

### Youth & Education Working Group

**IRD Duhallow Afterschool Service** operates from 2pm to 6pm for any primary school children in Duhallow. However, the service offers transport only from Newmarket Boys and Girls National school. A warm nutritious home cooked dinner is provided along with homework support daily. IRD Duhallow offers a tiered pricing system allowing families in receipt of a social welfare payment or medical card to receive a reduction in price. Parents also have the flexibility of sending their children for the whole week or a daily as they wish. **For further details contact Stephanie at 029-60633 or email [newmarketafterschools@irdduhallow.com](mailto:newmarketafterschools@irdduhallow.com)**

**IRD Duhallow Literacy Support Programme** - IRD Duhallow offers a literacy support programme for Primary School children with Dyslexia and Dyspraxia, consisting of two strands: Literacy Workshops and TTRS.

**IRD Duhallow Numeracy Support Programme** - We are piloting a new initiative offering a numeracy support programme for Primary School children struggling with Maths. Subsidies are available for those in receipt of a welfare payment or who hold a medical card. **To register contact Louise at 029-60633 / email [louise.bourke@irdduhallow.com](mailto:louise.bourke@irdduhallow.com)**

IRD Duhallow is seeking expressions of interest from individuals between **18-30 years of age to participate in an Erasmus+ Youth Exchange Project which will take place in June 2019**. The focus of this project is **beekeeping and biodynamic agricultural**. Please contact Mary on 029-60633 for further information or visit our website.

**Resilient Youth (ReY)** This Youth Initiative aims to support young people aged 15-24 years who are not in education, employment or training through participation on a part-time programme offering a range of pre-employment training supports, mentoring, group development and skills based training. Where possible, training will be based on the young person's needs, capacity and aspirations ranging from unaccredited introductory courses to minor accredited modules. Young people will be supported to complete their driver theory test and will receive 3 free driving lessons as this has been identified as a major barrier for young people in their pursuit of employment. **For further information or to register please contact Jennifer or Jacinta on 029-60633.**

**Coderdojo Volunteers** - IRD Duhallow holds a weekly Coderdojo Club for young people aged 7-13 years. Coderdojo is a global movement helping children to learn how to code, develop apps, games, websites and much more. Through Coderdojo children learn important skills that will benefit them in the future specifically within the software development industry. We are currently seeking volunteers who may have a background in IT and are interested in assisting with the coding sessions. **If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Jacinta on 029-6633 or e-mail [jacinta.carroll@irdduhallow.com](mailto:jacinta.carroll@irdduhallow.com)**



**IRD Duhallow's Raptor LIFE Project**  
Supported by the LIFE Financial Instrument of the European Community



Increased activity of wildlife is a sign that spring has fully arrived. This time of the year is very important for many animals as they disperse and explore to new territories or return to their breeding grounds. For our RaptorLIFE project it is also a race as all our habitat enhancement works have to be finished before breeding hen harrier return to hills of Duhallow. Many raptors are faithful to their nest sites and come back to the same location every year. Having knowledge of those sites gives us an opportunity to make sure that they remain suitable for nesting. One of significant threats for such nest sites is their gradual overgrowing with self-seeding spruce trees, which come from neighbouring forestry plantations. RaptorLIFE will soon commence removal of those trees helps to maintain attractiveness of those nest sites for these iconic birds.

There has been a lot of confusion in recent months around the area of burning of the land. The proposed extension of the burning season into March has been agreed is now published in Heritage Act which is currently open for public consultation. Despite this change, **it is NOT yet permitted to burn the land beyond February** as associated Regulations have not been issued yet. If you are interested in this type of land management, it is important to get familiar with new burning guidelines from National Parks and Wildlife Service.

### Agriculture working Group

**Allow Project EIP** If you farm in the Allow catchment, IRD Duhallow is interested in obtaining your perspective in the design and development of the new Allow Project. The project will employ a results based payment scheme, where participating farmers will be rewarded for the actions they take to enhance river habitats and reduce the pressures of agriculture on the freshwater environment. It is with the input of local farmers that the project can be best designed to suits the needs of the local agricultural community. **If you farm in the Allow catchment and would like to participate please don't hesitate to contact Darren or Allan on 029-60633 with any questions.**

**IRD Duhallow and Duhallow Beekeepers Association** is holding beekeeping for beginners training course on 4th, 11th and 18th March. The Duhallow beekeepers Association is currently accepting **applications for new members**. **For further information please contact Mary on 029-60633.**

