EAGRÁN 8 EANÁIR 2008

NUACHTLITIR CHILL CHOMÁIN

Athbhliain faoi sheán agus faoi mhaise agus fáilte go dtí Eagrán 8 de Nuachtlitir Chill Chomáin. Déanann an 'Staidéar Cuimsitheach Teangeolaíoch ar Úsáid na Gaeilge sa Ghaeltacht', a d'ullmhaigh Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge don Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta, mionanailís ar staid reatha na Gaeilge i gceantrachta éagsúla. Léirigh an staidéar gurb é Cnoc an Daimh an t-aon toghroinn ceantair i gCondae Mhaigh Eo atá i rannóg A, áit a labhrann níos mó ná 67% den dhaonra iomlán an Ghaeilge go laethúil. Tá an staidéar iomlán le fáil ar shuíomh idirlíne na Roinne Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta www.pobail.ie. Tá tuilleadh faoin ábhar seo ar leathanach 6.

Tá scéimeanna éagsúla le fáil anois le cuidiú le daoine fásta scileanna nua a fhoghlaim nó oideachas breise a bhaint amach (sonraí ar leathanach 4). Mar a deir an seanfhocal 'Ní hualach do dhuine an léann'.

Welcome to the eight edition of Nuachtlitir Chill Chomáin, the parish newsletter, and we wish you all a happy and healthy new year. The recently published study 'Staidéar Cuimsitheach Teangeolaíoch ar Úsáid na Gaeilge sa Ghaeltacht – A Comprehensive Linguistic Study on the use of Irish in the Gaeltacht', which was prepared by Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge for the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, gives a detailed analysis of the current status of the Irish language. The study states that Cnoc an Daimh is the only district electoral division in County Mayo in category A, where more than 67% of the total population are daily speakers of Irish. The entire study can be viewed on the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs's website www.pobail.ie Turn to page 6 for more details.

There are various schemes and incentives now available to assist adults to acquire new skills or further their education (see page 4 for details).

*** Nuachtlitir Áitiúil * A Community Newsletter**

*** Guth an phobail ar mhaithe leis an bpobal**

*** Provides a voice for the local community and an update on development issues**

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Foilsithe ag Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo (i gcomhar le fo-choiste Ghlór na nGael

Coiste Bainistíochta an Chomharchumainn / The Management Committee

Cathaoirleach:	Micheál Ó Murchú
Rúnaí:	Seán Mac Aindriú
Cisteoir:	Máire Cáit Uí Mhurchú
Na baill eile:	Micheál Ó Seighin
	Micheál de Búrca
	Caitlín Uí Sheighin
	Séamus Ó Murchú
	Uinsíonn Mac Graith

GUTH AN PHOBAIL – HAVE YOUR SAY

Má tá aon tuairimí agat ar ábhar an nuachtlitir seo nó moltaí le haghaidh an chéad eagrán eile ba bhreá linn cloisteáil uait.

We welcome your comments on the items covered in this newsletter and/or any ideas you may have for the next edition.

Déan teagmháil le:-

Treasa Ní Ghearraigh,
Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo,
An tSeanscoil,
Ceathrú Thaidhg,
Béal an Átha,
Co. Mhaigh Eo

Guthán: 097 88082

Ríomhphoist: dunchaochain1@eircom.net

IONAD EOLAIS / INFORMATION OFFICE

Tá oifig na heagraíochta lonnaithe sa Seanscoil i gCeathrú Thaidhg, áit a bhfuil eolas agus foirmeacha iarratais ar fáil faoi scéimeanna éagsúla mar shampla feabhsú tithíochta, bóithre portaigh, scéim feabhsúcháin áitiúil an Chomhairle Chondae, deiseanna traenála &rl. Tá seirbhísí cóipéala, laminating agus facs le fáil ann chomh maith.

The organisation's office is located in the Seanscoil, Ceathrú Thaidhg, where information and application forms are available on various schemes including home improvement grants, repair of bog roads, training opportunities etc. Photocopying, laminating and fax services are also available here.

BAILL NUA / NEW MEMBERS

Má tá spéis agat a bheith i do bhall ar an gcomharchumann agus ionchar níos mó a bheith agat ar chúrsaí forbartha na háite déan teangmháil le Treasa le haghaidh tuilleadh eolais.

