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ISSUE 17
APR/MAY 2019



GLENDALOUGH

- IN IRELAND'S ANCIENT EAST. SEE P16



Councillor Ted Leddy

Representing the Castleknock Ward of Fingal Co County Council

Includes: Blanchardstown, Carpenterstown, Blakestown, Coolmine, Clonsilla and Porterstown

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Cllr. Howard Mahony

Representing Castleknock, Blanchardstown and Clonsilla

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FINE GAEL

JAGAN MUTTUMULA

Fine Gael Local Election Candidate for Ongar Ward

Protecting our environment and moving decisively towards a carbon neutral future Climate change is the existential challenge of our generation.

We must protect our planet. Fine Gael's guiding principle is that we intend to hand over guardianship and stewardship of our planet to future generations in a much better state than we inherited it. We are a small country but we have a big role to play in meeting this challenge at home and on the world stage.

Our ambition is that:

- We move as a society towards a future where our fossil fuel usage is significantly reduced by 2030 and we are on a clear trajectory towards carbon neutrality in 2050;
- We have consensus, across society and politics, on how to achieve this so that future governments will not undo progress made;

- We reduce our waste, specifically single use plastics, and increase our recycling; and
- We protect our marine resources and improve air quality.

We acknowledge that progress to date in terms of reducing our carbon emissions has not been sufficient and that the policy tools employed heretofore have not yielded adequate results. We will therefore review all aspects of our climate action policy approach and, informed by that review, and the findings of the special Oireachtas Committee on Climate Action, set out a new all-of-government plan to achieving our targets for 2030 and 2050 in early 2019. In developing new approaches, we will be looking at other countries to see what has worked well, and how it could be adapted and implemented here.

This will require significant new interventions that need buy-in from all political parties so that they are not reversed by future governments. It also requires broad societal backing for those interventions to be delivered upon, and public engagement will be a major part of this initiative.

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EDITORIAL



Keith Bellew

growing on two locations of the Tolka Valley flood defences embankment.

Engineers from the OPW are concerned that the growth on the embankment could have a significant effect on the structural strength and integrity of the earth embankment and they have recommended the removal of all vegetation. The work will consist of the removal of all vegetation on the embankment at two locations. We also caught up with local singer songwriter Declan Greene fresh from a European tour in support of Gavin James.

Our latest edition is full of interesting pieces.

Thankfully there has been more good news than bad since our last edition.

For instance there is finally a plan in place for flood protection at the Tolka River. Following a condition report, the Office of Public Works has recommended the removal of vegetation

growing on two locations of the Tolka Valley flood defences embankment.

Declan chatted to us about his music and experiences ahead of the launch of his new single on May 1 in Whelan's.

Yet another hat has been thrown into the political ring ahead of the local elections in May as the Green Party have chosen to have selected Daniel Whooley as their candidate to contest the Local Elections in the Ongar ward. The Ongar ward covers the communities of Ongar, Littlepace, Hartstown, Huntstown, Hansfield and part of Clonsilla.

On the housing front, Fingal County Council has adopted the Barnhill Local Area Plan (LAP) which will deliver approximately 1,000 new homes as part of the creation of sustainable communities in the Dublin 15 area.

At the full monthly council meeting on Monday, councillors voted overwhelming in favour of the new LAP, which covers 46 hectares of land, located to the southwest of Blanchardstown and adjacent to the existing railway station at Hansfield.

The lands will be accessed by the new Ongar-Barnhill Road, which has already been approved after undergoing a Part 8 public consultation process.

As well as providing mixed tenure housing, the development of Barnhill LAP will include an extensive range of social and community infrastructure. Central to this is a large active recreational park, which is to be developed to include a formal playing field and Multi Use Games Area, skatepark and playground.

Keith Bellew, Editor

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- Clonsilla Inn
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- The Carlton Hotel Tyrrelstown



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Council Adopts Barnhill LAP

New homes to be delivered in Dublin 15 after Fingal County Council adopts Barnhill Local Area Plan

Fingal County Council has adopted the Barnhill Local Area Plan (LAP) which will deliver approximately 1,000 new homes as part of the creation of sustainable communities in the Dublin 15 area.

At the recent full monthly council meeting, councillors voted overwhelming in favour of the new LAP, which covers 46 hectares of land, located to the southwest of Blanchardstown and adjacent to the existing railway station at Hansfield.

The lands will be accessed by the new Ongar-Barnhill Road, which has already been approved after undergoing a Part 8 public consultation process.

As well as providing mixed tenure housing, the development of Barnhill LAP will include an extensive range of social and community infrastructure. Central to this is a large active recreational park, which is to be developed to include a formal playing field and Multi Use Games Area, skatepark and playground.

Provision has also been made for a new school and childcare facilities to ensure that the needs of children of all ages are met for over the family lifecycle.

The LAP has been adopted following an extensive level of consultation with residents and local stakeholders. A pre-draft public consultation process was first held in 2017.

The statutory period of consultation was held between October and December last year when 31 submissions were received. The LAP then came back before councillors on Monday for adoption.

Director of Planning and Strategic Infrastructure AnnMarie Farrelly said: "The LAP provides the development framework for the planned, coordinated and sustainable development of a new and diverse



There is a Solution Group Alcoholics Anonymous

Community Resource Centre, Blackcourt Rd, Corduff, D15

Tel: 085 814 1164

www.thereisasolutiongroup.net
tiasgcorduff@gmail.com

Our group meets every Saturday morning at 11am at the above address, the meeting is open and everyone is welcome to attend and discover what we do. Our members have recovered from a seemingly hopeless state of mind **and** body, to show other alcoholics precisely how we have recovered is the main purpose of our group, for them we hope it will prove so convincing that no further authentication will be necessary. The **only** requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking, there are no fees to be paid. Alcoholics Anonymous is an international fellowship of men and women who have had a drinking problem. It is nonprofessional, self-supporting, multiracial, apolitical, and available almost everywhere. There are no age or education requirements. Membership is open to anyone who wants to do something about his or her drinking problem.

Alcoholism is an obsession of the mind that condemns one to drink and an allergy of the body that condemns one to die. (Dr. Wm. D. Silkworth), this is underpinned by a Spiritual malady that changes our actions and personality for the worse. The spiritual programme of A.A. if lived as a way of life, can expel the obsession to drink and enable the sufferer to become happily and usefully whole.

community in this part of Fingal. Barnhill presents an opportunity to positively contribute towards the economic and social development of the wider urban fabric of the Greater Dublin Area.

"It is a strategic aim of the LAP to create sustainable communities through the integration of a new community with the community currently being established in surrounding areas such as Hansfield.

"The vision for Barnhill is to create a place to live that is appealing, distinctive and sustainable, maximising the opportunities provided by the surrounding natural environment for improved amenities and the enhancement of biodiversity."

Senior Planner Colm McCoy said: "The Barnhill area will cater for a diverse range of housing and tenure to cater for the needs of a growing population and to ensure social inclusion. The LAP will do this by offering choice through good place making, underpinned by new road, water and communication infrastructure and sustainable modes of transport as part of the LAP's green infrastructure strategy."

John Walsh

Local representative

Representing Blanchardstown, Castleknock & Clonsilla

☎ **087 648 6228**

✉ **jmwalsh1@eircom.net**



LABOUR

Value Hearing going from strength to strength

Value Hearing is celebrating a year in business this month and wishes to extend its gratitude to its customers which have helped it grow from strength to strength over the past 12 months.



Value Hearing is headed by two professionals who have combined experience of 54 years in the field.

Head of the business is Audiologist Jacinta Larkin M.I.S.H.A.A

Having graduated from DIT in Electronics in 1999 her first role was with Acoustic Technologies as a hearing aid producer. She made and designed hearing aids for the Irish market. After a number of years she began to get curious about the people who wore the actual hearing aids as she had never met anyone who wore the product. After much thought she decided to go and study further in All Hallows, Drumcondra and qualify as an Audiologist. She worked for companies such as Advance Hearing, Bonavox and St Johns Hearing and also set up her own business in hearing aid repairs called Listen Hear.

Speaking to Little Village, co-owner Katherine said she wanted to “Thank all our customers for their business over the past year”

“If thinking about purchasing a hearing aid and comparing prices give us a call our prices cannot be beaten and our aftercare. Our service is second to none we are so proud of the service we offer and we want to keep going and give our customers a great experience for years to come. You get a 4 year warranty on any new hearing aids purchased and all our repairs are done in house without having to send away your aid for weeks on end,” said Katherine.

The Social Welfare Grant is available.

For more information Tel: 01 838 9281

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www.valuehearing.ie.



