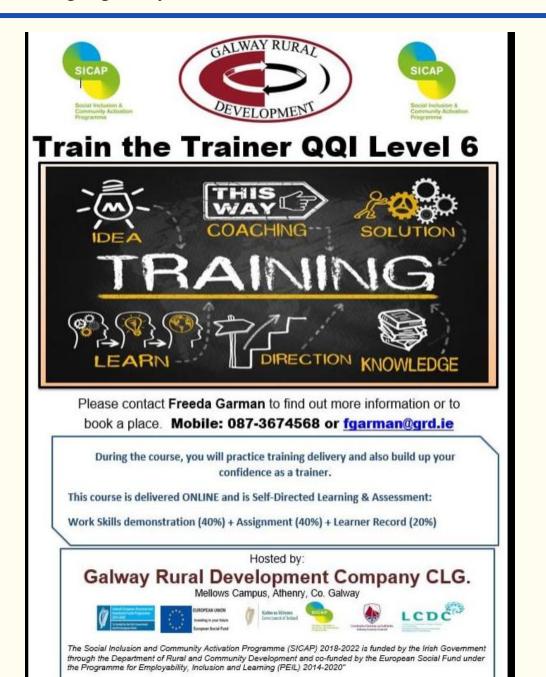
Galway sports club, sporting disability groups or sporting non-profit organisations may be eligible to apply for up to €1,500. The grant would cover Covid-19 related costs such as hygiene products, infrastructure (Plexiglass screens, signage) and Covid-19 training costs, etc. Funding is means-tested – those most in need will be eligible for the full allocation. The closing date is 11th July 2021. For more Information & eligibility criteria, see HERE.



HEALTHY IRELAND FUND ROUND 3

Funding to improve cooking/kitchen equipment in community-owned facilities

Healthy Ireland is a government led initiative aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of everyone living in Ireland. Galway County LCDC was successful in getting approval for a programme of work under Round 3 of the Healthy Ireland Fund. Galway County Council is now accepting applications improving cooking/kitchen equipment in community-owned towards facilities with a closing date of 4:00pm on 25th June 2021. All details are available HERE for information please and more contact healthandwellbeing@galwaycoco.ie.



TRAINING/ COURSES

academy street workshop

Big, Better, Bolder Fundraising: The Complete Programme

Fundraising Training Programme for Smaller Organisations

Live online programme. Lead tutor - Kevin Delaney.

Starting on 21st June the program comprises 7 individual modules. Each module will address a different area of fundraising and will be valuable for individuals seeking training in just that area.

All 7 modules of a comprehensive fundraising programme specifically targeted towards smaller nonprofits. To register see <u>HERE</u>.

STORYTELLING WITH IMPACT WEBINAR SERIES WITH THE NATIONAL LOTTERY – online Thurs, 17th Jun – 10 am – 11.15 am - Info & Registration HERE

SPARK CHANGE: LESSONS IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR NONPROFITS

The goal of this programme was to increase our understanding of how community and voluntary organisations are contributing to sustainable development in Ireland, specifically in the context of 17 global goals set by the United Nations (UN).

The webinar on Friday 25th June, 10 am - 11 am celebrates the publication of the official Spark Change research report and a special guide for community and voluntary organisations. For more Info & Registration see <u>HERE</u>.



SUMMER SCHOOL

July trainings for Community groups

- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) –
 20 July 2021 @ 7-9pm
- The Charities Governance Code –
 22 July 2021 @ 7-9pm
- Board Roles & Responsibilities –
 29 July 2021 @ 6-9pm

Individual e-learning courses also available addressing:

- The Role of the Chairperson
- The Role of the Company Secretary
- The Companies Act: Implications for Companies Limited by Guarantee

To apply for the licence for these sessions email: mmullen@galwaycoco.ie



Sign Up HERE.



EVENTS

Carmichael.

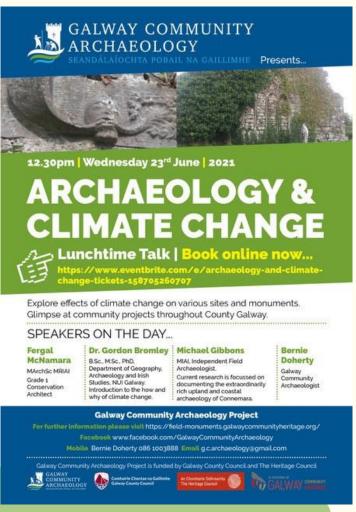


The Good Governance Awards 2021

Recognising and encouraging adherence to good governance practice by nonprofits in Ireland.