If you would like to become a member of the comharchumann and have a greater input into the overall development of the area please contact Treasa for further information.

FEIRMEOIREACHT ORGÁNACH / ORGANIC FARMING

Mar gheall ar an méadú atá tagtha ar an éileamh le haghaidh bia orgánach tá deiseanna le fáil anois ag feirmeoirí/táirgeoirí a bheith páirteach sa réimse seo den mhargadh. Faoi láthair tá níos lú ná 1% de thalamh feirme na hÉireann faoi churaíocht orgánach i gcomparáid le 11% i dtíortha eile Eorpacha mar An Ostair agus an Ghearmáin. Tá sé mar aidhm ag an gClár Rialtais an ráta seo a ardú go dtí 5% faoin mbliain 2012 agus chuige sin tugadh isteach beartais mhaoinithe chun fheirmeoirí a spreagadh le haistriú go táirgíocht orgánach. Cuireann ceann de na beartais seo, An Scéim Fheirmeoireachta Orgánach, maoiniú ar fáil d'fheirmeoirí orgánacha gan iad a bheith páirteach i scéim REPS 4. Beidh feirmeoir orgánach anois i dteidil suas le €21,650 a fháil sa thréimhse aistrithe agus €15,860 in aghaidh na bliana nuair atá stádas iomlán orgánach bainte amach aige/aici faoi REPS. Beidh na daoine nach bhfuil páirteach sa scéim REPS i dteidil €11,660 a fháil sa thréimhse aistrithe agus €5,830 in aghaidh na bliana nuair atá stádas iomlán orgánach bainte amach aige/aici. Chun an pobal a chur ar an eolas faoin scéim agus na féidearthachtaí atá ann, d'eagraigh Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo seisiún eolais sa Seanscoil ar an 14ú Samhain áit a raibh Séamus Ó Mongáin agus Elaine Leavy ón eagras Teagasc i láthair chun ceisteanna a fhreagairt agus comhairle a chur ar fáil.

Rinneadh mionphléigh ar chonas margaí tuaithe a bhunú agus a bhainistiú agus ar dea-chleachtais chaighdeáin ag seisiún eolais a reachtáileadh in Óstán Days i gCaisleán a' Bharraigh ar an 22ú Samhain. Thug an ocáid, a bhí eagraithe ag Bord Forbartha Chondae Mhaigh Eo, Leader agus Teagasc, deis do na daoine a bhí i láthair foghlaim ó thaithí táirgeoirí fadbhunaithe. I measc na n-aoichainteoirí bhí Patricia Golden (bainisteoir Margadh Feirme Origin i Mainistir na Búille), June Bourke (táirgeoir Margadh Tuaithe Chathair na Mart), Denise Roddy (Oifigeach Sláinte Timpeallachta i bhFeidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte) agus Sue O' Toole (Comhlacht Forbartha Iar-Dheisceart Mhaigh Eo) a rinne cur i láthair ar fhoinsí maoinithe.

Ag seimineár eolais a reachtáileadh sa Traveller's Friend i gCaisleán a' Bharraigh ar an 26ú Samhain chuir an aoichainteoir Trevor Sargent, Aire Stáit sa Roinn Bhia agus Ghairneoireachta, béim ar thabhacht bia áitiúil i dtaobh chaighdeáin, séasúrachta agus inaimseachta. Rinne sé cur i láthair ar bheartais an rialtais chun an fheirmeoireacht orgánach a chur chun cinn agus margaí tuaithe a bhunú, áit a bhfuil deis ag an táirgeoir na táirgí a dhíol go díreach leis an gceannaitheoir.

With the increase in demand for organically produced food there are now opportunities available for farmers/producers to become involved in this sector of the market. At present less than 1% of farming land in Ireland is cultivated organically compared to 11% in other European countries such as Austria and Germany. The Programme for Government aims to increase this figure to 5% by the year 2012 and has introduced various financial incentives to encourage farmers to convert to organic production. One of these incentives, The Organic Farming Scheme, provides financial support for organic farmers without having to participate in the new Rural Environment Protection Scheme (REPS 4). An organic farmer will now qualify for up to €21,650 during the conversion period and €15,860 a year with full organic status with REPS. Those who do not join REPS will still qualify for up to €11,660 during the conversion period and €5,830 a year once he/she has full organic status. To explain the scheme further and provide advice on other related issues such as suitable training courses, Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo organised an information evening in the Seanscoil on 14th November where Séamus Ó Mongáin and Elaine Leavy from the advisory agency Teagasc were available to answer questions.

