



Better Bray Participant Achievements

AIB BRAY

AIB Bray participated in the 'Better Bray Challenge' through its in-Branch showcasing initiative.

AIB offered an exhibition area in the Branch for local businesses and organisations where they can advertise and display their services within the community. Many Bray traders availed of this opportunity for free marketing and advertising which has resulted in very positive feedback.



ALERT PACKAGING

This Bray industry set a goal is to maintain grounds to a high standard

This was achieved by collecting litter, cutting the grass and tidying the area to best practice.

ANNA SCHU

Anna Schumeistrat saw her challenge as 'exceeding the expectations of customers' and in 'building the brand' at her beauty salon in Bray. She achieved these goals with the help of her team and in the process created new employment in Bray.

ANNA SCHU



ARDMORE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Having celebrated its 40th Anniversary, Ardmore Residents Association continued to enhance the Estate as part of the 'Better Bray Challenge'. Planting of trees and flowers have added to the pleasant environment in recent years and new signage has made access to homes easier for visitors. Neighbourhood Watch, introduced this year, has added to the security of residents.

BANK OF IRELAND, BRAY

Staff in Bank of Ireland Bray raised funds for two local charities, Bray Cancer Support and the WH Five Loaves Charity, raising €10,000.





BARRACUDA STEAK AND SEAFOOD RESTAURANT

Barracuda Restaurant, alongside sister company Finnbees, has exceeded its *Better Bray Challenge* target of investing €250,000.00 into the local Bray economy.

BIFE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL, COMMUNITY & HEALTH EDUCATION

The staff of this Department of Bray Institute of Higher Education raised funds for homeless people in Bray as its 'Better Bray Challenge'. The teachers staged a 'Magic of the Musicals' show at the Martello and donated the proceeds to the Sa Bhaile Homeless Project.



BOOTS CHEMIST



Throughout the 'Better Bray Challenge' Boots Chemists Bray supported the Irish Cancer Society (ICS), local schools with Work Experience Placements and enabled some Transition Year Students to "Feel Good" during their acknowledgement evening.

As part of its Corporate Social Responsibility Programme, Boots worked very closely with the Irish Hospice Society to raise money through events inside and outside its store. These included a 10k sponsored night walk and a "Punk or Monk" day.

Boots also supported local students with work experience placements.

BRAY BOWLING CLUB

Bray Bowling Club obtained planning permission from Bray Town Council which will allow the club to refurbish and renovate its premises. It received a Sports Grant from the Department of Transport which will enable them replace their grass green with an all weather surface in Oct/Nov 2013. This will allow the club play bowls throughout the whole year and recruit new members.



The club also introduced the game to Loreto, Presentation College and St. Kilian's. It is the club's intention to promote the game in other schools and develop a schools league.

BRAY CANCER SUPPORT CENTRE



As part of the Better Bray Challenge, Bray Cancer Support Centre achieved its goal of moving to a bigger, brighter, ground floor premises to cater for the increasing demand on their services.

The new and improved facilities by Bray Cancer Support Centre, which provides a range of community based cancer support services to over 2,500 people affected by cancer in Wicklow & Dublin, opened on Thursday 14th February 2013.



BRAY CHAMBER

Taking on board the overall objective of the challenge, Bray Chamber decided to restore and rejuvenate Chamber House, owned by the life members of the Chamber. The project involved fixing the roof, replacing down pipes, plastering the building, painting the building and landscaping the garden. Bray Chamber is delighted with the result and believes that the works have a positive impact on the beautiful surroundings of Prince of Wales Terrace.



BRAY COMMUNITY FOODBANK

The Bray Community Food Bank is a joint project of the St Vincent de Paul, W.H Five Loaves and Crosscare. Opened in January 2013, it provides food parcels for people in need. Members of the St Vincent de Paul distribute vouchers for these parcels and food is supplied by Crosscare, and also through local food drives.

It is part of a network of food banks along the east coast and has already assisted sixty nine families. The partners see the food bank movement as a way of tackling the serious issue of food poverty and it aims to make this a Bray initiative, supported by all in the community.

BRAY CREDIT UNION

An Art Competition with an 'Easter' theme was the Bray Credit Union challenge. This initial contest was a huge success with hundreds of entries from young people whose families are Credit Union Members.



