

REA GRIMES
CELEBRATING
50 YEARS
IN BUSINESS
1971-2021

**SELLING, LETTING
& VALUING PROPERTIES
FOR 50 YEARS**

PSRA Licence No. 00417

The Market is Moving –Are You?
Contact Us for a Free
Sales Appraisal

REA **reagrimes.ie** | Ph: 01 8350 392
ASHBOURNE | CLONTARF | SKERRIES | DUBLIN CENTRAL

RATOATH
DENTAL & IMPLANT
CENTRE

Are you looking for a new smile?
Have you considered
COMPOSITE BONDING?

Call us to discuss your complete
smile makeover.

Merry Christmas to all!

01 825 6983
www.ratoathdental.ie

Ready to Pounce!




URGENTLY REQUIRED

We have buyers waiting to purchase
properties in your local area.

Contact us for a **"FREE VALUATION"**
of your property.

gh GORDON HUGHES

Main Street, Ratoath.
Tel : 01 802 7000 www.ghproperty.com
PSR Licence No 0012320



ratoath
news and views
your free monthly newsletter

ISSUE 37 DECEMBER 2021

Welcome to our slightly delayed December 2021 community newsletter which we decided to hold back until the Government announced their updated restrictions on December 3rd in order to keep content as up to date as is possible in these unprecedented times.

Naturally it is most disappointing that the momentum towards a return to normality that was evident in October / November has been lost in many respects and Covid yet again dominates our everyday conversations and our Christmas celebrations. Increasingly it is becoming clear that Covid is not going to disappear, that it will continue to adapt and that we are all going to have to somehow find ways to learn to adapt to its existence within our daily, weekly and annual routines and get on with our lives.

For Christmas 2021, we naturally encourage everyone to Shop Local in Ratoath. Great work continues to be done by Liz Rigby in co-ordinating the promotion of local businesses in Ratoath through social media and postering. The diversity of retail in Ratoath continues to grow, Covid restrictions if anything re-enforce the trend towards more local shopping but also puts an onus on our local retailers to ensure that they still offer good value to our community.

Our Community Heroes for 2021 must be our local Tidy Towns organisation. Despite all the disruptions throughout the year, they have toiled away at keeping our town tidy and persisting at that task in a year when the demise of the Dunboyne CE Scheme lost them key workers and when Covid increased local footfall and hence litter. They work hard to brighten up our town for Christmas and create a community spirit. We detail in this issue the continuing progress they are making in the Tidy Towns national competition and we intend to push to maximise the support they receive in 2022 through new CE participants and even greater overall community support.



May we wish you all a very Happy and Safe Christmas and New Year.

IN LOVING MEMORY

For some time, we have been looking to find a way to acknowledge the loss of those in our community who have died. We hope this photo is a start on this process and provides readers with the opportunity to pause and reflect on those who have sadly died in the past year, many of whom readers will have personally known. This list of 46 deceased covers those whose Funeral Masses took place in Ratoath Parish Church in the period Nov 1st 2020 through to October 31st 2021. Thanks to Fr Gerry Stuart, PP of Ratoath Parish for permission to reproduce this list and we will look at ways of adding other deaths that have taken place in our parish that did not have a Funeral Mass in Ratoath in 2022.

*Remember Those O Lord
Who in Your Peace Have Died
O May We Share Eternal Day
With Them In Heaven Above.*



DON'T GO HUNGRY - SLIMMING WORLD RATOATH

To lose weight you have to eat less, right? Well, not always. The kind of food you're eating is much more important than the volume. Swapping high calorie, unsatisfying foods (think chocolate, alcohol, pastries) for foods that are lower in calories and more bulky, so they fill you up for longer, is key to losing weight in a way that's easy to live with. Research shows that by basing your diet on foods relatively low in calories, like fruit and veg, and foods that are most filling – or satisfying – like lean meat, fish, eggs, pasta and potatoes, you can actually eat a larger amount of food and feel more satisfied while losing weight.

