



# RST Community Newsletter

RATHFEIGH/SKRYNE/TARA

27th March 2021 • Issue No. 1



1997



2021

Launch of the RST Newsletter, Fox's Lounge Skryne. 21st June 1997. Back: Noel Gallagher, Jim Conroy, Michael Fitzsimons, Liam Kellegher, Jim Gibbons. Front: Jim Pentony, Anne Gray, Maurice Daly, Tom Leahy R.I.P.

March 2021 - Zoom Meeting Top from left: Anne Gray, Hugh McNelis, Jim & Patricia Conroy, Bottom: Maurice Daly, Nick Palmer

In May 1997, a group of neighbours met in Skryne hall to develop a plan to produce a local newsletter. Back in the days when mobile phones were still a rarity, and internet access was limited to 56kb dial-up blocking your phone line, it was a real challenge for local clubs and societies to keep their members updated. A newsletter would help promote activities in the area and could be distributed in printed form to every house in the parish. Being a very active parish, it wasn't long before a list of 34 local community organisations were recorded. Each was contacted to assess their support for the idea. After positive feedback the RST (Rathfeigh-Skryne-Tara) Newsletter was born.

24 years later and the RST newsletter is still going strong. Covid-19 made it impossible to continue as was, but the RST team of Jim and Patricia Conroy rose to the challenge and moved to a digital edition. Without the traditional limitations of a 4 page newsletter, content was expanded to include extracts from books by local authors, and regular articles from new contributors on subjects as varied as agriculture, poetry, history and astronomy, as well as giving the schools a forum to share the great work of our young scholars during home schooling. The audience has also expanded, with a diaspora finding a new means of keeping up to date with happenings back home and, to make contact and share their memories of years gone by.

Embracing this new format, a new committee has been formed to grow

the team and ease the workload. The new committee includes: Maurice Daly (Chairman), Nick Palmer (Editor), Patricia Conroy (Treasurer), Jim Conroy (Secretary), Hugh Mc Nelis (PRO) and Anne Gray (Design and Layout).

From this date onwards the RST Newsletter will be released in pdf format on the last Saturday of each month. Articles for submission will be accepted up until the previous Wednesday. There is a new email address where you can submit an article, advertise a local business or request to subscribe to the newsletter: [TheRSTnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:TheRSTnewsletter@gmail.com)

If you have any feedback on the RST Newsletter, and the types of articles you would like to see appear, please drop us an email with your suggestions.



Skryne Parish Liturgy created by the parishioners of Skryne and Rathfeigh for the parishioners of Skryne and Rathfeigh, their families and friends.

<https://youtu.be/zgaPoB34Wnk>

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# Monica O'Dowd - Appreciation



On the first anniversary of our Mother's passing, the O'Dowd family would like to express our sincere gratitude and thanks to the community of Skryne for all your support.

At such a difficult time for the whole country, we appreciate all the expressions of sympathy that we received through cards, letters, text messages, phone calls, messages on rip.ie, neighbours standing at their homes or along the road for the funeral cortege, and we want to thank you all for taking the time to do so.

We know that your kind words reflect so much about the life our Mother lived and the person she was.

Born Monica Heery, at home in Ardsallagh, Navan in 1938 the youngest of thirteen children, she fondly recalled the idyllic childhood that she spent growing up beside the banks of the river Boyne. On the day she was born, a young boy who grew up on the neighbouring farm and who was playing with her brothers outside, heard the news 'It's a Girl!'. Twenty years later Pat O'Dowd would marry that girl and move to Skryne.

Pat and Monica lived, farmed, and raised ten children in Colvinstown where they created a wonderful home that was full of all the important things in life. They spent sixty-one years together in Skryne until our father's passing at Christmas 2018.

They were always very grateful for the good health they enjoyed and the long life together that they were blessed with. In later years, they really appreciated being able to experience travel and holidays with their family, and of course time with their adored grandchildren.

Whilst 2019 was a difficult year for Mum dealing with the loss of her lifetime partner, she began 2020 with great hope for the future – a word we always associated with our mother. Despite the restrictions that the pandemic imposed she was active in the garden, walking, engaging with family and friends and in general getting on with things. Sadly, and very suddenly she suffered a massive brain haemorrhage and died peacefully in Navan hospital some hours later, with her family by her side.

She would want that all those who cared for her at the time be thanked for doing so - the care of people and the individual was very close to her heart. To the staff of Navan hospital for all your work, Fr. Declan Hurley for performing the sacrament of the sick, Mick Ryan for looking after the funeral arrangements, Fr. Gerry Stuart for the beautiful funeral Mass, Catherine Hanley for preparing the church, the Gray family for preparing the mass booklet, Monica's grand-daughter Kate Jennings and Mary Hetherington for the music, Senan McGrath for recording the mass and Fr. Thomas for his support, we want to thank you all again.

Our mother carried her talents lightly, an avid reader, an accomplished piano player, a wonderful cook, an artist, a writer, a singer, a homemaker, a carer. Most of all she loved her family and her friends - and it is as a warm, kind, loving mother, grandmother, mother-in-law, sister, auntie, and friend that she will be always remembered.

Thanks again to the community of Skryne for your support throughout and after Monica's life. She had great faith and we hope that after a life well lived, that she is now at peace together with her dear Pat.

The O'Dowd Family.

## Hi, Colette here announcing my EP 'Love needs Time'

This CD has themes of friendship, family and the beauty just outside the window. I guess I should blame my Da Joe Rathborne, a few months before he died in 2002, he told me I should be singing. I took his advice got guitar lessons and did just that. I've been lucky to have made great friends through music and played support to Pilgrim street and Oisín Leech's Folk Club with Declan O'Rourke headlining in 2019.

My four song EP is a labour of love created, helped and encouraged by local Navan musicians. Anthony Cregan - guitar master and backing vocals, Cathal McQuaid - Violin, Ella Englishby- Cello along with family members Paul Clinton - drum and Sarah Clinton - backing vocal all drawn together under the guidance of Alun Smith producer.

The cover Pics were taken beside home on the Glen Road. Gorgeous print and finish from A&J Print.

You can listen to 'Love needs Time' by Colette Clinton on Spotify, Apple Music, Amazon etc or I'd be delighted to post a CD if you contact me at 089 4917302.





## Easter Ceremonies 2021

Since the Easter ceremonies are being broadcast remotely, I wanted to take this opportunity to make you aware of the times of these ceremonies in St Mary's Church, Navan. I also have included the link that you can use to access these ceremonies online.

### ■ Palm Sunday - 26th March

**Saturday 25th March** - Vigil Mass 6pm & 7pm

**Sunday 26th March** - Masses at 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm & 1pm

**Please note:** Blessed Palm will be available for parishioners to collect in both Skryne and Rathfeigh churches on Palm Sunday. I would ask that you sanitise your hands when entering and exiting the church and to please ensure social distancing.

