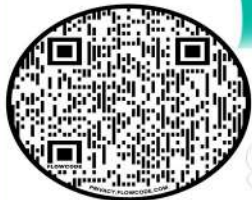


# FUNDRAISER

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COMMUNITY CENTRE  
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All donations are welcome, you can drop your donation into the centre or to our Gofundme page thanks.

## LOOKING FOR WRITERS

We are looking for any up and coming writers out there who would love to see their work in print.

You could cover any local news, events such as local parades, festival, concerts, sport fixtures etc. You could also do feature pieces on local individuals, community groups or human interest stories from the local area, could this be you?

Contact the Newsletter Team at [newsletter@rathcoolecommunity.ie](mailto:newsletter@rathcoolecommunity.ie)

Rathcoole Community Council CLG Rathcoole Community Centre,  
Main Street, Rathcoole,  
Co. Dublin

Phone : 01-5045000 Fax : 01-4580238

Email : [newsletter@rathcoolecommunity.ie](mailto:newsletter@rathcoolecommunity.ie)

Web : [www.rathcoole.info](http://www.rathcoole.info)



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Issue 2-22  
June / July 2022



# Rathcoole NEWSLETTER

## YOUR COMMUNITY CENTRE NEEDS YOU !!!!

### VACANCIES

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Rathcoole Community Centre is currently looking for Community Employment staff for our busy centre. We urgently need to fill the positions above. We offer training in a friendly and welcoming atmosphere. We have some opportunities right now for you to come and join our team.

Drop in and talk to us! You could be eligible for a Community Employment position. It's a great way to get involved in your local area while gaining valuable skills. Should any of these be of interest to you, email CV to [fasrcc@gmail.com](mailto:fasrcc@gmail.com) or call 01-5045000



# Young Hero Bake Sale

Kindness is my favourite thing, and I had the absolute pleasure of meeting some of the kindest children that Rathcoole has to offer. Fionn Quinn. Tadhg O'Neil. Holly O'Reilly. Raymond Joyce and Ryan Moriarty. All 11 years of age and students in Holy Family National School.



These amazing young heroes organised a bake sale for the Ukrainian crisis and managed to raise an incredible €1,285!!!

### So how did you guys come up with this incredibly kind idea?

Tadhg's mom put her name down on a website so that if a Ukrainian needs any help, or a place to live they could come live with her. She is even learning some Ukrainian language so she can communicate.

We know how to say hello, which is привіт. It sounds like private. We thought, why don't we do something nice too. So, then we came up with the idea, and ended up raising €1,285.

### That's amazing. So, what did you guys make?

Fionn and his mom made millionaire shortbreads, Tadhg made chocolate biscuit cake and these things called ooey goey bars, and some cookies. Raymond made rice krispie buns, they were delicious, and Ryan made rice krispie buns too, cake and cookies. Holly made millionaire shortbread and top hats which were actually from her nana's recipe.

### Oooooo, Holly, a secret family recipe? Are you allowed to share?

Yes, well basically you melt some chocolate, put it in a cupcake case and then dip a marshmallow in it and then when it dries it's like a Top Hot It's my favourite - family recipes always taste sweeter!

### I bet everyone loved everything so much? But what sold the quickest?

The cookies sold really well. Before we even properly set up, we barely put any cakes on the table, and suddenly there were people swarming the stalls, all looking to buy our delicious cakes. So many people came, we actually couldn't believe it.

