



Annual Activity Report 2018



Claremorris Community Radio

is a Company Limited by Guarantee
and not having a Share Capital

Reporting Period 01/01/2018 to 31/12/2018

BOARD OF DIRECTORS	Pat Keane (Chairperson) Michael McLoughlin Dolores Keavney Anni Wilton-Jones Anne McLoughlin Peter McCallig Anthony McNicholas
SECRETARY	Anne McLoughlin
REGISTERED OFFICE	Claremorris Community Radio Town Hall Road Claremorris Co. Mayo F12 X4E3
REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER	388562
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	20166311
Website	https://ccr946.ie



Welcome from the Chairperson

Summary of Purpose and Activities

Claremorris Community Radio was formed in March 2004 and incorporated the same year. In 2006 a 10-year broadcasting licence was granted. Since in August 2017 Claremorris Community Radio has been fully compliant with the Governance Code and in July 2018 we obtained charitable status with the Charities Regulator Ireland.

The main objective of Claremorris Community Radio as set out in our constitution is to operate a community radio station in Claremorris town that broadcasts content that is authentic and relevant to our audience in the South-East Mayo region and its diaspora.

The constitution also sets out a number of supporting objectives:

- to provide training and education
- to provide community based jobs for those most distant from the labour market
- to provide programming for new arrivals, minorities and marginalised groups
- to protect media diversity and cultural output in the South West Mayo region
- to facilitate volunteering opportunities
- to provide informative and entertaining programming that reflects the life of our geographic community.

This is achieved by facilitating individuals, groups and organisations of our community to broadcast their own stories, experiences and knowledge and so enable them to become creators and contributors of media. We take particular care that our output reflects the full diversity of our society including minority or disadvantaged groups that are often overlooked by commercial broadcasters.

Claremorris Community Radio is licensed by the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland (BAI), member of the Community Radio Forum of Ireland (CRAOL) and affiliated of the World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC). We are committed to meet the requirements of the BAI and adhere to the AMARC [Charter](#) for Europe.

Claremorris Community Radio has been granted charitable status by the Charity Regulator Ireland and we strive to further our charitable purpose through our activities and manage the organisation in a spirit of transparency, accountability and probity.

Claremorris Community Radio has adopted a social enterprise approach and is funded through grants, donations and trading activities. We aim to achieve an assisted sustainability where 30% of the annual turnover is from traded income.

Claremorris Community Radio is volunteer-led and not-for-profit. Our programming is a mix of 60% music and 40% speech and we broadcast 89 hours per week 8am to 9pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 9pm at the weekend.

Our schedule of programming and documentaries are produced by volunteers who come from a diverse range of backgrounds from within our community. On our daily live shows, we provide interview opportunities to local individuals, clubs and organisations to promote their activities. We record and broadcast local playwrights, musicians, artists and schools and we regularly broadcast live from local cultural events, and share it through social media.

6,342
Voices on Air
Were featured in our
programming

Our documentaries are high quality programmes based on Irish culture, heritage and experiences or raise awareness on social, economical or environmental issues; some of which are produced in Irish. Through these we strive to preserve records of local history, present the diversity of our culture and heritage and raise public awareness and understanding of environmental issues impacting on the area or elsewhere.

Integration is at the heart of our service. We both provide programmes for new arrivals, minorities and marginalised groups and encourage their full participation in all activities of the radio. A minimum of 70% of our FTE hours are ring-fenced for those most distant from the labour market and we offer placements on employment schemes. The overall outcome of our efforts aim towards an integrated, fair and just community.

Claremorris Community Radio offers certified Radio and Media skills courses, especially targeting groups that are disadvantaged or in need of special inclusion measures. We feel that our courses are not only providing media literacy and an understanding of media expression, but have a positive effect on self-confidence, public speaking ability and personal development. We encourage participants to join as members with the opportunity using their own voice and ideas to produce programmes and so actively reflecting the diversity of the community. We work closely together with schools within our catchment area and our work placements highly sought after.

2,855
Number of People
using our services

We see volunteering as an expression of humanitarian concern, allowing an individual to make a personal contribution to their community.

