

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2023

and we have news of a few of those below. Speaking of books, the secretariat and staff at Clare PPN are very proud to have launched 'Fair Clare', a report that has ended up as a beautifully designed paperback

book. The report is the outcome of months of work by by TASC and Clare PPN – you can read more about this below, where there is also a link to a PDF of the book. Many of the findings of this research have also been fed into Clare's draft Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP), which will shape the development of Clare over the next six years. The public consultation on this LECP is open until 22nd December. If you are supportive of the recommendations made in 'Fair Clare', you might like to take part in the

consultation – scroll down to the final section of this newsletter, 'Public Consultations'. If you'd like to see something included in a future newsletter, please email newsletter@clareppn.ie. All the best,

Sarah Clancy, Sarah Ferrigan & William Hederman

Clare PPN

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'FAIR CLARE': SOCIO-ECONOMIC RIGHTS

& A JUST TRANSITION FOR CLARE



reduction at the same time. Suggestions include an innovative a social enterprise incubator, that Clare Co Council should adopt 'community wealth building' as its approach, that no-cost retrofit plans should be extended to low and middle income households, that farm supports should be tailored to local needs and landscapes and it calls for local information and help centres, community development projects and a trades school to be established in an area of deprivation.

members and others. The report makes 27 recommendations for local and national policymakers on how some of these issues can be addressed in ways that effect climate action and poverty

This report contains real issues and real proposals to solve them, gathered from ordinary people,

recommendations to be become part of every existing and would-be politician's policy platform in the forthcoming election cycles. Our thanks to Roisin Greaney and Kieran Harrahill of TASC for all their work on this project; to our partners CLDC, Clare County Council and the LCETB; and the people all over Clare who shared their experience and ideas for it. The report can be read in full at this link: http://bit.ly/45PChHA

some of whom are living in very difficult circumstances around the county. We want its

(Please note: the PDF does not display correctly on older versions of Safari on Apple Mac) **CLARE PPN WORK REPORT**

by Clare PPN staff and volunteers from July to September this year, is available to read or download from our website. This includes a slide presentation we gave at our Plenary meeting last week, which also gives an overview of the PPN, its role and how it works.

Our quarterly Work Report, outlining all the work undertaken

https://clareppn.ie/plenary-work-presentation-november-

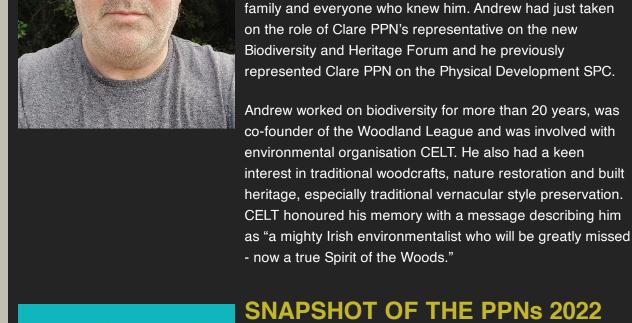
ANDREW ST LEDGER RIP

Clare PPN staff and secretariat were shocked and deeply saddened to hear of the sudden and very untimely death of

There are 31 Public Participation Networks across Ireland, and last year these PPNs had a whopping 18,053 member groups. This is just one of the facts and figures in a Snapshot of the Year 2022, which also shows that 901 PPN Reps sat on 418 boards and committees, bringing the voice of the community to the decision-making table. The Snapshot has been shared by the Department of Rural and Community

Andrew St Ledger in October. We are grateful for his expertise and his profound dedication to trees and our environment and we send our sincere condolences to his

2023/ Thank you to those who were able to attend the Plenary. We had some lively discussion and it was great to meet new members and to facilitate connections between member groups. We had a useful discussion about what should be priorities for Clare PPN in 2024. If you have you have suggestions, you can email sarah@clareppn.ie. In mid-December we will be finalising our Work Plan for 2024.



