



# RST Community Newsletter

RATHFEIGH/SKRYNE/TARA

28th May 2022 • Issue No. 14



Girls from Rathfeigh National School making their First Holy Communion on Saturday the 14th of May. Left to right: Aoibhinn, Ella, Rosie & Sophie.

**Traditional Irish Music**  
every Wednesday Night  
from 8pm

**Serving Pizza & Pints**  
Wednesday to Sunday.



**FOX'S**  
CASTLE LOUNGE

*This issue is sponsored by*

**FOX'S CASTLE LOUNGE**



## Skryne Community Alert

**There have been a number of thefts from vehicles in the Meath Division recently. In a lot of cases, people have left the doors of their vehicles unlocked.**

Please try as best as possible to park in a secure location and ensure that you lock your car. Do not leave anything worth stealing within sight and do not make the mistake of hiding your belongings within the car once you have parked up. You never know who is watching! Leave all valuable belongings at home.



## Ukraine Crisis Appeal Acknowledgement

A huge thank you to the community for their support in raising €4038.75 at our coffee morning in Walterstown GAA Club on April 2nd in aid of Irish Red Cross for Ukraine.

Frances



## Upcoming Roadworks

The following notice appeared in the Meath Chronicle and is likely to affect those travelling between Ashbourne and Ratoath from the end of June for a month.

Roads Act 1993  
(Road Regulations 1994)

### Proposed temporary road closure of R125 Harlockstown, Baltrasna, County Meath

Meath County Council intends to temporarily close the R125 at Harlockstown and Baltrasna, Co Meath. The closure is required to facilitate the safe construction of Road Safety Improvement works for vehicular and pedestrian traffic on the R125.

The proposed road closure will extend 495 meters from the entrance of Kings Gala Filling Station to the Junction of Harlockstown Lane (L-10073-14) **commencing on 27 June 2022 and be continuous until 24 July 2022.**

#### Alternative Routes

##### All vehicular traffic intending to travel Westbound

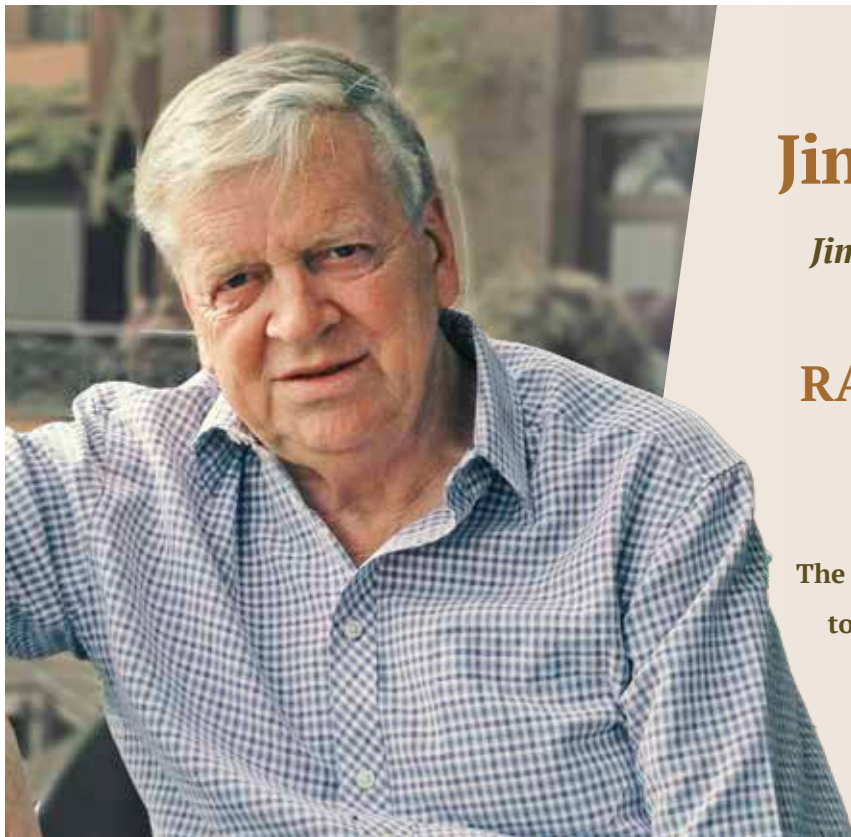
At the Nine Milestone roundabout, junction of the M2/R125/R135, take the R135 (Ashbourne) exit. Travel North on the R135 through Ashbourne. At the Pillo Hotel Roundabout, take the 2<sup>nd</sup> exit, signed N2 (Derry / Slane). Continue on the N2 until you reach the signalised junction of the R135 / R155 / L-5008-0 at Primatestown. Turn Left and travel along the R155. At the roundabout, take the first exit, signed R155 / Ratoath / Curragh / Fairyhouse. Continue on the R155 through Curragh until you reach the town of Ratoath.

##### All vehicular traffic intending to travel Eastbound

On approach to Ratoath follow the Signs for R125 (Ratoath), N2 (Slane) and R155 (Curragh). Continue on the R155 through Curragh until you reach the roundabout. At the roundabout, take the 3<sup>rd</sup> exit signed N2 (Slane) / R152 (Drogheda) / (Duleek). Continue on the R155 until you reach the signalised junction of the R155 / N2 / L-5008-0 at Primatestown. Turn Right and continue on the N2, at the Pillo Hotel Roundabout (M2/N2/R135), take the 2<sup>nd</sup> exit, signed the R135 Ashbourne. Continue through Ashbourne on the R135 until you reach the Nine Milestone Roundabout, at the Junction of the M2/R125/R135.

