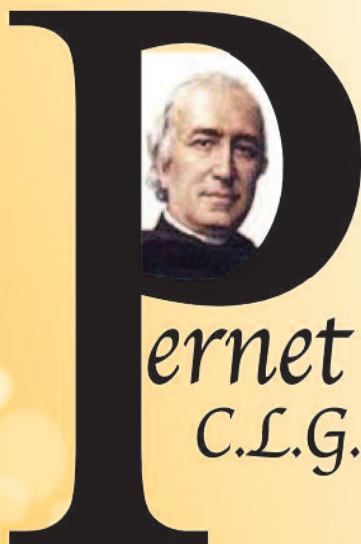




P.L.A.N.T



*Report*  
**2016-2017**

**[www.pernetlayassociates.com](http://www.pernetlayassociates.com)**



## *Vision Statement*

*We are a group of people drawn to live our lives at a deeper level.*

*We are grateful for the gift that is our life's journey; for the privilege of being part of the great beauty of nature; for the joy, hope, healing and energy that our Christian faith discovers and unearths in us like hidden treasure.*

*We believe in the value and dignity of each individual.  
We seek justice for all whose opportunity for a full life is denied.*

*We seek our own personal growth, and the growth of others around us – our families, communities and the wider society.*

*We hold in common our connection with the Little Sisters of the Assumption and recognise in them a kindred spirituality.*

*We support their mission of service to the family and the wider community.*

*We are glad to work with the Little Sisters in fulfilling their mission and to reach out in a variety of practical ways to those around us, both at home and abroad.*

## Pine Tree - Family Group

**Aim:** To unite families with their community.

### **FAMILY – THE CREATIVE CONTAINER**

FAMILY – THE CREATIVE CONTAINER is a parenting course with a strong therapeutic aspect facilitated by Ann-Marie Collins, teacher and art psychotherapist.

This course was offered and presented for the first time in Galway in September 2016 by Pernet Lay Associates. It was conducted over seven Tuesday evenings between September and November. It was deemed to be very enjoyable and beneficial by all the facilitators and participants.

The programme, based on issues which frequently arise for modern families, is structured to present seminal psycho-educational material on child-development and parenting topics. Carefully planned art-making and group activities are included to facilitate the digestion of the concepts presented and to help reflect on them in relation to the group members' particular family situations.

The course is shaped as it proceeds so as to be of maximum practical benefit to the particular participants' family lives.

The group met for two hours each Tuesday evening. Participants and facilitators were treated to tea and home-made treats before each session. This was a very valuable and appreciated part of the evening, allowing people to relax and connect at the start of our sessions together.

### **The Process**

At the outset of the course, some time was given to identifying the topics that participants were most eager to explore.



The topics then included in the course of the programme were:

- The role of Parents
- Building your relationship with your child
- Parenting through connection
- Identifying your child's needs
- Support and encouragement
- Establishing good routines
- Problem solving
- Tantrums
- Childhood anxiety
- Self-esteem
- Working with challenging behaviour
- Limits and Boundaries
- Engaging cooperation
- Food, Bedtime, Homework
- Sibling rivalry
- Emotional regulation, hyperactivity

The work was discussed and reviewed following each session by the facilitator and co-facilitators, Mary Horgan and Mary Cunningham. Participants completed an evaluation sheet at the end of each session and an evaluation sheet at the end of the course itself. Participants were asked to rate their satisfaction on a scale of 1-5 each evening. 85% of the responses, which were completed by all the members, rated an average of 4-5 over the course of the programme.

- “This course was very helpful in guiding and giving space to think about how to improve the “connection” with my kids. It has helped me feel more confident and assured in my parenting”
- “This was a very fun and different way of learning parenting skills”

This family workshop was sponsored by the Little Sisters in 2016. We hope that to offer this course again in 2017, if we can source sufficient funding.

