

‘I said to Shane, *sure I don’t even win an argument!*’ —Wendy, Eurospar car winner

€13,000 RAISED

THURSDAY March 18 was a big day for the Reidy family of Mourne View, Skerries. They got the call from Shane Bowe of EUROSPAR that the brand new electric car they had won was ready for collection.

By EMILY DIEBOLD

As *Skerries News* arrived, a very shiny black Renault Zoe, reg 211-D, was just being parked in front of the Skerries Point store for Wendy and Pat Reidy.

Wendy had actually won the car just before Christmas when she had entered in a store raffle in aid of St Michael’s House Special School in Skerries.

“I was just amazed when I won,” admitted Wendy. “I really couldn’t believe it. I said to Shane, ‘sure I don’t even win an argument, I never win anything!’ I certainly never expected to win this. It was a marvellous Christmas present, just to know we’d won it.”

Wendy’s husband Pat agreed: “I’m just delighted. It was a surprise and a shock. I just couldn’t believe it.”

Wendy bought the ticket on a whim when she got a message on her phone from EUROSPAR

about the promotion. She doesn’t have any direct connection to St Michael’s house but thinks that it is a very good cause.

She explained: “I had been down to the store because I got a little reminder on my phone to go down and buy a ticket. They sent out reminders to those on the loyalty card program. And Pat said ‘you weren’t out were you?’ because I didn’t have to go out for anything, and I said ‘well I just went down to EUROSPAR and I bought a ticket and he says ‘ah for heavens sake’. Because we were supposed to stay in.”

Pat is certainly glad now that Wendy made the trip.

Before this, Wendy had had a Toyota Yaris for 14 years. That car died last year so she had exchanged it for a Volkswagon Up. She explained: “I bought a car, because, my God I never thought I would win one!”

Wendy had never driven an electric car before so was a little nervous about driving the new

Renault Zoe. However she knew it would cost a lot less to run

because of not needing petrol. It also made almost no noise when being parked in front of the store.

She accepted the keys from Eurospar manager Shane Bowe and Marketing Manager John Conroy but handed them immediately to Pat who got in the driver’s seat to drive it away.

Of course they weren’t the only winners. The other big winner from the event was St

Michael’s House.

Shane Bowe, manager of EUROSPAR Skerries originally won the car for his store in an event held by Electric Ireland and BWG Foods, owners and operators of the EUROSPAR brand in Ireland earlier this year.

Shane decided to raffle it for his customers and give all funds raised to St Michael’s House. He contacted the principal, Karen Byrne, who was absolutely

delighted. A cheque was handed over to the school just before Christmas for a grand total of €13,000. This will be used for much needed equipment and learning supports. ■



Photo: Emily Diebold

WINNERS:
Wendy and Pat
Rejdy with John
Conroy and
Shane Bowe