

Bere Island Newsletter

Issue 91

Autumn 2024



Above: Autumn colours overlooking Hungry Hill. Photo by Helen Riddell



Above: Cruise Ship 'Island'. Photo by Helen Riddell

Index

Page 2

John Walsh

Page 3

BI Community
First Responder
Group,
Lonehort Battery,
Parent & Toddler,
After School Club,
Active Retirement
Group,
BI Women Create

Page 4

Theatre,
Heritage Week,
Xmas Newsletter

Page 5

BITE,
iCAN

Page 6

BI Arts Festival,
Beara Big Bash,
Big Beach Clean

Page 7

BI GAA

Page 8 & 9

School News,
Holy Year Cross,
BI Family Festival

Page 10

BI Military
Festival,
Keeping History
Alive,
BI Me n Shed

Page 11

BI Community
Radio

Page 12

BIPG,
Creative Places

John Walsh

A wave of deep sadness came over Bere Island on the 23rd June last when we received the devastating news that our friend and former colleague John Walsh had passed away. John was a former Board member of BIPG before starting work as the Project Co-ordinator on 29th March 2004. He worked with us for 19 ½ years before finishing up at the end of August 2023, moving on to work with Atlantic Towage and Marine until his unexpected passing.

Over these years John accomplished so much that I am sure I will forget to mention something so I will just highlight some of his achievements! Firstly, is the renovation of the Old School to the current Heritage Centre. This was done through an EU project ISLA and involved many a trip abroad and many a head wrecking meeting about changing budget lines to meet the cost! "A Heritage Centre wasn't going to doors for a solution. The door banging worked and BIPG was awarded a contract which later transferred to the Old School Group through the Community Services Programme to employ 2 fulltime workers, and everyone was happy"! The Bere Island John was instrumental in securing the funds needed.

One of John's proudest achievements was the parkrun which recently celebrated its 10th anniversary, an event he would have so loved to have been a part of. The idea of Bere Island being the first ever island to have a parkrun was what drove John to develop it here. So, John put out the feelers, got a positive response which made him even more determined to make it happen and more importantly make it work. And so, it did and in his role as Event Director he made sure things were done as easily as possible as everyone was a volunteer.

The sailing was another project that came about from a conversation John had. The conversation went from there and with the many volunteers who give their time every year John made it a reality in 2015. He loved the sailing week and would often say how great it was to see the boats on the water and the kids and everyone enjoying the week. Due to the demand for places and people's enjoyed every aspect of the sailing weeks especially the BBQ at the end, the craic and social element that went with it. In 2018 John researched an EU Horizon project with the idea of setting up a radio station. Bere Island Community Radio was born and John set about recruiting volunteers including himself to present and deliver 2 hours of radio every Sunday morning capturing a wide audience for could join in online. The radio has gone from strength to strength thanks to the tireless work he put in to get it to where it is today. John was part of many Boards, too many to mention here but one of his proudest achievements was becoming Chair of the European Small Islands Network and hosting the ESIN AGM on Bere Island in 2023.

John was a family man but also a proud island man. He worked hard for all the islands, but more than anything he loved to talk about and promote Bere Island the place he lovingly called home. John is missed beyond measure, everywhere you look there are reminders of him and all we can do is take comfort from the memories we have of good times spent in his company. As John said, "it's see a you later".

So, John rest easy until we meet again, look after us, especially your family and give them strength to carry on without you. To Sheila, Adam, Laura, Aoife and the extended Walsh family we convey our deepest sympathy. As a community we feel your unimaginable pain and will be here to help and support you in any way we can going forward.



Bere Island Community First Responder Group are on call through the National Ambulance Service 24/7, 365 days a year. We provide emergency response to fill the care gap between an incident and the arrival of the National Ambulance Service. We also provide free courses and training for our island community to learn how to do CPR and use a Defibrillator.

Bere Island is lucky to have 6 Defibrillators as follows:

- 1 Oileain na gCaorach
- 2 Bere Island Community Centre
- 3 Wild Atlantic Glamping
- 4 Lawrence Cove Marina
- 5 Rerrin Post Office
- 6 Bere Island GAA Pitch

They are all always unlocked and accessible to everyone.

We are always looking for Responders to join our group please call 086 1621803 to receive free training to become a Community First Responder.

Lonehort Battery

Bere Island Projects Group had a busy summer of tours at Lonehort Battery which were undertaken by our island tour guides Teresa Hall and Barry Hanley. Passengers from the cruise ship Island Sky also enjoyed tours of the battery on their visit to the island.

