

# Students put their energy to good use

First year students from the Convent of Mercy secondary school Roscommon are finalists in a nationwide search for One Good Idea to tackle climate change and promote energy efficiency.

The local team is one of twenty teams short-listed for Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland's (SEAI) search for One Good Idea. Their project centred on renewable energy and how to promote it.

A spokesperson for the group said, "We surveyed first and second year students in our school, we gave a Powerpoint presentation on the subject, we showed a short video and wrote and sang a renewable energy song. We took another survey to see what they had learned from our presentation and we plan to hold a poster competition, a quiz and a raffle in the local youth centre. We still have much more to do!"

"We all should know that eventually fossil fuels (oil, peat, coal, etc.) will run out, leaving the earth with no way to heat homes, run cars

and make most of the products we use every day. This is where renewable energy comes in. We could be using up to 50 percent renewable energy in Ireland. Instead we are using a mere two percent. If we don't change this soon we will witness extreme changes in our everyday lives.

"There are many examples of how you can improve the current situation: if we turned our thermostat down by a few degrees, turn electrical appliances fully off and turned the lights off when not in use it would reduce the demand for fossil fuels.

"There are many renewable energy sources that we could use in our everyday lives, such as solar, wind, geothermal, hydro and biomass. In the future most houses will be run on renewable sources because there won't be enough fossil fuels to run all the homes in Ireland. Solar panels are already used in some homes today to heat water. You might say these people are

very wise because we would imagine that in the future there will be a great demand for solar panels and they will most likely increase in price.

"There are a few obvious points about renewable energy. Firstly, due to our selfishness and ignorance we are affecting other peoples lives through climate change. Secondly, the supply of fossil fuels will run out, possibly in our lifetime. Finally, we all must begin to use renewable energy sources, it's the only way forward. If you start now, you'll make great savings."

Róisín Finan, Sarah Keenan, Caoimhe McStay, Shauna Hanley, Lisa Lyons and Aisling Earley will have the opportunity to showcase their work at the national final in Dublin Castle on May 6th. The judges will listen to each team present their campaign and winning teams will be rewarded with prizes for their team and school!

## Coffee morning in the Quad Youth Centre

The Foróige Staff and Gleeson's Townhouse and Restaurant will hold a Tea Morning in the Quad Youth Centre, Circular Rd., Roscommon, on Tuesday morning, 27th April, from 10.30 am to 1 pm.

Everyone is welcome to come along on the morning to have a look around and meet up with the Foróige staff working with the young people in the area: Gillian Conway, Drug Education & Support Worker; Laura Cawley, Teenage Health Initiative; Kathleen Shanagher, Administrator; Rachel Walshe, Project Worker and Noreen O'Callaghan, Big Brother Big Sister Co-ordinator. The staff will be available to chat about the ongoing courses and new projects planned for the summer months.

Bewleys are sponsoring the tea and coffee and proceeds from the morning will go towards the Roscommon branch of The Western Alzheimer's.

## Successful movie event

The Movie Evening organised by Foróige First Year Youth Club in Roscommon was a great success, it went down a blast!

The draw to find the hidden treasure brought the 'detective' out in everyone, especially the lads and eventually the treasure was tracked down and consumed within minutes.

Sarah, Jamie, Ella, Della and Laura are busy planning a cinema trip which will take place on April, 30th. Watch out for full details next week. Sub committee members are reminded that event details should be with the PRO no later than Wednesday. Well done and keep up the good work!

Condolences were this week conveyed to Polish friends on the loss of the Polish Prime Minister and officials. A big thank you was issued to leaders Anne, Vicky, Daveren, Aine, Martina, Ruth and Ian, who put up with members every week and look after them so well.

More volunteers are needed, so anyone out there with a little time to offer please consider joining the Foróige club, contact Jim, Regional Youth Officer, at (086) 9672920.

## SpeakEasy celebrates its first anniversary

SpeakEasy Roscommon celebrated its first year of charitership as an Internationally recognised Toastmasters club on 17th April with a meal at Moma, Main Street, Roscommon, on Friday 16th April.

In just one year, the club has achieved tremendous success. As many as four members have surpassed stage four of their competent communication, which enabled the club to take part in the International Speech and Evaluation Competitions. Maria Harris and Gosnia Stepien won the club contest and represented the Roscommon club in the Divisional Final held in Mullingar. This is a great achievement for the new club as they were competing against clubs that have been in existence for many years.

The Club welcomes new members at their new location at The Quad, Circular Road, Roscommon, every first and third Wednesday of each month at 8.15 pm. SpeakEasy Roscommon prides itself on membership from a cross section of the community, young and old, and ensures that every meeting involves participation from everyone who wishes to participate or indeed if you prefer to sit back and observe, it is a very enjoyable evening. If you would like further information please call Mari on (085) 8191700.

