

Le Chêile

Community Magazine



February 2017 No. 352

EDITORIAL

There is normally something about this time of year which defies us to be on the hopeful or optimistic side. When the days are at their shortest and most dreary they can only lengthen and improve. From here out we are sensitized to the signs of better things to come like the lengthening of the days, the first lambs and the primroses. This is probably why the travel and holiday agencies make their pitch while we are still reeling under the impact of deepest winter.

Though we anticipate the future, it is probably better that we cannot see what the future holds. This thought came to me when I put myself in the shoes of the people of the beginning of the 1900s. Who would have believed the advances we would have made in the course of a century in terms of the car, air travel, electrification, methods of farming, man on the moon, domestic appliances and so on. Why did we have to spoil it all with two world wars, the atom bomb, ethnic cleansing, exploitative dictatorships and a starving Third World?

We have always found it hard to learn the lessons of our past. We are steadily destroying our environment, widening the gap between rich and poor and congratulating ourselves on our new found wealth. —No I didn't say anything about the U.S. electorate and Trump. It is true that he rejects actions against climate change, and he and his appointed assistants base their suitability for office solely on their accumulated wealth.

There is nothing like a natural disaster to bring us back to reality, be it the volcanic clouds of a few years ago, the tsunamis, or the flooding of the Shannon, If they have any beneficial effect it is that they help us sort out our priorities and remind us of our duty of care —for each other and for the environment. This care should start at an interpersonal level in the family and in the community and extend from there to all mankind

CALENDAR

Tuesday 7th February

Evergreen activities resume after Winter break. See p. 5

Wednesday 15th February

Clane Local History Group will present a talk by Jim Heffernan entitled “**Edward Wogan**” in Clane GAA Club at 8pm.

See p 6

Monday 27th February

Monthly meeting of Clane Community Council in the Abbey Community Centre at 8pm.

Web site: www.clanecommunity.ie

EDITOR'S DEADLINE

The deadline for receipt of material for the **March** issue of Le Chéile is

Monday 21st February

To 142 Loughbollard please.

Tel. 045-868474.

E-mail: margaretmcevoy1@eircom.net

A Brighter Christmas for Clane!

The Christmas lights are now switched off and are in the process of being taken down, but for a few glorious weeks Clane was a veritable winter wonderland. The most common suggestion in response to Clane Community Council's earlier Ideas for Clane mailshot was for Christmas lights. It is not an easy subject with a past that has seen several failures despite a lot of hard work by several different organisations. However, we had a sub-committee look at the suggestion and come up with a plan. Once we gave go- ahead we were thrilled with the support it elicited. The kick-off was a table quiz, organised by Councillor Padraig McEvoy, which raised €1500. After that our little team of "collectors" had no problem in getting the donations of €50 to €100 we looked for from businesses and individuals. I must, though, single out some for the very generous nature of their donations. These were Kildare County Council, Councillor Padraig McEvoy, Clane Project Centre, Power Food Technology, Cullen Cleaning, Condron's Supervalu and Aldi. Their substantial donations were vital in getting the project off the ground. However, the words of the sign in the village notice board afterwards summed up what was a wonderful community-wide effort:

Clane Community Council would like to thank all the individuals and businesses that contributed to the

Clane Christmas lights. The scheme includes 500m of lights, 2,000 cable ties, 130 volunteer hours, local fund-raising, 55 premises..... and 1 community."

Thanks to everyone involved, not just those who donated but those who gave so generously of their time in planning, purchasing and putting up the lights and in collecting the money. It was a huge voluntary effort all-round that Clane can be proud of and one that we will build on in the years to come.