### ■ Holy Thursday - 1st April

**9:30am** Morning Prayer and Rosary

**7:30pm** Mass of the Lord's Supper

**10:30pm** Night Prayer

### ■ Good Friday - 2nd April

**9:30am** Morning Prayer and Way of the Cross

**12 noon** Ecumenical Prayer

**7:30pm** Celebration of the Lord's Passion

**9:30pm** Prayer around the Cross

### ■ Holy Saturday - 3rd April

**9:30am** Morning Prayer

**9:00pm** Easter Vigil

### ■ Easter Sunday - 4th April

Masses at 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm & 1pm

**All ceremonies are livestreamed on**

[navanparish.ie/livestream](http://navanparish.ie/livestream)

A priest is available in St. Mary's Church for confession Monday to Friday from 5pm to 7pm, and Saturday 12 noon to 4pm

I want to take this opportunity to wish you and all your family a safe and blessed Easter.

Fr Thomas

## The Borrowaddy Daffodils

Eddie Johnson

As we go through life, we sometimes contemplate our first memory. Mine is of my maternal grandfather leading me by the hand into the garden one spring morning as he pointed to his recently blossomed daffodils. They were along a fairly high bank and on the right as we entered the garden. As a result, those few minutes in the gusty sunshine never come to mind without William Wordsworth's poem also being recalled. The few words "*a host of golden daffodils fluttering and dancing in the breeze*" are so appropriate to that blustery spring morning in the sunshine with my grandfather, and is why the poem has remained an all-time favourite.



Years later as a 10-year-old we got a telegram from dad who by that time had done some years in the British Army. It read. "Arrive home on the 6th of January, Joe." Within days of his home-coming we were packing our bags and we a family of six, were taken to England. Due to family problems, we remained out of touch with Ireland and never to hear from or see our grandparents again. They lived along the Borrowaddy Road which at that time was the first house from Edoxtown Cross. After renewing contact with aunts and uncles etc. in 1969, and with my wife Sandra and our baby son we ventured back across the Irish Sea for the first time since 1953, and have done so many times since.

In the early 90s (with a certain amount of cheek) I knocked on the door where my grandparents had lived and we got to know the occupant of the house. That resident was none other than Joan Gallagher whose biography is being serialised in the RST Newsletter. Joan and family moved into the house after my grandparents – the Gaffney's past on. She had known them all her life and she assured me that the daffodils on the bank still bloomed annually. Sandra and I became friends with Joan and met up on most trips to Ireland – and occasionally went out for meals together.

One Spring, Joan kindly sent me photographs of the daffodils blooming on that same bank almost seven decades after I first noticed them. It is very possible that they were planted on the bank over 100 years ago by my *great grandparents*. My Grandmother, my mother and myself were all born in the house and I've been told that it was built for my great-grandparents – the Smyths.

On our trip to Ireland in 2016, Joan dug up bulbs from the bank and gave them to me to replant here in South East England. Every Spring now we are delighted to see, in our front garden, here in Rainham Kent, offspring of daffodils (pictured) that I first knew as a toddler 74 or 75 years ago. Grandfather Gaffney would be delighted! ☺

# Easter Eggs

By Anne Frehill



Last week I visited one of the larger supermarkets in Navan, a real treat in the middle of “COVID-19” when we have all been forced to shop online. Deprived of some hands -on retail therapy for months, my eyes feasted on the beautiful

display of mouth -watering Easter eggs. Some big, some small, and others bordering on the ridiculous given that they contained only a minimum amount of mediocre chocolate swathed in cellophane with gigantic bows and inflated prices to match. At the present time, in the Western world, there is no shortage of chocolate all year around, in many delightful guises from bars to indulgent drinks, and varying in quality, from high to inferior. For many children nowadays, Easter eggs do not seem to have quite the same novelty value as they did back when I was a child. There are so many other tempting treats on the market, along with the fact that chocolate eggs albeit tiny ones can be purchased throughout the year. It reminds me of a conversation I had recently on Shrove Tuesday with a friend via zoom. Her grandchild happened to wander into the room and wanted to talk with me, I asked if she was excited about making /tossing pancakes when her parents returned from work. She looked into the screen with eyes as wide as saucers and told me that her mam made them every Saturday and Sunday. And so, the allure of making them was missing.

The first ever chocolate eggs were produced in the 19th Century in France and Germany, but they were hard and bitter and could not be successfully moulded. However, as chocolate -making techniques improved, in the UK a family owned- business called Fry `s made the first chocolate egg as we know it, in 1873. Earlier in the 1750 `s the founder of the company Joseph had begun by selling drinking chocolate to be followed in the 1860 `s by his grandsons who made chocolate bars. In 1875 the first Cadbury Easter eggs appeared. And according to their website Cadbury Creme Egg is the most popular chocolate egg with over 500 million made every year, most of them consumed in Britain.

When I think back on my years at primary school, one stands out above all the others. I was in First class and the excitement about Easter began on Ash Wednesday. The nuns insisted that all children must “Give up” sweets for Lent and that included every possible combination of chocolate. It was hoped that our weekly contribution to the box for the “Black Babies” (again their words not mine) would increase as there were no treats left to absorb our pennies apart from potato crisps and roasted peanuts. However, my friend who had an older sister showed me a way of circumventing this rule. The extra pennies saved in this manner from our weekly pocket money were not donated to charity but went instead on a motley assortment of delights including Macaroon bars, Curly Wurlies, Dolly Mixtures, Bubblegum, Gobstoppers, Penny Bars and Sweet Cigarettes. The forbidden goodies were taken home to be squirreled away in empty biscuit tins left over from Christmas and devoured on Easter Sunday along with our Easter eggs. Of course, the solemn-faced nun, who went around from desk to desk every Friday and rattled “the box” in our faces, was not impressed when we still only gave our regular contribution, just one penny, which featured a hen and

her five chicks. For any reader who is too young to appreciate “the value” of a penny, there was at that time, pre-decimal, 240 pennies in a pound. While her cheeks turned a bright red, and her eyes filled with ang she muttered to herself and eventually moved to the next desk. I can recall that there were always at least three if not four desks ( in a classroom of 35 girls) where the pupils sat with downcast eyes, they contributed nothing simply because there were “hard times” in their homes. While the nun never stopped at these desks, she had a way of making it obvious that they had come to school penniless, by shaking the oversized rosary beads at her waist and complaining about the plight of the “black babies” who were on the brink of starvation. To a young child who had not yet reached the so- called “age of Reason” it seemed as if the fault for global hunger lay totally at our door and was not connected to economic factors, war /conflict, adverse climate conditions, gender inequality and so forth.

On St. Patrick `s Day we gorged on certain treats which we told ourselves were not really sweets, Cream Pies and Fizz Bags were the most popular. The next morning, we went back like other addicts “on the wagon” and marked off the days on a calendar until Easter Sunday arrived. Then, throwing caution to the winds I ate like a glutton until I had demolished most of my stash of goodies along with an Easter egg or three! Choosing to ignore the nun `s warning that over consumption of food was deemed to be a sin high up on the list of heinous sins, as it was seen to be depleting the amount of food available for the needy.