## Notices

- Experienced childminder available for after school care in minder's home Rathfeigh school going children. Please call 0871498750 if I can be of help.
- Two full time healthcare assistants and two teenage kids. looking for 2 or 3 bedroom accommodation around Rathfeigh ready to move in ASAP. Can pay 6 months rent and deposit up front. If anyone knows of anything please let me know. John and Brenda Barr 0894824210



# Jimmy Gray, R.I.P.

*Jimmy's 2nd anniversary Mass*  
will take place in  
**RATHFEIGH CHURCH**  
on Saturday 28th May  
at 6.00 p.m.

The Gray family would like to invite you  
to tea afterwards in the RST Centre  
at Skryne GAA Grounds.



# ALZHEIMER'S TEA DAY

A huge thank you for the wonderful response to our annual Alzheimer's tea day and plant sale. This year we raised €4680 for the Whistlemount day care centre in Navan.

A special thanks to all the bakers, knitters & plant growers who donated and the hardworking volunteers for giving so freely of their time. A great effort by everyone

Thank you all

Patricia







## THE TUESDAY CLUB

🔔 Let WEDNESDAY 15th June be a date for your diary. On that day, the Skryne Tuesday Club is going on a trip to the sunny south east. We leave Swans at 9 am and head for Wicklow Gaol (Jail) arriving about 11 am where we will have tea and a guided tour.

**Next we will head to Dunbrody for a tour of the ( about 2 pm). Then we will travel the short distance to see The Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Bridge ar New Ross (Ireland's longest bridge).**

Finally, we will go to The Horse & Hound Hotel in Ballybola (owned by Christy Murphy of the Murphy clan from the Hill of Skryne) for a good meal.

If you wish to travel, please contact 📞 either Michael Mulvaney 087-2525586 or Dermot Carty 086-8760336 or Maurice Daly 087-9543222 NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 3rd JUNE . We request a deposit of €20 to secure a place.

It will be a long day but we look forward to getting a break after two years of captivity!!

# SEDUM AND SAGE

LOCAL PLANT NURSERY



**FREE DELIVERY ON ORDERS OVER €50  
WITHIN 50KM OF SKRYNE**

CATALOGUE AVAILABLE AT

click here

<https://skrynesaver.com/sedum/>

EMAIL TO ORDER: [KIRSTENWALK@GMAIL.COM](mailto:kirstenwalk@gmail.com)



### Getting Started learners needed!

Age Action runs **free** one-to-one digital literacy classes for older people with basic or no computer/smart device experience

**In classes, learners will be supported to:**



Send and receive emails



Navigate the internet



Download apps



Shop and book flights

**and much more...**

Courses run for **2 hours** once a week for **five weeks** | Classes held in community venues around the country | Courses can be taught on laptops, tablets and smartphones

For more information, or to sign up to a course, contact our Getting Started Team on [gettingstarted@ageaction.ie](mailto:gettingstarted@ageaction.ie), or call:

- National 0818 911109
- Galway 091 527831
- Dublin 01 4756989
- Cork 021 2067399

Just to let you know that Meath Partnership are partnering with Age Action to offer one to one digital skills classes for older citizens at our office in Kells from June 13th onwards.

These will be face to face classes held over 5 weeks on a Monday from 11 until 1pm. Each person will be assigned a tutor and will be shown how to access the internet in a safe and supportive environment.

All classes are free and you do not need any previous experience on a laptop, tablet or computer. Laptops are available for a loan if people would like to practice on them over the 5 weeks.

If you or anyone you know would like to avail of these classes please contact Age Action on **0818 911109** or myself on the contact details below,

**Angela Farrelly**  
SICAP Projects Officer,  
Meath Partnership,



# STRING QUARTET FOR UKRAINE

We cordially invite you to our string quartet concert in aid of Ukraine

in **St Mary's Church of Ireland, Navan**  
on **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> of May at 7.30 pm.**

## **The Tara Quartet**

*(Anne-Marie Russell and Judith Curtis violins, Margarete Clark viola  
and Philine von Kietzell cello) will be playing string quartets by*

**Joseph Haydn opus 20 no 4 in D major**  
**Ludwig van Beethoven opus 95 in f minor and**  
**Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy opus 13 in A major**

Tickets will be available at the door at 10, 20 and 30 Euros with free seating.  
For those of you who wish to prebook a ticket you can do so on Eventbrite at a fixed price of 22.20 Euros.

**<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/string-quartet-concert-for-ukraine-tickets-341157841287>**

All proceedings will go to Medical Help Ukraine, a charity founded by Ukrainian doctors working in Ireland who provide direct and non bureaucratic support for hospitals in Ukraine



# Scoil Cholmcille, Skryne

Tom Brennan

## Scoil Cholmcille, Skryne NS

Where did the time go? We are well into the final term in Scoil Cholmcille, and it is all systems go! All our school activities are back up and running and, while still being mindful of Covid, school is an open, happier and busier place. Our school tours are fast approaching, and the excitement is palpable. For some of our students, it will be their first school trip in over two years. For others it will be their very first! We wish them lots of enjoyment as they set off on their travels.

## Green Schools

Walk On Wednesday is in full swing with brighter mornings and sunnier weather encouraging more walking and cycling. Our Coiste Glas can be seen dotted around the school these days tending to our gardens and other green areas. In April they planted native trees in our woodland walk. Last Friday there was a hanging basket and plant sale in the school. This proved to be hugely successful with all items selling out. The proceeds of this venture provide vital funding to the work of our Coiste Glas. Well done All!



