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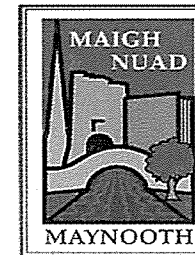
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MAYNOOTH NEWSLETTER



PUBLISHED BY MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL LIMITED
This publication is supported by FAS Community Employment
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MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**WISHING ALL
OUR READERS
A MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

Issue No. 300

Dec/Jan 2002

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Editorial

The Newsletter celebrates its 300 edition this month. It is heartening to see the magazine's success again after the difficulties that were experienced this time last year. Its improvement is thanks to the new printer Tony Mullen and we would like to express our thanks to him for help and support over the year. We hope that our readers are happy with the publication. We would also like to thank the Supervisor and participants in the CE project and the support of FAS. It would be very difficult to produce the Newsletter without them. We are shocked to hear of the CE projects who have been closed down in the North Kildare area and sympathise with the participants and sponsors.

The Newsletter welcomes the cleanup in the Meadowbrook and Parson Street area that prevented a repeat of the dreadful flooding two years ago but other parts of the town were not so lucky. The Moyglare Road has become badly flooded at the point where the side entrance to the College meets the road. The University has denied all responsibility but the recent building program in that area must have some bearing on the situation. The Fire Brigade worked hard during that night of torrential rain and we would like to express our appreciation.

If you find time on your hands over the holiday period try our quiz. There will be a prize for the highest number of correct answers.

Finally, we would like to wish our readers and advertisers a Happy Christmas and New Year and to thank them for their support. Thanks also to all who contribute to the publication - without your input this magazine would not survive. Happy Christmas!

Christy Kavanagh

The Maynooth Community Council and the Maynooth Newsletter have heard with deep regret about the sudden death of Christy Kavanagh who worked with us for a number of years. We would like to extend our sympathies to his wife Irene and his children, Maria, Paul and Emer.

Ar dheis de go raibh a anam.

Copy Date for Edition
13 th January at 5 p.m.

Please note you can now E-mail
your notes to us at
maynoothcc@eircom.net

Community Council Notes October Meeting

Maynooth Community Council News

The November meeting of the Community Council took place on the 11th November in the Glenroyal Hotel.

Co-options

There has been a number of co-options to the council, Angie Tracey, Joe Geraghty & Bernie Doyle all from Beaufield Estate.

Swimming Pool complex.

Councillor John Mc Ginley said that on the 6th December, the Celbridge, Leixlip and Clane area meeting will take place. This meeting will decide the suitability of a Swimming Pool Complex for Maynooth. Leixlip and Celbridge are also contenders for the complex.

This would be a huge boost for Maynooth as the complex would also include a gym and many other facilities.

Planning Permissions.

Concerns were raised about new planning applications. The inclusion of so many apartments in the applications was causing most concern.

Cllr. Senan Griffin was very concerned and said that further development will have to be modified. He said the town is chock-a-block.

It is hoped that all Heavy Goods Vehicles will use the new Celbridge Link Road.

It was also noted that development on the Dunnes land will go ahead, also that the Dunne family has given land free of charge to accommodate the building of the Meadowbrook Link Road and Bond Bridge.

It was agreed to write to Kildare County Council about further planning for Maynooth. Muireann Ní Bhrolchain raised the issue about student population in Maynooth. She said she was very concerned about the lack of facilities for students in the College. This is causing serious problems for staff and the town. There is also a huge parking problem.

Paul Croghan said that people looking for accommodation on rent allowance were finding it very hard to get accommodated.

Also 20% affordable Housing was raised and Cllr. John Mc Ginley stated that approximately 160 houses could be provided on the present planning.

Paul Croghan said that Iarnród Éireann are proposing payment for parking at the station. There are no plans to extend the service. It was agreed to write to Iarnród Éireann objecting to this charge.

Moyglare Road Flooding.

The flooding on the Moyglare Road was raised. It was felt that a permanent solution should be found to stop this happening and that Kildare County Council should instruct the College to do this work. Also that more traffic calming ramps were needed on the road.

Carton Avenue Grass Cutting.

Paul Croghan felt that there was no funding to do grass cutting on the avenue. There is also no money from local development levies. He also said that Kelt had given some funding to the grass cutting project. Cllr. John Mc Ginley stated that if the community wants the grass cut, Kildare County council will do it.

Festival.

Muireann Ní Bhrolchain said that she was convening a meeting of all interested groups and it is hoped that a Festival Committee will be formed.

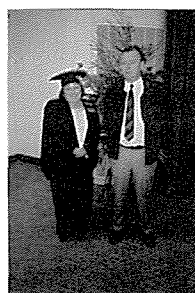
Traffic Lights at B.O.I.

Claire O' Rourke said that the traffic lights at the Bank of Ireland are very dangerous for pedestrians and that more time should be given to cross. It was also stated that it would be safer to move the crossing to the Roost.

It was with great regret that the meeting heard that our long standing Lord Mayor Owen Byrne is in hospital. Best wishes was sent to him from Maynooth Community Council.

Cllr. John Mc Ginley said that Owen has always led the St. Patrick's Day Parade. He wished him well. Cllr. Senan Griffin also sent best wishes to Owen.

Congratulations to Christina Sauls, the Supervisor of The C.E. Scheme in our office on her conferral.



Next meeting of the Maynooth Community Council will be held on the 9th December 2002 at 8.30 pm in the Glenroyal Hotel.

Marie Gleeson, PRO.

Garry print

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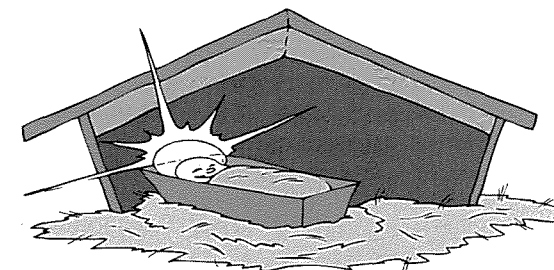
AREAS COVERED Leixlip, Maynooth, Lucan, Celbridge, Kilcock and Straffan

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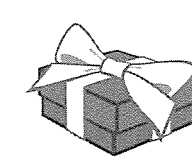
Thank you for your custom in 2002
Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year
Looking forward to seeing you in 2003.