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

### SCHEDULE OF COMMUNITY INFORMATION MEETINGS

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### Community Development Working Group

### IRD Duhallow Community Information Meetings

IRD Duhallow will hold a series of **community meetings** during March / April to give people an opportunity to discuss their ideas and plans for their communities as well as hear of opportunities. The forthcoming Local and European Elections in May are an opportunity to lobby your public representatives for the services, infrastructure and resources required in your communities, when they come looking for your vote. You are invited to attend a meeting in your locality, all meetings will be attended by representatives of IRD Duhallow Board and Staff:

<b>Tues. 19<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Glash	Glash Community Centre	8pm
<b>Wed 20<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Rockchapel & Knockaclarig	Bruach na Carraige	8.15pm
<b>Wed 20<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Castlemagner & Cecilstown	Castlemagner Com. Centre	8pm
<b>Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> March</b>	Donoughmore, Firmount, Stuake, Fornaught, New Tipperary	Donoughmore Hall	8pm
<b>Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> March</b>	Banteer, Lyre, Nadd, Kilcorney	The Glen Theatre	8pm
<b>Mon. 25<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Inchigeelagh, Kilbarry, Toames	Creedon's Hotel, Inchigeelagh	8pm
<b>Mon. 25<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Boherbue	Boherbue Parish Hall	8pm
<b>Tues. 26<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Macroom	The Castle Hotel, Macroom	8pm
<b>Wed 27<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Tullylease	Tullylease Com. Centre	8pm
<b>Weds 27<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Rylane & Aghabullogue and Coachford	Aghabullogue Com. Centre	8pm
<b>Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Dromagh, Derrinagree, Rathcoole	Dromtariffe Hall	8pm
<b>Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Knocknagree	Knocknagree Hall	8pm

Please note there will be further meetings held in all other communities in the first two weeks of April, further details to follow in the April newsletter.

### IRD Duhallow Warmer Homes Scheme

A well insulated home can cut fuel bills by over 50% and reduce carbon emissions. If you are in receipt of any **one** of the following payments will be eligible to receive insulation services **free of charge**; Fuel Allowance, Working Family Payment, Domiciliary Care Allowance, Care Allowance, One Parent Family Payment, Jobseekers Allowance for more than 6 months & have a child under 7 years of age. **Houses must be owner occupied & constructed before 2006. Additional Measures have been added to the Better Energy Warmer Homes Scheme which include;** Attic Insulation, Cavity Wall Insulation, External Wall Insulation, Internal Wall Insulation, Boiler Upgrade, Window Replacement, Lagging jackets, draught proofing and energy efficient lighting.

**\* Due to high demand, SEAI has decided that houses that have already received an upgrade under the Better Energy Warmer Homes Scheme will not be eligible for further works. To apply, contact Colm or Eileen on 029-60633 or email [whs@irdduhallow.com](mailto:whs@irdduhallow.com)**



"The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018-2022 is funded by the Irish Government through the Department of Rural and Community Development and co-funded by the European Social Fund under the Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning (PEIL) 2014-2020"



## LEADER News



**LEADER Closed Call** - IRD Duhallow on behalf of the **South Cork LAG** is seeking expressions of interest for LEADER funding from Businesses in IRD Duhallow's South Cork Area (which encompasses: Macroom, Kilbarry, Inchigeelagh, Toames, Clondrohid, Carriganima, Ballinagree, Aghabullogue, Rylane and Donoughmore). This call involves a competitive process for EOIs which relate specifically to **Enterprise Projects and support Economic Development**. Total Call Budget: €20,000 Max Funding Available per Project: €20,000 **Closing date for receipt of EOIs: 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Enquiries to [louise.bourke@irdduhallow.com](mailto:louise.bourke@irdduhallow.com) / 029-60633.**

**Call for Broadband Projects**—IRD Duhallow on behalf of the **North Cork LAG** is seeking expressions of interest for LEADER funding from community groups and businesses under the Broadband sub-theme in IRD Duhallow's North Cork area. Eligible projects include small-scale equipment (such as in-building boosters / mobile phone repeaters / indoor cabling), IT equipment, feasibility studies and training initiatives in digital learning and development. Max Funding available per project: €10,000. Total budget available €51,173. **Enquiries to [conor.judge@irdduhallow.com](mailto:conor.judge@irdduhallow.com) / 029-60633.**

**Guided Walk** There will be a guided walk up Mt Hillary on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March**, Meeting at the trail head at 1pm. Please ring 029-60633 to register your interest in attending.