## Sport

Our Cumann na mBunscol teams have gotten off to a flying start in this year's competition. Our boys and girls' team are both unbeaten and a semi-final berth looks secured for both squads. More importantly, all squad members have seen game time. It has been brilliant to see these matches happening again and a big thank you to all the organizers.







Our 5th and 6th Class pupils attended the Leinster Schools Orienteering Championships in Djouce Woods, Wicklow recently. This was by far the toughest and most physically demanding course they tackled this year. However, our pupils performed admirably and topped the leaderboards. See below for photos.

Congratulations to the members of our Athletics team who will travel to Claremont for the Meath Cumann na mBunscol Track and Field Championships on May 31st. We will also have Olympic Handball teams competing in the Meath LSP blitz on May 27th. Best of luck to all our teams!

### First Communion

The boys and girls in Second Class will celebrate their First Communion on Saturday, May 21st in Skryne Church at 11am. The children have been working very hard to prepare with Ms. McDonagh. We are hugely excited to be able to celebrate this important occasion in its fullest sense once again. A big thank you to Fr. Thomas who will celebrate the mass and to Caroline Giles for volunteering and doing such a wonderful job preparing our school choir. Thanks also to our Parents' Association for laying on delicious refreshments afterwards. We wish all the boys and girls a wonderful, sunny and spiritual day.



### Local History

This month in Scoil Cholmcille, we have been focusing on our local history. As a treat, we were visited by Ann Gerety-Smith from Heritage Ireland. Through the medium of story, she spoke to our pupils about the history of the local area and the origin of our place names. Her stories went all the way back to the Bronze Age and Celtic times. She also brought sample artefacts for the children to explore.





## School Year 2022/23

We are very excited to be welcoming our new Junior Infants for September 2022 and their parents for their Induction Day on Wednesday, June 15th at 1.30pm. We hope that this will be the beginning of a happy and enriching journey for them here in Scoil Cholmcille

Our Parents' Association also have an 'Online Ordering Form' to help all children and parents, from Junior Infants to 6th Class, to get ready for the next school year 2022/23. This Form will allow you to organise important back to school items such as school uniforms and book rental. To access the form, please click on the following link:

[https://www.cognitofrms.com/SkryneParentsAssociation/\\_2022ScoilCholmcilleParentsAssociationOrderForm](https://www.cognitofrms.com/SkryneParentsAssociation/_2022ScoilCholmcilleParentsAssociationOrderForm)

A huge thank you to our wonderful Parents' Association for all their work in organising this.

## Happy Schools

Scoil Cholmcille has always been a happy school, but we are currently working on the 'Happy Schools' programme with Orlaith O'Sullivan. This programme is part of our focus on mindfulness and wellbeing. Orlaith will be showing us ways to care for our hearts, minds, bodies - and each other. Through simple, practical steps, our children will learn to take care of their suffering and nourish their joy. There are also workshops for our parents so that these steps are embedded at home as well as school



# Skryne Ladies GFC

by Ruth Moore

Skryne ladies Div 6 have made it 5 from 5 in their league campaign.

Results so far are -

Navan O'Mahonys 3-08 to Skryne 3-13

Trim 4-3 Skryne 3-11

Dee rangers 0-9 Skryne 3-13

Oldcastle 1-8 Skryne 6-6

Skryne Div 3 have also made it 5 from 5

Moylagh 2-4 Skryne 4-12

Beat Duleek/bellewstown

Beat Summerhill

Dunsany conceded

St Ultans 2-10 Skryne 2-12



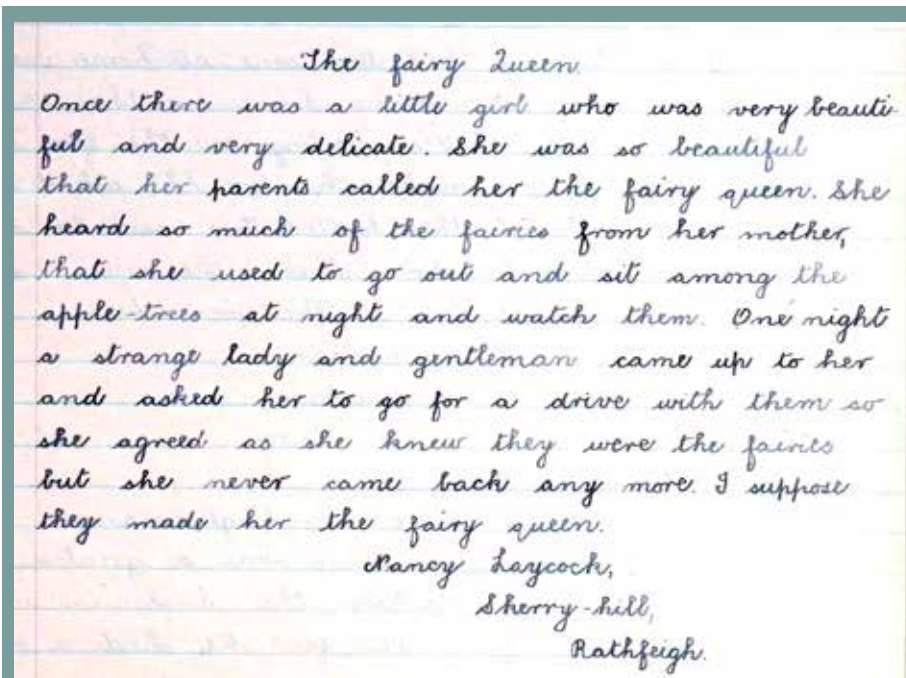
A big shout out to our brilliant U15 Girls who have had a fantastic season in Division 2 where they reached a semifinal, but just came up short against a strong and very physical St Ultans team yesterday evening in Bohermeen. The girls can be very proud of their performances in the league this year. Their hard work and effort reaped dividends as they improved immensely over the course of the season. Well done to all.