Cllr Roderic O'Gorman

LOCAL ELECTION CANDIDATE: CASTLEKNOCK WARD

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- Coolmine
- Blakestown
- Mount View
- Liffey Valley
- Old Racecourse

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Since I was elected in 2014, I've worked to address all local queries that individuals or residents associations have brought to me, while also progressing long-term projects like the Royal Canal Greenway, re-establishing Blanchardstown Tidy Towns and supporting the development of new schools. I believe transparency is really important, so I

keep residents updated with regular newsletters and have held public meetings on key local issues. I have worked on transport and public safety issues through my membership of the Transportation Committee and the Joint Policing Committee. I've worked closely with the Green Party TDs in the Dáil to put pressure on Government Ministers to deliver education and public transport projects in Dublin 15.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE LAST 5 YEARS

- Persuaded Fingal County Council to begin drafting the first Fingal Cycling Policy.
- Member of school boards of management in Coolmine Community School, Castleknock Community College, Pobail Setanta and Scoil Choilm (chairperson).
- Successfully lobbied for local Gardai to report on domestic violence statistics at Fingal Joint Policing Committee meetings.
- Jointly re-established the Blanchardstown Village Tidy Towns group.
- Held public meetings on key topics like BusConnects, Royal Canal Greenway, Childcare and the Fingal Development Plan
- Amended the Fingal Development Plan to ensure the roll-out of 30kmph speed limits in residential estates
- Jointly led the Yes Equality campaign for the marriage equality referendum in Dublin West and actively campaigned for a Yes vote to repeal the 8th Amendment

MY PRIORITIES IF RE-ELECTED:

- Improve the quality of bus services and deliver the DART upgrade on the Maynooth line. Provide safe cycling routes.
- Ensure sufficient schools and youth facilities are built for the growing population of young people in our community.
- Prioritise the provision of social and affordable homes and protect people who are renting.
- Protect our green spaces, Royal Canal & River Liffey; tackle dumping and support policies to address climate change.



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Fingal Skills Strategy

Fingal County Council has launched the Fingal Skills Strategy, the first of its kind to be developed by any Local Authority in Ireland.

Launched in Swords Castle Chapel on Tuesday (February 26), it identifies gaps between the skills of Fingal's workforce and the skills that employers need.

The Strategy sets out specific actions such as developing new training courses, increasing course provision, and building relationships and links with employers, educational institutions and other stakeholders.

Analysis showed a skills gap of up to 7,600 roles per annum up to 2023. It broke these down across sectors and occupations.

Six sectors were identified: Commerce and Trade, Professional Services, Transport and Logistics, Manufacturing/Biopharma, Agri-Food, and Construction.

The largest gaps by sector are 3,176 roles in Commerce and Trade, and 1,858 in Professional Services.

Within each sector, it looks at eight occupations: Managers, Directors and Senior Officials; Professional, Associate Professional and Technical; Administrative and Secretarial; Skilled Trades; Caring, Leisure and Service; Sales and Customer Service; Process, Plant and Machine Operatives; and Elementary Occupations.

The largest gaps by occupation are 1,961 roles in Elementary, 1,441 in Sales and Customer Services, and 1,120 in Skilled Trades.

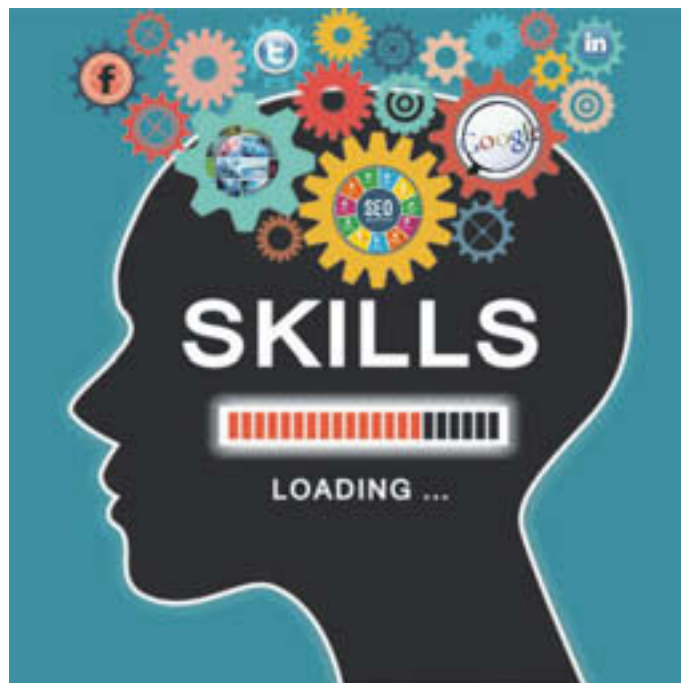
As the first Local Authority in Ireland to develop a Skills Strategy, Fingal sees the strategy as a roadmap for future skills development and a model of best practice for other Local Authorities.

Mayor of Fingal, Cllr. Anthony Lavin said: "As investment in Fingal continues to grow, it is very important that we safeguard this with a pipeline of workers with the right skills to fill future vacancies. With the County's young age profile and competitive advantages in terms of enterprise, Fingal are very well placed to capitalise on this work.

"Aside from filling the skills gap, this strategy also addresses another very important challenge for Fingal. We need to remember that there are people who are detached from the labour market entirely and this strategy puts in place a roadmap for people who may not have a high level of educational attainment, but who wish to embark on employment or upskill through further education."

Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, Paul Reid said: "Fingal is the fastest-growing Local Authority area in the country, and so the creation of sustainable jobs is a key focus.

"This project has brought together education providers, policy makers, and employers, and it's an example of Fingal County Council proactively ensuring the future economic growth and development of the County".



Chairperson of Fingal Skills Strategy Advisory Group, Siobhan Kinsella said: "Fingal is a great place to live, work and do business, and this plan will help to continue this. It shows that the Council is listening to employers, taking the views and ideas of stakeholders on board, and this Strategy doesn't just have recommendations – it has actions, it lays out responsibilities and accountability."

LEO VARADKAR TD
TAOISEACH



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South Fingal Transport Study makes a number of key transport recommendations

Fingal County Council has published the South Fingal Transport Study (SFTS), a strategic land-use and transport study involving the development of a multi-modal transport strategy for the South Fingal area which includes areas such as Swords, Dublin Airport, Clonsilla, Balgriffin and Baldoyle.

Among the key recommendations to be delivered within the study timeframe up to 2027 are the upgrade of the R132 Airport Roundabout, the provision of a Western Airport Access Route, the prioritisation of the Swords Core Bus Corridor and the construction of a high quality sustainable transport network to serve the expanding town of Swords.

In September 2017, Fingal County Council (FCC) commissioned Systra transport planning consultants to undertake the South Fingal Transport Study (SFTS).

Working with Systra, the Study included the identification of capacity constraints in the transport network across public transport, walking, cycling, and roads; an assessment of surface access issues within the study area including in and around Dublin Airport; and the development of a framework to inform future development including the numerous Local Area Plans and Masterplans proposed for the area.

Fingal County Council's Director of Services for Planning & Strategic Infrastructure AnnMarie Farrelly said: "We are particularly pleased to publish this Study on the basis of having worked collaboratively with colleagues in the National Transport Authority, Transport Infrastructure Ireland and Dublin City Council to ensure a coordinated approach with respect to transport planning and land-use development and priorities.

"The challenge now for Fingal County Council will be to consider the recommendations in more detail, secure funding where required and bring the proposed schemes through the planning process in a timely manner, with the overall objective of ensuring the sustainable development of Fingal for future generations."

To see the full South Fingal Transport Study, visit:
<https://bit.ly/2RqqUjj>.

LAMA Awards

Fingal County Council has been nominated for the Council of the Year award in the 2019 All Ireland Community and Council Awards presented by IPB Insurance and LAMA.

The Council is also a finalist in eight other categories. The winners will be announced on Saturday, 9 February at an awards ceremony in Croke Park which will be presented by RTE's Marty Morrissey.

The LAMA awards exist to highlight and recognise communities and councils working together to enhance their local area and improve the lives and well-being of residents.

The Flavours of Fingal County Show which took place in June 2018 is a finalist in the Best Arts/Culture Initiative award category. Fingal Comhairle na nÓg 'Perfect Imperfections', a short film about body image and mental health, has also been nominated as a finalist for the Best Community Based

Initiative category.

Other categories Fingal has been nominated in include the award for Best Disability Access and Inclusion initiative for which Rush Harbour Playground, Rush, Co. Dublin is a finalist.

Fingal County Council's installation of electric vehicle charging points has also been nominated in two categories: The Best Energy Smart Initiative and The Best Environmental/Ecological Initiative. The Tropical Butterfly House in Malahide Castle is also a finalist in this category.

