

Moy Innovations CLG:

Manager Name: John Lynn

Address: Moy Innovations Ltd, Moy Valley Retail Park, Ballina, Co. Mayo

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Website: www.moyinnovations.ie

Social Media links: <https://www.facebook.com/abbeywreaths/>

BACKGROUND/ABOUT THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

1. Background/start up – when established - who were the founders? - For what initial purpose was the organisation set up?
Founded in 2003 by a highly engaged board of directors which included business people, accountants and mental health professionals. It was established as a social enterprise with the aim to provide employment/work experience for disadvantaged members of our locality. For example we have a lot of employees with Mental Health issues, Travellers, 3 employees with impaired hearing and others with other disabilities.
2. Main work / supports provided by the social enterprise .
We have circa 33 full time employees with 5 on work experience. We produce and sell floral arrangements to flower shops, undertakers and retailers at a competitive price and a high quality. We also provide light assembly and packaging services to multinationals and other local companies.
3. What has changed over the years about the role of the social enterprise (if anything)?
The need and demand for social enterprises is ever increasing and is visible in all walks of life.
4. How many staff and employed and their roles, how are their roles funded?
We have circa 30 full time employees, with an additional 5 on work experience. We receive funding from Pobal, also some members of staff are on the Wage Subsidy Scheme and we also generate our own income through the sale of goods and services.

FUNDING SOURCES

5. How is the social enterprise funded? How does this funding cover costs? How are additional costs met?
We receive funding from Pobal, also some members of staff are on the Wage Subsidy Scheme and we also generate our own income through the sale of goods and services.

6. Where do you receive any additional supports/training/information/grants and what impact has this had on the managers role/committee/staff/services provided?

Mayo North East provides great support/training/information as does Tus and Mayo Employability Service and Mayo Mental Health Association. As well as our multi-disciplinary board of directors.

UNIQUE SELLING POINTS/VALUE TO COMMUNITY

7. What do you believe is unique about the social enterprise? What **value** do you bring to the community? What sets you apart?

We provide employment and support to disadvantaged people in our community who otherwise would not get employment. This employment provides social inclusion and increased self-worth to these employees.

8. List some of the biggest achievements/event/activity the SE has completed to date?

In 2017 we purchased a 4000 sq. foot, premises, which has enabled us to expand our business and diversify. Together with this, is to see our employees flourish and thrive over the years.

MEASURING SOCIAL IMPACT

9. How do you measure the success and impact of the social enterprise?

Workforce has increased by 40% over the last year. As have turnover and new contract for goods/services increased substantially.

But the biggest measure of success is our employees whose health as a whole has benefitted from being in gainful employment, with some having moved onto mainstream employment.

10. Any challenges OR issues of running a social enterprise?

The key issue is the availability of funding.

Pobal provides funding of 8.65 per hour with minimum wage at 9.80 so there is a big disparity here, with Pobals emphasis on the living wage of 11.65. CSP schemes are not on a par with terms and conditions of other CE schemes.

Also the Wage Subsidy Scheme funding is 5.30 per hour with different top up levels. This 5.30 per hour hasn't changed in many many years.

Since 2010 the loss of operational funding and Managers Salary reduced by 2000 euro pa. All of these have put huge strain on finances.

Added to this is the ever increasing insurance costs and increasing energy costs to a lesser degree.

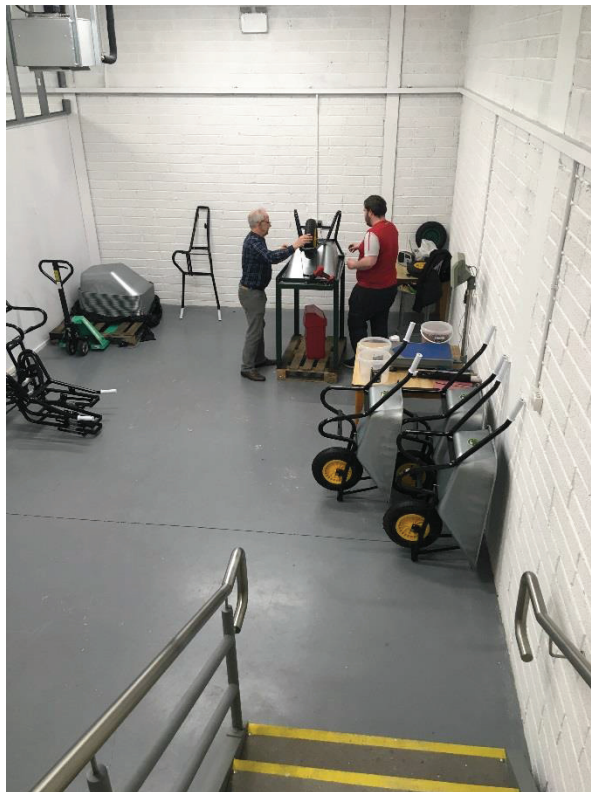
FUTURE OF THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

11. Any plans for future development within the social enterprise or projects that will be led locally by the organisation?

We plan to continue to grow and expand and increase our work force, which in turn will benefit the local economy and its residents, socially and financially.

A few pictures of what we do here in Moy innovations CLG.



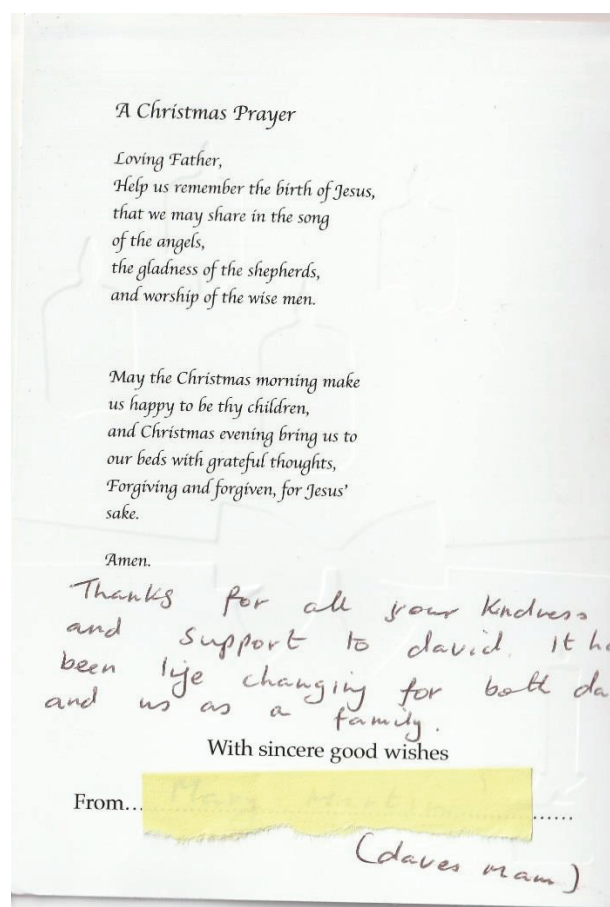


RECOMMENDATIONS!

12: Are there any comments/recommendations for government that you would like to include in an anonymous summary at the end of the document?

Continued and increased support by government is needed for Social Enterprises, as highlighted above.

Finally I would like to finish with a copy of a Christmas card, I received from a young recent employees, mother, whose son experienced serious mental health difficulties ,while completing his PHD studies. I feel this best sums up the benefits of a Social Enterprise.



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John Lynn.

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