It is our vision is that Claremorris Community Radio both reflects and enhances the community we serve and that our role as facilitator of plurality, diversity and active citizenship is fully recognised and valued.

Main Objectives and Activities pursued during 2018

Objective 1: Operate an inclusive and diverse radio station for the benefit of the community

Programme Schedule

We cater for a wide range of audience tastes. Here are a sample of our programmes:

- **News:** Our news bulletins are produced in-house and contain local, national and international items, weekdays live at 10 a.m., repeated 3 p.m. and 6 p.m.
- **Live shows:** A wide and diverse selection of guests from the community and beyond can be found on 'The Good Morning Show', weekdays 9 to 11 a.m., and on 'Live@2', weekdays 2 to 3 p.m.
- **Irish shows:** The live 'Trad Irish Show' is presented by well-known musician Fr Peter Gannon, Wednesdays 2 p.m., and magazine programme 'Beannachtaí an Lae', presented by Pat Keane, airs Thursdays at 1 p.m.
- **Shows presented by volunteers with a disability:** Hop aboard 'The Mystery Train', Tuesdays at 8 p.m., with engine driver Paul Halligan bringing you to foreign countries via music, poetry and recipes; and now ten years running 'The Becky Show' – great pop selections and the latest from Becky's life, Wednesdays 4 p.m.
- **Live sports shows:** Follow the discussion of expert panellists Austin Garvin, Billy Fitzpatrick and John Whittle on all things GAA on 'Sports Talk', Sundays 7 p.m.
- **Music shows:** From Irish country, classical and jazz... to pop, showbands and soul – you name it, we have dedicated volunteer presenters who love playing it. Check out our [schedule](#).
- **Speech programmes:**
 - 'Information Matters', with Mary Costello, on matters affecting the community – events, funding, rights and resources, plus tips for a happy and healthy life;
 - 'The Way It Is', with Anthony McNicholas and expert guests discussing a different issue each week – recent topics include careers, forestry, health and Wills;
 - 'Recollections', with Roderick McGuire, reinforcing community identity through memories and individual life stories;
 - 'At The Crossroads', a monthly cultural and arts digest with Anni Wilton-Jones;
 - 'It's a Small World', environment and communitarian show with Cleo de Vito;
 - 'Voice & Vision' with John Farragher, on the history of thought and philosophy

Documentary Development

In 2018 our members finalised three documentaries focusing on arts & culture, heritage or natural environment.



“Swiftly Declining” covers the conservation efforts underway in County Mayo to increase the population of swifts born and breeding in Ireland.

“The Royal Blues” archives the memories of band members, surviving relatives and fans who lived the exciting moments of the Claremorris showband which topped the Irish charts beating out the Beatles.

“Handed Down & Passed On” is a four part series about old lifestyle and folklore of the Claremorris area. The themes “Working”, “Love”, “Health” and “Fun” include stories ranging from the blacksmiths who secretly forged pikes for rebels, to shotgun marriages, herbal and rather peculiar remedies used to treat alignments or the tale of a local who carried a donkey up a ladder.

Further documentaries are in planning or production stage. Their focus is on Irish language, natural environment, rural heritage or social inclusion. For example, Travelling Shops, Western Care, Bees & More and the Claremorris Agricultural Show.

License Tender

Claremorris Community Radio received its first 10-year licence in 2006 and was granted extensions in 2016 and 2017. The invitation from the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland to apply for a new 10-year broadcasting license in 2018, assured us of our work and achievements of the past decade.

In our application we were able to prove our Community Ethos and we were thoroughly quizzed on ownership and control, programming, studios and transmission, and market analysis, financial and business plan. We would like to thank at this point all board and staff members, who put in tremendous effort into making this application a success.

At the end of 2018 we were submitting final clarifications and contract negotiations are planned to start in spring 2019.

Renewed, remodelled and re-energised

- Our new studios will be ideally situated in town and accessible for people of all abilities.
- The station has received LEADER funding of €38,961 – dependant on us also raising €15,000 for the move.
- As a local business, you can be part this new chapter.