Newbridge House and Farm is a finalist in this year's Best Heritage Project award while two Fingal public parks, Rock Garden Park in Swords and St Catherine's Park in Dublin 15, are included in the list of finalists for Best Public Park.

Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, Paul Reid said: "I would like to commend both the Fingal staff and community volunteers involved in each initiative listed as a finalist across the eight categories. I am particularly happy to see that their collective effort and dedication has resulted in Fingal County Council being nominated for Council of the Year award. The awards are an opportunity to highlight the work we do to make Fingal a better place to live, visit and work in and I am delighted that the Council is being recognised."

Cllr. Howard Mahony

Representing Castleknock, Blanchardstown and Clonsilla

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What Lies Beneath

Fingal Geophysical Survey Project-Exhibition Launched in Blanchardstown Library

The “What Lies beneath: Fingal Geophysical Survey Project” exhibition was launched in Blanchardstown Library by Acting Mayor Cllr. Kieran Dennison, along with Fingal Community Archaeologist Christine Baker, in front of an enthusiastic audience on Monday.

The exhibition is the result of survey work undertaken late last year at St Catherine’s Park, Corduff Park, Dublin 15, Rosepark, Balrothery, Lusk, Swords and Newbridge Demesne. The project is a community one to discover the sub-surface remains in our parks and open spaces and to raise awareness of what is literally on people’s doorsteps!

Archaeology is everywhere. The need for both development and preservation has resulted in many archaeology sites being incorporated into the open space of housing estates or within public parks. Members of local communities raised awareness of these sub-surface remains by participating in these geophysical surveys across six sites in Fingal.

Speaking about the project Fingal Community



Above: Christine Baker Community Archaeologist with Acting Mayor Kieran Dennison

Archaeologist Christine Baker said ‘There are over 30 greenspaces within housing estates or within parklands throughout Fingal where we know archaeological remains have been preserved. The aim of this project is to connect people with the story of what is literally on their doorstep’.

At the launch Councillor Kieran Dennison praised the project as a means of applying modern technology to our past. ‘The What Lies beneath project is a way of integrating new communities with the heritage of an area’ he said ‘As well as making sure these sites are protected into the future’.

‘Not only did we confirm the location of the long since destroyed house at St Catherine’s Park but we uncovered a completely new site within Newbridge Demesne’ said Fingal’s archaeologist Christine Baker ‘The What Lies Beneath project which was supported by the Heritage Council, demonstrates how the community and professionals working together can produce wonderful research results’.

The results of the geophysical surveys are currently on display in the What Lies Beneath exhibition in Blanchardstown Library. The exhibition will run until 8 March 2019, when it will move to other venues around the County.



Councillor Ted Leddy

Representing the Castleknock Ward of Fingal Co County Council

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Glendalough

Glendalough (*/ˌglɛndəˈlɒx/*; Irish: *Gleann Dá Loch*, meaning “Valley of two lakes”) is a glacial valley in County Wicklow, Ireland, renowned for an Early Medieval monastic settlement founded in the 6th century by St Kevin.

Kevin, a descendant of one of the ruling families in Leinster, studied as a boy under the care of three holy men, Eoghan, Lochan, and Eanna. During this time, he went to Glendalough. He was to return later, with a small group of monks to found a monastery where the ‘two rivers form a confluence’. Kevin’s writings discuss his fighting “knights” at Glendalough; scholars today believe this refers to his process of self-examination and his personal temptations. For six centuries afterwards, Glendalough flourished and the Irish Annals contain references to the deaths of abbots and raids on the settlement.

Around 1042, oak timber from Glendalough was used to build the second longest (30 m) Viking longship ever recorded. A modern replica of that ship was built in 2004 and is currently located in

Roskilde, Denmark.

At the Synod of Rath Breasail in 1111, Glendalough was designated as one of the two dioceses of North Leinster. The Book of Glendalough was written there about 1131.

St. Laurence O’Toole, born in 1128, became Abbot of Glendalough and was well known for his sanctity and hospitality. Even after his appointment as Archbishop of Dublin in 1162, he returned occasionally to Glendalough, to the solitude of St. Kevin’s Bed. He died in Eu, in Normandy in 1180.

In 1176, the Annals of Tigernach report that Glendalough was ‘plundered by the foreigners’.

In 1214, the dioceses of Glendalough and Dublin were united. From that time onwards, the cultural and ecclesiastical status of Glendalough diminished. The destruction of the settlement by English forces in 1398 left it a ruin but it continued as a church of local importance and a place of pilgrimage.

Glendalough features on the 1598 map “A Modern Depiction of Ireland, One of the British Isles” Abraham Ortelius as “Glandalag”.

Descriptions of Glendalough from the 18th and 19th centuries include references to occasions of “riotous assembly” on the feast of St. Kevin on 3 June.

The present remains in Glendalough tell only a small part of its story. The monastery in its heyday included workshops, areas

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for manuscript writing and copying, guest houses, an infirmary, farm buildings and dwellings for both the monks and a large lay population. The buildings which survive probably date from between the 10th and 12th centuries.

The Gateway

The Gateway to the monastic city of Glendalough is one of the most important monuments, now totally unique in Ireland. It was originally two-storeyed with two fine, granite arches. The antae or projecting walls at each end suggest that it had a timber roof. Inside the gateway, in the west wall, is a cross-inscribed stone. This denoted sanctuary, the boundary of the area of refuge. The paving of the causeway in the monastic city is still preserved in part but very little remains of the enclosure wall.

The Round Tower

This fine tower, built of mica-slate interspersed with granite is about 30 metres high, with an entrance 3.5 metres from the base. The conical roof was rebuilt in 1876 using the original stones. The tower originally had six timber floors, connected by ladders. The four storeys above entrance level are each lit by a small window; while the top storey has four windows facing the cardinal compass points. Round towers, landmarks for approaching visitors, were built as bell towers, but also served on occasion as store-houses and as places of refuge in times of attack.

The Cathedral

The largest and most imposing of the buildings at Glendalough, the cathedral had several phases of construction, the earliest, consisting of the present nave with its antae. The large mica-schist stones which can be seen up to the height of the square-headed west doorway were re-used from an earlier smaller church. The chancel and sacristy date from the late 12th and early 13th centuries. The chancel arch and east window were finely decorated, though many of the stones are now missing. The north doorway to the nave also dates from this period. Under the southern window of the chancel is an ambry or wall cupboard and a piscina, a basin used for washing the sacred vessels. A few metres south of the cathedral an early cross of local granite, with an unpierced ring, is commonly known as St. Kevin's Cross

The Priests' House

Almost totally reconstructed from the original stones, based on a 1779 sketch made by Beranger, the Priests' House is a small Romanesque building, with a decorative arch at the east end. It gets its name from the practice of interring priests there in the 18th and 19th centuries. Its original purpose is unknown although it may have been used to house relics of St. Kevin.

Saint Kevin's Church.

This stone-roofed building originally had a nave only, with entrance at the west end and a small round-headed window in the east gable. The upper part of the window can be seen above what became the chancel arch when the chancel (now missing) and the sacristy were added later. The steep roof, formed of overlapping stones, is supported internally by a semi-circular vault. Access to the croft or roof chamber was through a rectangular opening towards the western end of the vault. The church also had a timber first floor. The belfry with its conical cap and four small windows



risers from the west end of the stone roof in the form of a miniature round tower. It is commonly known as St. Kevin's Kitchen as the bell tower resembles a kitchen chimney. However, food was not cooked here.

St. Ciarán's (Kieran's) Church

The remains of this nave-and-chancel church were uncovered in 1875. The church probably commemorates St. Ciarán (Kieran), the founder of Clonmacnoise, a monastic settlement that had associations with Glendalough during the 10th century.

St. Mary's or Our Lady's Church

One of the earliest and best constructed of the churches, St. Mary's or Our Lady's Church consists of a nave with a later chancel. Its granite west doorway with an architrave, has inclined jambs and a massive lintel. The under-side of the lintel is inscribed with an unusual saltire or x-shaped cross. The East window is round-headed, with a hood moulding and two very worn carved heads on the outside.

Trinity Church

A simple nave-and-chancel church, with a fine chancel arch. Trinity Church is beside the main road. A square-headed doorway in the west gable leads into a later annexe, possibly a sacristy. A round tower or belfry was constructed over a vault in this chamber. This fell in a storm in 1818. The doorway inserted in the south wall of the nave also dates from this period. Projecting corbels at the gables would have carried the verge timbers of the roof.

