

CARLOW LOCAL AUTHORITIES COMMUNITY & ENTERPRISE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER



CATHAOIRLIGH JOINT MESSAGE

WE THE Cathaoirligh of Carlow County Council, Town Council and Muinebheag Town Council welcome you to our first e-zine.

We thank all who play a part in Carlow communities at home and abroad and we encourage you to continue with your important work which we value very highly.

We've had great success with Tidy Towns, Pride of Place and Litter League as well as in the Allianz Business to Arts Awards. We've a lot to be proud of in Carlow.



Let's all cherish the pride in our county and continue to improve and make Carlow a better place to live, work and visit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

Adh Mór agus beannacht,
Go n-éirí go geal libh.

Cllr Thomas Kinsella
Cathaoirleach County Council

Cllr Thomas O'Neill
Cathaoirleach Town Council

Cllr Thomas Bambrick
Cathaoirleach Muinebheag Town Council

Carlow Local
Authorities
Volume 1, Issue 1

Newsletter Date
September 2011

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A lot is happening in County Carlow

♦**Pride of Place Recognition Night** for Kildavin in Council Chamber, County Offices at 7:30pm 4th October

♦**African Film Festival** — Fri 14th - Sat 15th October

♦**Awards night for Litter League and Carlow's Pride of Place** will be held on 20th October, 2011 in Mount Wolseley, Tullow.

♦The **2012 Litter League** will be launched at that event on the 20th October, 2011

♦**Co-Operation Ireland Pride of Place Awards** will be announced in Gorey on Saturday 5th November, 2011.

♦**Closing date for Applications for 2012 Environmental Grants** will be 24th February, 2012.

♦**National Tree Week** starts Monday 5th March, 2012 and

♦**An Taisce's National**

Spring Clean will run in April 2012.

Arts programmes to watch for in 2012—

♦**Arts Acts Grants;**

♦**Art Links Bursaries;**

♦**VISUAL Exhibition** by Eileen Mac Donagh; and ♦**Percent for Art Scheme** "Open Windows" by Denis Roche as well as

♦**Carlow Youth Theatre activities.**

We're on the web:
www.carlow.ie

And More Inside.....

CARLOW AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL



CARLOW African Film Festival enters its 7th year in 2011. The festival which is Ireland's First African Film Festival, celebrates the beauty and diversity of Africa through film, honours excellence in African film making and promotes cultural integration and interaction in Ireland.

This year, the festival will showcase three great quality films which include *The Legend of the Sky*, *Africa's first full-length animation feature*, *the world's first 'Junkmation' movie from Zimbabwe* and *The First Grader*, an inspiring story of the power of education.

For more information & full programme information visit www.carlowafricanfilmfestival.com.

Date: Fri 14th - Sat 15th October.

OPEN WINDOWS

Open Windows – by Denis Roche



OPEN Windows has been commissioned by Carlow Local Authorities Arts Office (part of the % for art commissioning scheme) for mental health service users in Carlow.

Open Window is an innovative art intervention currently available in the National Stem Cell Transplant Unit at St. James's Hospital, Dublin, Ireland, where patients undergo treatment for leukaemia and other haematological malignancies. Due to the high risk of infection, patients are treated in single, en suite, air filtered rooms. There are restrictions on room decor and visiting. This challenging environment makes the patients feel extremely isolated from the outside world.

Technology and art is used to create a virtual window for each patient which is uniquely theirs and which they control. The window is created using a video projector and audio speakers. A remote control allows the patient to switch art channels or open onto a number of "virtual places" which provide a range of art, media or experiences.

The aim of **Open Window** is to reduce the sense of isolation, provide an opportunity for reflection and a sense of connection with the outside world. Patients are actively involved in the commissioning process and regularly consulted by the curator.

Following meetings with the consultant psychiatrist in Carlow/Kilkenny Mental Health service, it was identified that the best approach to adapting Open Window for use by mental health service users was to focus on the psychological isolation and stigma experienced by service users. People who are diagnosed with a mental illness experience a real sense of loss about the fact that their hopes and dreams or life ambitions have been interfered with by the diagnosis of illness. The progression of this theme and approach will allow the artistic team to engage with all service users across the county, whether they are in hospitals or living in the community.