Some quick and easy changes include using less fat when you cook, so you boil or dry fry instead of frying in oil, swapping full fat dairy products for low fat or fat free, ditching sugary drinks in favour of low calorie drinks and adding more fruit and veg to your daily meal

Slimming World's Food Optimising plan takes away the tedium of weighing, measuring and counting the calories in everything that you eat (and drink). Every week in our local group members learn how to make healthier choices to satisfy their appetite and lose weight beautifully, without hunger or guilt.

It's based on an understanding of the science of energy density, an area of research which Slimming World has been actively involved in for over 25 years. Evidence shows that eating more low energy dense foods (foods that are lowest in calories per gram) naturally limits energy intake, reduces hunger and results in better weight loss.

Ratoath Slimming World is held every Tuesday in The Venue with sittings at 5pm and 6pm. Pre Booking is essential and can be done by phoning Teresa at 086 8239995. New members are always welcome.



*St. Olivers CLG would like to wish all our readers
A Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year*

**Wishing Everyone a Wonderful Christmas
& A Healthy Happy 2022**

Thank you all for your support
during 2021 and looking forward
to assisting you in 2022

Gillian Toole

If you need my assistance,
please contact me as follows :

Email: gillian.toole@members.meathcoco.ie

Mobile: (086)0891221



An advertisement for Ratoath Credit Union. The top text says "Need some dough for the Christmas Holiday?". Below this is a gingerbread man wearing a Santa hat and a red scarf, standing next to several wrapped gifts. A speech bubble from one of the gifts says "Loan special". At the bottom, the Ratoath Credit Union logo is displayed, along with the website "dunboynecu.ie" and the phone number "01 825 11 22".

RATOATH TIDY TOWNS

Well done to our hard working Ratoath Tidy Towns who continue to make progress in the National Tidy Towns Competition 2021. We have tracked their progress over the past few years and the 2021 Mark is Ratoath's highest to date at 299 Marks (2016 – 274 Marks, 2018 – 288 Marks, 2019 – 293 Marks).

The 2021 Adjudication Report makes most interesting reading and highlights the huge number of innovative initiatives undertaken by our local voluntary group in 2020 / 2021 through Covid times.

- Your Adjudicator had not heard of any other Tidy Towns community appointing a dedicated Covid-19 Response Officer.
- We loved seeing the refurbished water pump, the fact that planters have been upcycled and repurposed, the careful tending of the Marian Shrine and the lighting at Christmas
- The work along the Broadmeadow River was highlighted for praise plus various special events that were undertaken in conjunction with World Clean-up Day and the national Heritage Week
- The great co-operation of Ratoath Tidy Towns with almost every single sports and community group in Ratoath
- The fact that five separate housing estates in Ratoath received prizes in the Meath Anti-Litter Initiative
- The excellent communication strategy of the committee in sharing its news, the ever increasing integration of support with and from local businesses such as Novello and As You Like It and overall the strong sense of place and welcome that greet those arriving into Ratoath through the maintenance of the roundabouts entering Ratoath.

As a community, we really all must increase how we support Ratoath Tidy Towns. The next objective must be to surpass the 300 Marks barrier, restore CE workers to the project as early as possible in 2022 and maximise all of our inputs into the Local Area Planning process to help address locations that are having a negative impact on our town. Neighbouring towns are making excellent progress with Dunshaughlin scoring 323 marks, Dunboyne 300 marks and Ashbourne 295 marks. At a higher level, much longer established Tidy Towns committees in Trim (352 marks), Athboy (335 marks) and Enfield (325 marks) continue to win awards and maintain the highest of standards. There should be no reason why if enough support is put behind our Tidy Towns Group that Ratoath is not up there generating 10% or more higher marks in the coming years and helping to enhance even more Ratoath's reputation as a high quality residential town.