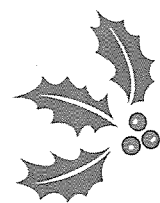
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Planning Permissions

File Number	Applicant Name	Applicant Address	Application Type	Application Received	Development Description	Development Location
02/2005	Joe Farrell	Mooretown Maynooth Road Celbridge Co. Kildare	P	21/10/02	development will consist of the change of use of the existing garage to an office, the construction of a single storey extension to the side and rear of the existing dormer dwelling and the construction of a new detached single storey garage etc	Mooretown Maynooth Co. Kildare
02/2006	Wille Graham	345 Old Greenfield Greenfield Maynooth Co. Kildare	P	21/10/02	2 four bedroom dormer bungalow	Old Greenfield Greenfield Maynooth
02/2010	Newtown Park Stud	Newtownmacabe Maynooth Co. Kildare	P	22/10/02	to build a new stud farm complex, consisting of the following: (a) Demolish entire cattle wintering shed adjacent to silage pit. Demolish two hay-sheds and small wintering yards etc	Newtownmaccabe Maynooth Co. Kildare
02/2035	Brian & Sharon Lee	817 St. Patrick's Park Celbridge Co. Kildare	P	24/10/02	for a bungalow and Septech 2000 effluent treatment plant	Barrogstown Maynooth Co. Kildare
02/2060	Kevin Regan & John Maloney	Unit 1 Fagans Lane Maynooth Co. Kildare	P	24/10/02	for the demolition of existing single storey commercial building and for the erection of a three storey building to accommodate 12 two-bedroom apartments, associated car parking and site works using existing access road off Convent Lane etc	Convent Lane Maynooth Co. Kildare
02/2094	Rossmore Properties Ltd	Turnings Straffan Co. Kildare	P	01/11/02	for development of roadway and ancillary site development works for an industrial estate	Mooretown Maynooth Road Celbridge
02/2099	Deanery Management Group	The Deanery Aghards Celbridge Co. Kildare	P	04/11/02	4 two bedroom apartment units in one two-storey building with private garden areas (sheds), all to match existing structures	The Deanery Aghards Maynooth Road Celbridge
02/2104	M & D Cullen & Eamon Maguidhir	Main Street Maynooth Co. Kildare	P	04/11/02	small extension to existing bedroom annex of dwelling and a mews dwelling	Main St & Back Lane Maynooth Co. Kildare
02/2116	Paul O'Leary	13 Rockfield Grove Maynooth Co. Kildare	P	06/11/02	new two storey bedroom, bathroom and kitchen extension over existing playroom and utility room to side and rear of house	13 Rockfield Grove Maynooth Co. Kildare
02/2128	Dawn Byrne	1 Castle Dawson Maynooth Co. Kildare	P	07/11/02	to erect two storey detached dwelling house, the formation of new pedestrian and vehicular accesses and the carrying out of all other associated site works in the side garden	1 Castle Dawson Maynooth Co. Kildare
02/2133	John Mayock	Baltracey Maynooth Co. Kildare	P	07/11/02	for dormer style bungalow (283sq.mts) in lieu of previously approved single-storey bungalow on planning ref no. 00/1798 on revised site	Baltracey Maynooth Co. Kildare.

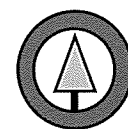
Planning Permissions Contd.

File Number	Applicant Name	Applicant Address	Application Type	Application Received	Development Description	Development Location
02/2151	Rossmore Properties	Turnings Straffan Co. Kildare	P	08/11/02	development of roadway, ancillary site development works for an industrial estate and proposed boundary wall and railings	Mooretown Maynooth Road Celbridge
02/2163	Kevin Donovan	Newtown Maynooth Co. Kildare	P	12/11/02	for 2 two-storey houses	Newtown Maynooth Co. Kildare
02/2190	John Maher & Padraig Sheridan	c/o Sinead McConigle, Kilopa Suite 15 Mespil Business Centre Mespil House Sussex Road Dublin 4	P	14/11/02	for a 25m antennae support structure, antennae and radio links, equipment containers, security fence and access track for Kilopa Group at Roestown TD to form part of the cellular digital communications network	Roestown TD Maynooth Co. Kildare

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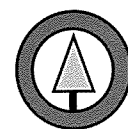
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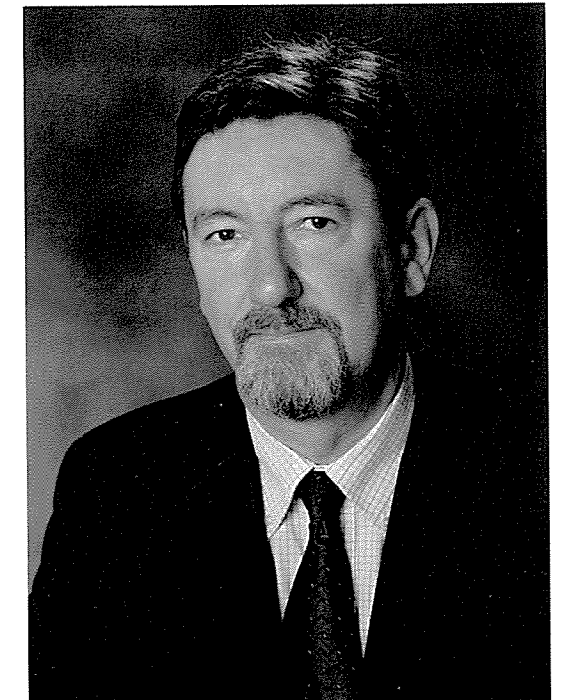
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Emmet Stagg's weekly Advice Service will not be held on the following Saturdays:

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- Saturday, December 28th, 2002
- Saturday, January 4th, 2003

**Advice Service will resume on Saturday 12th January 2003
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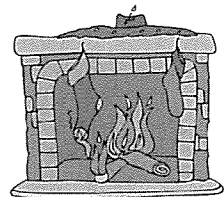
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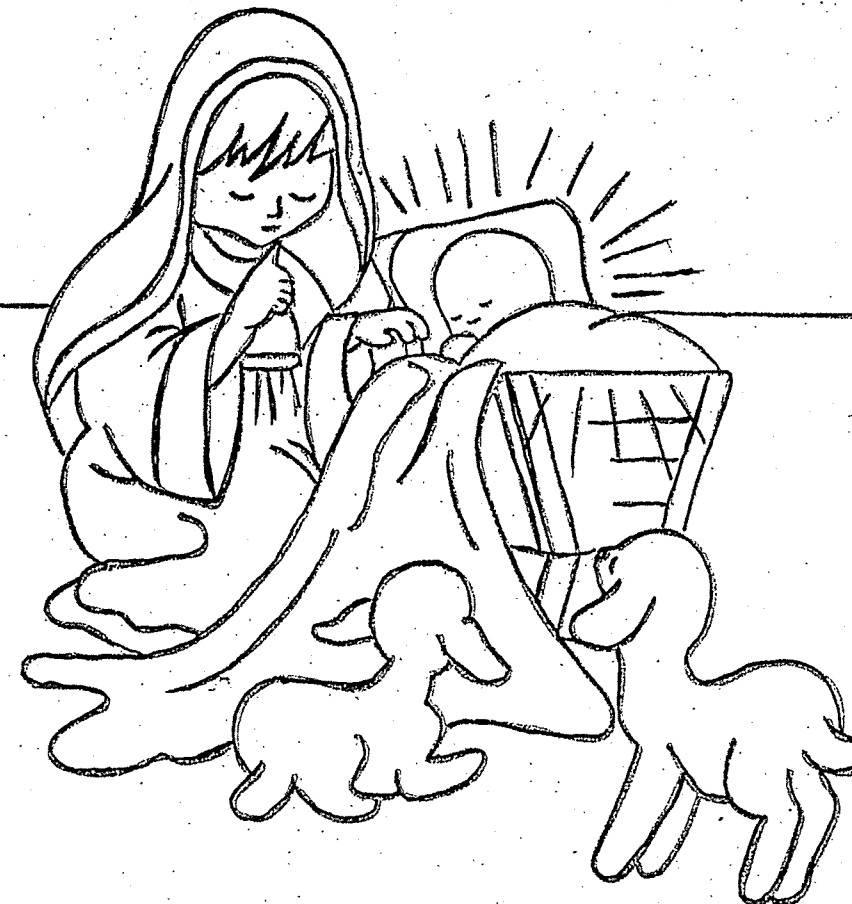
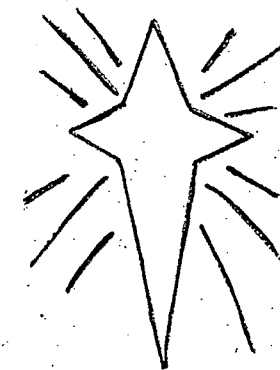
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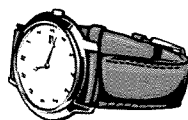
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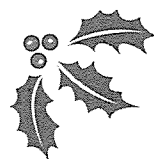
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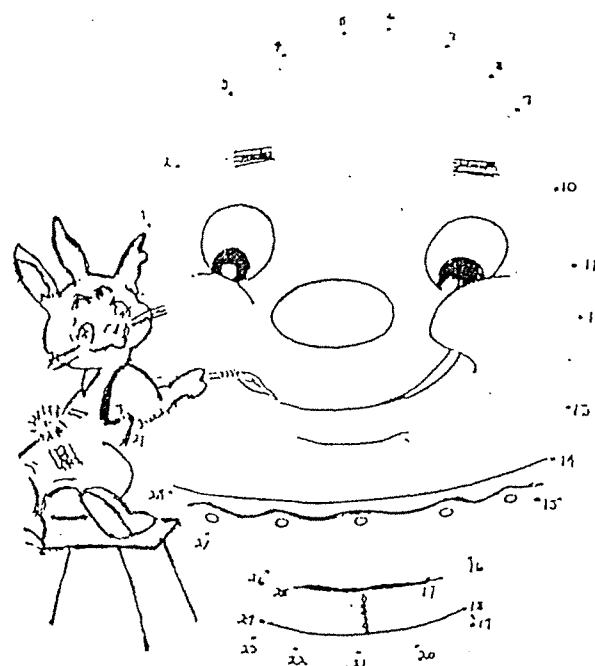
E-mail: Bernard.durkan@oireachtas.irlgov.ie



