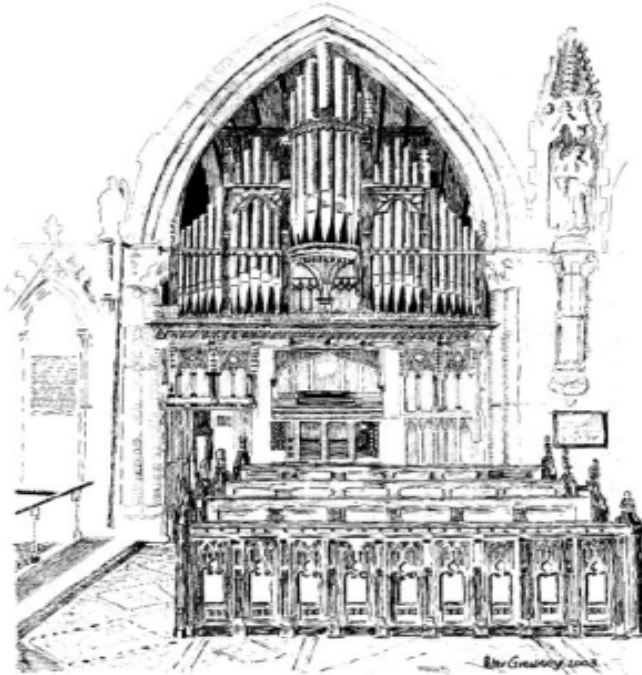


christ church, BRay

in touch



Rector: Rev. Baden Stanley 087 9484407
Parish Office: 286 2968
email: christchurchbray@gmail.com
website: www.christchurchbray.org
In Touch email: intouchbray@gmail.com

FEBRUARY 2012

CHRIST CHURCH – PARISH OF BRAY

Rector: Rev. Baden Stanley 0879484407

The Rectory, Church Road, Bray

†

Parish Office:

Tel / 2862968

e mail: christchurchbray@gmail.com

website: www.christchurchbray.org

Organist & Music Director: John Morris

Junior and Senior Choir Practice – Sunday mornings @ 9.45 – 10.45 am.

Tots & Toys – Kirsty 087 2486368

Mothers' Union Enrolling Member: Nicola Gray
Meets 2nd Monday of the month in PLC @ 8 pm.

Hall Bookings -Parish Office

Bellringing David McNerney
& Jason Warnock

Sunday Rocks: Dorianne Paso
Meets during services every Sunday except 4th Sunday

Sunday Services – 8.30 am. Holy Communion

11 am. Family Services

1st and 3rd Sundays Holy Communion

2nd Sunday -Morning Prayer

4th Sunday - Family Service (all ages)

5th Sunday - Healing Service



FROM THE RECTORY



Focus Forward : The Sequel!

Over five years ago we began to put together a five-year ministry plan known as 'Focus Forward'. In October 2007 we launched our plan; a rather 'wordy' booklet that laid out our intentions in the areas of vision, worship, pastoral, youth, international ministry and evangelism. Our first achievement was putting Ministry firmly in the centre of who we are as a community. Over the years we have seen significant developments in each of the areas of our plan. The three most obvious developments were:-

- (1) in the development of the post of Music Director, most ably filled by John Morris, as we continue towards our commitment to all-age-worship;
- (2) (2) in the amazing Narnia and Remembrance Exhibitions which literally grew out of our desire to maximize how we use the space of Christ Church Bray;
- (3) (3) in the appointment of our Youth Pastor, Kirsty Lynch.

It has not all been plain sailing; we are no longer in a position to afford a curate, and at a time of deepening crisis for so many, the provision of proper pastoral care and support remains a challenge. The development of a Parish Pastoral Team remains an urgent need.

In the last five years the move to having the Parish Office serve as a central hub has become a reality under the huge commitment and gifting of Shirley Kenny. The sheer volume of administration processed by Shirley and a small number of helpers has been astounding, much of it behind the scenes, all of it vital to freeing me up to focus on pastoral support and leadership of a very dynamic and active parish community.

