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TD INTRODUCES NEW LEGISLATION TO REDUCE MISUSE OF NITROUS OXIDE

TD for Dublin South West Seán Crowe has introduced new legislation in the Dáil that would restrict the sale of Nitrous Oxide products in an attempt to reduce the harm that the widespread use of the gas is having in our communities. Teachta Crowe co-sponsored the 'Sale of Nitrous Oxide and Related Products Bill 2024' with fellow TD Mark Ward of Dublin Mid-West.

While introducing the Bill in the Dáil recently, Teachta Crowe said "The sale and misuse of Nitrous Oxide is something that often slips under the radar in the fight against substance abuse in our communities and efforts to help those who suffer from addiction. "Even though it ranks among the top three drugs used by young people, it garners very little attention by the

media.

"We will all have seen the evidence of its use and its growing use. From the small silver bullets we used to see scattered by footpaths and in green spaces, to the large, thermos sized plastic containers that have taken their place. "The use of this gas has led to death and serious long-term harm to people who have used it to achieve a quick high. It is predominantly young people who use it as it is cheap and easily accessible.

"I had previously put forward a Bill banning the sale of nitrous oxide to under 18s and I was astonished that the government were wholly uninterested in achieving that goal. "Minister O'Gorman even wrote to me last year

to tell me that, in his view, the current legislation is working fine and that my Bill was somehow unnecessary.

"Nitrous oxide is not a harmless substance. Prolonged use can have extremely damaging effects on the body. These include disorientation, impaired memory and cognition, and weakness in the legs. This worsens as the body is leached of vitamin B12 and can lead to permanent afflictions like foot drop as the nervous system is eroded over time.

"There have even been direct fatalities from hypoxia as the nitrogen displaces the oxygen in the blood. "Nitrous oxide is not safe, but it is incredibly prevalent and it is time we started taking it seriously."



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FULLY FUNDED NATIONAL CANCER STRATEGY WILL BE A GAMECHANGER FOR PATIENTS AND FAMILIES

Fianna Fáil Councillor and General Election Candidate, Teresa Costello has said the announcement that the €33 million investment to provide more and better cancer services, which includes a fully funded National Cancer Strategy will be a gamechanger for many people and their families across the country. Cllr Costello, who herself has braved the battle of having breast cancer a few years ago, has been a big advocate for women's healthcare. She has said she has already felt the benefit

of the investments made into healthcare by Minister Stephen Donnelly and the Department of Health.

“Recently, I attended my annual mammogram in St James’ hospital. I have to say the whole process was so quick and effective, I was in and out. Hearing the news of the National Cancer Strategy being fully funded, has me absolutely elated, and it is a progressive step forward for anyone in this country that is affected by cancer.”

Under Fianna Fáil, we are

investing heavily year on year, budget by budget, and putting significant funding into cancer care. €33 million towards cancer care will allow the National Cancer Strategy to be fully funded, as part of an overall record health budget of €25.8 billion for health services in 2025.

One area in particular that has been and will continue to be invested in is breast cancer screening, which is something Cllr Costello has been a passionate advocate of.

Health Stephen Donnelly. It’s fantastic to see my own party and colleague at the forefront of this constant commitment to

better healthcare. My conversations with Minister Donnelly have been productive, and his priority is to make health

services for all patients as effective as possible, and I certainly felt the benefits of that attending my latest mammogram recently.”



“As somebody with firsthand experience of cancer, I understand and appreciate how important funding is. Having faced cancer, I understand this funding is essential to ensure smooth delivery of the services. “My advocacy work especially in relation to lowering the screening age for breast cancer, has led to ongoing conversations with my party colleague and Minister for



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IRELAND'S FIRST EVER 'VIRTUAL THEME PARK', THRILLING VIDEO PROJECTIONS AND LIVE PERFORMANCES BY RAP, ROCK AND OPERA TALENT TO HAUNT TALLAGHT

A storm is brewing, unleashing an ancient force within Tallaght Library that brings the library's darkest tales to life. Monsters, demons, and zombies are escaping the pages and descending upon Parthalán Place

On Saturday October 19th from 5.30pm, the electrifying Tallaween Festival begins. This is a cutting-edge, multi-media spectacle featuring an augmented reality mobile game, a thrilling video projection with a laser light show and a live performance kicking off outside the Civic Theatre. This will be the first ever virtual theme park in Ireland, and perhaps in the world, and the game will be played for the first time on October 19th. The video projection and laser light show will be accompanied by a soundtrack, which will be performed live, and features a dramatic mix of opera from celebrated singer Claudia Boyle, hip hop featuring Fortune, emerging as one of Ireland's leading hip-hop artists, and Saibh who had a Number 1 in June on the Apple Charts with 'Siren Song'.

'Tallaween' will be unleashed on Saturday 19th bringing the library's darkest tales to life. Inspired

by a bold re-imagining of Dante's Inferno, this chilling creation by Niall Austin and a team of renowned artists, musicians, filmmakers and game designers will haunt Parthalán Place every night from 5 PM to 9 PM until October 31st. Set free from the constraints of ink and paper, an array of characters from the literary genres of Mythology, Horror and Sci-Fi have now entered Parthalán Place, and gamers are invited to 'take up their Wand' to cast these evil characters back between the covers of their host books. They can also protect themselves with their 'Shield', but be warned... each enemy enjoys different characteristics and skills, and must be fought in different ways!