BRAY EMMETS GAA CLUB

As part of the Better Bray Challenge Bray Emmets started BE FIT (Bray Emmets Fun In Training) – an 'Operation Transformation' type activity. Fitness training was organised three times a week over 10 weeks. At the end of the 10 weeks all involved took part in a 5K sponsored run/walk on St Patrick's weekend with the proceeds going to a local charity. Over 70 people have benefited from BE FIT by getting fit, losing weight and most importantly having FUN!

BRAY HEAD RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Marked – or rather marred – by the three 'rs' of Rubble, Ragweed and Rubbish, the area adjoining St Andrew's School on the Newcourt Road with the entrance to Kavanagh's farm on Bray Head had been an eyesore for years. The Challenge from Bray Lions Club was the prompt needed. Bray Head Residents Association decided to clear the area and plant trees, flowering shrubs and bulbs.



A very timely donation from the producers of “The Ice Cream Girls” when filming in the neighbourhood enabled the Association to hire a landscaper to do the heavy work with a mechanical digger. Saturdays during October and November then saw the Residents’ Association volunteer team plant over 200 willow, hazel and dog-rose trees plus lots and lots of daffodils. Seeing those daffodils bloom this Spring has already made all the hard work worthwhile.

BRAY LAKERS



Bray Lakers was chosen as Superquinn’s Local Charity . Lakers make’s Bray a better place to live by providing a vital service to adults and children in our community with Special Needs. The club has a wide range of classes in Sports, Social and Recreational activities during the day time, evening time and also at weekends as well as eight weeks of Summer Camp.

Lakers organises an annual holiday abroad for members and families, has an annual show in the Mermaid, an Annual Art exhibition and Bar-B-Que.

BRAY PEOPLE

The Bray People Newspaper has been a strong supporter of the Better Bray Challenge through its regular coverage of the project and we would like to extend our particular thanks to editor Mary Fogarty and photographer Barbara Flynn.



BRAY SAILING CLUB

This Bray club launched a drive to encourage people of all ages to experience the thrill of sailing out of Bray Harbour through a series of training courses. The Club also undertook landscaping and painting at its Clubhouse.

BRAY TOWN COUNCIL

Bray Town Council has been Bray Lions Club partner in promoting the ‘Better Bray Challenge’ and has worked ceaselessly to make Bray ‘A Better Place to Live, Work and Play’ through its enhancement of public areas and its support for festivals, shopping promotions, cultural and sporting activities.

The Council has just launched the Bray in Bloom Garden Competition, to recognize the contribution of individual householders, and residents groups in making Bray a more attractive place to live, work in and visit, and to encourage a sense of local pride through participation in the scheme.

To enter the competition download the application form from Braytowncouncil.ie or collect a form from Bray Town Council offices. Closing date for receipt of entries is Friday 14th of June 2013.





CHRIST CHURCH BRAY

Christ Church Bray ran a Narnia Festival and Exhibition with scenes from the C.S Lewis classic 'The Voyage of the Dawn Treader' to better explain the story of Lent.

The Parish constructed a 45 foot replica ship, a dragon, a waterfall and had use of a sleigh and large lion as part of the retelling of the story. It also commissioned four animated depictions of the Temptations and Crucifixion of Jesus.

With over 6,000 visitors from all over the country and beyond it was a highly successful festival.

COUNTY WICKLOW LAWN TENNIS CLUB

Co Wicklow Lawn Tennis Club as part of the Better Bray Challenge committed to improving access to its facilities for selected local interest groups. We also committed to organising an annual charity tennis tournament to support a local charity.

Bray Lakers use the courts every Thursday, providing an opportunity for budding tennis players with intellectual disability to play tennis on a regular basis.

The club has arranged two charity tournaments in the last 12 months, one for Michael's Hope for Independence and the other in aid of Bray Lakers, cementing our relationship with that organisation.



COSTELLO OPTICIANS

This Bray business provided free colour vision examinations for the public with a particular emphasis on second level students and those preparing to enter the workforce.

COUNTY WICKLOW VOLUNTEER CENTRE

County Wicklow Volunteer Centre in an independent organisation committed to developing volunteering in Wicklow and its natural environs.

It is the lead organisation in County Wicklow for National Volunteering Week which gives everyone the opportunity to volunteer on a range of projects across the county.



