



ashbourne
community initiative
NEWSLETTER
October/November 2017

FREE
please take one

Hello Ashbourne and we hope you had a lovely summer and are enjoying the harvest time of the year. Also happy Halloween to all and in particular to the younger members of the town who are particularly active in relation to Halloween goings on. In fact there is a call to arms to kids around the town – more of that later.

This can be a lovely time of the year as the trees turn a myriad of different colours and the weather is still not too bad and the evenings haven't quite given up on us yet. During the break a lot was happening in Ashbourne. There was the town twinning event in Corcubion in Spain. The people gave a great welcome to the group who went over on behalf of the town.

The musicians from Ashbourne were amazing and joined in with the local Galician musicians for a mix of Irish and Galician music that was amazing to hear.

We are now at the beginning of the preparation for the Ashbourne 2020 Celebrations – to celebrate the 200 year anniversary of the town. A committee has been set up to get matters under way with the aim of putting together a full committee by March 2018. You will note that all ideas are welcome and you can email us any ideas you have for the 2020 celebrations.

On another note and most concerning note - we have received reports that a number of witches, ghosts and vampires, ghouls and trolls were sighted around the town in the last few weeks. We wish for the community of Ashbourne to be vigilant in the light of such reports. Children are asked to use their particular skills in the ghost and night time monsters department to help track down such ghosts and the whole community have met recently in the town hall to confirm numbers for the Ashbourne army of any children who can help locate such entities.

Children are asked to scour the community and every part of the town to find these frightening concepts and put paid to their activities around the town. There will be refreshments available in most houses around the town to feed this army. Such refreshments will include chocolate, many varieties of sweets, cakes and buns, apples and mandarins and also hazelnuts, almonds peanuts. For those houses that do not assist – children are asked to refrain from putting stink bombs into their letter boxes!



Halloween Traditions

Halloween in Ireland has been celebrated for centuries and originates from the festival known as samhain which dates back 2000 years. As Christianity spread across Europe including Ireland, samhain pagan traditions died out over time and halloween became the main festivity although some of the old traditions remained.

Trick or Treat!

The custom of trick or treat was founded in Ireland when children and the poor went door to door they sang songs and offered prayers for the souls of the dead in exchange for food usually a soul cake which was flattened bread and contained fruit and was known as "Souling"

Fancy Dress!

The custom of dressing up comes from an old celtic tradition when people dressed up in costumes resembling evil spirits in order to placate them. At halloween men would have dressed in white and blackened their faces to resemble the dead to acknowledge them and so appease them that they might not visit the homes of the living or if you were to meet a spirit on your travels they would accept you as one of their own and not be tempted to carry you away in the morning. Got a local ghost story you want to share! we can be found on Facebook.



Enterprise Awards

Bank of Ireland Enterprise Awards were in the town recently and a group of judges from the enterprise board attended at the Municipal District Chambers and a brilliant show was put on by community groups and the Ashbourne Chamber of Commerce.

The enterprise town awards aims to assist in the promotion of enterprise across the country by bringing businesses and community groups together to showcase to a panel of judges, the spirit of enterprise in their local area. There are 70 odd towns entered but we think the judges were impressed with the community spirit and also entrepreneurial culture that is prevalent in the town.



Ashbourne Men's Shed

The Ashbourne Men's Shed is operating over three Years and is part of a National Shed movement with over 400 sheds across the country. We currently have 40 members shared across our three core activities. It is a popular drop in centre for a chat and cuppa, or table quiz, in our allotment which boasts a large poly tunnel and BBQ patio.

More recently, we have opened up our brand new Workshop for woodwork, metal and mechanical projects including the planters for Tidy Towns. Membership is free and open to men of all ages and interests in the community. The drop in centre is located on the church grounds in the village and open Wed. and Fri 10:30 till one o' clock.

Just drop in for a cuppa and a warm welcome or phone Hugh Stevens 087 669 1529 for more details. Members at the official opening of the new workshop.(photo below) We would also like to thank all those who generously supported us over the three years to bring us to where we are today.



fáilte isteach

English conversation classes "Failte Isteach" will commence in Ashbourne Library starting on Wednesday the 27th of September 2017, from 10am to 12 noon and on Thursday the 28th of September 2017 from 6.30pm until 8.15pm. and every Wednesday and Thursday thereafter. These are basic English conversation classes which suit all levels - beginners to advanced. No advanced booking is required. For further information, please feel free to contact us at our e-mail at ashcommunitative@gmail.com

Język angielski – konwersacje dla nowych imigrantów
Lekcje są bezpłatne i oferowane przez nauczycieli wolontariuszy.
Zapraszamy wszystkich serdecznie
Poziom dla początkujących · Poziom dla średniozaawansowanych · Poziom dla zaawansowanych.
Miejsce: Ashbourne Library
Godzina: Wednesday from 27th September 2017 - 10am to 12 noon Thursday from 28th September 2017 - 6.30pm to 8.15pm
Oczekujemy na spotkanie z Tobą

Congratulations Hugh!

