

## Mini-phone strikes a chord in Cork

A Dublin businessman has struck a chord in the Cork area with a new miniature phone that enables people with disabilities or the elderly to enhance their independence.

Adrian McGibbon has developed the Swish Mini Phone, the smallest mobile phone in the world, as a solution for the security and protection of people with intellectual disabilities, children and senior citizens who are out and about.

The product is built on the success of his Swish GPS Tracker product, which transmits information on a user's precise location in the event of that person being in distress.

Mr McGibbon told *The Cork News* that, outside Dublin, the majority of queries about the Swish Mini Phone have come from Cork, through

the HSE, and referrals from agencies working with families of children with autism and other disabilities.

The phone, with unlimited range, is smaller than a matchbox, can be worn discreetly around the neck, and enables the user to connect with loved ones at the push of a button, switching to loudspeaker mode when making or receiving calls. There is also an SOS feature with the unit. Customers are provided with free mapping software showing the location of the phone, and a free SIM card, with no monthly bills or contract.

Visit [theswish.ie](http://theswish.ie) for further information.



## Local firm to play a key role in rebirth of beet industry

Midleton-based renewable energy firm EcoBeet Ireland is capitalising on the use of beet in sustainable energy production, as well as providing farmers with opportunities to diversify into an exciting new market that could create hundreds of new jobs across the country.

EcoBeet—headed by Micheál Cullinane—has secured

an exclusive agreement to produce 250,000 tonnes of high-energy fodder beet to be used in the production of heat and electricity in anaerobic digestion plants owned by Northern Ireland-based Econventi Utilities Ltd.

Under anaerobic digestion (AD), the beet, which will be collected in Cork for transportation by boat to Derry,

will decompose in sealed tanks to release low cost biogas fuel for combined heat and power gas turbines that will generate electricity and heat. The remaining by-product, a nutrient-rich pellet, can be used as fertiliser for crops.

The new agreement between EcoBeet and Econventi has been hailed as leading

Micheál Cullinane, managing director, EcoBeet, with Chris Boorman of Econventi Utilities.

the way in the establishment of the AD market throughout Ireland, and welcomed in the resurgence of the Irish beet industry, which collapsed in 2006 with the closure of the final Greencore sugar plant in Mallow.

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## Collins SuperValu to unveil €750k revamp

Celebrity chef Kevin Dundon is to guest at a special summer food fair event next week at Barry Collins SuperValu in Carrigaline, organised to promote the supermarket's new €750,000 upgrade.

The upgrading makes the now 30,000 square feet store one of the largest in the SuperValu group, incorpo-

rating 6,000 square feet of fresh food stock, catering for growing customer demand for fresh produce from local suppliers.

The revamped store also boasts a more spacious entrance, a bakery and delicatessen, a larger customer service area, and reduces the business's carbon footprint

through state-of-the-art eco-friendly refrigeration units.

The Barry Collins SuperValu Food Fair next Thursday, April 26th, will incorporate a barbecue and family entertainment, with Kevin Dundon on site to give his expert advice on summer dishes and barbecued food.

Minister of Agriculture, Simon Coveney, who does his own family shopping at the store, said he "strongly endorsed" the produce at Collins SuperValu, and paid tribute to the Collins family's support of local producers which, he said, "supports local jobs and creates employment in the economy".