

From: Suzanne O'Connor [soconnor@laoiscoco.ie]
Sent: 11 December 2018 16:25
To: O'Connor Suzanne
Subject: BeeFree Template Test



Laois Public Participation Network

December 2018 Newsletter

Meet a Member Organisation

Laois Federation ICA

There are 18 guilds in The Laois Federation of The Irish Country Women's Association right across the County in towns and villages with nearly 300 members. We meet on a monthly basis in community halls and ICA buildings. The oldest Guild in Laois is in Abbeyleix which had its first meeting on the 26th January 1914 closely followed by Castletown on the 18th of July in 1915 it is the largest Women's Organisation in Ireland.

The main reason we belong to the ICA is for the friendship and fellowship at our meetings - where we have interesting speakers and are constantly learning new skills - The members of the ICA are very skilled in a variety of different crafts including Knitting, Crochet, sewing and are very interested in promoting Traditional Irish Crafts - including Mountmellick Work. and Lumra Work. There is an iCA Choir in Laois and we often have performances for local Groups . They have also performed at Aras An Uachtarain for Mary McAleese and regularly sing at the National Ploughing Championships We are involved in our local communities - including Tidy Towns, We organise a walk every year in June to support the Cuishle Centre and Laois Hospice, other members volunteer with St Vincent DePaul, and support Laois Domestic Abuse and send a great number of boxes to needy children at Christmas with Team Hope. We also teach sewing and knitting in National schools - we enjoy cultural activities and one Guild has a set dancing group. We enjoy trips locally and across the Country. We attend Craft shows like the Knit and Stitch in the RDS We are always happy to welcome new members to our Guilds and in our Choir.

There are several local and National Competitions that we enter including the Bernie Dunne Cup at the Clonaslee Show and the Aldi Brown Bread Competition at the National Ploughing Championship. This year we had an entrant in the Brown Bread Competition finals - Vivienne Rigley Arles Guild. There is a National Table Quiz, which is entered by all Guilds and the winning team goes to the National Competition hopefully to win for Laois. National Baking Competition sponsored by Gem Pack, each year so plenty of different activities to keep our members busy .

Each Guild support their own favourite 'Charity such as The Alzheimer's Society, Portlaoise Against The Homeless, St Vincent DePaul, the Simon Community - and many others.



Public Consultation on Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Eastern and Midlands region (EMRA)

Please find below link to the draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Eastern and Midlands region, prepared by the Eastern Midland Regional Assembly.

The Strategy aims to provide a framework for investment to better manage regional planning and economic development throughout the region.

Public consultation on the Draft Strategy has now commenced with a closing date of 23rd January 2019.

Should you feel that Laois PPN should make a submission in this regard, please contact me and I will collate members' views. You are also invited to inform your own organisations in relation to the draft Strategy with a view their making a submission should they wish to do so.

<http://emra.ie/dubh/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/EMRA-DRAFT-RSES.pdf>

Pike of Rushall Heritage Group - Book Launch

The Pike of Rushall Heritage Group wishes to announce the launch of its book – Pike of Rushall Historical Review – on the 14th of December, in the ICA Hall, Castletown at 8 p.m.

Michael Parsons, Chairman of the Heritage Council will be attending the launch. The book contains many articles on local events and characters, and important people from the area who left their mark in history and much more. Refreshments will be available after the launch. All are welcome.

Batt Lynch (Chairman – Pike of Rushall Heritage Group)

Social Enterprise Fund



Calling all social enterprises in Laois!

We are delighted to announce that the Social Enterprise Development Fund has re-opened for a second year. The €1.6m fund is run by Social Innovation Fund Ireland in partnership with Local Authorities of Ireland, with the support of IPB Insurance and the Department of Rural and Community Development.

