

MARY CODY is a native of Cork city. She moved to Kilkenny in 2005 to take up the position of senior journalist with the Kilkenny People. She has a deep love of theatre and has been involved in amateur theatre since her arrival in Kilkenny. An active member of Barnstorm's amateur acting group, Barn Owl Players, she has performed in several productions including Brian Friel's *Dancing at Lughnasa*, staged at the Watergate Theatre in 2012.

Mary is involved in other community groups, including Project Women which focuses on what it means to be a woman in Ireland today. She is an active fundraiser for a number of charities, and has completed marathons and other events to raise awareness and funds for a variety of causes. Mary graduated from University College Cork with an honours degree in Law and has written for numerous publications and media including RTE, The Irish Times, The Irish Independent and The Irish Examiner.

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TONY WALSH has over 30 years of experience in local economic and social development. For most of his career he has worked in Local Government. For the latter part he has served as Director of Community and Enterprise with Kilkenny County Council. Prior to this he was Chief Executive of Kilkenny County Enterprise Board. Currently Tony is an active member of a number of local development organisations.

In recent years he has joined his wife Mary in the establishment and running of a free-range poultry business.

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MALCOLM NOONAN has been a Green Party Kilkenny Borough & County Councillor for 10 years, working hard over that time to help create sustainable communities. He grew up in Kilkenny, one of a large family brought up in a happy crowded house. Having studied Industrial Design in Carlow IT, he worked as a graphic designer in Dublin before returning to Kilkenny to set up a successful landscaping and gardening business. Prior to embarking on a political career, Malcolm was a community and environmental activist, a Director and National Local Groups Coordinator of *Friends of the Earth Ireland*. Malcolm has served as a Minister of State since July 2020 and as a Teachta Dála (TD) for the Carlow–Kilkenny constituency since February 2020.

Malcolm holds a BA in Rural Development and works as a part-time project development worker with Lifeline Kilkenny Suicide Prevention Forum. He led a participative planning process to develop the County's first Suicide Prevention Strategy. His remaining time is taken up with his work as a public representative and volunteering with local organisations. He is involved in the local arts scene as a musician and illustrator, and volunteers with local festivals. Malcolm has been Chairperson of the St Patrick's Day/Tradfest Committee in Kilkenny. Malcolm is married to Jennie, a community and family support worker to the Traveller Community. They have four children.

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SEAMUS GREENE (Chair) is from Dublin. He is a solicitor with 20 years' experience working in practice and in-house. He first got involved in theatre in school and then in UCD's Dramsoc. After Barnstorm's Adult Theatre Club, he joined the Barn Owl Players and has been involved in a number of productions with them.