Pernet Company Limited by Guarantee presents

## FAMILY THE CREATIVE CONTAINER



**Families take many shapes.  
This course is open to anyone in a parenting role.**

**Topics for discussion will include**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The role of parents</li> <li>• Building your relationship with your child</li> <li>• Identifying your child's needs</li> <li>• Support and encouragement</li> <li>• Establishing good routines</li> <li>• Problem solving</li> <li>• Tantrums</li> <li>• Childhood anxiety</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-esteem</li> <li>• Working with challenging behavior</li> <li>• Limits and boundaries</li> <li>• Engaging co-operation</li> <li>• Food, Bedtime, Homework</li> <li>• Sibling rivalry</li> <li>• Emotional regulation, hyperactivity</li> </ul>
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**COURSE DETAILS**  
**7 week course**  
**Venue: Westside Resource Centre**  
**September 12th, 19th, 26th**  
**October 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th**  
**6.45pm - 9.00pm**  
**Number of participants limited to 14**  
**Contact Mary 086 3836567 or Imelda 086-6098887**  
**Come early for a cuppa!**



Facilitated by  
Ann-Marie Collins

This Project is supported by the  
Communities Integration Fund.




[www.pernetlayassociates.com](http://www.pernetlayassociates.com)



## Joshua Tree – Youth Group

**Aim:** To help the youth to find a spirituality, to create a safe space where “individual differences” are respected and to create an environment that fosters talents.

## Samuel Group

The Samuel group was a six month journey of prayer, friendship, discussion and discernment. The programme is designed for young people who have a decision in their lives to discern. Modern day life is busy full of many distractions which makes it hard to take the time to ponder these big life changing decisions. The monthly meetings with my spiritual director, Sr. Imelda, gave me the space to leave all of this at the door. It made me focus on my relationship with God, to realize his presence is real and constant in my life. He is my past, present and future. I got to explore new ways of prayer such as meditation. I discovered more about myself, my personality was motivated to take action. All of these aspects have helped me in the discerning process

The Samuel group also gave me the opportunity to spend time with my peers both talking and praying as a group. Our leaders Sr. Carmel and Anne Marie provided our group with great kindness and hospitality every month. For each meeting there was a speaker who gave our group practical logical and different ways to discern.

Although the end is fast approaching, the skills that I have learned throughout this six month journey will stay with me. Our unique roads of life are full of twists, turns, bridges and junctions and the skill of discernment is an invaluable tool for this journey.

*Louise Rooney*



*Louise Rooney*

## Willow Tree - Education Group

**Aim:** To give people hope and support through information and education – thereby encouraging empowerment.

### Workshop on Coping with Situations of Grief and Loss.

In November we offered a one day workshop on Coping with Situations of Grief and Loss, facilitated by Gráinne O'Connell. This was the third time running this workshop. It was a time of open and deep sharing for those who attended, and Gráinne also offered counsel and practical advice on coping strategies for those recently bereaved. She reassured us that grieving takes time and that we need to allow ourselves that time.




**COPING WITH LIFE SITUATIONS OF GRIEF AND LOSS**

with Gráinne O'Connell

This workshop will help you explore and understand the effects of grief and loss in your life.

**Sat. 5th November 2016**  
10am to 4pm

Venue: Diocesan Pastoral Centre, Newtownsmith, Galway.  
You can book a place by paying a deposit of €10 to Perpet.  
Contact: Mary 086 3836567 or Imelda on 086 6098887  
[www.perpetdayassociates.com](http://www.perpetdayassociates.com)



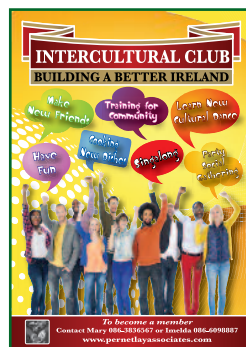
Saturday November 5th 2016

Ann Mylotte, Mary Mc Longhlin, Imelda O Sullivan, Nora Shaughnessy,  
Eddie Lloyd, Mary Connolly, Mary Reilly, Grainne O Connell Tutor,  
Mary Cunningham, Nellie Walsh, Kathleen O Connell

## Intercultural Club – Building a Better Ireland

This year the directors proposed a new project within Pernet. Our vision was to set up an Intercultural Club whereby people from all walks of life and cultures could feel more included within society and together we could build a more inclusive Ireland. To quote Mahatma Gandhi “Let you yourself be the change you want to see in the world.” To make this dream a reality cookery demonstrations were organised. Each evening we cooked a typical meal from two different countries and we socialised afterwards while eating the meal. So far we have included people from The Philippines, Poland, Kenya and India to integrate with people from Galway city.