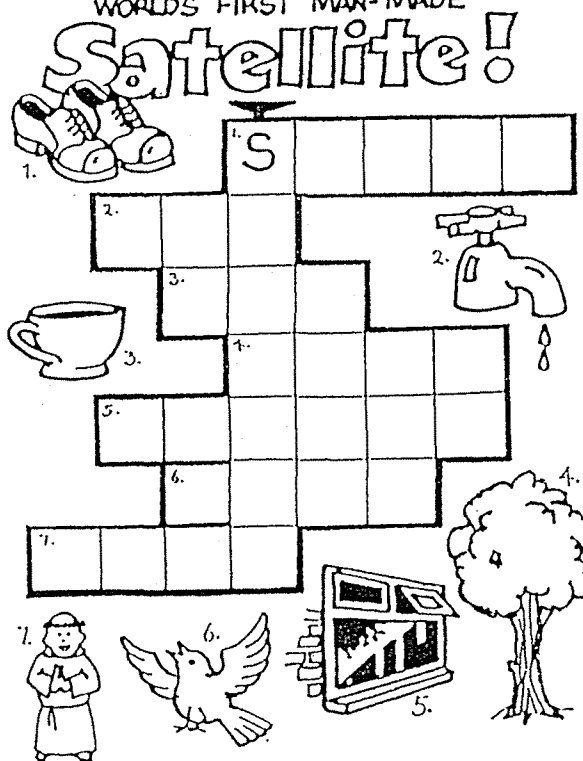
Children's Corner



Where has bunny
drawn the face?



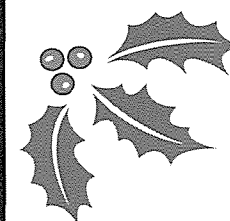
FILL IN THE CROSSWORD TO FIND THE
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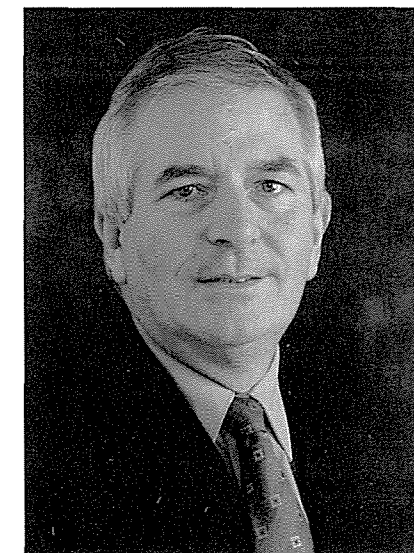
WINNER

LAUREN MAREE TRACEY
7 Beafield Green

Age 8



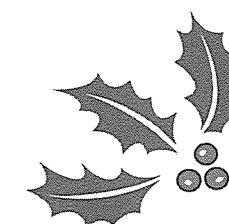
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A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS
AND A
PEACEFUL AND
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Poets Corner

Winter Garden

My leafy laden garden
Looks up at me
With sullen silence
Aged roses pout
With jaded colours
Like smudged lipstick

Tangled growth mocks me
My lawn mower rests
Against the ivy wall
Long handle; empty box
Yawns back at me
Like a sleeping sentry

The leaves fall
On unkept lawn
I think about the rake
I do not have
and leave it all to
The scattering wind

Liam Murray

Sir Winter

I heard Sir Winter coming.
He crept out of his bed
and rubbed his thin and freezing hands:
'I'll soon be up!' he said.

'I'll shudder at the keyhole
and rattle at the door,
I'll strip the trees of all their leaves
And strew them on the floor;

'I'll harden every puddle
that Autumn thinks is his –
I'll lay a sparkling quilt of snow
on everything that is!

'I'll bring a load of darkness
as large as any coal
and drive my husky dogs across
the world, from pole to pole.
'Oho! How you will shiver!'
And then I heard him say:
'But in the middle of it all
I'll give you
CHRISTMAS DAY!'

Jean Kenward

Our Christmas Robin

A Robin perched on a holly tree
Christmas morning bright and early
Plucking berries as its eyes could see
It feasted on them daily

Chuttering as loud as it could
It seldom felt no danger
A tiny creature feeling so good
Never minding any stranger

A songster of many it is indeed
As all birds are of plenty
Once it had its daily feed
Its tiny stomach was never empty

Fly with me my little one
To a place full of holly
Until your berries are all gone
On your Christmas time so jolly

Patrick Murray

Woodlanders

The day is wet - we can't go out
To play about the green,
I'm sure I don't know what we'll do
We've seen what's to be seen.

Do tell us Daddy, I'm sure you know
For you are very wise
You never mope about the house
Give way to tears and sighs.

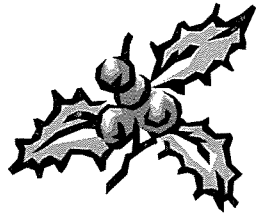
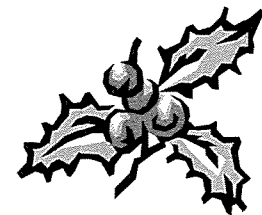
Do tell us Mammy, and we will do
Whatever you may say
We want to know so badly
How-to-pass-the-day.