Des Drumm

CLANE & RATHCOFFEY COMMUNITY GAMES SWIMMING RESULTS

Clane and Rathcoffey Community Games Swimming was conducted at Naas Pool on the Naas-Caragh Road on Saturday 28th February. The results were as follows:-

Girls

U 8 Freestyle

Áine Mackey

Nessa Jordan

Katie Wolfe

U10 Freestyle

Muirne Gaine

Saoirse Dagg

Alexandra Finn

U10 Backcrawl

Tessa Dillon

Annie Nevin

Muirne Gaine

U12 Freestyle	U12 Backcrawl
Méabh Maguire	Meabh Maguire
Hannah Hussey-Walsh	Erin Corrigan
Erin Corrigan	Abbie Dowd

U12 Breaststroke	U14 Freestyle
Hannah Walsh-Hussey	Rachel Millea
Ella Hampson	Nicoleta Cociug
Abbie Dowd	

U14 Backcrawl	U14 Breaststroke
Áine Maguire	Rachel Millea
Nicoleta Cociug	Áine Maguire

U 16 Freestyle	U16 Backcrawl
Niamh Henry	Niamh Henry
Evita Andreikeviciute	Katie Walsh-Hussey
	Evita Andreikeviciute

U13 Relay panel	U 16 Relay panel
1 Rachel Millea	1 Niamh Henry
2 Claire Lynch	2 Ailsinn Corbett
3 Aine Maguire	3 Katie Walsh Hussey
4 Sara Millea	4 Róisín Maguire

Boys

U8 Freestyle

Ruan O'Carroll

U10 Freestyle	U10 Backcrawl
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Harry Reid	Lochlan Behan
Mark Bryan Dodd	Mark Bryan Dodd
Lochlan Behan	Joseph Finn

U12 Freestyle	U12 Backcrawl
Shane Henry	Liam Dagg
Liam Dagg	Diarmuid Finn
Daniel Colbert	TJ Dillon

U12 Breaststroke	U14 Freestyle
Daniel Colbert	Matthew Walsh-Hussey
Adam Millea	Adam Mazur
Shane Henry	

U14 Backcrawl	U13 Relay panel
Matthew Walsh-Hussey	Shane Henry
Adam Mazur	Adam Millea
	Daniel Colbert
	Liam Dagg
	Mark Bryan Dodds (sub)
	Diarmuid Finn (sub)

The Relay panels are chosen from winners in other events. All other results listed above will qualify for gold, silver and bronze medals. Medal winners will be notified of the date of presentation.

Thank you:

Susan, Martina, and Tony would like to thank Paul (starter) and Michelle and Agnes (recorders) and Martha (helper), as well as Peter, Chris, Barbara and Tony (judges) for all their help on the day. Thanks also to the staff and management of K Leisure Pool.

County Swimming Competitions 2-5pm

Athy Pool on Saturday 25th March - Girls

on Sunday 26th March -Boys

Team events such as Camogie (G), Hurling (B), Gaelic (B&G), Soccer (B) and Rugby (B), also Table Quiz (B&G) and Cross Country, will be dealt with in the March issue of Le Chéile.

Field and Track events: The Clane & Rathcoffey Community Games Committee will be applying to the Board of Management of Scoil Mhuire Community School to hold the Field and Track Events on the grounds of the school in May. Watch this Space.

THE EVERGREENS

Well its goodbye to the dreary days of Winter and we are about to welcome Spring -what a blessing. How lovely and uplifting it is to see the days unfold and life and nature emerging once more. As I stand on my door-step I can see daffodils , crocuses and even cerise cyclamen peeping above ground and very soon there will be carpets of these blossoms everywhere by hedgerows as well as in gardens all around us. February is indeed an important month. As well as the feast of St. Brigid on 1st and the Presentation of the Lord on 2nd there are two special dates which provide us with a focus for our prayer -the first is World day of the Sick celebrated on 11th, coinciding with the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, the other date is 26th -designated Temperence Sunday. This particular day of prayer always coincides with the Sunday immediately preceding the first day of Lent, which falls this year on 1st March.

This is a bit belated but however I would like on behalf of the Evergreens and myself to congratulate the 7 unique young people who received their Pope John Paul II Awards recently. Each one deserves recognition in his or her own way. They are caring and committed and a credit to their families and community and their involvement in and their contribution to the life of the Parish is so much appreciated.