**IRD Duhallow is linking with Rathmore Credit Union** to deliver a series of talks. The first talk will take place on **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm in Rathmore Credit Union** and relates to the 'Dangers of Social Media' which will be delivered by Dr. Maureen Griffin. **Contact Mary at 029-60633 for further information.**

**Duhallow Arenas** (Situating adjacent to the James O'Keeffe Inst. Newmarket) are available to hire for all equestrian related events at a rate of €20 per hour. Become a key holder for €150 (March to Dec. 19), which will allow full access to the arenas. **For further information contact Louise on 029-60633.**

## Enterprise Working Group

**Duhallow Skillnet** is accepting enrolments for a wide selection of training courses. Please visit [www.irdduhallow.com/upcoming events to book online or email duhallowskillnet@irdduhallow.com](http://www.irdduhallow.com/upcoming events to book online or email duhallowskillnet@irdduhallow.com) or for enquiries contact 029-60633.

Course Title	Venue	Start Date	Time	Price Per Trainee	Duration
CPR	James O'Keeffe Inst.	12 <sup>th</sup> March	6.30pm-9.30pm	€35	1 Night
Intermediate Excel	James O'Keeffe Inst.	13 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30am - 5.30pm	€100	1 Day
Manual Handling Instructor	James O'Keeffe Inst.	20 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> 28 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30am-5.30pm	€400	5 Days
Linked In Training	TBC	20 <sup>th</sup> March	TBC	TBC	1 Day
First Aid Responder	James O'Keeffe Inst.	March - TBC	9.30am-5.30pm	TBC	3 Days
First Aid Refresher	James O'Keeffe Inst.	April - TBC	9.30am - 5.30pm	TBC	2 Days
Advanced Excel	James O'Keeffe Inst.	17 <sup>th</sup> April	9.30am - 5.30pm	€100	1 Day
Safe Tractor Driving for Teenagers	Kanturk Mart	18 <sup>th</sup> April	9.30am - 4.30pm	€35	1 Day

## Employment and Training Working Group

**QQI Level 7 Information Evening** - IRD Duhallow in conjunction with the Institute of Technology Carlow will be offering a **QQI Level 7 Bachelor of Arts in Applied Early Childhood Education and Care** starting in Newmarket in September 2019. This Bachelor of Arts in Applied Early Childhood Education and Care programme is designed for those who hold a FULL QQI Level 6 major award in childcare and who are working full-time in the sector with at least 3 years full time experience. **If you are interested in enrolling on this Bachelor of Arts in Applied Early Childhood Education and Care programme, please attend an information evening on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm in IRD Duhallow, James O'Keeffe Institute, Newmarket. If you have any queries, please contact 029-60633 or email [louise.bourke@irdduhallow.com](mailto:louise.bourke@irdduhallow.com)**

**Gardening for Biodiversity** training course will begin in commence in Tureenahill on **Tues. 5<sup>th</sup> March** and take place on 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> March, from 10am-12noon. **Call Ellen or Mary on 029-60633 to register your interest.**

IRD Duhallow is seeking expressions of interest for the following courses in the Tureenahill-Rathmore-Gneeveguilla Area: i) Digital Photography, ii) Bike Maintenance iii) Cycle Safe Course for Parents iv) Art Classes for Beginners. If you are interested in any of these training courses **please contact Mary at 029-60633 for further information.**

## Local Training Initiative: Horticulture

IRD Duhallow will be delivering a QQI Level 5 in Horticulture in April. This Local Training Initiative in Horticulture is a full time, 44 week programme where participants will gain the skills necessary to grow their own produce, learn landscaping techniques and much more. **To register your interest or find out more please contact Rachel at 029-60633.**

## Equality Working Group

### PEIL - Duhallow Work Opportunities for Women

IRD Duhallow has been awarded funding through the **Department of Justice and Equality supporting ESF PEIL Gender Equality – Women Returning to the Workforce. This Measure is supported by the European Social Fund (ESF).** This grant will support women in order to assist their return to the labour market. This programme will be primarily targeted at women who are: engaged in home duties; newly unemployed not on the live register; may have left the workforce but are now preparing to return to employment; Women parenting alone; Women with disabilities; Carers and Migrant Women. **IRD Duhallow is taking names for the following training courses:**