Now we'll have a story
For there is time for fun -
Oh no we wont, we've got to play
For here comes the sun

Anon.

SENATOR KATE WALSH PD

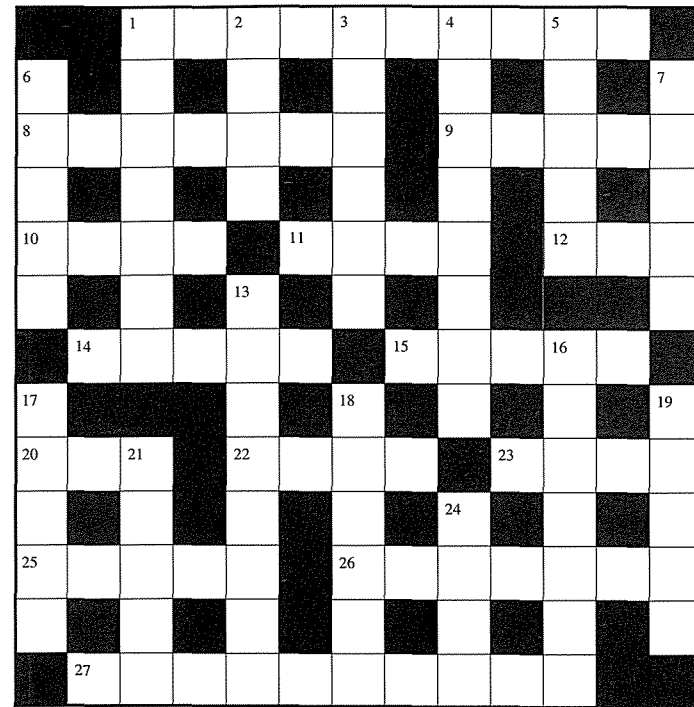
WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL HER
CONSTITUENTS AND FRIENDS THE
COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON
AND
A HAPPY NEW YEAR.



CONTACT
MAIN STREET, CELBRIDGE
01 6288118 087 2597766
SEANAD EIREANN 01 6184078
e-mail kate.walsh@oireachtas.ie

Crossword

Crossword No: 7



Entries before: 20th Dec 02

Name _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Across:

1. There a different age every 25 years or so (10)
8. Unpopular type of doctor (7)
9. Make a effort (5)
10. Placed on a surface (4)
11. Trap returns for section (4)
12. Female sheep (3)
14. Olympic prize (4)
15. Call to an end (5)
20. Rule prohibiting certain actions (3)
22. Give us one, maybe (4)
23. Develop mature (4)
25. What we shouldn't do (5)
26. Hollywood loves this charm (7)
27. Unyielding or unstoppable (10)

Down:

1. For real (7)
2. Hammer this part of finger (4)
3. Religious ceremony (6)
4. Ratified agreements (8)
5. Very over-weight (5)
6. All grown up (5)
7. Speak (5)
13. Small bundle or collection (8)
16. Severe (7)
17. Run away to be wed (5)
18. Money limit (6)
19. The pen is considered mightier than it (5)
21. Show pain or Distress (5)
24. Notoriety (4)

CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS NO 6

Across: 1 Literature; 8 Players; 9 Erase; 10 Ache; 11 Cars; 12 Hat; 14 Prank; 15 Cramp; 20 Pot; 22 Vine; 23 Asia; 25 Spear; 26 Guitars; 27 Adrenaline.

Down: 1 Leather; 2 Toes; 3 Rascal; 4 Treasure; 5 Reach; 6 Spray; 7 Hefty; 13 Universe; 16 Message; 17 Spasm; 18 Enigma; 19 Waist; 21 Trend; 24 Mini.

Doodle Box

Special prize

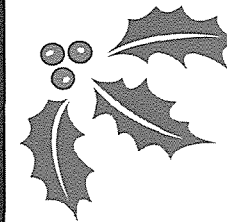
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Winner of Crossword No.6

Maura O'Reilly
Mariaville
Moyglare Rd
Maynooth



PAUL KELLY

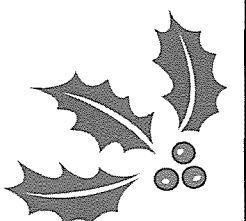
FIANNA FÁIL



Cllr. PAUL KELLY
(01) 6243624

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AND A
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PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR

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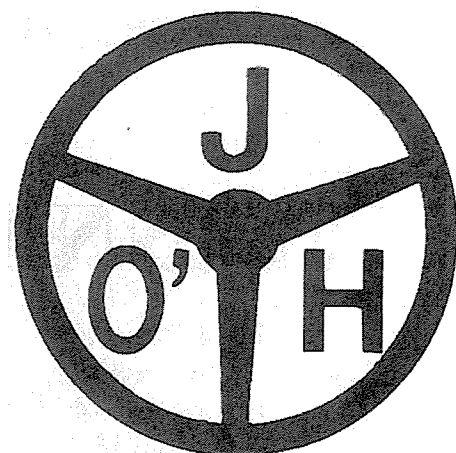


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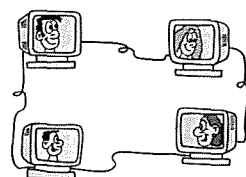
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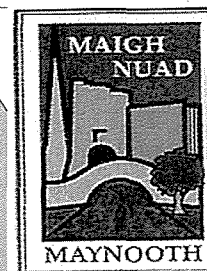
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A winner will be announced in the next issue of the Maynooth Newsletter
 (P.S. This prize includes half price off website hosting for one year !!)

Wishing All Our Customers A Very Happy Christmas



2003

January							February							March						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
																				31

April							May							June						
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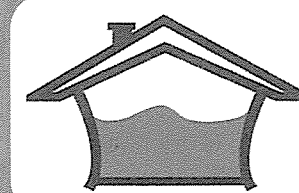
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28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

October							November							December						
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27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

The Night Before Christmas

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house
 Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;
 The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
 In hopes that St. Nicolas soon would be there.
 The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
 While visions of sugarplums danced in their heads;
 And Mama in her kerchief and I in my cap,
 Had just settled down for a long winters nap—
 When out on the lawn there rose such a clatter,
 I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter.
 Away to the window I flew like a flash,
 Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.
 The moon on the breast of the new—fallen snow,
 Gave a lustre of midday to objects below.
 When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,
 But a miniature sleigh and eight tiny reindeer,
 With a little old driver so lively and quick,
 I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.
 More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
 And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name—
 "Now, Dasher! Now, Dancer! Now, Prancer and Vixen!
 On, Comet! On, Cupid! On, Donner and Blitzen!
 To the top of the porch, to the top of the wall!
 Now, dash away! Dash away! Dash away all!"
 As dry leaves before the wild hurricane fly,
 When they meet with an obstacle mount to the sky,
 So up to the housetop the coursers they flew,
 With sleigh full of toys— and St. Nicholas too;
 And then in a twinkling, I heard on the roof
 The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.
 As I drew in my head and was turning around,
 Down the chimney St. Nicolas came with a bound.
 He was dressed all in fur from his head to his foot,
 And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot.
 A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,
 And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.
 His eyes how they twinkled! His dimples how merry!
 His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!
 His drawn little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
 And the beard on his chin was as white as the snow!
 The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
 And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath.
 He had a broad face and a little round belly
 That shook when he laughed like a bowl full of jelly.
 He was chubby and plump—a right jolly old elf,
 And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself.
 A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
 Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.
 He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
 And filled all the stockings then turned with a jerk,
 And laying his finger aside of his nose,
 And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose.
 He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
 And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.
 But I heard him exclaim as he drove out of sight,
 "Merry Christmas to all and to all a Good Night!"