St. Saviour's Church

The most recent of the Glendalough churches, St. Saviour's was built in the 12th century, probably at the time of St. Laurence O'Toole. The nave and chancel with their fine decorate stones were restored in the 1870s using stones found on the site. The Romanesque chancel arch has three orders, with highly ornamented capitals. The east window has two round-headed lights. Its decorated features include a serpent, a lion, and two birds holding a human head between their beaks. A staircase in the eastern wall leading from an adjoining domestic building would have given access to a room over the chancel.

John Walsh

Local representative

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LABOUR

St Patricks Day

St. Patrick's Day in Fingal is set to be a bustling celebration of all things Irish, as over 136 groups and counting take part in parades to be held across the county.

Fingal County Council's Events Unit has fielded 53 applications from Swords, 47 from Blanchardstown and 36 from Balbriggan so far.

Fingal County Council would like to welcome everyone to enjoy the parades. Locations and starting times on Sunday (March 17) are as follows:

Swords	11.00 am
Balbriggan	2.00 pm
Blanchardstown	3.00 pm

There are also parades taking place in Rush, Lusk and Skerries which are organised by community groups. The Rush parade begins at 1 pm and the Lusk parade takes place at 1.30pm. In Skerries, the parade begins at 3 pm.

The Swords parade route will go through Swords Main Street before finishing at Swords Castle. The Balbriggan parade will begin at Lambeecher, go through the main street and end at St Peter and Paul's Church. The Blanchardstown parade will commence in the village and make its way to the Blanchardstown Centre.

Fingal County Council is partnering with St. Patrick's Festival in Swords to present a new pageant. The collaboration involves working with community groups in Fingal to develop stories around Irish tradition,



diversity and Irish mythology.

The pageant will be inspired by local mythology and traditions such as the Legend of St. Patrick, Ériu the Goddess of Ireland, and St. Patrick's Island, the island off the coast of Skerries where St. Patrick is reputed to have first landed on Irish shores.

Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Anthony Lavin said: "Saint Patrick's Day is a significant cultural event and the parades allow Fingal residents to celebrate in their communities. The St Patrick's Day Parades are an

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opportunity for residents to learn about local community groups and the businesses in their area. I look forward to seeing the diverse and creative floats at the Fingal parades this year."

Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, Paul Reid said: "Over 55,000 people attended the Fingal Saint Patrick's Day parades last year and I look forward to seeing the turn out for this year.

"Davis Events have been again engaged by Fingal County Council to deliver the 2019 parades in Swords, Balbriggan and Blanchardstown.

"The Fingal Events team works to organise parades that are an entertaining and inclusive cultural celebration."



Housing construction activity in Fingal rose in 2018 with 2,140 homes completed

Fingal County Council has welcomed the latest figures from the Central Statistics Office which show that 2,140 homes were completed in the county over the past year, accounting for almost 12 per cent of the national total.

Housing construction activity in Fingal rose in 2018 with 2,140 homes completed. Fingal County Council has welcomed the latest figures from the Central Statistics Office which show that 2,140 homes were completed in the county over the past year, accounting for almost 12 per cent of the national total.

Latest data from the CSO shows that the Dublin 15 had the highest level of activity in the country with 800 completed. In total 18,072 completed builds were recorded across the State.

Breaking down the figures from the Dublin region, which saw 6,924 homes completed, Fingal accounted for just under one third of all activity in the entire county.

According to Fingal County Council's own figures, the number of sites actively under construction jumped to 79, up from 71 at the end of 2017, an 11.3 per cent increase. And this has further boosted the number of units under construction, with 2,527 homes underway last year, up 15 per cent from 2017 which showed a return of 2,200 properties.

Areas in the county where construction activity and completions have accelerated over the past 12 months include the Hansfield Strategic Development Zone (SDZ) in Dublin 15, where 175 units were under construction at the end of Q4 2018. Overall a total of 858 properties have been completed on this site.

With the completion of the LIHAF-funded Donabate Distributor road later in 2019, significant further development will be facilitated. 206 units are currently under construction here, up from 182 units in the previous quarter. The Oldtown/Mooretown site in Swords, Donabate, the former Phoenix Park Racecourse and Balbriggan also show continued strong activity, according to Fingal County Council figures.

Interestingly as construction activity ramps up, there has also been a significant jump in the number of apartments under construction, with a 23 per cent rise in this category during 2018 compared to the previous 12 months. According to Fingal County Council figures there are now 913 apartments under construction, which will lead to a



significant upward trend in completions in this area during 2019.

Furthermore, building is not just confined to urban areas, with a 26 per cent increase recorded in Fingal's rural villages in the 12-month period to the end of September 2018. Villages such as Kinsealy, Ballyboughal, Naul, Garristown, and Rowlestown are performing well in terms of construction activity.

Director of Planning and Strategic Infrastructure AnnMarie Farrelly said: "There are now 79 active housing sites in the county and in excess of 2,500 units are under construction. This indicates that the upward trend in housing delivery will continue this year."

Fingal County Council Chief Executive Paul Reid said: "Fingal County Council's proactive approach to infrastructure delivery will ensure the continued availability of serviced land for both residential and economic development."

Welcoming the figures, Mayor of Fingal Cllr Anthony Lavin said: "I am delighted to see the level of construction activity across all areas of Fingal. It has been a priority of Fingal County Council to increase the level of housing and I am delighting to see the hardwork and effort paying off."



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Fingal seeks submissions on the proposed Royal Canal Urban Greenway route

Fingal County Council is seeking submissions from the public on the proposed Royal Canal Urban Greenway route. The public consultation is open until March 25, 2019.



The route will serve Castleknock, Blanchardstown, Clonsilla, Coolmine and the wider Dublin 15 area. The proposed Urban Greenway will encourage recreation while offering an alternative transport choice for school children and commuters. This will bring significant environmental, economic and health benefits to the wider community.

Taking into account Royal Canal's designation as a protected structure, the planned route for the Urban Greenway aims to protect and enhance the existing environment along the corridor.

The plans for the route will be on display until 25 March, 2019 in the Fingal County Council offices, Grove Road, Blanchardstown. To make a submission and find out more

information, visit: www.consult.fingal.ie/en/browse.

Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Anthony Lavin, said: "I am delighted to see Fingal County Council engaging with the public to make progress on the route for the Royal Canal Urban Greenway. This is an important infrastructural development that will allow Fingal residents to make environmentally-friendly travel decisions safely."

Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, Paul Reid, said: "With a growing population, it is important that we provide alternative travel options for students and those who have to commute for work. The Royal Canal Urban Greenway will allow for a more sustainable system of transport while protecting the area's biodiversity. I look forward to seeing the public engagement to help progress this project."

John Walsh

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LABOUR

Flood Defence Works Commence

Following a condition report, the Office of Public Works has recommended the removal of vegetation growing on two locations of the Tolka Valley flood defences embankment.

Engineers from the OPW are concerned that the growth on the embankment could have a significant effect on the structural strength and integrity of the earth embankment and they have recommended the removal of all vegetation. The work will consist of the removal of all vegetation on the embankment at two locations.

The work will take place on two sites. The compound for Site one is the Fingal County Council car park, located along the flyover road over the N3. Work commenced here on Thursday 7 February and is expected to finish by Monday 18 February. It is located close to the tree felling operations and will allow the securing of the site, making it safe for both the public and tree operatives. A small section of the earth bank running down the footpath will be excavated to allow a temporary roadway to be installed.

Due to the topography, volume of material and limited access the contractor proposes to use a timber harvester and timber forwarder to carry out the site clearance. Once the work is complete the earth bank will be reinstated and seeded. The contractor has a contract with Bord na Mona to provide woodchip from the debris for the biomass power plant in Edenderry, reducing the carbon footprint of the tree felling operation.

The removal of all trees and vegetation material along the N3 will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and FreeFlow Traffic Management Company. This work will have to be undertaken at night under lights and over the course of two weekends.

Due to the dangerous nature of the works being carried out the extent and amount of large machinery being used in a public park, the work site will be secured from the public at the below locations:

- R843 (Snugborough Rd) edge of bridge set inside crash barrier.110 metres fence along crash barrier, and then run fencing down to the river. It will terminate at the bridge or walkway.
- Fencing to be located across footpath at bridge located down from car park area.
- Fencing located at the R121 end of the park. It will be located where the river path bends towards the N3 and set up across the grass. This will not impede the public access as they can still move freely across the river further upstream.
- Fencing around the car park area also thus ensuring that the worksite is as secure as it can possibly be.

Site two is a 450 metre earth embankment enclosing Westpoint Business Park. Work will commence on February 8 and is expected to take two weeks. When all tree works are complete, the soil will be replaced to recreate the earth bank as it was. An earth ramp will be created to allow the creation of a temporary roadway and a large work area.