It is now time to review and re-launch the ministry plan. With a working title of 'Growing Forward' we will be looking at how we can continue to grow as individuals and as a community of living faith and practice. The new plan will be launched again at Harvest time. In the meantime, put your thinking caps on, re-read (or read for the first time!) Focus Forward and let us know your thoughts. The success of this plan depends on the sense of ownership each parishioner feels for the future of our Parish Community.

Congratulations: To Harry Brown who was baptised on the 27th November 2011 and to Noel and Roma Brasil who had their marriage blessed on the 1st December 2011.

Confirmation: Confirmation Service will be held in Christ Church Bray on Sunday, 4th March at 7.00pm. Please pray for the candidates as they prepare to take on for themselves the promises made for them at their baptisms.

Sympathy: Our heartfelt sympathy to all who have lost loved ones in recent weeks, especially the family and friends of Bessie Lane. Bessie was one of our oldest parishioners and she and her family have had a long association with our bell ringing Team. To Bessie's daughter, Ros; our deepest sympathy.

Also to the family and friends of Jennifer Roberts. Jennifer was a young woman of great intellect and ability, a wacky sense of humour and a gift to all who knew her. To her parents, Elizabeth and Kevin, her twin sister, Kirsten, her brother Steven and sister-in-law Rachel; again our deepest sympathy and support.

We also extend our sympathy and support to Prim Corson on the sudden death of her sister, Alice Shaw and to Jan Irvine on the sudden death of her father-in-law Nicholas Foran.

Thank you to everyone for your support, love and prayers following the sudden passing of my Mum, Ena. – Baden.

From the Editor



As ordinary members of the congregation there are some things that we may tend to take for granted. The sterling work of the Taskforce has been highlighted in past issues of In Touch



- and rightly so! But who else is contributing to give us the church as we expect it each Sunday? First there is a group of ladies who make time to sweep, Hoover, dust and polish - did you ever wonder how this happened. Why not, if you can, offer to join the team and lend a hand.

The flower arrangers have asked me to say thank you to all of you who have helped in providing the lovely flowers each Sunday over the past year. They too would appreciate any offers of help, either financial or practical. The names to contact are Margaret Jones or Hilary Salmon 2866386, 087 2208944.



These are just two of the many facets of Christ Church, Bray that deserve recognition. - more in next issue!

May I also thank our advertisers. Without their support it would not be possible to provide our readers with 10 quality issues with free delivery every year.

You may have noticed that some of our regular ads are missing from this issue. If you know of any possible replacements - please contact Shirley at the parish office. We charge:

€150 for a full page

€85 for a half page

€50 for a quarter page.

Mrs Ena Stanley

As a parish, we were all deeply shocked and saddened by the sudden death of Baden's mother and we offer our deep sympathy to the whole Stanley family. It was some indication of the love and respect we have for our rector to see a Finnegan's bus was needed along with a number of well filled cars to enable our group to attend the service in a packed St Andrew's Church in Rathdowney.

Christmas Trees

Joe and George were delighted to be able to send a grand total of €840 to this year's chosen charities. They want to thank their helpers on the day for making this possible. Don't forget - in just over ten months they hope to be at it all again!



Some things to look forward to!!

Towards the end of April our bellringers hope to give us a **full peal of bells**—further details of this in next month's In Touch.



Before that on Sat 25th February 7.00pm—**Table Quiz** in St Andrew's School

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Bessie Lane 1927—2012

Sadly, the passing of Bessie Lane on St. Stephen's Day leaves a huge chasm in the lives of those that knew and loved her most especially her daughter Ros, who cared for her so well. Bessie was ninety eight and four months of age when she died. Her mind, great sense of humour and of style never deserted her (she was eagerly looking forward to her Presidential cheque due in 2013). When Bessie laughed, and she laughed a lot - her whole body shook with merriment and she laughed a lot!