### Did all your neighbours and friends come to support you?

Yes, so many people came, family and friends even came and donated cakes that they had baked for us and then we sold them. We didn't even know they were going to do that, they just turned up with

## Wednesday

Toddlers World	10:00am - 11:00am	Main Hall / Sports Hall
Active Retired Gym	10:00am - 11:00am	Gym
Active Retired (Every 2nd week)	11:00am - 1:00pm	Main Hall
Music Generation	2:30pm - 6:30pm	Sports Hall
Zumba Classes (Clare)	6:45pm - 7:45pm	Sports Hall
Kangoo Jumps	8:00pm - 9:00pm	Main Hall

## Thursday

Hombu Dojo Karate	4:00pm - 5:00pm	Main Hall
Rathcoole Karate	6:00pm - 8:30pm	Sports Hall
Bridge Club	7.00pm - 10:00pm	Main Hall

## Friday

School of Dance (Tanya)	2:00pm - 7:30pm	Sports Hall

## Saturday

Baton Twirling	11.00am - 1.00pm	Sports Hall
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## Sunday

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**Please Note:** This is a list of all activities in Rathcoole Community Centre at the time of print. New activities do come on board throughout the year and you can check this out by visiting the Centre, contact by: **Email: info@rathcoole.info** or **Phone: 01 5045000**



# Rathcoole Community Centre Activities

## February - March 2022

### Monday To Friday

Teach na Leanai Pre - School and After School	7.30am - 6.00pm	Room D1/D2/D3
Happy Feet Pre - School	7.30am - 6.00pm	B1/B2/B3

### Monday

Thatch Bridge Club	10:00am - 1:00pm	Main Hall
Active Retired Gym	10:00am - 11:00am	Gym
Speech and Drama	3:00pm - 6:00pm	Sports Hall
Kangoo Discovery	4:45pm - 5:45pm	Main Hall
Irish Dancing (Anne)	6:00pm - 7:30pm	Main Hall
Zumba Classes (Fiona)	7:30pm - 8:30pm	Sports Hall
Camera Club (every 2nd week)	8:00pm - 9:00pm	John Nolan Room
Kangoo Jumps	8:45pm - 9:45pm	Main Hall

### Tuesday

Dance City Ireland	5:00pm - 9:00pm	Main Hall
Rathcoole Karate	6:00pm - 8:30pm	Sports Hall
Meditation	7:30pm - 8:30pm	Room C1
Community Council Meeting (Every 2nd week)	8:00pm - 9:00pm	John Nolan Room

things like delicious brownies or Ukrainian looking cupcakes. Other people even came and gave us fifty euro notes for twenty euros worth of cakes. They didn't even want the change, they just wanted to support us. People were so kind. And then we got paid in the left-over cakes!!!

#### So you guys obviously put a lot of effort into making this such a success?

Yeah, we really did, we made posters for the bake sale, and we set up our stall. We had sticky notes for price tags. We made little Ukrainian flags from toothpicks for the cakes, we even had a tip jar and the tip jar was overflowing. We couldn't believe it, there was over €200 in it. It really showed us that people were not there just for the cakes but because they wanted to show their support which was amazing.

#### What was the best part of the experience for you all?

The experience of doing it with our friends for sure, and the way that we worked together. Or when Tadhg's dad told us the amount of money that we raised. We were upstairs, enjoying our leftover cakes and he made us all guess. Holly was the closest and she only guessed €500. We were so excited. And we are so happy that all the money is going to such a good cause.

#### Have you guys got a message for any people who are coming to Rathcoole from Ukraine?

Yes, it's good that you were able to find a place to stay like here in Rathcoole. Our community will always take care of you. It is a very safe place to be. With local people there is always someone willing to help you if you're in trouble, for example, like your car is stuck in snow suddenly an army of people will come with shovels. We hope you feel welcome.

#### Any final words?

We just want to say thank you to everyone who came to support us and for all of your very generous donations and tips. Thank you for supporting us from the kindness of your hearts to ours. And for filling the tip jar!!!! Its all gone to a great cause.





# Rathcoole Karate Club

Top picture was our spring traditional seminar with Sensei Barry Wilkinson 8th Dan from the UK. Three of our students passed their black on that weekend. Our chief instructor Sensei Martin Nulty was awarded his 6th Dan by Sensei Barry Wilkinson that weekend.



