

Assignment 1

Ratoath Community Centre

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Abstract

This document describes the steps involved in creating an interactive website for a community centre. The document focuses in on the planning and construction of the website for Ratoath Community Centre. The document shows all of the features that were implemented into the website and the specific reason they were implemented.

Design of application

Introduction

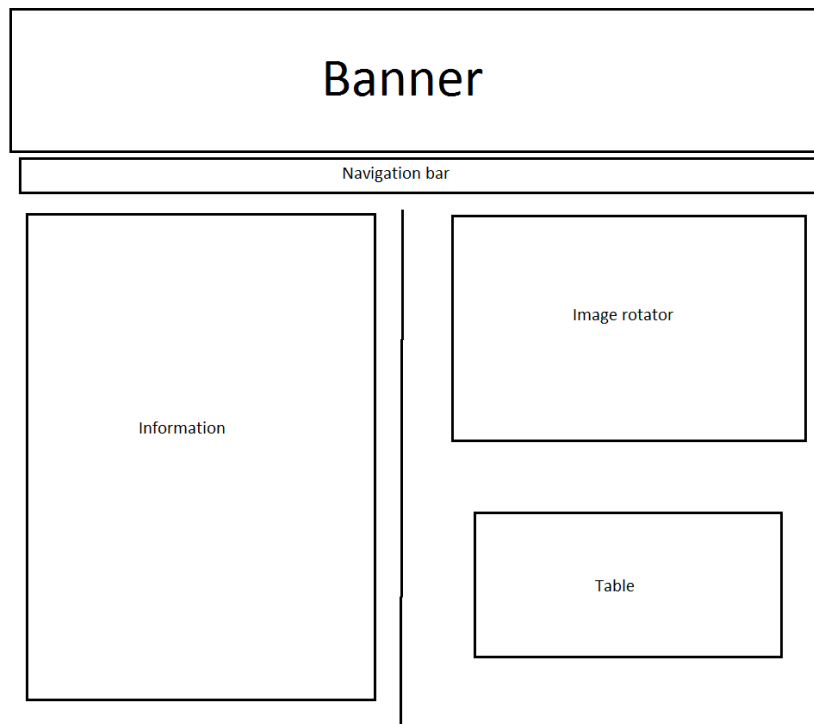
I live in Ratoath and as a member of the Ratoath Community I often use the Ratoath Community Centre website to see what is currently going on. I have been frustrated with the site for many reasons. The site is very basic and does not achieve its main goals. It is very hard to find what you are looking for because of its poor layout. Its design is very poor, its lack of CSS and bad colour scheme makes it very unappealing. I got in contact with the head of the community centre and told him that I was making a website for the community centre and he agreed he would use the website. I told him I would create a website with a good colour scheme, achieves their main goals and is user friendly.

User research

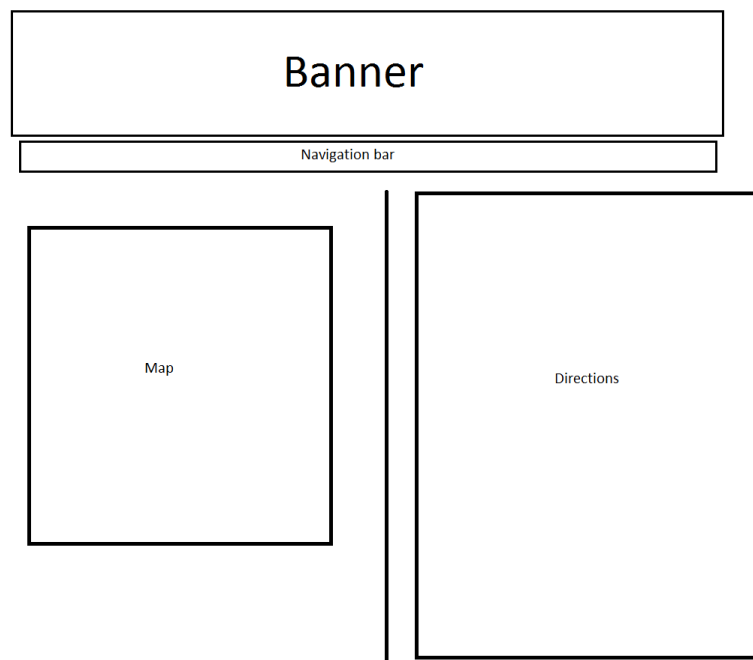
The first thing I had to consider was who will be using the website. The obvious answer to this is the local members of the Ratoath community. They will be using the site to keep up to date with their local community centre. Since so many people of all different ages will be using the website I will have to do my best to please them all. I will be using a colour which is friendly to each sex. I will give the user the ability to enlarge text and images to facilitate old people and people with poor eye sight. I will make the site easy to manoeuvre so people who are not technically experienced can find what they are looking for.