We hope to build on the contacts we have made and to invite people to share what their culture means to them by expressing themselves in dress, dance and singing. Our hope would be that they would make friendships that would enrich their family life.



*Polish & The Philippines cookery night  
Martha Cwiak, Bernard Bertulfo,  
Adrian Yabo*



*Polish & The Philippines  
cookery night on Tuesday  
21st February 2017.  
Mary Hynes, Larry Hynes,  
Pebelyn Mondido,  
Aprilyn Baco, Adrian Yabo,  
Mary Cunningham*



*People from Bohermore and Westside attended the African Cookery Night on Tuesday 29th November 2016*

*L-R Back row: Nellie Casserly, Caroline Neill, Ann O'Dea, Caroline Divilly, Adrian Lyons. Mary Cunningham,*

*L-R Seating: Mary Meehan, Mary Dilleen, Breege Doherty, Mary Collins*



*Mary Anne Mullins  
- Kenyan cookery night*



*Romman Ahmed  
- Indian cookery night*



## Redwood Spirituality Group

**Aim:** By walking in the footsteps of Jesus in guided meditation we discover Jesus' spirituality. He sided with the marginalized people of his time. The call is for us to journey with Jesus in our lives.

## Celtic Spirituality – Nellie Curtin LSA

Nellie was profound in her presentation of exploring the wisdom of the pre-Celtic and Celtic cultures and the spiritual tradition and their influence and relevance in today's world. She brought us on a journey through the Celtic Year, explaining the Celtic Calendar, linking the passing of time with the seasons of the natural world and the cosmological dimensions of the world through the relationship with the sun and moon. The calendar also marked the spiritually significant moments of the year. The season of Samhain was of great significance. It challenged



*Saturday February 18th 2017*

*Back Row: Mary Horgan, May Doyle, Mary Houlihan, Margaret Coughlin, Mairead Rabitte, Margaret O'Brien, Mary O Connor, Joan Jim Authur Namavenya, Carmel King, Una Breathnach, Bernie Morris, Mary Mc Clafferty, Moira Byrne*  
*Front Row: Nellie Casserly, Mary Churm, Mary Cunningham and Nellie Curtin*



our fear of death and darkness and the myth of regeneration which is central to this tradition. The wisdom contained within this calendar reveals many of the core beliefs central to the society that created and lived by this calendar. This allowed us to explore the different seasons that occur within our lives, and we found it was both safe and wise to embrace all of them.

Nellie's presentation of Brigid, Goddess and Saint was enriching, welcoming Spring and its life giving energies, unfolding legends and many customs, some of which are still very familiar to us – making St. Brigid's Crosses etc. We were encouraged to connect with Brigid's feminine energy, with the power within ourselves and become agents of transformation.

*Sr. May Doyle*

## Celtic Cosmology

*A fusion of the megalithic calendar and celtic.*

We ended the day by reciting The Blessing of St. Brigid:

Brigid of the mantle, encompass us, Lady  
of the Lambs, protect us,  
Keeper of the Hearth, kindle us, beneath  
your mantle, gather us,  
and restore us to memory.



Mothers of our mother, Foremothers strong,  
Guide our hands in yours, Remind us how to kindle the hearth,  
To keep it bright, To preserve the flame, Your hands upon ours,  
Our hands within yours, To kindle the light,  
Both day and night.

The mantle of Brigid about us, The memory of Brigid within us,  
The protection of Brigid keeping us From harm, from ignorance,  
From heartlessness, This day and night,  
From dawn till dark, From dark till dawn.