We Evergreens are due back on Tuesday 7th February after our Winter break. We are looking forward to same and we will be into all our activities, projects, outings and the budding artists among us will be looking forward to lovely Fiona imparting her great knowledge of Art. So when we start back we would love to see some new faces and a Céad Míle Fáilte awaits you. We are so glad to see Eva Halligan re-join us as she's been away for quite a while, so its refreshing to see her among us once more.

Sin a bhuil ar feadh tamall. Slán agus beannacht agus fé choi

mirce Dé sibh.

Maureen Spain (PRO)

CLANE TENNIS CLUB – founded 1973

February is here and it's time for all active people to take off the cobwebs, tennis is one of the best sport to be involved and Clane Tennis Club, with five All weather Floodlit Courts is opened for new membership with special rates for individuals and families.

We have plans to install two Midi Courts for juniors and resurface 3 courts over the next 2 years and have applied for funding from Sports Capital Programme.

The AGM was held on 28th. Nov. and the following officers were elected

President: Paddy Behan

Chairperson: Sean Lavin. V/Chairperson: Peter Duffy

Treasurer: Liam Burke. Assistant Treasurer: Dave Ferguson

Secretary: Suzanne Bannon. Ass. Sec. Barry Kiely

Committee: Kerry Molloy, Mick Hennessy, Aine Woodhouse,

Mary O'Connor, Harriet Ormonde, Chris L. Rogers and Wayne Quinn.

Plans for the coming year includes a big drive to encourage juniors to take up the sport with open week over the Easter period, Summer Camps and coaching. Mick Hennessy and junior committee are organising the all junior activities. Junior Coach Ritchie Mahony 086 6051005

Clane Tennis Club is used by students from Heweston School, March to Oct. and also by members of the nearby KARE Centre which have been very successful and we hope to see some members qualify to represent Ireland in the Special Olympics in Rio..

Special Membership is now available to end March 2018 and application forms in clubhouse with special Family rates. Call any Tuesday evening from 7.30p.m. Family offers, easy payments confidentially arranged. We welcome all new members, both young and not so young to come along and see our facilities. Coaching available. Further details on facebook.

CLANE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Clane Local History Group will present a talk by Jim Heffernan entitled

“Edward Wogan”

in Clane GAA Club on Wednesday, 15th

February, at 8pm.

All are welcome and admission is free.

CLANE GOLF CLUB Notes for January

Spring League

6th - 8th Jan. 9-hole Stableford Week 1
Winner Paul Morrissey (18) 23pts
2nd Pa Connolly (17) 22pts
3rd Paddy Murray (26) 21pts Last 6

13th-15th Jan. 9-hole Stablesford Week 2
Winner Tommy Carew (11) 24pts
2nd Sean Byrne (16) 21pts Last 3
3rd John McAndrew(13)21pts

20th-22nd Jan 9-hole Stableford Week3
Winner J. Craughwell (23)23pts Last 6
2nd James Malone (21) 23pts 3rd
Christy Brogan(22)22pts Last 6

<u>Twos Club</u>	<u>Eamonn</u>
<u>Howlin</u>	<u>Seamus Carew</u>

Leading Teams

1.	John McAndrew (Captain), Paul Morrissey, Tom Bryan	123pts
2.	Seamus Carew, Pa Connolly, Paddy Murray	117pts
	Diarmuid Coonan (President), Bernard Campbell, Sean Lavin	117pts
	Michael Kelleher, Declan Mahony, John Slevin	117pts

Forthcoming Events

Sunday 26th February –8.00am Mass in Clongowes for deceased members, Followed by Captain's (John McAndrew) Drive-in & 3 man scramble. **Sunday 18th March**-Away Outing at Grangecastle G.C., Tee time 9.30am.

Membership for 2017 is open & new applicants are very welcome.