She enjoyed reading about the lives of others including Lady Meath, Nora Featherstone, Kathleen Mustard, Albert Philp, Elsie Scott and other contemporary parishioners but she resisted all our efforts to record her wonderful past which she claimed to be too boring.

Bessie was an integral part of The Church of Ireland community in Bray since 1953 having played an active part in both St Paul's and Christ Church where she served on many Stewardship Committees, sang in both choirs (can anyone remember those glorious mortar boards and purple robes?) she was a founder member of the One Act Drama Festival, those kneelers that you kneel upon each Sunday bear her mark as indeed do the brasses! She was born in 1913 in the same month as James Larkin's Lockout. She lived through the troubles of 1916, 2 World Wars, King George V's visit to Dublin, the last tram running to Howth (she was actually on it), RTE's very first transmission, and Man walking on, the moon ! She must have had incredible memories of all these events during her long lifetime, and we, in turn, thank God for the privilege of knowing her and ask that He hold her gently in the palm of His hand until we meet again.

Classics by Candlelight

After the success of last year's 'Classics by Candlelight', expectations ran high for the concert given on December 4th last in Christ Church Bray. These expectations were fully met in an evening of wonderful music played by a string quartet comprised of four top-class musicians, all of whom are members of the RTE National Symphony Orchestra – Elaine and David Clark (violins), and our own Francis Harte (viola) and Shelagh Harte (cello).

The program was varied, ranging from Baroque (Bach Brandenburg Concerto No 3) through to late Romantic (Tchaikovsky String Quartet No 1) journeying en-route via



Boccherini, Haydn, Mozart and the beautiful slow movement from Schubert's Rosamunde Quartet. The playing was of the highest standard (as we might have expected) , always sensitive and well-phrased but gracious, wistful or warm when needed. The clear tone of the playing was enhanced by the fine acoustic of the church - and the subdued candle light added further to the ambience. The finale consisted of a selection of carols transcribed for string quartet by Carlo Martelli, adding that piece

of sparkle to get us all in the mood for Christmas.

Having had their musical appetite sated, the large audience then were treated to mulled wine and mince pies in an environment of affability. It was a really enjoyable evening and, apart from the social aspect, was successful in raising a considerable sum towards the Organ Restoration Fund.

Our thanks are due to the musicians for giving so generously of their time (for rehearsal as well as performance) and talents; to Francis and Shelagh for also organising the event and to all who worked 'front of house' in preparing and serving the refreshments or helping with logistics.

Tony Swaine

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Rathmichael Historical Society

Everyone remembers the snow of November & December 2010 and some parishioners may remember the snows of the 1980's and the 1960' and perhaps a few the Big Freeze of 1947. But all these conditions pale into insignificance when compared to the mini ice-age that occurred in Ireland and Britain in 1739 when life in these countries came to a standstill due to extreme freezing conditions. This extreme weather event will be recalled by David Dickson in his lecture 'Ireland's Mini "Ice" Age', 1739 to 1741' on Wednesday February 1st at 8 p.m. to the Rathmichael Historical Society in Rathmichael School, Stonebridge Road, Shankill, Co. Dublin, and all are welcome to attend.

Bray Cualann Historical Society

Two wheeled motorised sport will be the subject for the 8 p.m. Thursday February 16th meeting of the Bray Cualann Historical Society in the Bray Chamber of Commerce House, 10 Prince of Wales Tce., Quinsboro Road, Bray, when Kevin Meade will present his talk on 'A Look Back in Time – Bray and District Motor Cycle Club' and all welcome to attend – admission €4.



We all enjoy a cup of tea after Sunday service - if you would like to be part of this - take a turn by signing up for a Sunday.