Wire Framing

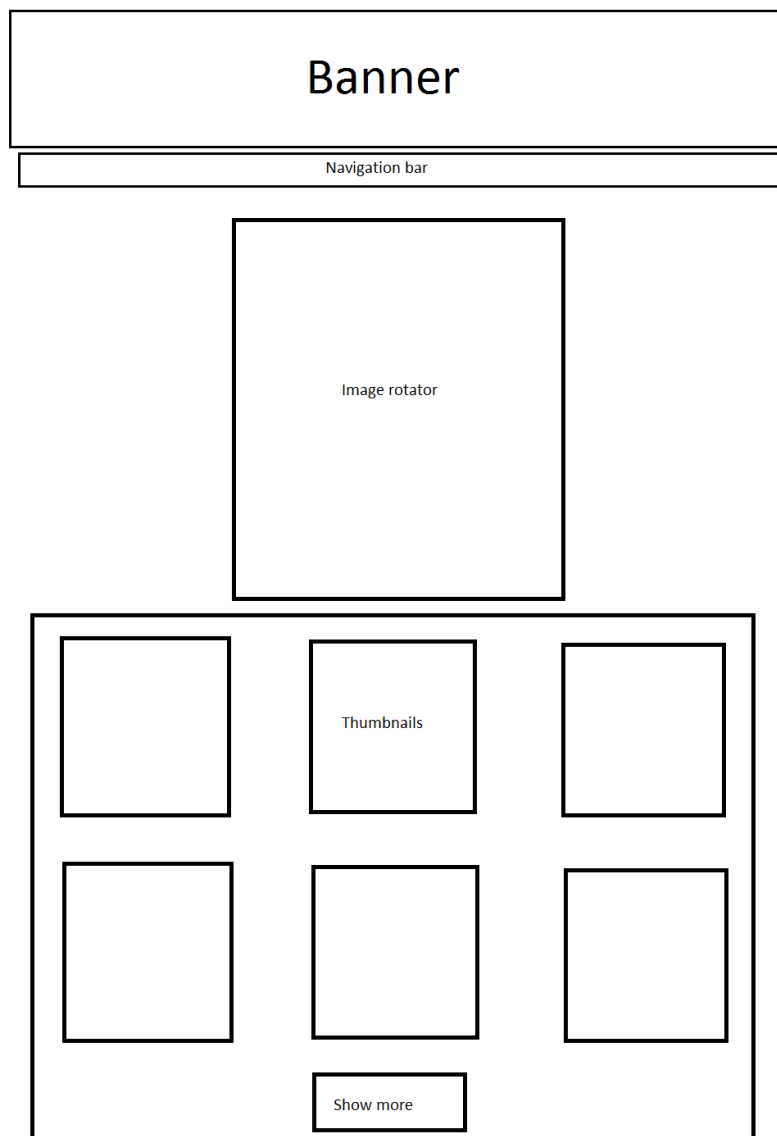
This is how I plan on laying out my index page.



This is how I plan on laying out my map page.



This is how I plan on laying out my gallery page.



Description of Application

The complete site is very user friendly. It has a white and grey colour scheme. The website has a white and black banner which goes well with the white and grey colour scheme. The website has a jQuery navigation bar which drops down to show more options when the user hovers over one of the menu items. There is a footer on each page of the site which contains the telephone number, fax number and email address of the community centre. When the user clicks on the email icon an animation is performed which enlarges the icon and then word email is opened. Each page has its own unique features which I will explain below.

Index page

The index page has been split into two sides. On the left side, it shows the user information about the centre. The user has the ability to increase and decrease the text or set it back to default. The user can select read more which will show the user more info. The user can then press read less which will hide the extended text. On the right side is an image rotator which cycles through images of the centre. There is also a table on the right which has the odd and even rows in different colours. When the user hovers over a row, it will change colour, and when they hover out it will change back.

Default index page

Ratath Community Centre

the heart of Ratoath

Home

About

Activities

The Venue Theatre

Gallery

More

Welcome to the
Ratoath Community Centre
website!

Font Size

Default

Bigger

Smaller


St Olivers Community Centre Ltd (SOCCL) operates a multi-purpose modern community centre in Ratoath, including a 234 seat theatre, a community creche, a restaurant and 5 large multi-purpose rooms together with a 7 acre community sports campus hosting tennis, rugby, athletics and other sports.

SOCCL is a company limited by guarantee with charitable status and whose principal activity is the provision of community facilities for the Ratoath area on a not for profit basis. It is governed by a Board of Directors who are all unpaid volunteers.

SOCCL succeeded the previous Ratoath Parish Hall Committee which had been formed in 1981 to erect a new community hall which in turn had replaced the previous committee who had overseen the original Parochial Hall which had served the Ratoath community since the 1930's

SOCCL opened the current community centre in 2006 at which time the population of Ratoath was almost 7,000. By 2014 the population has grown to over 11,000 and as a community Ratoath has the highest proportion of young persons aged under 14 in the entire country.

Read More




Opening hours

Day	Opening time	Closing time
Monday	9 a.m	8 p.m
Tuesday	9 a.m	8 p.m
Wednesday	9 a.m	8 p.m
Thursday	9 a.m	8 p.m
Friday	9 a.m	10 p.m
Saturday	10 a.m	12 p.m
Sunday	10 a.m	12 p.m

Telephone no: 01 6895600

Fax no: 01 6895601

Email: 

4

Index page with text enlarged and read more selected

Ratoath Community Centre

the heart of Ratoath

Home

About

Activities

The Venue Theatre

Gallery

More

Welcome to the Ratoath Community Centre website!

Font Size Default Bigger Smaller

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SOCCL employs a total of 19 people. Almost half are funded by State grants (Pobal CSP, CE, TUS) and the remainder are self funded from SOCCL activities. To better co-ordinate its community activities and to best identify and meet future community needs, SOCCL have now formed a new Ratoath Community Board (RCB) made up of unpaid volunteers from a cross section of the Ratoath community covering interests such as arts, sport, disability, business, tidy towns, youth, urban development, communications.

The Ratoath Community Board has decided to initially focus on 3 areas of community interest and need : Youth Activities, Village Renewal and Community Marketing. RCB will be organising the Ratoath Community Festival 2014 to be held on Sept 12-14 and during this festival is planning to launch major new initiatives in the area of Youth Activities and Village Renewal.

