

TRANSITION TOWN KINSALE AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2018



As our AGM approaches we thought it would be timely to send out a short outline of what we have been doing in 2018. We would like to hear from you too:

- Would you like to get involved with one of our groups?
- Have you an idea for a Transition Initiative?
- Our Committee currently meets once a month. Would you like to get involved as a committee member?

Energy Forum

TTK set up Kinsale Community Energy Project (KCEP) in 2018 and is now a member of the Sustainable Energy Communities network. KCEP has been set up by TTK to facilitate the community to benefit from the Sustainable Energy Association of Ireland's Community Grant Scheme. We are currently applying for grant funding to carry out an Energy Master Plan for the area.

KCEP will also consider community energy generation. Can you imagine if every town in Ireland could keep 10% - 20% of its annual spend on fuel!

Please make contact if you are interested in finding out more about KCEP

Food Forum

Margaret Thuillier, Mary Minihane and Mary Heffernan have been maintaining the Edible Landscaping trail, with some helpers, throughout the year. The trail can be found on Kinsale Maps.

A number of Meitheals were held at The Community Orchard at Sáile. Students of Kinsale College, under the leadership of their teacher Donal Chambers, are now helping to maintain the fruit & nut trees. Kinsale Mens' Shed provided some Bird Houses and Bug & Bee Hotels, a great addition as this area is being developed as a biodiversity zone.

TTK and Kinsale College are also working with Tidy Towns to develop biodiversity zones in the town and TTK would like to congratulate Tidy Towns on their Gold Medal this year.

Local restaurants and shops are invited to contact us to find out more about our 50 Mile Award.

Transition Town Kinsale (TTK) is a voluntary community initiative, set up in 2006, to help make the transition to a low carbon future. Our vision is a resilient, self-reliant and sustainable town and it is open to all to get involved. Working with other groups in the community, we continue to stimulate conversation, and run initiatives, across our working groups: energy, food, transport, waste reduction and community awareness.



Meitheal At Community Orchard at Sáile

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Waste Reduction Forum

Plastic Free Kinsale (PFK), set up by Tara Shine and Madeleine Murray, gained momentum over the year and we are delighted to be working with them and Tidy Towns on waste reduction initiatives. This started in February with our Voice Recycling event which highlighted what we can recycle in Ireland. In May we ran a 'Stop Food Waste' workshop with Donal O'Leary from WasteDown. Our most recent event was a Zero Waste Workshop organised by Olivia Ormston and Margaret Thuillier. There was great interest in all these events which illustrated the appetite for information and 'know how' on how to be more sustainable.

Transport Forum

We continue to advocate for improved mobility, and improved public transport in town, as well as the development of walking and cycling routes.

Community Awareness

Working with TTK and PFK, Kinsale Tennis Club ran the first Green Open in Ireland in June to very positive feedback.

Over Kinsale Arts weekend we supported Plastic Free Kinsale to run the Uniform of Debris exhibition, a collaborative art installation investigating lost and discarded plastics.

TTK were delighted to participate in The Sea+Me Event organised by Plastic Free Kinsale, and it became Kinsale's event to mark European Day of Sustainable Communities.

'Inspired by Kinsale' is an initiative to create a vision of Kinsale 2030 facilitated by Kinsale Chamber of Tourism and Business and Chaired by our very own Alan Clayton. At the recent meeting to look at the results of the Visitors Survey carried out over the summer Elizabeth Creed was invited to discuss sustainability and Transition. The Residents Survey is currently being carried out (see Kinsale.ie).

TTK also made a submission to the Issues Paper for the Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy (RSES) for the Southern Region and we were invited to attend the workshop to look at *How can the RSES achieve the transition to a low carbon, climate, resilient society.*



Zero Waste Workshop

KINSALE TENNIS CLUB

going green
in 2018

PLAYING OUR PART BY:

- REDUCING PACKAGING WASTE
- CORRECT RECYCLING
- COMPOSTING FOOD WASTE
- USING LOCAL PRODUCE - 50 MILE AWARD
- USING SOLAR ENERGY!
- CAR-POOLING & PICKUP/ DROP OFF FROM PUBLIC TRANSPORT



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And finally, a recent update from the UN on why we must **‘Just Transition’**.

In a statement this month following the release of a new scientific report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), David R. Boyd, the UN Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment, said that climate change rated as one of the greatest threats to human rights.

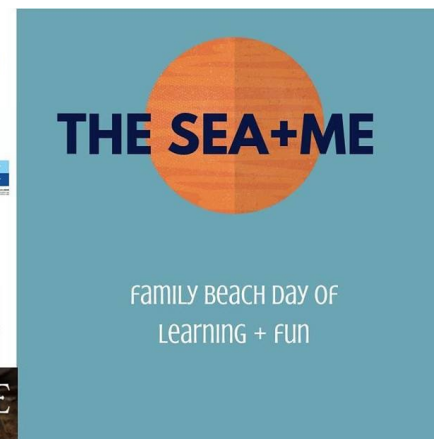
“Climate change is having and will have devastating effects on a wide range of human rights including rights to life, health, food, housing, and water, as well as the right to a healthy environment,” he said.

“The world is already witnessing the impacts of climate change — from hurricanes in America, heat waves in Europe, droughts in Africa to floods in Asia.”

Boyd said that for 25 years, scientists have issued increasingly clear warnings about the urgency of transforming economies and societies in cleaner, greener directions.

“There are scientific and feasible solutions to limit the damage,” he said. “States — particularly wealthy nations with high emissions — must act now to meet their human rights obligations and not only fulfill but go beyond their commitments under the Paris Agreement.”

*The **Citizens' Assembly** correctly read the public mood on repealing the Eighth Amendment. Its proposals on climate action are well ahead of what the politicians are proposing but, once again, I believe the Assembly has read a real public demand for leadership and action in relation to the climate crisis.” John Gibbons of An Taisce*



We all have experienced changing weather patterns closer to home this year. In Autumn 2018, we have put behind us a year in which we saw a hurricane, snowstorm and drought not seen since c1976.

So, let us know your transition story, or if there is something you would like to learn about, or maybe there is an initiative you would like start.



Here's how to get in touch:

Web: www.transitiontownkinsale.org

E-mail: info@transitiontownkinsale.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TransitionTownKinsale

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/TransitionTownK>

Google: <https://groups.google.com/forum>

Search and subscribe to 'Transition Town Kinsale' so you hear about upcoming events etc.