*Caithlin Matthews. 1993*

## Glendalough – A Celtic Pilgrimage and Shekina Sculpture Gardens.

On the 5th of May 2017 at 10.30am the Bohermore Ladies Club gathered at the Bohermore Community Centre where we were joined by members of the Pernet C.L.G group. Together we left Galway and started our journey to Glendalough, Co. Wicklow. Immediately both groups gelled and two groups become one. After leaving Galway we took a short pit stop at Athlone where we had light refreshments, a cup of tea and stretched our legs. From there we took the long road to Glendalough enjoying each other's company and the stunning scenery in the glorious May sunshine which made the journey wonderfully pleasant.

We arrived at the Tearmann Spirituality Centre that overlooks a stunning valley and is in full view of the majestic Wicklow Mountains that surrounds this beautiful, peaceful, spiritual place. Here we were greeted by Sr. Breda Ahearn who had a wonderful warm welcome for each of our group members. We also met Father Michael Rodgers, who, as a result of his own search for roots opened the Tearmann Centre in



*Front: Mary Cunningham, Fr. Michael Rogers,  
Mary Houlihan, Merle Gralton  
Back: Bernie Morris Linda Feeney, Mary Churm,  
Anna Killeen, Mary Reilly, Nellie Casserly,  
Imelda O Sullivan*



1993. We all sat down together and had a beautiful meal organised by Imelda's sister Jacinta. On Saturday morning we gathered for prayers and meditation which was peaceful and relaxing. From here we toured Glendalough with Fr. Michael Rodgers as our guide. He told us the story of St Kevin and his connection to Glendalough. Pilgrims have always come to Glendalough

to find healing. There is as much need for this gift today as there ever was. Fr. Rodgers encouraged us to wander by the lakes or in the forest and reflect on the need for healing in our own lives. In the afternoon he led our tour into the monastic city and explained the significance of St. Kevin's Cross, the Cathedral and the Round Tower. In the evening, we celebrated Mass together and then enjoyed another excellent meal.

On Sunday morning, we gathered together and set off to Shekina Sculpture



*St. Kevin's cross*

Garden founded by Catherine McCann. We spent two very happy hours in this stunning, tranquil and inspirational garden surrounded by many interesting sculptures collected over the years by Catherine herself. Over tea, Catherine facilitated the group sharing what the sculptures meant to each one individually. She also made her publications available to us; they were very interesting, especially her life story. We were truly blessed with the



*Shekina Gardens*



Fr. Michael Rogers

weather and surroundings of this hidden jewel in Glenmalur Valley in Co. Wicklow. We then took the long road back home to Galway, having a meal together along the way. This was a truly inspiring and enlightening weekend where new friendships were made and will continue to develop well into the future.

*"It was wonderful to spend time in Glendalough staying at Tearmann Spirituality Centre. What an experience. It was a privilege to meet, listen and be led by Fr. Michael to explore the Monastic city with its Round Tower, St. Kevin's Cross and Church, St. Kieran's Church, the Priests' House and cemetery, Cathedral and St. Mary's Church."*

*"We enjoyed the walk through the woods and hearing the history of St. Kevin's Bed and Cell in the rock. There was a real sense of community running through it all."*

*- Bohermore Ladies Club*



Grace Nicobacos, Ciss Higgins, Maura Tierney,  
Anna Killeen, Mary Churm,

*"What a joy to visit the Shekina Sculpture Garden and spend a very pleasant and meaningful few hours in the company of the wonderful Catherine McCann and be afforded quiet time to explore the remarkable garden."*

*Mary Houlihan*



## Birch Tree - Justice Group

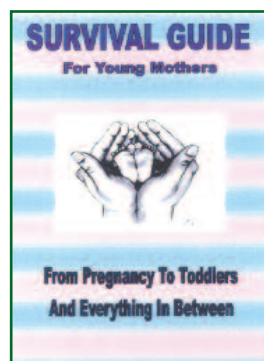
**Aim:** We believe in the value and dignity of each individual and we seek justice for all whose opportunity for a full life is denied.

The Booklet “Survival Guide for Young Mothers” was written by three young mothers for young mothers, under the guidance of Aileen Davies and Deirdre O’Gorman Whyte. The aim of the booklet is to simplify how to deal with an unplanned pregnancy at a young age. The girls describe their experiences of young motherhood and they hoped that through their sharing of these experiences new mothers will get through the first few months with their sanity and piggy bank relatively intact. Copies are available through Deirdre at the Community Training Workshop, Liosbaun. The booklet was first launched in the Westwood Hotel and later, at the invitation of Pernet, in the Westside Resource Centre and Bohermore Project.