The members of RCB are as follows : Aisling Ahearn, Russell Bailey, Anne Brady, Micheline Clancy, Gerry Dempsey, Francis Lyons, Michael Lysaght, Mary McCormack, Gillian McGrath, Roseina Murphy, Aidan O'Byrne, Mary Pocock and Deirdre Smith. Sub-committees will be formed to include a Youth Committee which is intended to enable the youth of Ratoath to organise their own activities.

[Read Less](#)




Opening hours

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Sunday	10 a.m	12 p.m

Telephone no: 01 6895600

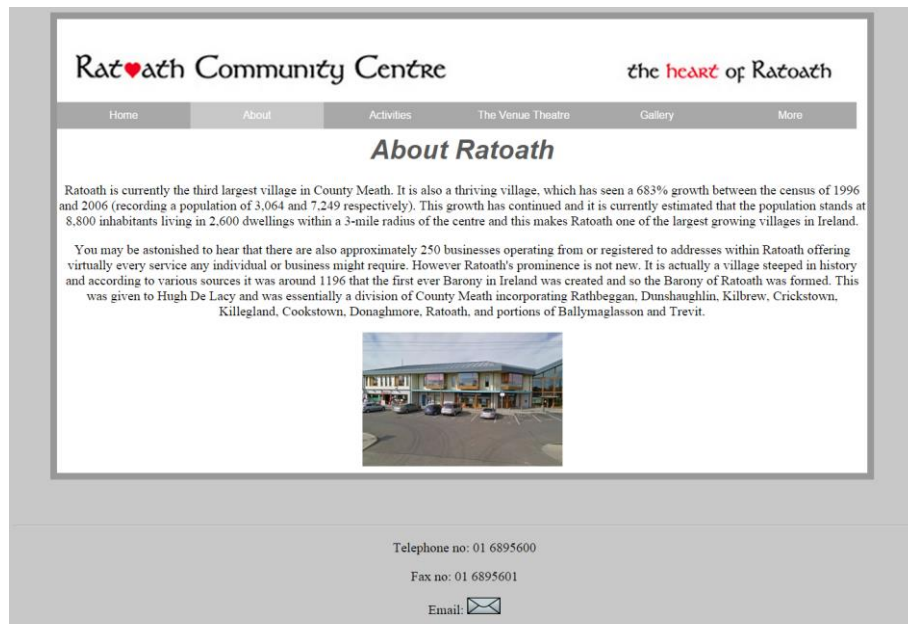
Fax no: 01 6895601

Email: 

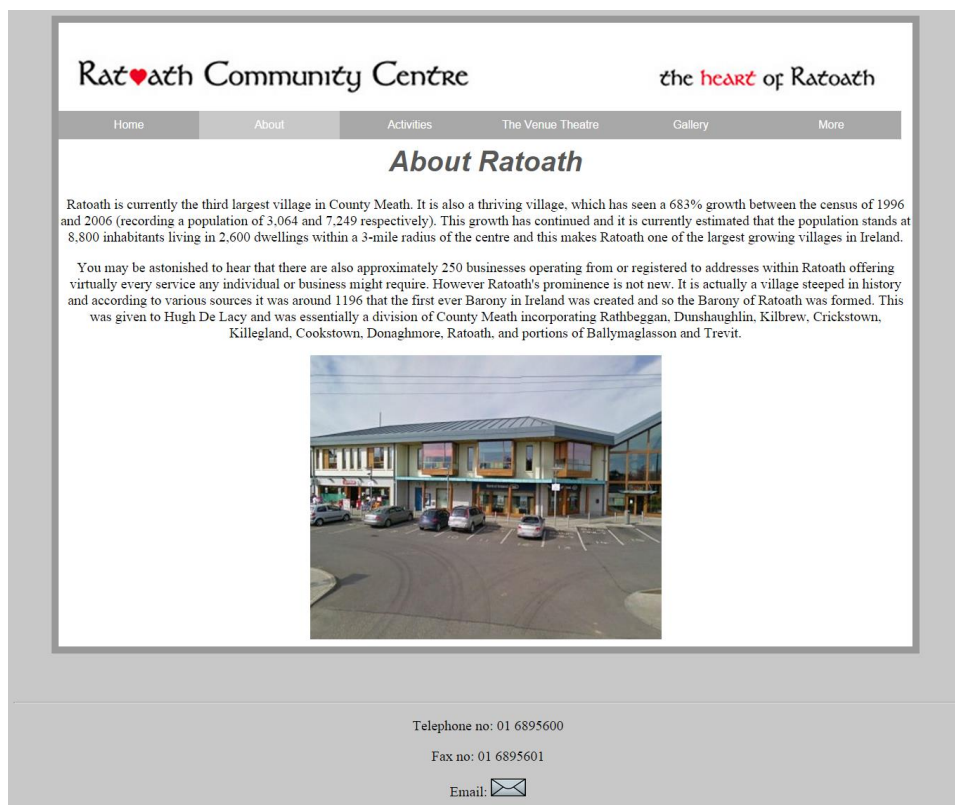
About Ratoath page

This page contains information about the Ratoath area. It contains an image at the bottom of the page which is enlarged when selected.