This project is a collaboration between Carlow Local Authorities Arts Office (part of the % for art commissioning scheme), VISUAL, Vivartes, HSE and Carlow IT.

Carlow Music Education Partnership established

MUSIC Generation is Ireland's new National Music Education Programme funded by U2 and the Ireland Funds and Music Network, with the support of the Department of Education and Skills.

Carlow Music Education Partnership (MEP) has been established under the lead of County Carlow VEC to progress an application for funding to Music Generation. If the application is successful it will create opportunities for children and young people to access music in their own locality, either to teach young people to play a musical instrument or to have their voice trained.

"Being around music at a young age was important for us and we were lucky to have it at school," the Edge said, speaking on behalf of U2.



For more information contact: David Forde Co. Carlow VEC on 059 9138560

CARLOW'S LITTER ACTION LEAGUE 2011

TWO hundred and forty six participants consisting of 178 residents and community groups in Carlow town and county, 24 schools, 36 pubs and 8 civic buildings took part in the 2011 Carlow Litter Action League.

This is the largest number of participants to date in the Carlow Litter Action.



Carlow's Pride of Place 2011

CARLOW'S Pride of Place was launched in May 2011 with great press and local radio coverage, the competition attracted 258 entries and includes more schools, community and residents groups than ever before. County Carlow experiences great benefits as a result of the strong community spirit that is present throughout towns and villages.

Judging took place between June and August. Prizes will be presented with Litter Action League awards at a function on 20TH October, 2011 in Mount Wolseley Hotel, Tullow.



CO-OPERATION IRELAND PRIDE OF PLACE



CO-OPERATION Ireland Pride of Place is an all-island competition where community groups have the unique opportunity to showcase specific pride initiatives which will have long lasting and positive impacts in their community. The competition is hosted by Co-operation Ireland under its Local Authority Programme in conjunction with the all-island Local Authority Steering Forum comprising official from authorities in both parts of Ireland.

This year Carlow Local Authorities nominated the Kildavin community in the population 200-500 population category.

The entire community rowed in behind the venture with the assistance of staff from the Community & Enterprise Section of Carlow County Council and their local public representatives.

The picturesque village put its best foot forward on judging day 29th June, 2011. It was a fantastic day for the village, with various groups, organisations and clubs out in force to showcase Kildavin and impress the judges Maurice Ingles and Eoin O'Connor.

The judges arrived in Kildavin at 2pm and were welcomed by a large number of people from the community. The judges listened to a presentation about the village prior to

viewing a dancing display, Kildavin Drama Group and exhibition stands.

The judges visited the Parent and toddler Group and After Schools in Spellman Hall before been taken on a tour of the village, stopping at the site of the new Wildlife Garden, before visiting the National School, St. Paul's Church of Ireland, with their final visit to the GAA grounds.



The community now have to wait until the Awards Ceremony on 5th November in Gorey when the results of the competition will be announced.

For more information see:

<http://prideofplace.cooperationireland.org/>

VOLUNTEER CENTRE

Carlow Volunteer Centre is the first Volunteer Centre in the country to achieve the "Volunteer Centres Ireland" Quality Standard Award!

"We are proud to have achieved this standard of excellence, and we would like to thank everyone who has provided us with help and feedback over the last four years of our operation," said Fiona Cunnane, Manager.

To achieve this Award, the Centre was inspected over 2 days in late-2009, and we had to demonstrate our effectiveness in key areas, including: Volunteer Placement; Support for Organisations; Promoting and Marketing

of Volunteering; and Internal Management Practice.

In its report, the Assessment Team noted our "well run and professional" operation and congratulated us on "the outstanding efforts of the Centre."

We're very grateful to the members of Carlow County Council who joined us for our celebration, to Tricia Nolan from Volunteer Centres Ireland who travelled from Dublin to present the Award and to Unum who sponsored refreshments.



"proud to have achieved this standard of excellence"

COMMUNITY & VOLUNTARY FORUM

I AM Mina Doran — one of 4 representatives from the Borris Electoral area on the new Forum Committee which was formed in Sept 2009. Every month we have meetings which are held in community based centres throughout the County. We get tremendous support from the Community and Enterprise Dept. of Carlow County Council through Margaret Moore and Jannette O'Brien.