TOYS 'n TOYS

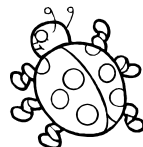
(Mums/Dads and Toddlers Group)

Resume 7th Sept!
Tuesdays 10am - 12pm



Church Family Room
Contact Kirsty

087 2486368



News from the Shack...

Programmes for the January - April Term of events are now available - please pick one up at the back of the Church or speak to Kirsty.

Confirmation Classes have now begun! We have 12 young people going forward for Confirmation on Sunday 4th March 2012 at 7:00pm. Please come along and support our young people at this exciting time!

SUMMER MADNESS

Summer Madness is the largest Christian youth festival in Ireland with approximately 4000 people coming over the weekend. This year some of the 6th Class + group will be joining the madness. If you would like more information about the festival visit www.summermadness.co.uk or speak to Kirsty.

To help us attend this event we will be having some fundraising events over the next few months including a cake sale and a few other things. Please support us in any way you can.



Pancake Party for National Children's Hospital, Tallaght -
Wednesday 15th February 2:00pm - 4:00pm

We are going to have lots of treats, games and yummy pancakes! All we ask is for to you donate some cash to join the fun!

Kirsty

CHRISTCHURCH CHOIR

A Few Words from John Morris

Now that the last of the Christmas trees are being hauled away from the recycling stations, the season of Christmas is finally done and dusted – well not quite ... for the choir! There is still one step to go... the annual service to celebrate the Presentation of the Infant Jesus – which we celebrate as a Christingle Service – marks the final chapter of “Christmas-tinted” music before we start to prepare for Lent. You will hear some carol melodies in some of the hymns (look out for the Holly and the Ivy and A Maiden Most Gentle sung to words especially written for Christingle.)

We are now practising for the Confirmation service, Holy Week and Easter. Different challenges after the Christmas season. We will be introducing a new sung Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) soon and then a Sanctus (which is Holy, Holy, Holy in English!). We have been delighted with the congregation joining in with the Gloria and Great Amen – so please keep it up.

Do you miss it?

There have been many attempts to find the fabled “Lost Chord” in musical history. However our problem is not a chord, it’s more of a “lost note”. It was last heard sometime in mid-November 2011. What I am writing about? I am referring to A3 on the swell manual of the organ. That’s the “A” above middle C, the oh-so-familiar note that the oboe sounds to an orchestra as they all tune up. However, it’s gone – one of the early warning signs that the organ is on borrowed time – and I miss it very much as it is a very important note in lots of hymns and organ pieces! So please support our organ restoration events before the lost note has too many companions!



New Members Welcome!

For a large church such as our beautiful building, we need lots of voices to fill it with sound. It is both rewarding and fun too. I know that there are some wonderful voices in the parish and we would love to have them leading the worship in song.

We meet on Sundays at 9:45am to practice the music of the day. We also meet on Thursdays where possible at 8pm to practice the music for special occasions such as Harvest, Remembrance, Advent, Christmas, Candlemas, Passiontide, Easter, Confirmation and Pentecost! Our (ever expanding) repertoire varies from classical to modern with all genres in between included too. Ask any member of the choir.



Hymns that you would like to hear

Although we think that we get the hymns right most, if not all of the time, we are all fallible and if we have missed a favourite or two, please do drop a note on the organ with any requests that you might have.

Thanks

PS: A belated thank you to the choir for all their work in preparation for last Christmas. It was my 3rd carol service since I became your organist, but the 5th in which I have been involved! The singing was great and not a single arrangement by John Rutter! It



is really gratifying to see attendances at this service increasing year by year, with many people from outside the parish being attracted to this most traditional of services in the unique setting of Christchurch, Bray.

John Morris

35th One Act Drama Festival

In our house, everything was put on hold for a week as the 35th Bray One ACT Festival got underway. This year I had the pleasure of attending the entire festival. Once again we were treated to an action packed week of Drama, Comedy and Farce with two new groups Wizbang Productions and St. Gerard's School, both giving highly creditable performances.