*Jessica Curran, Aoife Lindsay,  
and Chloe Murphy*

The Justice group supports asylum seekers in Galway in different ways. We integrate them with the local community on our courses, providing assistance with childminding. We assist them in adjusting to life in Ireland in various small but important ways. We assist in preparing materials for applications for residency in Ireland. We assist in finding job placements for those who have got their papers.





## Ash Tree - Enterprise Group:

**Aim:** Networking, Mentoring/Support and Training in Enterprise.



## Flags and Banners

Flags and Banners was set up in 1985, by Sr. Brigid Keane LSA to give employment to young travelers. Nellie Casserly then took over the management of the Co-op, which has since grown from strength to strength. The team was happy to be able to provide flags to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Galway Roman Catholic cathedral including creating a flag for each of the parishes in the diocese.

GAA clubs are regular users of Flags and Banners when playing in the finals of the various football & hurling championships. Nellie offers a service where she couriers flags from Cork to Donegal. Her team also gets many requests for logos from hotels, golf clubs and festival organising committees and also in support of other occasions such as the 25th anniversary of ordinations.



*This is one of the many banners we produce. It's done in applique, which is hand done and machine stitched. Spleodar is an active student course with emphasis on the Irish language, a broad range of activities, art, craft, sport, music, drama, dance and much more.*

## Mahogany Tree - Fundraising Group

**Aim:** Pernet CLG has been set up and it has been granted charitable status and is registered with the Charities Regulatory Authority. It will engage in fundraising to support the running of the company and to provide Bursaries for attendance at workshops and courses.



The main fundraising activities during the year included (i) the Lotto, (ii) a concert (iii) Social Gathering (iv) the Golf Outing.

**The Lotto**, which commenced in Sept 2014, continued in October 2016 after renewal of the licence by the District Court. It is run by the same subcommittee of Frank Colohan, Oliver Geraghty, Conleth Cunnane and Sr. Imelda under the same protocols as last year. This year the possible numbers were reduced from 32 to 28. This year we had one outright winner at €200; otherwise we have two Lucky Dips of €50 each per month. Our thanks are due to Ms Clodagh Gallagher, Solicitor, who voluntarily steers the licence application through the District Court. A special thanks is due to Fr. Kevin Blade PP Ballinboyle, who gives us the use of the Lotto machine and the community hall every month.



## James Kilbane Country Gospel Concert:

We held a very successful concert in the Church of the Resurrection Ballinboyle in September. As well as helping us to raise funds, the concert was also a social occasion for the Pernet Group and our friends and supporters. Ciara O'Boyle, who





Mary Cunningham, John Flatley, James Kilbane, Tom Lyons, Imelda O’Sullivan



Ciara O’Boyle

is studying singing, opened the concert with two classical pieces. James Kilbane and his musicians gave us a heartwarming and inspirational night which we really enjoyed.

**Social Gathering on 24 March 2017**

Kay O’Riordan organised a Lucky Dip at the Social Gathering. (Garda permit received). Each member picked out an envelope. If they got a yellow card, they won a prize. If they received a blue card, they were thanked for supporting Pernet. The Lucky Dip made €520 which covered the costs of the evening. Thanks to Kay for her energy and enthusiasm and to all of you who contributed.

**Lucky Dip**  
Friday March 24th 2017

**List of Prizes:**

- 1.....Set of Cushions
- 2.....Giorgio Armania Black Holdall
- 3.....Box of Biscuits
- 4.....Storage Box
- 5.....Single Bed Quilt and Pillowcase
- 6.....Box of Shortbread Biscuits
- 7.....Box of Chocolate Mikado
- 8.....Victoria Biscuits
- 9.....Box of Milk Tray
- 10.....Box of Black Magic
- 11.....Box of USA Tea time Biscuits
- 12.....Set of Table Mats
- 13.....Clock
- 14.....Drawer Liners and Shower Mat
- 15.....Hamper
- 16.....Brown Hand Bag
- 17.....Giorgio Armani Towels
- 18.....Foot Spa
- 19.....Clarinbridge Crystal Bell
- 20.....Crystal Cross
- 21.....Blue Designer Jumper
- 22.....Silver Fruit Bowl
- 23.....Money Counter
- 24.....Tea Towels and Picture
- 25.....Jigsaw
- 26.....Hand Made Wood Picture
- 27.....Bottle of Chardonnay White Wine
- 28.....Hair Voucher
- 29.....Scratch Card
- 30.....Jewellery Accessories Book

