


# Wexford People

Wednesday, September 24, 2025 €3.60

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## 'I won't be lectured by the Greens over Lady's Island lake'

Green Party claims of a lack of local political support have been met with anger by Cllr Carthy

PÁDRAIG BYRNE

Accusations of a lack of local political support for the campaign to save Lady's Island Lake, have irked some in Wexford, with one councillor stating: "I won't be lectured by the Green Party."

Green Party leader Roderic O'Gorman visited Lady's Island Lake last week, alongside Senator Malcolm Noonan, who is a member of the Oireachtas Climate, Energy and Environment committee, to lend their voices to the campaign to save the lake.

Spokesperson for the Save Lady's Island Lake campaign, and former Green Party local election candidate, Peadar

McDonald, is calling for Wexford County Council to be open about what the next steps are for the lake.

Mr McDonald said that "none of local public representatives have offered their support to the campaign yet".

This statement elicited a sharp response from Cathaoirleach of the Rosslare Municipal District Ger Carthy, who lives in Lady's Island and is the sitting Chair of the Lake Drainage Committee.

"I've been living here for over 40 years. I won't be lectured by the Green Party and wannabe councillors," said Cllr Carthy.

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## Follow my lead: Blackwater vintage day fun

Fraya Flanagan with her dog Murphy pictured at the vintage threshing and field day in Blackwater village on Sunday. Photograph: Jim Campbell

## Reflection Monsignor Lennon set to retire

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## Tie the knot Ultimate wedding guide

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## Walk-in health clinic to open in Wexford to help GP shortage

Healthcare facility to open in Selskar. Report: Page 3

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## Tráthnóna Oscailte- Open Afternoon

### MEÁNSCOIL GHARMAN

Meánscoil Lán-Ghaeilge  
do Bhuachaillí agus Cailíní i gCo. Loch Garman

Cuireann an Príomhoide nua Tony Ó Murchú agus foireann Mheánscoil Gharman fáilte roimh iarratais don scoilbhliain 2026-2027.

Tá fáilte roimh dhaltai bunscoile i ranganna 4, 5 agus 6 agus a dtuismitheoirí, teacht chuig Tráthnóna Oscailte i dTeach Coill an Bhrúnaigh ar an Máirt, 7ú Deireadh Fómhair idir 4.00 i.n. agus 7 i.n.

The new principal Tony Ó Murchú and the staff of Meánscoil Gharman welcomes applications for the school year 2026 to 2027

Students from 4th, 5th and 6th class primary school and their parents are invited to attend an Open Evening in Brownswood House, Enniscorthy on

**Tuesday, 7th October, 2025  
between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m**

Níos mó eolais ar fáil ó (More information available from):

**Oifig na Scoile,  
053 923 5796 / 086 3838378**

# 'I won't be lectured by the Green Party over Lady's Island'

## Cllr Carthy unimpressed by Roderic O'Gorman visit to 'ecological disaster' site

PÁDRAIG BYRNE

Given that an "ecological disaster" has been unfolding at the beautiful Lady's Island Lake in south Wexford for some four decades now, it's probably fair that Green Party leader Roderic O'Gorman pointed out a political failure to address the issue when he arrived in Wexford last week.

However, Green Party accusations of a lack of local political support for the campaign to save Lady's Island Lake, have irked some with one councillor stating: "I won't be lectured by the Green Party."

With the survival of one of Ireland's most unique habitats hanging in the balance, the Green Party seem unmoved by assurances from Taoiseach Micheál Martin that he will personally intervene to ensure a successful outcome.

Pollution, mostly caused by agricultural practices in the area, has meant that the unique ecosystem at the largest lagoon of its type in Ireland is seriously under threat, with experts saying it's on the verge of "complete collapse".

Wexford County Council is set to head up a new multi-agency response to the crisis, with National Parks and Wildlife and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) also playing a part. However, it's been stated from our local outlet that the damage already

done could take years and years to reverse, at a cost of millions.