TIDY TOWNS COMPETITION 2021	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2021
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	60	41
Streetscape and Public Places	60	40
Green Spaces and Landscaping	60	41
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	50	30
Sustainability – Doing more with less	50	24
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	48
Residential Streets and Housing Areas	50	41
Approach Roads, Streets and Lanes	50	34
TOTAL MARK	470	299



RATOATH GAA - PROUD OF ITS 2021 ALL-IRELAND MEDAL WINNERS

There was a great sense of occasion in the Ratoath GAA Club Grounds as Ratoath club players from all 4 Meath All Ireland winning panels this year came together to display their winning trophies. As pictured below they posed for photos with girls and boys from different juvenile teams hoping to inspire the next generation to similar success for club and county.

2021 has been a remarkably successful year for the Royal County with an unprecedented All Ireland championship winning teams across all 4 codes. It's also a unique year for Ratoath with not only representatives on all 4 panels but 3 of the teams were captained by players from our parish - Laura Kelly (under 16 Camogie) Liam Kelly (Minor Football)- a first for the club, and last but not least Cian Kelly (Under 20 Hurling)

Meath got its first piece of silverware in July when the Meath under 16 camogie girls beat Offaly impressively on a 9-13 to 4-12 score line. Laura Kelly & Lara Lacey flew the flag for Ratoath

The Meath under 20 hurlers were next to put a trophy in the cabinet with a well earned 2-19 to 0-19 victory over Offaly in Newry. Ratoath's own Jack Lanigan, Brian Moore, Sean Murphy & Cian Kelly all played their part in bringing the Richie McElligott cup home to Meath. Special mention also to club stalwart, John Brennan who was a team selector.

Not to be outdone, Ben Fraser, Tomás Corbett, Ronan Byrne, and Liam Kelly representing Ratoath were all prominent in helping their county win its 4th Tom Markham cup as All Ireland minor champions, their first since 1992. They beat Tyrone 1-12 to 1-11 in an exciting game in Croke Park.

Finally and most spectacularly of all Meath ladies put a stop to Dublin's 5 in a row ambitions with a stunning performance in winning 1-11 to 0-12. Ratoath's own Katie Newe & Saoirse O'Kane were both part of the winning panel - a marvelous achievement by players & management in winning the Brendan Martin Cup for Meath for the first time.

All in all then a memorable year for Ratoath and Meath in the inter county scene and here's hoping Ratoath GAA can enjoy similar success next year at both club and county level.



ACTS COMING TO THE VENUE RATOATH

Celine Byrne
WILL PERFORM HER
Christmas Celebration

CELINE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY HER FESTIVE TRIO
DAVID MUNRO (PIANO) * SIOBHÁN LYNCH (CELLO) * NICOLE HUDSON (VIOLIN)

THE NIGHT WILL BE PACKED FULL OF CAPTIVATING CHRISTMAS CAROLS
AS WELL AS MUCH LOVED SONGS SUCH AS NELLA FANTASIA, EDELWEISS,
AVE MARIA AND O HOLY NIGHT

SATURDAY 18TH DECEMBER

TICKET PRICE
€33
PLUS €2
BOOKING FEE

THIS EVENT IS LIKELY TO SELL OUT FAST SO EARLY BOOKING IS ADVISED
Telephone Bookings, call us at 01 6895600 or to book online, go to www.thevenueratoath.ie

Stockton's Wing Announce A Select Performance In Ratoath

The Venue Theatre are thrilled to announce that the acclaimed Stockton's Wing are to include Ratoath among their very few Irish Tour dates in January 2022. Only four Irish concerts will be undertaken to celebrate the release of their live album 'Hometown.'

The line-up for this special acoustic setting performance features founding members Mike Hanrahan and Paul Roche, who are joined by fiddler extraordinaire Tara Breen, Karol Lynch on banjo, and guitarist Paul McSherry. The Venue Ratoath are excited to have been chosen for such a prestigious and select performance, with the intimacy and atmosphere of the Venue Theatre alluring the celebrated band to choose it.

