



It is with a heavy heart that I have to close the door for the final time in Tara Post Office after 44 years this Saturday January 26th.



I take this opportunity to thank all my customers pensioners and friends for their loyalty down through the years. For me and for them it was much more than a post office. We exchanged banter, news and what some would call "gossip" It was always a great meeting place for people especially on Fridays and I'm inundated with people expressing their sorrow that Tara Post Office will no longer be part of our community. For the rest of my life I will hold dear all the memories of friends living and deceased that made my job so enjoyable.

Over recent days lots of memories have been springing to mind. Amongst them putting a call through on the old exchange for Mrs O'Connell RIP when she told me of the assassination of John

F Kennedy and it was during my working day when two very upset American tourists stopped in to purchase stamps and told me they had just learned of the 911 tragedy.

At this point I will take the opportunity to thank all those who helped me organise the many raffles we held for various charities and for the generosity of everyone who donated prizes and purchased tickets. Our final raffle this Christmas raised €2,225 for Motor Neurone which sadly recently claimed the life of my dear friend Catherine.

A special thanks to Tricia Scanlon who has been there for me down the years and especially for working Fridays and to all the postmen who have come and gone during my time in Tara.

A deserving thanks to An Garda Síochána who have always been on the look out for me and especially in my times of trouble.

I wish every one of you health and happiness and hope to see plenty of you for many years to come. To steal a phrase from the famous O'Connells Pub advertisement It's time to "switch the light out" at Tara Post Office.

Míle Buíochas Mary

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Retirement of Mary O'Growney Tara Post Office



A meeting is being held in RST Centre on Thursday night January 24th at 8pm to discuss how we can best thank Mary our dedicated Post Mistress of 44 years who is retiring at the end of this month. Mary has always gone above and beyond her remit to accommodate our community. Everyone has a story to tell how she obliged them at some stage. Now it is our opportunity to thank her and we hope for a large attendance at this meeting. Your input and ideas will be greatly appreciated. Please spread the word and put the date in your diary. "This Coming Thursday January 24th"

This issue is sponsored by Denis Farrell Auto Sales

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Disappointing Attendance at Skryne GFC AGM.

Skryne GFC held their AGM in early December in the RST Centre and the attendance was down considerably on last years meeting.

Only 24 people, in total, turned up and just one adult player (Oisin Coyle) attended which possibly suggests that everybody is happy with how things are being managed at the moment in the club. Therefore a massive vote of confidence has been given to the outgoing Committee and all were re-elected almost en bloc.

The Chairman in his welcoming address congratulated the Senior team and Management on winning the A League and bringing home the Tommy Mooney Cup which commemorates a great Skryne Clubman and former Chairman. He also congratulated the successful Ladies team, and the underage boys and girls teams who won a number of competitions between them this season.

He thanked all who worked tirelessly for the Club during the year and was grateful to all our Sponsors and fundraisers who between them keep the club financially sound.

The Secretary, Dan O'Leary, and Treasurer, Ross Philips, went through their reports and invited questions from the floor which were answered professionally with no problems arising.

Prior to the AGM Mass for deceased club members was celebrated in Skryne Church with Fr. Thomas and thankfully there was a much better attendance here. It was very satisfying to see the 17 Trophies won during the year by the Ladies, the Underage and the Adult sections of the club being carried to the Altar during the Offertory procession. The Minor Committee Chairperson, Cormac Grendon and the Ladies Committee Chairperson, Brendan Canavan introduced each young person bringing a Trophy to the Altar.



Skryne Tara Girls U15 Squad: the Class of 2018

Skryne Tara u15 Team who competed in the NECSL this Season and have consistently finished in the top 5 over the years in the 4 County North East League.

They notably won the Irwin Cup in the Armagh Cross Border tournament in August. Squad: Ally McConkey, Katie Cullen, Anna Caldwell, Katie Ryan, Roisin O'Dowd, Caragh Conway, Sasha Guirey, Kate Thorpe, Rea Pender, Ella McCartan, Chloe McLaughlin, Samantha Clarke, Steffi Finegan, Rebecca Clarke, Isabella Pentony: Missing: Molly and Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, Sarah Pentony, Maebh Ellis, Molly Geraghty, Issy, Sarah Clinton, Ellie Murphy. Managers: Mark Pentony, Jack Conroy & Ashling Cullen.

Committee elected for 2019 -

Chairperson - Senan McGrath. Vice Chairperson - Dermot Carty.

Secretary - Dan O'Leary.

Assistant Secretary - Gina Doherty.

Treasurer - Ross Phillips.