The next picture we had invited World vice chairman of the Refereeing commission to come host a seminar. Ten of our members plus guests from all over the country attended and passed their referee exams. On that weekend for the practical part and preparation for referees we hosted a junior tournament which was our fourth this year in Rathcoole. Athletes came from many clubs from Dundalk to Cork to take part.



The club is extremely active in all aspects of karate, traditional and competition events. The club trains all year & is open to new members ages 5 up.



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# Commercials

## Under 15 Féile Team

Congratulations to our Camogie team in their recent Féile Division 2 Competition. This event was run over two days and the girls played some great hurling and won all their games on Saturday against Naomh Judes, Naomh Mearnog, and Castleknock. The day wasn't over for our wonderful girls, as they went on to play a Semi-Final against Na Fianna. This was a tight game, which went to extra time but the Commercials girls brought home the win in extra time, to book a place in the Final.



Unfortunately, we lost in the Final to a very strong Naomh Brid team. It wasn't to be our day but the girls kept fighting until the final whistle.

Our Division 3 Hurling team reached the Semi-Final of Féile. Unfortunately, they lost out to Whitehall. The determinations of this group of lads was great to see, only a puc of the ball in the end, losing out by just 3 points, we just ran out of time.

There was great hurling and skills on display and plenty of positives to take away from the girls and the lads. The future is bright. Well done to both teams and mentors. Thanks to the parents, and all the supporters that came out to cheer on the teams!



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# Rathcoole Camera Club

## WE ARE BACK!!!



Having our club meetings in the Rathcoole Community Centre.

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Would you like to join a local camera club?

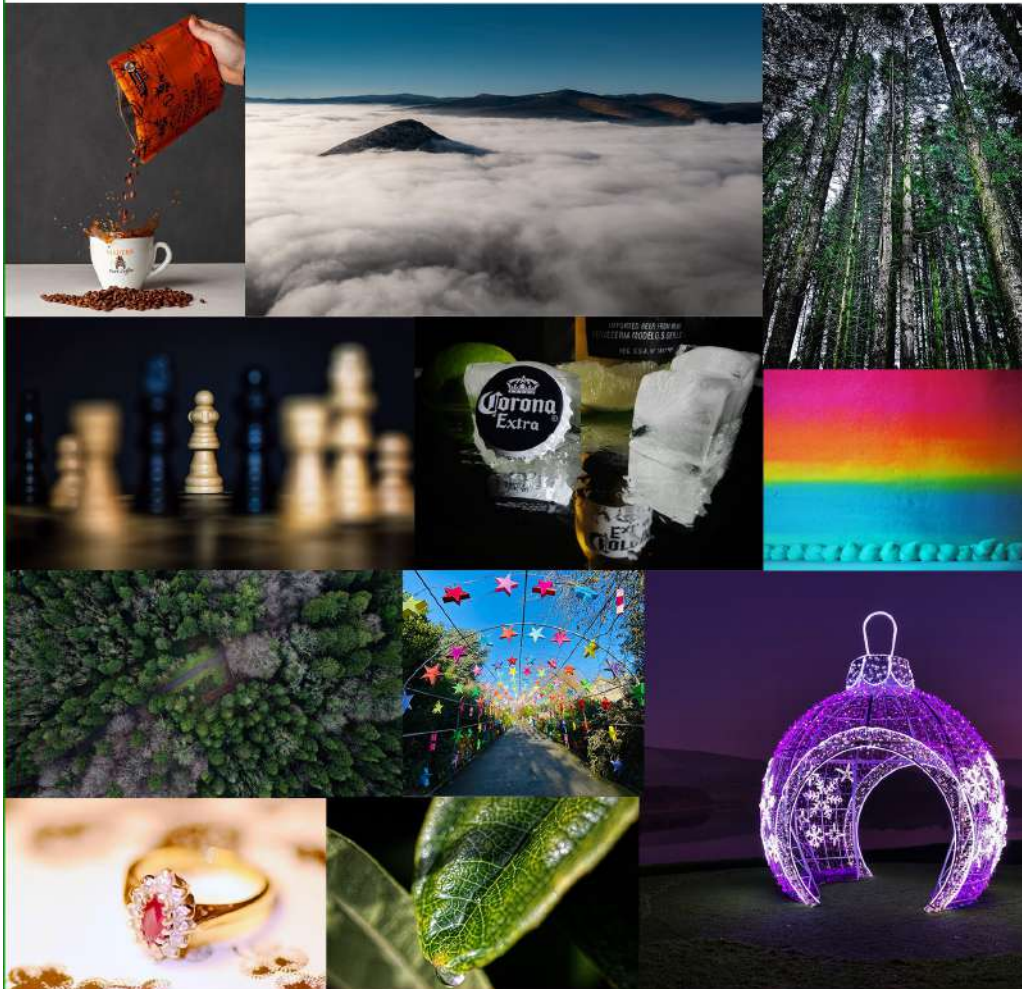
If you would like more information email