Following on from a number of events at local level, Green Party leader Roderic O'Gorman arrived into the quaint Wexford village last week, alongside Senator Malcolm Noonan, who is a member of the Oireachtas Climate, Energy and Environment committee, to lend their voices to the campaign to save the lake.

They were given a tour and saw first-hand the impacts of the pollution, as well as discussing strategies to reverse the damage done.

Both leaders also signed a petition calling on Wexford County Council to enforce the Water Pollution Act.

"The warning bells for Lady's Island Lake have been ringing for years, but yet the water quality in this unique habitat has continued to decline," Deputy O'Gorman said.

"Political promises of the past have not yielded any results, and I believe we now need cross-Government action - led by the Minister for Agriculture - to reverse this destruction, restore the lagoon and properly manage the ecosystem into the future."

"This will mean working closely with and supporting farmers to make positive changes, and ensuring the necessary funding is made available to support these actions."

Spokesperson for the Save Lady's Island Lake campaign, and former Green Party local election candidate, Peadar McDonald is calling for Wexford County Council to be open about what the next steps are for the lake.

"Our group is seeking transparency around the proposed action plan from the County Council and other responsible agencies, as well as political engagement and strong support from our local representatives at council and

national level," he said.

Mr McDonald also states that "none of local public representatives have offered their support to the campaign yet".

This last statement was something that irked Cathaoirleach of the Rosslare Municipal District Ger Carthy, who lives in Lady's Island and is the sitting Chair of the Lake Drainage Committee. Cllr Carthy was present in the gallery at a recent Oireachtas Committee meeting on the crisis.

"As Chair of the Rosslare Municipal District, I wasn't made aware of any visit of a member of the Oireachtas, which you'd imagine would be common courtesy," he said.

"Had I been approached, I could have informed them that, as Chair of the Lake Drainage Committee, I met with all of the relevant stakeholders and we're progressing on a funding application to mitigate against the issues at Lady's Island Lake."


"I've been assured by the Minister for Housing, James Browne, that the application will be looked upon favourably and have received personal assurances from the Taoiseach that he is taking a personal interest in this."

"The local community and the farmers are not to blame for this situation, but they're willing to contribute and support mitigation works there."

Returning to Deputy O'Gorman's visit and the allegation of a lack of support from local elected reps, Cllr Carthy bristled: "I don't need to support Green Party events. I have a good measure on what's going on locally here myself. I've been living here for over forty years. I won't be lectured by the Green Party and wannabe councillors. What did (former Green Party leader) Eamon Ryan do about Lady's Island Lake when he was Minister for the Environment?"



Roderic O'Gorman TD and Senator Malcolm Noonan visited Our Lady's Island on Saturday to lend their support to the Save Our Lady's Island campaign. Pic: Jim Campbell



## PSS, WEXFORD


### 1ST YEAR ADMISSIONS 2026

#### IMPORTANT DATES

Applications will open:  
8.00am Wednesday 1st October 2025

Applications will close:  
4.00pm Wednesday 22nd October 2025


Offers will be made:  
Monday 10th November 2025



#### APPLICATION FORMS

Application forms available from 1<sup>st</sup> October on our website under admissions 1st year on [www.preswex.ie](http://www.preswex.ie)


Please note forms received before 1st October 2025 will not be considered.



#### ADMISSIONS POLICY

The schools Admissions policy & Annual Admissions Notice can be found under admissions 1st year on [www.preswex.ie](http://www.preswex.ie)


Applications received prior to 1st Feb 2020 will hold good, but will follow the new admissions policy criteria.



#### MORE INFORMATION

Our Open Night will be held:  
Wed 1<sup>st</sup> October 5.00pm - 8.30pm

Queries related to the admissions process:  
Phone: 053-9124133  
Email: [admissions@preswex.ie](mailto:admissions@preswex.ie)



[www.preswex.ie](http://www.preswex.ie)