Assistant Treasurer - Sinead Rooney. PRO - TBC

IT Registrar - Rowan Dardis.

Insurance Officer - Sinead Rooney. Irish Language / Cultural Officer - Joe O'Brien.

Safety Officer - Kevin O'Rourke.

County Committee Delegate -

Oliver Harrington.

Children's Officer - Ciara Gallagher.

Schools Links Officer - Darragh Campion / Teresa Mangan.

Players Representative - TBC Additional Committee Members - Dolores Tobin, Eddie McCormack and Norbert Coyle.

Skryne Community Alert

Happy New Year from all at Skryne Community Alert! We would like to highlight a common crime that has already affected many in the RST area.

Last week we had a theft reported from a car parked at Balrath Woods. A window was smashed and a handbag stolen from underneath the seat (it was out of view). It is possible the driver was spotted hiding the bag, or perhaps it was purely opportunist. This is a common occurrence at Balrath Woods, but we see similar incidents reported in other car parks such as at the Hill of Tara, church car park etc. The best solution to this problem is to leave nothing of value in our cars when left unattended. If there is never anything worth taking from cars parked in these areas then the thieves will move on elsewhere. Unfortunately even if they are caught by the Gardai there is little deterrent in the courts to prevent the thieves from reoffending, so crime prevention really is the best option.

Our next Community Alert meeting takes place in the parish hall at 8pm on Monday 28th January. Everyone is welcome.

Hatha Yoga Classes

Tuesday Mornings Beginning 29th January 10am to 11.15am

Beginners Welcome For further information Call Kirsten@ 0872776696



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Saoirse McGrath to visit the Vesonova orphanage

The Meath Rose, Saoirse McGrath will visit the Vesonova orphanage in Cherynobyl in February of this year as part of a Rose of Tralee delegation. The visit will be for a duration of four days and while there she will assist the medical care staff in their daily work. Saoirse is a final year nursing student in DCU so I'm sure she will put her medical skills to good use while there.

There is a cost associated with the trip as Saoirse needs to raise a minimum of €1,600 to donate to the orphanage. Funds raised by the Roses and escorts for the Vesonova orphanage over the past five years have maintained a basic level of medical care and comfort for the children residing there. Without the efforts of the Roses / Escorts the children would have little or no medical care. Saoirse is fundraising to raise sponsorship for the Vesonova orphanage and you can donate via the attached link. Any donation will be going to a very worthy cause and will be greatly appreciated. https://give.everydayhero.com/ie/volunteering-in-chernobyl





BINGO: Every Wednesday night in Skryne Hall at 9.pm. €1,100 to be won each night. Enjoy a night out. Please support. Proceeds to parish funds.

BABYSITTER REQUIRED: for 6yr and 3yr old. Occasional weekend evenings. Would suit secondary school student. Please contact Lizzy 087-9317254.

TARA A.C.: Thank you to all who donated to the annual food appeal for St Vincent de paul. This is something where the whole club get together each year to help others. I would like to wish all our members a great year ahead for running.

Davy.

SKRYNE CYCLE CLUB AGM NOTICE:

AGM & Club Presentations Thursday 7th Feb in front area of Fox's bar 9pm. New members welcome. Contact Pat McGovern 087 2586315 pat@mcgovernsurveyors.ie; or James Brady 085 7106524



She has gone and done it, 18" cut off her hair, we are super proud of our daughter Katie for what she has done and the money (€1,100) she has raised to help a fellow Rathfeigh School, friend, Dylan Walsh, Dylan was diagnosed in 2017 with Duchenne Muscular Distrophy(DMD) a rare muscle wasting disease which has no cure at present.

She donated her hair to the to Repunzals Foundation, this is a foundation that makes wigs for children who have lost their hair either through Cancer or Alopecia. We would like to thank each and everyone of you who helped her reach this amazing total she couldn't have done it without your help!!!

Dylan has started a trial at Great Ormond Street Hospital and we would like to wish Dylan all the best in his treatment.

All our love Jacqui, Ronan and Katie Doyle, Rathfeigh.

Condolences

The Parish and Skryne GFC passed votes of sympathy with the following:

- Carmel Reilly, Hill of Skryne on the death of her brother
- The Meehan family Lismullin on the death of Padraig
- The O'Dowd family, Colvinstown on the death of Pat
- The Mulvany family on the death of Anne, Oberstown
- The Tolan family, Kilbrew on the death of Alfie
- Neighbours and friends on the death of Joe Fowler
- Donal O'Brien, Scalestown on the death of his brother
- Pat McCabe Colvinstown on the death of his brother
- Bob Gallagher on the death of his father

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Rathfeigh School

Enrolment Week

Enrolment week for children starting in September 2019 is from February 4th to February 8th. Parents/Guardians are welcome to call to the school at any time during this week to view the school and to talk to the Principal Mr. Tansley. Enrolment forms can be collected from Helen in the office. Please view the school website for further information (www.rathfeighns.org).

