



Press Release

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For Immediate Release

1,000+ Celebrate Youth Achievement as Wexford and Kerry Teenagers Take Top Honours

Teenagers from Wexford and Kerry took the top honours in front of a crowd of 1,200 at the No Name Club National Youth Awards in Kilkenny on Saturday night, April 16th.

The black-tie event has been running on an annual basis since 1978 and brought teenagers and their adult leaders from 40+ clubs around the country together to celebrate the involvement of teenagers in communities across Ireland.

The event saw Marty Waters of Ring of Hook No Name Club, Wexford named Host of the Year and Jemma Murhill of Killarney No Name Club Hostess of the Year*. Over 40 clubs with 2,000 members were invited to put forward representatives to take part in the National Youth Awards and Marty and Jemma are added to a prestigious list of names who have taken the honours over 33 years.

The Host and Hostess of the Year are deemed to have made outstanding contributions to their clubs, their local communities, and are rewarded for the skills they bring to wider society. Marty and Jemma were two of 12 teenage finalists** that went forward from the regional finals to participate in Saturday's event.

At Saturday's black-tie event, the finalists were interviewed in front of the 1,000+ crowd by event MC RTE Journalist Damien Tiernan and they then performed a party piece. The finalists had previously been interviewed on a one-to-one basis by the event judges. The winning Host and Hostess will receive education scholarships as prizes.

Saturday's celebration brought teenagers from clubs in communities across the country together and they were treated to a four-course meal and a six hour disco extravaganza.

Con Nolan, No Name Club Chief Executive Officer comments: *"On behalf of the No Name Club, I want to offer hearty congratulations to Marty and Jemma on their success. This is a magnificent achievement and they follow in an illustrious line of young people who have been named Host and Hostess of the Year. Marty and Jemma are bringing their talents to their club, community and wider society and we are delighted to recognise the contribution they are making to Irish society. I want to congratulate all the finalists; it is a remarkable achievement to reach the final stages of the competition. We hope the talents our finalists and thousands of other teenagers are bringing to Irish society through their involvement with the No Name Club will bring great benefits to Irish life for years to come."*

*Hosts and hostesses are teenage male and female members of No Name Clubs and develop their leadership and confidence skills thru their involvement with the national youth organisation. They work with adult committee members to run activities and events that bring benefits to the wider community.

**The 12 finalists from the six regions were as follows (their clubs are in brackets):

Region 1:	Ross McCarrick (Tubbercurry, Sligo)	Andrea Keeney (Donegal Town)
Region 2:	Malachy Gaughan (Erris, Mayo)	Catherine O'Connor (Ballinrobe)
Region 3:	Niall Perrill (Gort, Galway)	Shauna Naughton (Mountbellew, Galway)
Region 4:	Darragh Coleman (Dungarvan, Waterford)	Jemma Murhill (Killarney, Kerry)
Region 5:	Marty Waters (Ring of Hook, Wexford)	Bronagh Murphy (Baltinglass, Wicklow)
Region 6:	Lee Frayne (Finglas, Dublin)	Gemma Davis (Finglas, Dublin)

Press release issued by Michael McGlynn, Communications Officer with No Name Club. For further information you can contact him at 045 435444 or 087 9082970.

Note for the Editor

No Name Club is a National Voluntary Youth Organisation founded in 1978 and has 45 clubs throughout the country. No Name Clubs are run by and for young people aged 15 years + who come together in safe and lively environments where there's fun, friendship and enjoyment without the pressure of alcohol or other drugs. No Name Clubs were founded to provide an alternative to pub culture for young people in Ireland. They demonstrate a lifestyle in which the use of alcohol or drugs is seen as unnecessary to the enjoyment of a happy, cheerful and fulfilling social life for young people. Over the last 30 years, thousands of young people have valued their involvement in a programme of activities that allow them to enjoy themselves socially with their peers in a safe and friendly environment, free from the dangers and influences of alcohol and drugs. At present there are over 15,000 young people involved with No Name Clubs throughout the country.