As we fast reach the first 2 year mark of the 5 year life of this present Forum I will take you through, for me, what were the important events. Towards the latter half of 2009 it was decided to have a training day as some of us "new ones" were finding it difficult to grasp the total concept of what the Forum means.

Our training Course was held on Sat 30th Jan 2010 in Teach Bride Tullow given by Sr. Carmel. I felt this was a very important day as we raised our concerns, gave our ideas, and gelled as a group moving the whole committee forward.

Our next meeting was a great success at which we set up the various sub-committees and our Chairperson Eileen Doyle was very pleased with the

outcome. Setting our Budget was indeed a hard task as we knew our request was going to be cut. We came up with requirements for the various areas but we got quite a shock when our allocation was cut severely by the Government but we persevered and worked to our constraints and of course this has been the same story again this year.

At our meeting in May 2010 we had a very interesting presentation from Sinead and Fergus representing Carlow Opera who are part of a group writing and composing an Opera based on the ordinary people of our County. The text writer, Peter Morgan Barnes, visited parts of the county during the months of June and July. I looked after Peter on Monday of June Bank Holiday in the Borris Area. I remember it was very wet and cold but we managed a visit to a lot of people who related important events during their lives, rearing their children and coping with the ups and downs of everyday life. Peter seemed very happy with what information he had gathered and looked forward to collecting a lot more. The rehearsals were held throughout the year and culminated in three sold out and very successful performances in May 2011.

Another exciting events was our CPR and Defibrillator Training which has been running for the last two years. The response has been tremendous and all availability is full with a waiting list for cancellations. It is vital to know how to save lives. Most of the Committee have completed the course and are so conscious to locate a unit when visiting various club houses etc. As a result of this success a public information evening on First Aid and Defibrillator Use was held in June this year.

I have another 3 years to serve and each year brings its new challenges. I look forward to these next years and can say that 2010 and 2011, for me, was a learning curve, got to meet some great people and have made some good friends.



Carlow Community and Voluntary Executive Committee (2009 - 2014)

Doing Business in CARLOW

Carlow offers a high quality of life along with a strong record in industrial and business performance and all the fundamentals are right for continued, successful business and industrial growth in the county

While the last two years have been challenging for all, County Carlow continues to be to the forefront in securing new investment. Collectively, through collaboration and structures such as Carlow County Development Board, comprising representatives from the public and private sector, a lot of positive initiatives have been happening to create a pro-business environment. Combining a central location at the core of the fast-growing South Leinster region, with a highly educated workforce, two Institutions of Higher Education - IT Carlow and Carlow College – the National Crops Biotechnology Research Centre at Teagasc Oak Park, substantial infrastructural developments and proximity to both Dublin and the major transport hubs,

Carlow is an ideal location for business.



With all the necessary facilities and highly-skilled labour force required for any company involved in the knowledge-led sector, or any business seeking a location to establish a start-up operation or to expand, County Carlow has it all. Key performing areas in the county include Telecommunications and Information Technology, Pharmaceuticals, Education, Manufacturing, Retail and Commercial Businesses and the Hospitality and Tourism sectors.

Top 3 Reasons for doing business in CARLOW:

1. Centrally located, bordered by Kildare, Wicklow, Wexford, Kilkenny and Laois, in just an hour you can be in Dublin and Waterford and thus the town has all the positive aspects of a dynamic business hub, plus all the charm and quality of rural living.
2. Huge resource of highly-qualified graduates from the town's two colleges.
3. Carlow has an envied history and international reputation for manufacturing excellence, quality and innovation.



CHILDCARE COMMITTEE



CARLOW County Childcare Committee (CCCC) located in Enterprise House, O'Brien Road, Carlow offers support to childcare providers (crèches, playschools etc), childminders, parent & toddler groups and parents in Co. Carlow.

The support offered is in the form of mentoring, advice, information, training and small grants (for childminders and parent & toddler groups).

