



Community News



Vol.3 Issue 1 Dec 2013



MERRY
CHRISTMAS &
a happy new year



Chairperson's Message

On behalf of Aghabullogue Coachford Rylane Community Council, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year. Please consider shopping locally and supporting our shops and businesses whenever possible, both during and beyond the festive season. They value and rely upon your continued support. It is also important to look out for neighbours and older people, particularly at this time of year, and to check in upon those who might need your help, or just some company.

We are into the third year of this Community Council, which was elected in 2011 with a four year mandate. I would like to thank outgoing Chairperson Peter Dineen and all of the former Officers for their efforts and the many hours tirelessly devoted to the community cause. A lot of time during the past twelve months has been spent upon the Village Design Statements (VDS), which are intended to act as blueprints for our community, well into the future. It is important to get these right and to spend time doing so. We expect finalisation and unveiling of the VDS for each of the three villages early in 2014, and will be making announcements locally and on our Facebook page.

As is always the way, change and improvements take time, patience and effort, but slowly results begin to show. Recent examples are the resurfacing and lining of Coachford Village, the footpath outside Rylane National School, and general improvements in Aghabullogue Village. We are also aware that a new County Development Plan is envisaged and that Local Elections beckon for 2014, and are keeping an eye on developments.

If proof was ever needed as to the vibrancy of our community, one need only look at the locally active organisations, successes, and events during the year that was 2013. The ACR Achievers Awards in November honoured recipients in the fields of sport, industry, community, lifetime achievements, and acknowledged local, national and international success. There can never be too many volunteers, *so please make it your New Year's Resolution to become actively involved in your community.* It can and does make a huge difference.

Deirdre O'Donovan - Chairperson, ACR Community Council.

Village Design Statements

Over the past twelve months, the Community Council, with the assistance of URS Consultants, has been formulating Village Design Statements (VDS). We expect these to be finalised and unveiled in early 2014 and will be making announcements both locally and on our Facebook page. The VDS will strive to highlight potential opportunities for business creation and enhancement, recreation, tourism, improving of rural services and upgrading our heritage. They will also identify a range of projects and proposals which can be initiated within the short term, medium term and long term. We thank those who completed Questionnaires, attended Village Workshops, or otherwise helped along the way. Your input will be evident in the final versions of the VDS, as should be the case, because these are documents relevant to, and of great importance, to us all, and to the future of our community.

Community Council Officers 2013-14

The following persons were elected as Officers for 2013-14 during our recent AGM;

Chairperson - *Deirdre O'Donovan*
Vice-Chairperson - *Willie Dennehy*
Secretary - *Martina Casey*
Treasurer - *Rosemary O'Connell*
PRO - *Doug Lucey*

Co-option

Henry Delaney was co-opted during 2013 to the Community Council, as a member for the Coachford area. As an existing member of Coachford Tidy Towns and a Trustee of the Community House, Henry has proved his community credentials and we are delighted to have him on board.

ACR Achievers

The Community Council held its second Achievement Awards night on Saturday 9 November 2013, in what has become a highlight of the local social calendar. A large turnout paid tribute to those individuals and groups being honoured for their impact in the fields of sport, industry and community. There were also a number of lifetime achievement awards to various people who had given many years of service to the community.



Achievement Awards: Catherine Murphy, Gordon Mangan, Anthony Greene, Jerry Hubbard, James Flanagan, Tim Angela & Patrick Dennehy, Nicola Doherty, Local Shops (Cremins, Kathleens & Crowleys), Coachford AFC, Tom Healy, Aghabullogue Juvenile Camogie, Michael O'Riordan, Rylane Celtic.

Lifetime Achievement Awards: Dermot O'Leary, Judy Greene, Mattie Martin, Olan Sexton, Pat O'Leary.

Details on the achievers can be viewed on the Coachford News website, by using this link:
<http://coachfordnews.wordpress.com/2013/11/17/achievement-award-winners-2013>

Tús Employees

We would like to thank Martin Coughlan for his work in the three villages and parish environs, while employed with the Community Council under the Tús Scheme. Since then, there has been a 'change of the

guard' and now Adrian Martin & Ger Carey are hard at work in Coachford and Paddy Finnegan in Aghabullogue. All of your efforts are greatly appreciated and are making a huge difference.