[rathcoole.cameraclub@outlook.com](mailto:rathcoole.cameraclub@outlook.com)



SCAN YOUR  
CAMERA  
PHONE HERE  
TO FOLLOW US  
ON INSTAGRAM

Here are some images from our club members.



Supports within a community *spiritual, physical, mental or emotional* are connected and not separate. The need is to respond to the real, not perceived issues. These responses should be based, in so far as possible, locally. There is a need to identify, respond to and establish the real gaps in our community by developing relationships, networking, dialogue and realising that we all journey together *faith or no faith*. An immediately obvious hinderance to this is a lack of meeting or gathering areas that are safe, accessible and secure. In actively recognising and embracing our creative diversity and promoting true collaboration we unlock the strength of our communities. Our responses must be timely, appropriate and accessible as we rediscover and delight in what community is.

Through Covid, the pressure of everyday issues highlighted inefficiency, inadequacy, and in-built prejudices within a lot of sectors. It also highlighted that many of our systems, processes and supports (*in statutory bodies, Churches, etc.*) caused major gaps not all established programs, etc. supported the people they were set up to be in service of. We need to acknowledge this, learn from this and move on. It's our actions that are important. Often it's not what's done but how its done and for who's benefit that's key.

The Gospel still much needed: **YOU ARE LOVED. YOU ARE LOVABLE. YOU ARE CAPABLE OF SHARING THAT LOVE WITH OTHERS.** The small changes, the simple acts of kindness make the most impact. Can we as a community share good news like local heroes? Can we celebrate, thank those in our community who are an inspiration to us those people who daily do the ordinary things in an extraordinary way? Can we reach out to those who have been bereaved or going through difficult times just to let them know that we're there for them?

The advice I would give to anyone who is interested in this type of work is, follow your heart, don't be afraid to ask big questions and, always, take care of yourself. Everyone has a part to play and makes a difference. I look forward to journeying with you over the next number of years. If I can be of help in any way do not hesitate to contact me or any of the parish team.

Those who would like to reach me, these are my contact details:

Email: [frank.brown@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:frank.brown@dublindiocese.ie) or [saggartparish@gmail.com](mailto:saggartparish@gmail.com)

Phone: 086 101 8173

Social media: [@SRBNParishgrouping](#)

Website: [www.srbnparishes.ie](http://www.srbnparishes.ie)

Parish Office - 086 0108420

# A Message From Frank Brown

My name is Frank Brown. I am a Parish Pastoral Worker (PPW) for the Catholic Church and work for the of Archdiocese of Dublin. Originally from Belfast, I have been working in this region since last October. Married for twenty-three years and a father of three, I am a professional person who works with the clergy, parish teams, church parishioners within Saggart, Rathcoole, Newcastle and Brittas. I have been in this role for almost twelve years now and before this I was in consultancy.