Well done to the Skryne girls on the Meath Minor team- Lisa Browne, Ellie Murphy, Roisin McManus And Ciara Smyth



# The Schools Collection, 1937-1939

National Folklore Collection



This month, Nancy Laycock from Rathfeigh School tells us about the Fairy Queen Image and data © National Folklore Collection, UCD

## Skryne Tara Women's Team Seeking New Players

Skryne Tara Women's Team are looking to add some players to their growing squad. The team was established in 2018 and compete in Division 1 of the North East Football League. The girls have had a very productive month of May, picking up 3 wins in a row over Duleek, Ardee Celtic and Drogheda Town. They currently sit level on points at the top of the table with 3 other sides, Cootehill Harps, Albion Rovers and Kinnegad Juniors. All the indications are that this will be a closely contested league campaign and it is great to see the Skryne side in the mix.

With a 4 week break in matches coming up in June due to the leaving cert, now is the perfect time to get involved in one of the fastest growing sports on the planet. The team trains every Wednesday at Ross Cross and new faces are always welcome. Players need to be 16 or over and the squad at present consists of players in their teens, 20's, 30's and beyond. Please note that anyone who feels they are too old to start a new sport, age is no barrier.

If you are interested in giving the sport a try please contact James Conroy on 086 1249982 or the teams Facebook page Skryne Tara Women's FC.

## Jersey Sponsorship Appeal

The Skryne Tara Women's side are appealing to local business men and women to get behind the team. The team currently plays in a set of yellow jerseys kindly donated by the mens side a few seasons back.

The team needs to get a second set of jerseys and it is hoped some local organisations will be in a position to help. We are looking for a primary sponsor for the front of the jersey and a secondary sponsor for the rear. Sponsors will receive their own framed jersey and their logos will be posted on all match related social media posts.

This is a team on the rise and with the backing of the community it is hoped the team will be around for generations to come, meaning all of our female residents will have the same soccer opportunities as their male counterparts. If interested in supporting the team in any way you can please contact James Conroy on 086 1249982.

**PLAYERS WANTED**

SKRYNE TARA WOMEN'S TEAM ARE LOOKING TO ADD NEW PLAYERS TO THEIR EVER GROWING SQUAD

NO PREVIOUS PLAYING EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

FOR PLAYERS AGED 16 AND OVER

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT US ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE SKRYNE TARA WOMEN'S FC

TRAINING EVERY WEDNESDAY ROSS CROSS 7PM

**Sponsorship appeal**

SKRYNE TARA AFC WOMEN'S TEAM ARE SEEKING SPONSORSHIP FOR NEW MATCH JERSEYS

PRIMARY SPONSOR FOR FRONT OF JERSEY

SECONDARY SPONSOR FOR REAR OF JERSEY

GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR LOCAL ORGANISATIONS TO SUPPORT AN EVER GROWING SPORT

PLEASE CONTACT JAMES CONROY ON 086 1249982 FOR MORE INFORMATION



# The Beauty of June

Anne Frehill

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Some years ago, I spent several months teaching in a Primary school. One glorious June morning a young girl came up to me and asked if she could sing a song. I agreed, I suppose half-heartedly but I was not prepared for her delightful rendition of:

“Oh, What a Beautiful Morning” (from Oklahoma). Her pure, melodious voice filled that classroom as 32 girls sat up and listened with rapt attention. I was delighted to see that one troubled child who had endured a recent tragedy in her own family was smiling broadly.

Afterwards, there was spontaneous applause initiated by the same little girl. There was an intimation of the divine in that effortless, unaffected young voice and it reminded me that like good poetry, music/singing can reach not only the far recesses of the mind but also touch the soul. And so, every June I recall those luminous minutes that light up an otherwise mundane morning.

There are many forms of beauty but for me it is the towering beauty of nature which outshines all the others. June’s resplendent array of roses, poppies, pansies and peonies along with its canopy of flowering shrubs and hedgerows are breath-taking. In the vegetable patch neat rows of lettuce, spinach and radishes show their young tender heads while the fields are covered with a carpet of deep green which in time will lead to a harvest of golden corn. An alien visiting our planet for the first time would surely be amazed to learn that such tiny seedlings will in due course be transformed into wheat, oats, and barley, which are staple foods in so many parts of the world.

Last June I visited the Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew, south-west London which was sheer heaven for the senses. The Rose Garden was enchanting with its heady mix of shrub roses, in the most delightful shades of peach, pink, red, orange, crimson, scarlet, white, cream and my own favourite yellow. Then there was the unforgettable scent from those magnificent flowers, some vaguely familiar while others although new to me, were redolent of other times and transported me back to the days of the Big Houses complete with walled gardens. There was a profusion of butterflies, some well-known to me while I had only seen others in books, and bees, so important to our ecosystem were beavering away in the sunshine. Our Guide told us that they had almost 170 different varieties, many with the most beguiling of names from “Lady of Shalott” to “Crown Princess Margareta.” It is no surprise that roses, long a symbol of love and passion, have been appreciated down the centuries from the time of ancient Greece and Rome.

