

# Wicklow Way Partnership

In the autumn of 2011, Mountain Meitheal were invited to a meeting to discuss the possibility of setting up a Wicklow Way Partnership (WWP) to manage the Wicklow Way in a more coordinated and sustainable fashion. At the meeting were Coillte Recreation, Wicklow County Council, Co. Wicklow Partnership, The National Parks and Wildlife Services (WNPS), Dublin Mountains Partnership (DMP) and Robert Grandon on

behalf of Mountain Meitheal. From this meeting we progressed to formally setting up the WWP by signing a Memorandum of Understanding. Since then, through regular contacts and meetings, improvements to the Wicklow Way have been undertaken. These include an emergency response to a washout of the bridge at Glensoulan. Mountain Meitheal volunteers assisted in repairing the bridge in December 2011. The DMP upgraded the WW at

Glencullen in 2012, restoring 870m of badly eroded trail. In 2013 Coillte rerouted off the public road a section of the WW at Ballinastoe. Mountain Meitheal returned to Glensoulan to restore and improve the stonepitched section of the WW in 2013/14.

Soon, new updated and additional trailhead signs will be erected on the WW by the WWP.

This is a brief synopsis of the positive effect the Wicklow Way Partnership is having on the Wicklow Way.

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## Mountain Meitheal South East

MMSE 'work crew' are up and working. The last three years have been some of the best years I have had (almost) out on the hill. The good thing is we have a core group that will always be there, the job now is to attract new faces and get them involved. We have made a difference down here and people are starting to take notice. If we can take the good start we have made and see it

through over the next few years this crew will be working for a long time.

This year again the two lads Robert and Shay have been an inspiration to us all. They not only share their time and their skills, but above all their commitment to what we all want to do. In the years ahead I hope they will be regular visitors.

I'm stepping down as Chair this year, but I'm not going anywhere. How we evolve over the next few years is in safe hands. If we put the simple idea of 'get out, give back and get dirty' before anything else we will be around for many years to come.

Regards  
*Jimmy*

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### Mountain Meitheal South East Committee 2014-15

*Chairperson:* Frank McMahon  
*Secretary:* Máire Ní Mhurchú  
*Treasurer:* Denis Bates  
*Vice Chairperson & Training Officer:* Pat Lombard  
*Assistant Secretary:* Mary Neligan  
*PRO:* Jimmy Barry  
*Members:* Fergus Flynn, Jim O'Neil, Michael Keyes



*Lough Carra track before ...*

*... and after*