The role of a PPW is around working as part of the parish team in supporting and responding to the pastoral needs of the parishes that we are based in and I can honestly say that I love what I do. Our role is wide and varied entailing anything from supporting and developing sacramental programs, ecumenical & social justice initiatives, faith & catechetical supports to revamping communications, establishing connections and developing relationships. Making no bones about the fact that we come from a faith perspective, we work as a support to all within our parishes (*those with faith and none*), especially those most vulnerable acting as catalyst for change and as a connection between our community of faith and the wider community.

Before moving here, I was 6 years in the Clondalkin area where I had the privilege of working in several parishes and with representatives of various community groups and statutory bodies. During Covid we were instrumental in convening a community response network which met weekly aimed at responding to the real issues and supporting the delivery of many emergency response strategies at local level. By sharing knowledge and experience of the community, we ensured no-one was left behind. We established a local food bank (*which continues to support over 500 people every two weeks*), provided bereavement supports, established peer support networks, as well as many practical, advocacy and support responses around mental health, disability, suicide prevention, drug issues... to name a few. The objective was to make sure that all were connected and that no one was forgotten.

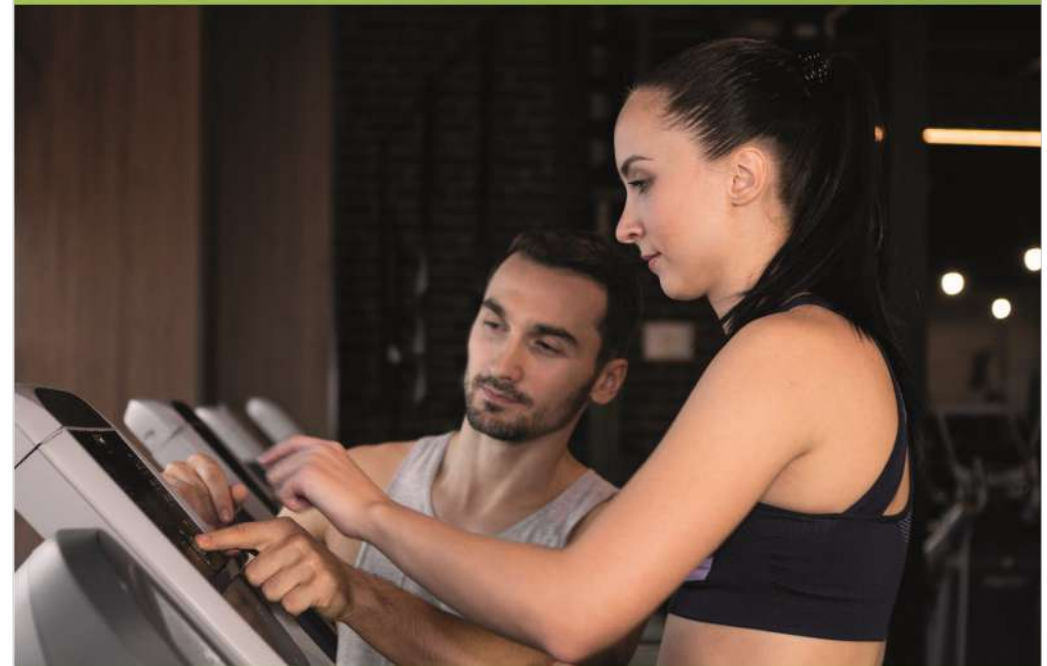
Although still new here my perception is that the Four Corners district is viewed as suburbs more so than Clondalkin, Tallaght or Lucan. Who do you talk to if you have an issue, in this area, about mental health? Where do you turn if you need relationship supports, have a child with disability issues, are a young person suffering from depression? A lot of services are statutory in other areas; here they are absent. For example, there is no rehabilitation centre, no family resource centre, no local mental health support services, etc.

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# Memories of London

**T**here's 8-year-old me. Son of Irish parents who met and married in London. Standing in the middle of a Silver Jubilee street party waving a Union Jack in June of 1977.

