

## **A Christmas Message from Luggala Estate Board.**

Christmas is always a special time of year here at Luggala and this year is no exception, even if it will be a quieter one as we observe Nphet's guidance on keeping our contacts to a minimum and have no social gatherings. Being safe with loved ones takes on ever more importance this Christmas.

Despite the pandemic, this past year has been a busy one on the estate. As a Natura 2000 designated Special Area of Conservation and Special Protection Area, located in the middle of the Wicklow Mountains National Park, Luggala is a very special place. As custodians, we are determined to add to its environmental value for future generations.

Sustainability and protecting the unique biodiversity of Luggala is very important to us and during the year we invested in urgent remedial works including restoring famine walls, water courses and monitoring invasive species.

Next year will be equally busy and we look forward to implementing our environmental management masterplan on the estate, mindful of the need to balance human interventions with this precious landscape.

Many share our desire to preserve Luggala and its future and we thank everyone who offered their support to us over the past year. We particularly thank our neighbours, our local community and their representatives in Roundwood /Enniskerry and interest groups including Mountaineering Ireland, Wicklow Uplands Council and Keep Ireland Open.

We also thank those who have respected and followed the Code of Conduct when walking recreationally on Luggala. We would like to thank the walkers for supporting our collection to the WH Five loaves Charity in Bray a cheque was presented to the charity to help them with their valuable work.

We wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and we look forward to continuing our engagements with you in the coming year.

Luggala Estate Board

During the Christmas holidays, Access to Luggala Estate is allowed to responsible walking groups wishing to walk Lough Dan, Knocknacloghoge and Fancy Mountain on weekends of 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> through to New Year weekend. Business resumes on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> of January

In keeping with the Government's current Covid-19 guidelines, walking groups must be a maximum of 15 people and social distancing of 2 metres must be maintained at all times while walking on the estate.

A name and contact number for Covid-19 contact tracing purposes must be provided to the Luggala Estate Liaison on entering the estate. These records will be maintained for 14 days only.

Walking groups planning to access the estate can also email in advance contact details and the day of their planned walk to [info@luggala.com](mailto:info@luggala.com)

Luggala Estate is a Special Protection Area and an Area of Special Conservation.

- Please respect the estate
- do not disturb the plants and wildlife.
- No dogs allowed.
- No camping.

- No fires.
- Please leave no trace and take all rubbish with you when you leave.
- Be aware that there are no public toilets, no drinking water and no mobile phone coverage on the estate.
- CCTV cameras are in operation.
- Respect the Do Not Enter signs and stay on the road.

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