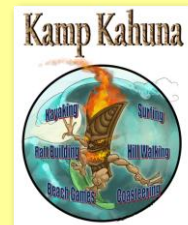


EAST COAST FM

East Coast FM got involved with the Better Bray Challenge at the beginning of the initiative last year. The station helped Bray Lions Club promote the event and encouraged its listeners to take part. East Coast FM also promoted the Better Bray Challenge through social media posting up information about the initiative to its 28,000 Facebook fans and through its website.

EAST COAST KAYAKS

East Coast Kayaks set a goal to expand to a class size so it could employ more staff and take on schools and language colleges. East Coast Kayaks is investing in more equipment and expanding its facilities to other activities such as Stand Up Surfing.



FASHION FLOWERS

This Bray florist decided to enhance the appearance of its shop with a series of stunning floral displays which were changed every week

FINNBEES COFFEE HOUSES AND JUICE BARS

Finnbees coffee is locally roasted (McCabe's) to its special specification and is in Finnbees Coffee Houses within two weeks of roasting. The company employs 22 great people across three Coffee Houses: Main Street, Quinnsborough Road and Seafront.



Finnbees, alongside sister company Barracuda Steak & Seafood Restaurant, has exceeded its *Better Bray Challenge* target of investing €250,000.00 into the local Bray economy.

FINNEGANS BRAY COACH HIRE.



This long-established Bray enterprise headed by Councillor Eugene Finnegan, played a key role in the 'Better Bray Challenge' by kindly donating space on its bus shelters for the display of promotional material which remained in place for the entire duration of the project.

FORTUNE PRINT AND DESIGN

As one of the longest established General Print Companies in Bray, Fortune Print & Design signed up to the Better Bray Challenge with two goals in mind – the first was to create a Fresh new Website (www.fortuneprint.ie) incorporating a revamped logo and the second was to continue helping and improving service and competitiveness to loyal customers.



HOLLANDS BAR



Staff development was a key challenge for Holland's Bar and it responded by having its entire staff become involved in specialist training. As a result Holland's is now the only bar in Bray to be accredited to the Fáilte Ireland 'Raise the Bar' standard. Holland's also became a 'Craft Beer Pub' and has expanded its food offering to include evening meals.

HOSPITALITY ENEWS.COM

This Bray-based website provides a daily news and features service to the Irish Hospitality Industry. Its 'Better Bray Challenge' was to source IT services locally and to grow traffic to the site. It has achieved both goals through working with a local web developer and attracting more than 1,000 industry professionals to the site every day.



HYGIENIC BARBER

Oliver Mahony, who heads this Bray centre of male grooming and conversation, has assembled in his barber shop a unique collection of Bray memorabilia. The shop has become a local tourist attraction and Oliver delights in showing his collection to visitors and in disseminating information about Bray.

KILLARNEY PARK SHOPS

Regina Cunningham and her team landscaped an area at Killarney Park and painted buildings with the support of neighbouring businesses Radiance Beauty, Bill's News and Extreme Clean. Local skills and neighbourly cooperation enhanced the entrance to Killarney Park and the surrounds of the shopping area through raised bedding, new planting and upgraded hard landscaping.



KILRUDDERY HOUSE AND GARDENS

Kilruddery has spent over €100,000 with some 37 Bray suppliers in the last year. Further afield, it has spent over €70,000 with some 40 suppliers in Wicklow. The House opened its Farm Market weekly to offer a community focused shopping environment, connecting producers directly with consumers. It also hosted the media launch of the Better Bray Challenge.

LIVING LIFE COUNSELLING

Living Life Counselling's vision is of a future where everybody lives their lives fully as included members of the community. Living Life Counselling is a non-judgemental service where all clients, volunteers and staff are treated with respect and dignity. We offer professional, honest and transparent service with integrity based on agreed standards.



THE MARTELLO



Hotel, restaurant, bar, night club and social gathering place, The Martello is at the heart of Bray social scene. The Duggan family is to the fore in supporting every local worthwhile initiative and it has responded to the Better Bray Challenge with a series of festivals, events and charity fundraisers. It has also introduced a Full Bray Breakfast with which many are beginning the day.

MEGAZYME

Over the past year, Megazyme created two new, full time, permanent positions in the company, as well as three fixed term positions.