The population of our FM broadcast area has now grown to 15,000 (CSO figures). We serve a diverse community and offer an ideal means of **integration, recognition and expression** for minority and marginalised groups, while providing an outlet of **communication and creativity** for the community in general.

Our catchment includes the surrounding areas of Ballyglass, Ballyhowly, Brickens, Carrigrohane, Garrymore, Hollymount, Irishtown, Scardaune and Taugheen.

Licensed by the BAI, Claremorris Community Radio is a volunteer-led community development organisation and registered charity.

Join the other local business the work of Claremorris

Corporate Associates understand our way, by donation or in kind.

Claremorris has a privileged status in the community by association with it. Their logos are a mark of involvement is acknowledged on the front of our studios.

Corporate Associates are offered a personal development training with qualified staff. Radio is a powerful medium of radio.

The local focus of Claremorris Community Radio is a unique way to advance your company's interests.

Talk to Station Manager Allan Tierna

Office: 094 937 3737
Live show textline: 087 326 2007
studio@ccr946.ie
www.ccr946.ie

Enabling individuals and groups of all backgrounds and abilities to tell their unique stories, communicate their ideas, and share their passions with the world.

Also available via



Broadcasting on 94.6 FM in the Claremorris area and worldwide 24 hours a day via the TuneIn app & www.ccr946.ie.

Listen on FM and online from 8 am to 9 pm Monday to Friday and 9 am to 9 pm at the weekend, with daytime output repeated overnight online. Find the complete broadcast schedule at www.ccr946.ie/schedule.



DON'T MISS: One-off documentaries on local heritage and life in our community. Follow [@claremorriscommunityradio](https://www.facebook.com/claremorriscommunityradio) on Facebook to never miss a story. Recent programmes have looked at life in Direct Provision, Irish poetry of the Great War, wheelchair access in Tuam and Galway, and the Royal Blues showband.

All presenters are volunteers. Some highlights from the schedule...

The Good Morning Show LIVE Two-hour show covering community matters and events, with guests, chat, music & news. Weekdays & Sundays, 9 to 11 am. Includes live 10-minute round-up of local, national & international news at 10 am, repeated at 3 & 6 pm. Highlights Saturday from 9 to 11 am.

Clár irise is ea Beannachtaí an Lae. Gheobhaidh sibh blas de ghach short ann. Beidh togha an cheoil ann le béim ar leith ar cheol áitiúil. Cloisfear bliúiríní eolais, ailtianna nuacht, cursaí reatha, piseogacht, stair, filíocht, cúinne don fhoghlaimoír, cómhraí, logaimneacha, seanchas agus cuideachta. Déardaoin ag 1 pm agus athchraolaithe Dé Sathairn 7 pm.

Beannachtaí an Lae Weekly magazine show in Irish with Pádraig Ó Catháin (aka Pat Keane), featuring something for everyone – whatever your level of Irish.

It's a Small World Environmentalism and communitarianism show, hosted by Cleo De Vito. Sundays at 11 am, repeated Wednesdays 12 noon.

At the Crossroads Monthly cultural digest, hosted by Anni Wilton Jones, Wednesdays at 5 pm.

SportsTalk LIVE Weekly sports show featuring expert panellists discussing all things GAA, plus latest news, fixtures & results from Mayo. Includes draw for Claremorris GAA Lotto. Presented by John Whittle, Austin Garvin, Billy Fitzpatrick & John Brennan, Sunday evenings at 7 pm.

The Way It Is Anthony McNicholas invites expert guests into the studio to discuss a different issue each week. Recent topics include careers, wills, forestry, farm safety, and foot health. Mondays at 4 pm, repeated Wednesdays 8 pm & Fridays 8 am.

Information Matters Mary Costello on matters affecting the community – events, funding, rights, resources, support groups, etc – plus advice & tips to make life easier and happier. Saturdays at 11 am, repeated Mondays at 1 pm, with a new episode every fortnight.

Recollections Roderick Maguire chats to a member of the local community about their lives and the events that shaped them. Sundays at 12 noon, repeated Mondays at 12 noon.