Fencing will be installed across the entrance and exit. Security fencing will also be installed at the far end of the earth embankment. A security guard will be located on site working the same hours as in site one. The felling, chipping and removal process will be the same as in site one.

Fingal County Council’s Director of Operations, David Storey said: “The removal of vegetation located at both work sites are essential works to ensure the embankment prevents flooding of the N3. Fingal County Council is working with the OPW to ensure the works are carried out in accordance with TII and FreeFlow Traffic Management Company requirements to minimise traffic disruptions.”



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Ireland in the EU

A fascinating exhibition highlighting the story of Ireland's membership of the European Union was displayed in the Europe Direct Information Centre in Blanchardstown Library recently.

The exhibition showcasing the many ways that EU membership has benefitted Ireland over the past 45 years was on show in Blanchardstown for the month of February as part of a nationwide tour of all EDICS. It featured 45 stories from all 26 countries, across various sectors, including Agriculture, Business, Culture and Health including an environmental project on Rockabill Island.

The exhibition was officially launched on 26th September, 2018 in the House of the Oireachtas by Ceann Comhairle Séan Ó Fearghail TD; the Head of European Commission Representation in Ireland, Gerry Kiely; the Cathaoirleach of Seanad Éireann, Senator Denis O'Donovan; and European Affairs Minister Helen McEntee.

Head of the European Commission Representation in Ireland, Gerry Kiely said visitors to the travelling exhibition and readers of the booklet would not help but be impressed by the sweep and scale of EU involvement in driving positive change for Ireland.

"EU laws and initiatives have, among others, protected our environment, created great opportunities to study and trade abroad, financed vital infrastructure in Ireland, and helped prevent discrimination," Mr. Kiely said. "Ireland's great farming tradition also benefits greatly from EU payments and support. All of these positive dynamics of EU membership are told in the human stories contained in this exhibition."

Ceann Comhairle, Séan Ó Fearghail said "Since Ireland joined the then-EEC in 1973, our people have developed a deep appreciation of what it means to be a European and a true partner to our fellow EU Member States," He continued "This exhibition and the accompanying booklet contain rich personal stories of the real ways that European cooperation opens the door to economic opportunity and cultural enrichment, both for Irish people and for our fellow Europeans wishing to strengthen ties with Ireland."

Ms Siobhán Walshe, Librarian Blanchardstown commented "This exhibition has already proved very popular and people are very interested to read the local story of the conservation project on the nesting habitat of the Roseate Tern on Rockabill Island"

You can download the '45 Stories' booklet here: <https://ec.europa.eu/ireland/sites/ireland/files/brochuresinglepages.pdf>.

Battle of the Book

Fingal County Libraries Battle of the Book final was won in a hotly contested final by St Mary's National School, Garristown.

The final which took place in the Riasc Centre on Wednesday, February 6, saw six Fingal schools take part in a quiz on "The Book of Learning" by E.R Murray and "Arthur Quinn and the World Serpent" by Alan Early.

Both authors were present to sign copies of the books, and the entertainment and quiz master for the morning was Reuben the Entertainer from RTE Junior Fame.

As well as reading the book, the children participated in various activities organised by Fingal Libraries on the themes presented in the book. It was a hard-fought quiz with all children displaying an amazing knowledge of the content of each book.

After a tie-break, the Mayor of Fingal Anthony Lavin presented the winning team with their prize of a behind-the-scenes tour of Dublin Airport courtesy of the DAA.

This year's Battle of the Book involved St. Colmcille's GNS Swords, Powerstown Educate Together Tyrrellstown, St. Patrick's Senior NS Corduff, Rush NS, St. Mary's Garristown

NS and St. Nicholas of Myra NS, Kinsealy.

The programme was launched by Mayor of Fingal Cllr. Anthony Lavin in St. Colmcille's GNS, Chapel Lane, Swords Demesne, Swords, Co. Dublin in September 2018.

Mayor Lavin said: "The 'Battle of the Book' competition is a fantastic way to get children involved in reading, and we congratulate all involved."

County Librarian Betty Boardman said: "Fingal Libraries is delighted to have the support of Maura Cassidy and the DAA again this year for 'The Battle of the Book'."

Chief Executive of Fingal County Council Paul Reid said: "Fingal County Council is committed to supporting education and building communities that value it. Reading is a vital skill and a wonderful habit for life, so it's positive to see so many schools taking part and putting in very impressive efforts".

The programme is designed to encourage children to read with confidence, to discuss a common book providing a shared reading experience and to ignite a 'reading for life' culture.



Councillor Ted Leddy

Representing the Castleknock Ward of Fingal Co County Council

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IDEALS AND VALUES

I have dedicated my life to Public Service as a Member of An Garda Síochána based in the Garda Band, Finglas and Harcourt Square, as a Community Activist for over 30 years and also as a Politician. Before entering politics I was in the following organisations:

- *Chairman of my Local Residents Association;*
- *Chairman of Castleknock Community Centre;*
- *A Member of Dublin 15 Community Council;*
- *A Board Member of Phoenix FM Local Community Radio;*
- *Vice Chair of Fingal Community and Voluntary Forum;*
- *Founding Member of Fingal Public Participation Network.*

I have brought a committed, honest and energetic

presence to Fingal County Council and I will continue, if elected, to work with the same enthusiasm.

EDUCATION AND JOBS

As a member of the Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board and Fingal's Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee, I have worked with our schools and stakeholders in our community to progress education and employment opportunities.

SPORTS

Dublin 15 is extremely fortunate to have a huge variety of sports clubs. I support all sports clubs in our local

area and I will continue to lobby for better facilities for our sporting organisations.

PLANNING

I have and I will continue to proactively examine and scrutinise all planning and development proposals and I have been involved in all the major An Bord Pleanála appeals.

TRANSPORT

I am totally opposed to the proposed BusConnects plan. This proposal will completely reverse the hard work done by public and community representatives to build the transport infrastructure we have today. I will continue to work with all the stakeholders to ensure an improved public transport system that is fit for purpose for all the people of Dublin 15.

CRIME

It is imperative that people feel secure in their homes and in their community. As a retired Garda and as a member of the Fingal Joint Policing Committee I am acutely aware of the issues in our community. I hear on a daily basis, while canvassing, incidents of intimidation, burglaries and anti-social behavior. Our local Gardaí, who are hugely under resourced, have to police an area with the same population as Cork. I will continue to liaise

with An Garda Síochána Senior Management for more resources and a better and more secure environment for all our families.

HEALTH

I will continue to campaign for the retention, improvement and expansion of services and specialties in Connolly Hospital. We are privileged to have St. Francis Hospice in the grounds of Connolly Hospital, but Hospice Management have to constantly fundraise to provide essential services. I will continue to campaign to have the Hospice properly resourced.

PROPERTY TAX

I have consistently sought to reduce the amount of property tax paid by residents in Dublin 15 in line with the maximum reduction afforded by other Dublin City and County Councils to their residents. I will continue to work on behalf of the residents of Dublin 15 to highlight waste, deficiencies and inefficiencies within the Council so people can see value for the tax they pay.

GRAVEYARD

I have campaigned tirelessly to secure more graveyard spaces in Dublin 15. There is now a new Development taking place in Kellystown which will yield a much needed solution to this pressing issue.

If you need any assistance please do not hesitate to contact me on the details below.

**I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR
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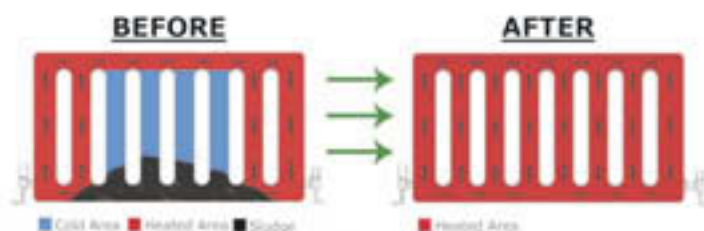
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Climate Change Action

The launch of the Draft Climate Change Action Plan for Fingal took place in the Atrium in County recently.



Members of the public attended the event to hear from Fingal County Council and the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) staff about what the Council are doing to implement energy efficiency initiatives and flood prevention schemes in the Fingal area. Visitors also found out about the Council's sustainable transport and Greenway plans.

Residents were given practical demonstrations to illustrate how they can help to tackle Climate Change. This included information about composting, practicing energy efficiency in their home and learning how to reduce waste and conserve water. There was also a kids' corner with fun educational demonstrations to appeal to children.