June, is believed to take its name from the Roman goddess, Juno, while the Irish name for June is Meiteamh. In Astronomical terms the first 20 days belong to Spring, but in general terms it is regarded as Summer. On June 21st comes the Summer Solstice, the longest day of the year. We are fortunate to have archaeological sites in Meath which have been both well excavated and documented, these confirm that since the Neolithic age, the Summer Solstice has been celebrated at places such as Tara, Newgrange and Loughcrew. While Midsummer Eve, also known as St. John’s Eve, was of pagan origin, it came to be regarded as one of the most important dates in the rural calendar.

When I was young my own dear father regaled me with colourful accounts of Midsummer celebrations from his childhood in Galway, the highlight being what he called “bonfire night” when bonfires were light on the hilltops so that they could be seen for miles around. There was much merry making including singing, dancing, and jumping through the actual flames by a few daring souls. He also liked to tell the tale of the “poor widow” who sent her son to the fair. The boy set off at sunrise on a fine June morning with a “yearling calf”. She warned him that he must only accept the highest penny in the fair for the calf or otherwise bring him back home. The poor boy who was not among the brightest of youths, announced this to all and sundry. A rogue cattle dealer took advantage of his innocence and held up a penny coin on the tip of his ashplant. The simple youth fell for the ruse and “sold” him the animal.

June also marks many monumental dates in world history, among them the Normandy landings or D-Day, 6th June 1944 when the Allies attacked the German positions at Normandy, France. It lasted until August 1944 and marked the beginning of the end of war in Europe. In Ireland we celebrate Bloomsday on June 16th to commemorate the life of one of our own, writer James Joyce and his world-famous novel Ulysses. In countries as diverse as Poland and Montenegro, I have been asked by local tour guides and Taxi drivers about Johnny Logan and James Joyce in that order. I cannot help but wonder how Joyce would have reacted to playing second fiddle to Johnny!

I will leave the last words about this joy filled month to that great English poet and Jesuit priest: Gerard Manley Hopkins. A line from “God’s Grandeur” captures how nature and the Divine are intricately woven.

“The world is charged with the grandeur of God”.



# Night Sky June 2022

by Tony Canavan

## Phases of the Moon:

**First Quarter:** 7th June, **Full Moon:** 14th June, **Last Quarter:** 21st June, **New Moon:** 29th June

**Sunrise** 5:03am

**Sunset** 9:42 pm on 1st June

**June 3rd:** At 10 pm a beautiful crescent moon will be setting close to Pollux and Castor in Gemini with the star Regulus following behind and marking the sickle shape in the constellation Leo.

**June 6th:** At 10 pm the crescent moon will be about 5° North of Regulus. You can note the progressive easterly motion of the moon across the sky each evening when observed at the same time. The moon moves around the earth in 27.3 days or one sidereal period of revolution. As it does its position changes relative to the background stars. So  $360/27.3 = 13.2$  degrees per day relative to the stars. So, each evening the moon moves a little more than a hand-width to the East.

**June 14th:** Full moon-supermoon, This moon was known by native Americans as the strawberry moon because it signalled the time of year to gather ripening fruit. Also known as Rose Moon and Honey-Moon. It is the first of the super moons for 2022. The moon will be near its closest approach (perigee) to the earth and may look slightly larger than usual.

**June 16th:** Just before sunrise: Mercury will be at its greatest westerly elongation of 23.2 degree from the sun. It will be at its highest point above the horizon in the morning sky. Look for the planet low in the eastern sky just before sunrise, although it will be difficult to see.

**June 21st:** June solstice: It occurs at 0905 UTC. The North Pole will be tilted towards the sun. This is the first day of summer in the northern hemisphere.

**June 21st:** 4 am in the early morning sky the moon passes below Jupiter and Mars in the eastern sky.

**June 26th-27th:** 4 am in the eastern sky the waning crescent moon is just above Venus and below the Pleiades with Aldebaran rising in Taurus followed by Mercury.

**Morning sky** you have, from east to west, Mercury, Venus, Uranus, Mars and Jupiter. The latter being the brightest of all.

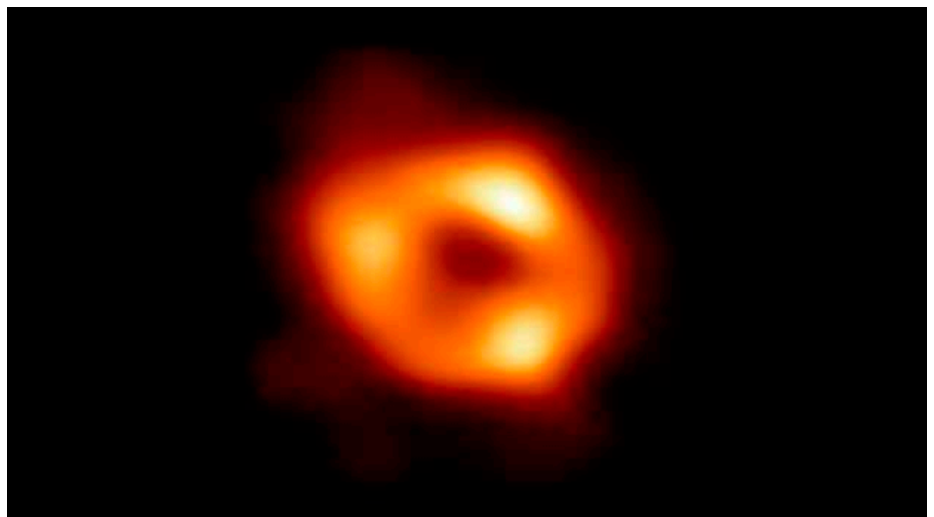
**Evening sky** you can see the **Summer Triangle** of Altair (Aquila), Deneb (Cygnus) altitude 45°, azimuth 40°, and Vega (Lyra) are becoming more prominent in the evening sky and will continue to gain height as the summer progresses. If you continue around to the north at about 25° altitude you will clearly see the **W** shape of the constellation Cassiopeia. The Galaxy 'Andromeda' is very close to the horizon under Cassiopeia. Further around to the north is the constellation Perseus, azimuth 330°, altitude 15°. The beautiful and very luminous star Capella is in the NW, altitude 30°. All of these are circumpolar (they never set) so you can view them at any time.