Default about Ratoath page



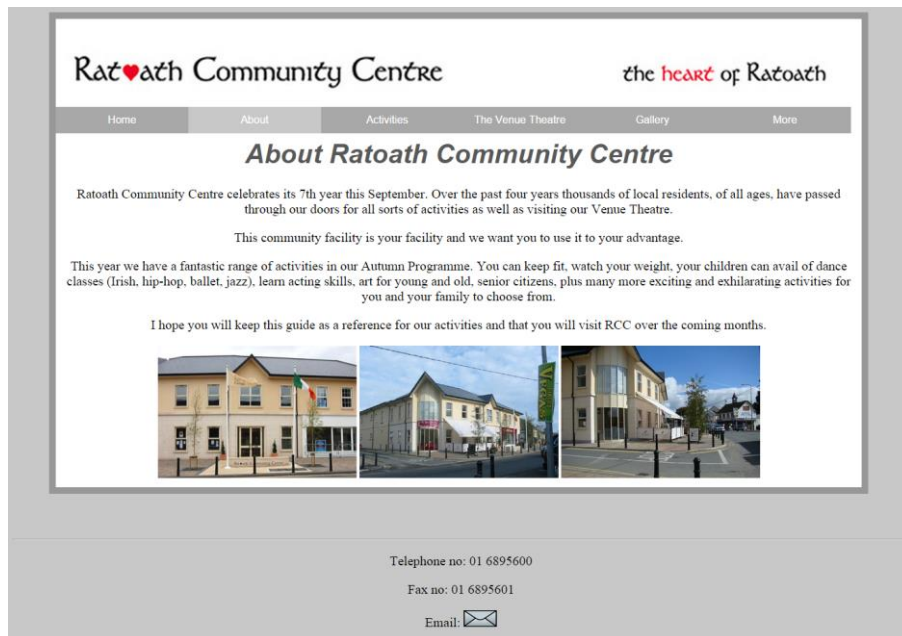
About Ratoath page with image enlarged.



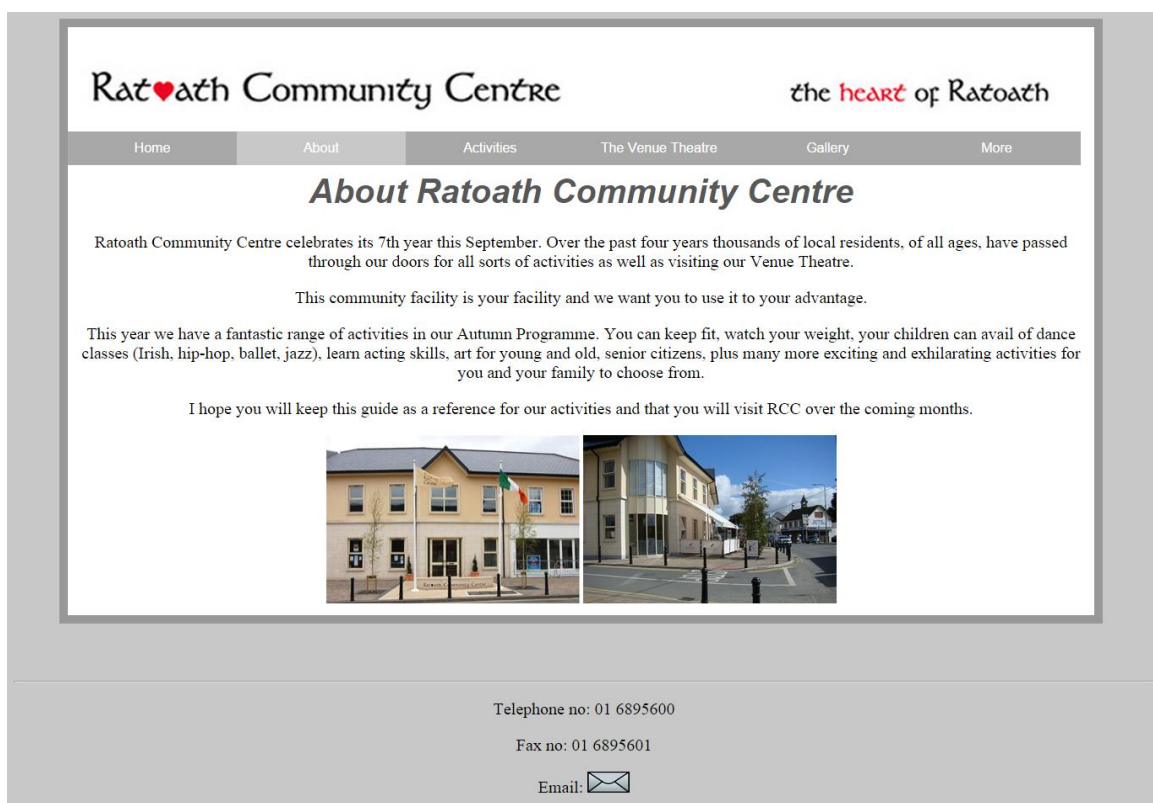
About Ratoath Community Centre page

This page contains information about the Ratoath Community Centre. It has three images on the bottoms of the page. When the images are pressed they fade out.

Default about Ratoath Community Centre Page



About Ratoath Community Centre Page with one of the pictures faded out.



Activities page

This page contains information about all the activities that take place in the Community Centre. They are displayed with an accordion. I used the smoothness theme from jqueryui.com for the accordion widget. This is a very helpful jQuery feature as it helps display lots of data in a small space. When the images of the activities are pressed they increase in size.

Default activities page

Ratath Community Centre

the heart of Ratoath

Home

About

Activities

The Venue Theatre

Gallery

More

Glee Club

Ratoath Childrens Art Group

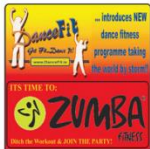
Rebounding & Spinning

Slimming World

Taekwondo Olympic Style for Kids

The Academy of Russian Ballet

ZUMBA FITNESS with DANCEFIT



A Latin Inspired, Easy to Follow, Calorie Burning, Dance Fitness Party!!

Feel the Music and Let Loose!