In this period, Megazyme won the Innovation Export Award of the Irish Export Association and the Small Business of the Year and Innovation Awards of the Small Firms Associations. The company has been awarded a European patent for its new method for measurement of cellulase, a major enzyme in biomass breakdown and conversion to fermentable sugars."



MERMAID ARTS CENTRE



As part of its 10th anniversary celebrations, Mermaid presented the Arcadia Festival from 8 – 17 June, which celebrated all the best things about Bray today as well as all the facets of its rich social and cultural heritage. For ten days it brought the town alive with this wonderful history to help remind the world just how special Bray really is.

MILAN AND COMPANY

This fashion boutique used its social media network to promote Bray as a tourist and shopping destination as well as enhancing the image of its premises. It also organised fashion shows for customers.



MITCHELL DOUGLAS AUCTIONEERS

This new estate agency brought to Bray main street attractive showrooms now incorporating a unique collection of images of old Bray and the changing face of new Bray.

RORY MORAHAN

Known throughout Ireland and internationally as The Druid Chef, Rory Morahan is passionate about the promotion of Irish food and cuisine. He has sung the praises of Bray at Irish and international festivals and has participated in many promotions of local food produce.



MULTIMEDS

Multimeds is a new innovative company based in Bray which has created a complete medication management system linking patient, pharmacy and GP.



Invented and designed by local entrepreneur Paul Burns, the system is fully patented and is now being manufactured in Bray for the home market and for export to the UK.

Paul, who is a member of Bray Lions Club, undertook the latest phase of the development of Multimeds as part of the Better Bray Challenge.

NATIONAL LEARNING NETWORK

National Learning Network (NLN) is Ireland's largest specialist training provider and its Bray training centre is just off the Boghall Road. It provides free training courses, funded by the HSE and FAS, for those who are experiencing challenges in getting jobs.



Its Access Team and Instructors, supported by local Bray Historian Brian White and local Bray Photographer David Drysdale are producing a photographic exhibition of Bray –entitled ***'Bray – as you have never seen it and it's unique and hidden gems'***

NEVILLE MURPHY AND COMPANY, SOLICITORS



As part of the Better Bray Challenge Neville Murphy & Co. undertook to brighten up its building at Prince of Wales Terrace which involved cleaning up the front façade and adding a colour to the terrace with plants and flowers.

NOVARA CONSTRUCTION

This Bray construction company has responded to the Better Bray Challenge by promoting and supporting a series of local events.



OCEAN BAR AND RESTAURANT



During the course of the Better Bray Challenge the Duggan Family has invested in the re-development of its Bray seafront premises which includes Katie's Bar and the new Ocean Restaurant. The development has created new jobs and has considerably enhanced the appearance of this section of the seafront.

OPEN DOOR DAY CENTRE

Open Door Day Centre provides facilities and activities for people with varying disabilities as a result of stroke, cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, motor neurone disease, spina bifida and road accidents, amongst others. Activities take place in our purpose built, well maintained, clean and tidy, building on the Vevay Road, Bray helping to make Bray a 'Better Place to Live, Work and Play'.





ORDER OF MALTA

The Order of Malta Bray unit has been in existence in Bray for the past 70 years. Over the past year the Bray unit has been involved in a project to include residents in a nursing home in Bray that would normally not have visitors. Once a month the Order collects a group of residents and bring them down to the sea front and then to a hotel for refreshments.

ORIFLAME RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Oriflame Research and Development took to the coastline of Bray, Co. Wicklow on November 2nd, 2012 to take part in an initiative to enhance the local environment and community.

Oriflame staff helped to clean up the Bray Coastline by participating in the Irish 'Clean Coasts Programme' in conjunction with Bray Coast Care. They split into groups and picked up litter along Bray head, the cliff walk, the beach front and Bray Cove.

This was a really successful event, one which Oriflame plans to hold annually.



RAINBARRELS



Rainbarrels is delighted to be part of **the Better Bray Challenge** and increased sales in the Bray area with new customers supporting and buying from a local business. Over the last year our range of feature rainbarrels have been exhibited at Bloom, Hillborough, Ploughing Championship, Fota House, Russborough House, Belvedere House, Mallow Fair, St. Anne's Rose Festival

The company also supported Bray Lions Club Annual Charity Auction.