CLEMENT CLARKE MOORE c.1882



**MAYNOOTH
 HOMECARE
 & FIREPLACES**

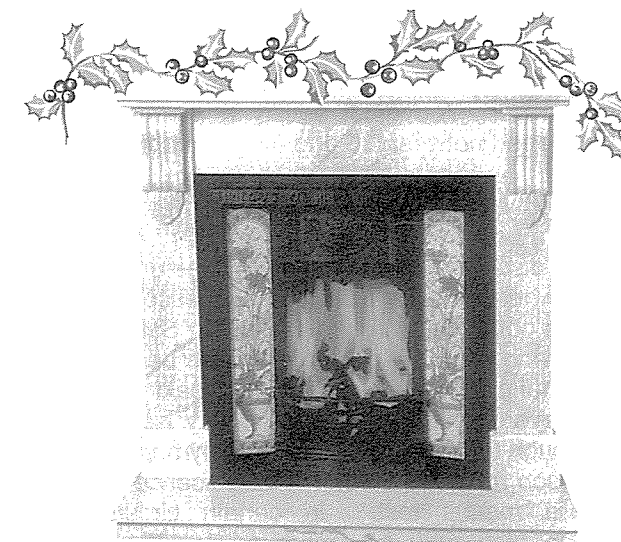
**GREENFIELD
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 TEL: 01629 0071**

FIREPLACES

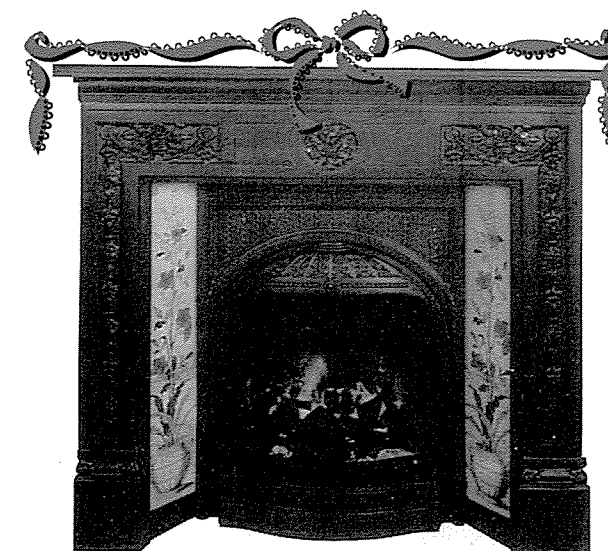
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SEASONS GREETINGS TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS

Clubs, Organisations and Societies

Citizens Information Centre.

Question.

I am currently receiving a Mobility Allowance from the Health Board. I am also hoping to buy an adapted car and have applied to the Health Board for a Motorised Transport Grant. If I get the grant will I continue to receive the Mobility Allowance?

Answer

Up until recently you would have continued to receive the Mobility Allowance. However, this has now changed.

Mobility Allowance is paid monthly by the Health Board to a person with a severe disability who is unable to walk and would benefit from a change of surroundings. You must satisfy a means test and must be aged between 16 and 66 when applying. The maximum payment is €126.00 per month.

The Motorised Transport Grant is paid by the Health Board to a person between the ages of 17 and 65 with a severe disability, towards the purchase or adaptation of a car where such an adapted car is essential for the person to obtain or retain employment. Self-employed persons who meet the criteria may also be eligible. In exceptional circumstances, it may be paid to a person with a severe disability living in a very isolated area, even though they may not be in employment.

The person must hold a full driving licence and must satisfy a means test. In certain circumstances someone else may be approved to drive for the person with the disability where he/she is not physically or medically capable of driving. Up to 75% of the actual cost may be granted the maximum grant available is €4,370.

Since 1 July 2002, if you are receiving a Mobility Allowance and receive a Motorised Transport Grant you will no longer be paid the Mobility Allowance as the payment of a Motorised Transport Grant is subject to the condition that the Health Board will not be called upon at any future date to contribute towards the running costs of the vehicle. You will not be eligible for the Mobility Allowance again until three years after the date of payment of the Motorised Transport Grant.

Further information is available from your local Health Board or The Citizens Information Centre @ 6285477.

Question.

I intend retiring from work. If I take up employment again at some time in the future, will I still have to pay tax and PRSI?

Answer.

If you retire from work and subsequently take up employment your earnings will be taxable along with other income regardless of your age. In addition to the usual personal tax-free credits, people over the age of 65 are entitled to an Age Tax Credit of €205.00

(2002) for a single person and €410.00 for a married couple.

If you are under the age of 66 and earning over a €38.00 a week in insurable employment you pay PRSI at either Class A or a modified rate, depending on your occupation. If you are aged 66 or over you do not pay PRSI regardless of your income.

Since 1st July 2001 if you are aged 70 or over you do not pay the Health Contribution unless you are in receipt of a Social Welfare Widow's or Widower's Pension, Deserted Wife's Benefit/Allowance or One-Parent Family Payment or you are a Medical Card Holder.

Further information is available in the latest edition of Comhairle's publication 'Entitlements for the Over Sixties'. Copies are available free of charge along with other information from the Citizens Information Centre @ 6285477.

Question

My husband and I have been asked to rent out a room in our house to a friend of mine. Will the income from the rent be taxable?

Answer

Under the Rent a Room Relief scheme, where you rent a room (or rooms) in your principal private residence and the gross rent received, including sums arising for food, laundry or similar goods and services, does not exceed €7,620.00 (€5,587 (£4,400) for the tax year 2001) this income will be exempt from income tax. Where more than one individual is entitled to the rent, the exemption limit is divided between the individuals concerned.

If your room rental comes within the scheme it does not affect your entitlement to mortgage interest relief or to capital gains tax exemption on selling your home. This rental income is not liable to PRSI or the 2% Health Contribution but it must be included on your annual income tax return.

Further information is available from your local tax office and from the Citizens Information Centre @ 6285477.

Question.

I was on certified sick leave from work for two months. Does absence on sick leave change my entitlement to annual leave?

Answer.

Annual leave entitlement is based on time worked. In this sense absence from work and in your case, absence due to certified sick leave, can reduce your entitlement to annual leave but it should not in your case.

Your rights in relation to holiday entitlement are set out in the Organisation of Working Time Act, 1997. This Act provides for a basic annual leave entitlement of four weeks for each leave year with pro-rata entitlement

Clubs, Organisations and Societies

Maynooth Citizens Information Contd.)

ments for periods of employment of less than a year. (Your contract of employment may provide for more than the statutory four weeks.) In order to qualify for four weeks' annual leave an employee must have worked for the same employer for at least 1,365 hours during a leave year.