As the week progressed it became harder to decide which play was the best as the standard was so high. One highlight of the festival was the presentation of the Fred Lee Trophy on Friday night. This is awarded for services to the world of Music, Stage and Screen in Bray. Peter Harrison had great pleasure in presenting the trophy to Lord and Lady Meath for their outstanding contribution to our festival over the years..

Whilst there were only 14 groups performing throughout the week there were in actual fact 15 as Anna Walker the adjudicator gave a wonderful performance each evening during her summing up.

The festival came to an end on Saturday, with Serendipity giving us one of their wonderful choral renditions followed by the presentation of awards. Congratulations to all the winners and to the committee for organizing another successful Festival. Profits this year will go to Bray Lakers, the Jack and Jill Foundation and the Bray and North Wicklow Stroke Club.

Catherine Boyd



Q. When is the Table Quiz?

Ans. See Dates for Your Diary!

Don't Forget—Copy for the March Issue to be in by Monday 20th February.

35th One Act Drama Festival Awards

Best Group	Bray Arts - A visit from Mrs Protheroe
Runner-up Group	St. Patricks Dalkey - Elegy of a Lady
Best Producer	Derek Pullen Bray Arts
Best Comedy	East Glendalough School - Ernie's Incredible Illucinations
Best Actor	Martin Davidson Bray Arts
Best Actress	Emma Jane Nulty Dalkey Players
Most promising Young Actor/Actress	Abbie McManus Bray School of Speech and Drama
Adjudicator's Award	East Glendalough School
Special Award	Lord and Lady Meath
Best Supporting Actor	Liam Walsh East Glendalough School
Best Supporting Actress	Miriam Megannety Delgany Dramatic Society
Lighting / Design Award	St Patricks Dalkey

IN MEMORIAM : ANNE DENARD

In the thirty- odd years in which she was a parishioner of Bray, Anne lent a hand in quite a number of activities in the church. She did her stint of cleaning brasses, dusting woodwork, and arranging flowers. She served more than once as churchwarden. She helped to design the surplices and red cassocks for the junior members of the choir and stitched or sewed some of the first batches. She was a very active member of the Mother's Union, and once upon a time produced with them a little drama based on John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*, which she had written.

She grew shrubs and rhubarb for the annual plant sale, went on trips to make suitable purchases from nurseries near and not so near.

The pathway at the side of our house was often lined with potted plants, waiting to be labelled and priced for the sale and to be collected by Colin Winchester and Albert Hill and taken off for display at the Fete.



But undoubtedly Anne's major interest in later years was in the records of the Church. She arranged, I think, for the chief records – the Parish Registers, the registers of births, deaths and marriages – to be handed over to the safe-keeping of the Representative Church Body of the Church of Ireland at its archive centre in Churchtown; but not before the entries had been copied onto index cards and checked by herself and the conscripted members of her family, to be entered at a later date on to a computer file for easier use. She transcribed the barely legible names on Canon Scott's map of the graveyard of St Paul's Church, a map which used to hang in the Vestry here, and arranged for photocopies of the map to be made. And, of course, her researches on the history of the stained glass windows of the Church, and her interest in ensuring their maintenance and protection, are well known. (I myself can well remember being sent to climb a ladder to decipher the inscription under one of the high windows at the west end of the church.)

So it is very fitting, I think, that her name is now being honoured in particular for her whole-hearted concern with the care and preservation of the historical records of Bray Parish.

