

**ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 2016/17**

**COOKSTOWN
GATEWAY CLUB**

**Greenvale Hotel
Cookstown
August 2017**

Leader	Bernadette O'Neill
Assistant leader	Rosaleen Conway
Chair	Sean McCloskey
Assistant chair	Brian Quinn
Treasurer	Alexandra O'Hagan
Secretary	Josie Hughes

Members-	Susan Armstrong
	Liam Ryan
	Kristin McCloy
	Fidelma McCoy
	Emily Conway
	Maia McCoy
	Lorna Booth

CHAIRPERSON REPORT delivered by Sean McCloskey

Over the past twelve months the Gateway Club has met in the Methodist Hall in Cookstown every fortnight, paying the Methodist Congregation £30 to cover all hire costs, including electricity and heating.

Every evening has been a fun-filled session of varied activities, coordinated by the ever constant leader, Bernadette O'Neill.

Activities have included a range of Arts and Crafts,

Decoupage,

Decorating ceramic pots,

Candle making.

Squares are crochet each week and taken home.

Full use is made of the pool and air hockey tables every session.

Once a month a representative of Mid Ulster Council provides sports and fitness activities, such as Bocce, a combination of ski ball, bowls and shuffle board and other activities which are suited to our members, especially our wheel chair bound ones.

The members enjoy preparing their own tea break and light refreshments, tidying up afterwards is very much part of the sessions.

During the past year our Gateway Club has fund raised in various ways,

November,

Big Lottery Fund,

Membership Fees,

Anonymous Donations.

This has enabled us to fund for for our members,

Halloween Party in Kinturk Cultural Centre.

A Christmas Party with Santa and presents in the Railway Bar in Cookstown.

An Easter Party in the Greenvale Hotel with Easter Eggs, delivered by an Easter Bunny who had a strong resemblance to Santa!!!

An end of year B.B.Q. in June in Kinturk, with a disco by Seamie Bell.

Our summer outing was in Portrush, stopping in the Lodge in Coleraine for tea and scones and dinner in the Ramada in Portrush.

The calendar of events for 17/18 was discussed at the last meeting of the year and will be finalized in September.

Highlights of the year 16/17 were,

The club funded Liam Ryan and Michael Crawford who were selected to play for the Northern Ireland Pool team in Bridlington on 6th April 2016. They were accompanied by Bernadette O'Neill and Mairead Moore.

On 24th June 2017 the Pool team took part in the Knockout Pool Blitz in Carrickfergus, organised by Carrick Gateway Club.

The team enjoyed great success and our thanks go to Bernadette O'Neill for her constant support of all our members; always giving of her time and encouraging all of us involved in Gateway to get involved as much as we can; some can give more time than others but we are a close team and the members have benefited from our team work

Bernadette has invited Oonagh Coleman (a newly retired lady) to become our Correspondence Secretary, to take some pressure from her.

From September she will help Bernadette to coordinate fund raising and correspondence with,

Mid Ulster Council.

Kendal.

Fund raising bodies, e.g Big Lottery.

I feel we have had a good year with our members and wish everyone a happy summer and look forward to more of the same next year.

Sean McCloskey.