Virtual Theme Park: A World-First Experience

There has never been a 'Virtual Theme Park' in Ireland or, indeed, anywhere else in the world. This is a location where people can

go to play a game together on their respective mobile phones or devices. In the augmented reality game, players use their mobile devices to engage in real-time with their surroundings, combating 'baddies' in a fully immersive game. Also, while the featured characters will roam Parthalán Place daily from 10am, the particularly 'nasty' ones, will only surface between 5pm and 9pm nightly. A preview of this trailblazing game can now be seen at <https://youtu.be/Zs6mBJ43uxs>

South Dublin County Council has supported innovation in the arts through funding research and development projects that 'bring the stage to the digital age' - this is highly innovative and will attract a lot of attention both in Ireland and internationally. Proprietary technology in the Virtual Theme Park game was recently developed in collaboration with Maynooth University which embraces

emerging technology that will resonate more meaningfully with younger audiences.

Tallaween will be launched this year as one of the highlights of The Red Line Book Festival coming up on October 14th - 20th 2024. Over 40 literary events will take place in venue

across South County Dublin over the week with an eclectic mix of established writers and new voices. It is a celebration of literature, storytelling, and creativity and has grown to become one of the highlights of the cultural calendar. Now in its 13th year, The Red Line Book Festival is produced by South Dublin Libraries and Arts at

South Dublin County Council offering a programme of events and workshops that appeals to people of all ages and interests, from children to adults, casual readers to bookworms.

See www.redlinefestival.ie for the full programme of events taking place across all venues.



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GINO KENNY SELECTED AS PEOPLE BEFORE PROFIT CANDIDATE FOR DUBLIN MIDWEST



People Before Profit TD, Gino Kenny, has officially been selected as the party's candidate for Dublin Mid-West in the upcoming general election. Gino, who has served as a dedicated representative for the area over the past fifteen years, expressed his gratitude to the community for their ongoing support and trust.

With a proven track record of fighting for public healthcare, housing rights, drug reform and workers' rights, Gino is eager to continue his work on behalf of the people of Dublin Mid-West. Speaking on his selection, Gino Kenny said, "I feel privileged to have represented the Dublin Mid-West community for the last eight years as a TD. It's been an incredible journey working alongside so many people who are passionate about

building a fairer and more equal Ireland. If re-elected, I will continue to fight for the rights of working class people, ensuring that their voices are heard, and that issues like affordable housing, public healthcare, and drug reform remain at the forefront of the political agenda."

People Before Profit remains committed to challenging the status quo and delivering real change for ordinary people. Gino Kenny's candidacy reflects the party's continued dedication to standing up for those most affected by government policies. As the campaign gears up, Gino looks forward to engaging with constituents, hearing their concerns, and fighting for policies that prioritize the needs of working people over corporate interests.

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LOCAL HERO AWARDS PRESENTATION NIGHT AT TREE TOP RESTAURANT

Local Councillor Trevor Gilligan recently highlighted the local hero awards night held in Clondalkin.

He said "From initially requesting nominations through a video online which received nearly 4,000 views, to an award ceremony with An Tanaiste Micheal Martin, the most recent presentation night. This experience has been very rewarding".

The Clondalkin Councillor commented "Special mention for local hero Ciara Fogarty who was nominated

more than once, however, instead, she agreed to get involved from the get go. I want to thank her for her efforts. Our aim is to unearth the hidden gems in our community. Prizes aside, we recognise unsung heroes. This means a lot to the winners and I'm delighted for them and their families".

Gilligan continued "Overall winners, St Brigs Unit, Peamount Hospital, were treated to a lovely meal and drinks on the evening. The staff work tirelessly for their patients and our community,

they deserve this night out and I'm delighted it was a pleasure to present them their prize for overall winners. Presentations were also made on the night to local groups Neart le cheile, Localize as well as 8 individual winners,

listed hereunder". Also a huge thanks to supporters AIB Clondalkin, McElroy Funeral Homes and Tree top Restaurant.

Individual winners were Tom Keogh of Round Towers GAA, Tidy Towns and Friends of

The Camac. Leah French, Manager Knockmitten Community Centre. Collette Quinn carer for mother and 2 children.

Claire Sherry from Clondalkin Animal Aid. Oliver Fogarty from Newlands Castle Park

FC. Anthony Duffy as a local community hero, currently with SDC Partnership. Martina Dempsey runs events for children in the community. And Clionadh Ni Muirchu goes out of her way to help individuals in the community



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BUDGET 2025 EASES COST OF LIVING PRESSURES ON FAMILIES AND INVESTS STRATEGICALLY IN OUR FUTURE

Local Fianna Fáil Cllr and General Election candidate Shane Moynihan has said Budget 2025 will deliver targeted supports to people, families and businesses to alleviate pressures caused by the increased cost of living. Cllr Moynihan said, "In Budget 2025 we are implementing measures to protect the most vulnerable in society, give families and households a break, safeguard the economy and prepare for the future. "We want to cushion people, families, pensioners and businesses from the impact of inflation over recent years.