Development, ahead of its publication of the PPNs Annual Report 2022. You can view the Snapshot here: https://www.gov.ie/pdf/? file=https://assets.gov.ie/276048/cd67d82f-f040-461a-a820-0212c3a8722c.pdf **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

COMMUNITY WATER

application form, are available here:

INTEGRATION FUND

ASYLUM, MIGRATION AND

Deadline 1st December: The Asylum, Migration and

Integration Fund (AMIF) promotes the efficient management of migration flows and the implementation, strengthening and development of a common European Union approach to

resource centres, sports clubs, charities... The social finance offered by Clann Credo is designed for community groups and comprises term loans and bridging loans. These could enable you to avail of grant aid or you may require a term loan to deliver your project. Community groups up and down

the country have secured social finance from Clann Credo,

but they also understand the stops and starts of managing community projects. Clann Credo is a registered charity that

has been lending to groups nationwide since 1996. They have staff ready to assist - it's never too early to talk to

Clann Credo about your community's project. You can email info@clanncredo.ie, call 01 400 2100 or visit their website:

https://lawaters.ie/cwdf2024/

DEVELOPMENT FUND

Deadline 6th December: Our friends at the Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO) have asked us to let you know that the 2024 Community Water Development Fund

(CWDF) is open for applications, with a closing date coming up quite soon – on 6th December. Grants may range from €1,000 to €25,000. The fund is administered by LAWPRO on behalf of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and is open to all community and voluntary groups to assist in the protection and management of water quality, both locally and at a catchment / sub-catchment scale. Full details of the 2024 Open Call, including Guidelines and



Funding to support 435 Men's Sheds with their running costs has been announced, with grants of up to €3,000 to be provided under a new €1 million initiative. Minister for Rural and Community Development Heather Humphreys made the announcement at 'Shedfest', the National Conference of the Irish Men's Sheds Association (IMSA), in Virginia, Co Cavan. The grants will be distributed via the IMSA, through an application process that includes qualifying criteria for the fund. You can contact the IMSA at: info@menssheds.ie or by calling 01-8916150. Web: https://www.menssheds.ie **CLANN CREDO: COMMUNITY LOAN FINANCE** CLANN CREDO Calling community groups, approved housing bodies, family

FINANCING

AMBITION

COMMUNITY

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION BRUNCHES 4th - 7th December: The Clare Volunteer Centre along with Clare Local Development Company and Clare County

https://www.clanncredo.ie

NEWS / EVENTS ...

Council are hosting a series of volunteer recognition events in Shannon, Lisdoonvarna, Kilrush and Ennis. The events will take place between 4th and 7th December, to acknowledge the contribution of volunteers to the integration of people new to our communities. If you know of an organisation and/or volunteers that you would like to be invited to one of these four events, please contact Sharon at sharon@volunteerclare.ie - all volunteers will be invited to a recognition brunch and will receive a specially commissioned **'CLARE AUTISM AWARE' WORKSHOP IN ENNIS** 22nd November: A free, in-person workshop exploring autism awareness, acceptance and understanding from individual to group settings will take place at The Temple

Gate Hotel in Ennis from 7pm to 8pm on Wednesday,

potential. To find out more and register, visit: https://yoursay.clarecoco.ie/clareautismaware

CHILDREN & ADULTS

November 22nd. Facilitated by autism consultant Dr Susan Crawford and supported by Clare County Council, the event is open to parents, professionals, businesses and community groups as part of the 'Clare Autism Aware' initiative. The aim of this free workshop is to give people in County Clare an opportunity to gain knowledge and skills about autism and especially how to support autistic people in attaining their

'WINTER WILDLIFE TALKS' FOR

Starting this evening... Clare County Council's Biodiversity Officer, in conjunction with Clare Libraries, is hosting 'Winter Wildlife Talks' at libraries in Ennis, Shannon and Kilrush.