The acclaimed and eternally popular Stockton's Wing song 'Beautiful Affair' was voted into RTE's top Irish songs of all time. Stockton's Wing are highly respected for their innovation, musicianship, and creativity. Their sound is unique, steeped in the Clare tradition, and forever stretching the boundaries of Irish music.

Concert. Saturday January 22, The Venue Ratoath. Tickets can be purchased online at: thevenueratoath.ie

In spite of new restrictions, the celebrated international soprano Celine Byrne is proceeding with her joyful Christmas show to what will be a very lucky, up-close and personal, audience in The Venue Theatre Ratoath on Saturday 18th December.

Indeed, with reduced numbers in this cosy theatre, this is a unique opportunity to see a world acclaimed artist deliver a full concert in an intimate setting.

Celine is internationally recognised as one of opera's great stars and her commitment to follow through and deliver the light of the season is a once in a lifetime opportunity to witness a world star deliver a select celebratory yuletide performance.

Celine has committed to forge ahead with the full show and bring light and joy and wonder, despite the disheartening and gloomy recent news and restrictions; and she is to be greatly commended for such generosity and determination and for bringing the true spirit of Christmas to Ratoath.

Celine gratefully acknowledges that the Venue Theatre is fully compliant with Covid public health regulations and is HSE inspected.

On the night, Celine will be accompanied by her Festive Trio; David Munro (Piano), Siobhan Lynch (Cello) and Nicole Hudson (Violin). The night will be joyfully packed with captivating Christmas carols and favourites including O Holy Night, as well as other much-loved songs such as Nella Fantasia and Edelweiss.

Few tickets remaining. Don't miss this unique event. See: thevenueratoath.ie

Ratoath School Of Music



Gift Vouchers Available

NOW REGISTERING FOR 2022

Music Tuition in Piano, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Jazz
Guitar, Ukulele, Electronic Keyboard, Drums,
Saxophone, Clarinet, Violin, Cello, Vocals and for the
wee ones Junior Music Course.
Junior and Leaving Cert. Theory.

Tel: 01 8257322

5/3 The Courtyard, Main St, Ratoath

Email: info@ratoathschoolofmusic.ie

Website: www.ratoathschoolofmusic.ie

ACTS COMING TO THE VENUE RATOATH



THE VENUE | THEATRE & COMMUNITY
RATOATH | CENTRE



2021

DECEMBER



Seamus O'Rourke Friday Dec 10th
Abba Forever Christmas Thursday Dec 16th
Celine Byrne at Christmas Saturday Dec 18th

*All at the Venue wish you a very Happy Christmas
and hope to see you all again in the new year*

2022

JANUARY 2022

Kevin Hartnett Friday Jan 14th
Bruised Orange - John Prine Tribute Friday Jan 21st
Stockton's Wing Saturday Jan 22nd
Addicted to Dance - The Show must go on Saturday Jan 29th

FEBRUARY

Damien Dempsey Saturday Feb 5th
Des Bishop Thursday Feb 10th
Hot House Flowers Friday Feb 18th
Eleanor Shanley Saturday Feb 19th
Joanne McNally Friday Feb 25th
Joanne McNally Saturday Feb 26th

MARCH

David O'Doherty Friday March 11th
Eilish O'Carroll's : Live, Love, Laugh! Saturday March 12th
Most Peculiar Dreams Saturday March 19th
Bello Duo Friday March 25th

APRIL

Tommy Fleming Friday April 8th
Eleanor McEvoy Saturday April 9th
Paul Brady Friday April 15th
Paul Brady Saturday April 16th

MAY

Don Baker Saturday May 7th
Pilgrim Street Saturday May 14th

SEPTMEBER

Route 66 Saturday Sept 24th

OCTOBER

The Fureys Friday Oct 14th

NOVEMBER

Irish Pink Floyd Experience Saturday Nov 12th

**GIFT
VOUCHERS**
Available

WE ARE HAPPY TO WELCOME YOU BACK... IT'S BEEN A WHILE!