Parents seeking advice on the Free-Preschool year should contact the CCCC who will offer them a list of participating childcare services and tips on choosing childcare. The free preschool year starting September 2012 is open to every child born between the 2nd Feb 2007 and the 30th June 2008.

In our 2011 Local Implementation Plan, Carlow CCC is committed to working in partnership with all local agencies and have to have full participation on the

SIM working group and County Development Board. CCCC are always looking at different ways of working which can improve outcomes for children, parents and the childcare sector as a whole.

Carlow CCC's website contains a large range of information for childcare providers, childminders, parent & toddler groups and parents. The website also contains an up to date news section. For further information on anything related to childcare please contact Carlow CCC on 059-9140244.



CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE

YOUNG PEOPLE and their families will receive the support and services they need to create better futures for children, through all local agencies and organisations working together.

Towards 2016 aims for the National Children's Strategy Implementation Group to establish a Children's Services Committee under each City and/or County Development Board in the Country, which will be Child Centred, Family Oriented, Equitable, Inclusive, Action Orientated and Integrated.

The goals include Children having a voice in matters which affect them and their views will be given due weight in accordance with their age and maturity; their lives will be better

understood and they will receive quality supports and services to promote all aspects of their development.

The expected outcomes include:

1. Health, both physically and mentally.
2. Supported in active learning
3. Safe from accidental and intentional harm.
4. Economically secure
5. Secure in the immediate and wider physical environment.
6. Part of positive networks of family, friends, neighbours and the community
7. Included and participating in society.

A Children and Young Persons Services Committee has been set up in Carlow and has produced a strategic plan in 2011 in consultation with the relevant agencies.

“Children healthy, supported, safe, secure, networked, included and participating”

RESETTLEMENT PROJECT

COUNTY CARLOW was asked to take into their community, 16 Rohingya families (78 persons) from Burma/Myanmar who have been living in camps in Bangladesh under the protection of the UNHCR, as part of the UNHCR Resettlement Programme.

Nationally the process is being managed by the Office of the Minister for Integration of the Department of Justice Equality and Law Reform.

An Interagency Committee, through Carlow County Development Board structures, was brought together to support the process locally in County Carlow.

The programme is going into its final year (with the aid of European Refugee funding and match funding by the local agencies) The Families

are now in Carlow for nearly 3 years and have settled in well.

Notwithstanding this, challenges are still present and the families are in need of intensive support which aims to build their capacity to achieve a transition from settling in to full involvement and participation in the community. This is the focus of the work that agencies on the Resettlement committee are engaging in with the families.

“Challenges are still present and the families are in need of intensive support”



Oaklawns, Dublin Road, Carlow.

Carlow town retained its Gold Medal in the 2011 Tidy Town's Competition.

See page 9.

TOURISM — *The Barrow our river, your journey*

THE second longest river in Ireland, the river barrow is a bustling, colourful navigation. The river runs for 192km from its source in Glenbarrow in the Slieve Bloom Mountains to the sea.

The Barrow has long been recognised as a unique area of great natural beauty with high amenity value, traversing the counties of Laois, Kildare, Carlow, Kilkenny and Wexford. This region is of national importance and has been specifically identified as a priority area for tourism, special interest activity and regional development.

2011 represents a significant year for the river, celebrating the 220th Anniversary of the opening of the river as a navigable waterway. To celebrate this milestone the 5 counties came together to promote the river with a yearlong series of events. The festivities

were launched in Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow on Sunday 24th April 2011 by Helen McInerney, RTÉ Producer/Reporter on RTÉ Nationwide and RTÉ News. The launch was hosted by Waterways Ireland and Muinebheag Town Council.

The brand *The Barrow our river, your journey* and a website www.barrowriver.ie has been developed. A brochure listing a calendar of events for 2011 has also been produced and is accessible on the website.

A local committee has been established to progress the organisation of events at county level and any community wishing to participate should contact Eileen O’ Rourke on 059-9130411 or eorourke@carlowtourism.com



PAN CELTIC FESTIVAL CARLOW 2012 AND 2013

THE INTERNATIONAL Pan Celtic Festival will take place in Carlow on 10th to 15th April, 2012 and 2nd to 7th April, 2013.