That is why we are giving every household €250 in energy credits this Winter. "Fianna Fáil in Government has championed increases to the State pension and prioritised the well-being of older people and the most vulnerable. Budget 2025 sees a €12 rise in all weekly social protection payments and lowers the eligibility age

for the Fuel Allowance from 70 to 66." Moynihan said Budget 2025 marks the most any Government has ever spent on housing. He said: "This budget sees the most any Government has ever invested in housing. Over 115,000 new homes have been completed since we entered government in 2020. We are guaranteeing the Help-to-Buy scheme will be in place to the end of the decade and for renters we are increasing the renters tax credit for both this year and next to €1,000 per renter to help them with the cost of rent."

He said Budget 2025 builds on Fianna Fáil's reform of the healthcare and education sectors, while providing supports to low- and middle-income workers and SMEs. He said: "In healthcare we are focused on affordability and universal access based on need, not ability to pay. We are increasing investment in mental health services and

addressing overcrowding and waiting lists by expanding surgical hubs, fully funding the National Cancer Strategy, and rolling out free HRT for women.

"As a party, we believe in the power of education, and we believe in making education truly accessible for all. In Budget 2025 we have fully expanded the free schoolbooks scheme to cover all children in primary and secondary school, easing the financial burden on families, and we have increased investment in infrastructure, staffing, and special needs education including an additional 1,600 SNAs and 750 Special Education teachers.

"Budget 2025 prioritises those who need it most, offering significant income tax relief to help address ongoing cost-of-living pressures. Under Fianna Fáil, the average worker will be approximately €1,000 better off, thanks to a

combination of income tax cuts and targeted cost-of-living supports.

"We have provided unprecedented supports to SMEs across the country which are the backbone of our economy, providing jobs and supporting local communities. Budget 2025 measures will provide direct cost-of-doing-business support grants of up to €4,000, reduce complexity, boost Ireland's attractiveness as a place to do business, support innovation and provide a range of new and enhanced tax relief schemes and incentives."

Cllr Shane Moynihan concluded: "Fianna Fáil's Budget prioritises helping people, families and businesses with the increased cost of living, and increasing investment in housing, water, energy and key infrastructural projects will protect Ireland's progress and secure our future."



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FRIENDS OF PEAMOUNT WEDDING DRESS BALL

Friends of Peamount fundraising event to benefit patients, residents and service users. Peamount Healthcare is a leader in specialist rehabilitation, residential and community services, empowering each individual to live a full and

meaningful life, transforming lives through innovative and compassionate care.

Have you ever wished you could re-wear your wedding dress, groom/groomsman attire, mother of the bride or your favourite bridesmaid

gown? Would you like to relive the best parts of your wedding day, without the stress of having to plan it yourself? The Friends of Peamount Wedding Dress Ball is a chance to do just that, dressed in your wedding day finest. Join us for a Prosecco reception, followed by a 3-course meal, entertainment and music late into the night at the Westgrove Hotel, one of Ireland's top wedding venues.

All proceeds from the event going to Friends of Peamount, registered charity to support the development of our Innovation, Education and Research Centre.

Coming as a group? Feel free to let us know, so we can seat you at the same table. Tables of 10 are offered at a discounted cost of €850. Be a sponsor of the event, opportunities for sponsorship

are available, with options to be a Title Sponsor or simply sponsor goodie bags, contribute a raffle prize or auction item.

Tanya King, CEO, Peamount Healthcare said 'This is a fantastic and innovative fundraising event. Having been the mother of the bride, I know the happy memories your wedding attire can bring to mind. To be able to have a great night out and make more happy memories with friends will be very special. The Peamount Healthcare Innovation, Education and Research Centre will be a facility designed to support and encourage the healthcare staff of the future to develop innovative treatment options in rehabilitation medicine. It will be for use by the multidisciplinary team, learning, researching and testing new ideas together to benefit our community'.

providing a specialist set of high-quality healthcare and social care services for our service users. This event will help us to build

the Peamount Innovation, Education and Research Centre and supports our vision to help people to live more independently'.

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Commenting on the fundraising event, Derek Montgomery, Chairperson Peamount Healthcare said, "At Peamount Healthcare we pride ourselves on

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BIG FISH MUSICAL AT THE CIVIC THEATRE

Following on from their 2023 deviously delicious production of 'Little Shop of Horrors', Harold Cross Tallaght Musical Society (HXT), are excited to take to the stage with their production of the 1998 Daniel Wallace novel of mystical proportions, and 2003 Tim Burton directed motion picture, 'Big Fish', this November in The Civic, Tallaght.

Based on the celebrated novel by Daniel Wallace and the acclaimed film directed by Tim Burton, 'Big Fish' tells the story of Edward Bloom, a traveling salesman who lives life to its fullest... and then some!

Edward's incredible, larger-than-life stories thrill

everyone around him—most of all, his devoted wife Sandra. Their son Will, about to have a child of his own, is determined to find the truth behind his father's epic tales.

With a musical score by Andrew Lippa (The Addams Family), and book by John August, 'Big Fish' is overflowing with heart and humour. An extraordinary musical that reminds us why we love going to the theatre – for an imaginative experience that's richer, funnier and bigger than life itself.

Led by their talented and committed production team of Director, Niamh McGowen, Musical Director, Dermot O'Callaghan,

and Choreographer, Erica Delaney, the cast are enthusiastically awaiting an audience and invite you to join them in Alabama between the 5th and 9th of November.

Harold's Cross Tallaght are delighted to be back in their "stage home" at The Civic, Tallaght, and ready to share this magical tale.

