



April 2017

**ashbourne**  
community initiative

# NEWSLETTER

**FREE**  
please take  
a copy

Happy Easter to one & all in the town of Ashbourne. It is a very significant time of the year. Easter has special importance for the Irish on so many fronts. It is a holy time of year when many attend religious ceremonies around the country. It is also a time when we think of our varied history in the royal county, steeped in 6000 years of history.

The fight to have our own republic restarted in Easter 1916. Easter also ties in with sport; the Irish Grand National in Ratoath. Did you know that the first Grand National was run on Racehill in Ashbourne? Our varied history is also a tradition of music & dance that goes back in history to the time well before Christ, to a time when people were ceremoniously buried in another Meath Landmark; Newgrange, which is 5000 years old, only a few miles from Ashbourne. Of Course Tara was the centre of rule in Ireland where 142 kings of Ireland were crowned over a period of years over 2000 years ago. St Patrick also visited Tara in 433 BC. During the rebellion of 1798, United Irishmen formed a camp on Tara hill but were attacked & defeated by British troops on 26 May 1798 & the Lia Fáil was moved to mark the graves of the 400 rebels who died on the hill that day. In 1843, the Irish Member of Parliament Daniel O'Connell hosted a peaceful political demonstration on Hill of Tara in favour of repeal of the Act of Union, drawing over 750,000 people, which indicates the enduring importance of the Hill of Tara.

Not forgetting the Battle of the Boyne when men from Ireland, England, Scotland, Wales, Spain, Netherlands & France fought in 1690. While it was one of those useless religious wars that pepper history where Meath was again a location for a major international historical event. The relationship between music & history is very strong particularly in Ireland. You would have heard during 2016 the haunting words of the Foggy Dew. This was sang beautifully on the day of the 1916-2016 celebration in Ashbourne. The words ring out in our minds 'Twas better to die 'neath an Irish sky, Than at Suvla or Sud el Bar & from the plains of Royal Meath, Strong men came hurrying through; While Brittania's sons with their long-range guns, Sailed in from the foggy dew.'

Music & history come together this coming weekend 21st to 23rd April with Tradash & the BOACC Living History Festival. Come along with your children to learn more of the amazing history. Listen to the haunting ballads sang, jigs & reels played out on tin whistles, fiddles, accordions, mandolins & bodhrans. As they say let it all hang out in Ashbourne this Easter holiday time & over the festivals of history & music, or as they say in the mother tongue "scoil amach na pocaide!"

## Participate in the TradAsh TraDASH!

As part of the annual TradAsh Irish Music Festival in Ashbourne (see inside for full details and time table of these events), there is also the fund raising TraDASH 5 kilometer and 10 kilometer charity runs on the 23rd of April at 11:00am. This event is in aid of Muscular Dystrophy Ireland. If you are interested in taking part in the TraDASH event, you can register online at the events website at [www.eventbrite.ie](http://www.eventbrite.ie). You can also register on the day. Registry time are on Saturday the 22nd, between 2:00pm and 4:00pm, or also on Sunday the 23rd between 9:00am to 10:30am. We look forward to seeing you there, either if you are taking part, or enjoying a day out.



## St Patricks Day 2017

Despite the weather conditions of grey skies and sporadic rain showers on the day, Ashbourne saw a great turnout for the Annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade on Friday, the 17th of March this year.

Aside from the massive crowds, there was a great selection of floats, representing community groups, sports clubs, school events and much, much more participating.

The Ashbourne Community Initiative were also taking part, handing out our Special Edition newsletter which you can still get a copy of in the town library and local stores.





# Lions Club Coast2Coast Cycle Challenge 2017

The Ashbourne Lions Club Coast2Coast Cycle Challenge 2017 for Make A Wish and Autism Louth Meath will take place on May 28th & 29th. We have over 70 cyclists registered for the third running of this fantastic event. The PILLO Hotel is a magnificent supporter & sponsors of the Lions Club & will host the registration & departure of the cyclists via bus to Galway. Departing from the Maldron Hotel Oranmore, we will cycle from Galway to Laytown, travelling at an average of 22kmh. An overnight stay in Athlone is just one of highlights. After refuelling on Dominoes pizzas the group will be treated to "caint agus ceoil" & no doubt a session by some of the TradAsh players.