Sickness during the leave year will reduce the hours you worked and therefore may affect your entitlement to annual leave. However, if your working week is, for example, 40 hours you will reach the required 1,365 working hours after just over 34 weeks working. Your absence, in this instance, would need to be 18 weeks or more before it affected your annual leave.

Further information is available from The Employment Rights Unit, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Davitt House, 65a Adelaide Road, Dublin 2 Tel: (01) 631 3131 or LoCall 1890 201 615 and from the Citizens Information Centre @ 6285477.

Maynooth Gaelic Football Under 13

North Kildare League

Maynooth Under 13 Gaelic Footballers season came to an end when they were defeated by the league winners Clane in Clane. Despite failing to win any of their league games the team played very well in a very competitive league. Other teams in the league included Celbridge, Confey, Ballyna, Naas and Kilcock. Despite the results team trainers Denis Dempsey and Kieran Finnegan were happy that the team tried their best in all games. They were also delighted with the support of the parents at the games. Nobody doubts how important it is for the children to see their parents present at the games.

The Maynooth Club wishes to congratulate Clane on winning the league and all the other teams who took part.

The Maynooth panel of players were as follows:

Ciaran Egan, Alex Cash, Same Hare, Owen McNutt, Darragh Dunning, Owen Curran, Sean Durkan, Joe Dempsey, Joseph Glynn, Peter Warren, Thomas Donellan, Chris O'Connell, Cian Byrne, Francis McDonald, Conor O'Brien, Cormac O'Reilly, Ben Finnegan, Sean Barrett, Sean Moore, Chris Moynan, Keith Leonard and Michael Murphy.

Kiernan Finnegan.

PETER COAKLEY

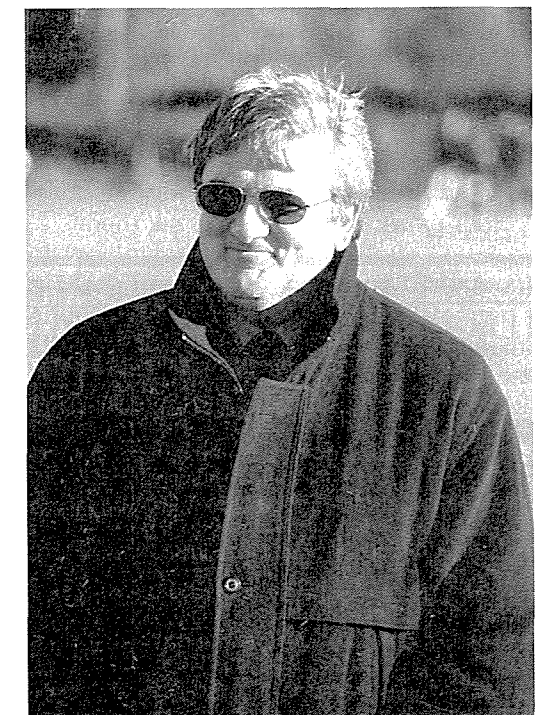
Peter Coakley was born in Kerry. This did not stop him however declaring himself a Clareman, having spent most of his youth in Miltown Malbay, in West Clare.

The youngest of a family of 4, he attended Saint Flannans College, Ennis followed by Saint Patricks Training College, Drumcondra, Dublin

He began his teaching career in Saint Marys BNS, in Haddington Road, Ballsbridge. He subsequently taught for a number of years in Lucan. In 1998 he was appointed as teaching principle in Skryne, Co. Meath. He took up his appointment in Maynooth in June 2002.

He played Gaelic club football with Miltown Malbay, Ballymun Kickhams (Dublin), Leixlip & Confey (Kildare). He also won the Dublin Senior Football Championship with Erins Hope whilst in training college. He represented Clare at Minor U21 level. He was a keen golfer (before becoming a school principal he has very little time for this now!) with a 11 handicap. He is married to Deirdre, has a son Neil 13, and 2 daughters Meabh 11 and Brona 8.

We would like to congratulate Mr Coakley on his appointment as principal of BNS Maynooth, and hope he spends many happy years with us. We also extend this welcome to his wife and children.



Patrick C.J. Neligan, B.C.L. L.L.B

Solicitor

COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS

NOTARY PUBLIC

Wishes all his Clients

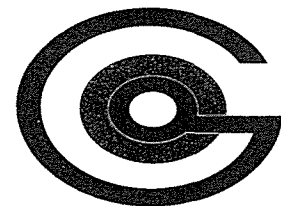
A Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year

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Wishing All Our Customers &
Clients
Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year



Features

Early Irish Society – feasting and celebrations

As the Christmas/New Year period is generally regarded as the major festive event in the Western World let us turn away from the more serious business of distraint and legal procedures and turn to Irish festivities. In the early Irish period Christmas was considered primarily as a religious feast and there is little or no reference to it in native law or saga literature. Religious texts contain certain information but this is relatively scant also. There are two different terms in use – *Notlaic Mór* (great Christmas) and *Notlaic Stéille* (lit. Christmas of the star). The latter refers to the Epiphany. The treatise on Sunday, the *Cáin Domnaig*, says that they should generally be treated as a Sunday but the restrictions that existed on cooking are lifted as it is a time of feasting within the Church. Christmas was celebrated with special food and drink and even a slave in chains is entitled to special food. But Easter was the major Church festival when beer was allowed.

Before the arrival of Christianity the major Celtic festivals were fourfold and connected with farming and the cycles of nature. We know most about *Lughnasad* (The Festival of the God Lug) celebrated on the first of *Lúnasa* (August) and it still survives in a christianised version as in the pilgrimage to Croaghpatrick or the Fraughan Festival in Glencullen. Fraughan is the anglicised version of the Irish word *fraochán* (bilberry) and it is one of the first berries to ripen.

The other celebrated were *Imbolc*, now St Brigit's Day, *Beltane* (Mayday) and *Samain* at the beginning of November. All these still survive in christianised form and Halloween is one of Ireland's most successful exports! The seeds of our present day celebrations have a long pagan past behind them. This was a major time of feasting (*feis*, *fled*) and of public assembly when it was believed that the doors and barriers between this and the Otherworld opened and a two-way passage was possible for a period of time. The sagas mention that the feast lasted for 7 days when humans and the dead could interact.

These festivals are often associated with food production. In a society where famine, bad weather and warfare were common, fertility of the land was of paramount importance. Even the sagas associate the feast with huge amounts of food. Generosity gone mad is a proof of great wealth.

There is some evidence for the seating arrangements for important celebratory events. The 12th century manuscript, the *Book of Leinster*, contains an illustration of the *Suidgud Tigi Midchúarda* (the seating of the house of the mead-circuit). The page is soiled but it is clear that each profession had a place and an appropriate cut of meat. Pork is the chosen food for feasting along with *mid* (mead), *cuirm* (beer) and *fín* (wine) also mentioned. A poem in the Metrical *Dindshenchas* (Lore of famous places) entitled *Temair* describes the seating arrangements there and says:

King and chief of the poets,
Sage, farmer, they received their due,
Couches that torches burn not,
The thighs and the chine-steaks.