Tickets are available from The Civic website, or by calling the Box Office on 01 462 7477, for €25, excluding a €2 booking fee. Why not make a night of it, and avail of the wonderful meal deal and ticket combo on offer available. Enjoy a pre-show dinner in the delicious Betelnut Café, and digest the delights of this musical comedy for a brilliant value of €48.

Join us 'Out There on the Road', as we remind you to 'Be the Hero' of your story, showing you that 'Time Stops', as you immerse yourself in the fantastical stories of Edward Bloom, in 'Big Fish' at The Civic, Tallaght, from November 5th - 9th.



PALMERSTOWN CAMERA CLUB HOST MONTHLY COMPETITION

Palmerstown Camera Club's first monthly competition was held on Wednesday the 25th of September in the Palmerstown Parish Centre. There was a big turnout and some fabulous images from the group's novice, intermediate and advanced members.

The winners in novice were Annie Whitley, John ó Flaherty, Linda French and Ivan Devilly. Intermediate winners were Kieran Cahill, James Grandfield, Miriam Power, John Dunne and Gerry Cahill. And in the Advanced Category the winners were Lorraine Morris, Eddie Kavanagh, Orla Brady, Lorraine Kelly, Suzanne Carney and Aoife Tierney. Well done everyone.

Palmerstown Camera Club is always open to new

members joining. They run every Wednesday night from 8pm to 10pm. So if you want to brush up on your photography or looking for a

new hobby pop on down.

Picture credit from the Intermediate Category is by Miriam Power.



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15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PURE MILE SOUTH DUBLIN VOLUNTEERS TO CELEBRATE THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE PURE MILE AWARDS NIGHT

The 2024 Pure Mile Awards Night will return to the The Brooklodge Hotel in Macreddin, Aughrim, on Thursday 17th of October.

The Pure Mile is an environmental, community, heritage initiative, established by Pure, which encourages communities and groups living in rural areas to adopt a mile, or miles, of road, and keep this area litter/rubbish free, research information about their local wildflowers, plants, trees, animals, and the built, cultural, and social heritage of an area.

A number of walking groups, hiking groups, and businesses were involved in 'Cleaning-Up The South Dublin Uplands' with South Dublin Upland Roads, Car Parks, Amenity Areas, Mountain Trails, Woodlands and Forest Entrances, being adopted this year. Litter picks / clean-ups were organised throughout the year and areas covered included,

Glenasmole Road, Cunard Road, Piperstown Road, Glassamucky Road, Castle Kelly Road, Ballymorefinn, Bohernabreena, Kilakee Car Park, Cruagh Road, The White Road, Seehan Road, Stone Cross, and all sections of the R115 Military Road.

Ian Davis, Pure Project Manager commented 'This will be the 15th year of the Pure Mile, with the largest number of groups and volunteers involved in the project since it was established in 2009. The first year we had 5 miles of road, and this year, 15 years later, we have a record number of areas involved in the initiative and we know have roads, mountains, woodlands, valleys, forestries, and upland amenities, with over 3,500 volunteers.

The Pure Mile demonstrates that people want to make a difference to the environment, and Pure gives them the assistance, so they

can make that difference. The Pure Mile Awards Night is Pure's way of thanking all of the people involved in the Pure Mile, and it enables Pure Mile Groups to meet up all together for one night and one night only'.

Certificates of Recognition will also be presented by Minister for Health, Stephen Donnelly TD., and the Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr. Paul O'Brien with €6,000 of prize money being handed out to the winning Pure Mile Groups and their volunteers.

The Pure Mile is the perfect opportunity for communities and groups who want to make a positive contribution to the South Dublin Uplands environment, and assists people in improving and enhancing the place they recreate in. Special interest groups such as, walking groups, cycling groups, running groups, hiking groups, businesses, and organisations, adopt a mile,



or miles of road, in the South Dublin Uplands and help Pure to 'Clean Up The South Dublin Uplands.

Pure provide all groups with Pure Mile signage, Pure Mile high-vis vests, Pure Mile bags, gloves, and litter pickers, and Pure also removes all of the rubbish collected by the groups. If

any groups, communities, individuals, schools, walking groups, cycling groups, scouts, businesses, anyone, want to get involved in next years Pure Mile, they can contact Pure at info@pureproject.ie or download an application from www.pureproject.ie/what-we-do/the-pure-mile/. You can also write to; Pure Project, Unit 6

B, Riverside Business Centre, Tinahely, Co Wicklow, Y14 R978, and they will post out all the information, or request an application form and information pack by phoning Pure on 0402 28662.

Further information on Pure can be found on www.pureproject.ie

CLONDALKIN RUGBY CLUB SHINES BRIGHTLY WITH 400K NEW PITCH AND €166,016 IN SPORTS CAPITAL FUNDING

Clondalkin Rugby Club have taken the spotlight following the successful unveiling of their new cutting-edge main pitch at Kingswood Farm on the 22nd of September.

Amidst a crowd buzzing with anticipation, Gareth Steed and Tom Duffy of Clondalkin Rugby Club warmly welcomed Irish rugby luminary James Lowe, as well as esteemed guests including Minister Emer Higgins TD, IRFU President Declan Madden, Leinster Head Denis Gardner, Longford RFC President Karen Lennon, Frances Fitzgerald, and Cllr. Shirley O'Hara to partake in the grand inauguration.