An information evening held in Day's Hotel, Castlebar on 22nd November addressed the issue of establishing and managing country markets and the standards of best practice that apply. Organised by Mayo County Development Board, Leader and Teagasc, it gave those in attendance an opportunity to hear firsthand the experiences of established producers. Speakers included Patricia Golden (manager of Origin Farmers' Markets Boyle), June Bourke (a supplier of Country Markets in Westport), Denise Roddy (Environmental Health Officer with the Health Services Executive) and Sue O' Toole (South West Mayo Development Company) who outlined the financial supports which are available.

At a seminar in the Traveller's Friend Hotel, Castlebar on 26th November Trevor Sargent, Minister of State for Food and Horticulture, stressed the importance of local produce in terms of quality, seasonality and traceability and outlined the government's incentives to promote organic farming and the establishment of country markets, where the producer has an opportunity to sell directly to the consumer.

Tuilleadh Eolais / Further Information

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food - Tel: 01 6072000 email: info@agriculture.gov.ie
Teagasc – why not speak to your local advisor
Bord Bia - Tel: 01 6685155 email: info@bordbia.ie
Irish Organic Farmers and Growers Association Ltd - Tel: 0506 32563 email: iofga@eircom.net
Organic Trust Ltd - Tel: 01 8530271 email: organic@iol.ie
Demeter Standards Ltd - Tel: 056 7754214 email: bdaai@indigo.ie
The Organic Centre Rossinver - Tel: 071 9854338 email: organiccentre@eircom.net

Rannpháirtithe ag an seisiún eolais ar mhargaí tuaithe in Óstán Days (griangraf Mary Mc Carthy)

CÚRSAÍ OILIÚNA / TRAINING COURSES

Ranganna Gaeilge / Irish Classes

Tá sraith ranganna Gaeilge, atá oiriúnach d'óg agus d'aosta agus do dhaoine atá ag leibhéil dhifriúla líofachta, dá reachtáil sa pharóiste faoi láthair. Má tá spéis agat páirt a ghlacadh sna ranganna is féidir gach eolas a fháil ó Mháire Cáit ar 087 9714395 i ndiaidh a 6.00 i.n.

A series of Irish classes, suitable for young and old and for different levels of ability, is being organised in the parish at present. If you would like to attend or require further information please contact Máire Cáit on 087 9714395 after 6.00 p.m.

Cúrsa Garchabhrach / First Aid Course

Tá Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo, i gcomhar leis an Civil Defence, ag eagrú cúrsa garchabhrach sa Seanscoil. Cúrsa trí lá atá ann ag tosnú ar an 19ú Eanáir ag 9.00 r.n. agus ag leanacht ar aghaidh ar an 26ú Eanáir agus an 2ú Feabhra. €100 an táille atá i gceist a chlúdaíonn an teagasc agus an scrúdú. Má tá spéis agat clárú don chúrsa déan teagmháil le Treasa ag 097 88082 nó 087 1251642 roimh 12ú Eanáir 07.

Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo, in conjunction with the Civil Defence, is organising a first aid course in the Seanscoil. The three-day course commences on 19th January at 9.00 a.m. and continues on the 26th January and 2nd February. The course fee is €100 which includes tuition and examination. If you wish to register please contact Treasa on 097 88082 or 087 1251642 before 12th January 07.

Bunchúrsa i Sláinteachas Bia / Primary Course in Food Hygiene

Ag brath ar éilimh tá sé beartaithe bunchúrsa i sláinteachas bia a eagrú sa Seanscoil. Tá traenáil san ábhar seo riachtanach má tá sé ar intinn agat a bheith ag obair sa réimse ullmhú bia nó soláthar seirbhísí bia mar shampla tithe tabhairne, bialanna, óispidéal, siopaí caife &rl. Tá sé tabhachtach chomh maith dóibh siúd a chuireann lóistín leaba agus bricfeasta ar fáil nó mná tí a choinníonn scolairí le haghaidh an Choláiste Samhraidh. Reachtáilfear an cúrsa dá huaire déag, atá deimhnithe ag Cumann na nOifigí Sláinte Timpeallachta, thar cheithre oíche. Le haghaidh tuilleadh eolais déan teagmháil le 097 88082 nó 087 1251642.