SA BHAILE

The Sa Bhaile Project enables homeless people in Bray to secure accommodation. During the 'Better Bray Challenge' the project team have worked closely with a wide range of public and voluntary bodies to identify homeless people, to place them in accommodation and to assist them in dealing with a wide spectrum of issues.



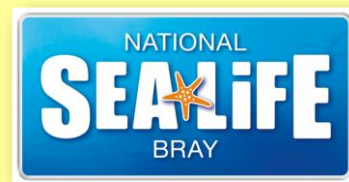
SEACREST RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

This Residents Association challenged itself 'to enhance our living area, to maintain a standard that we set 40 years ago when we formed the residents association'. This was achieved by keeping three large green areas clean, landscaped in cooperation with the Bray Tidy Towns Committee.



SEA LIFE

As part of the Better Bray Challenge, National SEA LIFE Bray committed itself to promote awareness and pride in our Coastal and Marine environment, organizing beach cleans regularly. Volunteers flocked to each of these beach cleans to help restore and protect our coastline.



Sea Life also introduced a number of initiatives throughout the aquarium to lessen its carbon footprint.



SHANE ROWAN

This local entrepreneur has worked tirelessly to promote Bray as a tourism centre through a wide range of activities, from helping organise the annual Bloomsday Festival to blogging about Bray to a worldwide internet audience.

SHOP LOCAL

This committee of Bray retailers participated in the Better Bray Challenge through a series of promotions such as the 'Christmas Shopping Stroll' and the 'Easter Parade' which are designed to make shopping in Bray an exciting experience.



SIDMONTON SQUARE/ARAVON GREEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

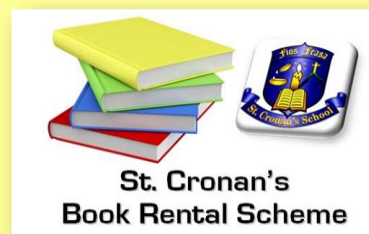
Residents of Sidmonton Square and Aravon Green work with Bray Town Council to keep Sidmonton Park safe, clean and beautiful for the people of Bray.

Volunteers pick up litter, remove graffiti and organise a rota amongst key holders so that the park can be closed at night. Residents continue to work with Bray Town Council to keep Sidmonton Park as a precious beauty spot in Bray.

ST CRONAN'S B.N.S.

St. Cronan's B.N.S. is very conscious of the increasing demands that are placed on parents' finances and the large costs involved with having a child in school. With that in mind, a small working group of committed staff got together to put in place a School Book Rental Scheme in the school, to reduce the costs that parents have to pay each year for their son's school books.

Starting in September 2013, all pupils will have access to a much wider variety of textbooks and workbooks at each class level, for a rental price of just €40. This provides a significant saving for parents, as previously the cost was upwards of €80 on each book list.



ST. PATRICK'S LORETO N.S.



The ambitious goal set by this local school as part of the 'Better Bray Challenge' was to establish a Student Council which would give a voice to the student body, to express its thoughts and suggestions on school issues and to play a more active role in the management of the school and also to provide opportunities to further develop the relationship among key partners in education.

The project involved months of planning and preparation and reached its climax with a formal election, in which all pupils elected their representatives to the Student Council.

ST. PETER'S B.N.S.

St. Peter's B.N.S. goal was to keep the area outside the school grounds cleaner. This was achieved by making the whole school aware of the goals and secondly by having classes pick up litter each week outside the school grounds.



SUPERQUINN BRAY

Superquinn has been a central part of Bray life for many years and its response to the Better Bray Challenge was to support Bray Lakers drive to secure a new home. Superquinn staff volunteered their time and talents in the creation of several successful fundraising events.

TAKEDA IRELAND & SUNBEAM HOUSE SERVICES

The Takeda Ireland Ltd. and Sunbeam House Services Community Partnership began in 2012 and took on the 'Better Bray Challenge'.

Takeda Ireland Ltd., pledged to continue the development of its relationship with SHS and the partners set a joint goal which is 'To strengthen and develop the Corporate Social Responsibility Community Partnership'. This was achieved in four areas:

- Make new friends
- Build corporate links
- Get involved in the Community
- Change attitudes to disability.



WICKLOW TIMES

The Wicklow Times newspaper has been a consistent supporter of Bray Lions Club over many years and this support was again evident in its coverage of the 'Better Bray Challenge' since its inception.