As the years passed, my love of Easter eggs did not diminish, instead it grew more sophisticated as I moved away from home and sampled the delights of luxury chocolate eggs from Switzerland (Lindt), Belgium (Godiva), Germany (Schogetten), USA (Hershey), and one of the most expensive of all, an Easter Egg from Harrod `s famous department store in London. However, with the passing of time, my taste buds have changed again, and I must admit that on Easter Sunday I like nothing better than a large Cadbury `s Egg. I open the cardboard box and remove the cellophane paper, savouring the first delicious sight/smell of chocolate as it hits my senses, and I am transported back to the kitchen of my childhood where my mother, the main course over, is about to serve up some of her home baking. And I chortle, because in my mind `s eye I see her cutting slices of Simnel cake complete with eleven small balls of marzipan on top, to represent the Eleven Apostles, the twelfth Judas Iscariot having betrayed Jesus is conspicuous by his absence. In the centre of the table there is also a china plate adorned with chocolate éclair pastries , oozing with fresh cream. And I cannot wait to get my hands on them. In the background a male voice on the radio is studying the form of the horses entered in The Irish Grand National, scheduled for the following day, but I simply don `t care about such mundane matters because I am about to enter chocolate heaven.

Finally, lest we forget the real meaning of Easter, allow the soothing power of this ancient Celtic prayer to envelop you.

**“Deep peace of the running wave to you,  
Deep peace of the flowing air to you,  
Deep peace of Christ the light of the world to you,  
Deep peace of Christ to you.”**

Happy Easter

# Night Sky

by Tony Canavan

**Sunrise: 06.10 am**  
**Full Moon: 28th March**

**Sunset: 6.51 pm**  
**Astronomical noon: 12.30 pm**

The clocks go forward 1 hour at 1 am on Sunday the 28th March. We go from GMT (Greenwich Mean Time) to BST (British Summer Time).

The spring equinox happened on the 20th March and the first full moon after the equinox is on March 28th. In the Christian calendar it is called the Paschal Full Moon and Easter is observed on the Sunday following the Paschal Full Moon, hence the 4th April.

Otherwise it is known as The Worm Moon referring to the earthworms that appear as the soil heats up and birds begin to feed.

The earth has continued on its rotation around the sun having passed the Equinox on Saturday 20th March (equal hours of day and night). **Orion** and all his troop have moved to the southwest and the constellation of **Leo** has an altitude of about 40° in the eastern sky. Leo the lion was said to have been placed in the sky because it is the king of the beasts. The lion was said to have lived in a cave near Corinth and regularly carried off the locals for meals until Hercules decided to kill him by choking the lion to death (which was very fortunate for the locals!).

From the head of the lion to his chest forms a question mark backwards (or the "Sickle of Leo") with Regulus at the bottom of the question mark. It is only 79 light years away. The latin name means "Little King". With a lower altitude and to the East is Denebola marking the tail of the lion. It is 35 light years away and is surrounded by a disc of dust which implies that the star may have planets.



If you can make out The Plough then you can find the Leo constellation.

Just to the right of Denebola and with a slightly higher altitude is the Leo Triplet of galaxies, see below. By using your fist, pointed to the sky (measures about 10°) you can find Leo the Lion.

These can be seen in the same field of view with a telescope.

ESO VST and OmegaCam



## Constellation Leo Triplet System

This is the galaxies of M65, M66 and NGC 3628 all together in the constellation of Leo. It is a small group of gravitational locked galaxies about 36 million light years away. M65 is a spiral galaxy 35 million light years away. It was discovered in 1780. It is low in dust and has relatively little star formation. M66 however is 100,000 light years in diameter and has distinctive dust spirals and bright star clusters along the spiral arms. With NGC 3628 they form the Leo Triplet group of galaxies.

**April 17th** Mars will have a small crescent moon beside it. It will be in the SSW at an altitude of 58° and with the very bright star Capella at 70° altitude further to the West (the latter virtually overhead).

**April 18th, 19th** a crescent moon will sit just under Castor and Pollux (the Heavenly Twins) and directly below the crescent moon is the star Procyon in the constellation of Canis Minor (The Lesser Dog). In Greek and Roman mythology Castor and Pollux were the twin sons of Jupiter and Leda and brothers to Helen of Troy. They sailed with Jason as two of his argonauts to find the golden fleece.

## Irish Astronomers:

**Colonel Edward Joshua Cooper M.P. (1798 -1863)**

Colonel Cooper set up the Markree Observatory in the grounds of Markree Castle, Sligo. It was described as "the most richly furnished private observatory known" and "worked with great activity by Mr. Cooper himself and by his very able assistant Mr. Andrew Graham" (Royal Astronomical Society 1851) and for a number of years his telescope was the biggest in the world. He discovered the asteroid 9 Metis, the only asteroid discovered from Ireland until 2008. His main work was the discovery of stars (within 3° of the ecliptic). The position of 60,965 stars were recorded of which only 8965 had been previously discovered. He was awarded the Cunningham Medal of the Royal Irish Academy. He died aged 64 years in 1863.

His nephew Edward Henry Cooper inherited his estate and helped to restore the observatory. When he died the observatory was closed and its telescope was sold to the Jesuits and was shipped to Hong Kong where it was damaged. The library was converted into a garage and the observing books were dumped in a neighbouring building which was open to the elements. What a great loss to our astronomical heritage.

# Scoil Cholmcille



What an absolute relief it has been for everyone to have all the pupils back in their classrooms for the past two weeks. Friends have been reacquainted with one another and most children remembered to bring in their school bags! Despite some minor anxieties, everything has fallen back into place very smoothly for most children. We have been going back over the “Wash, Cough & Sanitize” routines, and the children have been very receptive. We would like also at this point to thank all the parents/guardians/minders who have cooperated so well with the drop-off and collection routines so far. It is imperative that we maintain the disciplines around these as endeavour to keep the spread of the virus at arm’s length. Schools are generally safe places as long as we maintain the correct procedures and routines. We also have a very rigorous daily cleaning regime in place so we are

confident that we can maintain schools as a safe workplace for both pupils and staff. Community transmission is still causing concern however and we would again ask everyone to examine their own behaviours with regard to social gatherings, playdates, parties etc. The last thing we want to hear is that schools are reverting to remote learning once more. Nobody wins in that scenario. The more compliance we have for the restrictions, then the sooner they will end for good. Stay the course. Our focus now that the pupils are back in classrooms has been on social and personal development. The academic stuff will all follow in due course, but we really do want the children to feel good about themselves once more. Remember that they are still very young. No one at our school is sitting the Leaving Cert this year - or anytime soon. They have plenty of time to catch up on lost ground. Let’s first make sure that they are happy, content and feeling safe. Trust the teachers to identify the areas that require attention and then leave them to it. Expect a different focus when we return post Easter. For some who have engaged with their remote learning they will bridge any gaps quite quickly. For others who were less engaged it may take a while longer and require a more