Wednesday nights, 7pm

Drop In / Pay as You Go - ANYTIME - only €10

For other offers, information or to book in, please visit: www.DanceFit.ie or call: Maria 01-6896255

Telephone no: 01 6895600

Fax no: 01 6895601

Email: 

Activities page with different activity selected and image enlarged

Rat♥ath Community Centre

the heart of Ratoath

Home

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Glee Club



Glee Club - sing dance act

Glee Club is now coming to Ratoath community centre!

Give your child the opportunity to sing, dance and act like theyve seen it done on shows like glee or fame.

Glee Club is for children aged between 4-12. The emphasis on our club is to nourish your childs inner talents for performance, while also helping them develop socially, personally and artistically all in a fun and safe environment. The art of performance can help boost your childs confidence while still having fun and meeting new friends.

Some of the reasons children attend glee club

To boost self confidence. In my years of running clubs i have witnessed even the shyest of the shy come out of their shells to get up there with the rest of them and perform. children have the chance to be creative. a lot of emphasis is placed on the childrens sense of ownership over their work. they are involved in choreography, song choices and writing of the scenes they will perform. fun. many of my kids say that coming to glee club is the highlight of their week. think about it.... they get the chance to have fun with and make new friends while singing, dancing and acting their little socks off! Where and when? Ratoath Community Centre on Fridays from 6.30-8pm, starting Friday 20th January 2012.

How Much? €100 for a 12 week term

Ratoath Childrens Art Group

Rebounding & Spinning

Slimming World


Taekwondo Olympic Style for Kids

The Academy of Russian Ballet

ZUMBA FITNESS with DANCEFIT

Telephone no: 01 6895600

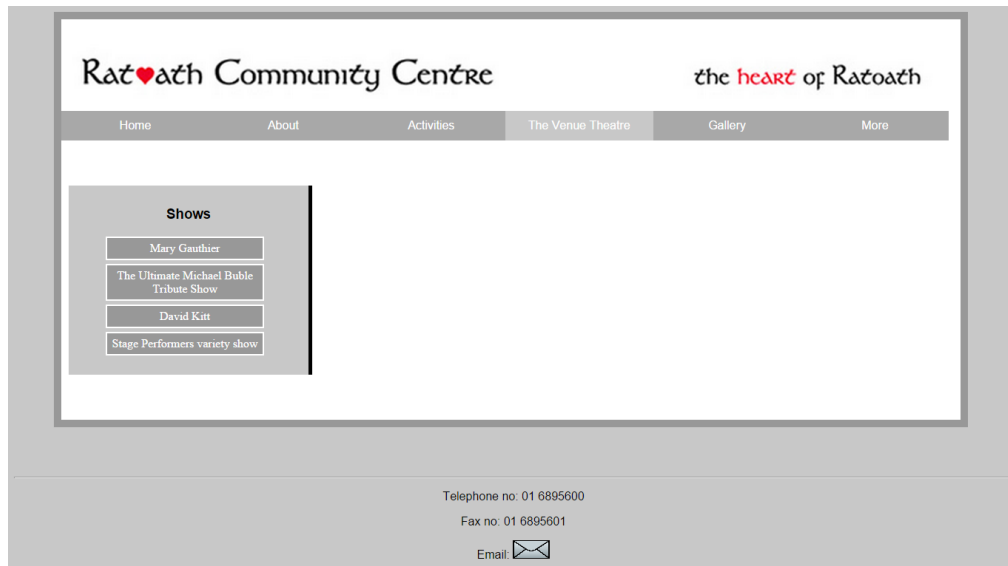
Fax no: 01 6895601

Email: 

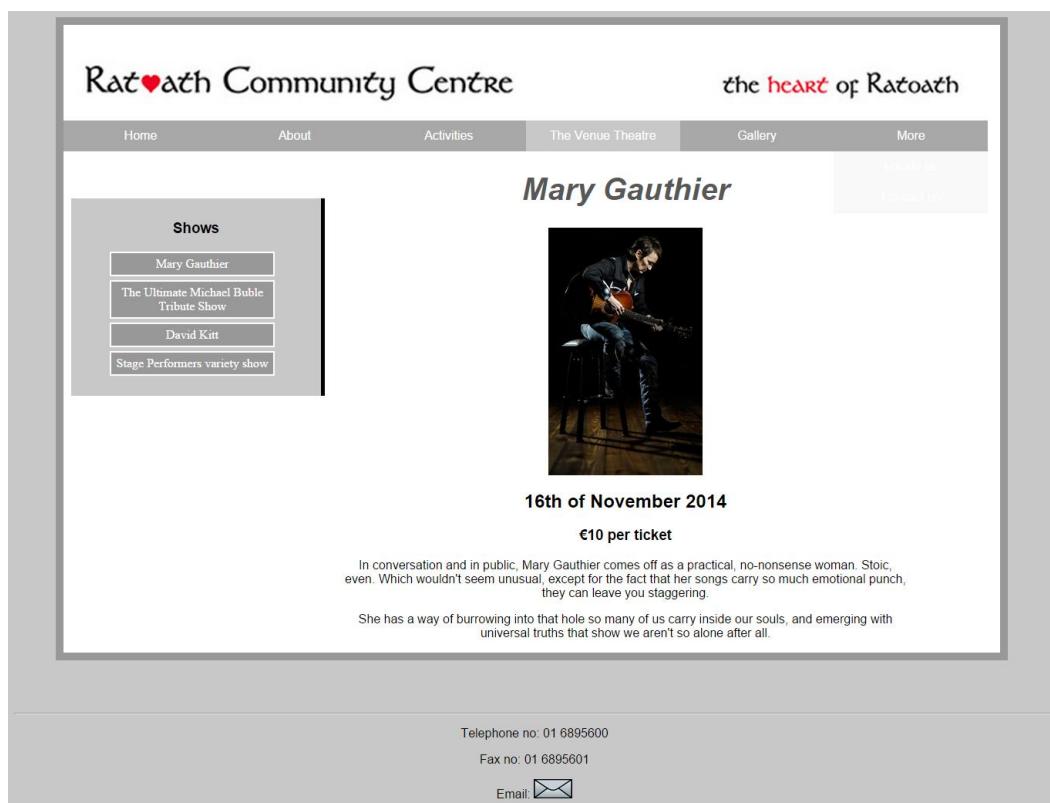
The venue theatre page

This page contains information about upcoming shows in the community centre's venue theatre. I used Ajax and json on this page to avoid reloading the whole page each time the user selects a different show.

