

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2022

The ARCH club Christmas Fair took place on the 27th November. The Fair was great success and had a great footfall of people both young and old. Santas grotto was organised by our junior volunteers and the winter wonderland theme was so impressive, all our junior members both young and old enjoyed the experience.

A Big Thank you to all that helped on the day, without your help this would not have been possible. Also a big Thank You to all our seniors and the great turn out of support. It was a great success



CLUBS :

Saturday/Thursday Clubs

The senior clubs have been going at full steam with a return of all our club members and activities. We have 6 experienced volunteers running the clubs and although COVID has changed clubs and volunteer base we endeavour to do our best to succeed.

The clubs have slowly come back to been open on Saturday with slight chsnge in hours from 1 to 4 in afternoon club and 11 to 2 for morning club.

We continue to do our best for our clubs and would have liked to be in a better position with senior clubs than are at present.

We have advertised under volunteer Ireland and gone to all the local secondary schools with a drive to get TY years but unfortunately the desire to be part of a group for additional needs is not a priority for TYs at the moment with a lot of young people opting out of volunteering in all areas. We also sent out a flier with requests for volunteers, The New Year will see us drive forward this target again and hope to manifest a better outcome with reintroduction of volunteers from committee and parent volunteer groups.

AUTISM CLUB

4PM TO 5.30PM WEDNESDAYS

Our junior autism club is now open 7 months and thriving now that all our local members have found their feet and are very much enjoying their programmes Orla and Louise have brought great knowledge to the group and assisted in supporting families, also via PLAN which is Parents Led Autism Network.

The Group recently went to The National Stud for Halloween project and had a great Day out with our other Junior groups.

THE JUNIOR SUNDAY CLUB 11AM TO 12.30

This club runs every other Sunday and is fun filled and educational for our juniors. Sinead Foley from our Committee oversees with Louise and is also very proactive with Parents and supports in all areas. We trailed a swimming club for Halloween week and it turned out to be so much fun for all involved so we will be looking at this again moving forward.

RESPIRE BREAK

This year we went away with a smaller group in November to trial and did air B and B in Downpatrick, it was a very successful break costing a third of the usual cost with 10 members rather than 15 going away. They all went shopping, sightseeing and did dinner out .

Hot tubs and Fun filled disco with takeaway was the Saturday night do and everyone thoroughly enjoyed. Prosper gave us the use of their 9-seater and with our own it turned out to be a life saver,





*Winner of first prize
Christmas card in
All Ireland arch clubs
competition*

CLUB FUNCTION 28TH OF JANUARY

We are holding a function on the 28th of January to mark our club's lifetime. We will be inviting families to come and enjoy the evening of dinner and entertainment and awards ceremony. We have a limit of 90 so we will do our best to include everyone especially those who have supported us over the years.

RESPITE BREAK 2023

This break has not been decided on, we had hoped to go back to trabolgan but its under redevelopment so we wont know our status until end of January and we will draw down on old volunteers to assist in making it happen. We will keep you in the loop.

CALENDARS

We have a limited number of calendars available in Print Chain.

Our Christmas cards are available there too.

LASTLY

The Saturday senior group won first prize in the Arch Clubs of Ireland for their Christmas card cover. KPC used it for all their clients all over the world so it was a great achievement so fair play to our great coordinators for making this happen. We are so grateful to have such a core group who always think of our members on their time off.



CHAIRPERSON'S ADDRESS

Sinead Mc Gowan has worked tirelessly at fundraising and developing the Arch club over the last few years, she has also worked with other struggling clubs and assisted them in their drive to reopen and get to the other side of covid. The Bayside Arch club in particular has been a success and celebrated their xmas party 11th December in the club, with Sinead doing food and clean up to help assist on the day activities



DONATIONS: OUR HEROES

Bernard Mc Gowan for Golf Classic raising	€30000
Christmas Fair	€15000
Fowlers Golf	€2800
Mick Kissane	€2000
GAA	€4700
Quiz	€1000
Hair Raiser	€1000

Thanks to all that assisted in these being so successful.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

The Committee elected for 2022 was as follows:

Chairperson:	Sinead McGowan
Vice Chairperson:	Brid Finn
Secretaries:	Finbarr O Connor & Colum Hanifan
Treasurer:	Amanda Brennan
Assistant Treas.:	Fiona Loughrane
Committee:	Riona Myers, Barbara Carberry & Cormac Donnelly