**The Golf Outing** was held in Oughterard Golf Club on Saturday 27 May 2017. It consisted of a 4 Ball Scramble and was contested by 14 teams. After a damp start, the day improved to give us glorious sunshine in the afternoon. The winners were as follows: Stephen O'Neill, Eileen Curley, Tommy Duggan, and Liam Turley.

**GOLF FOUR BALL SCRAMBLE**  
Saturday May 27th 2017  
at  
Oughterard Golf course  
Teams of 4 at €30 per person

First Prize  
Meal for two

Second Prize  
Hamper of Cosmetics

Third Prize  
Sets of Crystal Glasses

Fourth Prize  
Bottle of Wine

Fifth Prize  
Draw from the non- winners  
Three Boxes of Golf Balls



**PERNET**  
**4 BALL SCRAMBLE**  
*in aid of*  
*Family Workshop for the economically*  
*and culturally excluded people.*  
**SAT MAY 27th 2017**  
**OUGHTERARD GOLF COURSE**  
*Commencing at 9am*



[www.pernetlayassociates.com](http://www.pernetlayassociates.com)

## THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:

### Printing:

I Supply

### Meals for Two:

Galway Bay Hotel

Glenlo Abbey

The Huntsman

Ardilaun Hotel

### Sponsorship:

St. Anthony's Credit Union, Westside

T Ó hUiginn & Co. Teo.

McCambridges Wines

Monaghan & Sons Galway Ltd. (Skoda)

Golfstyle

Sheridan Dental

McDonogh's Hardware

Johnny Carroll

Margaret Fletcher

Kay O'Riordan

Pernet CLG Directors





*1st Place Winners: Stephen O'Neill, Eileen Curley, Tommy Duggan, and Liam Turley.*



*2nd Place Winners :Tim Sullivan, David Sullivan, Paul McGowan, Geoff Ginnity.*





3rd Place Winners : Billy Coyne, Peter Coyne, Brendan Forde and Jimmy Cooney.



4th Place Winners : Jacob Keane, Armen Egiazarov, Ella Petitt, Edward Petitt.





## Apple Tree – Hospitality Group

**Aim:** The main objective of this house, (92 Currach Bui, Ragoon, Galway), is that it would act as a focal point for the coordination of PLANT's activities.



Hospitality is based at 92 Currach Bui, where Sr. Imelda lives. This is the venue for meetings, planning, accompaniment and spiritual guidance, and also for many meals and celebrations, welcoming different people, especially Sr. Margaret McFadden. At Christmas, the directors, the fundraising group, the family and education groups and other helpers each enjoy sharing a Thank You meal. Asylum seekers in Galway are also invited for a get together over a meal for their children and themselves. The spirit of this LSA welcome and support spreads out through our members, as we try to live up to the challenge of sharing with and welcoming those we meet in daily life.

Imelda Mortimer from Blackwood in Wales came to stay at 92 Currach Bui to plan a Welsh return visit to Cork at St. Patrick's Weekend 2018, to link up with the sisters who lived in Wales for over 30 years.

## Volunteers:

Pernet wishes to thank all the directors for their time and commitment:

Peter Costello, Stephen O'Neill,

Mary Cunningham, Nuala Keane, Carmel King and Imelda O'Sullivan.

Thanks to the Lotto team – Conleth Cunnane, Oliver Geraghty, Frank Colohan, Fr. Kevin Blade.

