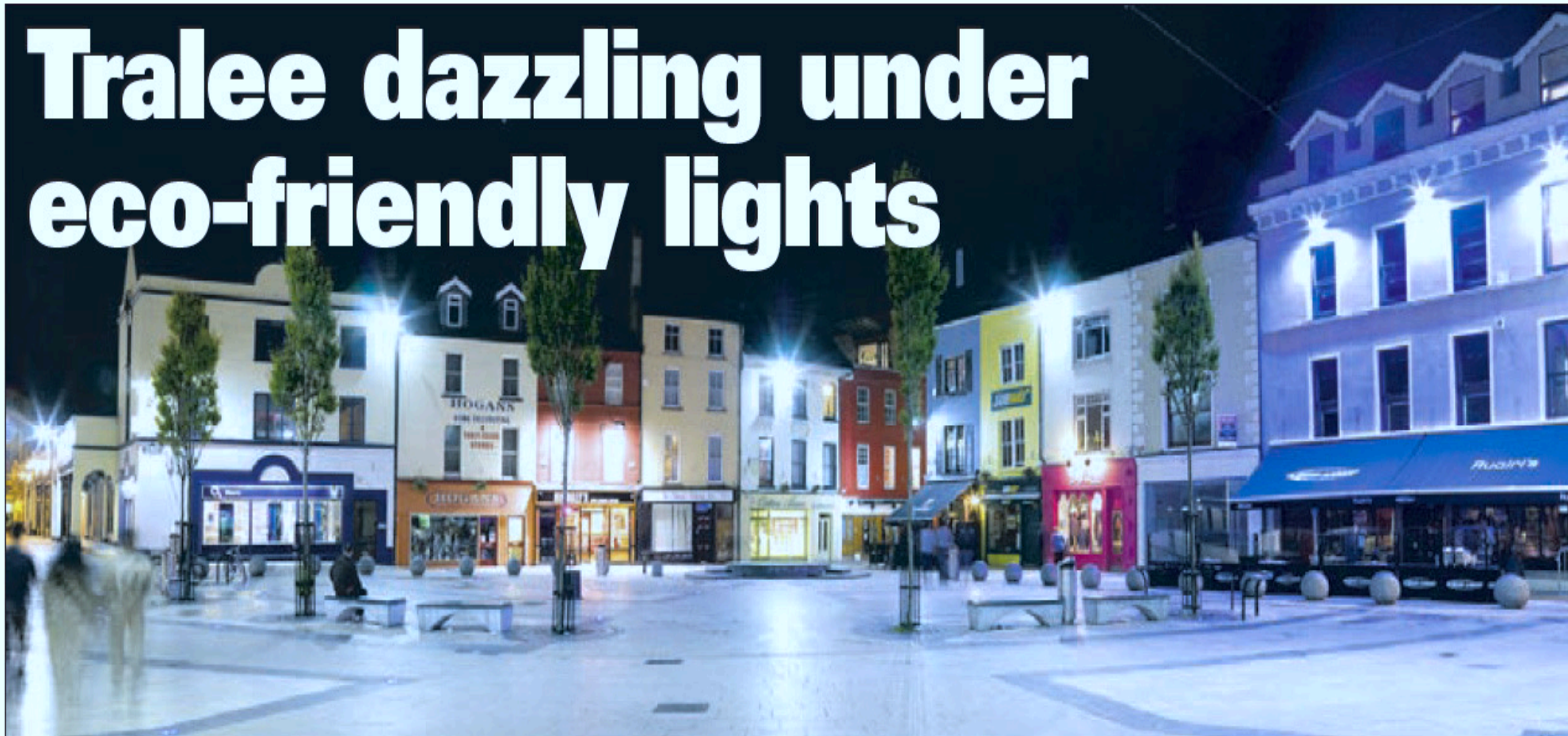


# Tralee dazzling under eco-friendly lights



**The night sky is shining brightly over Tralee in the past week with the installation of new energy efficient lighting in the town centre.**

BY OWEN O'SHEA

The installations in The Square are attracting national interest and the town has just been added by Sustainable Energy Ireland as a venue for its Lighting Roadshow Presentation for lighting profes-

sionals which is being staged at just five venues nationally later in November.

All the traditional incandescent lights in The Square and Abbey Court area of the town centre were replaced last weekend with energy efficient LED (light emitting

diodes) light fittings.

LED fittings cost approximately twice that of traditional fittings, but give potential savings of 40% a year in electricity usage and maintenance costs.

"While the energy consumption is substantially reduced, the actual lighting output increases, resulting in much better lit public places,"

said the Council's John Griffin.

"The benefits to the environment are considerable."

The project has been welcomed by businesses in The Square and Abbey Court where there has been a marked improvement in the light quality.

There are approximately 2000 public lights in Tralee,

according to Tralee Town engineer, Gerry Riordan, and over half a million nationally.

Switching to LED public lighting could go a considerable way towards achieving the national local authority target of a 33% reduction in energy costs over the coming years.