

Roebuck Residents' Association : Committee Report on Activities from October 2019 to October 2020

### **Events and Activities**

The year got off to a great start with a Coffee Morning in Sam's in November. Organised under our Neighbourhood Friendly Initiative, about 25 enjoyed the coffee, scones and chat. We were joined by our neighbours in Taney. We look forward to organising more in the future, when the Covid 19 threat has diminished.

During November, the County Council, in response to requests from the public, wished to place a bike rack on the slip-road in front of the shops. The Committee supported the move, but decided to withdraw from the process when the issue became divisive within our community.

In December, we held a very successful Christmas party on the Green, and Santa came to turn on the lights on the tree and to give out presents to the growing number of children in the area. It was a great evening, enjoyed by families young and not so young. Our collection on the evening came to almost 500 euro, which went to the charity Alone.

Our Book Club, established last year, continued to prosper during the pandemic by meeting on Zoom. And another memoir was added to our "library", with the very interesting life story of Mrs Eileen Graham, of Larchfield Road, as told to her neighbour Marie Ryan. We are hoping for more of these in the coming months.

At Easter, we held a House Decoration competition, and the judges were so impressed by the quality on show that prizes were presented to all the enthusiastic and creative entries by our judges.

In May we held the first of our "Swop Shops", followed by another in August. Business was slow, but we hope to build up greater interest over time.

The Hospice Coffee morning, organised annually for the last few years in September by Mairead Joyce could not be held on the Green this year, but collection boxes were hosted by Lynams, Roebuck Pharmacy and Select Boutique for the month. A sum of 775 euro was raised, and the Committee rounded this up to 1,035 euro for the Hospice.

Our Neighbourhood Watch road coordinators, 9 covering all roads, have not been called upon much, as the amount of criminal activity seems to have dropped since so many people are working from home. As ever, though, we are all advised to remain vigilant at all times, and to take preventative steps to protect one's property and personal belongings, as break-ins are still occasionally happening.

In summary, the pandemic has been central to the community since April, and has dominated all our thoughts and actions. While it has restricted us from carrying out many of our favourite activities, you can see from the above that we have been quite creative in finding alternative ways of keeping our community together. In that we would like to thank everyone for looking after one another. In particular, we thank Lynam's and Roebuck Pharmacy, and their volunteers, for their work in ensuring that no-one went without over the course of the lockdown.