Tours are now by appointment only until next summer. To arrange a tour contact Barry Hanley on 086 8845709 or Teresa Hall on 086 1981541.

As part of Bere Island Projects Group work is now underway on repainting the two coastal artillery guns. BIPG have also been undertaking work on clearing some of the surface vegetation around the battery, as a result of clearing this, and then instigating a No-Mow-May policy on the resulting new growth there has been an abundance of wildflowers at Lonehort which in turn has attracted numerous pollinators.



BABY & TODDLER GROUP

The Baby & Toddler Group meet every Wednesday at 10am in the Community Centre.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

The Bere Island After School Club will be on at the Community Centre every Monday from 3.15pm to 5pm (excluding bank holidays).

ACTIVE RETIREMENT GROUP

The Bere Island Active Retirement Group continues to meet every Thursday morning from 11am to 12pm, all welcome.

Bere Island Women Create

Bere Island Women Create is an arts collective for women living on Bere Island. The group held a number of classes through the year including lino cut printing, quilting, crochet, embroidery etc. The group share their own skills with each other and also bring in arts practitioners. If anyone is interested in joining the group please contact bereislandwomencreate@gmail.com

Theatre

We had a busy summer of live theatre on Bere Island with four performances staged by the West Cork Fit Up Theatre Festival in the Lecture Theatre during July and August and we extend our thanks to the Department of Defence for the use of the building.

When the Bere Island Theatre Troupe was formed in 2003 as well as staging their own productions the troupe were also committed to bringing live theatre to the island, and over the years a number of productions have been staged by the Abbey Theatre, Haulbowline Theatre Company and also staged a performance of the award winning Tom Crean by Aidan Dooley.

We are looking to restart the Bere Island Theatre Troupe, if anyone is interested in taking part, either acting or helping out behind the scenes please contact Helen Riddell at bereconservation@gmail.com

Heritage Week

Bere Island Projects Group enjoyed a busy Heritage Week with over 100 people attending the three scheduled events. On Tuesday August 20th we held a guided walk to Cloughland Martello Tower led by our island tour guide Teresa Hall, it was a blustery day but the rain held off and we had a thoroughly enjoyable walk. On Wednesday August 21st Helen Riddell and Oscar Daly led a group on a guided tour around the military fortifications at Rerrin and regaled them with stories of the Gun Cotton Raid, the Internment Camp and the Handover of Fort Berehaven.,

On Thursday August 22nd Helen Riddell was at the Bere Island Heritage Centre scanning old island photos and documents as part of BIPG's project to digitise a Week project on the heritage and folklore of St Michael's Week.



BERE ISLAND CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2024

Bere Island Projects Group will be publishing the 2024 Christmas Newsletter and are looking for your contributions. We welcome all submissions of family news or photographs from the past year, graduations, engagements, weddings, births, christenings, special birthdays etc. Tributes to loved ones who have passed away in the last year, stories of Christmases gone by on Bere Island, poetry, short stories, all are welcome. All island clubs and organisations are also invited to submit any news on their activities over the past year.

The deadline is Friday 25th October 2024. All items must be received by this date. Items can be emailed to Helen Riddell at bereconservation@gmail.com or dropped into the Projects Group Office.

Bere Island Tourism and Environment Group

The Bere Island Tourism and Environment Group have been awarded €5535 from the Programme to purchase a new glass crusher for the recycling centre. The current glass crusher has is nearing the end of its life and in order to ensure that the recycling centre can continue to deal with the amount of glass bottles deposited there the group felt it was best to purchase a new glass crusher. The Community Climate Action Programme is overseen by Cork County Council and was established in 2020 to support projects, initiatives and research which contribute to climate and energy targets. We believe the new glass crusher will render the crushed glass to a finer residue that the current crusher which in turn will increase its end usage around the island, in building projects or as a garden mulch.

Some minor modifications need to be undertaken to the recycling centre to house the new glass crusher and the group envision that it will be in place and operational in early 2025.