tailored approach. The teachers will guide each child as is appropriate. It has been a stressful time for many. Let’s not add to the stress for anyone by adding pointless anxiety to the mix. There is no “best before” date on any learning. We did conduct two surveys with the pupils in recent weeks and gained some useful and interesting insights from them. We wanted to give the children a voice in this trying period and offered them this channel to express their feelings. The results were very comforting and reassuring. Significantly a figure in the high 90%’s were enthusiastic about returning to school. A similar number felt “very supported” by their teacher during closure. We had bet that the thing they would be “most looking forward to” on return to school would be the playground. In fact it was almost unanimously their friends whether in class or outside in the playground. A subtle but significant difference. They just wanted to be together. Most pleasing was the fact that almost all the pupils felt safe in school. We must be doing something right! Some key slides from the survey will be posted soon on our website. You are invited to check them out.

At this stage we have concluded the enrolment process for the school year 2021/22. Offers of place have been issued and letters of acceptance have been received. The Board of Management has approved the formation of the Junior Infant class of next year. This class will consist of 27 pupils, 16 boys and 11 girls and we are enthused about meeting them all in the near future when we hold our Induction Day. Depending on the prevailing restrictions, this may have to be held virtually, but we will be doing our level best to give everyone the personal experience of a visit to the classroom. All incoming parents/guardians have been invited to sign up to our Aladdin Connect admin system so that they can be kept fully updated on events at the school. We will also have a new pupil joining the Rang 2 group for next year. We look forward to meeting them all.

Teachers have this week been considering their booklists for next year and we are happy to report that we will be able to pass this information on to our Book Rental Committee this week. We have been trying to hold off on any major changes to these book lists as we wait for development which is in the offing regarding the revision of the language curriculum as well as changes that will be made to the Maths curriculum.

Check out our website for some important information regarding free car seat checks for those carrying children in their vehicles. Full details are available there in the information note issued this week. It is a valuable service.

The period of school closure saw us hit some key numbers reporting the “hits” on our school website. We began a habit of rewarding pupils who managed to

capture the magic moment in which they caught the “Magic Number”, such as 345,345, 369,369 or 373,737. Each one was claimed in turn and for once it wasn’t Paddy R3 !

So comhghairdeas to Katie & Róisín R5 for their relentless pursuit of the numbers. Noah R3 was also a winner in this search and capture exercise.

The latest “Magic Number “ to hunt down is 383,940. Let the chase begin.

Some people have been optimistic enough to be enquiring as to when school will reopen for the start of the next school year. They are crossing fingers that restrictions will be relaxed enough to allow for holidays to take place and so “School Opening Day” has assumed a special significance. We can tell you that the first day of the new school year will be Wednesday, September 1st.

for all pupils. The outline calendar for next year has been posted to the school website. It can be found in the sidebar under the current calendar.

There has been no development regarding dates for the religious ceremonies of Confirmation and First Holy Communion. Making plans for these is impossible until such time as the restrictions are lifted on the numbers which may attend for religious celebrations. We will keep you informed as the situation becomes clearer.

Some students worked extremely hard over the past months as they read copiously in order to boost their Word Count totals. We were delighted to see them show such endeavour and we are happy to welcome a whole new raft of "Word Millionaires" to this exclusive club. Some of these are pictured below and the full crew can be seen in a little video clip which can be found on the website. Check it out. A special word of recognition to Fionn in R2. Becoming a "Word Millionaire" at such a young age is a phenomenal achievement and so he was rewarded not just with the special pin, but a little bonus prize as well.

Also from that class, you may see David who was able to locate The Metal Man's little brother! Check the website for this interesting story.

And then there is the beautiful artwork that comes from the collaborative efforts of our Rang 5 pupils. Many hands make the paintbrush do wonderful things!

A brief report from the most recent Board of management meeting may be found on the website. You are welcome to read it there. Next meeting will be held on Tuesday April 30th.

The position of Principal Teacher at Sc. Cholmcille has been advertised recently and I am happy to report that there has been a large degree of interest in the position. I can certainly understand why. When I announced to the staff and the BoM that I would be retiring this year, my hope was that a new Principal would be appointed to assume the position post-Easter and have the bulk of the final term of the year to settle in and get to know the pupils and staff while starting to develop relationships with the wider school community. In that way they would be able to start the

new year afresh and waste no time in finding their feet. Unfortunately it hasn't worked out like that. The position is to be readvertised due to a technicality in the original advertisement and so there will be a consequent delay in completing the process. Friday March 26th. was to be my last day in Skryne NS . However because of this situation I have offered to defer my retirement to Friday May 14th. This should allow for a degree of continuity in the school and sufficient time for the process to be completed.

On a personal note, I would like to thank the many people who have phoned, written or emailed to wish me well into the future. Your good wishes have touched me deeply and I will treasure your kind words. I am however feeling a little like this Corona virus that you just can't shake off!

Over the past few months writing here, I have taken to including an occasional musical reference and so this one seems most appropriate following on from that. I have long since admired Paul Brady as a master of his craft and heard him interviewed recently as he recalled a massive undertaking when he played for 23 sell-out nights at Vicar Street back in 2001. Paul played a different set each night and had a guest artist join him on stage. I was at two of those nights and the second one was a truly memorable occasion. I got a tip-off that Van Morrison was to guest and managed to wangle two tickets. It was a brilliant night made all the better when they invited Brendan Bowyer of all people to join the two maestros on stage. A most unlikely trio, but Bowyer took the house down with his version of Brady's "Follow-On". I'll never forget it. Pure class. Paul Brady has written many great tunes but most appropriate here might be one called "The Long Goodbye....." a tune he co-wrote with Ronan Keating of all people. Now I'm sure I've seen a picture of Ronan Keating in a Skryne jersey somewhere. Rumour has it his football career was not cut short by the singing career that he would eventually follow. Someone told me that he just couldn't handle the close marking and hard tackling of a certain Nicky Hamill. I can believe that one.....

Martin Kennedy,  
Principal Teacher,



Cael R3 Word Millionaire Mar21



David R2 Quiz Ans Mar21



Finn R4 Word Millionaire Mar21



Fionn Prize R2 Word Millionaire Mar21



Oran R4 Word Millionaire Mar21



James R4 Word Millionaire Mar21



Maeve R3 Word Millionaire Mar21



Róisín R5 Magic Number Mar21



Ross R3 Word Millionaire Mar21



Katie R5 Magic Number Mar21

# A Review of Fantasy Cheltenham 2021

Skryne GFC



Skryne GFC were delighted with the fantastic response to the recent Fantasy Cheltenham fundraiser. In a time where every penny counts, it was heartening to see such a positive response from our supporters. A total of 420 tickets were purchased for the event with a profit of €5,000 raised for the club which will help with the ongoing development and maintenance of our facilities.