Telephone Bookings, call us at 01 6895600 or to book online, go to www.thevenueratoath.ie

DEIRDRE MILLS – NETWATCH MEATH FAMILY CARER OF THE YEAR 2021

Well deserved congratulations to local hero, Deirdre Mills, on her being named Netwatch Meath Family Carer of the Year.

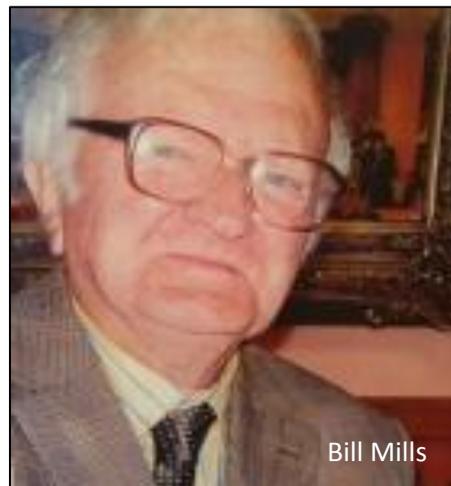
Deirdre worked tirelessly in caring for her late dad's needs, particularly over lockdown when her role escalated. She showed great flexibility and resilience in ensuring that her father could cocoon at home full-time for as long as possible, giving up her time and energy over many years keeping the fires burning and a bright, welcoming home for him. Bill Mills, died last February at the great age of 92 years

Family Carers Ireland, the national charity that gives support to Ireland's network of people with disabilities, their families, carers, and PA's run the competition each year to help in publicising the huge work that they do in all our communities.

The aim of the annual awards is to go beyond the frontline workers that we usually hear about and instead shine the spotlight on the remarkable contribution of those who give up their work jobs to go the extra mile every day in caring for loved ones with additional needs. More than 500,000 people in Ireland provide free of charge care in the home for children or adults with physical or intellectual disabilities, frail older people, those with palliative care needs or those living with chronic illnesses, mental ill-health, or addiction.

These hours of care provided each week by family carers would cost the state €20 billion a year to replace. The COVID-19 pandemic has been a challenging period for all angles of business and society but especially for family carers and those they care for who saw essential services and supports impacted massively. The withdrawal of supports such as care from the home, respite care, personal assistance hours and residential care during lockdown forced many to care for their loved ones alone. When Ireland went through three lockdowns, family carers stepped up a gear in support of their loved ones. "Now more than ever, family carers deserve to be recognised for their enormous contribution to our society," Louth Meath Carer Supports Manager Páraic McGahey said. "Their commitment to care for their loved ones at home, particularly during the COVID-19 crisis, has been remarkable and something has to give to their physical, emotional, mental, and financial wellbeing. These awards are about acknowledging all of Ireland's 500,000 family carers and shining a light on the immense work that they do, often with little or no help at all from the State. Their essential contribution to our national healthcare system needs to be properly acknowledged and maintained," Mr McGahey concluded. "This is our third year in partnership with Family Carers Ireland, and yet again we are blown away by the level of sacrifice, care and commitment shown by every carer," Colin Hayes, Netwatch Head of Business, Ireland & UK said. "It's an honour to be part of this and hope that our involvement can help in highlighting this charity and support the needs of its members, abled or disabled."

NOTE This article has been written by Oisín McCourt, a student Journalist in Dunboyne College of Further Education and our intention is to provide continuing opportunities for local students to gain valuable experience in writing on subjects of interest and relevance to our readers.