Default venue theatre page



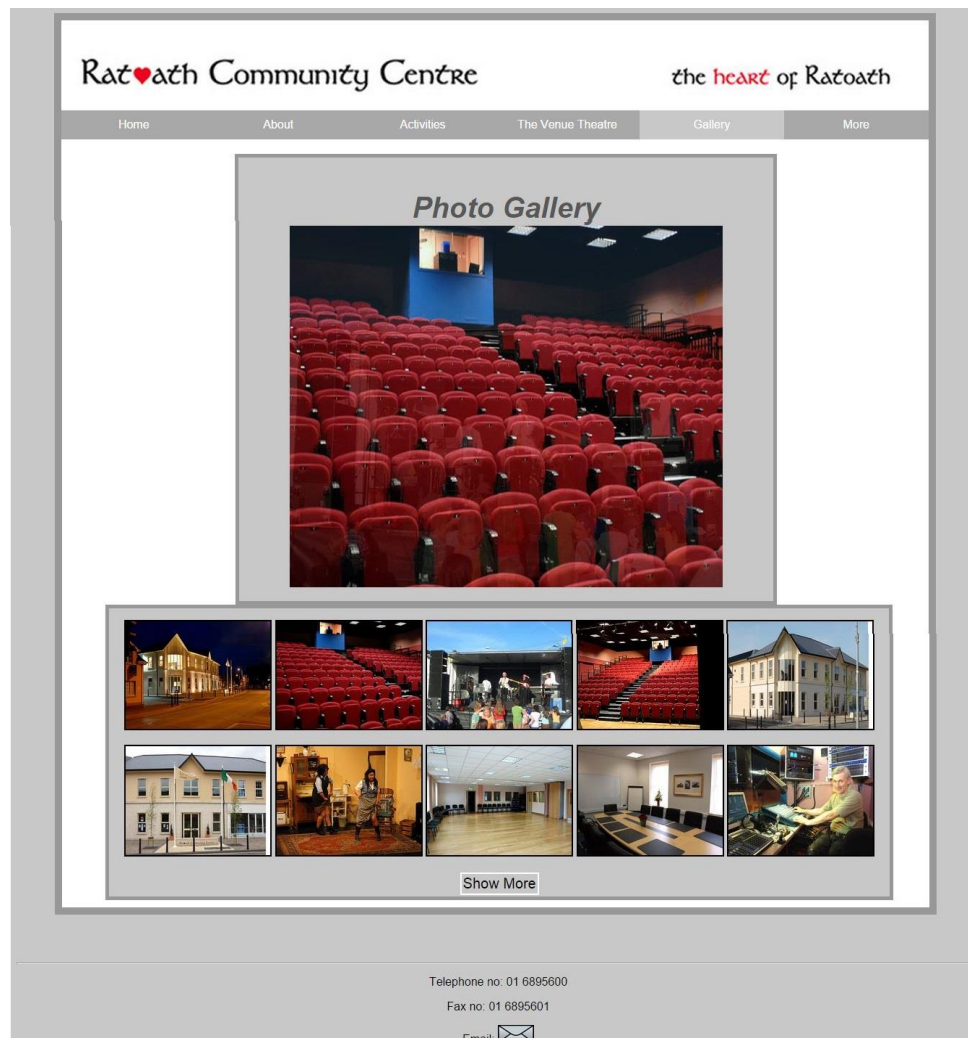
Venue theatre page with a show selected



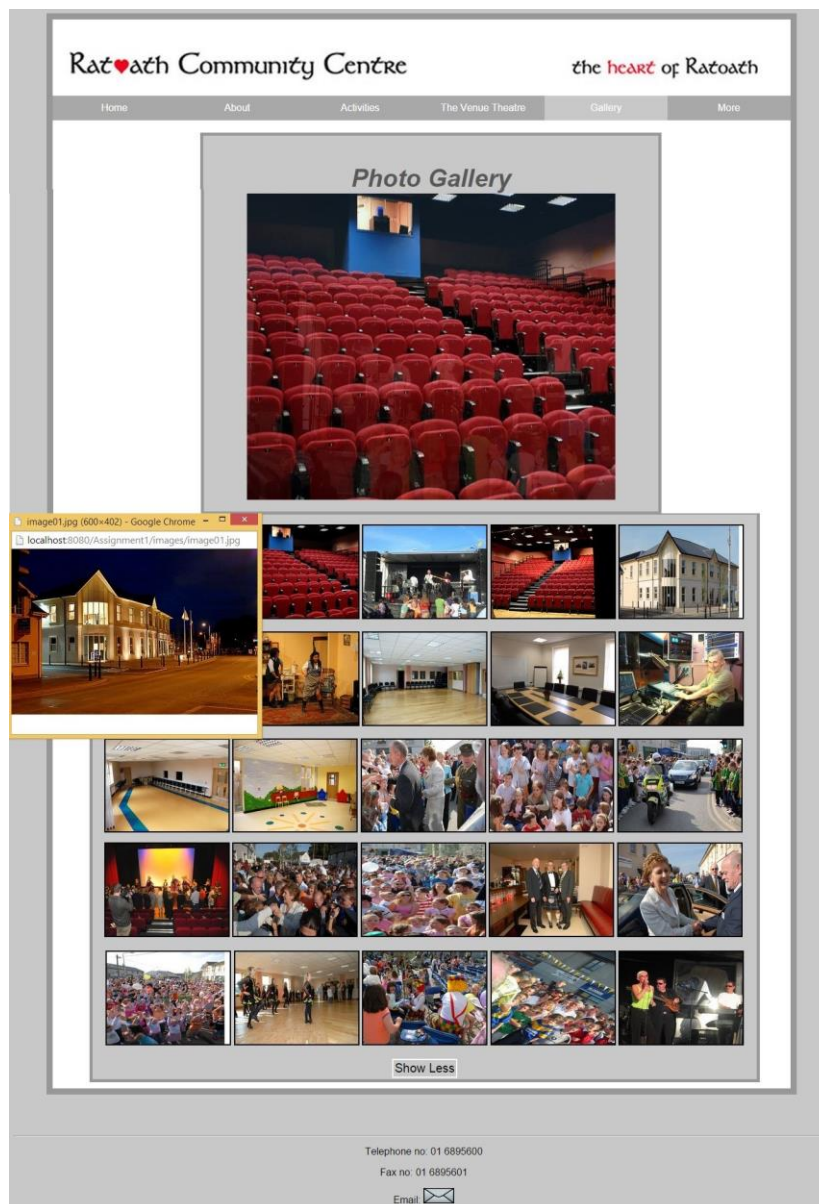
Gallery page

The gallery page contains images of the community centre and events that have taken place at the community centre. I used an image rotator to cycle through all the images in the gallery. I