Skryne GFC would like to thank all who bought tickets and supported the event. We would also like to express our appreciation to Alan and the staff

in Swans for their help with registration for this event and to our ticket sellers who helped to ensure that the ticket sales were high despite the challenging

circumstances due to Covid 19.

We congratulate our Skryne GFC prizewinners, Niamh O'Sullivan who took the Skryne GFC overall prize and our daily winners Mary Jackson, Martin Mulvany, Mike Noonan and Stan Phillips. Well done to all!

Cheltenham certainly proved to be an exciting week of racing and it was made even more enjoyable when local trainer Gavin Cromwell saw 2 of his horses, Flooring Porter and Vanillier romp home to victory.

A heroic performance from Skryne man Keith Donoghue who rode veteran Tiger Roll to a 13 length victory was another sweet moment for all to savour. Well done to Gavin and Keith who made us forget about lockdown for a short while last week.

BE IN WITH A CHANCE OF WINNING A

**€50 One4All Gift Voucher**

by attending this year's Annual General Meeting. 6 x €50 gift vouchers to be won on the night.

**Our Virtual AGM Will take place on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021,**

**Register Now** on our website [www.taracreditunion.ie](http://www.taracreditunion.ie) to attend on the Night.

**To be entered you must have Registered and be in attendance via Zoom on the Night.**

## CONSIDERING A LOAN...

Here are some of the many reasons members come to us for loans:

**Highly Favourable Interest Rate**  
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The knowledge that your savings are supporting the local community loans.

| Loan Amount | Typical Weekly Repayments | 40.65 Term Months | Total Interest | Total Repayments |
|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|
| €1,000      | €20.01                    | 12                | €40.65         | €1,040.65        |
| €5,000      | €36.02                    | 36                | €617.74        | €5,617.74        |
| €10,000     | €46.56                    | 60                | €2105.18       | €12,105.18       |
| €15,000     | €69.84                    | 60                | €3157.77       | €18,157.77       |
| €20,000     | €71.52                    | 84                | €6030.71       | €26,030.71       |
| €30,000     | €107.28                   | 84                | €9046.07       | €39,046.07       |
| €40,000     | €111.20                   | 120               | €17,823.41     | €57,823.41       |
| €50,000     | €139.00                   | 120               | €22,279.26     | €72,279.26       |



**TARA & DISTRICT CREDIT UNION**

**Our AGM will be held virtually on Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021,**

For access to the meeting members will need to pre-register before the **2<sup>nd</sup> April 2021** for access on the night.

To register members will need to visit our website [www.taracreditunion.ie](http://www.taracreditunion.ie) and complete the registration form, prior to the meeting they will get an email with the link for the ZOOM on the night.

We will also be giving away 6x one for all vouchers for attendees on the night.



# A Brush With The Law

Joan Gallagher

Slowly, but surely, George and I built up a very good life and home for ourselves, and soon we got our first car, a Morris Minor, second-hand for £45 bought from Joe Curran, we had it for ages, and not once did it ever let us down.

Mind you I did have my one and only “brush with the law” in that same Morris Minor, when I was caught and convicted for speeding. I was on my way to Navan on a wet and miserable Saturday evening when at Smiths of the Bridge Garda O’Loughlin stepped out of nowhere with his hand up. “Have you any idea what speed you were doing” he asked, No Garda I said, well, he said, you were doing 38 m.p.h., and he proceeded to book me.

Anyway, the summons eventually arrived and I had to go to court.

Having never been in court before I had no idea what it was like, so I sat at the back of the courtroom, I soon noticed Garda O’Loughlin standing along the side aisle with a group of other Gardai. Several cases were dealt with but no sign of mine. Just then a man came in and whispered something to Garda O’Loughlin and the two of them left the courthouse.

At that moment the Judge said “next case please” and the clerk gave my name verses Garda O’Loughlin. The Judge, looking weary by now called for O’Loughlin to give him the particulars of

the case, so of course he was informed that O’Loughlin was left the courtroom. “What,” said the Judge, “Well, is the defendant in court” he asked, and I, with trembling knees slowly stood up at the back of the courtroom, and he said “could you come up here please”. So with a heavy heart, and totally mortified I had to walk up the side aisle towards the Judge and in front of everyone.

The Judge looked at me for several seconds before thrusting his hands out in front of him saying, “I don’t know what to do with you, Garda O’Loughlin isn’t here to give me the evidence, I see here that you were speeding, were you going very fast, he asked, a wry grin on his face, (probably visualising me in this Morris Minor nearly as old as myself),

Oh no, your honour I croaked. Then after much humming and hawing and scratching of his head, he turned to me and asked, “would a pound be all right”, and I, so filled with relief that it was all over took a pound from my purse and proceeded to hand it to the Judge when I noticed the whole courthouse was breaking up in laughter.

*an extract from Joan Gallagher’s book  
“Milestones along the Journey of Life*

## Hillview Nursing Home



Manager Rebecca with Joe & Maureen enjoying the sunshine on St Patricks day



A beautiful day for our celebrations



Tom, Eamon & John, with special guest Michael D!



Tom getting ready for the St Patricks day festivities



The parade gets underway!

Hillview Nursing Home enjoyed a great day of festivities on St Patricks day last week. Thankfully, the sun shone and so we all made the most of the glorious day and enjoyed a parade and fun and games outdoors. Special guest Michael D kept an eye on proceedings, and there was plenty of dancing & singing by all. Special thanks to activities co-ordinator Ailve for all the hard work in organising such a fun day!

# Rathfeigh National School

by Seamus Tansley

## ■ Congratulations

We haven't had a lot to cheer about over the last twelve months due to the coronavirus pandemic. We could, however, on March 18th, celebrate the great achievement of Sophie and Cameron's dad (Gavin Cromwell) in training the winner of the prestigious Stayers' Hurdle at Cheltenham. It's exceptionally difficult to win any race at Cheltenham but to win a Championship Race is a superb achievement. Well done Gavin. Sophie had a smile on her face on Friday as wide as the Grand Canyon and I'm sure there was great excitement over the weekend when 'Flooring Porter' returned to the stables. The win brought back great memories when 'Raz De Maree' was paraded in front of the school a few years ago after winning the Welsh Grand National. Well done to everyone involved in this success. The staff in Rathfeigh were delighted to receive a beautiful chocolate cake from the Cromwell family this week to celebrate their achievement. It went down a treat!! Below are a few pictures with the children basking in the success of "Flooring Porter". Roll on Aintree and Fairyhouse!!

## ■ Happy Retirement Martin

Two years ago I got a number of text messages stating that Martin was retiring from Skryne National School. Of course I congratulated Martin immediately!! Martin was shocked to hear that I was retiring him early and that he had no intention of retiring at that time. So a number of weeks ago I got similar text messages about Martin retiring. But, once burned twice shy!! I shyed away from sending a congratulatory text this time waiting instead to hear it from the horse's mouth!

