

EXCLUSIVE BY LUCY LAING.

THESE incredible shoes are made for...EATING.

Even though they look as realistic as the shoes on display in a shop window you wouldn't be able to walk a single step in them.

Because even though they look like they are made of leather - amazingly they are made of CAKE!

The butter soft pink straps and the soles made of sugar paste means that they will never be worn, only eaten.

They are the creations of talented baker Karen Geraghty - who has made dozens of the realistic shoe cakes for birthdays and special occasions.

Mrs Geraghty, who runs Bake Cake Create in Dublin, said: 'I love the looks of astonishment on people's faces when I tell them my creations are of the edible variety. No-one quite believes it when they look at them.

Mrs Geraghty, 48, who lives with husband Robert, and their two children Josh, 15, and Max, 12, started taking seven years ago when she was a full time mother and looking for a job whilst she could bring up her children.

She said: 'I knew there must be something I could do, so when a mum at the school gates asked me to make her a Christmas cake and add a bit of decoration I was keen to do it. I made one that was decorated with penguins and an igloo and she loved it.

'I'd always loved making cakes, but this was on another level. I felt as though I was making art.'

Mrs Geraghty became hooked on cake decoration tutorials and buying modelling tools to perfect her creations.

A few years later she received a request to make a birthday cake in the shape of a shoe.

She said: 'I had never made anything like a shoe before, but it was a real challenge and I was determined not to be defeated.

'I had no idea what to use as a template - in the end, I went into my own wardrobe and made one from my own stiletto.

'The look on the birthday girl's face when she saw it was priceless. It gave me the biggest buzz and I wanted to do more.'

The orders have poured in, and it takes Mrs Geraghty around four hours to complete a shoe.

She said: 'People wanted them adorned with sparkles, pearls and glitter. There was even a request for a shoe with an owl on it, and one with a unicorn.

'It's really important to get the arch on the shoe just right. It has to be made in stages and each part has to dry completely before I can move on and do the next bit.

Mrs Geraghty recently won a competition with a cake in the style of a pair of Dr Martens, with the eyes and teeth of a dog.

She said: 'I got the idea for that whilst I was singing along in the car to the song 'Who let the dogs out? Actually it was more like: Shoe let the dogs out!'

'I do love making the elegant shoes - and I've done dozens of them now. I love putting the final diamante sparkle onto the straps and seeing how elegant they look. They are almost too good to eat, but you definitely can't wear them.'