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, but for me it's a thousand memories. 45 years ago, and I can still remember the moment this photo was taken. My mum is holding my younger brother in her arms in the top-right of the image, making sure he got in the photo too. I remember she encouraged me to stand out in front so I'd get into the shot.

Living on the same street were many other Irish families. The Irish tended to live and socialise in the same areas; Fulham, Hammersmith, Shepherd's Bush, and Kilburn. But that day many were out waving Union Jacks, somehow caught up in the party atmosphere.

But they'd never have admitted to celebrating the anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's coronation to their families back home in Ireland! You have to remember the political situation in Northern Ireland in the 70's and 80's often made life difficult for the Irish living and working in the UK.

On that day there were long tables set up along the middle of the street, full of party food and bowls of jelly. There was bunting on



all the houses, posters of the Queen stuck up in windows, and music and dancing on the pavements well into the night.

Whatever the reason for the celebration, what it left me with was a memory of togetherness, of family, of community, and of belonging. And that's why I believe it's so important to instil a sense of community spirit in our young people today.

15 years after this photo I moved to Dublin on a 6 month work project, and never looked back. And I'm still here; with the same London accent but slightly greyer hair.  
John Honan

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# Holy Family Community School, Rathcoole

## All-Ireland Linguistics Olympiad:

Several of our Junior Cycle students participated in the All-Ireland Linguistics Olympiad Round 1 in February. Third Year student, Adam El-Monawir, qualified for Round 2 in March, in which he finished in 8<sup>th</sup> place in the Junior category.



## Cormac Dixon, Cross-Country Running Champion:

Transition Year student, Cormac Dixon, has been going from strength to strength in cross-country running. His achievements of late include winning a gold medal in both the U17 800m and 1500m races in the All-Ireland Indoor Championships. Cormac also won gold in the Leinster Schools' Cross-Country race, making him the Leinster champion, qualifying him for the All-Ireland final. Cormac then placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the All-Ireland final, earning himself a place on the Irish schools' team, running in Wales.



## Contact Us

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An Garda Siochana would like to thank all the local residents that attended the recent Public Policing in Rathcoole Community Centre. As stated in this meeting we would like to inform local residents that Rathcoole Garda Station is open to the public from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday. Also if anyone wishes to contact your local Community Garda please contact our office at Clondalkin\_Community@garda.ie. Please feel free to contact this email address with any concerns and your email will be replied to.

*John Coughlan, Sergeant, L8*



## Rathcoole ARG

Looking for new members to join our local group for over 50s in Rathcoole

**Where:** Rathcoole Community Centre

**When:** Every 2nd Wednesday from 11am to 1pm

Tea and coffee supplied!

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Day trips. Theatre. Holidays. Support and information.

If you live in Rathcoole, Saggart, Newcastle or Brittas we'd love you to join us!

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His latest achievement includes placing 2<sup>nd</sup> overall in the Inter Boys at the SIAB International Cross-Country race in Wales, bringing home a silver medal, and a silver team medal!



Cormac only became involved in athletics when he joined HFCS 4 years ago, but he has flown through the ranks to become an international medallist – he is certainly one to watch for the years to come, and we are very proud of him!

### Pieta House Darkness Into Light:

Our Senior Cycle students and a number of teachers recently participated in Pieta House Darkness Into Light walk. It was a wonderful experience for our students, who came together as a school community in spreading a message of hope, love, and support for a wonderful cause. Well done to all!



### Fundraisers for the People of Ukraine:

The students, staff, and wider community of Holy Family Community School have come together to organise a number of fundraisers in aid of the people of Ukraine. Donations of essential items and money have been sent to organisations supporting the people affected by the war. A group of students have also recorded a poem, demonstrating their support for the people of Ukraine. Part of this poem was recorded in Ukrainian, by the mother of a 2<sup>nd</sup> year student. This video can be seen on our Twitter and Instagram accounts - @hfcsrathcoole.