Hugh Maquire's smoked black pudding was found to be better than 12,366 other products which competed for the top honour of Great Taste Supreme Champion at the 22nd Golden Fork Awards recently, the climax of months of judging across Ireland and Britain.



Quote from Hugh, "I don't know where I am, to be honest with you. I just can't believe it, I am walking on air", he said this morning. "This time last year this product wasn't even incubated."

The product he is referring to is a black pudding made from fresh pig's blood and containing no artificial preservatives and smoked over beechwood chippings for 45 minutes.

Thank You to Tesco

A big "thank you" to Tesco and their customers for the recent donation through their community token fund.

It helps with producing the ACI Newsletter which keeps the local community informed of events and new initiatives in the area.



Spirits of Meath
Halloween Festival
7th Oct - 5th Nov 2017

For more information visit:
spiritsofmeath.ie

Tel: +353 (0) 46 909 7060

If you are interested in Advertising in our Bumper Christmas Issue
Space is limited so please contact us at:

ashcommunitative@gmail.com
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New Community Liaison Officer

Barbara Kelly has been a member of An Garda Síochána for over 13 years and stationed in Ashbourne for the past 10 years. Her role as a community Garda takes in core policing duties in addition to specific community policing roles such as supporting Neighbourhood Watch, Community Alert, the Garda Schools programme and various other community based initiatives.

Milbourne Estate in Ashbourne recently had a family fun day in which Garda Donal Young, Garda Pauric Bynre and Garda Barbara Kelly met with the Residents to launch the Milbourne Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Although the day was wet there was an excellent turn out from residents.

Garda Barbara Kelly can be contacted at: barbara.z.kelly@garda.ie or 01 801060 at Ashbourne Garda Station.

To report a crime contact the Garda Station on:
999 or 112 and 01 8010600

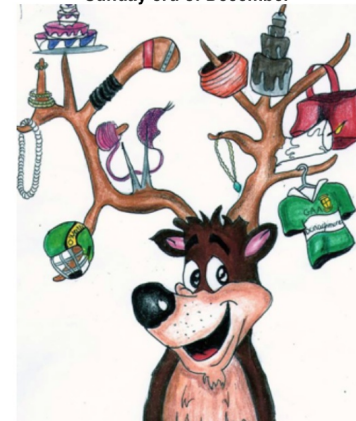


**The Ashbourne
Craft and Trade Fair
will be
Sunday 3rd December.
11am - 5pm, Indoor
Arena, Donaghmore
GAA Club**

**Please send e-mail
with a description of
what you sell and a few
photos if possible.**

Ashbourne Craft and Trade fair

Sunday 3rd of December



Applications now open

ashbournefair@gmail.com



Community Diary

Crafts for Adults

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

Combra Group

A social group for men over the ages of 18 to get together and chat. Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am - 12pm. Contact Dave on 0876880316 or Anthony on 0872025246

Over 55's Exercise Class

Every Tuesday & Friday 10am - 11am.
Contact Catherine on 0872883729

Grow in Ireland: Mental Health Ages 18+

Thursdays 2pm - 4pm. Call 1890 474474

Adult Book Club

First Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm.
New members welcome.

Music Appreciation Club

Every Wednesday morning 11am. - 12.30pm. Refreshments provided. New members welcome. Enquiries at desk.

Adult Book Club

First Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm. New members welcome. Ask at desk for details.

Adult Bridge Club

Every Monday morning at 10.30am. Call Martin on 0879978610 for details. New members welcome.

Lego Clubs for Kids

Saturdays Ages 6 and under 11am - 12pm, Ages 7+ - 12pm - 1pm. Thursday ages 4+ 5.30 - 6.30pm. Contact Rachael 0868469815

Ashbourne Young Adult Scout Group

Meets every Thursday from 7pm. Ages 15 - 17 yrs.
Contact Susie Rafter on 0878288357

Childrens Book Club

Ages 8 - 10 yrs. Third Friday of the Month
Fri. 22nd Sept. 4pm - 5pm.

