

February/March 2017

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# ashbourne community initiative NEWSLETTER

Hello Ashbourne, we know it seems like a long time ago since the new year came in but as mentioned in our last issue; a theme for the ACI this year is going to be the Year of the S.T.A.G.

We hope to remind you that "Shopping & Trading in Ashbourne is Great". You might look out for us on Patrick's day when we will be handing out the newsletter & also we hope to have a float in the parade with the Stag logo. This year we will be focusing on how doing business locally is good for Ashbourne in so many ways. Many thanks to Colin Murtagh for his interview last issue. We wish Murtagh's a happy 60th birthday this year. There are more 'Year of the S.T.A.G.' interviews to come this year. Please contact us if you have an idea that helps the promotion of shopping, trading & doing business in our town.

We wish the very best to the New Chamber of Commerce president Joe Giltinane & vice president Gerry O'Brien who were appointed in January. A special thanks to Alan Tobin & Brian Osborne for the excellent work they have done in roles of president & vice president. We sincerely hope we will continue to have their assistance in the town going forward. We have an extended working executive within the Chamber that has the input of many people from the town. As you know, the ACI works closely with the Chamber. In terms of the ACI and the Chamber all assistance is very welcome and ideas are discussed at their meetings held monthly in the County Council Municipal Building on the High/Killeghland Street.

Also, just a reminder; April 21 to 23rd sees the Tradash Festival in the town & we will be welcoming our new friends from Corcubion in Spain who Ashbourne has twinned with. This is an exciting time for Ashbourne. Also if you are interested in volunteering for the ACI or for the work on the day of the parade please let us know and we would be delighted to meet you and take you on as an official volunteer in assisting the town of Ashbourne to grow and prosper.

All the best and talk to you soon, from the ACI Team.

## 2017 in Ashbourne

Happy 2017 Ashbourne. Last year was a very busy, very active year for the Ashbourne Community Initiative, and Local Community Groups. We saw such events take place such as our Auction Night, the 1916 centenary, the Annual Racing Festival, Ashbourne/Corcubion Twinning, as well as yearly St. Patricks, Halloween and Christmas events.

We capped off the year with our second Annual Poker Texas Hold' Em Classic. Nine winners walked away with prizes such as vouchers for Ashbourne's top restaurants, bottles of wine and cash. We would like to say thank you to all the businesses who got involved in what was another fantastic night out for the community.

We are looking forward to what 2017 brings to Ashbourne. Stay tuned to the ACI Newsletter for all of the news coming your way in your town.



## Ashbourne Youth Cafe

Ashbourne Youth cafe would like to thank the community of Ashbourne for their tremendous support during our fund raising campaign on Christmas Eve. Our thanks also to the High Street Ashbourne for giving us the opportunity collect on the day.

Our Christmas tree collection service was once again a huge hit! We were overwhelmed by the backing of our community. A special thank you to Councillor Joe Bonner for setting up of his recycling centre at the Pillo Hotel. This facilitated the safe recycling of over one hundred and thirty trees through our service.

Our Building team are doing a great job at present, and we expect to have a big update for everyone in March. Keep your eyes peeled to our social media pages for further updates. You can find the Youth Cafe on twitter at: @ashyouthcafe or also on facebook at: [www.facebook.com/AshYouthCafe](http://www.facebook.com/AshYouthCafe)





# A New Years Message from the Ashbourne Lions Club

The Ashbourne and District Lions Club would like to wish all Ashbourne Newsletter readers a very happy and a peaceful New Year, and to thank you for your continued support throughout 2016. It was another hugely successful year for the local Lions Club with many successful events. Every cent raised by the Lions Club goes towards supporting many local charities and worthy causes within our community.

We have many challenging events planned for 2017 and would like to invite you to join the Lions Club and help us organise these and give something back into the community while making new friends. We are always welcoming new members so please contact us anytime, we'd love to hear from you.

We meet on the first Thursday of every month between September and June @ 8pm to 9pm in the Pillo Hotel. We would also like to thank the Pillo Hotel for their continued support for the Lions Club throughout the year. Please visit us at [www.ashbournelions.weebly.com](http://www.ashbournelions.weebly.com) or e-mail: [lionsashbourne@gmail.com](mailto:lionsashbourne@gmail.com) or text "Lions Club" to 0872654944.