Voice and Vision The history of thought, with John Farragher. Mondays at 8 pm and Fridays at 4 pm.

PLUS: Dedicated music shows catering to all tastes: Irish and American country, classic & contemporary pop and rock, showbands, jazz and Irish trad, electronic dance music and hip hop, soul, easy listening, classical and world music.



Handout for
Business Expo Claremorris

Office: 094 937 3737
Live show textline: 087 326 2007
studio@ccr946.ie
www.ccr946.ie

Town Hall Road
Claremorris
Co. Mayo
Registered charity no. 20166311

Objective 2: Upgrade our infrastructure to sufficient standards

New Premises

As the Town Hall is hoping to redevelop our current premises, we took the opportunity to find a more visible and accessible new home. In 2018 we secured a suitable shop front unit in the Town Centre of Claremorris. We successfully applied for a LEADER funding to develop purpose-built, wheelchair-accessible studios. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Jimmy Flynn for his generous offer to grant us the unit for three-year at nominal rent and Watch Tower Designs who provided us with the architectural drawings free of charge. Building works started at the end of the year and we are hoping to move into our new home at Chapel Court, Chapel Lane, Claremorris in early Spring of next year.

Equipment Upgrade

A second application under the Community Enhancement Fund was also successful. We finally could replace our out-dated computers and production equipment for a more stable and accessible Studios. Below is the list of items bought from this grant