Three expert speakers will tailor separate talks to children and adults about biodiversity projects in County Clare. Clare County Council's Biodiversity Officer, Barry O'Loughlin, says: "The talks will benefit anybody with an interest in wildlife and there will be practical recommendations that individuals and community groups can use to enhance wildlife in their local area." **Tuesday, 21st November** – Kilrush Public Library Speaker: John Lusby, BirdWatch Ireland 5pm-6pm: Barn Owls of County Clare (Children's Talk) 6.45pm-7.45pm: Clare Barn Owl Survey and Project Updates (Talk for Adults) **Thursday, 23rd November** – De Valera Public Library, Ennis

Speaker: Dr Kate McAney, Vincent Wildlife Trust

6.45pm-7.45pm: The Ecology of Bats and Project Updates

Tuesday, **5th December** – Sean Lemass Public Library,

Speaker: Barry O'Loughlin, Biodiversity Officer, Clare County

6.45pm-7.45pm: Peatland Restoration and County Wetland

https://www.clarecoco.ie/your-council/[news]/new-series-ofwinter-wildlife-talks-for-children-adults-and-community-

Clare. These visual stories, poems and other memorabilia

Cuimhneamh an Chláir / Clare Memories, the Clare IFA and

Farmers Weaving Stories Together webpage, you can read the booklet, see photos from the launch, watch a creative

https://yoursay.clarecoco.ie/farmers-weaving-stories-together

23rd November: This event on Thursday is the final event of

conversation with Róisín Á Costello at Shannon Library from 7pm-8pm. Kerri is the author of Thin Places and Cacophony of Bone. Kerri will discuss her writing and her latest book, a memoir about nature, and our connection to the earth. Books by all featured authors are available to borrow now from your nearest library, and book club sets for each author will be added to Clare Libraries' Book Club Collection. Find out more

BEYOND BORDERS BOOK CLUB

The Beyond Borders Book Club is a celebration of great literature from countries beyond Ireland, recommended by guests who have connections to the places discussed in these writings. Its aim is to introduce the great diversity of

CLG, based in Newcastle, Co Tipperary, is a not-for-profit social enterprise, the main activity of which is Property Marking. They have recently been designated as a Registered Organisation with Pobal for the Seniors Alert Scheme for pendant alarms. Anyone in Munster looking to get a pendant alarm for an older person can contact them; they will fill out the form, and TASK will fit the alarm within 10 days of approval from Pobal. Call 052 6179 801 or email

supported by Clare County Council in partnership with

the HSE's Mid-West 'Connecting for Life'. At the Clare

CLARE READERS FESTIVAL

Clare Readers Festival. Kerri Ní Dochartaigh will be in

5pm-6pm: Bat Talk (Children's Talk)

Inventory Surveys (Talk for Adults)

(Talk for Adults)

Shannon

More info:

groups.html

CLARE FARMERS WEAVING STORIES TOGETHER The 'Clare Farmers Weaving Stories Together' booklet was launched in Ennis last week as part of a free Health and Wellbeing Expo for the local farming community. Part of the Creativity for Wellbeing project, the project captured the visual stories of farmers in five mart areas across County

farmers' video and find out more:

writing and literature in the world to audiences in Ireland, and the books are available to borrow from Clare Libraries. Come to the Temple Gate Hotel for the following discussions chaired by poet Sarah Clancy. Both events are free and no booking is required. All presenters will come together for a panel discussion at the Ennis Book Club Festival on 2nd March 2024. • Wed 29th November: Sree Sen (pictured left) from India discusses The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy. • Wed 13th December: Nandi Jola (South Africa) discusses We Need New Names by NoViolet Bulawayo. **MONITORED ALARMS FOR OLDER PEOPLE** Do you know an older person who needs a socially monitored pendant alarm? Community Services Network

josephine@propertymarking.ie

CONSULTATIONS

CLARE LOCAL ECONOMIC &

about your libraries at: https://www.clarelibrary.ie/

COMMUNITY PLAN Deadline 22nd December: The Draft Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2029 is out for public consultation until 22nd December. Clare PPN put huge work into enshrining socio-economic rights and just transition principles into this document which will shape the future development of Clare over the next six years. These are really important years as we transition away from fossil fuels and we want to make sure people get their priorities and needs included in the plan. Don't miss your chance to read and make submissions, to give your input and share your vision as to what Clare should look like. Submissions can be made via online form, email or post and all relevant information can be found here: https://yoursay.clarecoco.ie/local-economic-and-community-