The group encourage all islanders to recycle as much waste as possible, which in turn will reduce the amount of waste leaving the island. Recycling materials can also be collected with the monthly rubbish collection. Bags are available from the €35 shop, the Project Paper, cardboard and plastics can be placed in these bags. Plastic bottles, cans and glass bottles should still be brought to the recycling centre. There is an honesty box at the recycling for donations towards the upkeep of the centre. If you would like to make an annual donation via internet banking please contact bitegroup24@gmail.com

Rubbish collections for the rest of the year will take place on the following dates:

Tuesday 8 th October
Tuesday 12 th November
Tuesday 3 rd December
Tuesday 17 th December

Rubbish bags should be left outside your home by 5pm on the day. Bags which do not have a sticker will NOT be collected. Stickers are €1 and can be bought at the Heritage Centre and the Projects Group Office. Please do not leave rubbish bags out in advance of the collection dates. If you are leaving the island contact Caitriona (Wild Atlantic Glamping) 086 6027819 who will arrange somewhere secure for the bags to be dropped to and stored until the collection date. Please note individual bags should not weigh over 15kg.

Irish Community Archive Network

Information on Bere Island is continually being added to our online community archive, and we extend our thanks to all those who have contributed stories, and photos. We held an event during Heritage Week to scan old documents and photos, and thank you to all those who came along with items, these are all being uploaded to the site.

Bere Island Projects Group have been working with the team at iCAN on a nationwide project – Community Midwives and Nurses which will be part of an interactive kiosk at the National Museum of Ireland. The late Nurse Mary Mullins of Bere Island and her role as island nurse from 1935 – 1975 will form part of this project. The kiosk will be officially launched later this year, and it is planned that after the initial exhibition at the National Museum, the kiosk will travel to be displayed for a period of time at all the communities who participated in the project. Bere Island's community www.bereisland.heritageark.org can be found at

The archive is part of Bere Island Projects Group's partnership with much of Ireland's cultural heritage in the local communities to document their own history, heritage and culture on digital platforms so that is preserved for future generations and accessible to a worldwide audience.

If you would like to share your family's stories contact bereconservation@gmail.com



**BERE ISLAND
ARTS FESTIVAL**

The Bere Island Arts Festival will take place 19th – 22nd September.

We have an exciting programme of events lined up, and we hope that you will be able to attend many of them. The complete list of events is available on our website www.bereislandartsfestival.ie. In the lead-up to the festival, we will distribute a programme with details of all events to every household on the island. Thanks to the support of Creative Places West Cork Islands, The Arts Council, and our many sponsors, we can bring a wide range of poetry, music, art, film, and dance to the festival. It promises to be a great weekend, and if you need any further information, please don't contact us at bereislandartsfestival@gmail.com.

A special thanks to all the volunteers who have given up their time to help make this festival happen, to all the local businesses for their continued support, and to the Department of Defence for allowing us to use their buildings. We are always looking for extra volunteers, so if you are free to help, please contact Mary at 087 7423503. We would be delighted to have you on board.

Here are some of the highlights of this year's events:

Thursday 19th

Children's book launch, titled 'My Townland, My Story', and a screening of Hungry Hill at the Old Camp Church.

Friday 20th

Various poetry workshops by well-known Irish poets including our own Seamus Harrington. Culture Night on Bere Island. Dance the night a way to old time Irish favourites, music by Martin Kearney and Derry Kennedy. Tea, sandwiches, and cake will be served during the night.

Saturday 21st

Pop up Gaeltacht at The Hotel, suitable for all levels. Poetry workshops and readings by well-known Irish poets throughout the day in various venues. Lunchtime Concert with Ger Wolfe at Wild Atlantic Glamping. Songs and stories from the hearth by Lisa Lambe at The Old Camp Church.

Sunday 22th

Island Voices Connect led by Dr. Eva McMullan Glossop at St Michaels Church. Dancing at the crossroads at Rerrin village, Long Table Lunch, Music & Storytelling at The Drill Hall.

Looking forward to seeing you all at this year's Bere Island Arts Festival

BIG BEACH CLEAN

Clean Coasts are holding their annual Big Beach Clean event on the 22nd of September. Let's make sure Bere Island does its part in keeping our shores clean from litter. For more information on this event please contact Oscar on 0851679052/02775066.

BEARA BIG BASH

The Beara Big Bash will be held at the Berehaven Lodge on the 4th of October from 12.30pm. 3 course dinner followed by music. For tickets and details please contact Oscar on 0851679052 / 02775099



Bere Island GAA

On Saturday 31st August, Bere Island GAA hosted a celebration of the relaunch of the Club which took place in the late 1970's and a reunion of various Bere Island teams in the decade that followed which included the winning of the Murphy Cup (1980) and two Beara Junior A Championships (1981 and 1985). As well as marking the 1980's decade, the event was associated with Bere Island GAA.