It came as a surprise to all that Martin will be retiring shortly but I think Martin has had a very good innings and will be sorely missed by his staff but more importantly by the children in Skryne. Martin never lost focus on the most important aspect of teaching – the children. The children were constantly engaged in numerous activities during and after school – football, soccer, orienteering etc etc etc. so I'm sure the children will miss him more than anyone.

I'd like to thank Martin for the many events he organised for us in Rathfeigh – credit union quizzes, Confirmation meetings, Zeeko Education workshop, Gaelic football blitzes (just to mention a few). Although we had the odd minor disagreement about my standard of refereeing of Gaelic Football matches no grudges were ever held!

**Martin, from now on, Friday won't be the best day of the week any more.....all days will be!**

Martin – Happy Retirement!!!!

## ■ Easter Egg Hunt

We had our Easter Egg Hunt on the field at the back of the school yesterday. With the children suitably attired in boots and coats due to the cold weather the Easter Egg Hunt was as competitive as ever!! No hiding place was good enough as the children looked under every branch and twig. It was great seeing the children engrossed in the task at hand and not thinking about Covid-19. All children went home with an Easter Egg each and we wish them all an enjoyable and choc-tastic Easter.

## ■ Enrolments

The Board of Management of Rathfeigh National School would like to thank the parents/guardians who have enrolled their children in our school for September 2021. We have written to applicants to notify them that their child has been offered a place for September. Please reply in writing before April 2nd to confirm an offer of admission. If you would like to find out more information about the school please send an e-mail to [rathfeighns@outlook.com](mailto:rathfeighns@outlook.com).

## ■ Thanks

A big thanks and a Happy Easter to all the staff in Rathfeigh – Mrs Vaughan, Mrs Campbell, Ms O'Donoghue, Ms Reynolds, Mrs Cooke, Nicola (SNA), Helen, Jackie and Ingrid.

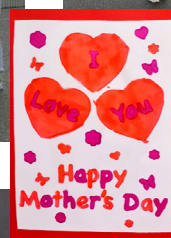
Our Board of Management and Parents' Association have worked tirelessly again this year. We thank them for their continued support of the school.

Sinéad Clarke has been doing Teaching Practice in 1st/2nd class for the last few weeks and she's been fantastic. She has a great future ahead of her in the profession. Well done Sinéad.

## ■ School Grounds

Our caretaker (Jackie) has been off work for a few weeks and we wish her a speedy recovery. In her absence Ingrid has kept up the same high standards. We thank Ingrid for her dedication and commitment to the school. We would have been lost without her!! Thanks Ingrid.

Below are pictures of Flooring Porter and "family", the children enjoying a game of hockey and a beautiful Mother's Day Card by a pupil in 5th class!!



# Skryne Community Alert

Spring is here and the grass has started growing again. Unfortunately, theft of lawn mowers and other garden tools start to grow at this time of year too! Here are a few tips to prevent your garden equipment from being sold out of the back of a van in the coming weeks:

- Don't leave mowers and other expensive garden equipment unattended in your garden or near the road.
- Keep all garden equipment securely locked in a shed when not in use.
- Mark your garden equipment with your Eircode to make it less attractive to thieves. This makes it easier to recover and more difficult to sell on.
- Keep photos of your expensive tools and record their serial numbers. Again, this makes it easier to recover stolen goods and may also enable you to claim on insurance in the event of theft.
- Report any suspicious vehicles in the area to Gardai on 01 801 0600

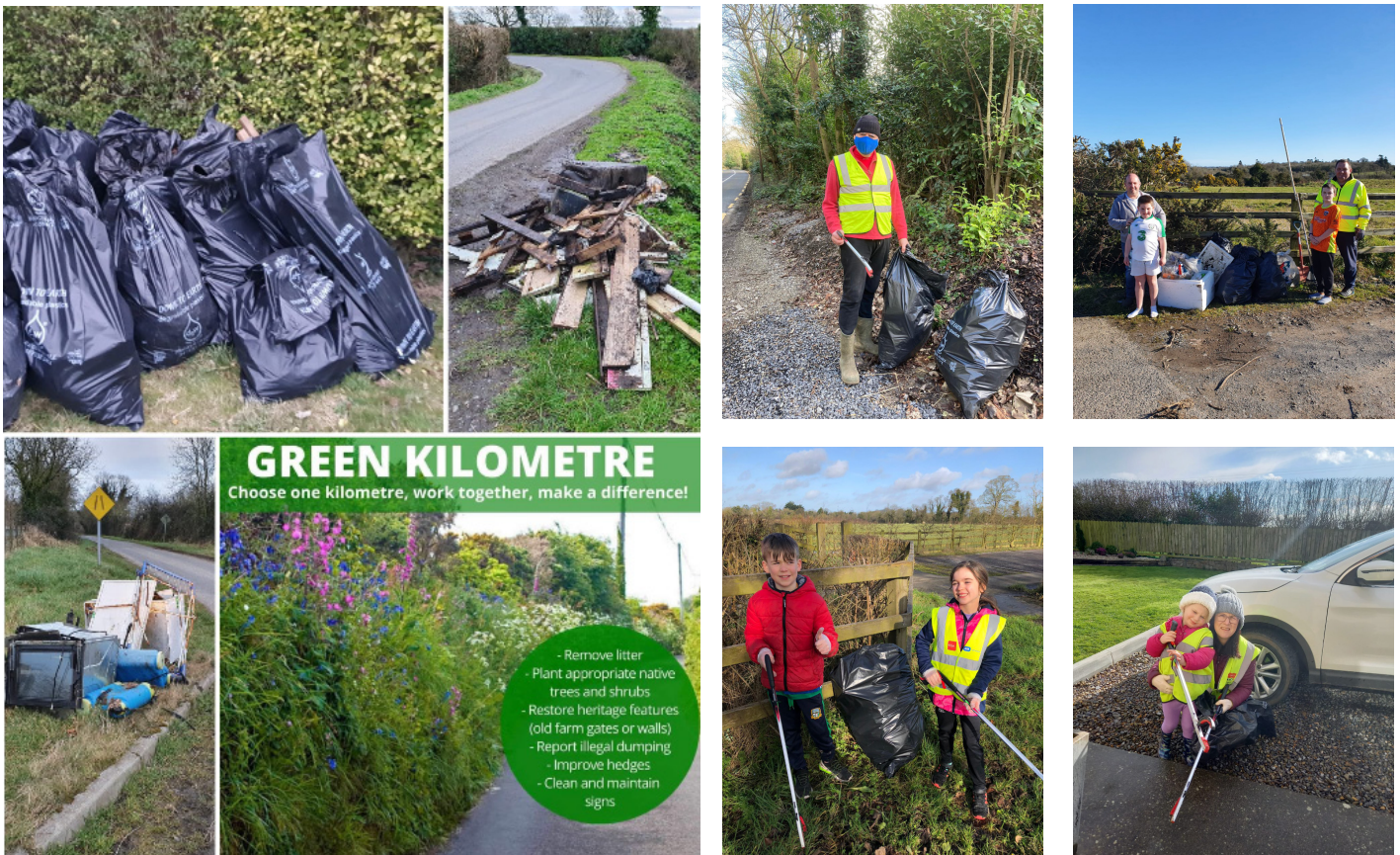
Skryne Community  
**TEXT ALERT AREA**  
**01 801 0600**

An Garda Síochána  
 Muintir na Tíre

To sign up to **Skryne Text Alert**, please email skrynecommunityalert@gmail.com to request a registration form. If you don't have a printer, just let us know your Eircode and we'll drop a form off at your letter box. Please note that renewals are not due at this time.