Speaking at the event, Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Anthony Lavin, said: "I am delighted that we have the opportunity to inform Fingal residents this evening about the work the Council is doing to address Climate Change. This engagement between Fingal Staff, SEAI representatives

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and Fingal residents is essential in helping the public give informed feedback during the ongoing consultation period.”

Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, Paul Reid, said: “Climate Change is an urgent issue that affects us all and requires collaboration between Local Authorities and residents to implement effective solutions. I am delighted that the four Dublin local authorities have proactively

worked together to find solutions and inform the public of how they can participate.”

The Draft Climate Action Plan is a joint initiative between the four Dublin local authorities and Codema, the Dublin energy agency. The public consultation period is open until Monday, 25 March. To make an online submission, visit: www.consult.fingal.ie/ga/consultation/draft-climate-change-action-plan

Greens Select Candidate for Ongar Ward

The Green Party have selected Daniel Whooley as their candidate to contest the Local Elections in the Ongar ward. The Ongar ward covers the communities of Ongar, Littlepace, Hartstown, Huntstown, Hansfield and part of Clonsilla.

I’m really passionate about community development in the Ongar area, coming from my time volunteering with local youth clubs. Dublin 15 has one of the youngest populations in Ireland and it’s time that Fingal County Council started representing our needs. There are issues that are unnoticed by the Council and I believe that a fresh, younger voice needs to be brought to Council meetings”, stated Daniel Whooley

“I want to see the Council consult directly with young people to find out what sort of facilities are needed in our community. The Council needs to provide more affordable housing so young families can achieve the dream of buying a home in the area. And Fingal needs to do more to protect our environment, both locally through stopping dumping and nationally through tackling climate change”.

Daniel’s selection was welcomed by Cllr. Roderic O’Gorman, who is the Green Party candidate in the neighbouring Castleknock ward.

“I am really excited that we have the prospect of getting another Green voice elected to represent Dublin 15. Growing up and living in Hartstown, Daniel understands the needs of the new communities there, and of those in Ongar and Littlepace. He will bring a completely fresh perspective to Fingal County Council – one that isn’t present at the moment”, stated Cllr. O’Gorman.



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Artist Support Scheme

Fingal County Council is delighted to announce the 2019 Artists' Support Scheme. This strand of funding allows professional artists to avail of an award up to €4,000 that can be used for travel, professional development opportunities, residency opportunities and the development of work.

The objective of the Artists' Support Scheme is to support individual professional artists from Fingal to develop their artistic practice. The award is open to practising artists at all stages in their professional careers working in music, visual art, drama, literature and dance. To be eligible to apply, applicants must have been born, have studied, or currently reside in the Fingal administrative area.

Speaking about the award, Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, Paul Reid said "I am pleased to announce the 2019 funding scheme which enables Fingal based artists to develop their professional arts practice. 150 bursaries have been awarded to artists working across all artforms since the initiation of the scheme in 2014 and Fingal County Council continues its commitment to supporting and nurturing the Arts in Fingal."

The funding is for projects/initiatives which will take place from 1 May - 31 December, 2019.

Aoibheann Greenan, a native of Swords, was awarded through the Artists' Support Scheme last year. Funding was used towards the production of a new performance, *The Life of Riley*, for the opening of Tulca Festival of Visual Arts, 2018, syntonic state, curated by Linda Shevlin. Greenan's work combines visual art and performance and often draws upon elements of theatre, live role playing, street performance and political protest.

The Life of Riley was inspired during a residency in Mexico and explores commemoration and the cross cultural history of the San Patricios, or St. Patrick's Battalion, a group of Irish soldiers who deserted the US army to fight alongside Mexico during the War of

Aoibheann Greenan
The Life of Riley, 2018



American Intervention in 1847. Captain John Riley from Clifden, Co Galway, formed the battalion and each year on 12 September a Mexican flag is raised in Clifden and, on the same date, in Mexico City an Irish Flag is raised. Though little is known of the San Patricios in Ireland, they are lauded as heroes in Mexico, with schools, streets and churches named after them, along with a plaque in the Mexican Parliament honouring their contribution. For the opening of Tulca, Aoibheann Greenan invited members of the St. Patrick's Battalion Pipe and Drum Band from Mexico City to lead a commemorative procession through the streets of Galway.

John Walsh

Local representative

Representing Blanchardstown, Castleknock & Clonsilla

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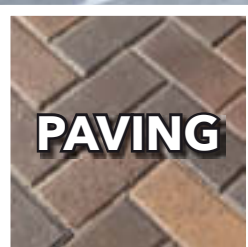
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**Please don't hesitate
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PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- Local bus routes which give access to the city centre for residents in Castleknock, Blanchardstown and Carpenterstown should be protected and the current Bus Connects plan requires major changes to ensure that commuters are not required to travel to the Blanchardstown Centre to get to the city centre.
- As Bus Connects is a long term process, new cycle paths on the Navan Road and local roads in Dublin 15 should be prioritised in advance of any wider changes in public transport. Safe cycle paths segregated from cars and pedestrians should be a core part of any new transport plan.

ROYAL CANAL URBAN GREENWAY

- The extension of the Royal Canal Greenway from Castleknock to the Kildare county boundary is a valuable amenity for cyclists and walkers and it is very welcome that the Council is planning to extend the Greenway.
- Unfortunately the emerging preferred route on the north side of the Canal is deeply disappointing and unacceptable to many local residents in Brompton, Delwood and Roselawn. The proposed route would damage local habitats in the wildlife corridor along the Canal and create risks of anti-social behaviour by opening up new and unnecessary access routes into adjoining cul de sacs. I am making the case for the route to be changed so that the Greenway can proceed along the south side of the Canal until Kirkpatrick bridge.
- Fingal Council is holding a public engagement process where you can raise any issues with the proposed route – have your say before **22 March 2019** through the Fingal website: <https://consult.fingal.ie/en/browse> ; by email to fingal.developmentplan@fingal.ie; or post to Senior Engineer, Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department, Fingal County Council, County Hall, Main Street, Swords, Co. Dublin, K37 X8Y2 by **25 March 2019**.

HOUSING AND PLANNING

- Far too often amenities in our area have not kept pace with new development. I will work to ensure that as new homes are built, they are properly served by essential amenities, such as schools, playgrounds and transport links, so that we create thriving communities rather than isolated housing estates.
- Updated Urban Centre Plans for Blanchardstown, Clonsilla and Castleknock are urgently needed to ensure that amenities are put in place at the same time as housing. An up-to-date Local Area Plan serves as a roadmap for sustainable development and can provide for the right mix of housing units including family homes and apartments.
- Too many homes being built in Dublin 15 today are simply beyond the reach of families on average incomes and the national Department of Housing has done far too little to support building of affordable houses. The department should be supporting the Council to build more housing on public land and impose penalties where developers are hoarding land already zoned for housing.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Fingal Council is seeking submissions on the draft **Climate Change Action Plan** launched by the four Dublin local authorities, which is more ambitious than the government's national plan.

Recent scientific reports indicated a major threat to biodiversity, particularly to vulnerable insect species: as an immediate step it is crucial for the Council to protect biodiversity through appropriate plants and flowers.

You can make a submission on the Fingal plan up to 25th March: <https://dublinclimatechange.codema.ie/make-a-submission/>

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Seachtain na Gaeilge was celebrated in style in Fingal again in 2019 as Fingal County Council launched an exciting and varied programmed of events.

This international Irish Language festival ran from 1-17 March with its motto encouraging everyone to use whatever Irish they have – Bain Triail Aisti. Council events are taking place in County Hall Swords, Local Libraries and the Seamus Ennis Centre and many other events are being organised by Irish language groups

throughout the County. The Seachtain na Gaeilge i bhFine Gall programme, compiled in conjunction with the Council's Coiste na Gaeilge, is available on the Council's website www.Fingal.ie.

On Tuesday 6th March at the Atrium County Hall Swords, there was Ceol, Craic and Gaeilge with musicians Sean McElwain, Bernadette Nic Gabhann and Eamonn Galldubh from 7 to 9pm. This event welcomed Irish language enthusiasts from the county to join Fingal staff at this very popular annual event.

The film the Camino Voyage was shown in the Seamus Ennis Centre, Naul on Thursday 7 March at 8.30. This visually stunning film, featuring music and singing, follows the inspiring 2,500 km journey from Ireland to Northern Spain in a traditional boat and stars Glen Hansard, Brendan Begley, Liam Holden, Brendan-Pháid Moriarty and Danny Sheehy. The stunning chapel in Swords Castle was the setting for a Lón le Gaeilge on Tuesday 12th from 1pm.