Gymboree Play and Music Classes

Every Friday morning. Music 1 (ages 6 - 16 mths) at 10am.
Music 2 (ages 16mths - 5 yrs) at 11am.
Contact Tracy On 0868592561

Childrens Mini Music Club

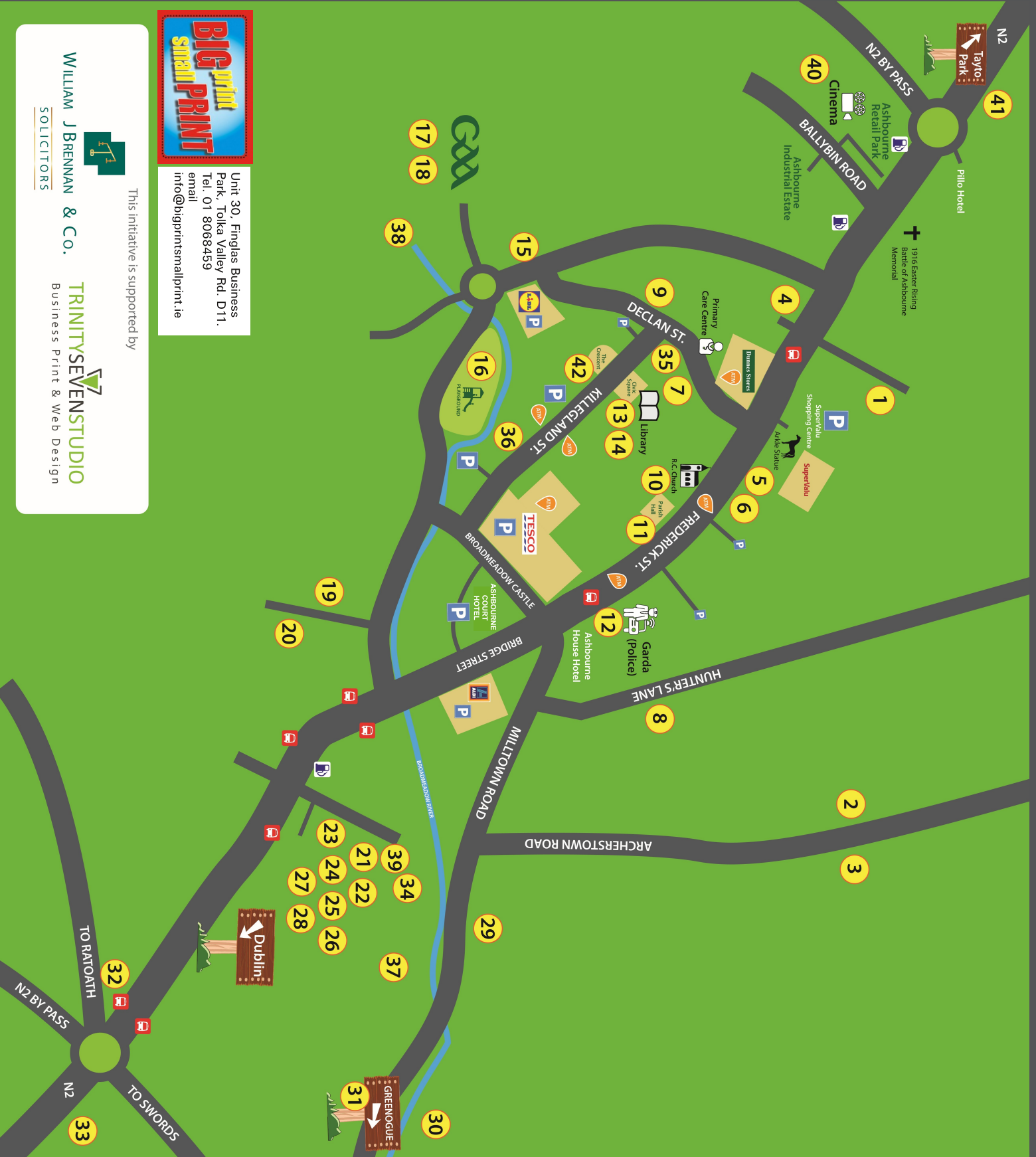
Thursday 10.15am - 11am. Music for parents and toddlers.
6 mths - 4 years. Contact 0873178169

Parent and Baby Room

We have a relaxing Parent and baby room including a nappy changing unit, bottle warmer, parent magazines and a CD player for relaxing music. Ask at the desk if you wish to use the room.

Parent & Toddler Group

Every Tuesday and Thursday between 10am. and 12pm.
Bring your child along for games and activities
There is a charge of €2 per morning. (Term time only)



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- 11 Ashbourne-Donaghmore Parish – 01 8353149
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- 33 Karate Ash – 085 1399170
- Ashbourne Cardiac First Responders – 086 2898752
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- 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 Killeghland A.F.C. – 086 8274550
- 38 Gaelscoil na Mí – 087 7573233
- 39 Cornhaltas Ceoltóirí na hÉireann – 087 9746417
- 40 Ashburners – 087 2554751
- 41 Ashbourne Archery
- 42 Prosper Mweath