## Annual Ashbourne Saint Patrick's Day Parade Volunteers WANTED!

If you would like to take part on this years parade organisation, please contact:  
Sandra at 085 825 6955 or e-mail: [info@ashbournechamber.ie](mailto:info@ashbournechamber.ie)

## Coderdojo Ashbourne, who are we?



We are an Irish led global collaboration of volunteers & parents providing free learning to young people, in programming & technology. The Ashbourne Dojo had it's first session on July 2013 upstairs in Ashbourne library. We mentor kids from 7-17 yrs of age, every other Saturday from 2.30-4.30pm as the school calendar allows. We give kids a 5 session beginners course using the free coding program Scratch 2.0, a user friendly interactive programming tool that makes coding so easy for anyone to learn. We also have kids learning & using HTML, Python, JavaScript & and Unity. These enable them to write web pages, build games & program circuit boards (and Arduino and Raspberry Pi).

Every year Coderdojo host a competition 'Coolest Projects', this is our biggest event of the year, Any child that feels they are ready may enter a project into this competition. One of our own won his category at the coolest projects in 2014, this member has now moved on to become a youth mentor with TY work experience program in their school . We also have An Gaisce students come to mentor with us & have found this to be a very successful partnership. We promote an ethos of coolness, awesomeness and mutual respect amongst both our attendees and mentors. So how do you join us ? Visit us on Facebook at CoderdojoAshbourne or email us at [ashbournedojo@gmail.com](mailto:ashbournedojo@gmail.com).

## 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.





# News from the Ashbourne Area

## U13 SFAI All Ireland Soccer Competition

The U13 All Ireland (FAI endorsed) competition is open to all Lions Clubs in Ireland. The first round draw paired Ashbourne Utd with St Joseph's, Sallynoggin. When the draw was made we knew we had a great challenge ahead as "Joey's" had won the competition for the last two years. There was much anticipation and great excitement as the boys climbed aboard the Lions Club Bus at the Community School.

The singing and craic was in full flow and the boys from Ashbourne United enjoyed a great day out. The quality of football on display throughout was excellent and the game was played with great heart, commitment and skill. I am sure we are looking at some potential stars of the future. Joey's proved too strong for our lads in the end but memories were made which will last a lifetime. The Dun Laoghaire Lions Club President treated us to Mc Donald's after the match which is always a popular way to finish off a day out.

We would like to express our thanks to Ashbourne United U13 for representing the A&DLC so well. Special thanks to Dun Laoghaire Lions Club and St Joseph Boys for their warm welcome. We wish the Joey's boys all the best for the remainder of the tournament.

## Clothes Food and Water for Homeless Mobile Run

Working directly with Peter from Homeless Mobile Run in Grafton Street on Sunday Dec 18th, the Ashbourne Lions Club are delighted to help support the fantastic work being carried out by all the volunteers. We hope our financial assistance helps bring some peace and happiness to deserving families this Christmas. We experienced first-hand last night how our shoe boxes, sandwiches, chocolate, hats, scarves, coats and boots were put to good use by our homeless friends. Attached is a picture of some of the members of Ashbourne Lions Club handing over financial donation and vouchers for Tesco and Dunne's plus Michael Darragh Mc Cauley helping out with lion Ann Moore.

## Winter Fuel distribution

Ongoing distribution of winter fuel to the elderly in Ashbourne and district. Funds were raised during the year to support this project through bingo and quiz nights. Approx. 20 families benefit from the project which will help keep homes fully heated throughout the cold winter.