Pending sufficient demand it is proposed to organise a Primary Course in Food Hygiene in the Seanscoil. Food Hygiene Training is a necessary requirement if you plan to work in any food preparation/service areas for example bars, restaurants, hospitals, cafes etc. It is also important for people who operate bed and breakfast businesses and mná tí who provide accommodation for students attending the Coláiste Samhraidh. The 12 hour course, which is certified by the Environmental Health Officers' Association, will be run over four evenings. For further information please contact 097 88082 or 087 1251642.

Scéim Foghlama Fadsaoil / Lifelong Learning Scheme

Tá scéim ag Rannóg Oiliúna agus Oideachais Údarás na Gaeltachta a chuireann tacaíocht airgid ar fáil do dhaoine aonarach nó do ghrúpaí a bhfuil cónaí orthu sa Ghaeltacht agus gur spéis leo tabhairt faoi chúrsa/chúrsaí éagsúla a chuirfí ar a gcumas scileanna nó oideachas breise a bhaint amach. Braitheann an méid tacaíochta a bheadh ar fáil ar an gcineál cúrsa a bheadh i gceist agus ar chumas Gaeilge an iarratasóra. Tá sé riachtanach go mbeadh aitheantas foirméalta ag

an gcúrsa. Chun breis eolais a fháil ba chóir teagmháil a dhéanamh le hÚdarás na Gaeltachta ag an uimhir 097 81418.

The Training and Education Section of Údarás na Gaeltachta operates a scheme which provides financial support to individuals or groups residing in the Gaeltacht who are interested in undertaking a course/various courses which will enable them to achieve additional skills or education. The amount of support depends on the type of course and on the fluency of Irish of the applicant. It is essential that the course has a formal or accredited qualification. Further information is available by contacting Údarás na Gaeltachta on 097 81418.

BANTRACHT DÚN CHAOCHÁIN

Tionóladh cruinniú cinnbliana Bantracht Dún Chaocháin sa Seanscoil i gCeathrú Thaidhg ar an 20ú Samhain. Bunaíodh Bantracht Dún Chaocháin i 1996 agus iad mar phríomhaidhmeanna aige (i) dul i ngleic le heaspa seirbhísí agus deiseanna atá le fáil ag mná i gceantar Dhún Chaocháin (ii) deiseanna forbartha pearsanta, oiliúna agus sóisialta a chothú agus (iii) grúpa tacaíochta a chur ar fáil do mhná sa bpobal. Cuirtear béim ar ghníomhaíochtaí a chothaíonn forbairt pearsanta, féin-mhuinín agus a chuidíonn le mná ról níos láirní a bheith acu i bhforbairt pobail.

Rinne an Cathaoirleach, Máire Cáit Uí Mhurchú, tagairt ina tuairisc do na himeachtaí a bhí idir láimhe ag an ngrúpa i rith na bliana. Ceann de na hábhair is mó imní do mhná sa lá atá inniú ann ná an méadú atá tagtha ar ailt brollaigh. Chun tacú le feachtas Daffodil Day, a eagraíonn Cumann Ailt na hÉireann ar fud na tíre, eagraíodh maidin caife i mí Márta agus bailíodh €332 i dtreo na cúise fiúntach seo. Eagraíodh maidin caife i mí Mean Fómhair chomh maith ar mhaithe le Oispís Mhaigh Eo-Ros Comáin agus bailíodh €258 don eagras.