## Black Hole at the centre of the Milky Way:

The above image was produced by a global team of scientists known as 'The Event Horizon Collaboration', including scientists from Ireland.

Eight giant radio telescopes were linked to produce this image which has been compared to seeing a donut on the Moon. Black holes are regions of space where the gravitational pull is so great that not even light can escape.

It is also known that in the presence of a gravitational mass (in this case the mass of four million of our sun i.e. Black Hole), that time slows down. This is known as **Gravitational Time Dilation**. This is because gravity bends spacetime and space and time are intrinsically linked. In the case of the black hole time would stop.





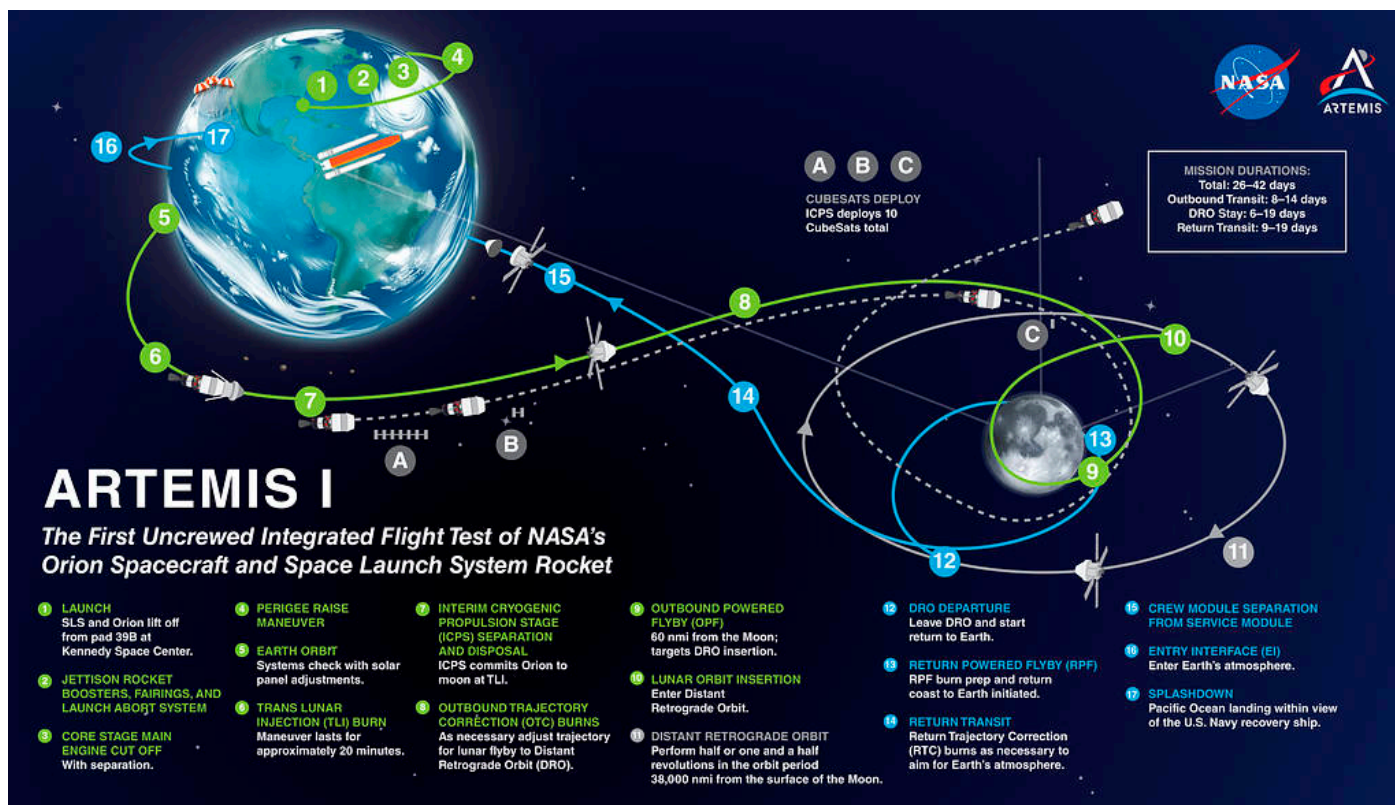
Speed does the same thing. So, if I can travel to Alpha Centauri (our nearest star) at or near the speed of light, when I return, life on earth would be thousands of years into the future. My time would have slowed down and their time would have continued to tick along. When someone moves through space, they use a portion of their speed of light, so that they have not as much left to travel through time. When one vector arm is extended the other is reduced.

**Perseverance on Mars:** Perseverance and his companion helicopter 'Ingenuity' have reached an important stage of their mission. It will begin its climb up the ancient delta feature to examine rocks that look to have the best chance of past life on the planet. The delta in **Jezero Crater** is the main astrobiology target of the mission. 'Ingenuity' has surpassed all its flight expectations.