Course Name	Commencement Date	Time	Duration
Palliative Care QQI Level 5	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	6.30pm-9.30pm	10 Weeks
ECDL Start	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	6.30pm-9.30pm	12 Weeks
Intellectual Disability Studies QQI Level 5	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	6.30pm-9.30pm	10 Weeks

**For further details on the PEIL Prog. contact Jacinta on 029-60633 or e-mail [jacinta.carroll@irdduhallow.com](mailto:jacinta.carroll@irdduhallow.com) or visit [www.irdduhallow.com](http://www.irdduhallow.com) his project is part supported by the Irish Government and European Social Fund (ESF) Fund 2014-2020 as part of the Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning (PEIL) 2014-2020.**

**Ability Programme 2018-2021** - The Ability Programme aims to support young people with disabilities (15-29 years of age) to improve their employability through a range of person-centred supports. It is proposed that participants on the Ability Programme will be supported with tailored training and career guidance support. Training will include the development of soft skills, confidence, communication, self-awareness, life-skills/personal development. A focus will be placed on work preparation training for young people with disabilities including job search strategies. Existing linkages on the ground with local employers will be utilised to facilitate supported work sampling, work experience placements, work shadowing, volunteer placements and place and train schemes. For the purpose of the Ability Programme, people with disabilities refers to people with physical or sensory disabilities, mental health conditions, acquired disabilities, intellectual disabilities, hidden disabilities and people on the autistic spectrum. **In order to qualify for support, Ability participants must also be:** in receipt of disability allowance or invalidity pension; or in receipt of illness benefit for more than three months; or other referrals may be accepted on a case-by-case basis. Referrals from GPs and mainstream schools are not eligible. **Please note:** The Make Work Pay (MWP) Report, published in 2017, made a number of recommendations including the removal of the requirement that work be of a rehabilitative nature for the Disability Allowance earnings disregard to be applied. **Changes:** From 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018, a person in receipt of Disability Allowance who is intending to take up work will no longer have to provide evidence that the work is of a rehabilitative nature before they can avail of the disregard. **For further information or to register please contact Triona or Jacinta on 029-60633.** "Ability is co-financed by the Irish Government and the European Social Fund as part of the ESF Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning 2014-2020."

**IRD Duhallow's Shine Phrenz Self Help Support Group** is for people who have experience of Mental Ill Health. Sharing experiences with others can be a great way of learning new coping skills, growing your support network and making new friends. The groups are peer facilitated, and supported by the SHINE Regional Development Officer. The next meeting of this group will take place on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> of March from 2.00pm-4.00pm** in the James O'Keeffe Institute, Newmarket. For further information on meetings, please contact the Emily Daly, Shine Regional Development Officer on 086-8525755 or by e-mail on [edaly@shine.ie](mailto:edaly@shine.ie)

**The Duhallow Carers Support Group** provides peer support for carers, to provide a relaxing environment and to give members a much needed break from their caring duties and most of all to up skill new carers and provide them with the relevant training and mentoring they need to carry out their duties to the best of their abilities. The group meets the first Thursday of every month to organise and facilitate these supports, equipping carers with the skills and the confidence to look after loved ones. **Please join us at our next meeting on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> of March at 8.00pm in the James O'Keeffe Institute. For details or further information contact Stephanie on 029-60633.**

**Financial Difficulties? MABS** An Outreach Clinic is available in the James O'Keeffe Institute, Newmarket. Contact the MABS Mallow Office to arrange an appointment **Tel. No: 076-1072440.**

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS** - Closed meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous is held in the James O'Keeffe Institute, Newmarket every Sunday Morning at 11.30am and Thursday at 8.30pm.

**AI ANON** If you're affected by somebody else's drinking, come and hear the experience of others at the James O'Keeffe Institute, Newmarket, every Thursday night at 8.30pm or to the Health Centre in Millstreet on Sunday nights 6pm wintertime.

**Emotional Support Service** IRD Duhallow is offering a One to One Integrative Counselling service. This service is being offered by Mature Student Counsellors, working towards their accreditation, and is free of charge. **If you would like to make an appointment or have any further enquiries please contact Aoife on 087-1179990.**