Mír thabhachtach d'fhorbairt phearsanta is ea oiliúint fadsaoil agus chuige sin d'eagraigh agus d'freastal baill an coiste ar chúrsaí éagsúla oiliúna ina measc ranganna gúnadóireachta agus ceardaíochta (teagascóir Máire Uí hÉalaí le hairgeadú ó Choiste Gairmoideachais Condae Mhaigh Eo), cúrsa ullmhú bia FETAC Leibhéal 5 (teagascóir Mairín Uí Mhurchú le hairgeadú ó Meitheal Forbartha na Gaeltachta Teo agus FÁS), cúrsa turasóireachta tuaithe (teagascóir Marie Heneghan ó Teagasc) agus ranganna Gaeilge (teagascóir Síle Uí Mhurchú le hairgeadú ó Choiste Gairmoideachais Condae Mhaigh Eo). D'freastal baill an ghrúpa ar Lá Idirnáisiúnta na mBan, a d'eagraigh Iorras le Chéile, áit a raibh deis acu páirt a ghlacadh i seisiún ceisteanna agus freagraí le painéal polaiteoirí. Ábhar sláinte agus cearta na mban is mó a bhí faoi chaibidil. Ag deireadh an chruinniú ghabh an Cathaoirleach buíochas le baill an choiste as a gcomhoibriú i rith na bliana agus ainmníodh na hoifigí seo a leanas ar an gcoiste don bhliain atá amach romhainn:- Máire Cáit Uí Mhurchú (Cathaoirleach), Treasa Ní Ghearraigh (Rúnaí) agus Sorcha de Búrca (Cisteoir).

The Annual General Meeting of Bantracht Dún Chaocháin took place on 20th November in the Seanscoil in Ceathrú Thaidhg. Set up in 1996, Bantracht Dún Chaocháin's main objectives are (i) to address the lack of services and opportunities available to women in the Dún Chaocháin area (ii) to provide personal development, training and social opportunities and (iii) to provide a support group for the women of the area. Emphasis is placed on activities which nurture personal development and self confidence and empower women to have a stronger voice in the future development of their community.

The outgoing Chairperson, Máire Cáit Uí Mhurchú, outlined in her report the main activities of the group over the year. One of the important issues affecting women today is the high incidence of breast cancer. To lend its support to the Daffodil Day initiative, which is organised by the Irish Cancer Society, the committee held a coffee morning in March which raised €332 towards this worthwhile cause. A coffee morning organised in September also raised €258 towards the Mayo-Roscommon Hospice Foundation.

An important aspect of personal development is lifelong learning and the acquisition of new skills. Members of the committee organised/attended various training courses including dressmaking and craft classes (tutor Máire Uí hÉalaí with funding received from Mayo Vocational Education Committee), A FETAC Level 5 Food Preparation Course (tutor Mairín Uí Mhurchú, funded by Meitheal Forbartha na Gaeltachta and FÁS), An Introduction to Rural Tourism (tutor Marie Heneghan, Teagasc) and Irish language classes (tutor Síle Uí Mhurchú, funded by Mayo Vocational Education Committee). Members of the group also attended International Womens Day, which was organised by Iorras le Chéile, and provided a forum for a question and answer session with various political representatives. Issues addressed included womens health and their rights as citizens. In concluding the Chairperson thanked the committee for its cooperation during the year and

the following officers were appointed to the committee for the forthcoming year:-Máire Cáit Uí Mhurchú (Cathaoirleach), Treasa Ní Ghearraigh (Rúnaí) and Sorcha de Búrca (Cisteoir).

CÓR CHEATHRÚ THAIDHG

Ag Oireachtas na Samhna, mórfhéile na nGael, ar an 30ú Deireadh Fómhair seo caite i Séipéal na Trionóide Naofa i gCathair na Mart, do rinneadh seoladh oifigiúil ar an dara dhlúthdhiosca d'iomann ó Chór Cheathrú Thaidhg dar teideal 'An Mainséar'. Ina dhiaidh sin ar an 2ú Nollaig bhí an seoladh áitiúil sa Seanscoil. Bailiúchán de cheithre iomann déag na Nollag atá sa dhlúthdhiosca seo atá curtha le chéile go fíor snasta. Tá creidiúint mhór ag dul do bhaill an chóir Méav Uí Ghallchóir, Caitlín Uí Mhuineacháin, Eibhlín Uí Bhroin, Pauline Carolan, Emma Ní Dhochartaigh, Leiona de Búrca, Éilis Ní Ghamhnáin, Vanessa Ní Ghearbháin, Marina Ní Thaidhg, Eléin Ní Ghearbháin, Rachel Ní Ghamhnáin, Ciara Ní Ghearbháin, Déirdre Uí hÉineacháin, Aoife Ní Ghearbháin, Deirbhle Ní Ghearbháin agus Shannon Ní Thaidhg as an éacht atá déanta acu. Tuilleadh eolais le fáil ó meavgallchoir@oceanfree.net