Events commenced with a well-attended Mass for the Club and all deceased members of Bere Island GAA celebrated by Fr. John Kerins at the Rec Clubhouse in Rerrin Village. The sun was shining and it was a lovely ceremony. This was followed by refreshments at the Bakehouse Café where Edel Murphy and her staff did a great job looking after everyone. Later on Saturday evening, a large group of about 80 people attended the dinner at The Hotel excellently hosted by Maria Murphy and her staff. A number of people also joined Donoghue as well as the chat and the reminiscing and stories lasted well into the night which was enjoyed by all.

A video incorporating various photographs and historical film of Bere Island teams and matches all the way back to the 1930's was prepared by Michael O'Sullivan (Markie) Bakehouse and provided much enjoyment as well as a lot of topics for discussion of teams, times and games past. One of the most entertaining aspects was some old video footage available of the 1985 Beara Semi-Final against Castletownbere as well as the final against Adrigole featuring many of the players that attended the reunion!

It was a busy summer for the Bere Island GAA club. In July we welcomed over 80 children to our Cul Camp. A fantastic week was spent playing football, hurling and other fun activities. We would like to thank all of the children, parents and especially all of our coaches for making Cul Camp 2024 a great success again. The clubhouse was again busy with the BIPG running two kids summer camps at the clubhouse where an average of 25 attended each day. On August 10th our men's team were Beara Junior A Champions, defeating Adrigole in a very entertaining final held at the Rec Bere Island. Congratulations to all the players and coaching staff on ending a 16 year wait for silverware in Beara.



My Summer Holidays

This year at 5th class there are six new people in the school. There are four junior infants Connie, Saoirse, Ryan and Quinlan. Elliot has joined 3rd class. Leo has joined 5th class. There are 23 children in our school this year. We have new teachers working with us this year, Múinteoir Conor and Múinteoir Laura as well as Múinteoir Fiona & Múinteoir Orlagh.

By Amelia Harrington

The first thing we did during the holidays was Cúl camp. Anthony was in the 3rd group and I was in the 5th group. It was brilliant fun. Then there was the fun fair in town. The rides were called The Superbob, the Frizbee, bungee jumping and the Avalanche. After that it was the Bere Island regatta. We both won medals. I won a silver medal in the swimming race. Anthony won a gold medal in the hang tough (with 10 minutes 38 seconds). Now we are back in school and looking forward to a great year ahead, Anthony started 6th class in

By Anthony Murphy and Abby Harrington

During the summer holidays I went to Donegal with my granny and my brother Jason. There was a funfair, sand dunes, pet farms and big long sandy beaches. There were really nice doughnuts at the funfair. We went to a long sandy beach at Donegal as well. We were there for hours. We went to a pet farm another day and there were alpacas, raccoons, horses and donkeys. We were home for the last day of town regatta pole. The pillow fight on the pole is where you go on a pole above the ocean and have a pillow fight. Then when that was over I went to the funfair with Abby, Cillian and Jason. A few days later it was the Bere Island regatta. There was a greasy pole where you run on the pole above the sea on the pole and try to get the flag. There was also a pillow fight on the pole. There were many more activities at the regatta. I also had a lemonade stall and I went blackberry picking a lot this summer. I went to Cork shopping for school.

By Kyla Harrington

During my summer holidays I went to cúl camp. It was great fun. I loved the hurling & the Gaelic football. I ran the biathlon and I won a medal for it! I also did the park run twice. The park run celebrated 10 years. I learned how to swim at swimming camp.

By Leo Sullivan.

During my summer I did swimming lessons off the pier. I made a table with dad ,we put bottle caps on then we put grout in between them, then we poured resin on top. I went to the Bere Island Regatta and town Regatta. I also went to the funfair on the same day as the town regatta. I had a great summer and had lots of fun.

By Cillian Harrington

During the summer I went to London and went to a wedding. Last week I went to cork city and had a sleepover. A few weeks ago I went to an animal road show and I held 2 snakes.

By Jude Harrington

During the summer I went swimming. I went to my un Pokémon and Let's go Evie on the Nintendo switch.

By Elliot Sullivan

During the summer I went to Hackettstown. We also went to Pirates Cove and went golfing. I even got a hole in one! It was 12 holes and it was really fun. We went water zorbing. It is where they put you in a bubble and put you in the water to roll around. There was an arcade where my brother Tadhg and I played air hockey until we had to go back to the campsite that we were staying in. We roasted marshmallows and the next day we went back home which was a 5 hour drive.