Leech and spencer, stouth smith,
Steward, portly butler,
The heads of the beasts to all of them
In the house of the yellow-haired king.

The shins were the share of the noble musician,
Of the castle-builder and artificer, round the bowl;
The cup-bearer, the lusty foot servant,
Both consumed the broken meats.

Feasting and celebrating was a common pastime amongst our Celtic ancestors according to many Continental Roman and Greek writers and historians. There is described a ritual that took place regarding the position of the most important warrior and his entitlement to the best part of the pig.

The saga material is full of references to feasting; the story of Cú Chulainn's visit to the Otherworld *Serglige Con Culainn* (The love-sickness of Cú Chulainn) begins with the Ulstermen gathering for the yearly *Samain* festival. It says:

'The men of Ulster ... used to hold the festival every year; nor was there anything in the world that they would do at that time except sports and marketing and splendours and pomps and feasting and eating; and it is from that custom of theirs that the festival of Samain was descended, that is now held throughout the whole of Ireland.'

The famous tale *Scéla Muicce Meic Dathó* (The story of Mac Dathó's pig) tells how Mac Dathó called the men of Ulster and Connacht to a feast. They were arguing over the possession of a dog. The pig mentioned in the title is described as follows:

'Threescore milch cows had been feeding it for seven years ... there were sixty oxen drawing that one pig, besides their other food.'

Mesca Ulad (The intoxication of the Ulstermen) has a wonderful description of a feast, the Ulstermen again:

'The Ulstermen arrived at the festival assembly, so that there was not a man from a village in Ulster that did not come there ... provisions of food and ale were poured out for them, so that the allowance of a hundred of food and ale reached every nine of them. The drinking house was afterwards arranged by Conchobar according to deeds and parts and families; according to grades and arts and customs with a view to the fair holding of the banquet. Distributors came to distribute and cupbearers to deal and doorkeepers for door keeping. Their music and their minstrelsy and their harmonies were played. Their lays and their poetry and their eulogies were chanted for them; and jewels and valuables and treasures were distributed to them.'

Perhaps the best comes from *Fled Bricrenn* (Bricriu's Feast):

'A cauldron full of generous wine, with room enough

Features

(Early Irish Society Contd.)

for three of the valiant heroes of Ulster, furthermore a seven-year-old boar, a cow-lord full seven-year-old ... add to this five-score cakes of wheat cooked in honey. Five-and-twenty bushels, that is what was supplied for these five-score cakes – four cakes from each bushel. Such is the champion's portion of my house.' Feasting is also associated with the death of a hero in certain circumstances but that is a story for another day.

Among the famous festivals mentioned in the annals and texts are primarily the *Óenach Tailten* (The fair of Tailtiu), celebrated at *Lugnasad*, and the Festival of Carmun. The latter is described in a poem, again from the *Dinnshenchas*, and it may have taken place in the Curragh of Kildare. It lasted a week, every third year, and it was also associated with *Lugnasad* and it included the familiar pastimes of horse racing, music and storytelling. The poet tells us:

There they would discuss with strife of speech
The dues and tributes of the province,
Every legal enactment right piously
Every third year it was settled.

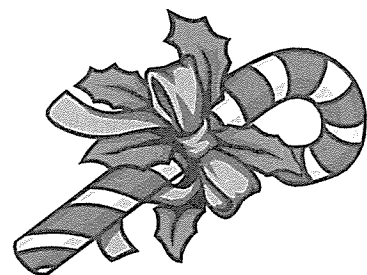
The tales of the household of Tara, that is not scanty,
The knowledge of every cantred in Erin,
The chronicle of women, tales of armies, conflicts,
Hostels, tabus, captures:

Tales of death and slaughter, strains of music;
Exact synchronising of the goodly race;
His royal pedigree, a blessing through Bregmag
His battle and his stark valour.

Legal matters were discussed and settled, there was buying and selling of food, animals and foreign goods. It is also said that there were two assemblies, one for men and another for women but that they did not mix. This may be poetic licence and there is no way of knowing if it is historically accurate.

Another important calendar and natural event is the solstice about the 21st December, famous for the sunrise at Newgrange (in Irish *Brú na Bóinne* – the hostel of the Boyne) shining down the passage. This has been interpreted in many different ways but the tomb may still hold its mysterious secrets safe within. Happy festivals.

(The usual series continues next month)



Health Tips

Beat the sneeze!

There are a wide range of medicines available to relieve the symptoms of colds and flu. Depending on your symptoms you can choose a painkiller. A decongestant to ease that blocked up feeling. You may want to consider a specific cold or flu product, which typically combine an analgesic with decongestant are available as syrups, powder or tablets.

Cold

We all know what the common symptoms of cold are; sneezing, followed by a runny nose and tickle at the back of the throat. How long a cold lasts, will depend on the virus you have caught and how good your immune system is at fighting it off. A cold will last from four days to two weeks. With severe colds, you may experience symptoms similar to flu which includes high fever, chills, lack of energy, aches and pains.

Flu

Flu is the abbreviated name for influenza and is a more serious condition than a cold. Both the elderly and sick are particularly susceptible and have greater difficulty fighting off the symptoms. The symptoms of flu usually start quite suddenly with a fever followed by shivering, headache and weak or aching muscles. The fever may last up to 3 days but other symptoms can last much longer. Often with flu you will experience similar symptoms as a cold, such as a dry cough, sore throat and runny nose.

Top Tips

Both colds and flu are caused by viruses, which only your immune system can fight off. Antibiotics are only suitable for treating bacterial infections, which may arise as a complication of your cold or flu. For the majority of viruses the best course of action is to treat the symptoms with a suitable over the counter medicine available in your local pharmacy. Our pharmacists are always there to advise you.

WHEN TO CALL YOUR DOCTOR

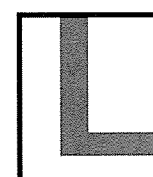
- If your temperature rises above 40°C, 104°F.
- If you have symptoms include chest pain or you become short on breath.
- If you cough up blood, yellow-green mucus or phlegm.

Top Tip

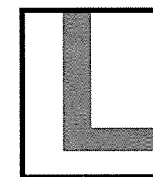
- Try to rest and your body recover.
- Drink plenty fluids to replace those lost.
- Eat light meals to maintain your strength.
- not to smoke and avoid smoke filled areas.

Have that Jab!

If you are in an at risk group, for example those with chronic heart disease, chronic respiratory disease, including Asthma, chronic renal disease or Diabetes arrange to have a flu jab in the Autumn.



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Clubs, Organisations and Societies

Maynooth Golf Society

Our outing to Moate Golf Club on the 19th October was for the Joe Murray Memorial Cup.

Results:

1st Overall	Gerry Reilly	42 pts
2nd	Michael Flynn (Jnr)	38 pts
3rd	John Tiernan	36 pts
4th	Norman Kavanagh	35 pts (B9)
5th	Mick Fahy	35 pts
6th	Tom Flatley	33 pts (B9)
7th	Gerry McTernan	33 pts
Front Nine	Barry Desmond	19 pts
Back Nine	Mick Flynn	17 pts
Visitors 1st	Martin Doyle	37 pts
2nd	Derek Murray	29 pts
Nearest The Pin	John Byrne	

Our next outing was the Vice-President's Prize (John Tiernan) to Millicent on Sunday 3rd November.