On the 30th October last in Séipéal na Trionóide Naofa in Westport during Oireachtas na Samhna, a major national festival celebrating all things Irish, the second cd of hymes from Cór Cheathrú Thaidhg entitled 'An Mainséar' was officially launched. This was followed by the local launch in the Seanscoil on 2nd December. The cd features a collection of fourteen well-known Christmas hymns, compiled to a very high standard. The adjudicators of Mayo County Council who presented the choir with an award were fulsome in their praise stating "Very impressive choir sound; clear focus on what they want to do with the award; the choir contributes to the musical life of County Mayo; nice mixture of well known hymns presented against a backdrop of exemplary instrumental work".

We commend the members of the choir Méav Uí Ghallchóir, Caitlín Uí Mhuineacháin, Eibhlín Uí Bhroin, Pauline Carolan, Emma Ní Dhochartaigh, Leiona de Búrca, Éilis Ní Ghamhnáin, Vanessa Ní Ghearbháin, Marina Ní Thaidhg, Eléin Ní Ghearbháin, Rachel Ní Ghamhnáin, Ciara Ní Ghearbháin, Déirdre Uí hÉineacháin, Aoife Ní Ghearbháin, Deirbhle Ní Ghearbháin and Shannon Ní Thaidhg on their fine achievement. Further information is available from meavgallchoir@oceanfree.net

Baill an chóir ag seoladh 'An Mainséar' sa Seanscoil (griangraf Uinsíonn Mac Graith)

SCÉALTA EILE / OTHER NEWS

An Staidéar Teangeolaíoch / The Linguistic Study

Léirigh an 'Staidéar Cuimsitheach Teangeolaíoch ar Úsáid na Gaeilge sa Ghaeltacht' gurb é Cnoc an Daimh an t-aon toghroinn ceantair i gCondae Mhaigh Eo atá i rannóg A, áit a labhrann níos mó ná 67% den dhaonra iomlán an Ghaeilge go laethúil. Áiritear sa toghroinn seo na bailte fearainn Cill a' Ghallagáin, Ceathrú na gCloch, Ceathrú Thaidhg, Corrán Buí, Cnoc a' Ghairtéil agus Port a' Chlóidh. I mí Dheireadh Fómhair d'fhógair an tAire Éamon Ó Cúiv go bhfuil Coiste Rialtais, nó Coiste Comh-aireachta, le bunú chun scrúdú a dhéanamh ar an staidéar agus plean gníomhaíochta a chur le chéile agus nach mbeadh torthaí na hoibre sin le fáil go ceann bliana. Creideann go leor coistí agus eagraisí atá ag plé le cursaí Gaeilge go mba chóir céimeanna a thógáil láithreach bonn i bhfianaise a phráinní is atá an staid reatha teanga.

The recently published study 'Staidéar Cuimsitheach Teangeolaíoch ar Úsáid na Gaeilge sa Ghaeltacht – A Comprehensive Linguistic Study on the use of Irish in the Gaeltacht' states that Cnoc an Daimh is the only district electoral division in County Mayo in category A, where more than 67% of the total population are daily speakers of Irish. This DED includes the townlands of Cill a' Ghallagáin, Ceathrú na gCloch, Ceathrú Thaidhg, Corrán Buí, Cnoc a' Ghairtéil and Port a' Chlóidh. In October Minister Éamon Ó Cúiv announced that an inter-governmental committee would be established to examine the study and compile an action plan, and that the results of this would not be available for another year. Many committees and agencies dealing with the Irish language challenge

this and believe that immediate steps need to be taken in light of the evidence and the urgency of preserving the language.