Minister Higgins kickstarted the festivities with a ceremonious ribbon-cutting on the pristine pitch. It has only been a year since Clondalkin Rugby

Club made the strategic move from Gordon Park to Kingswood Farm. Minister Higgins officially launched the opening of their new grounds last year alongside then Taoiseach Leo Varadkar, Frances Fitzgerald, and Cllr. Shirley O'Hara, and expressed her delight at witnessing another milestone for the club.

Returning to Kingswood Farm, the TD shared her enthusiasm, stating, "I am thrilled to be back at the Kingswood Farm grounds to celebrate another win for Clondalkin Rugby Club." Absolutely, Clondalkin Rugby Club is on a winning streak. In a game-changing development, the club has seemingly scored a conversion with an additional €166,016 in Sports Capital funding, announced just days after their official

pitch launch. The Sports Capital funding is earmarked for floodlighting along their main and underage pitches. Praising the club's commitment to developing Rugby in West Dublin,

Minister Higgins remarked, "Clondalkin Rugby Club have gone from strength-to-strength. The Sports Capital Grant will be another huge boost for the club, and it is so well deserved, as I

know it is something club organisers and members have campaigned hard for."

Clondalkin Rugby Club have been building for their future, and the future is still

looking bright. With more wins in sight, Clondalkin Rugby Club remain steadfast as they charge forward with plans of a Clubhouse overlooking their new pitch just a little further afield.



SECURITY GUARDS TO BEGIN OPERATING ON DUBLIN BUS

General Election candidate Lynda Prendergast has welcomed the announcement that Dublin Bus will be deploying security guards on its services as part of a new 20-week pilot programme aimed at enhancing safety across the public transport network.

The initiative, which will see the introduction of two dedicated mobile security units, is designed to improve security for both passengers and employees and combat

anti-social behavior.

The mobile security teams will be deployed daily during peak travel hours, operating from 14:00 to 02:00 Sunday through Thursday, and from 16:00 to 04:00 on Fridays and Saturdays. One unit will patrol the northside of Dublin, while the other will cover the southside, providing greater peace of mind for public transport users across the city.

Prendergast praised the

move as a vital step in ensuring public transport remains a safe and appealing option for all.

“This pilot programme represents a critical step in making our public transport system safer for everyone, whether you’re a passenger or a Dublin Bus employee,” the Fianna Fáil candidate said. “It’s important that we create an environment where everyone feels protected from anti-social behavior, and this initiative

is a proactive approach towards achieving that.”

“By providing a secure and reliable service, we encourage more people to leave their cars behind and take the bus, contributing to

our climate objectives.

“As a member of the Tallaght Transport Forum, I believe any initiative that helps reduce the number of incidents affecting both bus drivers and passengers

is a welcome and necessary development and I look forward to seeing how this programme evolves and hope it will pave the way for a permanent solution to improve safety across the entire transport network.”

NATIONAL CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL PROJECT ‘NOTHING SHORT OF SHAMBOLIC’

TD for Dublin South West Seán Crowe has expressed his anger and frustration with the lack of progress of the new National Children’s Hospital, both in terms of the huge cost overruns and the long delays that have been only longer and longer, saying that the hospital should have been finished two years ago and could cost three times more than the original cost.

Speaking after chairing a meeting of the Oireachtas Health Committee with the development board of the hospital recently, Crowe said “There are two simple questions that people ask about the National Children’s Hospital; when will it be finished and how much will it cost. The CEO of the board couldn’t give me answers in the Oireachtas Health Committee and frankly, I don’t think anyone at this stage can.

“The whole project has been nothing short of shambolic from day one. This hospital was meant to be open and treating sick children

two years ago.

“Only in recent weeks we heard that of the more than 3,000 plus rooms that the developer BAM was supposed to have finished, not one has been accepted by the board as being ok. “And then there is the huge cost of the building. This hospital was budgeted at a cost of €980 million in 2017. Now, it is almost two and a half times that at a whopping €2.2 billion. And there is no doubt in my mind that the final figure is going to be even more.

“Irish tax payers are paying for the crazy costs of how public contracts are awarded, looked at, and hopefully completed in this state. “My worry now is that the contract for the new National Maternity Hospital is currently out to tender and we can’t afford to repeat the same mistakes again or the maternity hospital will not be completed within the next decade and who knows at what cost.”

NEW TG4 DOCUMENTARY SERIES NAÍONRA LAUNCH FEATURING TALLAGHT CHILDREN



TG4 documentary series Naíonra, which gives an insight into a small world of preschoolers where big things happen, was launched recently at Movies @the Square Tallaght. The series will air on TG4 from Wednesday 26th October 9.30pm. For the first time in Ireland, we get an insight into a small world where big things happen - the wonderful world of the Naíonra. Over the course of a year, cameras will follow all the action in two Naíonras, one in Tallaght and one in Mallow, County Cork. Most of these children start here with no Irish but in the Naíonra we will see their first steps in becoming fluent in a second language. Join us on this journey in one of the most important years in life, where so many of the skills we use throughout our lives are first learned - understanding, communication and friendship.