plan-23-29

hours until 1st December: Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, all public libraries and all Clare County Council Municipal District Offices. You can also read it online and find out more about making a submission here: https://www.clarecoco.ie/services/planning/news/draft-clarecounty-heritage-plan-2024-2030.html **DRAFT CLIMATE ACTION PLAN FOR CLARE** Deadline 23rd November: Just a couple of days left to give your feedback to Clare County Council and its Draft Climate Action Plan for Clare 2024-2029, which sets out key actions for the county "to transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity DRAFT CLIMATE ACTION PLAN rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy by 2050". The deadline is at 4pm this Thursday, 23rd November. A copy of the Draft Climate Action Plan for

consultation is at this link:

newsletter@clareppn.ie

Clare, and everything you need to know about the

With even shorter notice, would like to invite you to an online meeting at 7pm this evening (Tuesday) to discuss Clare PPN's submission on this important policy document. We emailed a Zoom link to all our members last week. If you

https://yoursay.clarecoco.ie/climate-action-plan

would like to receive this link again, please email

https://www.clarecoco.ie/your-council/[news]/ennis-local-

GREEN PAPER ON DISABILITY

DRAFT CLARE COUNTY

Deadline 1st December: "Heritage or Oidhreacht can be said to embrace all those elements of Irish life we have inherited from the generations gone before us, and whose continuing survival into the future depends on the attitudes and actions of the present," according to President Michael D Higgins. Clare County Council has prepared a Draft Clare County Heritage Plan for the period 2024-2030. A copy can be viewed at the following locations during normal working

HERITAGE PLAN

ENNIS LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN Deadline 7th December: Ennis Municipal District is seeking to understand how local residents, students, workers and visitors currently travel to and around Ennis, to identify what would make travel easier for people including journeys made by foot, bike, public transport and car. Your answers to this short (10-minute) survey will help identity the challenges and opportunities facing users of the transport network in Ennis and will inform the development of the Ennis Local Transport Plan. A second round of public consultation will take place to present the draft Local Transport Plan in 2024. See survey

Deadline 15th December: The Government is developing and consulting on a 'strawman' proposal on the restructuring **ON DISABILITY** of long-term disability payments under the Roadmap for **REFORM** Social Inclusion 2021-2025 Strategy. A Green Paper is a Government proposal on how to improve something or solve a problem, its purpose is to encourage thinking and discussion, and to prompt suggestions. National strategies and reports such as the Pathways to Work Strategy, the Make Work Pay Report and the Cost of Disability Report also feeds into this paper. The Green Paper includes proposals on reforming the following income supports: Disability Allowance; Invalidity Pension; Blind Pension; Partial Capacity Benefit; Domiciliary Care Allowance. Find out more and make a submission here: https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/3b001-green-paper-ondisability-reform-a-public-consultation-to-reform-disability-

transport-plan.html

REFORM

FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE FUND FLAG (Fisheries Local Action Group Programme) is a Community-Led Local Development scheme that seeks to "enable a sustainable blue economy in coastal, island and inland areas, and foster the development of coastal communities." FLAG comprises a partnership of relevant local stakeholder representatives from coastal communities with BIM Bord Iascaigh Mhara - Ireland Seafood Development Agency. The first task of the group is to create a Local Development Strategy. This process is now underway and they are seeking your contribution via a brief online survey. This will aid in the development of a strategy to seek funding from Priority 3 of the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF). You can fill in the survey here: https://surveys.grantthornton.ie/s/FLAG-Area-Economic-<u>Sentiment-Survey/tt-7cDFVdht3gwLVTbfGahgi8?</u>

payments-in-ireland/

EUROPEAN MARITIME,

About Us

www.clareppn.ie

Contact Us our diverse voices into policy