**Shetland Island Spaceport:** with the withdrawal of objections to the spaceport last month from 'Historic Environment Scotland' due to the economic benefits it will bring to the Shetlands, it looks very likely that the spaceport will go ahead as planned. Planning permission will take six months and it is planned to send a meteorological satellite up by the end of the year.

**Ripples of War:** The International Space Station continues to function normally with Americans and the Russians co-operating. The ISS requires to be boosted from time to time to prevent it from crashing back to earth, and this is carried out by the Russian segment of the space station. Contracts with the Russians will run out next year. Northrop grumaman in the United States are testing an adopted Cygnus resupply ship as an alternative boosting system.

The Mars rover mission from European Space Agency and Russia is parked indefinitely.



## Artemis 1:

NASA's mission to bring astronauts back to the moon suffered a setback recently when its fuel loading test at the launch pad failed. So far three 'wet dress rehearsal' tests have failed. It uses more than 700,000 gallons of propellant to enter orbit. Probably looking at August for first launch. The excellent diagram below gives detail of all stages including the heliocentric disposal of propulsion parts.

## Space X -Starship:

The date for the first orbital test flight of Starship has been continuously pushed back due to continuous delays on the environmental assessment in Boca Chica, Texas. Starship still awaits FAA approval which is now expected (well at least their report) at the end of May. With Russia no longer supplying rockets for USA launches, this is a great opportunity for private companies to corner this market, making better and more powerful rocket engines to carry the large payloads that will be required for the Mars and Lunar missions.



# Rathfeigh National School

Seamus Tansley

## Ministers Visit Rathfeigh National School

The staff and Board of Management of Rathfeigh N.S. were delighted to welcome Helen Mc Entee (Minister for Justice), Josepha Madigan (Minister of State for Special Education and Inclusion) and Suzanne Jamal (Fine Gael Councillor) to the school on May 9th. The purpose of their visit was to see the well-being and mindfulness initiatives that the school has implemented over the last twelve months.

Rathfeigh's Sensory Room ("The Hideaway") is a low- stress, quiet and calm place where the children can relax and gain control of their emotions. The development of the Sensory Room in Rathfeigh N.S. shows what can be achieved on a relatively low budget. In addition to the Sensory Room the school is privileged to have acquired the services of Una Curran who is a mindfulness/well-being teacher. Una has delivered mindfulness/well-being classes to all the children in Rathfeigh N.S. from Juniors to Sixth class and will be returning for the 2022/23 school year.

The Board of Management of Rathfeigh N.S. would like to extend their sincere gratitude to Councillor Jamal for her generous contribution to the school as part of her Municipal District Allocation fund. This money will be invaluable to the school and will be used to further develop the mindfulness/well-being initiatives in the school.







### Field Trip to Newgrange

The pupils in 3rd/4th class visited Newgrange and Knowth on May 16th. Despite living in close proximity to Newgrange many children in the class had, surprisingly, never visited one of the most historical sites in Ireland. This made the trip all the more exciting for these children as they engaged positively with the tour guides and had many questions for them. The feedback form the children on returning to school was exceptionally positive and hopefully it won't be too long until we have a return visit.

### Gaelic Football

Our boys' and girls' teams are taking part in the Cumann na mBunscol Gaelic football competitions after an absence of two years due to Covid. Seeing the children togged out in the green and white of Rathfeigh again is great to see. Our girls' team had great victories over Baile Ghib and Mount Hanover and a quarter final place beckons. Our Boys' defeated Cushinstown and Mount Hanover but a quarter final place seems just out of reach after defeats to Rathregan and Dunsany. Well done to everyone who participated on our teams this year but more importantly for playing with smiles on their faces. Thanks to Ms Reynolds for training the girls team this year.



## First Communion

The pupils in Second class received their First Communion on May 14th. We were blessed with the weather which really added to the occasion. We thank Fr Thomas for the lovely ceremony, Ms O'Donoghue for preparing the class, Helen for the Mass booklet, Mrs Vaughan and Mrs Campbell for assisting with the gifts etc at the church, the children who sang in the choir and most importantly the children in Second class who showed great maturity saying their prayers, readings and singing during the ceremony.

Our Parents' Association had the school looking beautiful for the refreshments after the ceremony. We thank everyone in the Association for giving of their time on the day. It was really appreciated. We also thank Ingrid for having the school grounds in impeccable condition.

## Spanish Student

Our Spanish student Sofia has been with us in Rathfeigh since Easter. She has settled in really well and it's a pleasure having her in the school. All the children in Ms Reynolds' room have made her feel really welcome for which we thank them.

## Summer Beckons

We have just four weeks remaining until the summer holidays which is hard to believe. It will be a busy few weeks ahead with many interesting activities for the children to enjoy – sports day, talent show, school tour, orienteering, football, relay marathon and of course our 6th class graduation. We wish all the children, and particularly our 6th class children, a happy and enjoyable few weeks in school.

## Stephanie Reynolds

organised an art exhibition in aid of Cystic Fibrosis. The art exhibited was from the students who attended her After School Art Classes in Rathfeigh National school, in which she is a class teacher there.

The evening included the guest artist Rachael Darby, Christina Gurmin spoke about Cystic Fibrosis and music from Ciara Ó Donoghue. The event was enjoyed by all and in particular the children got to showcase their impressive artwork. Thank to all who helped on the evening.

The total raised for Cystic Fibrosis was €1,133.50.



