



Cover shot courtesy of DWMRT
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21 NEWS UPDATE

14 MOUNTAIN RESCUE



The Dublin and Wicklow Mountain Rescue Team (DWMRT) has big plans in place to future proof the service it provides over the next few decades. The team submitted a planning application to Wicklow County Council for a proposed new 6,000 square foot two-storey mountain rescue centre and training facility.

21 RESPOND 2021 CONFERENCE

CFR Ireland has deferred 'Respond 2020' due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and the annual conference and exhibition for community first responders will now take place on Saturday 6 March 2021, in Mullingar, Co. Westmeath.

23 FRONTLINE TO FINISHLINE

Gardaí, fire and ambulance service personnel, community first responders and members from other frontline services who participated in the Charity Relay Walk 'Frontline to Finishline' in June raised up to €15,000 in total in aid of Pieta House and ALONE.



26 SHADOW WARRIORS



A new book 'Shadow Warriors: The Irish Army Ranger Wing' is an authoritative account of this special forces unit that looks at their inception, advanced training and operations at home and overseas, without breaching operational procedures or tactics.

32 IRISH AIR CORPS



The Irish Air Corps' Helicopter Wing, initially formed to focus on Search-And-Rescue (SAR) operations during the 'Big Freeze' in 1963-64, has developed over the years to provide both air medical and support roles to protect and serve communities throughout the country, this small force one of the most modern institutions of its kind in the world.

41 TRAUMA COUNSELLING

'Emergency services at scene of accident' are regular headlines in the media. However, what about people at the frontline who respond to such horrific scenes time and time again, what effect does it have on them and who can they themselves turn to when they need help?

46 EENA CONFERENCE

As countries across the world continue to face the challenges of the pandemic, the EENA Conference and Exhibition has been deferred until next spring. 'Emergency Services Ireland' will be a media partner of the event, which will now take place on 28-30 April 2021 in the Latvian capital of Riga.

51 CHARITY AIR AMBULANCE

Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, a steady stream of donations and virtual fundraisers has enabled Ireland's first charity air ambulance service return to a seven-day operation, and the Helicopter Emergency Medical Service can now continue its mission to save lives.

54 TELEMEDICINE



With the highly infectious coronavirus having propelled Irish healthcare into the digital age, telemedicine may now well become part of the 'new norm', and there's now an increasing appetite to use video solutions for medical consultations that may well continue for the foreseeable.

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61 CLINICAL CARDIOLOGY TRIAL

The cardiology team at Galway University Hospitals (GUH) has carried out a first-in-man clinical trial for a sensor, which detects changes in the health of patients with heart failure and securely transmits the information to the care team for review, to hopefully avoid hospitalisation.

62 ORDER OF MALTA

Dr Lisa Guthrie and her husband, Bernard took on new roles within the Order of Malta Ambulance Corps in January and within the space of two months they found themselves in the middle of a pandemic. Based in Ballina, Co. Mayo, the couple have since been at the heart of the national response to the Covid-19 pandemic.



68 MENTAL HEALTH

A new free text-based mental health service funded by the HSE is the first of its kind for Ireland to provide support for people going through a mental health or emotional crisis. It is expected that '50808' will support over 50,000 people each year once it is fully operational.

77 HEALTHCARE VIEWPOINT



There is a growing use of healthcare apps, wearable sensors and electronic healthcare records, with the HSE's National Ambulance Service adapting technology to improve the services it offers, while allied health professionals have expanded their scope of practice and are providing a safe high-quality service.

80 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The Covid-19 pandemic has demonstrated that effective co-ordinated emergency planning and preparedness is crucial in minimising casualty and fatality numbers, while public health requirements and ethical treatment must be upheld during the fatality-handling process.

85 CRISIS LEADERSHIP

A retired US Army General has compared Covid-19 to a terrorist threat, due to its rapid growth and deadly impact. Addressing an international webinar Stanley A. McChrystal says the lessons learned during his high-profile career with the US Armed Forces are still vital today.

91 NATIONAL SECURITY SUMMIT



There's a huge appetite for a serious debate on Ireland's future security needs, demonstrated by the wide range of presentations from all sectors of the emergency services at the inaugural National Security Summit.

99 HUMANITARIAN AID

Humanitarian aid agency Concern Worldwide is calling for a greater global response to both the health and economic impacts of Covid-19 in the developing world, amid fears that the pandemic will leave over one billion people without sufficient food.

100 EU RESEARCH PROJECT

Latest research carried out by the Italian Fire and Rescue Service shows that EU-funded study projects have improved how the emergency services are working together during the Covid-19 pandemic, despite location, language and technological barriers.

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