# Rathcoole Tidy Towns

“The summer wind came blowing in from across the sea”; so Frank Sinatra sang. We hope that breeze comes! Meanwhile it’s a busy season for Rathcoole Tidy Towns. We have reinforced the kerbing at the rose bed near the church and refreshed the bed with a ton of stone.



We have tended the pump area and planted out new shrubs there. We are continuing to maintain existing flower and shrub beds at Beechwood, Fountain and the Poinin. We had a very successful Community Clean up recently.

Newly established Freshwater Watch Group is a Tidy Towns initiative in order to monitor the water quality of our local Camac river and streams. Anyone interested is very welcome to become involved in this project. Well done to the Transition Year students in HFCS who have been co-operating with us in litter picking! Also, great work is being done by the pupils in HFNS who engage in regular litter picking sessions.

We have had a meeting with SDCC Parks Dept and a number of commitments were made in an effort to improve the overall presentation of the Park environment.

- SDCC Public Realm will look at relandscaping the rose garden to more of a sensory style of garden with appropriate perennial planting on the outside
- At the “Monument for Two Communities” outside our depot, we will clean this area up and replant it appropriately over the next number of weeks
- The meadows are being left with an informal walking route cut on the outside as per desire line
- Proposed location for dog run in an appropriate area
- Painting and maintenance work in the park



Rathcoole Park is our jewel in the crown. SDCC need the necessary personnel locally to properly maintain it. We will be contacting our local representatives in this regard. Meanwhile we would ask for volunteers in order to support the improvement of the Rose Garden. **Your community needs you!**

We will provide tools, gloves, bibs and coffee! Any time that suits can be accommodated. Please contact any committee member of Tidy Towns if you are interested through our Facebook page or Rathcoole Community Centre.

**You look radiant and full of life, what is your secret?**

Thank you. Keeping active with my 4-year-old grandson and Oil of Olay face-cream.

**What advice would you share with young people today?**

I would advise young people, like I did with my own children, there are two paths in life: the good and the bad path. The good path is always the best to choose. And be kind.

**You also mentioned that you knit, could you tell us a bit more about that?**

Knitting has always been a passion; I have knitted all my life. I have a bag full of baby stuff which I knitted, for anyone who has a baby.

**What would you like to be remembered for?**

I would like to be remembered for my love, my kindness, always being there to help people in need, and my apple tarts.

**June is an epitome of kindness. This world can often feel full of negativity so it’s important to recognise and acknowledge people for the positive things that they do for their community. We would like to thank her for all of her baking, it is very much appreciated by all of us. We wish her all the best and long may she continue to serve the community with her delicious apple pies.**

**Slade Castle Family Practice**

**WE ARE DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE THAT DR ZEENAT GUL WILL BE JOINING THE PRACTICE IN SUMMER 2022.**

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2:00-5:00 Monday-Thursday



## Rathcoole People: June Flynn

What a delightful moment! It was such an honour and privilege to have a chat with June Flynn from Rathcoole. June is an active senior citizen who believes in giving and kindness.

She is well known for her signature, mouth-watering apple tarts that she makes in her home, using her own time, then delivers these tarts to many homes including the Community Centre in Rathcoole without expecting any praise or recognition.

**Hi June, thank you for taking the time to talk to me. You are a well-known and a valuable member of this community.**

**How long have you been making your delicious apple tarts?**

I've been baking apple tarts the past fifty years, since my children were babies.

**How often do you make them and deliver to people?**

I make them once weekly and deliver them to my nearest and dearest in Rathcoole.

**Do you get donations to buy the ingredients?**

No, I do them from the heart.

**What compelled you to start this act of kindness?**

I love baking and I love seeing people happy.

**How many pies would you make at any given time and how many households would you deliver these pies to?**

I make approximately 4-6 tarts weekly. I would deliver to 4-6 households.