Waiting on the Paint to Dry

Lucy, do you wanna do an Art Class ?  
It's on again in March.  
Ms Reynolds wants to teach you  
How to create works of art.  
I know you're not planning  
Of following the greats  
Of Dali , Da Vinci , Picasso  
Or even Vincent who you hate !  
You'll learn to be creative  
And focus on techniques  
Of drawing and painting  
In just 4 weeks !  
So here are my creations of which I am so proud  
Snowman , Sunset and Bunny  
I'm sure you will be wowed !  
It's time for me to wrap up now  
And thank you for your time  
And Ms Reynolds you are a saint  
For teaching me how to paint





**Tree House**



## Points To Ponder

I have a little GPS, it sits there in my car. A GPS is a driver's friend, it tells you where you are. I have a little GPS, I've had it all my life. It's better than the normal ones cause this one is my wife. It gives me full instructions, especially how to drive. "It's sixty miles an hour", it says, "You're doing sixty five". It tells me when to stop and start, and when to use the brake And tells me that it's never ever, safe to overtake. It tells me when a light is red, and when it goes to green. It seems to know instinctively, just when to intervene. It sees the vehicles in front, and all those to the rear. And taking this into account, it specifies "Too near".

I'm sure no other driver, has so helpful a device. When we leave and lock the car, it still gives me advice. It fills me up with counselling, each journey's pretty fraught. So why don't I exchange it, and get a quieter sort? Ah well, you see, it cleans the house, makes sure I'm properly fed. It washes all my shirts and things, and keeps me warm in bed! Despite all these advantages, and my tendency to scoff, I only wish that now and then, I could turn the darn thing off!

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Find the 8 differences hidden in these two seemingly identical pictures



Can you solve this Dingbats challenge? Answers to the wingdings are directly below the quiz

<b>BUNG</b> 01	 02	<b>X</b> <b>MASCARA</b> 03	<b>T N T</b> <b>DE O A E</b> 04
 05	<b>X I S T</b> <b>N</b> <b>G</b> 06	<b>THE</b> <b>TAKER</b> 07	<b>P U</b> 08
<b>PPP</b> <b>ERMINT</b> 09	<b>SSAGE</b> 10	<b>WET</b> <b>EAR EAR</b> 11	 12

**Answers to Dingbats challenge**

1 Bungee Jump, 2 Puss In Boots, 3 Kiss And Make Up, 4 High Explosive, 5 Sweetheart, 6 10 Downing St.  
7 The Undertaker, 8 Backup, 9 Three Piece Sweet, 10 Incoming Message, 11 Wet Behind The Ears, 12 Just A Tick



**AWFUL JOKES**

So two Irishmen are travelling to Australia. Before they leave home, one of their dads gives them both a bit of advice: “You watch them Aussie cab drivers. They’ll rob you blind. Don’t you go paying them what they ask. You haggle.” At the Sydney airport, the Irishmen catch a cab to their hotel. When they reach their destination, the cabbie says, “That’ll be twenty dollars, lads.” “Oh no you don’t! My dad warned me about you. You’ll only be getting fifteen dollars from me,” says one of the men. “And you’ll only be getting fifteen from me too,” adds the other.

I was in the library once when a man walked in asking for some ham and cheese. The librarian politely told him that he was in a library. The man first apologised and then whispered to the librarian, “Can I please have some ham and cheese?”



**KEEP  
THE  
RST  
AREA  
TIDY**



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## Condolences

We extend our sympathy to the

- To the Moore family, Riverstown on the death of Nuala
- To the Duignan family on the death of Noel, Skryne
- To the family of Catriona Stafford, Berrilstown on her passing
- To Maurice Kearney, Proudstown on the death of his son Laurence
- To the Tobin family on the death of Phil Lynch, Belper, Tara.
- To Doreen and the McGoey family, Oberstown on the death of Francie

### Local mother available for After School Care

in own home  
or children's home.

Contact  
087 632 7197

## Local Handy Man Available

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Side Gates made to measure  
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repair of Hinges & Locks  
Supply and Fitting of Fireplaces & Stoves

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**Contact: Pauric**

**T: 046 9034846**

**M: 085 1597105**

## SPONSORSHIP OF THE RST NEWSLETTER

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### We require sponsors for future editions of RST Newsletter.

The cost of sponsorship is €100 which will include a half page advertisement. Interested sponsors please contact Therstnewsletter@gmail.com or telephone Patricia 086 838 8017.

Same contact details apply for advertisements and cost

**€25 per half page or €20 for regular repeated half page advertisement.**

**Smaller advertisements cost €10.**

All money raised from this source will be spent to the benefit of the community. Our initial project is to help the RST Community Centre update and further develop their website.

We take this opportunity to thank those who continue to support us through their sponsorship and advertising.

## Editorial Notice

**The Rathfeigh, Skryne and Tara newsletter ( RST ) is published by the RST committee supported by submissions from the local community.**

It provides a community news and information service to the people and organisations in the area as well as people from further afield.

The RST is provided digitally, free of charge, to anyone who provides their e-mail to the RST committee. E-mails are not shared with anyone outside the committee. Anyone or any company who would like to sponsor the RST are welcome to make a request to the committee.

Anyone who wishes to advertise anything in the RST are asked to make a small contribution to have their advert published.

The RST committee reserves the right to alter, abridge, or omit material, including advertisements submitted, if in its opinion such submissions are seen to affect the Newsletter's function to the community as a whole.

The RST is open to all Articles, letters or other submissions from contributors and are always welcome. However, such published contributions do not necessarily reflect the views of the RST committee. The RST committee are committed to trying to ensure only accurate and legal articles are published.

## Next Issue Saturday 25th June

Submissions on or before  
**Sunday 19th June**

Contact:

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Patricia: (086) 838 8017

Email: therstnewsletter@gmail.com