Bill Mills

FOR ALL YOUR LOCAL ROOFING AND MAINTENANCE NEEDS



LEEVE LTD
Roofing Specialists

Tel: 01 825 7606
Mob: 087 271 3071 / 086 843 9772
info@leeveroofing.ie
eddie@leeveroofing.ie

As You like it EST 2006



CAFFÉ & STEAKHOUSE
01 689 6333

FOR EVENT CATERING, BREAKFAST & LUNCH, TAKEAWAY COFFEES & TREATS & PRE SHOW DINING

9-4 Monday-Thursday.
Steakhouse Menu Friday & Saturday 5 till 10.30 with last orders taken at 8.30
Closed Sundays



IN AID OF LITTLE TOMMY TUCKER (TOMMY GRANT - MANNERING)

On Friday December 17th Ratoath College's Superhero TY students will be doing a 5km walk around Ratoath from 9am-10am and two of their real life Superheroes will be in Supervalu from 10am-4pm selling their 'Candy Canes of Kindness' for Tommy on Friday 17th also. All money raised from these school activities will go to Tommy's Family and donations can be made at any time to Ratoath College or donations can be made on the morning of the walk on Friday 17th of December at Ratoath College



Ratoath Harps are looking to play a friendly 7 aside blitz under 8,s 9,s 10,s ,11,s,12s 13s welcome in aid of young Tommy who is currently in Crumlin hospital with Leukemia , Tommy is 3 years old and needs all the support he can get . Blitz to take place on Dec 18th from 10am to 2pm on the main all-weather. Entry for players is €10 and any donations on the day are welcome. The club will be donating all the money raised from the ticket shop on the day as well as a fee for all players. The aim is to raise as much funding as possible, all ideas welcome .

Candy Canes of Kindness

5th year Business will be selling 'Candy Canes of Kindness' in school. Candy Canes will be €2 and can be delivered to friends/teachers. Taking orders from Monday 6th December. All donations will go to Crumlin & Tommy's family.

SUPERHERO 5K WALK FOR TOMMY

Scan the QR Code to visit fundraising page

Ratoath College

Raising money in aid of St John's Ward Crumlin and Tommy's family.
TY Superhero 5k walk taking place Friday 17th December.
'Candy Canes of Kindness' €2 to be delivered to your friend/teacher with love by Santa & his Elves. Taking orders from Monday 6th of December.

HAPPY DAYS in the Community Centre, would also like to thank teacher Sarah & teacher Jordan for helping raise funds by face painting, and everyone who donated and bought KINDNESS CHOCOLATE BARS raising a further €1,165 for this great cause over the past month.

RMC

RATOATH MOTOR CENTRE

WINTER SPECIAL

ANTI FREEZE REPLACEMENT

FROM €50

- 15% OFF VALETING
- 10% DISCOUNT ON TYRES
- FREE HAND WASH

SERVICE (A)	SERVICE (B)	SERVICE (C)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oil & Oil filter replaced • Lights and levels checked • Tyre condition & pressure check 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oil and filter replaced • Air filter replaced • Fuel filter or spark plugs replaced* • Tyre condition & pressure check • Brakes checked, front and rear • Suspension joints & bushes checked • Lights and levels checked incl. screen wash additive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oil and filter replaced • Air filter replaced • Fuel filter or spark plugs replaced* • Tyre condition & pressure check • Brakes checked, front / rear • Suspension joints & bushes checked • Lights checked, all levels topped up incl. screen wash additive • Pollen / cabin filter replaced • Diagnostic check of all electronic control units • Headlamp alignment checked

SERVICING FROM €129

INCLUDING HANDWASH + 15% OFF VALETING

FREE DROP OFF & COLLECTION 5KM RADIUS

Workshop Opening Hours
Monday to Friday 8.30 - 6.00pm
Saturday 9.00am to 1pm

01 825 6184

VALETING

R.M.C. not only provides a mechanical service, keeping your vehicle in optimum condition but also provides a valeting service offering a range of options to maintain your vehicle both inside and outside at highly competitive prices.

