

Garda appeal after Taughmaconnell raid

■ Pauline Scott

Gardaí in Roscommon have appealed to anyone who was in the Taughmaconnell area between 1 am and 3 am on Thursday morning last to contact them.

This follows an incident where raiders broke into the

home of a family in the area, tied them up and made off with a quantity of cash. The incident happened around 2 am.

Superintendent Paul Glynn this week issued an appeal to people who were in the area between 1 am and 3 am, whether they noticed anything suspicious or not, to come forward,

as Gardaí are trying to build a picture of events in the area that night.

AGGRAVATED BURGLARY

"At about 2 am on the morning of 3rd of June, an aggravated burglary occurred in Taughmaconnell," said Superintendent Glynn, who con-

firmed that money was taken in the incident. The family in question, and their two children, a female in her 20s and a boy in his late teens, were tied up, but managed to untie themselves and Gardaí were alerted quickly and arrived on the scene shortly after 2 am.

"We are asking anyone who

was in the area that night to come forward, whether they drove through the area or were there for a time. We want to know who was going through the area on the morning."

"This is an ongoing investigation, it is a very serious incident and we are dealing with it as such," said Superintendent

Glynn, who added that Gardaí have already carried out extensive enquiries in the local area.

If you were in the Taughmaconnell area in the early hours of Thursday last, between 1 am and 3 am, you are asked to contact the Gardaí in Roscommon, in confidence, on (090) 66 38300.

Neighbours Áine and Róisín through to Tralee

■ Ashling Flanagan

Roscommon will have a unique double presence in the Rose of Tralee International Festival in August with neighbours Áine Shine and Róisín Hunt both on stage, the two Ballymurray girls representing Liverpool and San Francisco.

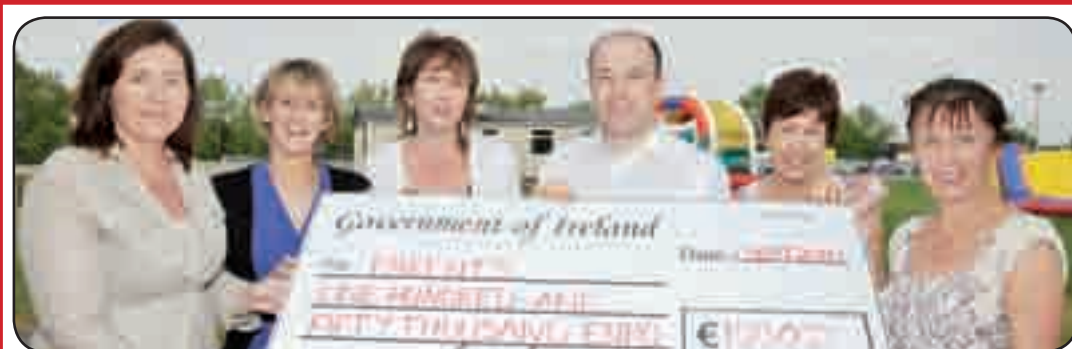
The regional final for this year's Rose of Tralee took place in Portlaoise last weekend. 29 girls appeared in the competition. Ten Roses were selected on the night. Unfortunately, Roscommon Rose of Tralee Deirdre Lenehen didn't make it through, however, Ballymurray native Áine Shine, representing Liverpool, succeeded in gaining a spot in the Rose of Tralee International Festival, which will be taking place from the 20th to the 24th of August.

Áine is the 25-year-old daughter of

Larry and Anne Shine and currently works as a pharmacist in Liverpool. Áine is a member St Dominic's GAA club, and has played camogie from a young age and for her county. She plays classical piano and has won numerous medals in Scór and Réadóirí.

In the future she would like to dedicate time to the underprivileged in Africa and hopes to one day own her own pharmacy. Áine will be joined on stage in Tralee by fellow Ballymurray native Róisín Hunt, who won through in San Francisco earlier this year and did not have to take part in the regional finals.

The two girls live in close proximity to each other, and even went to school together. Róisín is a graduate of media studies from NUI Maynooth, and has been living in San Francisco for over a year, where she works in radio.



Denis Naughten TD pictured with a number of South Roscommon childcare providers highlighting the funding local parents may miss out on (l-r): Deborah Downes (Millmount Childcare), Catherine Shine (Wonder Years), Helen Glynn (Little People's Place), Denis Naughten TD, Catherine Seery and Annette Ward (both Naionra Realta Geala).

Losing out on childcare funds

Parents in South Roscommon are set to lose out on over €150,000 by not availing of the free pre-school year in Early Childhood Care and Education in September, local TD Denis Naughten has revealed.

"Figures show that the number of children enrolled in pre-schools and crèches in the Drum/Monksland/Bealnamullia area alone for September is significantly lower than the number of chil-

dren enrolling annually in local schools," stated Denis Naughten.

"At present over 60 families in the area will miss out on up to €2,400 each by not availing of the free pre-school year for eligible children. Many parents may not be aware that they need to register their child in advance to avail of the scheme for children between the ages of three years three months and four years six months."

If you would like to find out more about the Early Childhood Care & Education Scheme an information evening will be run in Monksland Community Centre on Monday 21st June at 7.30 pm. For more information on the event contact Roscommon County Childcare Committee on (094) 96 22540 or email info@roscommon-childcare.ie



The QUAD presents 'The End of Year Ball'

Recently a very successful end of year Ball was hosted by The Quad Centre in Roscommon. It started out with preparations weeks in advance with tickets needing to be printed and sold, venue to be hired, DJ to be contacted and volunteers and staff to be asked to help out on the night.

This was a Drug and Alcohol free fully supervised event for Transition Year to Leaving Certificate male and female students from Roscommon.

The sunny 2nd of June finally arrived and the young people started to gather – in fantastic style. They were welcomed by staff and volunteers and the cameras started to appear. They then entered the Ballroom where the DJ played, and the chocolate fountains flowed. The young people present, and may I say some of our volunteers, danced the night away. At the end of the night the group posed for one last photograph before receiving a personalised chocolate disk and making their way home. The night was a great success, with over a hundred young people attending.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank again our 20 volunteers and Foróige staff for giving up their time, energy and for all their help on the night for which an event like such would not have been possible. The QUAD Youth centre is always looking for volunteers to help out with such events, summer programmes, and educational groups.

If you would like to become a volunteer please contact Rachel on 086-7814777 or by call into The QUAD, Circular Road, Roscommon. The QUAD will be organising summer activities throughout the summer for all ages. Keep a look out in the paper for the timetable.