Events in local libraries included music by Antaine Ó Faracháin and Nollaig Mac Cárthaigh in Blanchardstown 13th and Balbriggan 14th at 6.30pm. Manchán Magan will spoke about his travel experiences in Malahide library the 8th 2-3pm. Sadhbh Devlin read her story Bí ag Spraoi Liom in 4 Libraries and Ballet Poulet performed in Blanchardstown on the 14th.



FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL EVENTS

Ceol Craic agus Gaeilge

County Hall, Swords

Wednesday March. 6th 7-9pm.

All welcome

Lunch with Irish Conversation

Chapel Swords Castle
Tuesday March. 12th 1-2pm.

Bilingual story-time

Sadhbh Devlin in 4 Libraries:
Baldoyle 4th March. 10-11am.
Howth 5th March. 3.30- 4.30pm.
Donabate 6th March. 3.30- 4.30pm.
Garristown 7th March. 3.30- 4.30pm.

Travel Experiences in Africa, India and South America

Manchán Magan, writer and broadcaster, tells stories from twenty years of travelling the world. A bilingual talk, comprehensible to Béarlóirí
Malahide Library
Friday 8th March. 2.00pm – 3.00pm.

Sean-Nós Singing & Traditional Music

Antaine Ó Faracháin (Songs/Fiddle) & Nollaig Mac Cárthaigh (Uilleann Pipes).
Blanchardstown Library 13th March. 6.30-7.45pm.
Balbriggan Library 14th March. 6.30-7.45pm.

Ballet Poulet

Fun dance and comedy duo bring mayhem and ballet to Blanchardstown Library
Thursday 14th March. 11.30-12.30 (Class visit).
3.00pm – 4.30pm (open session).

Some other events

Bilingual Storytime and Irish Language tour of Farmleigh House
March 16th

Bilingual Walk after the Ciorcal Comhrá in Molly's Balbriggan
Saturday 9th March. 1.30pm.

Pop up Gaeltacht with music session with Gaeilge i mBaile Brigín
Central Bar, Balbriggan
Monday 11th March. 8.30pm.

Ciorcal Comhrá. 6th and 13th March.
Lá Mór na nGael. 16th March.
Fingallian's GAA Club, Swords

Irish language Coffee Mornings

Maidineacha Caife around the county:
www.maidineacha-caife.weebly.com/

POP UP Gaeltacht

Tthe Carpenter Pub, Dublin 15
Saturday 9th March. 8pm

POP UP Gaeltacht

The Harbour Bar, Howth
Thursday 14th March. 8pm

Mayor Fingal Cllr. Anthony Lavin commented “This varied programme of events has something to attract people of all ages and abilities and gives people a chance to engage with the language in a fun way”

Paul Reid Chief Executive said “Our continued participation in and support for Seachtain na Gaeilge reflects Fingal County Council’s commitment to supporting the promotion of the Irish Language within the Council and the County. I am delighted to welcome the Fingal community to County Hall and our Libraries for these events and to enjoy what will be an excellent opportunity to use the language.”



Cllr. Howard Mahony

Representing Castleknock, Blanchardstown and Clonsilla

087 050 6146 howardmahony@gmail.com



FIANNA FÁIL
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY





PHOTO: With Fingal Mayor Anthony Lavin (left) at the recent Fine Gael selection convention for the European Elections where former Tanaiste Frances Fitzgerald and SDLP leader Mark Durkan were chosen by the party to contest the Dublin constituency. I will be campaigning hard for both candidates as it is more important than ever that we send out best to Brussels

The following graphs show the details of the €1.6M 2019 Program of Works which was recently approved at a council meeting

SUMMARY		
OPERATIONS PROGRAMME OF WORKS 2019		
Item	Description	Total
		€
1	Surface Restoration Improvement Works & Maintenance Works	840,000.00
2	Minor Works Improvement Programme	300,000.00
3	Traffic Management	295,000.00
4	Public Lighting	33,000.00
5	Park Works	140,000.00
	TOTAL	1,608,000.00

SURFACE RESTORATION IMPROVEMENT & MAINTENANCE WORKS 2019			
No	Description	Sub-total	Total
		€	€
1	Blanchardstown Road North		
2	Church Road, Mulhuddart		
3	Hartstown Link Rd/Ongar Link Road Junction		
4	Castleknock Road Ashtown Gate to Racecourt Roundabout		
5	Georgian Village Phase 1		
6	Bramley Park, Heath & Crescent		
7	Lohunda Phase 1 and Shelerin Road junction		
8	Whitestown Drive & Crescent		
9	Lucan Clonee Road and Confeiy		
10	Tolka View Blanchardstown		
	TOTAL		840,000.00

Proposed Traffic Management Schemes 2019 Castleknock/Mulhuddart Area		
Location	Description	€
Traffic Calming		
Roseleen Road – Tesco to Clonsilla Road	Ramps x 4	14,000.00
Castleknock Park – back entrance to Church/School	Ramps x 3	10,500.00
Huntstown Park	Ramps x 2	7,000.00
St. Mochtas Link Road between Clonsilla Rd/Station Court	Ramps x 3	10,500.00
Alendale Drive	Ramps x 2	7,000.00
Luffnessown Way	Ramps x 2	7,000.00
Whitestown Avenue	Ramps x 1	3,500.00
Sub-total		59,500.00
Traffic Signal Installation/Upgrade		
Clonsilla Road at St. Mochtas School with flat-top ramp	Pedestrian Signals	50,000.00
Powerstown Road at Powerstown Educate Together NS Gaelcoil an Chuilinn Tynaghstown	Pedestrian Signals	40,000.00
Station Road at Station Roundabout with flat-top ramp	Zebra Crossing	35,000.00
Traffic Signal Upgrades at various location	Signals Upgrade	40,000.00
Sub-total		175,000.00
Ramp Repairs		
Various locations	Replace ramps	10,000.00
Sub-total		10,000.00
Vehicle Activated Signs		
Carpenterstown Park East	VAS	6,000.00
Roseleen Glade at St. Francis Xavier	VAS – School Flashing	6,000.00
Sherlein Road at entrance of St. Philip the Apostle School	VAS – School Flashing	6,000.00
Ongar Road adjacent the schools and Barnwell	VAS	6,000.00
Auburn Avenue	VAS	6,000.00
Vehicle Activated signs upgrades at various locations	VAS	3,500.00
Sub-total		35,500.00

Other		
Lining/signs	Lining/signs at various locations	15,000.00
Slow signage/slow markings	Slow signage/slow markings at various locations	2,000.00
Hand standing bay for placement of Variable Message Signs (VMS) on Snugborough Road	Hand standing	5,000.00
Sub-total		22,000.00
TOTAL		295,000.00

Proposed Public Lighting Castleknock/Mulhuddart Area			
No	Location	Description of Works	Cost
1	Blakestown Road at St. Penegirnes GAA	Upgrade lighting	6,000.00
2	Castleknock Road Ashdown Gate	Upgrade lighting	12,000.00
3	Carpenterstown Road	Upgrade lighting	5,000.00
4	Brookhaven Estate	Upgrade lighting	10,000.00
		TOTAL	33,000.00

Parks Works Programme			
No	Location	Description of Works	Cost
	Laurel Lodge (P1)	Resurfacing of walkways through open space	5,000.00
	Laurel Lodge Open Space (P1)	Provision of a walkway to train station across the open space & tree planting	15,000.00
	Sub-total		20,000.00
	Tynelstown Park	Completion of circular loop pathway & additional outdoor exercise equipment	20,000.00
	Hartstown Park	Planting of 40 trees	10,000.00
	Conduff Park (P 1)	Resurfacing of pathways	5,000.00
	Sub-total		35,000.00
	Castlecragh (P1)	Landscaping of two roundabouts	5,000.00
	Mulhuddart Cemetery (P1)	Replace dead trees	5,000.00
	Waterville Woodlands (P1)	Tree maintenance	30,000.00
	Littlepace (P1)	Landscaping of one roundabout	5,000.00
	Haeril Linn (P1)	Landscaping of open space	5,000.00
	Sub-total		50,000.00
	Dublin 15	Bulb Planting	35,000.00
	Sub-total		35,000.00
		TOTAL	140,000.00

Minor Works Improvements Programme 2019			
Castleknock/Mulhuddart Operational Area - Footpath Repairs			
	Location	Sub-Total €	Total €
1	Riverwood Cycle Track Repairs/Improvements	25,000.00	
2	Carpenterstown Rd footpath link to College Gate	25,000.00	
3	Clonsilla Road – St. Mochtas School – Footpath improvements	25,000.00	
4	Blakestown Road – Footpath improvements	25,000.00	
5	Blanchardstown Village – Ramor to Clonsilla Road – Footpath improvements	25,000.00	
6	Hartstown Area/Estates – Footpath improvements	25,000.00	
7	Huntstown Area/Estates – Footpath improvements	25,000.00	
8	Mulhuddart Area/Estates – Footpath improvements	25,000.00	
9	Blanchardstown Area – Footpath improvements	25,000.00	
10	Carpenterstown Area – Footpath improvements	25,000.00	
11	Castleknock Area – Footpath improvements	25,000.00	
12	Laurel Lodge Area – Footpath improvements	25,000.00	
Total			€300,00.00

Your local Fine Gael team: An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar, Cllr Ted Leddy, Cllr Eithne Loftus and Local Election Candidate Emer Currie

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Darren J. Prior

March of the Irish

In this month March two big festivals are celebrated in Ireland and many other countries around the world: **St. Patricks Day and Seachtain na Gaeilge.** By Darren J. Prior

The growth of St. Patricks Day around the world is phenomenal, with this year upto 400 global landmarks internationally going to be turned green on the day.