A Tús participant is sought for the Rylane area, and if this interests you, please contact one of the Rylane Community Council Members who can advise further. Details of the Scheme can also be viewed at www.wcdp.ie/employment-training/tus-scheme

ACR Heritage

Our Heritage Committee has been very busy during 2013. Activities included:

- A cleanup (assisted by locals) at Kilcolman Graveyard during the Spring of 2013.
- A talk at Aughariddera Bridge (Rockgrove) by Doug Lucey in June 2013, this being the site of the 'Battle of Mullinhassig' between Sir James of Desmond & the McCarthys of Muskerry in 1580.
- Surveying Magourney and Christchurch Graveyards in Coachford during July 2013, with professionals from Eachtra Archaeological Projects. The results were posted to the Historic Graves Website, forming an invaluable genealogical resource for those wishing to research local roots. It is hoped to survey our other historic graveyards, Kilcolman and Aghabullogue, during 2014. The results can be viewed at:

<http://historicgraves.com/graveyard/magourney/co-mory>

<http://historicgraves.com/graveyard/christchurch/co-cccf>

- A talk by Anthony Greene at both Magourney & Christchurch Graveyards in August 2013 to coincide with Heritage Week. A prior cleanup also took place at Christchurch Graveyard.
- The Heritage Unit of Cork County Council have recently launched '*Heritage Bridges of County Cork*.' ACR Heritage previously made submissions and many of our local bridges are mentioned, four are pictured in the book and St. Olan's Well Bridge particularly features. It can be purchased in bookstores, directly from the Heritage Unit, or online at www.skibbheritage.com/Shop.htm

ACR Heritage also now has a website, which continues to be updated, and contains details such as News & Events, Maps & Places, Historic Graves and Local History. The address is www.acrheritage.info

Directory of Clubs & Organisations

The Community Council is compiling a Directory of Clubs & Organisations within the parish and environs. Please email your Club/Organisation name and contact details for consideration to acrcommunitycouncil@gmail.com , or contact any Community Council member.

Coachford Community House

The exterior of the Community House was repainted in 2013, adding to the recently enhanced appearance of Coachford Village. Rooms on the ground floor continue to be available for rental, at a reasonable cost, and please contact a member of the Community House Management Committee (or the Community Council can provide contact details if needed).

Village Activities

A lot of effort has been made by people during 2013 within each Village, with cleanups and other works

and the difference is noticeable. Festive spirit is evident with Christmas trees and lights. The added bonus of the footballers reaching the County Final added to a sense of community spirit. A huge crowd turned out at Coachford for the switching on of this year's Christmas lights. It takes dedication and strong commitment for all of this to continue to occur, and those involved with the Tidy Village groups are more than happy for help to come on board. It's a great way of getting some fresh air, meeting neighbours and doing good. Make it *your* 2013 Resolution to get involved and say hello!

Community Alert

It's important to remember that each of us can take steps to make our Community a safer place;

- Get to know your Neighbours, particularly those living alone. Call in and visit, run errands.
- Be alert - if you see someone or a vehicle acting suspiciously, call the Gardai. *Don't* assume somebody else will. You are *not* annoying the Gardai by calling, they are there to assist. Better safe than sorry.
- Keep an eye on your property and that of your Neighbours - help prevent vandalism and theft.
- Take appropriate security measures to protect your property.

Here are some important contact numbers.

GARDAI

Macroom	026 20590	Coachford Defibrillator	021 7334032
Coachford	021 7334002	Rylane Defibrillator	086 3327880
Stuake	021 7337032		
Emergency	999 or 112	Fr. Peadar Murphy PP	021 7334035
Garda Confidential	1800 666111	Fr. Brendan Mallon CC	021 7334059
Fire Brigade	999 or 112	St. Vincent de Paul	087 1728280
ESB (Emergency)	1850 372999	Samaritans	1850 609090
Southdoc	1850 335999	Social Welfare (Macroom)	026 20110
Health Centre (Rylane)	026 20651	County Council Office (Macroom)	026 41047

Upcoming Events - for your Diary!

The Community Council will hold its annual Table Quiz on ***Saturday 22nd February 2014*** at venues in each of the three Villages. With Aghabullogue winning the first table quiz and Rylane the second, is it now to be Coachford's turn? Keep this date free for what promises to be an entertaining night! Further details will be posted locally and on our Facebook page.

(This Newsletter is distributed to local Churches, Schools, Shops and Businesses. It is available online (as are earlier Issues) at www.facebook.com/acrcommunitycouncil . Or email us at acrcommunitycouncil@gmail.com)

EMAIL: acrcommunitycouncil@gmail.com
FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/acrcommunitycouncil
TWITTER: <http://twitter.com/acrcommunityco>
BY POST: Martina Casey, Secretary, Knocknagoun, Rylane, Co. Cork
OR contact any Community Council Member