Produced by Tyrone Productions. Photography Credit: 1IMAGE/Bryan Brophy



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NEW PEUGEOT E-2008 OFFERS ELECTRIFIED PERFECTION



By Breda Corrigan

Initially launched in 2013, the original Peugeot 2008 compact SUV went on to win the hearts of families in Ireland, and far beyond. Thanks to its practicality, versatility, raised ride height and comprehensive safety equipment, the groundbreaking 2008 became an instant success for the iconic French vehicle manufacturing giant. Fast-forward 7 years, and in 2020 the all-new Peugeot 2008, and its fully-electric sibling the e-2008, graced our shores - both of which brought with them a massive amount of distinctive style, and substance too. A fresh design inside and out provided the new 2008 and e-2008 with classy visual flair, while bringing them into line with the rest of Peugeot's latest model range at the time.

Mid-Life Upgrade;

The 2008 and e-2008 now benefit from a recent mid-life upgrade that includes revised front and rear styling, new colour options, and stylish new alloys, while Peugeot's new brand identity is also present. The new e-2008 is offered in Active,

Allure, and GT trim levels - exactly mirroring the trim levels in the regular 2008 SUV, with an impressive tally of standard equipment across the entire model range. All trim levels now come with a 10-inch touchscreen that is angled towards the driver, with wireless Apple CarPlay and Android Auto connectivity also standard across the range. Build quality throughout the cabin is excellent, with ample use of soft-touch materials on visible surfaces providing a premium feel.

Fully-Electric Power;

When it was launched in 2020, the fully-electric Peugeot e-2008 was powered by a 50kWh battery and a 136bhp electric motor, but the latest e-2008 debuts a bigger 54kWh battery and a new motor which produces 156bhp, resulting in a range of up to 406km - up from the 345km range with the smaller battery.

Unlike some EV's, there is no compromise compared with the petrol or mild hybrid 2008 when it comes to practicality, as cabin and boot space are exactly the same regardless of the model or powerplant

chosen. In fact, the cargo capacity in the e-2008 stands at 434-litres with the rear seats in place, and rises to a cavernous 1,467-litres when the rear seat are folded flat. Additionally, with 32-litres of storage space located throughout the cabin, passengers will find it easy to store bottles or other items in safety.

Easy Charging Options;

As before, the latest e-2008 can be charged at speeds of up to 100kW, so topping up the battery from 0-80% capacity can be completed in just 30 minutes, or in approximately 7.5 hours with a 7kW wall-box charger, which most owners will use for overnight charging at home. The electric powertrain not only delivers low running costs (annual road tax of just €120, for example), but strong refinement too.

Test Car;

My test car was a Peugeot e-2008 GT, which was finished in delightful Selenium Grey metallic paint (available at no extra cost). Key standard GT equipment includes stylish 17-inch alloy wheels, 'VisioPark 2' consisting of

high definition front and rear cameras with 360-degree visibility, Full LED headlights, 3-claw LED daytime running lights, front & rear parking sensors, keyless entry with push-button start & stop, leather steering wheel with distinctive green stitching, and gloss black longitudinal roof bars. The spacious interior of the e-2008 GT features key items such as automatic air-conditioning, pre-heating functionality, high centre console with two cup holders, central front armrest with storage space, and a configurable PEUGEOT 3D i-Cockpit™ instrument panel display. Standard safety systems include Automatic Emergency Braking (AEB) with cyclist and pedestrian detection, Blind Spot Monitoring, Driver Attention Alert, Adaptive Cruise Control with Stop & Go Function, Active Lane Departure with Lane Correction, and Extended Traffic Sign Recognition & Display, along with a multitude of airbags.

Effortless Driving Experience;

Producing 156bhp and 260Nm of instant torque through a single-speed automatic transmission, the

e-2008 is totally effortless to drive. The car surges forward in a serene manner when you accelerate, while remaining comfortable when driven over road imperfections and speed ramps. The excellent ride and handling characteristics of the standard Peugeot 2008 carry through to the e-2008, while a light steering feel suits the car perfectly and follows driver inputs with great precision. The e-2008 is capable of reaching a top speed of 150km/h (where permitted) and can sprint from 0-100km/h in as little as 8.7-seconds. As mentioned above, the official WLTP battery range in the upgraded e-2008 is quoted at 406km, but I managed to record a 422km range when I fully charged the car from my home wall-box charger, so the figure quoted is certainly realistic and definitely obtainable. The e-2008 is a brilliant car to drive on city streets, but equally enjoyable on a motorway journey too, while its slightly raised driving position provides great visibility for all occupants. The e-2008's roomy interior looks great and the upmarket looks are backed up by excellent build quality, with the use

of plush materials which can even give more expensive rivals a run for their money. The dashboard surfaces are pleasantly soft to touch, while the physical buttons that protrude from the dash not only look fantastic, but they are super-practical too.

Verdict, Pricing & Warranty;

The upgraded Peugeot e-2008 is a sharp, modern-looking compact SUV which has the ability to make some of its competitors look dull in comparison, and it makes a strong case for itself as a stylish, practical and extremely comfortable SUV, with the added benefit of low running costs and a comprehensive 5-year/100,000km Peugeot vehicle warranty, along with an 8-year traction battery warranty for total peace of mind motoring.

Pricing starts at just €35,895 (inclusive of current VRT Relief and SEAI Grant, where applicable). Distinctive, beautifully built and packed with the very latest in infotainment and battery technology, the fully-electric Peugeot e-2008 could very well be the only car you will ever need.

