



Mountain rescue

At approx 17.00 hrs on Sunday the Mourne Mountain Rescue Team were tasked to assist a group of young people walking in the Mournes.

The group had called for assistance when some of the group of teenagers were soaked in poor weather and were showing signs of hypothermia in the Bearnagh Mountain region close to the Trassey track.

The team responded and drove to the area at the same time a Coastguard helicopter was tasked. On arriving at the scene it was decided to stand the helicopter down and walk the group who had been joined by a second group down the Trassey track to the landrover and drive the young people to their awaiting families. The team stood down at 20 30 hrs.

Growth programme

INVEST Northern Ireland's Growth programme has provided Mairead White who manages the Cnocnafeola Centre, a social enterprise in the heart of the Mournes, with the insight needed to reach out to travellers from further afield.

The Cnocnafeola Centre situated between Spelga Dam and The Silent Valley is a unique community business, owned and run by staff and volunteers from the local community. It provides budget accommodation for hill walkers, nature lovers, outdoor enthusiasts and families.

Mairead is a former Home Economics Teacher at St Louis Grammar in Killeel. She also worked as an advisor for the Irish Sea Fisheries board before moving on to lecture in the Home Economics Department at St Mary's Teacher Training College. She quickly realised that her understanding of e-commerce and business planning could be improved to make the Cnocnafeola Centre even more of a success. So she enrolled on the Invest NI Growth programme to help her expand the business.

The Growth programme recognises that no two businesses are alike and is shaped around the specific requirements, skills and growth potential of the individual business. In every case, a Business Growth Advisor is appointed and a Growth Action Plan is developed for the business.

The Cnocnafeola Centre is also benefiting from mentoring on the Post Start Strategic Mentoring strand of Invest Northern Ireland's Social Entrepreneurship Programme as it faces the challenges of change management as it considers the future growth and development of the hostel.



The Cnocnafeola Centre has benefited from INVEST NI's Growth programme. 10W18N109



Pictured are the boys and girls of St Colman's PS Killeel at their confirmation at Massforth on Thursday with Bishop Fr Anthony Farquhar, Fr Michael Murray PP, Fr Tony Fitzsimmons, principal Mr Declan White and teacher Mr Gerard McConville. 10W17N134



Pictured are the boys and girls of Holy Cross PS Attical at their confirmation at St Colman's Massforth with Bishop Fr Anthony Farquhar, Fr Michael Murray, Fr Tony Fitzsimmons and Principal Robert Dinsmore. 10W17N136



Pictured are the boys and girls of Grange PS at their confirmation at St Colman's Massforth with Bishop Fr Anthony Farquhar, Fr Michael Murray PP, principal Mr Vincent Trainor and teacher Mr Sean McKinnel. 10W17N135

Martin McGuinness Kilcoo guest speaker

A large crowd of over 100 party activists and supporters attended a public meeting in Kilcoo recently to participate in a debate that included the North's Joint First Minister Martin McGuinness who was joined on the platform by Sinn Féin's Westminster candidate, Caitríona Ruane, MLA, and Cllr Willie Clark, MLA.

Describing the event as "uplifting and a further boost to Sinn Féin's Westminster campaign", Ms Ruane continued: "This election is about leadership - it is about peace,

equality, jobs and unity. Sinn Féin has been the driving force behind the peace process, the party that ensured powers over policing and justice were transferred and who have brought Equality to the heart of government. We are asking people to endorse this work, defend the peace process and allow us to continue driving forward the process of change.

"Sinn Féin is the only all-Ireland party in this election and Martin McGuinness is doing a wonderful job leading the Executive. We have played a pivotal role in implementing progressive policies that have included the settlement of low pay claims, and providing £150 in fuel poverty payments that have been made available to the most vulnerable. We have brought about an end of prescription charges and introduced free travel to all over 60s. We have froze the regional rate,

implemented a 20 per cent discount in rates for the over 70s and introduced a rates relief scheme for small businesses.

"In education, we have done what others for decades spoke about doing and ended the 11Plus. But this is only one aspect of the changes we are implementing. Classroom assistants are being placed in every P1 and P2 class, grants for primary school uniforms, GAA coaches in schools for the first time, funding for Irish medium schools and a massive school capital build programme.

"Sinn Féin is also about principled leadership and this week's decision by Alex Maskey to withdraw from the Westminster election is an attempt to ensure nationalist representation in south Belfast. It is just a shame the SDLP did not reciprocate this gesture and ensure a level playing field in Fermanagh and West Tyrone."



Martin McGuinness guest speaker at a public meeting in Kilcoo was joined on the platform by Sinn Féin's Westminster candidate, Caitríona Ruane, MLA, and Cllr Willie Clark, MLA. 10W17N222