SILVER SERVICE	GOLD SERVICE	PLATINUM SERVICE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand wash • Chamois dry • Vacuum • Dash clean • Tyre shine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand wash • Chamois Dry • Vacuum (including Boot) • Mats Cleaned • Door Ledges Cleaned • Dashboard Polished • Interior Vinyl's Polished • Windows Cleaned • Tyre Shine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand Wash • Chamois Dry • Vacuum (including Boot) • Carpet & Seats Shampoo • Mats Cleaned • Dashboard Cleaned & Polish • Interior Vinyl's Cleaned and Polish • Door Ledges Cleaned • Windows Cleaned in & Out • Exterior Tar Removal • Exterior Wax Polish • Interior Scent

*Extra Dirty Cars May Incur Extra Charge

CAR	JEEP/MPV	CAR	JEEP/MPV	CAR	JEEP/MPV
€39*	€49*	€59*	€69*	€100*	€120*

Changing Your Car? Can't Get Credit? **OVER 60 CARS IN STOCK to choose from**

- Have you No Credit History?
- or Missed Previous Commitments?
- or Finding it Difficult to Get Approved?

Look No Further Call Our Sales Team on **01 825 6184**

LOW INCOME **BAD CREDIT** **NO CO-SIGNER**

Get Affordable Car Financing by just filling one simple application form on our secure website **www.rmc.ie**

CAULSTOWN CHRISTMAS TREE FARM

Caulstown Christmas Tree Farm has been growing trees for over 30 years, while offering a variety of fun and interesting adventures for families to go on! From trying out Santa's sleigh to meeting our wonderful family of Alpacas- Annie, Alice and Bridie! This year they have really enhanced their facilities with some new additions to the farm with Dinky the Donkey and Curley and Wurley their Sheep!

Caulstown Christmas Tree Farm prides itself on providing an authentically Christmas experience to all those who visit the farm. They believe in the magic of Christmas and want everybody who visits to feel how special the farm is and really experience Christmas with their loved ones. Taking the time together to pick your Christmas tree is where where real Family Traditions are made. It is truly lovely to see families enjoying time together and sharing in the fun of Christmas!

The Caulstown team can help you pick out the first Christmas Tree and also help with Christmas Stands and advice on how to look after your freshly cut Christmas Tree. Go on and treat your family to a fun experience. They are only a 5 minute drive from Ratoath off the Fairyhouse Road.



Meet Our Alpacas At The Farm!



**Freshly Cut Christmas Trees 4ft - 12ft
Wreaths / Indoor shed / Santa Sleigh
Hot Chocolate at Weekends!**



RATOATH NEWS & VIEWS

ISSUE 038

Submissions and final date for artwork

JANUARY 6th 2022

Call 01 689 5600 or email
newsandviews@ratoathcc.ie

Normal editions are funded by advertising and we always try to limit advertising space to 25%. We receive 10% of our annual funding from Pobal under their Community Services Programme

Editor : Leo Cummins
Production : Saoire O'Brien
Advertising : Mark Wiley, Saoire O'Brien.

 **CAULSTOWNCHRISTMASTREEFARM** EMAIL: CAULSTOWN@GMAIL.COM



Copyright 2021. Ratoath Community Centre

We look forward to welcoming you the Christmas Tree Farm this year!

RATOATH NOTICE BOARD

St Oliver's Community Centre CLG are pleased to announce that from December 7th 2021, it has taken on the responsibility of administering the local Ratoath Notice Board.

Local resident Gillian Kiely started Ratoath Notice Board over 9 years ago and has grown it, with her time and immense commitment, to what we know today - that of being a great asset and resource for our town and community, and a trusted go-to reference, keeping us all informed and connected, which has helped so many over the years in a variety of different ways! If you are not already a member of Ratoath Notice Board, make sure to join on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ratoathnoticeboard>

We wish to thank Gillian for the great community service she has done over these past 9 years and also to acknowledge the contribution of her past fellow moderators Marion, Natasha, Conor and Kate.

COVID INCIDENCE RATE IN RATOATH

Every 2 weeks, the Central Statistics Office publish so-called Covid 14 incident Rates for all 166 Irish Local Electoral Areas based on information provided by the Health Service Executive (HSE), the Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC), the CSO itself and Gov.ie.

Ratoath forms approx. one third of the population of the Ratoath Electoral Area which also includes Dunboyne, Dunshaughlin and outlying areas between the 3 main towns.