NOT ONE BUT TWO 'LAURALYNN OSCAR' WINS FOR DUBLIN

Recently, Izaiah Staunton and Bella Brogan alongside their families from Dublin were two of the six LauraLynn families on the Red Carpet at the Odeon Charlestown for one of the most magical events in the LauraLynn calendar, The LauraLynn Oscars. Izaiah played a starring role in his movie "The Haunted Stauntons." In "The Haunted Stauntons," Izaiah's love for all things spooky takes centre stage when he wins a VIP Ghost Tour of Malahide Castle. Some mysterious activity blurs the lines between reality and supernatural and Izaiah's ghost-hunting skills are called upon to save the day.

While Bella took to the big screen for her premier of "Bella's Big Adventure" Bella's love of fairy tales takes us on a whimsical journey through a grey and lifeless Oz. As Bella embarks on an adventure with the Scarecrow, Tin Man, and Cowardly Lion, this movie teaches her the true meaning of family. Both enchanting stories remind us all that even in the darkest times,

hope and kindness can light the way.

The LauraLynn Oscars is a digital storytelling initiative providing LauraLynn children with life-limiting conditions and their families a platform to create their own unique movie while supported by industry professional writers. It culminates in a glamorous red-carpet event, offering a once-in-lifetime movie premiere experience for the entire family. The idea for the Oscars Project which is now in its 7th year began as a film workshop for siblings, which LauraLynn Play Therapist Michelle Hartnett, organised after researching the topic of sibling loss. The project quickly developed into a larger family-focused event.

The project is coordinated by Senior Play Therapist, Michelle Hartnett and Project Coordinator, Lorna Collins with support from long standing LauraLynn volunteer Joanna Butler and a team of industry professionals and volunteers. Michelle Hartnett, Senior

Play Therapist at LauraLynn said "The LauraLynn Oscars is a unique initiative that goes beyond the traditional scope of filmmaking. It offers families an incredible opportunity to explore their dynamics, share their personal stories, and collaborate in creative ways they may have never imagined before. Guided by experts across various disciplines, each family takes on the role of creator, crafting their own cinematic masterpiece. But the project is about more than just making a film; it's about fostering deeper connections, creating lasting memories, and strengthening the bonds between family members, extended relatives, and the broader community.

The project culminates in a grand Oscars-style celebration, where families not only showcase their cinematic achievements but also experience the joy of recognizing and applauding each other's talents and contributions. This celebration is a powerful testament to unity,



creativity, and the enduring strength of family bonds. This initiative is crucial because it empowers families to actively participate in the storytelling process, allowing them to see their own narratives unfold on screen. More importantly, it gives them a special day to stand in the spotlight together, celebrating their unique journey as a family and creating moments of beauty, joy, and memories that will last a lifetime." Speaking

about the experience, Izaiah's Parents said "From the moment we met with the team and scriptwriters to the filming and finally seeing it all come to life on screen, the entire experience was nothing short of magical. We've created beautiful, lasting memories, and we are so grateful to the team at LauraLynn for making it all possible."

Bella's Parents added "The Oscars truly has been a once-

in-a-lifetime experience for us as a family. Bella has had an amazing time and we have made such incredible memories as a family."

Each of the families taking part create a movie that is unique to them and reflect their own unique personalities. The common theme across all movies at the LauraLynn Oscars is the starring role is played by the child who has the life-limiting condition.

DOCTOR FROM TALLAGHT UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL RECEIVES MAJOR EUROPEAN AWARD

Dr Adam Dyer has just been presented with the "Stefania Maggi Award" at the 20th European Geriatric Medicine Society (EuGMS) Conference for new research which has implications for the diagnosis of early Alzheimer's disease. Dr Adam Dyer, a Specialist Registrar in Geriatric Medicine and Irish Clinical Academic Training

Fellow (ICAT) at Tallaght University Hospital (TUH) & Trinity College Dublin (TCD) has just received a major European Award for new research which has important implications for the detection of early Alzheimer's disease.

The Stefania Maggi Award was awarded at the 20th

European Geriatric Medicine Conference, which has just taken place in Valencia, Spain. The award is given to the best research performed by Early-Career Geriatricians across Europe. Dr Dyer is the first Irish recipient of the award.

Dr Dyer received the accolade for the findings of a

new study which took place at the Institute of Memory & Cognition at TUH. The research demonstrated that it is possible to use a blood test to detect "proteins" that build up in the brain of individuals with Alzheimer's disease.

It is hoped in the future this will reduce the need for some patients to have more invasive procedures such as a lumbar puncture (spinal tap) to confirm the presence of these proteins. Currently, only a lumbar puncture test can detect "amyloid" protein which builds-up in the brain of individuals with early Alzheimer's disease. This is an invasive test and carries certain risks such as post-procedural headache.

Dr Dyer examined the performance of a new blood test - called plasma P Tau217 - to detect amyloid - one of the proteins that make-up "plaques" in the brains of people with early Alzheimer's disease. In his research Dr Dyer, used samples generously donated by 108 individuals over the past two years to assess whether blood tests could detect the same proteins



that are currently looked for using lumbar puncture. The study found the blood test for P-tau217 was over 90% as accurate as diagnostic lumbar puncture to detect this amyloid protein.

Dr Dyer says, "Our study found that blood tests such as plasma P-Tau217 demonstrate excellent performance in detecting the changes characteristic of Alzheimer's disease. In the future, clinical use of these blood tests may enable us to avoid invasive tests such as lumbar punctures in over half of individuals who currently have these procedures performed."