It will involve hundreds of visitors arriving in the county from the Celtic nations of Scotland, Wales, Cornwall, Brittany, Isle of Man and other parts of Ireland.

Bríde de Róiste of the Local Organising Committee has briefed the members of the Town and County Council, the Chamber of Commerce and Carlow Tourism about the two five-day festivals and the opportunities to present county Carlow to visitors in a most positive light.

It will involve a huge range of activity and there will be something for the whole community— Cultural, Artistic, Musical, Choirs & Schools, Hotels & Restaurants, Tourism & Accommodation, Business & Shopping, Local Authorities, The Media, Dance & Music Schools, Church & Secular, Organisations & Volunteers as well as much more.



Bike Week and Activity Camp



In Bike week 2011, a grant was sought from County Carlow Sports Partnership under the Sports Inclusion Disability

Officer programme to host an inclusive cycling day in St Laurence O’Toole athletic club.

A wide variety of bikes were available on the day including junior and senior hand bikes, tandem bikes and the specialised tandem bikes brought along by staff and clients of the delta centre. Up to 60 people took part in the day and got to experience cycling whether it was a hand bike or with assistance on the

tandem bike.

Carlow Sports Partnership with Carlow Regional Youth Services hosted a summer activity camp for young people with a disability aged 8-18 years. Volunteers and leaders in the camp took part in disability awareness training prior to the start of the camp where they got to try out disability sport and games for themselves.

The camp was held in the CBS gym, Carlow town and took place over 3 days. 23 young people took part in the camp which consisted of sports and fun games. On the final day of the camp participants took part in a sports day where they refined their skills in games such as target toss, boccia, egg and spoon, obstacle courses and relay races. The camp finished on a high note with participants being awarded with their certificates of achievement and medals from the sports day

Horse Riding huge success

COUNTY Carlow Sports Partnership, with Carlow Regional Youth Services, hosted a 7 week equestrian programme for children with a disability.

The programme was aimed at young people on the autistic spectrum however such an interest was expressed that the programme was opened up to other young people with a disability who had expressed an interest in horse riding.

Ten young people took part in the programme with a waiting list already started for the next.

All participants received a certificate, rosette of achievement and photograph of themselves along with their new four legged friends. Many of those who took part have now joined the riding school to progress their skills further.

Overall the programme proved very beneficial for all who took part and was a thoroughly enjoyable experience.



Michelle on Tiger and



Padraig on Blue

CARLOW SPORTS PARTNERSHIP— TONE ZONE

While Tone Zone has been developed specifically with the needs of older people in mind it is open and accessible to all. If you would like to organise a demo session please contact the Sports Partnership on 059 9136205 or info@carlowsports.ie
Tone Zone aims to:

- Increase activity levels; - Improve functional fitness and - Promote social interaction.

Tone Zone comprises: 100m Walking Path; Suite of Exercise Machines; and Social Sports area suitable - playing of recreational activities such as bowling games etc.



Demonstrating the gym equipment

Tidy Towns Awards



TWENTY entrants from County Carlow participated in this years Tidy Towns competition.

Awards were announced on 5th September. County Carlow collected three gold medals for Clonegal, Leighlinbridge and Carlow. Old Leighlin collected an Endeavour Award and Clonegal were the county winners.

Tidy Towns Groups throughout the county are supported by personnel in Community & Enterprise and the Council's Area Offices and Town Council. It is important also to acknowledge the significant contribution made by those who work on the many CE Schemes contribution made by those who work on the many CE Schemes under the management of FÁS, including Carlow Town & County Amenity Trust and also those working on Rural Social Schemes under the management of Carlow County Development Partnership Ltd.

By working collectively we can and do make a difference.



A tranquil scene in Clonegal, Co. Carlow

Comhairle na nÓg

COMHAIRLE NA NÓG were set up under the National Children's Strategy (2000) in the 34 City and County Development Boards around the country.

Comhairle na nÓg are local youth councils, which give children and young people the opportunity to be involved in the development of local services and policies.

There is a Comhairle na nÓg in every city and county. In Carlow there is a close partnership between Carlow Regional Youth Service and the Community and Enterprise Department of Carlow Local Authorities since 2003. The Comhairle na nÓg is facilitated by C.R.Y.S youth workers in the Vault Youth Centre.

