

We want to share the work that we do with charities, and the steps we take to ensure we cut down our carbon footprint.

We are committed to assisting the local community, to enjoy life and achieve their goals while living a healthy life and promoting the sustainability of our environment and the local community spirit.

### **Sustainability Champions**

Marshes Shopping Centre has the given commitment to reduce its impact on our environment from the outset. We have honoured that commitment and have demonstrated what can be achieved. Not just happy to rest on our laurels we endeavour to explore all avenues and continue to make significant improvements to reduce our impact on the environment further. We continue to replace the Centre's lighting with LED to reduce our Carbon footprint.

Marshes S.C. have recently installed a rainwater harvesting system which is utilised to carry out the Centre's power washing requirements.

On a day-to-day basis, we want to make sure that our office and centre is as green as possible. Marshes S.C. thrive to be 100% recyclable. We now recycle all Glass, Wood & Metals, plastic coat hangers, food court waste for compost and cardboard. General waste is now sent to a "waste to energy" plant for incineration.

Marshes S.C. were the first Shopping Centre in Ireland to be awarded the BS 855 accreditation for its Environmental Management Systems.

## **Encouraging Ability, Health and Wellbeing**

As part of our efforts to promote health and wellbeing, we arrange a summer sports academy every year for the local children to come and learn different sports. Local sports clubs such as GAA, Rugby, Boxing, hurling & athletics run a short camp over the week to give children a taste of each sport. The Sports Academy has been an enormous success and is we are planning to rerun it at the end of August 2018.

Marshes also hosted the Fitzers 5k run which raises money for two local charities, RehabCare and Maria Goretti Children's Respite.

## **Working for the Community**

As Marshes is a core attraction for the community, it is our duty and responsibility to serve it in ways that go far beyond retail; this is why all of our Centre management team are highly involved with the local community.

Our Centre Manager, Sean Farrell is an active member of the Dundalk Chamber of Commerce for the past eight years and has recently been elected by the board of management to the position of Vice President.

Sean is also a founding member of the Dundalk Town Watch, which is a local business and Garda initiative. Sean is currently the sitting Chairperson.

Dundalk currently runs a very successful Business Improvement Scheme. (BIDS) From its inauguration, Marshes S.C. have worked in partnership with the BIDS committee on several projects over the years to improve Dundalk further.

It is certainly a testimony to Marshes S.C. commitment with the recent election of Sean on to the BID'S Board of Directors.

Every event that Marshes hold is focused on bringing all the community together for the benefit of all businesses, charities, and residents.

Recent events held include Marshes Little Monsters & Business2Consumer Expo.

The Centre supports developing students' business skills and in March 2018 Marshes hosted the Dundalk Grammar School Cross-Border Trade Fair. The fair was a fantastic opportunity for students to showcase their business skills as they had to learn how to launch and manage their own companies as well as promote and sell their items. The Centre fully supported them in showcasing their efforts as this project helps them learn many valuable skills to set them up for the working world.

Every December Marshes run the Toys to the table appeal. The Appeal is a collection that takes place on the mall throughout December in conjunction with the local St Vincent De Paul. The toys donated are shared with local families who may be struggling financially at Christmas.

## **Local Charities**

We pride ourselves on the work we do within the local community and charities. We have worked with the following charities, raising money and awareness:

- Toys to The Table
- RehabCare
- Maria Goretti Children's Respite
- Clougherhead RNLI
- St Vincent De Paul
- Irish Red Cross
- Dundalk Sub Aqua
- SOSAD
- Dundalk Special Olympics

## **Local Community**

We work closely with the following teams and businesses to create a better environment and community for the Dundalk area.

- Dundalk Gardai
- Dundalk Chamber of Commerce
- Dundalk Football Club
- Dundalk Tidy Towns
- Dundalk BIDS