For the 14 day period ending November 29th 2021, the Ratoath Electoral Area had an incident rate of 1719.8 per 100,000 which was a significant 30% greater than the national average and amongst the top 10% of incident rates in the country.

It equates to roughly 200 people having been diagnosed with Covid in Ratoath itself over these 2 weeks.



Sundays at 8pm.
Ratoath Venue Theatre
Please be advised there will be no bingo
on December 26th & January 2nd.

**RATOATH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
INDEPENDENT COUNCILLOR
& PEACE COMMISSIONER**

**Wishing you a peaceful,
healthy and
Happy
Christmas**



**NICK
KILLIAN**

Meath County Council 

**Advice Centre: Riverwalk Court (over Tesco),
Fairycastle Road, Ratoath. T: 087-2596753.
E: nkillian@members.meathcoco.ie**

ST OLIVER'S COMMUNITY CENTRE AGM

The St Oliver's Community Centre CLG 2021 AGM took place in the Venue Theatre on Wednesday November 12th. Members heard Chairman Tom O'Connor describe 2020 as a most difficult and unprecedented year for SOCC with turnover reduced by 41% owing to Covid restrictions, a small €10,000 operating surplus being achieved before depreciation and overall a net loss for 2020 of €49,000. Thankfully through measures taken in 2020/1 much of that loss will have been recovered in 2021 despite the continuing restrictions and so SOCC will enter 2022 in good financial shape and with a very active and expanded community programme in place. Tom proceeded to outline the new CE Scheme that will ultimately bring 25 new jobs to Ratoath in 2022 and the direct and indirect employment that is generated by SOCC activities as well as the plans to further expand and facilitate the number of voluntary groups using the facilities available.

The AGM elected four new Members – Liz Rigby, Eileen Kavanagh, Michael Lysaght and Ursula Ryan and the latter was also appointed a director.

The main theme of the AGM was looking at what needs to be done over the next two to three years to put in place plans that will enable SOCC to best meet the community needs of Ratoath residents through the 2030's.

A positive discussion on this theme followed and was chaired by Avril McCarthy on the future direction of the organisation. Members were particularly keen for SOCC to become even more heavily involved in keeping the community of Ratoath informed about ongoing developments in Ratoath. Speakers quoted numerous incidents where locals were expressing surprise for instance at new planning applications when in many cases they had already been covered in the community newsletter or on social media but this coverage had failed to register with them. Leo Cummins outlined plans to create a Community Information focus in the Venue Reception Area including facilitating the display of Public Notices by Meath County Council. He also indicated that a mooted Playground to be sited on SOCC's Community Sports Campus was not going to proceed as Meath County Council had advised that they would be insisting on a 0-12 years Playground whereas SOCC viewed the available space as only being suitable for 0 – 6 years. As a result, SOCC were reviewing its plans for the proposed Community Sports & Physical Activity Hub Building in Jamestown and it was hoped to lodge a planning application in early 2022. This building would totally complete the development of the multi-sports campus and would be the new home for Ratoath Golden Gloves Boxing Club

Discussions followed on how SOCC could increase its buildings capacity on the Main Street site as well as a general discussion on the likely continuing growth of Ratoath and the upcoming Local Area Plan. It was agreed to establish a Members Committee to examine Town Planning 2022-2030 and that this Committee might also come back with proposals on meeting SOCC's future capacity needs.

WISHING ALL OUR CLIENTS A VERY

Merry Christmas

Thank you for your support through our 2021 and we look forward to seeing you in 2022

Christmas Opening Hours	
Dec 19th	09.00 – 18.00
Dec 20th – 23rd	09.00 – 21.00
Dec 24th	09.00 – 14.00
Dec 25th – 29th	Closed
Dec 30th	Reopen 09.00 – 21.00
Dec 31st	09.00 – 18.00

Gift Vouchers and Christmas Sets Available in Store & Online

skin&bodyworks
ADVANCED SKINCARE & MASSAGE CLINIC

Ratoath Village
SHOP LOCAL
This Christmas