Currently there are 12 Comhairle members aged between 12-18, who meet fortnightly, with the main objective to deliver their annual action plan.

To date the Carlow Comhairle na nÓg have worked on issues such as, substance misuse among young people, homophobic bullying and are currently working on the bad portrayal of

young people in the media.

Aside from the endless hours of work involved in Comhairle na nÓg there is also lots of fun! Recently, Comhairle members took a trip to Carlingford Adventure Centre. Here the group experienced many activities that were both rewarded and challenging.

Comhairle na nÓg are now excited and looking forward to their AGM in October where they will facilitate group discussions on issues that are important to young people with representatives from the schools in Carlow town.



Men's Shed Developed by Men's Group



THE RAPID Programme (Revitalising Areas through Planning, Investment and Development) was launched in Carlow in 2002 with Graiguecullen and Tullow Road the designated areas in Carlow town.

The aim is to improve the quality of life and opportunities available to communities in the area by bringing together the relevant agencies and communities to work together to devise solutions to local needs through improved co-ordination of services and targeting of existing and new resources.

Carlow RAPID programme has initiated and supported a number of projects over the years, in this edition we highlight one of these projects.

Carlow Men's Health Project (CMHP) – In June 2007 the RAPID co-ordinator met representatives from local organisations to explore the possibility of working in partnership to support men to improve their health and well being. Carlow Men's Health Project was launched in 2008 to support vulnerable men in Carlow Town and County to achieve optimum health and well being via an integrated community development approach.

- The group which has representation from HSE, WIT, St Catherine's, CCDP, County Carlow Sports Partnership, Men's Development Network and Carlow County Council has organized a number of projects

and activities over the past year including:

- Local services directory prepared and distributed to all 162 men on our database.
- Six-week men's health series for a local newspaper on key areas identified in a health needs assessment and health check.
- Broadcast half hour local radio programme focused on continuing the theme of Men's Health week highlighting the work of the Carlow Men's Health Project and the physical health programme.
- Presentations at two fora at the National Health Promotion Summer School on men's health.
- Presentations at conferences /seminars in Ireland, Canada & France.
- A physical activity programme was initially piloted (6 weeks) as a build up to International Men's Health Week and extended to December 2010 to support men to participate in the Men's Health Forum in Ireland "Get Up, Get Out, Get Going Challenge.
- Twenty two men from the Physical Activity Programme have been supported to start their own Fit for Life Group in St Lawrence O'Toole Athletic Club.
- Cathaoirleach of Carlow County Council launched Men's Health Matters information booklet developed and published by CMHP. This booklet is being disseminated to agencies working with men in County



CATHAOIRLEACH Cllr William Paton launches Men's Health Matters Information booklet

Carlow.

In June CMHP hired a local man, Yuvi Basanth, on a temporary/p time basis to develop a Men's Shed in Carlow town. The Men's Shed (An Australian concept) is a safe friendly community space, open to all men, where men are able to gather and/or work on meaningful projects at their own pace with other men and with the primary objective of advancing the health and well-being of the participating men.

Currently we have a room in College Street where up to 10 men are meeting on a weekly basis to discuss issues of concern. They are working on a photography project at present and hope to work on other projects in September.

RAPID CONTACT DETAILS
 Rapid Co-Ordinator: Margaret (Midge) Nolan
 Tel: 059 9170385 Mob: 087 2033841
 E-mail: mnolan@carlowcoco.ie





Carlow Traveller Interagency Group Praised

Carlow Traveller Interagency Group (TIG) was established under the CDB Structures in 2006. It monitors the implementation of the actions contained in the Interagency Traveller Strategy 2010 - 2012 through their four Thematic Groups: Accommodation & Relationships (Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee); Education & Traveller Development; Employment, Training and Business Opportunities; Health & Lifestyle.

Carlow TIG secured funds from the Dept. of Justice, Equality and Law Reform in relation to a number of projects; the employment of a Community Youth Development Worker, a Horse Care Project: Feasibility Study, the establishment of a Carlow Traveller Network, a Music Research Project and a Men's Development Project.