Eamonn Howlin
Hon. Secretary

ICA

We are just easing back into another year and looking forward to different activities over the coming months. Our guild greatly appreciates all the help and co-operation received during 2016, especially in relation to the Senior Citizens' Christmas Party on Sunday December 11th at Clane G.A.A. Club. It was a pleasure to entertain more than 120 guests on the day and see them mingle and enjoy what was on offer. However this would not be possible without so many generous volunteers, who worked so good humouredly and tirelessly throughout the day -and of course the G.A.A. Club (and staff) for providing the very suitable venue. A special word of thanks to the four students from Scoil Mhuire who were so kind and courteous and blended comfortably with the older generation. Thanks also to everyone who supported the Annual Raffle (which helps fund the party). This was held on Thursday 8th and the winners were - Dianna Walsh,

Darragh O'Brien,
Freddie O'Connor,
Olivia Hick,
Iris Connolly.

Our members concluded their year with a lovely evening meal in the Parade Ring, Clane, on Thursday December 15th.

First monthly meeting of 2017 - Thursday February 2nd at 8pm in the Kare Centre.

For information please contact Hon. Sec. Eileen O'Brien 086 3447803

With every good wish to all for health and happiness in 2017

P.R.O. M. O'Connor.

CLANE ST. PATRICK'S DAY FESTIVAL 2017

Plans are well underway for the 2017 Clane St. Patrick's Day Festival.

Entry Forms are now available to download on www.clanefestival.ie Entry forms are also available in Bob and Kates Gift Shop, Clane.

2017 FESTIVAL AGENDA: ALL WELCOME:-

Friday 10th March - Table Quiz – 9pm
Manzor's €40 for a table of 4.

Saturday 11th March - Open Day, Craft Workshop - Florence & Milly -
Adults & Children of all ages welcome.

Workshop - 3pm - TechCreate
All ages & adults welcome
Early booking is essential as classes are small. and numbers are limited. Book now.

Sunday 12th March - "A Little Bit of Clane" 12pm to 6pm The Westgrove Hotel

A showcase of what's on offer in Clane -
If you want to get involved and promote your business, please contact us now to book a table.

Children's Theatre performances with The Moon & Sixpence Theatre will take place at 2.30pm and 4pm. Admission is free.

Monday 13th March - Information Evening - 8pm Clane GAA

Tuesday 14th March - Book Club Evening - 7.30pm The Westgrove Hotel.
Cheese and Wine Reception. All are welcome.

Wednesday 15th March -Bookmark Workshop & Story Time for ages 7yrs to 10 yrs. 3pm to 4pm The Library, Clane. Please book early as numbers are limited. Book through Clane Library.

Workshop—3pm TechCreate, all ages & adults welcome

Friday 17th March Parade 3pm!

Saturday 18th March - Awards Night - The Westgrove Hotel

Check out www.clanefestival.ie or email us for more information.

We are urgently calling on volunteers to help out with stewarding at the Parade. Safety is a very important issue on the day. Please contact us if you can volunteer your services on the day.

Mary Dunne
Chairperson



COMMUNITY COUNCIL AGM **30th January 2017**

Secretary's Report

Introduction:

The 42nd AGM of Clane Community Council was held on Monday 25th January 2016 in the Abbey at 8pm.

Des Drumm was nominated and se-

conded on the night and elected as Chairman for 2016 and a new council executive formed. We also welcomed a new member to the executive – Martine Grogan. The new executive formed was as follows;

Des Drumm (Chairman)

John Kennedy (Vice Chairman)

Nick FitzGerald (Secretary)

Pádraig McEvoy (Asst. Secretary)

Paul Carroll (Treasurer)

Martine Grogan (Asst. Treasurer)

Marion Doolan (PRO)

Tony McEvoy (Asst.PRO).

The community council held 9 monthly council meetings over two periods between February – June and between September – December. In addition to the monthly meetings the community council officers attended 3 executive meetings held in March, August and December. Our sub-committees continued to be active throughout the year.