Thanks also to the following for their technical skills: Deirdre Gorman-Whyte, David Keane, Billy Coyne, Pamela Wynne, Mary Horgan, Helen McGreal, Clodagh Gallagher, Kieran Burke (photographs), Teresa McNamara, Kay O'Riordan, Westside Resource Centre Staff, The Diocesan Pastoral Centre Staff. We would like to acknowledge the contribution made by the Salthill Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society towards the provision of the parenting course.



We continue to be involved with Volunteer Galway who provide training for our directors. Donncha Foley and his team have been most helpful. We attended our second Volunteer Recruitment Fair on Sunday 29th January 2017 at the Clybaun Hotel.

A member of our team was interviewed in Irish for TG4. We had eighteen expressions of interest and four volunteers have followed through, in valuable practical ways, with accounting, funding applications, and our intercultural evenings.



*Carmel King, Imelda O'Sullivan and Mary Cunningham at  
The Volunteer Recruitment Fair in the Clybaun Hotel.*

## Maple Tree – Celebratory Group

**Aim:** To organise gatherings of families, friends and associates of the LSA to strengthen the bonds between us and to grow in solidarity. It is open to all who wish to participate and share in the spirituality.



## Social Gathering. Social Evening

This year's Social Gathering was on 24 March 2017. The focus of the evening is about having fun together and the cost of the evening was covered by Lucky Dip Contributions. The directors and their partners, members of the Westside Sacred Heart parish, Fr. Kevin Blade and members of his parish from Ballinfoyle, members from Bohermore project group and friends of Pernet all enjoyed themselves.



*Christiana Onyenonachi, Joan Jim Athur  
Namavenya, Christina Mortha Wanjiku,  
Mary Ann Mullins, and Jennifer Fri.*

The Pernet house band on the night consisted of Mick Brown on guitar and vocals, Michael McGetterick on clarinet



and tin whistle and Martin Forde on accordion, guitar and vocals. Dance teachers Hubert Jennings and Carmelita Madden & Ger Mulgannon, encouraged everyone onto the floor where the



*Ger Mulgannon, Teresa Mc Namara, Michael Quinn,  
Tom Mc Guigan*

Siege of Ennis and other Irish dances were demonstrated and then danced with great gusto and fun. The band said afterwards that they thoroughly enjoyed the night with great participation and energy from the audience. A spokesperson from the musicians and the dance teachers said “A great night altogether, we can’t wait till next year when we can do it all again, great singers from the audience joined us and loads of people got up and danced, what more could you want?”



The Bohermore Ladies Club said “It was a most enjoyable night of music, dancing and getting to know other groups from around Galway. We all joined in dancing with “Shoe the Donkey” and Four Hand Reel and the music was excellent. We enjoyed immensely the singing of songs from long ago”.



The purpose of the Social Gathering is for families to be linked in with each other, for people to become neighbours in their communities and to reach out to people who might be vulnerable and not have a place in society. The Little Sisters of the Assumption founder, Stephen Pernet, had the vision that the stronger members of society should look out for the weaker members. Mary Ann Mullins closed the evening with a rendering of a Gospel Song.



*Mary Cubbard, Marie Lawless ,Maura Tierney, Noel Lowry, Anna Kileen,  
Margaret Leaper,  
Ciss Higgins, Linda Feeney Caroline Diviney, Mary Lowry*

## Bohermore Ladies Club

### Mustard Tree – Pernet Group

**Aim:** We hold in common our connections with the Little Sisters of the Assumption and recognise in them a kindred spirituality. We support their mission of service to the family and to the wider community.



The Little Sisters of the Assumption since their foundation have always had gatherings of lay people who were linked in with the mission of the Little Sisters. It is now more important for Galway since the Sea Road community has closed. The purpose of these gatherings would be for families to be linked in with each other for the purpose of becoming neighbours in their community and also to reach out to people who might be vulnerable and not have a place in society.



*A meeting with the laity at 92 Corrach Buí.  
Front: Betty Staunton, Mary Cunningham, Margaret Dalton.  
Back: Tom Scott, Phil O Daly, Honora Meade Imelda O Sullivan.  
Photo taken by Brid Counihan*



In August 2016 one member of Pernet Mary Cunningham attended an International Meeting of the Laity in the LSA Grenelle Motherhouse in Paris. Countries represented were France, Spain, Belgium, Ireland, Canada, USA, Brazil, Columbia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Much work was done on the LSA Charism. Solidarity with the poor and migrants, Support for the Family, Changes in response to the call of the planet, and Networking with other groups are all in the LSA Charism.