I am not clear in my mind who made the original proposal for this form of tribute. (It could have been myself, or it could have been the Rector, or it might have been that very useful character, A.N.Other). Whatever the origin of the proposal, Baden fully embraced the project and urged its completion. And, apart from Baden, there are two parishioners whom I would particularly want to thank: (a) Bruce Chandler, who followed Anne as curator of the archives; in the spring of this year he spent much time

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and energy in sketching designs for a cabinet to house the archive materials, and he also took steps to procure proper archive-quality containers for their storage; and (b) I would like to thank also David Salmon, who produced the final design for the cupboards and desk that fit below the old cabinet and blend so successfully with it. David once again showed his skill and craftsmanship in joinery and his creativity in designing the beautiful relief motif of ink and quill, lamb and fish, which decorates the front panels of the desk. The lamb-and-cross, in particular, refers to the Good Shepherd windows which, David recalled, Anne so loved. The ink and quill represents Anne's dedication to recording the archives of Christ Church Bray and the fish represents her Christianity and wisdom.

Without Bruce and David the project would still be in the melting pot (and as my sons would probably tell you, my melting pots are very slow cooking). So I am all the more glad that others provided the impetus.

As a last word, I would like to thank the parish as a whole for this tribute to Anne's memory. I hope that the archive unit may prove a lasting benefit to the parish.

Anne Elizabeth Rogers Denard, b. 29 Oct, 1928, d. 7 Oct. 2008

requiescat in pace

W.V. Denard

Mother's Union Happy New Year to all our members past and present.
Theme for 2012 - "Your Gift-Discover and celebrate"



We have a new Enrolling Member - Ann Mulligan has consented to take on this task for 2012. Our opening meeting was a Fun Night with the fun generated by ourselves. It was tinged with sadness as our thoughts and prayers were with Elisabeth Roberts and her family as they come to terms with the death of Jennifer. At the end of that week we learned with shock of the sudden death of Baden's mother. Some members travelled to Rathdowney to bring our love and support to the Stanley family. It is said that sudden death is a "lovely" way to go (a real Bray expression), but it is so hard for the family left behind. MU members are asked to bear the Roberts and Stanley families in their hearts in their bereavements. Thursday 2nd February Bray MU is asked to assist at the Holy Communion Service in Christ Church Cathedral, and to serve coffee afterwards. Our February meeting is on Monday 13th and we are hopeful that Clifford Sullivan will talk us through the mysteries of making a Will. We learned with great regret of the closure of MU branches in Glenageary and Kill o' the Grange. If there are any members 'floating' because of these closures, we meet on the second Monday of every month, are very friendly and would love to see you. We hold our meeting in the Parish Life Centre behind Christ Church at 8 p.m.

Ann Mulligan

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Information on Wicklow Stroke Support 2012

This is a support group for those who have had a stroke, their families and carers. It will run monthly and will have various **guest speakers** for each **educational session**, followed by a cup of tea and a chat. It will provide you with the opportunity to learn about **specific stroke related topics** and a chance to meet and share your experiences with other families in the same situation. This will be run once a month in

HSE Primary Care Centre, Newtownmountkenny
on the last Wednesday of the month from 2.30 - 4.30pm

Wed 25th Jan

Wed 29th Feb

Wed 28th March

Wed 25th April

Wed 30th May

Wed 27th June

If you'd like to join us, you will need to **contact us to book your place**
Eleanor Meally, Speech & Language Therapist, HSE Wicklow - 01. 274
4298 eleanor.meally@hse.ie