Computer Classes

The children in all classes have been really enjoying their computer lessons since Christmas. Their knowledge of Excel, Powerpoint and Word has greatly improved and their project work has improved significantly as a result.

Meath V Tipperary Match

 $Tom \ Lenehan \ has \ been \ chosen \ to \ play \ at \ half \ time \ in \ the \ Cumann \ na \ mBunscol \ exhibition \ game \ at \ the \ Meath \ V \ Tipperary \ match \ in \ Pairc \ Tailteann \ on \ Sunday \ January \ 27^{th}. \ Best \ of \ Luck \ Tom.$

Rounders

The boys and girls will be starting Rounders training shortly. The boys will be doing their best to retain their Meath title this year and the girls are hoping to go one step further than last year after losing narrowly in the final.

Rathfeigh Parents' Association

We thank our Parents' Association for their great fundraising events in 2018. Their commitment to the school is second to none and we look forward to working closely with them again this year.

Hurling Coaching

Rathfeigh/Skryne is known more for football than hurling. Having a coach from Kilmessan Hurling Club visiting the school weekly has generated a huge interest in hurling among the pupils. Many thanks to Kilmessan Hurling Club for providing us with excellent coaching.

BLOTTO RESULTS

16th December 01 - 06 - 17 - 19

Euro 40 winners: Ita McCormack, Paidi Dardis, Alicia Dardis & Sandra Tormey

23rd December

03 - 07 - 18 - 27

Euro 40 winners: Tilly O'Brien, Maureen O'Kane, Jim & Pauline McManus & Bridget Kiernan

30th December 01 - 13 - 20 - 26

Euro 40 winners: Nano McGoldrick, Sinead Rooney, Robbie Keane & Breda Suokas Tobin

> 7th January 1 - 3 - 4 - 10

Euro 40 winners: Dionne Lynch, Bridget Kiernan, Sean Russell, Rosalene Whyte

> 14th January 2 - 7 - 11 - 14

Euro 40 winners: Schira Mullen, Gerry Leddy, Pauline Cleary, Kevina Daly

Next week's jackpot **€2,300**

Thank you for your support

SKRYNE GFC

League Begins in January with Champions Versus Champions.

Skryne, Champions and holders of the Tommy Mooney Cup begin the defence of their crown on **Sunday 27th January 2019** with an away trip to play Senior Championship Winners and holders of the Keegan Cup, Dunboyne.

This early start to a long season continues with a home game versus neighbours Dunshaughlin on Sunday 3rd February and then another away game against Summerhill on Sunday 11th February. All matches are timed for 11am but check before travelling just in case there may be a change to time or venue.

Dowdstown Counselling Sevices Ltd

From January 1st Dowdstown Counselling Services have moved premises from Dowdstown house to our new accommodation at CYMS HALL, FAIRGREEN, NAVAN. Contact numbers remain the same for the moment but we will inform when they change 046 902 0671/086 166 3586. Website:dowdstowncounsellingservices.com.

FRIENDS OF DOWDSTOWN fundraising Committee take this opportunity to thank all those in the RST area for their ongoing generous support of our monthly 250 club draw which will continue in 2019.

The funds raised help to provide counselling and support to many people experiencing problems in areas such as bereavement, suicidal tendency, relationship problems, abuse, personal issues, to name but a few. In 2018 we have had 210 people apply for counselling to our service.

The funds raised help towards the counselling fees for people that are unable to pay the full cost involved.

A heartfelt thank you, we would not be able to continue this worthwhile service without your help.

Our draw in under subscribed and new members would be very welcome. Cost €5 per month which may be paid by standing order monthly, quarterly or annually or paid in cash. Monthly prizes are €200, €100 and two

To join contact Patricia 0469025771/0868388017. Email

patriciaconroy1@hotmail.com.

Yours sincerely

prizes of €50 each.

On behalf of The friends of Dowdstown Fundraising Committee Paula Glynn, Judy Dowling, Mary Mahon, Jimmy Gibbons & Patricia Conroy

Next Issue Saturday 16th February 2019 Submissions by Wednesday 13th February Contact: Jim Conroy phone: 046 902 5771 email: jimkconroy@hotmail.com

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