added thumbnails of all of the images in a box below the slide show. The user can click on the thumbnails and the image will be displayed larger in another window. The user can also press “show more” to see more images.

Default gallery page



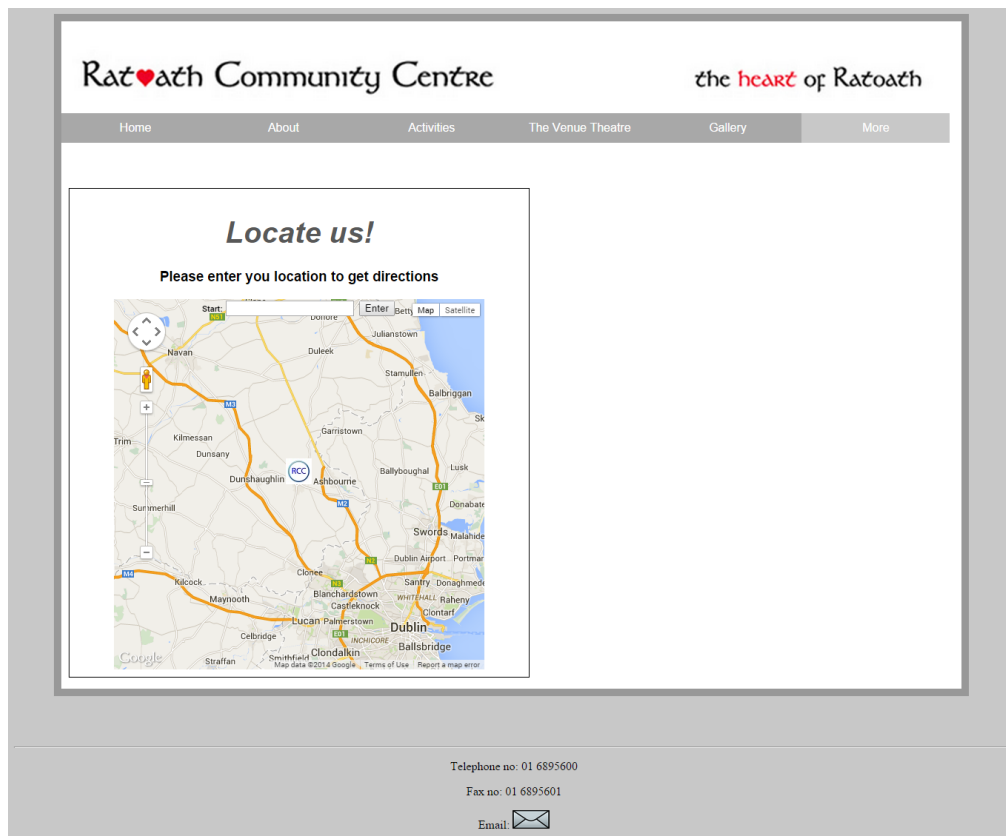
Gallery page with a thumbnail selected and show more pressed