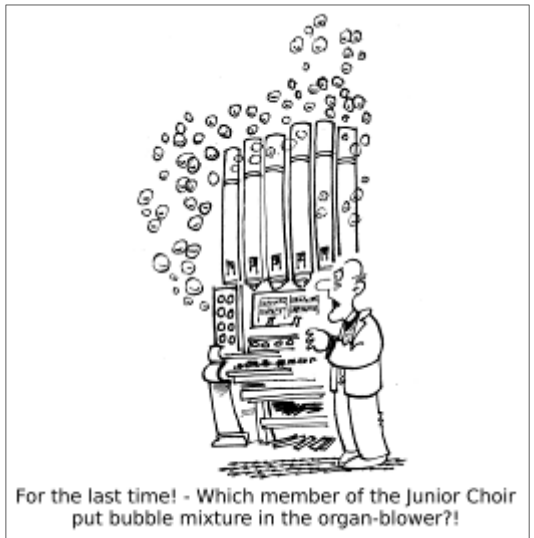
Dates for Your Diary

FEBRUARY

Sun 5 th Feb	8.30am Holy Communion 1; 11.00am Holy Communion 2.
Fri 10 th Feb	7.45pm Crinken Church – Church Drama
Sun 12 th Feb	8.30am Holy Communion 2; 11.00am Morning Prayer.
Sun 19 th Feb	8.30am Holy Communion 1; 11.00am Holy Communion 2.
Wed 22 nd Feb	8.00pm Select Vestry meets in the PLC.
Sat 25 th Feb	7.00pm – Parish Table Quiz in St. Andrew's National School.
Sun 26 th Feb	8.30am Holy Communion 2; 11.00am Family Service.



Road users beware!!!



For the last time! - Which member of the Junior Choir put bubble mixture in the organ-blower?!

Any news of the organ's missing 'A' should be forwarded to John Morris, Musical Director.

An Interesting Evening at Crinken Church
on Friday 10th February at 7.45pm

CHURCH DRAMA FESTIVAL

Introducing simple drama presentations designed for use in church services.

This event is for all who are interested in discovering how drama can enhance an understanding of the Christian faith.

There has been much said about taxing State Old Age Pensions!



No tax is payable if the total annual income is below € 18,000 for a single person and €36,000 for a couple - married or cohabiting. You are treated as a couple whether taxed separately or together. This is where a number of people made the mistake. eg a husband has an occupational pension higher than a state pension and his wife has a state contributory pension. If they are over the € 36,000 limit when added together, then her pension is counted towards their tax. This also applies to the Transition Pension, Widow/Widower Pension and the Invalidity Pension.

Example: For a single person -

The full Contributory OAP € 230.30 x 52 = € 11,975.60 per year

Tax cut off level = € 18,000.

€ 18,000 - € 11,975.60 = € 6,024.40 per year, €502.33 per month and € 115.85 per week. Any other income/pension under this figure is not taxable.

Another change in Social Welfare: Community Welfare Officers.

They now work under the auspices of the Department of Social Protection instead of the Health Boards. They still have their offices in the local Health Boards, but some aspects of their work has become centralised, including Rent Supplement for Bray/Wicklow. Application forms should now be sent to PO Box 11758, Dublin 24. Medical cards have also been centralised. Applications to HSE Central Medical Card Office, P.O Box 11745, Dublin 11. It is a pity, as Wicklow Health Services were very good at responding to urgent appeals. The present system is slower.

Where do you go for help?

The Bray Citizen's Information Centre is a good start, In the Centre they have much general information and many explanatory leaflets eg 'Have you lost your job?', 'Keeping your home: Homeowners' and 'Keeping your Home: Tenants'.

Also financial advisors, legal advice and employment advisors are available by appointment. The CIC can guide you on to the place most helpful for your problem - for instance MABS (Money Advice and Budgeting Service) are superb with financial problems as they have contacts with most of the financial institutions and helpful with budgeting. They are busy nowadays and have phone line help and private appointments. They are free, confidential and independent.

Third level education Bray has two centres, Bray Adult Guidance Service, who know all the rules re courses and grants for those over 23 and Bray Youth Information Service who deal with those under 23.

Much of the general information can be found on the CIC website www.citizensinformation.ie with many links to various application forms. Local groups are not all on the website and for those call in to the Centre at 3/4 The Boulevard, Quinsboro' Road. (opposite Dunnes) Mon to Fri 10am - 4.30pm. Or Tel: 076. MABS 2 Eglinton Road, Tel: 2760411 or email bray@mabs.ie
Bray Adult Guidance Service 1 Brennan's Parade Tel: 2764638
Bray Youth Service St Bricins, Herbert Road Tel: 01 2050502/03 info@bys.ie

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