An Clár Infheistíochta Náisiúnta Cúraim Leanaí / The National Childcare Investment Programme

D'freastal baill ó Naíonra Dhún Chaocháin agus Naíonra Ghleann na Muaidhe ar sheimineár eolais in Óstán Clarion i Sligeach ar an 26ú Meán Fómhair, áit a ndearna oifigí ó Phobal cur i láthair ar an gClár Infheistíochta Náisiúnta Cúraim Leanaí 2006-2010 atá faoi chúram na Roinne Sláinte agus Leanaí agus atá maoinithe ag Rialtas na hÉireann faoin bPlean Forbartha Náisiúnta 2007-2013. Beidh an clár seo ag teacht i bhfeidhm i 2008 in áit an Clár Comhdheiseanna do Chúram Leanaí do chuid na Roinne Dlí, Cirt, Comhionannais agus Athchóirithe Dlí a bhí maoinithe ag Rialtas na hÉireann agus páirt-maoinithe ag Cistí Strúctúracha an Aontais Eorpaigh faoin bPlean Forbartha Náisiúnta 2000-2006. Tá go leor athraithe molta sa Chlár nua a bhéas tionchar acu ar sholáthar seirbhísí cúraim leanaí amach anseo.

Members of Naíonra Dhún Chaocháin and Naíonra Ghleann na Muaidhe attended an information seminar in the Clarion Hotel in Sligo on 26th September where representatives from Pobal gave a presentation on the National Childcare Investment Programme 2006-2010 which falls under the remit of The Department of Health and Children and is funded by the Irish Government under the National Development Plan 2007-2013. This programme comes into effect in 2008 and replaces the Equal Opportunities Childcare Programme of the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform which was funded by the Irish Government and part-financed by the European Structural Funds under the National Development Plan 2000-2006. The new programme proposes many changes which will have an impact on the provision of childcare services in the future.

Ceapachán Nua / New Appointment

Comhghairdeas le Pádraigín Ní Cheamharcaigh atá ceaptha mar Stiúrthóir Cúnta i Seirbhís Iar-scoile Dhún Chaocháin. Thóg Pádraigín suas an post ar an 15ú Deireadh Fómhair.

Congratulations to Pádraigín Ní Cheamharcaigh who has been appointed Assistant Supervisor in Dún Chaocháin After-School Service. Pádraigín started working in the service on October 15th.

Bainistiú Dramhaíola / Waste Management

Ba chóir dúinn uilig iarracht a dhéanamh bruscair a laghdú, a athúsáid agus a athchúrsáil le haghaidh na bliana 2008. Is féidir tús a chur leis an iarracht tré do chrann Nollag agus na cártaí Nollag a athchúrsáil. Tá socruithe déanta ag Comhairle Chondae Mhaigh Eo chun na crainn Nollag a bhailiú ag Carr-Chlós na hOifige Chathartha, Sráid an tSéipéil, Béal an Mhuirthead idir 9.00 r.n. agus 5.00 i.n. ó Dé Luain an 7ú Eanáir go dtí Dé Sathairn an 12ú Eanáir 2008. Is féidir cartaí Nollag agus clúdaigh litreach a thabhairt chuig Leabharlann Bhéal an Mhuirthid, An tIonad Cathartha ón gCéadaoin an 2ú Eanáir go dtí an Deardaoin an 31ú Eanáir 08 (déan teagmháil le 097 82374 le haghaidh uaireanta oscailte). Tá na seirbhísí seo saor in aisce. Má theastaíonn tuilleadh eolais uait déan teagmháil le Sean Smyth, S.E.O., An Rannóg Timpeallachta, Comhairle Chondae Mhaigh Eo ag 094 9024444 nó ar r-phost ag environment@mayococo.ie

Perhaps one resolution we can all aspire to for 2008 is to reduce, reuse and recycle our waste. Why not start by recycling your Christmas trees and cards. Mayo County Council has made arrangements for the collection of used Christmas trees at the Civic Office Car-Park, Church Road, Belmullet between 9.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m. from Monday 7th January to Saturday 12th January 2008. Christmas cards and envelopes can be brought to Belmullet Library, the Civic Centre from Wednesday 2nd January until Thursday 31st January 08 (contact 097 82374 for opening hours). These services are free of charge. For further information please contact Sean Smyth, S.E.O., The Environment Section, Mayo County Council on 094 9024444 or e-mail environment@mayococo.ie

Siúlóidí Ceathrú Thaidhg / Ceathrú Thaidhg Walks

Críochnaíodh an obair ar thrí shiúlóid chiorclach i gCeathrú Thaidhg mar atá Siúlóid na Trá, Siúlóid Chlann Lir agus Siúlóid an Chlaí Dhuibh. Ag tosnú agus ag críochnú ag an Seanscoil, tugann said léargas ar thírdhreach agus ar radharcanna maorga Dhún Chaocháin. Tá treormharcanna le dathanna difrúla ar gach shiúlóid ag brath ar dhianacht mar seo a leanas – glas (easca), gorm (measartha) agus dearg (dian).

