

southeastCLARE

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from Clonlara National School, which is located near to the access point for the popular walking route on the canal bank, at the back of Derryvinna Housing Estate.

Councillor Michael Begley warned any poisonous, substance such as Strychnine, that was laid along the canal bank could be picked up by crows and dropped in a nearby lawn where children play.

Responding to a number of Clare Champion queries, an ESB spokesman confirmed the agency implemented a number of actions when it became aware that a number of dogs were found poisoned on ESB lands, adjacent to the Ardnacrusha Headrace Canal on Monday, April 28.

It first contacted local gardaí. Signs were then erected at entrances to the Headrace Canal lands, advising the public of the risks due to potential placement of poison on the lands and advising extreme vigilance on entry onto lands. Contact was also made with grazing tenants in the area concerned, alerting them to the situation and their responsibilities under their tenancy agreements.

"As the placement of poison on land is an illegal activity, this is a matter for the gardaí, who are carrying out ongoing investigations into this matter," it stated.

East Clare Comhaltas

EAST Clare Comhaltas hosts music, song and dance during a great night's entertainment at Quay Arts, Ballina, Killybeg on Tuesday nights from 8pm to 10pm.



Charlie has his paws on Bridgetown Show

AN award-winning Great Dane was one of the star attractions at the official launch of one of the major social events in South-East Clare.

Charlie the Great Dane helped to launch the 24th annual South-East Clare Show in Bridgetown, with his three-year-old owner and best friend, Brianna Lynch and her mother, Arabella Scanlan.

This amazing dog, who captured the hearts of the country when *The Clare Champion* highlighted his uncanny ability to detect Brianna's epileptic seizures up to 20 minutes before each episode, was coolness personified with all the hustle and bustle on Friday night.

Charlie has already been honoured by the Irish Great Dane Club for his amazing sixth sense and also received a Great Paws Award for his services, which will be featured on RTE again in the coming weeks.

With a total prize fund of €20,000 and more than 2,500 equestrian, cattle and horticultural entries expected, the 2014 show will draw thousands of people to watch feature classes such as Cavan Equestrian Centre Elite Sales Qualifier for young horses, Champion of Champions in the Limousin Pedigree Cattle Section and Odlums All-Ireland Home Baking Qualifier.

Richard Hackett, Clonlara brought along his prize-winning nine-month-old Charolais CF52 Bull, to give those in attendance an idea of what to expect in the 28 cattle classes scheduled for the show.

New activities for families, children and patrons, both in a leisure and competitive capacity, have been introduced this year.

In fact, the show, which will be held on Sunday, July 27 at Bridgetown Showgrounds, will have something for everyone, includ-

ing children's entertainment with bouncy castles, mobile pet farm, archery, ceramic making and many dog showing classes.

A selection of farmers market-style stands await visitors and this year, the team at the Irish Barbecue Association will join in to provide an atmospheric, dining experience.

Competitors can also be in with a chance to win the Best Dressed Lady, Bonnie Baby or Little Miss competition.

A selection of vintage cars and tractors will be on display. East Clare Harriers Hunt will be parading the hounds at 3pm in the main jumping arena and spectators are advised not to miss the spectacle and selection of two and four wheel traditional driving carriages and horses.

A great selection of home produce and horticulture items, including a children's section, will

also be on view.

National and international riders will participate in many of the scheduled showjumping events, starting at 9.30am.

Members of the local Bridgetown community, councillors and show sponsors participated in the South-East Clare Show launch in the community green on Friday last.

The attendance was treated to an array of food and beverages, children's entertainment and a visit from Clare Rose Joanne O'Gorman. The Liam MacCarthy Cup was on display and proved to be a popular photo opportunity.

The show has chosen Milford Care Centre as the charity of choice and Cathy Sheehan, head of finance, was present to represent the centre. The show committee looks forward to presenting a donation to Milford after the show, as the great charitable cause has provided great care for local people.



■ Launching the South-East Clare Show at Bridgetown were Arabella Scanlan, Yvonne McNamara, Clare Rose Joanne O'Gorman, four-year-old Brianna Lynch and Charlie the Great Dane. ■ (Above left) Rose Scanlan on Simbo, Anika Schous, Mikey Ryan, Mike Slattery, Michael Lyons, Joe English, Helen Wickstead, Pierce Claffey, Yvonne McNamara, John Vaughan, Pat Hayes, Fr Paddy McMahon and Anthony McNamara at the launch.

Photographs by Arthur Ellis