Cycling the Athlone, Mullingar Greenway on Day 2 is an experience not to be missed, a unique journey along the disused railway line. The buzz & excitement as the peloton enjoys final refreshments at Trim Castle before the last trek into Laytown, is always electric. Family & friends will greet the weary cyclists on Sunday afternoon in Laytown where a final ceremonial dip in the sea rounds off a brilliant weekend. All in aid of MAKE A WISH & AUTISM LOUTH MEATH, ABACUS HOUSE. To make a donation please visit our website: [www.ashbournelions.com](http://www.ashbournelions.com)

The Ashbourne & District Lions Club & Ash Burners Cycle Club also prepare for the great Coast 2 Coast cycle by taking part in a static cycle at Tesco Ashbourne. The aim is to raise funds for our chosen charities, MAKE A WISH & ABACUS, a school managed by Autism Louth Meath. Information on this event can also be found on our website.

The Ashbourne & District Lions Club was chartered on St Patricks Day 1992. The Lions motto is WE SERVE & the Lions have served the local & extended community for a quarter of a century. The Lions work with those in need & often quietly amongst the community. We also support initiatives that benefit many people including the Lions Bus, Meals on Wheels, Message in a Bottle, Christmas Food & Winter Fuel Appeals, Defibrillator Sponsorship, Senior Citizens Club, Peace Poster School Competition, Carbon Monoxide Alarm Awareness, Make a Wish, Guide Dogs, Homeless, Cycle Against Suicide, Aware, U13 FAI Competition, Special Olympics Ashbourne & much more.

There are five original charter members still active in the Lions Club & they will be honoured at a celebratory dinner in May at The Ashbourne House Hotel. We would like to sincerely thank Lions Tadg Riordan, Rory Mc Guire, Tom Keenan, Tomas MacEoin & Sean Mc Nally for their dedicated service to our community.

## Garden City Annual General Meeting

The Garden City & Crestwood Residents Association AGM will be held on Wednesday 26th April at 20:00 in Kelly's Upstairs Lounge. We need new members to keep our association going. A number of our existing members have left over the winter. If we do not get new volunteers we face the possibility of having to disband.

Please consider supporting us. A small effort by you can ensure that our estate can be maintained in its present condition. We have won the Pride of Place 2016 award for the best large estate in County Meath. Your support is needed to prevent the return of a litter strewn and unkempt environment, that existed before our residents association was formed. We all benefit from a nice environment and we need your help.

## Community Diary

**Crafts for Adults** - Ashbourne Library, Every Tuesday.  
6.00pm - 8.30pm, Contact Áine on (01) 835 0609

**Saturday Lego Club for Kids** - Ashbourne Library  
Saturdays Ages 6 and under 12pm-1pm, Ages 7+ 1pm-2pm. Thursdays Ages 4+ €6 per session, contact Cathy 0861700215

**Ashbourne Special Olympics** - Community Centre  
Every Saturday 10am-11.30am

**Ashburners Cycling Club** - Every Saturday and Sunday  
8.00 and 10.00 am, Ashbourne Retail Park.  
Beginners always welcome.

**Crafts for Adults Group** - Every Tuesday from 6.00pm – 8.30pm. Learn a new or old craft or share your craft experience. Library. Contact Aine on (01) 8350609

**Meditation classes with Homeopath Lynda Boxwell**  
Every Thursday at 7pm. Learn the art of meditation for relaxation and self healing with Counsellor Linda Boxwell. call 085 149 1577, €8 per class.

**Scouts Club** - Gaelscoil Na Cille, Friday 7.30pm - 9.30pm

**Cubs Club** - Gaelscoil Na Cille, Fridays 7.30pm - 9.30pm

**Beavers Club** - Gaelscoil Na Cille, Every Friday 6.30pm

**Over 55's Exercise Class** - Every Tuesday & Friday  
10.00am – 11.00am. €8 per class. Focuses on improving health and well-being. Call Catherine on 087 288 3729

**Adult Bridge Club** - Every Monday morning at 10.30am  
Contact Martin on 0879978610. New members welcome.

Visit us at: [ashbournechamber.ie/our-groups/ashbourne-community-initiative](http://ashbournechamber.ie/our-groups/ashbourne-community-initiative)  
You can now Download the ACI Newsletter for your mobile or tablet device.





## TradAsh Irish Music Festival Returns this April!

'TradAsh' Irish Music Festival 2017 is Ashbourne's FREE Traditional Music Festival. The festival will be running during the weekend of Thursday, April the 20th to Sunday, April the 23rd, 2017. The TradAsh Festival is a non-commercial weekend of Traditional Irish Music across various venues in Ashbourne, Co Meath, such as Fox's Den, Stag's Head, Fogarty's Bar (in Ashbourne Court Hotel) and Molly's Barfunction room on Fredrick's Street. There are also events in Swans Curragha and the Ashbourne GAA club.