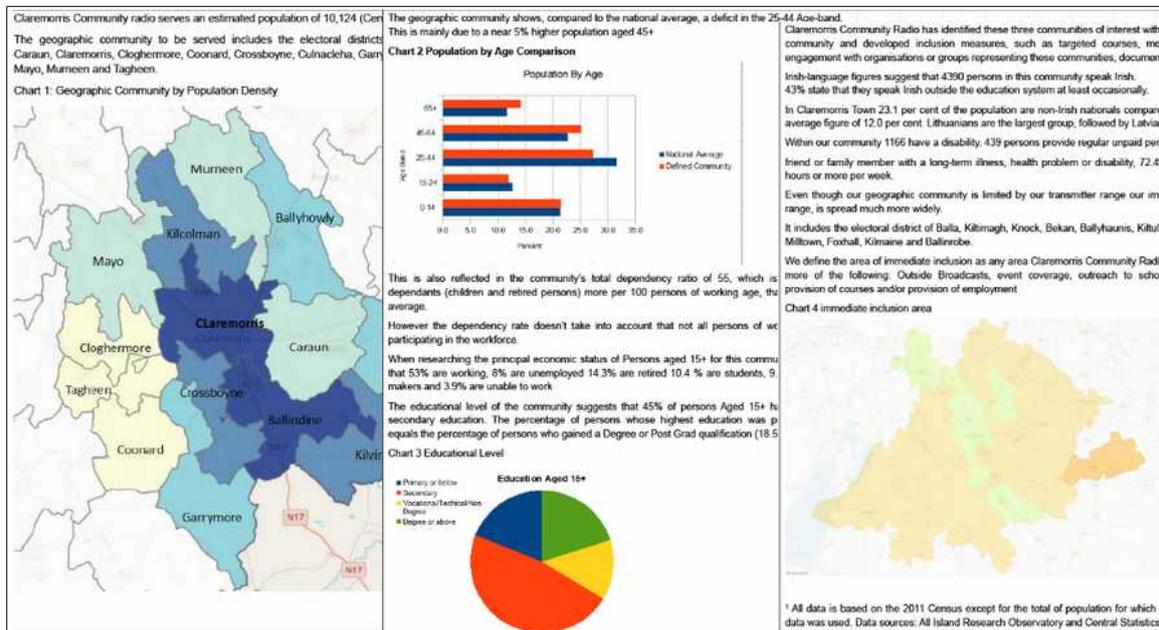
Capital Items Purchased Current Period

Computers and Ancillaries	Qty	Unit Price	Price
WD Red NAS <u>Hard Drive</u> WD30EFRX 3TB	2	€115.84	€231.68
Intel Next Unit of Computing Kit NUC7I5BNHFX <u>Mini PC</u>	6	€648.33	€3,889.98
Philips E-line 276E9QJAB - <u>LED monitor 27"</u>	1	€201.49	€201.49
APC Smart-UPS 750VA LCD 230V <u>Power bank</u>	1	€349.98	€349.98
M720T I5-8400 4GB 1TB W10P <u>Computer</u>	1	€591.53	€591.53
Logitech B110 Silent Mouse	2	€12.32	€24.60
Broadcasting Equipment	Qty	Unit Price	Price
D&R <u>ON Air Light</u> . LED lamp 12V/450mAh	2	€139.00	€278.00
Numark CDN77 <u>USB Double CD Player</u> 19 "	2	€349.00	€698.00
Rode Broadcaster <u>Microphone</u> - true large diaphragm condenser	2	€309.00	€618.00
Rode Procaster - dynamic large diaphragm <u>microphone</u> for broadcast	4	€149.00	€596.00
Rode PSA-1 - professional <u>microphone studio arm</u>	6	€69.00	€414.00
Rode WS2 <u>Wind Shield</u>	6	€14.90	€89.40
the t.bone HD 880 <u>studio headphones</u>	6	€22.40	€134.40
D&R Airmate USB 2.0 <u>Radio Production Mixer</u>	1	€1,915.90	€1,915.90
Total			€10,032.96

Objective 3: Extend and strengthen Claremorris Community Radio as a broadcaster and trainings facility

Community engagement

In 2018 we re-evaluated the make up of our geographical community and area of influence as well as created a business and community groups contact list.



In our Business Plan (2017-2020) we formulated specific targets that measure the progress in our activities. Now for the first time we can publish the results and were exhilarated by the result.

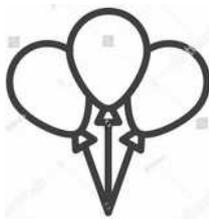
Description	Target
Number of Student Placements per year	+ 87.5 %
Voices on air per year	+ 5.7 %
No members per year	- 2.9 %
No of course participants per year	+ 24.0 %
No of Community/Voluntary Groups to use the facility	+ 72.0 %
Footfall	+ 1.9 %

Outreach

Our live outside broadcasts have become a fixture at the large annual community events, such as Mayo Day, the St Patrick's Day Parade, the Agricultural Show or Culture Night. We usually set up a stall promoting the station and a remote studio, while roving reporters do a walkabout at the event, engaging with participants, attendees and organisers live on air. The outside broadcasts frequently also involve running a Facebook live video stream, which are particularly popular with members of the Claremorris diaspora.

These sorts of events, as well as frequent one-off arts and sports events, fundraisers, official meetings, etc., also provide material for recorded interviews which are used in our specialist programmes or documentaries after an event takes place. In this way, for example, a public meeting about the important issue of controlling the invasive knotweed plant was made available to a wider audience.

We also engage with groups wherever they are, with specially arranged coverage. For example, we visited nine primary and secondary schools in the greater Claremorris area to record school choirs ahead of Christmas 2018, producing three hours of programming and making each school's recording available online for easy sharing by parents and teachers. This year we have also taken recording equipment to secondary schools to enable transition students running 'mini-companies' to write and record radio ads for their enterprise, which we then broadcast just like regular ads, but free of charge.



Events:

St. Patricks Day
Claremorris Scarecrow Festival
Claremorris Agricultural Show
Hollymount Vintage Rally
Mayo Day

Highlights

School Christmas Choirs
Kiltimagh Youth Drama Selection
Tour of Historical Claremorris
Barnacarroll Foróige Project



Media Training

We delivered station certified courses, aimed at disabled, elderly and members of Claremorris Community Radio and QQI Certified courses in Media Expression. The beneficiaries of the QQI courses are residents in Direct Provision and people with a disability. As well as its theoretical sections, the course requires the students to create a radio programme. Both direct provision groups opted to inform about different aspects of their lives in the Direct Provision service. The disabled group covered the topic of access. Their projects were broadcast on Claremorris Community Radio and are now available on Mixcloud.