## THE GREEN KILOMETRE

Thanks to all those who are taking part in the roadside cleanup as part of the green Kilometre scheme. So far many roads have registered & had their big spring clean. The scheme promotes continued removal of rubbish as part of the upkeep of your road. Anyone who still wishes to take part can register their road & avail of resources & collection of roadside rubbish by emailing environment@meathcoco.ie. Some of most recently cleaned roads are: Colvinstown to Trevet, Borrowaddy Road, Candle Hill, Skryne Ratoath road, Stretch of N3 at Ross Cross just to mention a few. For more information call Brigid 086-3314487



# The Wilkinsons and Skryne

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Mary Wilkinson

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*It has been lovely to read Eoin Hickey's reminiscences of his childhood in Skryne in the 1950s. All the characters and families he remembers and the anecdotes about his mother and Skryne Castle have been a welcome distraction during the lockdown. When she arrived in Skryne in 1949 Mrs Hickey - she was always Mrs Hickey, never Elizabeth - struck up a friendship with Old Jock and the Wilkinson family and subsequently with Young Jock. (I could make a joke about her being acquainted with a pair of Jocks but I don't want to lower the tone of the RST.) We all had huge respect for Mrs Hickey and learned so much from her through the years. She always called on Christmas Day, invariably the first visitor, and reminded us of Mrs Tiggywinkle and her basketful of goodies.*

Eoin's recollections prompted me to wonder about the history of Skryne Castle before Mrs Hickey and its association with the Wilkinson family. Indeed, how far back their links to Meath and the parish go. My understanding was patchy to say the least and my modest research - Mrs Hickey's advice at such a time would have been invaluable - has at least allowed me to see how much truth there was to some of the anecdotes.

The Wilkinsons were granted land at Cloghran (near Swords) by Henry VIII. Henry died in 1547 but there is no record of a Wilkinson until 1681; it is thought they arrived in 1678, perhaps to Dublin. Thomas Wilkinson became a wealthy and prominent property owner, successful enough to become Lord Mayor in 1719 - we visited the Mansion House to mark the anniversary in 2019. He served on several boards, one such committee, set up to rebuild St Werburgh's Church, included the Right Honourable Robert **Molesworth** MP, Alderman **Sir John Rogerson** MP, Richard **D'Olier**, John **Dawson** and Thomas **Bolton**. Thomas Wilkinson seems singular in his inability to have had a Dublin street named after him!

As Thomas prospered, his property portfolio expanded and in 1706 he purchased Corballis House. Many houses in Ireland are called Corballis but I'm sure many of you will be familiar with this particular one. It was the elegant, if incongruous, dwelling in the middle of Dublin Airport. The house was inherited by James the eldest son of Thomas and remained in the family for 130 years. Richard, another son of Thomas, had the good sense to move to Meath and

the environs of Skryne and that branch of the family, understandably, have seen no reason to leave the parish. Sadly Corballis House was demolished in the 2000s to make way for Terminal 2 - you could say its fate was terminal.

Richard Wilkinson bought land in Meath from the Dillons at Lismullen and he built two houses: 'The Decoy' in Lismullen and 'Ringlestown' on the road from Tara to Kilmessan. It seems odd that a young man moving to the country would build himself two homes but a gravestone from the Hill of Skryne may provide a possible explanation. A Robert Wilkinson, aged 19, was buried there in 1722 and this would make him a likely brother to Richard. Perhaps the second dwelling was due to be the home of Robert but his premature demise left Richard with both. Whatever the circumstances, the Wilkinsons were firmly established on the plains of Meath and liked the place so much they added Curtistown House, Rathbeggan House and Baronstown to the list of family homes.

The first link with Skryne Castle is difficult to pinpoint - I'm sure there is a relevant document out there but it remains un-located at the time of going to press. It was either bought by Peter Wilkinson (1791-1841) or his son Peter, born 1832. The younger Peter had two daughters (Alice and Mary) who lived in the castle and remained unmarried. They sold the castle in 1929 to Adderley Bernard (AB) Wilkinson (a cousin) who owned Baronstown and is the grandfather of the current Jock. AB had, in fact, been living in the castle for a good many years prior to buying it. His son Jock was living in Baronstown when he had a visitation on the 4th April 1923.

The group of locals arrived and wondered if they might burn down his house; they had come from Lismullen where they had done a thoroughly good job of destroying the Dillons' house. Jock persuaded the amateur arsonists if they would just carry the furniture from the house before getting on with their incendiary business; Jock knew most of the men and they acquiesced. With the furniture and inhabitants at a safe remove, a token burning was carried out. We are not sure whether Baronstown was saved through incompetence or an act of compassion but the house still stands. (Incidentally they were sent back at a later date to do a more thorough job but again failed.) Killeen Castle was supposed to be their next destination but they never made it that far - speculation suggests that they stopped to celebrate their achievements of earlier in the day and perhaps became somewhat incapacitated! The Free State made some reparations and for many years the hall in Baronstown was painted in de Valera's paint, which was predictably green.

AB was a good farmer, cattle being his main interest. Denis Farrell, of Oberstown, used to buy cattle for him in the West of Ireland. He modernised the castle and it became a social hub for friends from Dublin, bridge parties and the like. His first wife was Harriett Dickey from Ballymena who was a good friend of Roger Casement, a regular visitor to Skryne. They had two sons, Adderley Edward (AE) and John Dickie (JD) and a daughter, Nancy. Nancy married Mason Yeats whose mother had been a Wilkinson and it's perhaps best they didn't have children. AE and JD went to school in Wales and were christened Pat and Jock respectively by their schoolmates - I suppose they couldn't call them both Pat! They remained Pat and Jock for the rest of their lives. Jock, who some more mature readers might remember, being the current Jock's father.

Harriett died in 1927 and it didn't take AB long to find a replacement. He married a youthful Elvina (Vina) Shaw in 1928, one of the regular visiting bridge players. Meanwhile AB's relations with his sons Pat and Jock were strained and the addition of a new wife, younger than both of them,

complicated the inheritance picture.