2016 proved to be another busy year for the Community Council I have highlighted just some of the activities undertaken by the community council or through one of the subcommittees. In summary these are as follows;

Saint Patricks Day Parade – 2016

In March the community council entered the Clane Saint Patricks Day Parade with a people powered Pedibus that was sponsored by Power Food Technology. The float was awarded 2nd prize for non-commercial floats by the organising judges.

Tidy Towns:

2016 completes 43 years of participation by Clane Community Council in the National Tidy Towns Competition having commenced in 1973. 2016 was another busy & successful year culminated in Clane retaining our bronze medal after being awarded an additional 4 points onto our 2015 tally to achieve a total of 299 points out of a possible 450. Clane are still leaders of Category E in Kildare, ahead of Athy (278 points), Kilcock (264 points) and Kildare Town (263 points). Category E are places with a population of between 5,001 – 10,000.

A big thanks to all of the community council members, residents' associations, businesses, schools, sports clubs and other volunteers who supported this year's events so enthusiastically.

It is encouraging to see the achievements year on year and this sub-committee deserves full credit for their work throughout 2016.

There were a total of 450 marks available under a wide range of categories including:

- Community Involvement & Planning
- Built Environment and Streetscape
- Landscaping and Open Spaces
- Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities
- Sustainable Waste and Resource Management
- Tidiness and Litter Control
- Residential Streets & Housing Areas

Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes

The judges included many positive

comments under each heading and areas that the Tidy Towns sub-committee can focus on in 2017. Their concluding remarks were:

We are glad to hear that Tidy Towns has increased community spirit and participation for the benefit of all in Clane. Keep up the good work.

The achievements of local resident's associations and businesses were all recognised at the annual Community Awards Night held in The Village Inn on Friday 11th November. The winners of the 2016 Clane Tidy Towns Best Kept Estates and Best Presented Premises competitions were announced.

One issue that continues to be a problem for which we saw a reoccurrence during 2016 was Graffiti. As a community council we need to be alert to this anti-social behaviour and ensure areas that are targeted are cleaned up and the Graffiti removed as soon as possible.

Community Games:

A successful Church gate collection was held in early May which resulted in approx. €570 being collected.

The local games were once again held in Scoil Mhuire on 16th May and a big thank you must go to Scoil Mhuire for the use of their facilities. This sub-committee has looked at ways of promoting & communicating the community games events and have set up a Facebook page. The county games were held in Clongowes Wood College on 29th and 30th June. Clane & Rathcoffey participated on the night and had some successes to report.

The Gaelic football team won a silver medal in the county finals and the

hurling & camogie teams both won their county finals.

In addition Matthew Walsh-Hussey won individual medal in swimming in the national finals.

Congratulations to this sub-committee for their continued work at local level ensuring that we always have community games representatives from Clane & Rathcoffey at the county games. Martina Healy coordinates all Clane & Rathcoffey Community Games activities. Also a big thank you to Susan Galbraith who looks after the swimmers.

Heritage Sub-Committee:

The Heritage sub-committee also continued to be active throughout 2016. Work is ongoing and required to erect all remaining plaques and signs. Other projects have been identified and discussions are ongoing on landscaping the 1798 memorial as a Tidy Town's project. The photographic survey of the Abbey Garden graves will be finalised this coming year. A grant application has been made to Kildare County Council Heritage Scheme to part fund design of replacement of the Sunday's Well. A detailed heritage consultant's report was issued in 2016 in respect of the Sunday's Well.

Friary & Abbey Graveyard:

The AGM of the Friary & Abbey graveyard committee was held in March. The graveyard continues to be kept to a very high standard and credit must go to this sub-committee and their selected band of volunteers.

The annual cemetery mass was held on the 14th June.

Finance:

To avoid any duplication with either the Chairman's or Treasurers report I will not go into much detail under this heading. 10

However our current level of funds and fundraising limits the amount of work that we can undertake.

