

Louisburgh HQ News

7th June 2013

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"The whole is greater than the sum of its parts" So says Aristotle and Louisburgh HQ

Killeen Fun Day

Killeen National School is the venue for a big, fundraising FUN DAY on Thursday 13th June from 2pm to 7pm. Children from the school are taking part in a sponsored Duathlon - run, cycle and obstacle course, at 12.30pm. This will be followed by lots of fun and activities for both young and old...bazaar, cake sale, face painting, secret auction, raffle, bouncing castles and lots, lots more. All the fun and games continue right throughout the day until 7pm!

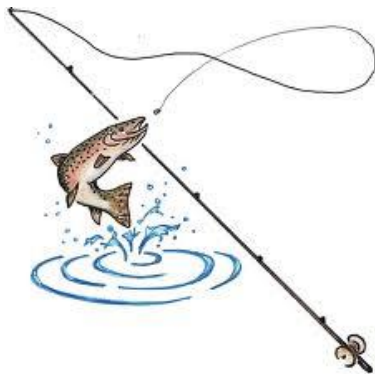
EVERYONE WELCOME so please come along.

Supporting 2 Worthy Causes

Mischa's Wish to Walk

and

Majella Morrison's voluntary work in a Ugandan Orphanage



Free Fishing Lesson (weather permitting) on White strand for anyone who would like to come along (adults and children) on Sunday next, 9th June at 11am. People can meet first at Doug's shop, A Shore Thing, in Westport, at 10am if they like and if they want to get some bait. He'll be passing by the square in Louisburgh at 10.30am and will be at White Strand at 11am. Bring warm clothing and a packed lunch. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Call Doug on 086 058 5752.

LOUISBURGH HQ
PROMOTING
TOURISM, ENTERPRISE & COMMUNITY
ACTIVITIES
LOUISBURGH, LECANVEY & KILLEEN

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Keem Bay Achill by Artist Claire Siobhan Walsh

Claire Siobhan Walsh: Both my husband and I were self employed in London. We have family in Murrisk so we were back and forth between Mayo and London constantly. But our hearts were in Mayo and it was only a matter of time before we came over permanently. When we did finally come over we chose Louisburgh because it was the obvious choice, not only was it a beautiful village set amongst stunning beaches and breath taking countryside - It had everything a family could want, fantastic schools and nursery, great pubs and restaurants, local shops and amenities. We were made to feel very welcome.

What we didn't know about Louisburgh until we had actually moved here was that it has a wonderful strong sense of community - and the people in the Louisburgh area really do care for each other and their village. The opening of HQ is a good example of what a community can achieve by coming together.

HQ is a success in many ways but for me personally it has given my career a huge boost. By displaying my collage pieces in Duffys craft shop (which is run by HQ and its volunteers) I was noticed by the Fashion Editor of the Irish Times, who did a small feature on me in her column. Since then I have had my first exhibition, appeared in local and National papers, have had work published in books and magazines and been on both Radio and Television. I can't thank HQ enough for everything they have done for me. Without their support and kindness I wouldn't have had the success that I have been lucky enough to enjoy so far. I can only praise HQ and the great things that they are doing to promote tourism and support local business in the area.

It's great that people can see the potential of this area and are working together to promote it, not for any monetary gain, but purely because they love it! We definitely came to the right place!

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The Ocean Lodge, six miles west along the coast road from Louisburgh, set between the mountains and overlooking the Beaches of Cross and Carrowniskey. Renowned for its wild beauty, the views from bar and restaurant windows are unparalleled.

Open 7 Days

Contact Bernie O' Malley
098 68605/ 087 296 5483

www.oceanlodgekilladoon.com

email: bookings@oceanlodgekilladoon.com



The Cresham Academy of Dancing will host an evening of music, song and dance as they perform **"Deirdre of Sorrows"** in Louisburgh Parochial Hall, on Wednesday 12th June @ 7.30pm. All are welcome to this wonderful production. Adm. €5 per adult, children and students no charge.

Calling all composters

What do you do with your vegetable waste and those old tea bags, egg shells, garden trimmings, newspapers, cardboard etc. etc.?

We would appreciate any non food waste suitable for composting.

Just leave it in the large white bag at the back of HQ and we will put it to good use making great compost to feed the plants and produce at HQ.

