

Kildare Branch Retired Teachers Association

(if you have any items/photographs/events that you would like included in this Blog,

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Report on a really well attended Christmas Meeting and get together in Killashee House Hotel, Naas, on Wednesday 6th December.



A welcoming Tea/Coffee and Biscuits was provided by the committee.

Minutes of the last meeting were read by Secretary Fidelma and adopted and she also covered items of correspondence from the National Executive.

Chairman Ted Rooney congratulated Fidelma on her hard work during the year and in prep for this meeting. He also reported on the activities of the Branch since the Summer meeting.



GOLF

There were two very enjoyable GOLF OUTINGS and it is hoped to attract some new players to the next outings. A Golf outing is also proposed by Laois Branch and we will be contacted in 2018.



Brian continues with Dance Classes. Again it is hoped that there might be bigger attendances after Christmas.

NOMINATIONS FOR ANNUAL CONGRESS

The Committee Officers were nominated as delegates for Annual Congress which will be held in the Shelbourne Hotel on the 6th March. Volunteers, Peadair Cunningham, Brian Keyes and Micheal McCarthy can be called on if there is a need for substitute.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Another healthy balance reported by Fidelma

ADDRESS BY NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

Billy Sheehan is unable to attend all meetings around the country (naturally!) but a member of the National Executive will deputise for him at those he misses. Mary McCarthy from Laois, our rep on Executive Committee, updated us on developments:

- Treasurers' Meeting where the change of status of the organisation and the changes/improvements in Pension payments (both items described in Conasc) were discussed.
- Proposals for branches to cooperate in activities, perhaps a list of events to be made available for anyone interested. Mary's own branch in Laois had a Golf Outing recently attended by some members from the Dublin branches and this "cross Branch" cooperation is being promoted!
- A reminder us that application for support for a favourite charity can be made to the Solidarity Fund, usually before December; and that applications for Bursaries both academic and non-academic should be made by 8th January.
- Noted that INTO is 150 years old this year and a book to honour the occasion is available: a complimentary copy will probably be available to each branch if you want to have a look!
- .Mary also had a sample of "THE MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE" bottle and info on the scheme.



Message in a Bottle is an emergency information scheme. It simply directs the emergency services to information stored in a plastic bottle which is kept in the fridge of vulnerable people and people who live alone or those with medical conditions or allergies.

The information in the bottles will include a photograph, health details, emergency contact, doctor contact, whether there are pets that need looking after and where their medication is kept in the house and much more.

It is hoped this will assist the emergency services responding to a call at homes that avail of the scheme. Stickers are put on the fridge and on the inside of the front and back door to alert the emergency services that the vital information is available in the fridge.

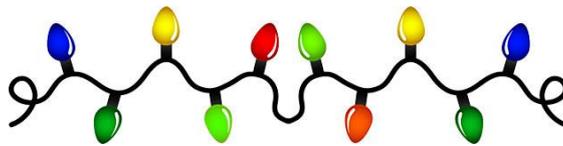
This scheme is free to the user and should save the Emergency Services valuable time identifying you and your emergency contacts by telling whether you have special medication or allergies or not. It is a potential lifesaver and provides peace of mind to users and their friends and families

One of our Kildare members described his Personal Alarm which has been instrumental in saving his life and suggested that interested members could phone Tunstall Emergency Response Systems, Bunclody 1850 247 999

PROPOSED 2018 OUTING



Great to see Rena back with plans for a trip this year. The Sunny South East in April with Waterford and environs being explored!!!! More about this after Christmas.



RAFFLE AND DINNER

Once again Fidelma excelled herself with a great number and variety of raffle prizes after which we adjourned to the Dining Room to start to the Christmas festivities with good food and lots of chat.



Go mbeirimid beo ag an am seo arís. Nollaig shona!!!