Now in its sixth year, The Good Governance Awards is an initiative that recognises and encourages adherence to good governance practice by nonprofits in Ireland. Deadline for submissions is September 14th 2021.

See HERE for more information.



Archaeology & Climate Change Wednesday 23rd June 12.30pm To register see <u>HERE</u>.

Ionad na Feamainne / The Seaweed Centre now open in Letter Mullen.

Situated in the coast of Connemara, Co. Galway and only 36 miles from Galway City, Lettermullan is one of the three islands collectively known as Ceantar na nOileán.

Rich in Irish language and culture, people in Lettermullan have always had a strong connection with the sea, making seaweed farming an important economic activity for the area. Enjoy a range of in house activities such as soap making or the seaweed safari experience! See their website HERE for more info.





Galway Autism Partnership (GAP) is running a series of **Summer camps** this year that could be of interest to autistic and neurodivergent young people ages 3 - 18 years.

GAP is offering camps that are suitable for young people of all levels of ability and support needs. Spaces limited.

For more information visit:

www.galwayautismpartnership.com.

Music Generation & Circus Skills

MORNING CAMP for Young People with high support needs 28th June- 2nd July Time: 10 am-12;30pm

Ages: Secondary School Students
Price per person: €100

AFTERNOON CAMP for Young People with

low support needs 28th June - 2nd July Time:2pm-4;30

Ages: Secondary School Students Price Per Person: €100









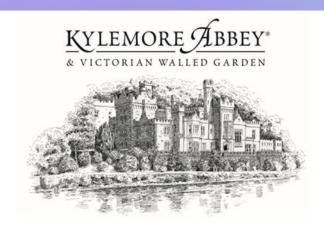
Music Generatior & Circus Skills

Morning Camp for children with high support needs 5th July -9th July Time: 10am-12:30pm Ages: Primary School Students Price Per Person €100

Afternoon Camp for children with low support needs 5th July- 9th July Time: 2pm- 4:30pm Ages: Primary School Students Price Per Person: €100

> Music Generation Galway City







KYLEMORE ABBEY LAUNCHES NEW HERITAGE RESOUCE FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Free workbook and digital resource, Imagine a Castle, draws on the rich heritage of Kylemore Abbey and offers primary school students journey of discovery and creativity.

Links to the resources here - <u>www.KylemoreAbbey.com</u> and <u>www.heritage.galwaycommunityheritage.org</u>

Kylemore Abbey has launched a FREE Schools history workbook, Imagine a Castle for primary schools. Available as a colourful bilingual (English and Irish) workbook or as an online flip-book with accompanying online resources, Imagine a Castle is a wonderful new history resource for 5th and 6th class primary school students launched by Kylemore ahead of re-opening this May.

Funded by Galway Co. Council, Creative Ireland and The Kylemore Trust, the workbook will be distributed to all primary schools in Co. Galway through its Mobile Schools Library Service and through the Heritage Office, Galway county Council.



WEEE RECYCLE ANYTHING WITH A PLUG OR A BATTERY!

Your local authority recycling centre will take your old appliances, **FOR FREE!**

No Purchase Required



SUPPORTS

Galway County Council COVID-19 Community Call Helpline

Telephone: 1800 928 894 (freephone)

091 509 390 (landline)

Email: covidsupport@galwaycoco.ie

Our helpline will be open from 9am - 5pm everyday. (including weekends) Outside of these times please leave a voicemail and we will get back to you.

Covid-19 Information



COVID-19 Vaccine Centres

Videos with information about how the vaccination centres will operate are available here.

Infection Prevention and Control guidelines for Early Learning and Care and School Age Childcare settings during the COVID-19 Pandemic This guidance is available here.

Isolation quick guide: adults and children from their 13th birthday This guidance is available here.

Isolation quick guide: greater than 3 months and up to 13th birthday This guidance is available here.

COVID-19 Religious settings guidance This guidance is available here.

Summary of Key Guidance Points for Infection Prevention and Control and Outbreak Control in a Long-Term Residential Care Facility.

This guidance is available here.