## Ballymurray Bridge

The following are the results for 12th April. North South: 1st S. Melia and J. McGrath; 2nd D. Cox and K. Walshe; 3rd E. Buren and M. Quinn; B. Maher and M. Madden. East west: 1st S and J. Kelly; 2nd J. O'Gara and G. Bannon; 3rd P and V Finneran.

## Sincere Sympathy

The people of Roscommon offer sincere sympathy to the people of Poland on the tragic death of their President, his wife and all who died in the recent plane disaster. Szczerze: Wyrazy wspolczucia, Rada parafialna, mieszkancy Roscommon I duchowienstwo skladaja szczerze wyrazy wspolczucia dla narodu polskiego w zwiastku z tragiczna smiercia Waszego Prezydenta, jego Zony i wszystkich innych, ktorzy zgineli w niedawnej katastrofie lotniczej. Bedziemy pamietac ich w naszych modlitwach jak rowniez wszystkich, ktorzy oplakuja ich strate.

## Book Club

The Book Club at Vita House, Abbey Street, Roscommon, is ongoing. The next date is Tuesday 27th April at 11am.



A group of party goers at Morelli's MacNificent Family Restaurant and Take away 30th anniversary celebrations on Sunday. Pic: Mick McCormack.

### roscommon town notes

#### Recent deaths

Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of Sincere sympathy is extended to the families of the following people who died recently: Miles Jameison who died in Spain, formerly St. Ciaran's Park; Gerry Mongan, Galway and formerly Lisnamult; Wojciech Lewandowski from Poland who resided at The Walk.

#### Volunteers needed

Vita House is in need of volunteers! If you have ever thought of doing some voluntary work in your community and kept putting it off, maybe now is the time! Remember a small percentage of your time can make a huge difference to another person's life. Volunteers come from all walks of life, they are ordinary people just like yourself. Training will be provided in accordance with your area of interest.

#### Counselling services

A variety of counselling services are available each day in Vita House by appointment. Family Mediation Service helps separated couples deal with difficult issues and reach a workable agreement and is available by appointment. For information or to book for any of the above, please call Vita House on (090) 66 25898 or email vitahouse@eircom.net.

#### Found

A small sum of money was found outside the Sacred Heart Church on Monday, 29th March after 10.30 am Mass. It can be claimed at Parish Office, tel: (090) 66 26298.

#### Coffee morning

A coffee morning with spot prizes will take place on Saturday morning, April 24<sup>th</sup>, from 10 am to 1 pm at Heather Cottage, Galway Road, Roscom-

mon, hosted by Ann Rafferty, Derek and Majella Tully. Please use side entrance. For directions, call (087) 916 5491. Proceeds to Roscommon Palliative Care.

#### Wedding bells

Congratulations to the following who were recently married in the Sacred Heart Church: Demelza Casey and Ronan Muldoon; Cora Cunningham and Martin Keaveney and Fiona Brennan and Michael Sullivan.

#### Thank you

Spina Bifida & Hydrocephalus Ireland (SBHI) this week thanked all who supported the church gate collection on the weekend of 27th and 28th March. You helped to raise €1,530 for the organisation.

#### Garden Club

The next meeting of Roscommon Garden Club will be held in The Abbey Ho-

tel, on Monday, 26th April at 8 pm. Guest Speaker is Claire Hussey on the topic of summer containers, hanging baskets and window boxes. There will be a bring and buy plant sale. There will be a selection of plants for sale on the night before the meeting.

#### Seminar

A seminar on the 'Care and Conservation of Historic Graveyards' will take place in King House, Boyle, on Friday 23rd April. Register 1.30 pm. Start 2 pm. Close 6 pm. All interested are welcome. This event is an action of the Co. Roscommon Heritage Plan. Admission free, but places are limited, apply to Heritage Office, Roscommon Co. Council, Courthouse, Roscommon, or phone (090) 66 37135 to book a place. E-mail: nfeeny@roscommoncoco.ie

#### Master Maths

Improve your maths, writing and spelling and work towards certificate level. New free course starts Tuesday 20th April, two mornings per week at Adult Education Centre, 15, Castle View (beside CIC Office), Roscommon. Registration 10 am. on Tuesday 20th April.

#### Bealtaine

Bealtaine Festival celebrating creativity in older age, comes to Roscommon with free cinema, yoga, tin whistle and dance classes during the month of May at the Arts Centre for those aged over 50. Places are limited so reserve your space now. Special reduced tickets €10 also on offer for those aged over 50 for the wonderful play 'The Ones Who Kill Shooting Stars'. More details at Arts Centre (090) 66 25824.