On 24 August 2016 a meeting of lay people and two Little Sisters, Bride and Imelda, was held in 92 Corrach Bui. It was a meeting to prepare a position paper about the laity for the LSA. Mary Cunningham gave an input on her experience in the Motherhouse, which was received with excitement by the Ballyfermot group when she said that what they were doing was similar to what was going on in France.

### **Pernet Feast Day**

As a lay organisation it is important to have a time of gathering in a spiritual sense. Kevin Burke and Imelda met to design a prayer card for the 22nd August as it is the feast day of the Queenship of Mary. We chose that Feast day as a way of marking Pernet's feast day. On 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2016, a mini bus left Galway to meet at St John's Rest and Care Centre, Knock for a prayer service followed by a cuppa. We joined the main pilgrimage for







*At St. John's Rest Centre*



**Knock Shrine on Pernet Feast Day on Aug. 22nd 2016**

*Front: Angelique Thandiswa, Joan Jim Authur Namavenya and her son Eusebio and Angelique Thardeka*

*Back: Mary Cunningham, Mary Gilhooley, Vicky Sinenkosio Naube, Silibaziso Msimanga, Jane Wanbui Kamau, Dorothy Guwa, Mary Ann Mullin, Sr. Bridie O'Reilly, Sr. Imelda O'Sullivan.*













*The Shekina Sculpture  
Gardens founded by  
Catherine McCann*



**AGM 2015/2016**

Front: Mary Cunningham, Deirdre Gorman Whyte, Mary Hynes, Pauline Mc Loughlin, Eileen Heneghan.  
Back Row: Peter Costello, Carmel King, Stephen O Neill, Larry Hynes, Pamela Wynne, Caroline Diviney,  
Gerard Mc Loughlin, Nellie Casserly, Mary Mc Kearney, Imelda O Sullivan.

## Pernet ACCOUNTS

***Income & Expenditure for the year ended 30th June 2017*****INCOME**

Family Workshop	540.00
Celtic Workshop	1,120.00
Grief Workshop	110.00
Sponsorship	710.00
Social Gathering	520.00
Concert	2050.00
Golf Outing	1,766.00
Lotto	<u>2,625.00</u>

**9,441.00****EXPENDITURE**

Stationary	45.05
Refund to Travellers (overpayment)	600.00
I Supply	1,034.87
An Post	319.00
Catering	561.33
Transport	60.26
Celtic weekend expenses	250.00
Band for social	250.00
Lotto prizes	900.00
Golf outing outlay	680.00
Bank charges	160.61
Tutor fees	3,540.00
Rent and accommodation	1,430.00
Accountancy fees	389.00
Insurance	383.41
Lotto licence	150.00
Wheel	<u>160.00</u>

**(€11,380.47) (€1,939.47)****Shortfall €1,939.47****Bank reconciliation**

01.07.16 Opening bank balance	€3,556.90
Less shortfall for year	<u>(€1,939.47)</u>
30.06.17 Closing bank balance	<u>€1,617.43</u>

*Carmel King*

Treasurer: Carmel King

*Mary Cunningham*

Secretary: Mary Cunningham

*Imelda O'Sullivan*

Chairperson: Imelda O'Sullivan





## *Prayer of the Little Sisters of the Assumption*

*My God grant that this Fire which is you  
May transform us and make each one of us as a burning coal  
You have taught us the wonders of your Wisdom  
You have communicated to us the flame of your love  
Our lives should be that of Christ:  
It is His love that we should radiate  
We will communicate from one person to another  
The warmth that we receive  
And under the action of the Holy Spirit we will end  
by transforming those who are around us  
Of ourselves we are nothing in the humble awareness of our weakness  
We will become strong and powerful  
Burning coals setting alight all that touches them  
Producing the love of God*

*Fr Etienne Pernet 1824-1899*