**Do you get any help from anyone when baking or delivering?**

No, I do this solely on my own.

**Did you stop during the covid lockdowns?** Yes, unfortunately.

**Could you please tell us about your daily routine?**

I wake up at 5:30am and start my baking routine. The apple tarts are made fresh for delivery by 10am.

**At the end of the day, how do you feel knowing that you have distributed your pies to many people in the community?**

I always feel very happy knowing that I have made many people of Rathcoole's day.



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# Holy Family National School: Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths (STEM)

Holy Family takes great pride in the inclusion of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) in our school. We take part in a number of excellent initiatives which promote STEM and give students the opportunity to show and develop their skills and knowledge in all areas.

Some of the initiatives we took part in this year were: Intel Mini Scientist Competition, Reel Science Competition, Minecraft Education and Green schools. Last November, Science week proved a great success and highlights of this can be found on our school website:  
<https://holyfamilyns.ie>.



Every year we take part in the Primary Science Award (with many successful awards under our belt) and recently we have stepped this up to apply for the Badge of Excellence which showcases the excellent work done in every class level in the school throughout the full school year.

Ms. Hartnett (Assistant Principal)

## Celebrations

Over the past few months the staff and pupils in Holy Family School were busy celebrating special days. On March 3<sup>rd</sup> the staff and pupils dressed up as their favourite character from a book for our annual World Book Day celebrations. The boys and girls created beautiful book cover designs and some pupils wrote fantastic poems which we have displayed proudly in our school.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of March we celebrated World Down Syndrome Day by having “Lots of Socks Day”. The pupils wore lots of brightly coloured socks to support our pupils with Down Syndrome.

Today was a very special day for the RAMS in Rhythm, who presented the 4 District Responders, with a cheque for €1800, for the purchase of life saving equipment. Making the presentation on behalf of the RAMS, were Chairman of RAMS Mr Paddy Becton, and our Musical Director Mr Liam O'Donnell.



Other members in attendance were Matt Dowling, Ciarán Dowling, Lorcan Ryan, Sean Keane, Jim Nolan, Amby Moloney.

The RAMS in Rhythm fundraise for the purchase of a defibrillator, for the village of Newcastle Co Dublin.

The RAMS in Rhythm sang at the Spar Supermarket Newcastle, and at Avoca Rathcoole, prior to Christmas. The RAMS in Rhythm sang, and performed, and the collection was done by the 4 District Responders.

With the generosity of Brian & Karan Kelly, who purchased the defibrillator for the use of the community. This defibrillator is in situated at their shop in Newcastle.

As part of South Dublin County Council, Bealtaine Celebrations, the RAMS also sang at the Pieta House fundraiser in Corkagh Park, the 4 am until 6.30 am to the delight of the participants.

Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> we entertained patients and staff of Peamount Hospital, and again on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> at the Mill Centre Clondalkin, from 12 noon to 3 pm.

The main recipients of our fundraising are

1. Capuchin Fathers
2. St Vincent de Paul
3. Down Syndrome Kildare branch.

The RAMS are very pleased to be performing again after such a trying time during lockdown.

The RAMS in Rhythm will again be in Avoca Rathcoole, singing and entertaining patrons of Avoca, and fundraising for the Capuchin Day Care Centre.

Photos courtesy of Evan Lee Dowling  
Matt Dowling  
Secretary  
RAMS





# First Responders



April was Autism Awareness month, to celebrate we participated in “Shoesday Tuesday” on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April. All the pupils were encouraged to wear different shoes and socks to show our support to all our pupils with Autism in our school.

Thank you to all the pupils, parents and teachers in Holy Family for participating and supporting World Book Day, World Down Syndrome Day and Autism Awareness Day. Ms. Melia (Assistant Principal)

Shoesday Tuesday Pupils



World Book Day Staff



Shoesday Tuesday Teachers



World Book Day Cover Designs



World Book Day Staff





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