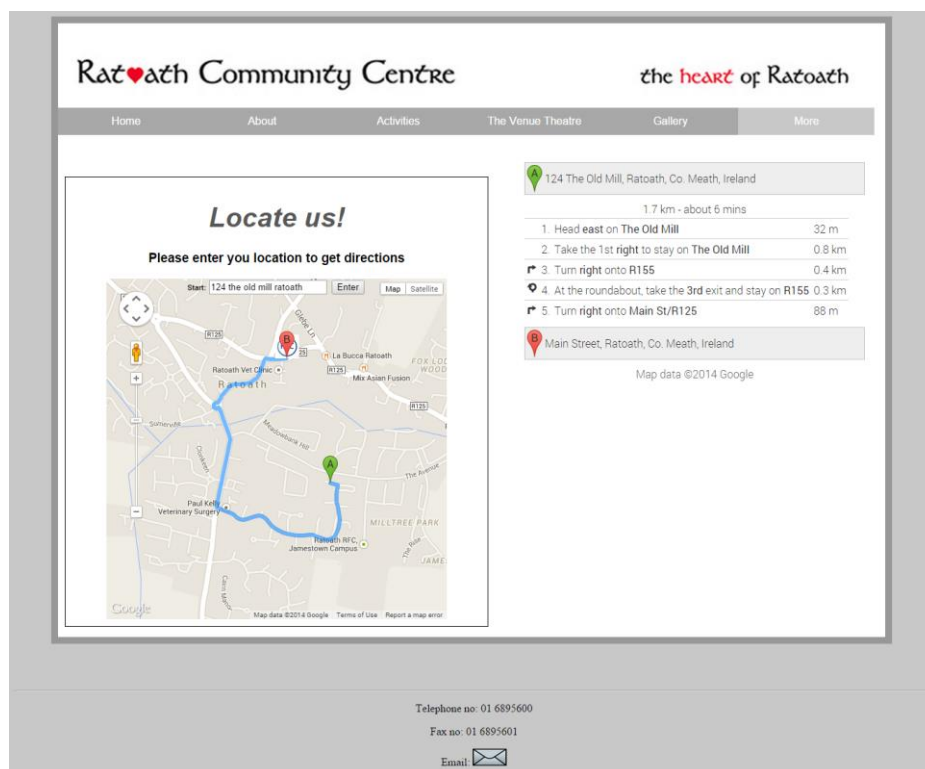
Locate us page

The purpose of this page is to help the user to get to the community centre from where ever they are in Ireland. There is a custom icon on the map representing Ratoath Community Centre. When the user hovers over it, it shows the title. The user can enter in their location, and then step by step directions will be displayed on the right hand side of the page. It will even tell the user how long their journey should take. The map will show the path from their location to the centre.

Default locate us page

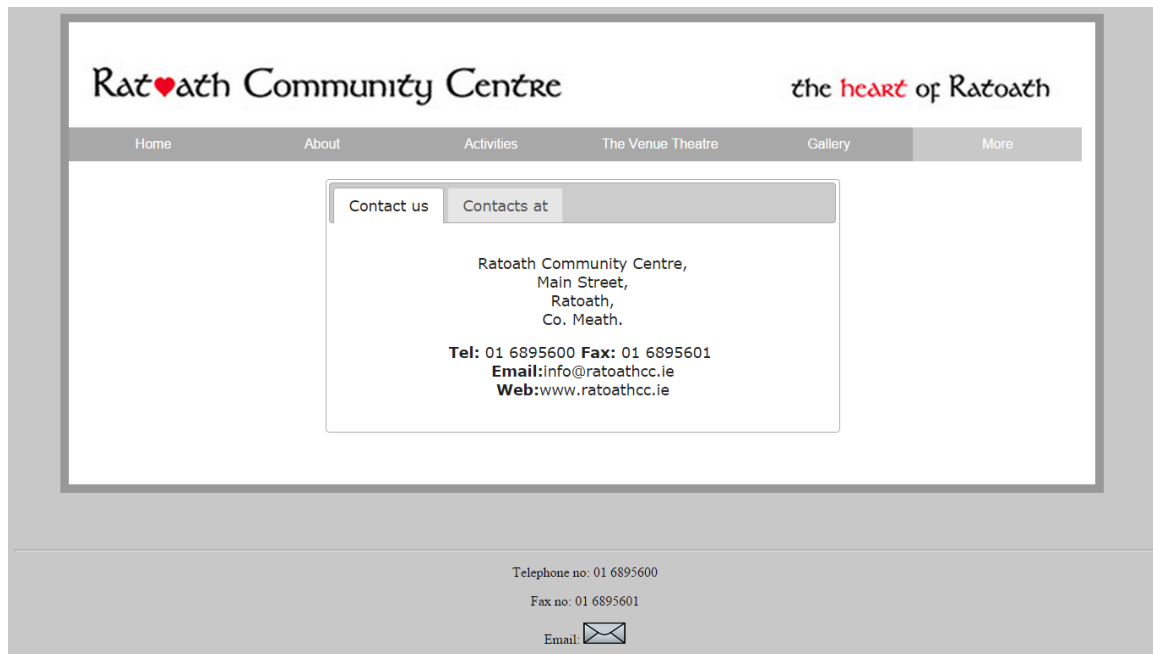


Locate us page with my address entered



Contact us page

This page contains information on how people can contact the community centre. It contains the address, phone number, email address, etc. It also contains all the people who are available to be contacted at the community centre. I used a tabbing system to display this information.



Conclusion

I have learnt a lot from doing this project. Most importantly I have learned the importance of planning when it comes to web applications. I have learned how important wire framing is as it gives you something to go off when you start developing a website. I did not plan as much as I believe I should of for this website and I believe it may have had a slight effect on the design of the site. I have learned from this mistake and I will make sure to put more time into planning my next website.

I have also learned a lot about developing web applications. By doing this project it has really helped me to improve on my html, css, jQuery , json, Ajax, and JavaScript skills. I have a learned so many great features that are available through the jQuery UI library. I have also learned a lot about Google maps. I have learned to create my own custom map and give it all the certain features I want.

Overall this project has been a positive experience for me. I made some mistakes when it came to planning and researching. But I believe I will learn from these mistakes. I also gained lots of web application skills which will certainly help me in the future.

References

1. <http://jquery.com/>
2. <http://jqueryui.com/>
3. <http://ratoathcc.ie/>
4. <https://developers.google.com/maps/documentation/javascript/tutorial>