Tá sonraí na mbealaí leagtha amach ar chlár eolais dá-theangach, atá lonnaithe sa charr-chlós nua in aice na Seanscoile. Tá na siúlóidí anois san áireamh i nGreasán Náisiúnta Lúbanna de chuid Fáilte Ireland agus déanfar bolscaireacht orthu ar

bhróisiúr agus ar shuíomh idirlíne na heagraíochta sin. Is é Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo agus Scéim Shóisialta Tuaithe Chill Chomáin a bhí i mbun an togra le cúnamh airgeadú ó Chomhairle Chondae Mhaigh Eo, Fáilte Éire agus An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta.

Work has been completed on three loop walks in Ceathrú Thaidhg namely Siúlóid na Trá, Siúlóid Chlann Lir and Siúlóid an Chlaí Dhuibh. Starting and finishing at the Seanscoil, they offer the walker an opportunity to experience the wonderful landscape and scenery of Dún Chaocháin. Each loop is waymarked and colour-coded according to the level of difficulty as follows green (easy), blue (moderate) and red (hard).

Details of the routes are outlined on a bi-lingual information board, which is sited in the newly-developed carpark adjacent to the Seanscoil. The walks are now included in Fáilte Ireland's National Looped Walks Network and will be promoted on its brochure and website. This project was undertaken by Comhar Dún Chaochain Teo and Cill Chomáin Rural Social Scheme, with the assistance of funding granted by Mayo County Council, Fáilte Ireland and The Department of Community, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs.

Lean an saighead (Griangraf Uinsíonn Mac Graith)

Bóithre Portaigh / Bog Roads

Le cuidiú airgeadú na Roinne Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta rinneadh oibreacha feabhsúcháin ar dhá bhóthar portaigh sa pharóiste i mí Dheireadh Fómhair – An Bóthar Thuas agus An Bóthar Thíos i mbaile Ghort Breac. Ginty Plant Hire a bhí i mbun na hoibre.

With the assistance of funding received from the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs two bog roads were repaired in the parish in October - An Bóthar Thuas and An Bóthar Thíos in the townland of Gort Breac. Ginty Plant Hire carried out the necessary improvement works.

An Bóthar Thuas (griangraf Uinsíonn Mac Graith)

An Baile Beo

Bhronn Príomh-Fheidhmeannach Údarás na Gaeltachta, Pádraig Ó hAolain, duaiseanna de chomórtas 'An Baile Beo' in Óstán Oileán Acla ar an 13ú Nollaig seo caite. Bhain Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo duais aitheantais amach i rannóg na gcomharchumann Cúige Chonnacht. Mhol Pádraig na grúpaí go léir atá ag obair go leanúnach sna ceantair Ghaeltachta, agus ós rud é go bhfuil deireadh tagtha anois leis an scéim trí bliana seo, dúirt sé go mbeadh comórtas nua á sheoladh ag Údarás na Gaeltachta i 2008.

Pádraig Ó hAoláin, Chief-Executive of Údarás na Gaeltachta, presented the Baile Beo competition awards in Óstán Oileán Acla on 13th December last. Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo was the recipient of a recognition award in the co-operative category in the Connacht region. Pádraig praised the ongoing work being carried out in Gaeltacht areas by various community groups, and as this three-year scheme comes to an end he stated that Údarás na Gaeltachta would be launching a new initiative in 2008.

Foilseachán Nua / New Publication

The recently published book 'The Price of Our Souls - Gas, Shell and Ireland' by Michael Mc Caughan will soon be available in local shops. The Corrib Gas Project has mobilized public opinion over issues of democratic rights, energy nationalism, community consent, globalisation and corporate power. Drawing on technical reports and extensive interviews with residents of the affected area, this book reveals the dangers of the project and proposes an alternative solution.