These projects have had a significant impact on the delivery of services and supports to the Traveller community.

In March 2011, Pobal released their Review of the Traveller Interagency Process.

This was an update on the previous 2008 Report. Carlow's Traveller Interagency Group was mentioned for their notable success regarding international performances generated by a music project.

The report is available for download from www.pobal.ie

Staff in Community & Enterprise



Bernie O'Brien,
Director of Services

Administrative Officers:

Anna Byrne, Margaret Moore, Margaret Nolan (RAPID), and Sinead Dowling (Arts Officer)

Staff Officer	Assistant Staff Officer	Clerical Officer
John McDarby	Jannette O'Brien	Ann Scully

Acting Sports Partnership Co-Ordinator: Caradh O'Donovan

Sports Administrator: Sandra Corrigan

Sports Inclusion Dev. Officer: Joanne Wall

FAI Development Officer: Gary Coady

One team committed to delivering quality service for the people of the county, improving the quality of life for all.

Get in Touch



Phone: 059 9170300
 Fax: 059 9141503
 E-mail: secretar@carlowcoco.ie

OUR website always has the most up to date information on all the projects we're involved in—so make it a regular port of call when you're browsing the web at home or abroad.

We're always interested in your input—so if you have any comments or suggestions on how to improve future editions of Carlow Community & Enterprise and Economic Development News, please e-mail: jmcdarby@carlowcoco.ie or write to us at County Offices, Athy Road, Carlow



Quality Local Government Service—protecting and enhancing the environment and improving the quality of life—achieved in partnership between members, staff and the community.



Carlow Opera wins Allianz Business to Arts Award 2011



Back (L to R): - Brian Irvine, Composer - 'Shelter Me From The Rain' - An Opera for Carlow; Seamus Crimmins, Executive Director, RTÉ Performing Groups; Mary Amond O'Brien, Director Aspiro; Cathaoirleach Thomas O'Neill, Carlow Town Council; Sinead Dowling, Arts Officer Carlow County Council; Damien O'Neill, Allianz Ireland; Front (L to R): Tom Barry, County Manager Carlow Local Authorities; Fergus Sheil, Curator / Music Director - 'Shelter Me From The Rain' - An Opera for Carlow; Cathaoirleach Wayne Fennell, Carlow County Council; Ann Scully, Arts Office Carlow County Council.

"Shelter Me From The Rain", the first opera commissioned by a local authority in Ireland, won the 2011 Allianz Business to Arts Awards for "Best Use of Creativity in the Community."

It was not only a celebration of the works of leading artists such as Fergus Sheil, Curator/Musical Director, Brian Irvine, Composer, John McIluff, Director/Writer and Regina Hanley, Vocal Coach, but also a celebration of the diversity of voices from across County Carlow. The scale and ambition of the project reflects Carlow's ambition as a leading county in local arts development.

"This is a fantastic achievement for the Carlow Local Authorities, in particular our County Arts Office and our Public Art Working Group, said Bernie O'Brien, Director of Services. She continued "The award is an acknowledgment of the work put in by all, particularly the artistic team, under the leadership of Fergus Sheil and recognises our partners The Arts Council; County Carlow VEC; Athena Media; RTE Lyric FM; RTE National Symphony Orchestra; The George Bernard Shaw Theatre; Seven Oaks Hotel; Aspiro Choir, Carlow Youth Orchestra and Ollie Hennessy"

The opera was a unique project involving a large performance company drawn from the community. The project was broad ranging and included members of the Carlow community, with and without previous experience in singing.

Sports Partnership Notice



County Carlow Sports Partnership Development Bursary Scheme 2011

General Information

This scheme aims to assist existing clubs/groups and encourage the set up of new clubs/groups. Priority will be given to minority sports and low participation groups initiating programmes/projects with long-term sustainability. The **closing date** for receipt of applications is **5.30pm on Wednesday, 28th September, 2011**. Funding will be provided for:

- Initiatives that will attract new members/participants (both participants & volunteers);
- Activities that promote social inclusion amongst groups with low participation rates.

How Much Funding Can We Receive?

There are **10** bursaries of **€500** each available.

For further information or to receive an application form, please contact the Sports Partnership 059 9136205.