By Meabh Hobbs

On my summer holidays I went to Kildare. I went to watch the Cork vs Limerick match in Dublin. There were lots of people in the stadium. Cork won the match by 1-28 to 0-29. The match was very good opportunity to go to such a great match. The day before the match we went to Tayto park, a theme park in Meath. We went on all the rides. It was great. Unfortunately Cork lost the final 3-29 to 1-34. We were robbed but they did a great job and the match was full of surprises. In Castletown we went to the funfair. We went on lots of rides and had a great time. I had a really enjoyable summer.

By Feya MacCarthy

During my summer holidays I did lots of things. I went to my auntie Rita's house there she was bringing us to Kealkil to do swimming lessons. I got to move up from the deep end to lanes. I also went to Killarney to stay at a hotel. While we were in Killarney we went to the funfair. At the hotel there was an arcade and a swimming pool, we had them both to ourselves! I also did a table quiz and a swimming race. I had a great summer

By Erica Murphy



Scoil Mhichil Naofa

We are looking forward to a great year ahead at Scoil Mhichíl Naofa. We were delighted to see everyone back on the 28th of August and to welcome four new Junior Infants and two new boys in Ardnakinna Class. We will write our news during the year to keep everyone up to date with all the great learning and activities we are doing at school!

Left: Quinlan, Ryan, Connie and Saoirse – First day of school.

The Holy Year Cross

The Committee would like to give an update on the repair work.

The power washing of the whole Cross is finished and the lower part already got its final coat of paint. Work on the upper part – especially the repair of the cracks – has only started in the first week of September because the road was too wet to get the teleporter safely up.

The Committee thanks all donors who supported the GoFundMe campaign, who donated individually or who volunteered their work. Without their generous support the repairs could not have been undertaken.

Special thanks go to Edwin Moriarty – grandson of Bill Moriarty, who was instrumental in the building of the Cross many decades ago; Edwin is giving his holiday to make the Cross last into the future.

Bere Island Family Festival

After another hugely successful festival this year, the festival committee would like to thank everyone who volunteered, sponsored, gifted or helped out in any way. Without this support the festival would just not be possible. This year the Sunday Raffle raised an incredible amount of money for the Castletownbere Community Hospital.

The committee look forward to upcoming events in 2025 and thank everyone for their continued support.

Bere Island Military Heritage Festival

Bere Island Projects Group held their 2024 Military Heritage Festival over the weekend of Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd June, in the Drill Hall, Rerrin featuring a military experts. The weekend was a huge success, and we extend our thanks to all those who attended and all our speakers who included: Bere Island author and hist Archives, Michael Kennedy, Executive Editor with the Royal Irish Academy, Dr Rory Finnegan, Professor of Military History and Strategic Studies at Maynooth University, Owen Foley, a retired Irish Army officer and lecturer at ATU Galway, Fachtna O'Donovan of the Beara Historical Society.

Bere Island Projects Group would like to thank Cor Council's Heritage Organisations Support Fund 2024 of the Drill Hall. The 2025 Military Heritage Festival will be held in June, and dates will be announced in the coming months.



Keeping Bere Island History Alive.

The main room in the Heritage Centre was filled with past pupils and visitors on Wednesday, August 7th. It was a fitting setting as it was the classroom in which so many of the group attended school between the 1930s and 1960s. Two teachers and 8 classes in this space! A contrast to the colourful, spacious new school across the road. Many contrasts were discussed that day... i.e. Bringing cattle to school in Castletown rather than travelling by bus and car ferry. Stories were exchanged re old methods of fishing, farming, shopping, housekeeping and about island life when the West End and East End army barracks were occupied. We are grateful to all those who attended and made it such an e

Thanks to Mark, Mary and Caroline. Tickets for the raffle (which will take place at Halloween) are still available and the proceeds will go to the Heritage Centre.

The Me n Shed

The Bere Island Me n Shed had a busy summer, with funding from Creative Paces West Cork Islands they built planters for Island amenity areas, crafts for the kids summer camps and the podiums for the Bere Island Festival. They held their AGM on the 5th of September at the community centre. It was well attended and the Shed would like to thank everyone for their continued support. The Shed will meet every Thursday at 7.30pm at the community centre, all welcome.

Bere Island Community Radio

Since our last News Page it has been summer! Bere Island Community Radio likes to get out and about as much as possible during all the various happenings around, here is a sample of some of our various outings from some of the Radio Team!