<https://www.mixcloud.com/claremorrisfm/life-in-direct-provision-in-galway/>

<https://www.mixcloud.com/claremorrisfm/life-in-direct-provision-in-ballyhaunis/>

<https://www.mixcloud.com/claremorrisfm/the-eight-wheel-movers/>

Over 10% of the course participants are now members of the station adding to our diversity.



'All students thoroughly enjoyed the course and were delighted to have had the opportunity to gain media literacy, while earning an official QQI certificate.'

Additionally we provided work-experience to students from four different secondary schools. All contributed to our live programming from reading the news to live music on air and completed projects covering a variety of topics like volunteering, racism and other areas of personal interest.

Organisation and Governance

Board of Directors

The board of directors ensure that the organisation has proper plans, procedures, policies, structures and resources in place to achieve its objectives. The directors are entirely accountable for the organisation, including accountability to members, funders and other stakeholder for both its financial affairs and activities and ensure legal and contractual obligations are met. The members of the Board are elected at the AGM according to the procedures laid down in the companies constitution.

Currently the Board consists of seven directors; four men and three women

- **Pat Keane – Chairperson:** Retired Deputy Principal at St Colman’s College. Was a member of Claremorris Voluntary Housing; Chair of George Moore Society; Member Conradh na Gaeilge; member of European Teacher’s Council of European Youth Parliament.
Area of Expertise: Governance and Youth Affairs
Area of interest: Irish Heritage and Language
- **Anne McLoughlin – Company Secretary:** National School teacher and INTO representative.
Area of Expertise: Education, Administration and Youth affairs
Area of Interest: Women’s rights
- **Mícheál McLoughlin – Treasurer:** Accountant and Teacher, current President Claremorris Rugby Colts, Representing Pieta House.
Area of Expertise: Accountancy
Area of Interest: History and Heritage
- **Anni Wilton-Jones – Team Coordinator:** Leadership role in combating illiteracy and educational difficulties. Member of Hermit’s Collective.
Area of Expertise: Special Needs and Arts
Area of Interest: Compliance and Arts
- **Peter McCallig – Finance Liaison Officer:** Retired Businessman, Chair of Claremorris Drama Festival. Former Chair of Irish Foster Care, ADCI member.
Area of Expertise: Financial Management and Business Enterprise
Area of Interest: Community Development and Drama
- **Anthony McNicholas - Internal Audits** Retired Businessman, experienced in working with farming organisations and development. GAA member, Financial Advisor and IRD Integrated Resource Development Officer.
- **Dolores Keaveney - Team Coordinator:** Retired Station Master. Skilled in Human Resources from in-house courses with Iarannród Éireann. Secretary of Claremorris Ladies Gaa for over 10 years and facilitator for Claremorris Separated Womens Group.

Main Achievement

In July we became the first Community Radio in Ireland to be granted Charitable status by the Charities Regulator. This is a huge honour, because it proves that our Community Radio is for the benefit of the people, demonstrates our high standards of governance and administration and highlights our commitment to transparency and accountability

Fundraising

Fundraising is an essential and valuable source of revenue for Claremorris Community Radio. A street collection was held on the 20th and 21th July and a church gate collection on the 15th and 16th September. All funds received were used for ongoing costs of operating a community radio and the results were published in print and social media.

We strive towards carrying out all our fundraising in an open, transparent, honest, respectful and accountable manner and have implemented measures towards compliance with best practice in fundraising.

New Constitution

This new governing document adapts the model proposed by the Charities Regulator. Beside other amendments, the main Objective was expanded as disclosed in the Summary of Purpose and Activities and the subsidiary object *the operation of Community Employment* schemes was replaced with *the provision of community based jobs to unemployed people*. The constitution was officially rectified by majority vote at the AGM 2018.

Declaration of Interest

At the first Board meeting after the AGM the Directors verified the Conflict of Interest Policy and disclosed any interests or relationships that could potentially result in a conflict of interest during their term.

Thanks

We are very grateful to all our funders for both their new and continued support. The following organisations provided funds that contributed to our 2018 success.