It's a good idea to have Seachtain na Gaeilge also celebrated this month concurrent with the St. Patricks Day festival.

Leaving aside the politics of promoting the Irish language nationally in Oireachtas Éireann, there is one issue that I don't often see addressed in relation to the language in Dublin and many other counties in Ireland: the position of the language in the naming of new residential areas.

Some readers may not know that over 500 new residential areas were named in Irish during the Celtic Tiger years, and there are over 700 overall named in Irish on the island today. However few were and are named in Irish in Dublin and some other counties since independence in 1922 and with a pick up in building in the Greater Dublin Area in the last couple of years and more development expected I sometimes get saddened that the Irish language is not widely prevalent in the naming of new residential areas in many counties-



Main photo: Donn Rua apartments in Castleknock Village
Inset: The Weir apartments in Chapelizod

particularly the capital.

All or the vast majority of new residential areas should, in my opinion, be named bilingually in Irish/English at a minimum particularly on the areas welcome pillars and/or gates, and if this practice was common or the norm in Dublin it would go a long way to increasing the visibility of the language.

The four councils in Dublin have a policy of "encouraging the use of names in Irish" in the naming of new residential areas. I don't propose that all new residential areas be ideally named solely in Irish but ideally most of them would in my opinion. Equality for the Irish language i.e a good bilingual approach- would go a long way to increasing the physical visibility of the language in Dublin though and if this was achieved as the standard practice it would be huge progress.

There are some great things happening with the Irish language in Dublin. The visibility of the language in the naming of new residential areas has to date seldom been one of them. With Seachtain na Gaeilge being celebrated this month along with upcoming council elections in May I hope more people in the public including our public representatives acknowledge and do something proactive about the use of the Irish language in the naming of our new residential areas to affect positive social and cultural change in the capital on this issue.



Councillor Ted Leddy

Representing the Castleknock Ward of Fingal Co County Council

Includes: Blanchardstown, Carpenterstown, Blakestown, Coolmine, Clonsilla and Porterstown

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Metro St Brigid's

For the first time ever, Dublin 15 athletics club, Metro St Brigid's (MSB) 'ran' Porterstown parkrun.



Over 200 people from turned up for this extra special parkrun in Porterstown Park. Led by Run Director and MSB member Stephen McGuinness, MSB club members successfully carried out all the Porterstown parkrun volunteer roles from marshalling, barcode scanning to tail walker. The damp weather conditions didn't deter MSB members Kenny McAndrew or Karen Finnigan, who were first male and first female over the line.

The free, 5k timed event, attracted visitors from various athletic and triathlon clubs including MSB, Porterstown Panthers, 3D Tri Club, Civil Service Harriers, Donore Harriers, Lakeshore Striders and the Garda Athletics Club. Participants from the six week 'Park Walk' walking initiative were also given a warm welcome by MSB volunteers, some of whom walked with participants to provide support and encouragement.

MSB used the pre-event briefing to promote their 'MSB

St Patrick's Festival 5K Race and Family Fun Run', happening on the 18th March.

"We are delighted to be volunteering at Porterstown parkrun today. Volunteers are the backbone of every parkrun. We want to give back to our local parkrun and provide volunteers with opportunity to walk, run or jog the event instead," said Run Director, Stephen McGuinness.

"As part of the take-over, we are here today to let people know about the 'MSB St Patrick's Festival 5k Race and Family Fun Run'. Happening on the 18th March, the course takes you through the heart of Georgian Dublin and is suitable for families, fun runners and dedicated athletes. There are still a few spaces available on www.myrunresult.com so sign up soon", he added.

Huge thank you to Paul from 'Get Fresh Super Foods' in Laurel Lodge, Dublin 15, who supplied two big boxes of fresh fruit. The delicious celebratory cake was provided by Lisa Gardner from 'Cakes and Cooks by Lisa'.

John Walsh

Local representative

Representing Blanchardstown, Castleknock & Clonsilla

☎ 087 648 6228

✉ jmwalsht1@eircom.net



LABOUR

CLUB NOTES

ST BRIGID'S GAA

Congratulations to our Club Lotto Jackpot winner Liam Clifford who won last weeks Jackpot of €10,600. Thanks to Liam and to everyone who supports our weekly Lotto. Next week's Jackpot will be €1,000 and the draw will be in Russell Park on Thursday, 7th March.

St Brigid's Club Nursery continues this Saturday morning and every Saturday morning from 9.30am to 11.00. All 4-7 year old boys and girls are welcome to come down and join in the fun.

2019 Memberships are now due and can be paid online via www.stbrigidsgaa.com.

Our Club Racenight takes place this Friday 8th March in the clubhouse from 8.00pm, make sure to support this great event. It's always a brilliant evening - more info below!

Our Juvenile Section are partaking in next weekends St Patricks Day Parade in Blanchardstown! All details below and with Mentors!

Lots of great action over the weekend although the weather was very wet and even snowy. Well done to AFL 1 team who drew with Na Fianna in a great game and to our AFL3 V St Peregrines), AFL5 (V O'Dwyers) and Intermediate Camogie team (Erins Isle) who had great League / Cup wins on Sunday. Well done to all our Intercounty reps at the weekend also!

New or returning players are always welcome. Just contact; pro.stbrigids.dublin@gaa.ie for info.

Our 2019 Easter Camp running from April 15th to April 18th (inclusive) is now OPEN for booking! The Camp caters for all boys and girls from 5 to 13 years of age and runs from 10.00am to 2.00pm each day! Everyone is welcome! Participants are required to bring a packed lunch, a water bottle, sports gear (hurl and helmet if they have one, one will be provided if not) and a rain gear! Please ensure all clothing and gear is marked with your child's name! Book online via our Club Website!

Our grass pitches are closed midweek for training to allow for recovery after the heavy rain and snow at the weekend.

Keep up with all our news on our website www.stbrigidsgaa.com our

Club App and our Facebook and Twitter pages. Our Club Shop with O'Neills is also on our website.

Deepest sympathies to the Farrell family on their recent loss.

CASTLEKNOCK CELTIC FC

11B Sat: Cracking game in Arklow which see Celtic come out on top. 3-2

11C Sat: Even-Steven in Porterstown as Celtic draw with Celbridge Town. 1-1

11C1 Sat: Tight game ends with Celtic victory over visiting Firhouse Carmel. Celtic were scratching their heads that they did not get a couple of penalties. 4-3

12A Sat: Celtic lose on the road going down 2-3

12D Sat: Belmont made a rare visit to Porterstown and were victors over Muhammad Ariff's team who had to compete with the bare 9 players. 0-3

13B Sat: Celtic kick-start their campaign with victory away to Peamount Utd. Only sad aspect was Celtic's keeper had to retire hurt in second half after suffering an ankle injury. 6-3

14A Sat: Celtic and Peamount Utd share the spoils in Greenogue. 1-1

16B: Great squad performance, lots of good individual contributions, and plenty of options to defend well against a good Mulhuddert side, but also create and finish our chances well. 4 goals from Finn Woodger were a highlight, 2 from Ryan McCormick and 1 from Cillian Dwyer. Special mentions to Pablo, Mario and Kristers for adapting so well to the new team. Aspira Man of the Match Kristers Grinbergs. 7-2

Youths-1: Greystones AFC 2 Castleknock Celtic 8, On the scoresheet for Celtic were Leigh Reilly, Michael Afuye x 2, Ziryan Mihiedan,, Vlad Skrypka, James Sheridan, Abdul Haduit, and Brian Wokocha. Celtic played their best football for a long time in this game played in the rain at the seaside town of Greystones. The passing, defending and overall play was fantastic and every player put in a top class shift.



Councillor Ted Leddy

Representing the Castleknock Ward of Fingal Co County Council

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