One of the highlights of BICR Outside Broadcasting is hosting a live programme from the annual Michael Dwyer Festival in Allihies. It features a rich flavour of traditional Irish music at its best, this year was no exception with Richie Dwyer playing some of his late brother's tunes, lively chat and music from the witty Jackie Daly and Matt Cranitch. Wonderful hospitality from Tadhg at the museum. Not forgetting Mark and Finola who are always willing to give of their time too. The Michael Dwyer Festival always leaves us wanting more, roll on 2025!

The Bere Island Community Radio Team were delighted to present their weekly show, Beara and Beyond from Eyeries during the Eyeries Family Festival in July. There were lots of live interviews with the Festival Organisers and visitors alike. One of the highlights was of course interviewing John Sullivan from Kilcatherine, who had performed the official opening of the Festival. John who is well known to viewers of Gogglebox Ireland, and he gave an insightful, enlightening and entertaining interview. We all certainly enjoyed it. Despite the mixed weather, it was a pleasure to be in Eyeries again, so many thanks to the Organisers for inviting BICR to be there and share their wonderful weekend. Once again BICR re-located to Dessies in Rerrin Village during the Bere Island Festival in August, for updates, live music and chat. The chat was as varied as the upcoming Bere Island GAA Celebrations, Genealogy, The Holy Year Cross amongst other things.

On Beara & Beyond program of the 25th August we covered the 10th Anniversary of parkrun coming to Bere Island on the 30th August 2014. In studio we had Joanne Sullivan and Jim Roche co-event directors as well as Catherine Sullivan of the core group who work away in the background of the parkrun, together with Jim Hanley, Chair, Bere Island GAA. A planned schedule program of 45 minutes of in-s t u d i o c h a t , L i v e c a l l s a n d p a became a lively 100 minute programme of lovely stories and memories of 10 years of parkrun. The power of Community Local Radio showed in spades as we relived the history of parkrun on Bere which now has over 21,000 participants that have come to our island over the last ten years, from near and far. The Ferry, Bus Drive, GAA Facilities and Bakehouse afterwards, have become Legendary. The companionship, the friendships, the banter, the chatter. To our contributors - thanks for the memories. Volunteering comes to the fore in parkrun: Volunteering comes to the fore in Community Radio: the common denominator John Walsh! Sleep easy friend!



Above : BI Radio in Allihies for the Micheal Dwyer Festival



Left : BI Radio Visit Eyeries during the Eyeries Family Festival.



Right : BI records Live music in Dessies during the Bere Island

News from BIPG

Community Centre – BIPG are in the early stages of carrying out a feasibility study on the community centre to look at any/all options available to us to provide more space. An architect has been engaged to carry out this work and will be visiting the island this week to get the process started. Hopefully we will have some positive news for the next newsletter.

EV Charger – The EV Charger located at the community centre is open for use to the public during office hours (Monday – Friday, 9am – 1pm & 2pm – 5pm) for a minimal fee of 50c per KW. Please contact BIPG for more information on 02775099.

Rural Social Scheme – Comhar na nOileán still have vacancies on the islands through the RSS. The aim of the RSS is to provide:

1. Certain services of benefit to rural communities by harnessing the skills and talents available among low income farmers and fishers
2. Income support to low income farmers and fishers who are in receipt of specified social welfare payments.

Applications are open to farmers and fishers who meet the eligibility criteria. For more information contact BIPG on 02775099 or Comhar na nOileán on 09975096/ fios@oileain.ie

West Cork Islands – Siobhan Burke of Wordhoard Communications has been busy marketing the West Cork Islands over the last few months. She has refreshed the website www.westcorkislands.com while continuously adding events happening across the islands giving them and island businesses great promotion. A brochure was also redesigned and can be downloaded here <https://westcorkislands.com/brochure> The work promoting the islands was funded by Cork County Council. Siobhan along with members of the West Cork Islands Community Council attended the Cork Summer Show on the 15th & 16th June again promoting the West Cork Islands. The stand was provided by Cork County Council and it was a great opportunity to talk to people attending and promote the islands.



Creative Places

Over the next two months, the Creative Places Project will go live with two new open call opportunities. The Ocean & Environment open call will go live on September 9th with a closing date of October 31st. Watch out on social media for more information



Creative Places

We will also go live with a Storyteller in residence application soon. Both projects are a significant investment that Creative Places West Cork Islands will be making across the islands in 2025.