We have a building that needs annual maintenance and I feel this is one of the main subjects that the new executive will need to address in 2017. I believe we need to invest in the Abbey year on year and we will need to look at what mechanism can be put in place to allow this regular funding to be available to carry out projects both on a short and long term basis.

The main community council fund raising activity in 2016 was the annual golf classic. This was once again kindly sponsored by Larchfield Nursing Home. Thank you to Nellie Dillon of Larchfield Nursing home and to Des Drumm and his organising committee. The weather on the day was not great but a big thank you to all of our other sponsors and the teams that participated.

Abbey Hall & Remembrance Gardens:

The Tus worker programme continued through 2016 and as a community council we continued to benefit from having these workers employed not just in the Abbey but on the many other tasks that they carry out in the Remembrance Garden and around the village overall maintaining the landscaping, cutting grass etc.

One of the main items tackled in the Abbey last year was to commence the removal of the numerous timber structures, stages and crawl spaces to the rear of the stage in the Aspe area. These works were commenced and while not fully completed already better access & egress to the rear of the main stage exists. We have met with CMDS on 2 or 3 occasions throughout last year to agree these works. We have a plan in place to complete the removal of the front of the existing stage and complete the rest of the works in the Aspe area by the end of

March 2017.

We have a number of other items that we will be addressing during 2017.

CCC - Web Site:

I reported last year that our web site is a credit to the community council. It is kept current and up to date with the latest calendar events, community council activities, articles, and latest editions of Le Cheile to name just a few. The Le Cheile community magazine made the transition from paper to the electronic version successfully in Feb. 2014 and was published/ 30 times electronically since. A big thank you to Tony McEvoy & John Kennedy and everyone else involved in this sub-committee.

Christmas 'Lights-On' & Claonadh Award 2016:

The wonderful and now annual awards night was held in the Abbey Hall on 4th December. Clane Parish Choir set the scene with some lovely carols and this year's winner of the Claonadh Award Susan Galbraith was revealed. Susan was a worthy winner of the award and has already commenced work with this year's community games swimming competition that was held in Naas last Saturday 28th January 2017.

One of the initiatives spearheaded by Des Drumm back in November 2015 was the 'Ideas for Clane'. This resulted in some very interesting ideas and proposals being made. However one idea above all stood out and was repeated by numerous people was the idea for Christmas lights in Clane.

The community council reacted to this and a small subcommittee & volunteer group was formed. At very short no-

tice some fund raising activities were successfully arranged together with some generous donations and support of the local businesses Clane was transformed in December. This was a spectacular success of what one community can achieve in such a short time frame. In addition a new star was placed on top of the Abbey and new lights were bought for our Christmas tree on the green. Thank you to everyone involved.

In conclusion I hope I have captured the main activities & events of the community council over the past year. It is not always possible to mention everything so if I have omitted anything apologies. I believe as a community council our structures are in place and are solid. I would encourage all sub-committees to meet at least once during the coming year. It does make a difference. Generally the subcommittees are working however certain challenges do lay ahead for us in 2017 in respect of funding and the upkeep of the Abbey Hall.

Finally this is my last report as Secretary as I have held the role for the last 3 years I would like to thank Des Drumm as Chairman, my fellow officers, the community council members & volunteers for all their help, advice and assistance throughout 2016. I know that 2017 will continue to be a successful year for the community council and look forward to working with you all.

Yours Sincerely,

Nick FitzGerald,

Secretary, C.C.C.

**NEW COMMUNITY COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE ELECTED FOR
2017**

Paul Carroll, Chairman

Nick FitzGerald, Vice Chairman

John Kennedy, Secretary

Padraig McEvoy, Assistant Secretary

Martine Grogan, Treasurer

Niamh FitzGerald, Assistant Treasurer

Marion Doolan, P.R.O.

Tony McEvoy, Assistant P.R.O.