Deadline for stage 1: 25th January 2019

<http://www.socialinnovation.ie/social-enterprise-development/>

Drug & Alcohol County Stakeholder Action Group & Action Plan for County Laois

the briefing session for the development of a Drug & Alcohol County Stakeholder Action Group & Action Plan for County Laois will take place on Friday 18th January 2019 at 11am in the Killeshin Hotel, Dublin Road, Portlaoise, County Laois.

Refreshments and light lunch will be provided.

I would greatly appreciate it if you could please confirm if you would be in a position to attend the briefing session. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact:

Antoinette Kinsella
Co-ordinator Midland Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force
Health Centre
Coosan Road
Athlone
Co Westmeath
Tel: 090 6483108 086 3800517
Email: antoinette.kinsella1@hse.ie

Laois PPN Elections

Laois PPN elections

Laois PPN Secretariat - x 2 Environmental Seats
Borris-in-Ossary/Mountmellick (x1 Seat) & Portlaoise (x1 Seat) Municipal District ONLY.
Nomination Forms have been posted to all Environmental Groups registered in the relevant MD.

Laois PPN Secretariat - x 1 Community/Voluntary Seat
Craiguecullen/Portarlinton Municipal District ONLY
Nomination Forms have been posted to all Community/Voluntary Groups registered in the relevant MD.

LCDC - Environmental Seat
All Municipal Districts
Nomination Forms have been posted to all registered Environmental Groups.

Laois Childcare Committee x 2 Seats
All Municipal Districts

Laois Public Participation Network
Closing Date for receipt of nominations 14th December 2018 @ 4:00pm

For further information contact: Suzanne O'Connor, A/Laois PPN Coordinator.
soconnor@laoiscoco.ie or call 057-86658612 / 086-7782551

www.laoisppn.ie

**14
DEC**



PosterMyWall.com

Winter Burglary Prevention Advice



An Garda Síochána

WINTER BURGLARY PREVENTION ADVICE

Lock Up, Light Up as part of An Garda Síochána's Operation Thor.

Winter 2018



TOP 5 TIPS

-  1. Secure all doors and windows.
-  2. Light up your home, use timer switches when out.
-  3. Use your alarm, even when at home.
-  4. Store keys safely and away from windows & letterboxes.
-  5. Record details of valuables and don't keep large cash amounts at home.

TRY THE HOME SECURITY CHECKLIST CHALLENGE AT WWW.GARDA.IE



Have your say on the Water Framework Directive - Public Consultation

The European Commission wants to hear as many views as possible the Water Framework Directive and the Floods Directive.

The public consultation will gather views from the public on their understanding and relation with water, and more detailed information from those in charge of implementing the Directives.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/ares-2017-5128184/public-consultation_en

Craft Exhibition

HERITAGE HOUSE PRESENTS

CRAFT

**EXHIBIT
ION²⁰₁₉**

CALLING ALL CRAFT ENTHUSIASTS &
COLLECTORS! DO YOU HAVE CRAFTS
(OLD OR NEW) THAT YOU WOULD LIKE
FEATURED IN OUR POP-UP "HANDMADE
WITH CARE" EXHIBITION LAUNCHING
FEBRUARY 1ST 2019? IF SO GET IN TOUCH!

**SUBMISSION
DEADLINE
JANUARY 7TH**

EMAIL: RESEARCH@ABBEYLEIXHERITAGE.COM
TEL: (057) 87 31653

VISIT WWW.ABBEYLEIXHERITAGE.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION

Get on the Running Shoes

Portlaoise Athletic Club

Annual St. Stephen's Day Family Fun Run
Wednesday 26th December 2018

Ready to Run at 10.30am



No Entry Fee
Donations made on the Day

Contact: Ursula,
087 916 4636

One or Two Loops of the Church Block (Walk, Run or Jog)
Meeting in St. Fintan's Car Park
(All Proceeds go to The Cuisle Centre, Portlaoise)
All Welcome!

Happy Christmas

One of the real joys of the Holiday Season is the opportunity to wish one and all a very Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.




We look forward to working with you all in 2019