

NEWSLETTER

WELCOME OUR SUMMER RECAP FOR 2021

Hello and welcome to our newsletter.
It's been a busy summer at Ludgate. Skibbereen has been immersed with visitors, gold medals and film crew.



LUDGATE'S 5 YEAR ANNIVERSARY.

Ludgate is celebrating it's five year anniversary.

In 2016 Skibbereen was selected as a pilot town by SIRO, a joint venture company between ESB and Vodafone to deliver a 100% fibre-to-the-building broadband network, to install for the first time in an Irish rural town 1GB of internet connectivity. Five years on and Ludgate is thriving. Since opening in July 2016 we have welcomed more than 3500 hot desks, been a base for more than 63 companies. Our community benefits to date include 8 Social Enterprises 40+ Coderdojo Kids, 40 Silver Surfers, 50 girls in Code for Girls and 19 pilot schools programmes through our education pillar. Ludgate is also one of the founding members of the ITHN. The network brings together Ireland's best-in-class tech hubs who have significant potential to catalyse innovation in their region.

In 2020 we opened a second location in the centre of town, Ludgate@fields offering 8 private offices that can be rented on a daily/weekly and monthly basis. Plans for our next location at the Old Mercy Heights School are also underway. The team at Ludgate would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who made Ludgate possible, on its 5 Year Anniversary.

(pictured below are the Founding Members of Ludgate with the then Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, Mary Mitchell O'Connor)



LUDGATE'S BUSY SUMMER SEASON

Here at the Ludgate Hub we have continued to operate under the HSE guidelines on social distancing which includes working with a reduced number of desks. With the easing of some restrictions, we are happy to welcome back many of our community to the Hub and also some new members who used the pandemic as an opportunity to re/locate back to West Cork. This Summer we were excited to see so many of our seasonal guest return again and indeed welcome some new faces.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank both our fulltime members and seasonal members for their continued support.

For anyone interested in using our facility for the winter months please get in touch by emailing info@ludgate.ie We will also be offering corporate desks to companies to help solve for any issues they may have in accommodating employees back at their HQ.

Ludgate Hub is now part of the [ConnectedHubs.ie](https://connectedhubs.ie) This is your one-stop-shop for hubs throughout Ireland. Launched in May 2021, it is designed to simplify and standardise the process of sourcing and booking spaces, desks, offices and events in hubs for a day, a week, a month, a year or longer

NEW APPOINTMENT

Ludgate New Appointment

In September our team is expanding, we are excited to welcome Fiona Ryan to the Ludgate team. Fiona will take on the role of Start-up and Entrepreneurship Manager for Ludgate. Fiona was formerly Head of customer engagement with Spearline Risk and Compliance. She is a certified Data Protection practitioner who has a background in the legal, financial and governance sectors. Fiona has successfully developed a software product in conjunction with a product and development team and subsequently designed and rolled out a managed service offering in conjunction with the software. Fiona is a qualified financial adviser with an LLB in Irish Law and Masters in Corporate Governance and Management. She is also a Chartered Secretary and a member of the Institute of Bankers and ICOSA

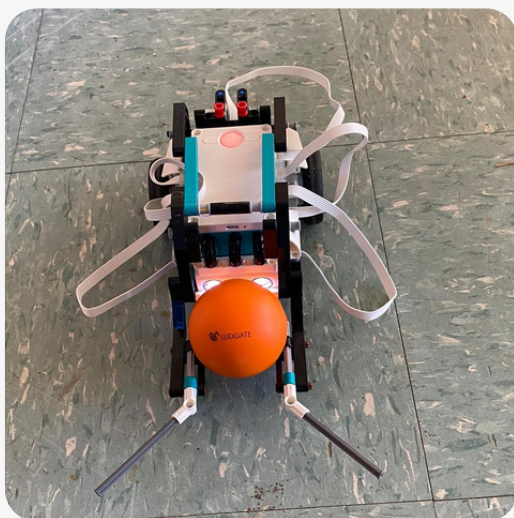


KIERAN COLLINS EDUCATION AND INNOVATION MANAGER



LEGO ROBOTICS CAMP IN CAPE CLEAR

We were thrilled to get to Cape Clear this year to run a lego and robotics camp for children aged 7 to 17 and was proudly sponsored by ESB and Spearline. The camp went down a treat with the children teaching them skills such as problem solving critical thinking and teamwork. Plans for October 2021 midterm camps plus Easter and Summer 2022 are taking place. Keep an eye out on our social media and website for future updates as the 2021 camps all sold out in 24 hours.



LUDGATE PODCAST SEASON 2



In 2020 Ludgate launched a Podcast series. To date we have released 2 seasons. The Ludgate Podcast was created to highlight how Skibbereen's digital hub has enhanced business opportunities in the West Cork region. We have interviewed inspirational members of the community from remote workers and Ludgate visionaries to West Cork start ups.

Both seasons can be found [here](#)

We would like to thank all of our guest speakers on season 2.

- Episode 1: [West Cork Beard Company with Colin Murphy](#)
- Episode 2: [Fionn & Co with Fionn Ferreira](#)
- Episode 3: [East meets West with Amanda Connell](#)
- Episode 4: [The Skibbereen Food Company with Matthew Brownie](#)
- Episode 5: [SeaSquared With Cillian and Colm](#)

A special thank you goes out to Jack Regan from [West Talk](#) for hosting this season.

We would love to hear from you on any ideas you have for a third season.