The town of Ashbourne is very fortunate enough to be steeped in so many traditions and one of these is our love for traditional Irish music. This annual festival simply aims to capture and encourage this tradition. Please feel free to join in the festivities and invite as many people as possible to make this years event a huge success.

Below is a list of events. You can also find additional information by going to the offical TradAsh website [tradash.com](http://tradash.com), or follow them on Twitter at @TradAshFestival. The town of Ashbourne is looking forward to seeing you all there.

Date & Time	Venue	Event
Thursday 20th April 9pm	Fox's Den (Main Street)	Opening Session with Songs and Tunes
Friday 21st April 9pm	Stag's Head Lounge	Open Session with Vincent Brown & Friends
Saturday 22nd April 2pm	Molly's Bar Fucntion Room	Trad Session with Tom O'Shaughnessy
Saturday 22nd April 8pm	Fogarty's Bar (Ash Court Hotel)	Open Trad Session in Front Bar
Saturday 22nd April 9pm	Swan's Curragha	The Saltcutters (from Liverpool)
Sunday 23rd April 11am	GAA Club	TradDASH 5km and 10km Run
Sunday 23rd April 3pm	Molly's Bar Function Room	Open Trad Session
Sunday 23rd April 8pm	Fox's Den (Main Street)	Closing Session with Mick Cantwell



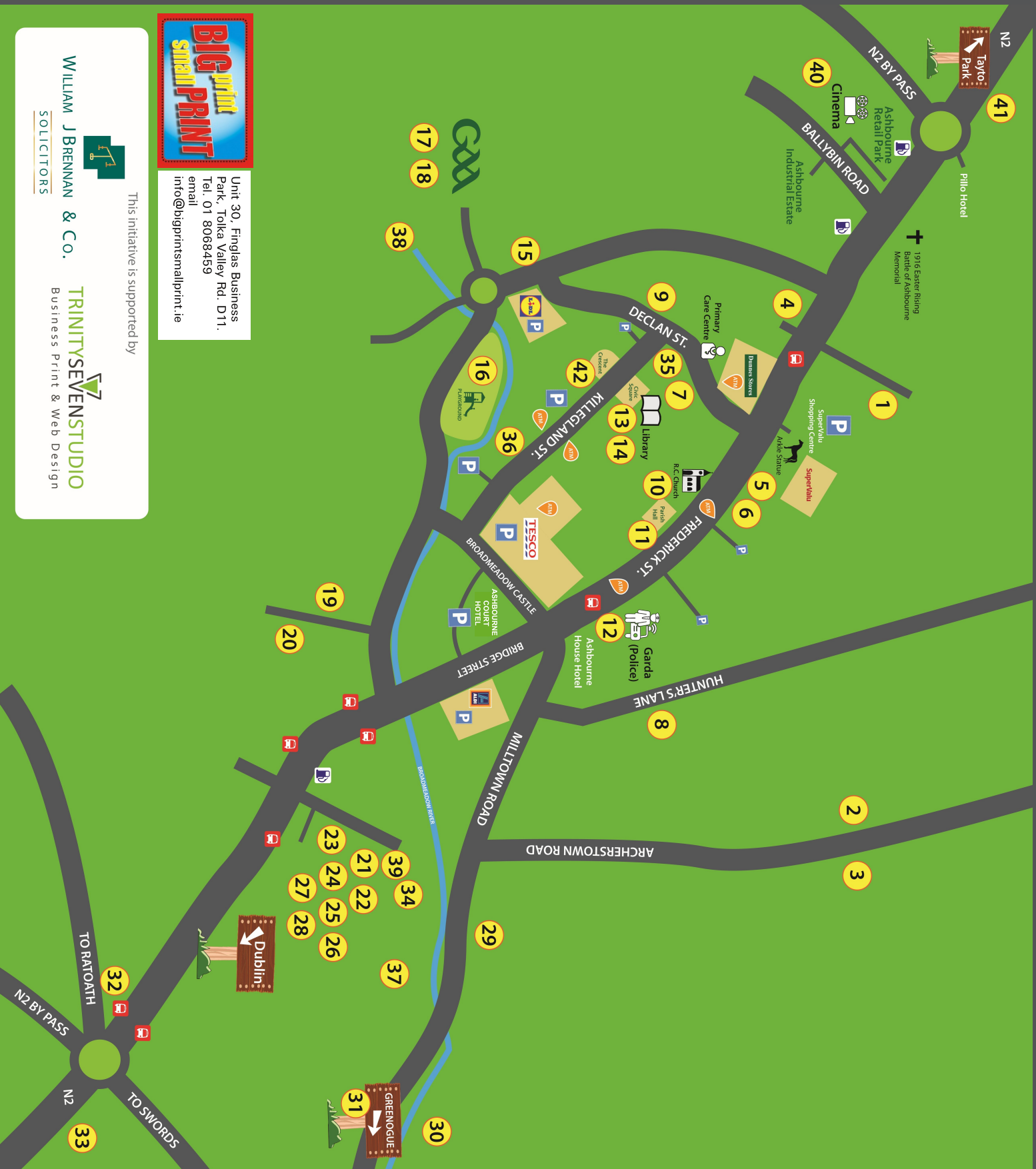
## Community College Field Trip & Competition Finalist