# Ashbourne Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting

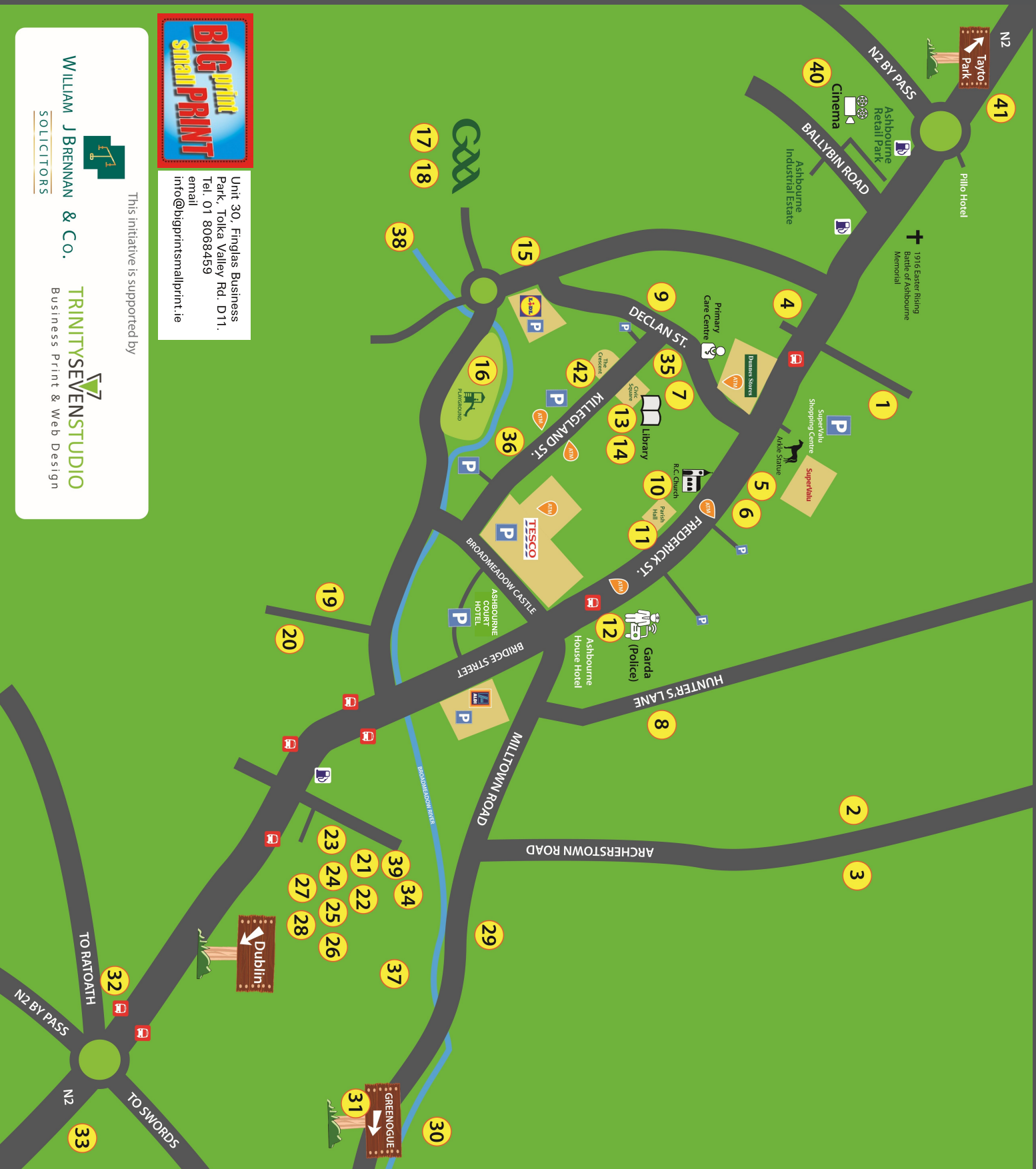
The Chamber AGM was held in the Ashbourne House Hotel on Monday the 30th January. The audience was addressed by Matt English CEO of Special Olympics Ireland and Donal O'Brien Regional President of Aramark in Northern Europe. Both speakers were very entertaining and passionate on their chosen topics.

A new Committee was elected with Joe Giltinane being elected President, Gerry O'Brien Vice President, William Brennan Co. Secretary and Brian Kelly retains his role of Treasurer. There was a great appreciation from the floor for all of the hard work and achievements of the outgoing committee and a warm welcome for the newly formed committee.

There were presentations to the two guest speakers to mark their attendance and out going President Alan Tobin was also presented with some beautiful locally made Diem Pottery.







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- 7 Ashbourne St. Vincent de Paul – 085 7788645
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- 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
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- 17 Donaghmore/Ashbourne GAA – 01 8499140
- 18 LSM Dance – 085 7139923
- 19 Garden City and Crestwood Residents Assoc. – 086 2215098
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- 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
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