Professor Seán Kennelly, Lead

Investigator and Director of the Institute of Memory & Cognition at TUH says, "Our Institute has a research "biobank" whereby people who have symptoms and are undergoing this lumbar puncture for clinical reasons can volunteer to donate a cerebrospinal fluid and blood sample for future research. This is important as there is now strong evidence that blood biomarkers of Alzheimer's Disease may be as good as lumbar punctures - although this is usually in research cohorts, very few studies have been conducted in "real-world" memory clinic settings. This is why the samples and data collected in the TUH biobank is so important."

TD CONDEMNS OUTRAGEOUS 'AFFORDABLE' HOUSING COSTS IN KILCARBERY, CLONDALKIN

People Before Profit TD for Dublin Midwest, Gino Kenny, has voiced his anger and frustration over the high cost of so-called 'affordable' housing in Kilcarbery, Clondalkin. Homes at Kilcarbery Grange, built on land that was originally owned by South Dublin County Council and sold to a private developer, are being offered at prices far beyond the reach of ordinary working people. "It is outrageous that these homes, which are being marketed as affordable, are still priced at nearly €300,000. This is not what affordable housing should look like. The people in our community deserve better," Kenny stated.

Kenny criticized the sale of council-owned land to private developers, a decision People Before Profit firmly opposed. "We voted against the sale of this land because we wanted 100% social and genuinely affordable housing on the site. Instead,

public land has been handed over to private interests, who are now selling homes at prices that most families simply cannot afford," he said. "This is a betrayal of the people who need housing the most and flies in the face of our vision for sustainable, equitable housing development."

South Dublin County Council has released details of five 3-bedroom duplexes and one mid-terrace house being made available for purchase under their affordable housing scheme. Prices for the homes, which are reduced from their market value, still range between €286,940 and €306,940, with the council setting household income limits between €69,221 and €73,046. "Even with these reductions, these homes are unattainable for many in our community. This is a failed approach to housing, and it's time we put public land to public use," Kenny concluded.

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NOVENAS FOR LAURA LYNN

MIRACLE PRAYER Dear Heart of Jesus in the past I have asked for many favours. This time I ask you for a very special one. Take it, dear Heart of Jesus, and place it within your own broken heart where your Father sees it. Then in His merciful eyes it will become your favour and not mine. Amen. Say this prayer for three days. Promise publication and favour will be granted no matter how impossible. Never known to fail. With grateful thanks to Our Lady for favours received. And thanks to the Sacred Heart for favours received.
H.B

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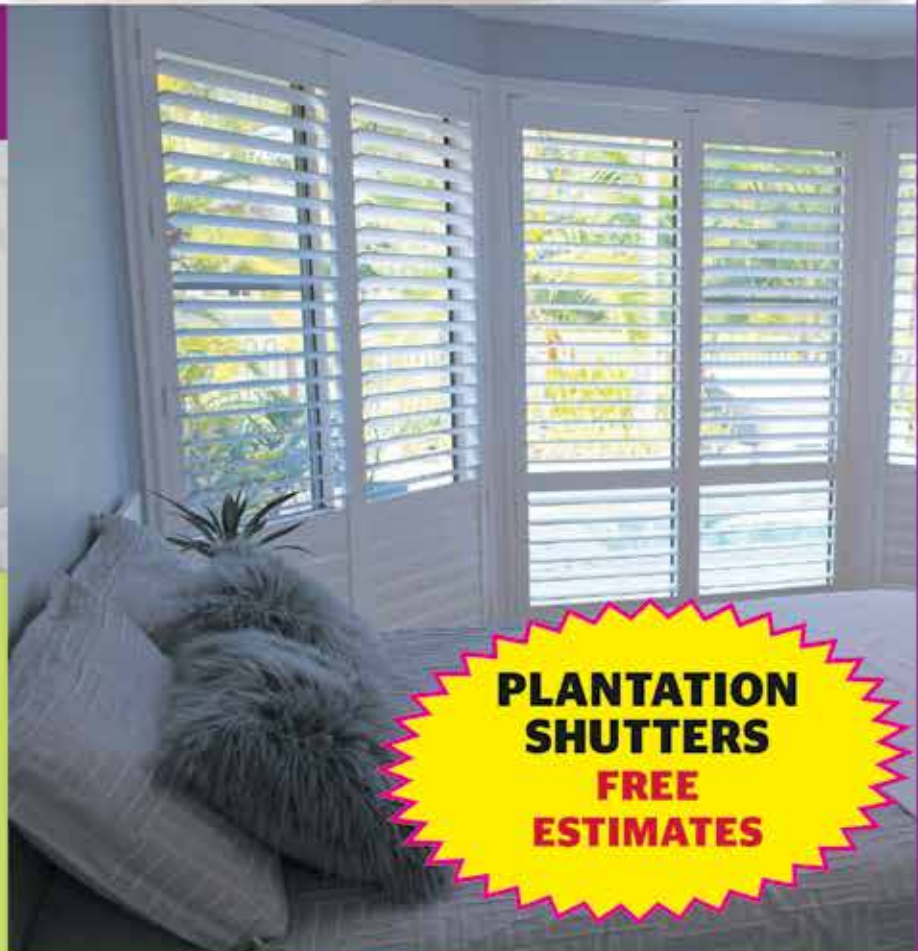
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