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Saturday Plant and Produce Sale at HQ

Community Garden

10.30-2pm

From this Saturday the 8th June we will be having a plant and produce sale at HQ garden every Saturday.

Everybody is welcome and we hope that people will drop in and hang out sharing gardening tips and ideas as well.

The sale of plants and produce will help us to develop and keep the garden going. As well as selling the produce grown in the garden anyone is welcome to bring plants, cuttings or surplus produce and sell or exchange same. All we ask is that 20% of any monies you make are given to HQ to support the project.

Advantages of Living in Louisburgh

My Father came from Lougha in Louisburgh and I still have family here.

I first came here with my parents and brother in 1953 and, as children, my brother and I always told people we were 'going home' when asked about our holiday destination. My husband and I have been coming regularly since 1980 and we decided to move here 3 and a half years ago. We originally had a motor home parked on family land and lived in that for the 5 months it took for our new home to be completed. We arrived on January 7th 2010 to the worst winter in living memory. The temperature went as low as -17 degrees but we survived and didn't kill each other living in such a confined space!

We enjoyed the thaw and the spring particularly when we sat and watched lambs born and growing. We recognised them individually and even gave them names.

Since we finally settled in, we have always enjoyed the journey into Westport and never pass Clew Bay without getting great joy from the view. We still take the opportunity to enjoy the views as we drive!

We regularly walk our terriers, who had been town dogs, along the beach at Carrowmore, (always with a poop scoop) to keep the blue flag beach pristine. Every time we go down, there is something different to see. Rocks have been moved by the power of the sea, shingle banks have developed and the birds may be nesting in the cliffs. Even in January, we have been there and enjoyed the sun on the sea and the glory of the snow on the hills behind us. A short drive to Roonagh Pier is always an interesting event. We watch the ferries taking tourists and Clare Island residents over. The combination of items taken on board is always of interest. When the high winds are blowing, we often go to watch the majesty of the sea as it crashes over the pier. Another joy is to go along the cliff path to watch the seals and

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their pups (at the right time of the year) although we take great care not to disturb them in their habitat.

We particularly enjoy the drive, through Doo Lough, to Leenaun. Whenever you go the weather conditions make it seem different but it is always majestic and beautiful. The woolen museum and a lovely gift a coffee shop make a delightful stopping off place. We usually come back along the Sheeffry Pass, known locally as 'The Rocky Road'. Many years ago my Father and his brothers used to drive stock over the pass to take them to market. If we are lucky, we see a herd of wild goats that roam the hills. We move on past the Tawnyard forest and lough and continue home, via Drummin, along the Western Way.

From the back of our home we have unrestricted views of Croagh Patrick, Ireland's renowned Holy Mountain. From the front we can see the sea at Carrowmore and Achill Island in the distance. Who could ask for more?

Just up the road is Killeen, Cross Strand and the Clapper Bridge, one of very few in Europe and built during the time of the Famine. Beyond is Silver Strand, arguably the best beach in Europe. On the way, you pass Carrownisky beach which is renowned for it's surf school. Another of our favourite destinations is Murrisk Abbey and the world famous Famine Monument, which is particularly spectacular at night when it is floodlit. We should never forget Old Head beach, which was the first place my daughter stood, barefoot, on Irish soil when she was only 4 years old.

The gentle pace of life in Louisburgh has proved to be a huge attraction after living and working in the hustle and bustle of a large town in the Midlands in England.

Local people have been friendly from the day we moved here and always ready to 'point you in the right direction' if this is needed. Shopkeepers have the time for the craic. Commerce is never simply a cash transaction because people have time for you.

There are year round attractions within the town of Louisburgh including School Musicals, Panto, Music Festivals, the Horse Show and horse racing on the beach. Information on upcoming events is always available at HQ where my husband and I both volunteer.

There is a selection of pubs and restaurants in the town, convenience stores, post office, hairdresser, library, a petrol station and chemist all of which make life much easier. There is also Cycle Hire available for those of a more athletic nature than me!

With Knock Airport only about an hour's drive away, the world outside the area is still easily accessible.

In short, my husband and I feel that moving to Louisburgh has proved to be one of the best decisions we have made through our lives.

Veronica Abraham

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Gentle Summer Yoga at Louisburgh HQ



Suitable for Beginners

Tuesday Evenings June & July at 6:30pm

€10 per class. Contact Siobhán: 087 234 9183



Some of the Items on Display at the HQ Craft Shop