During the last term the 5th and 6th year students went on Art Trips to the National Museum and the National Gallery.

This is such a valuable experience and is also vital preparation for the Appreciation Section of the Leaving Cert Art History paper. The students visited both the permanent collection of the National Gallery and the National Museum. The 5th year students also visited the Hennessy Portrait Awards in the National Gallery.

Many congratulations to Alexandra Ghetu, Fifth Year, Ashbourne Community School whose entry for the Credit Union Art Competition has reached the final round at National Level.





**BIG print**  
**Small PRINT**

Unit 30, Finglas Business Park, Tolka Valley Rd. D11.  
Tel. 01 80684459  
email [info@bigprintsmallprint.ie](mailto:info@bigprintsmallprint.ie)

This initiative is supported by

**WILLIAM J BRENNAN & CO.**  
SOLICITORS

**TRINITYSEVENSTUDIO**  
Business Print & Web Design

- 1 St. Mary's National School – 01 835 1299
- 2 Ashbourne United FC – 086 389980
- 3 Ashbourne Rugby Club – 087 2471792
- 4 Ashbourne Senior Citizens – 086 3509900
- 5 Arkle Memorial – 087 1504022
- 6 The Music Company – 086 0552041
- 7 Ashbourne St. Vincent de Paul – 085 7788645
- 8 Ashbourne Scout Group – 087 2484929
- 9 Ashbourne Youth Café – 085 7078473
- 10 Ashbourne Church Choir – 087 6540691
- 11 Ashbourne-Donaghmore Parish – 01 8353149
- 12 Community Garda – 01 8010600
- 13 Ashbourne Library – 01 8358307
- 14 Theatre Learning Centre – 087 0538348
- 15 Coláiste de Lacy – 086 4102507
- 16 Ashbourne PlaySpace – 086 2182791
- 17 Donaghmore/Ashbourne GAA – 01 8499140
- 18 LSM Dance – 085 7139923
- 19 Garden City and Crestwood Residents Assoc. – 086 2215098
- 20 St. Declan's National School – 01 8350594
- 21 Gaelscoil na Cille – 01 8351600
- 22 Ashbourne Ceili Club – 086 3722512
- 23 Ashbourne Community School – 01 8353066
- 24 Ashbourne Special Olympics – 086 8868917
- 25 Ashbourne Badminton Club – 087 6609134
- 26 Ashbourne Cricket Club – 087 2948584
- 27 Ashbourne Community Centre
- 28 Educate Together – 01 8357493
- 29 Ashbourne Golf Club – 01 8352005
- 30 Robertstown Text Alert
- 31 St Andrew's Athletic Club – 087 6691559
- 32 St South Ashbourne Text Alert
- 33 Karate Ash – 085 1399170
- Ashbourne Cardiac First Responders – 086 2898752
- Trad Ash – 087 2561655
- Ashbourne Historical Society – 087 7865124
- Ashbourne Tidy Towns – 087 6688248
- Ashbourne Community Games – 087 4182002
- Ashbourne Lions Club – 086 8390012
- 34 Ashbourne Baseball Club – 087 9872555
- 35 Ashbourne Deaf Society – 086 4682800
- 36 Ashbourne Community Initiative – 085 8260368
- 37 Killeglad A.F.C. – 086 8274550
- 38 Gaelscoil na Mí – 087 7573233
- 39 Comhaltas Ceoltoirí na hÉireann – 087 9746417
- 40 Ashburners – 087 2554751
- 41 Ashbourne Archery
- 42 Prosper Meath