Pat and Jock were blessed with youthful exuberance and some of their escapades displeased their father. One episode involved Pat, while a student at Trinity, spending a night in jail and being bailed out by Jock after an incident involving prophylactics and religious statuary. On the whole AB found his sons less than satisfactory. Pat became an engineer and went to build bridges in India with the hope of returning one day to Ireland and Skryne Castle. Jock took over Baronstown and married Clare Spicer in 1932; their issue Joan, Ann and Jock (junior) are all still alive and fully vaccinated.

AB died in 1942 and willed the castle, not to his eldest son Pat, but to Pat's two children Deirdre and Harry. Vina, the young widow, was allowed to live in the castle for the rest of her life.

Around this time the Land Commission relieved the castle of half of its c500 acres and perhaps this was a contributing factor in Vina breaking the Trust that had been established and eventually

put the castle up for sale in 1946. Deirdre and Harry were both paid £2,000 which is perhaps as well because neither of them would have inherited the castle. They both predeceased Vina who died in 1996 having outlived her husband A.B. Wilkinson by 54 years!

Harry lived all his life abroad and Deirdre retired to Wicklow but their childhood visits to Skryne Castle and Baronstown clearly left their mark as both requested that their ashes would be placed in the garden wall at Baronstown. Ted, Deirdre's husband, is still a frequent visitor to the parish and reckons he'd have no use for a castle at his age - he'll be 100 later in the year.

Hopefully this fills in some of the blanks - though I fear it has thrown up more questions - of the time of Skryne Castle before the happy arrival of Mrs Hickey.

*Mary Wilkinson  
(with some inexpert research carried out by Neville Wilkinson)*

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## RATHFEIGH PITCH AND PUTT CLUB MOURNS TWO VALUED MEMBERS



### Nicholas Lynch

The members of Rathfeigh Pitch & Putt Club are grieving at the loss of their cherished friend Nicholas Lynch who died suddenly on 22nd January.

Nicko was an active club member for many years. He was a volunteer in maintaining the club and for a time held the role of club Chairman.

He was a participant at all club events, and represented the club at team and singles events within County Meath and beyond. He played successfully on various club teams including partnerships with his sons Colm and Stephen. Many of his club colleagues gathered in the grounds of Rathfeigh Cemetery on Monday 25th January last as he was brought to his last resting place. He will be missed.



### Bill Mills

The members of the Rathfeigh club were saddened at the passing of their President Bill Mills. In earlier years Bill and his late wife Dee travelled all over the county to open competitions. They would be first at the course to play. He surprised us and even himself when he won an 18nett competition at our club open and he in his eighties.

Bill was an associated member of the Bellewstown club and in memory of his wife Dee he sponsored an annual competition between Rathfeigh and Bellewstown. Few members ever missed this popular fun social event. The club will have the benefit of Bills green fingers, with some of the flowers and trees which he planted, continue to bloom year after year on our pitch and putt course. Everybody got on well with Bill as he was very kind and helpful. He coached anyone who wanted a little help with their game. He will be missed by all. Rest in Peace Bill.



### Find the 8 differences

hidden in these two seemingly identical pictures



### Some Awful Jokes

#### “Home Schooling”

If you see my children locked outside my house, mind your own business, we are having a fire drill!

If we run out of doctors & nurses, we may need to use vets. Have you seen how they take temperatures?

Two soldiers are in a tank. One looks at the other and says, “BLUBLUBBLUBBLUBBLUB.”

Q: What do Alexander the Great and Winnie the Pooh have in common?

A: Same middle name.

|   |  |  |   |
|---|--|--|---|
|  |  <p>MEDITERRANEAN</p> |  |  |
| 01  | 02   | 03   | 04  |
|  |                       |  |  |
| 05  | 06   | 07   | 08  |
|  |                       |  |  |
| 09  | 10   | 11   | 12  |

Answers from last edition challenge: 1 Black And Blue, 2 Booby Prize, 3 Junk Mail, 4 A Bolt From The Blue, 5 Compact Car, 6 Ear Wig, 7 Rear View Mirror, 8 Earth, Wind And Fire, 9 Cod Piece, 10 Foul Play, 11 Eye Liner, 12 Punch Bowl



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Brian and Pauline O'Reilly.

Tony Canavan's story on the Mar's Perseverance rover really caught my eye. I had watched it touch down on Mars with great anticipation. Hundreds of things had to go right for it to land.

In these Covid days "Perseverance" is the name of the game. You may be interested in the latest picture from Mars. It celebrates our Little Big Day. However we have a full year in the 50 year bracket so we look forward to getting the family together in July or August or September!!!



George Bush might pass a while for the younger folk. All you need is 2 Greek Yogurt lids, a small flower pot, the lid from a 5 litre paint pot and a black marker. We have to try and be as green as we can when we are dealing with Mr Bush.

**Our heartfelt thanks to our sponsors and advertisers over the years without whom we couldn't have produced the newsletter.**

A special thanks this month to Michael Maguire, Maguires Hill of Tara who has sponsored our March edition every year since inception.

In previous years sponsorship and advertising paid our printing costs. Going forward we will use our funds to help finance the development and maintenance of a website in conjunction with the RST Community Centre and where all editions of RST Newsletter will be available to view and saved for reference for our future generations.

From now Sponsorship of our monthly edition will cost the lower figure of €100. Commercial advertisements will cost €10 and larger ones (half page) €25. Personal and community notices continue to be free.

We invite local businesses to sponsor our future editions.

**Please email**  
**therstnewsletter@gmail.com**  
**or phone Patricia (086) 838 8017**

We ask our readers please continue to support local

## Condolences

*The Parish passed votes of sympathy with the following:*

- To Sheila and the Dennehy family Greenpark on the death of Pat
- To Terry Foley, Collierstown on the death of his mother Mai, Dunshaughlin
- To the Powderly family on the death of Richard (Richie), Oberstown
- To the Rodgers family on the death of John, Mayo & formerly Skryne
- To the Pryle family, Oberstown on the death of Bernadette

- Our sincere thanks to all who have kept the newsletter afloat for the past 24 years. The RST owes it's continued existence to a few vital groups the loss of any of which would have made the operation unsustainable.
- Firstly, we would like to thank our sponsors and advertisers whose generous financial support ensured that we were always able to pay our way.
- Our printers, A&J Print who took all the hard work out of producing the newsletter. They carried out all the formatting and printing and never once failed to deliver or missed a deadline.
- The contributors who have written all the articles which are the lifeblood of any publication.
- Last, but not least, our distributors who ensured that each issue was hand delivered to as many houses as possible
- The committee would like to extend a very large thank you for all the hard work and support since 1997 and we hope you will continue to be there with us for many years to come.

**Next Issue**  
**Saturday 24th April**

Submissions on or before  
**Wednesday 21st April**

Contact:

**Jim: 086 383 7436**

**Patricia: 086 838 8017**

**Email: therstnewsletter@gmail.com**