Results:

1st Overall	Kevin Loftus	39 pts
2nd	Barry Desmond	38 pts
3rd	Norman Kavanagh	34 pts (B9)
4th	Don Sullivan	34 pts (B6)
5th	Philip Doyle	34 pts (B3)
6th	Colm Loftus	34 pts
7th	Gerry Reilly	33 pts
Front Nine	Niall Byrne	20 pts
Back Nine	Barry Farrell	16 pts
Visitors	Eamon Murphy	31 pts
Nearest the Pin	Ray McTernan	
Twos Club	Niall Byrne	

Results Maynooth Golf Society Grand Draw which was held on November 9th 2002 (limited to 250 tickets).

1st	G. Harrington	#044
	Three Ball at the K Club	
2nd	John Walsh	#063
	Weekend for Two (value €300.00)	
3rd	Colm Feeney	#214
	Portable Television	
4th	Wendy Fay	#192
	Voucher for McGuirk's (value €100.00)	

Next outing for the Maynooth Senior Citizen Golf Classic is on November 30th in Carton Golf Club.



Derek Murray presenting the Joe Murray Cup to Gerry Reilly

NEWS - 4 - U

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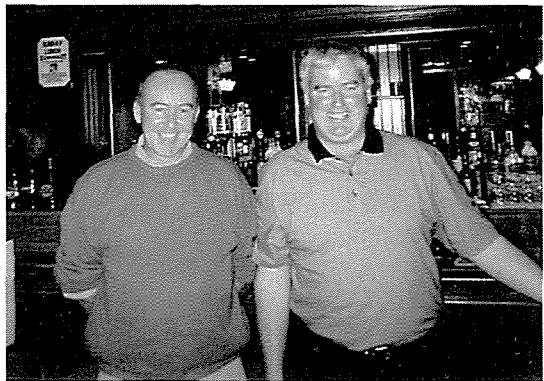
Wishing All Our Customers A
Very Happy Christmas

Clubs, Organisations and Societies

(Maynooth Golf Society News Contd.)



Gerry & Ann Reilly



John Tiernan & Kevin Loftus



Niall Byrne, Mick O'Rourke & John Tiernan



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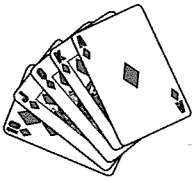
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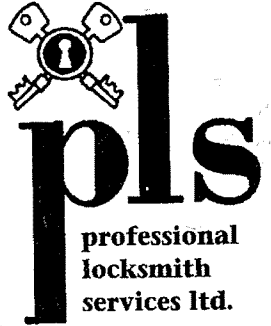
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Clubs, Organisations and Societies

Maynooth Tidy Towns

Maynooth Tidy Towns would like to thank everyone that contributed to the success we achieved in the National Tidy Towns Competition 2002.

There is a danger in naming individuals or organisations that helped us this year especially as the list in our case is very extensive. No doubt I will forget somebody and if so, it does not mean that your help was not appreciated.

Special thanks to people not involved in Tidy Towns that helped in our Annual Collection in June including Bernadette Duffy, Margaret Howe and Tom McMullon. The staff of Kildare County Council, Maynooth, without whose hard work we would not have been so successful this year. Local Kildare County Councillors and Dail Deputies for their ongoing support. Local Schools for their litter awareness and recycling initiatives and other support during the year.

Intel involved for their support in the sponsorship of the hanging baskets in Main Street as well as for the butterfly beds in Pound Park. To all the people who nurtured the flowers and allowed us to erect them on their premises, including the businesses that put out their own floral displays this year.

Credit here also to many of the residents of Convent Lane and Old Greenfield where hanging baskets were displayed this year. Eddie Tracy and the Library staff for the care of the planters outside the library. Special thanks to committee member Moira Baxter who co-ordinated the flower displays and watered them this year.

Thanks to Tom Flatley and the crew for their work with the Maynooth Environmental Group in the two Pound Parks as well as the invaluable work in enhancing Maynooth Harbour as an amenity area.

Residents Associations for their estate cleanups and maintenance which always helps the scoring. Maynooth Chamber of Commerce and the businesses in Maynooth who through their efforts to keep outside their premises litter free also helped. Maynooth Community Council for their ongoing support. St. Patrick's College and NUI Maynooth for maintaining a very high standard of care with their buildings and grounds and attractive new developments on their campuses.

Maynooth Action Strategy and the Carton Avenue Steering Committee for their success in achieving the funding for the Carton Avenue upgrade project. Maynooth Tidy Towns had maintained this area for almost ten years and we specially acknowledge the voluntary effort of Bob O'Reilly. We appreciate the work being done by Conor Mallaghan and the staff of Carton House Golf Club in their commitment to maintain this area in recent times. With the new enhancement plan due to be completed by year end it is essential that Kildare County Council implement a comprehensive management plan for this area.

Individual efforts such as Michael Gaffney and family for maintaining the verge outside Charter House and

Tommie Holmes at the entrance to Parklands Estate. Many others are working away without our knowledge of their names or efforts. Ronan and Jim Barry for their work in Pound Lane. The Smyth Family for their efforts outside Carton Avenue. The Downes family and Damien Farrell for their work with our awards ceremony and national tidy towns application respectively.

As regards sponsorship thanks to the Glenroyal Hotel for sponsoring our Best Estate and Shop Front Competitions and Gerry Mulcahy in Greenfield Shopping Centre for sponsoring our float in the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Tesco Ireland, Glenroyal and Greenfield Shopping Centre for allowing us to collect at their premises. Thanks also for the very high standard of upkeep being undertaken in these shopping centres. Joe Buckley, Brian Lanigan and Paddy Barton for assisting us with storage spaces.

Finally and by no means least our Chairman, Bob O'Reilly for his tireless voluntary effort. Every year he threatens to retire but come Spring he gets back into action. The committee itself undertook many tasks associated with our work and my own opinion is that there is no better a group that one can work with in Maynooth. Why not join us in 2003. Happy Christmas to you all.

Maynooth Tidy Towns Annual Awards 2002 Sponsored by the Glenroyal Hotel and Leisure Centre

Best Shop Front Competition 2002

Winner:	McCormack's Pharmacy
Runner Up:	Larine House
Most Improved:	Coonans Estate Agents

Small Estates Competition 2002

Winner:	Parsons Hall
Runner Up:	Parsons Lodge
Most Improved:	Cluain Aoibhinn

Large Estates Competition 2002

Winner:	Parklands
Runner Up:	Rockfield
Most Improved:	Moyglare Village/ Moyglare Abbey

Maynooth Person of the Year

Michael Gaffney

Paul Croghan
Secretary
Maynooth Tidy Towns

(Photographs elsewhere in this issue)

Clubs, Organisations and Societies

Maynooth Hillwalking Club

We had an unscheduled Moderate Hike on Sunday 18th. of October along the Dublin-Wicklow border in the mountain range between Glencullen and Glencree. Afterwards we had a brief stop for tea and scones in the Glencree Interpretative Centre. Worth a visit if you are passing some day. There is an exhibition on Ulster Politics.

Training progressed well during the month with revision exercises in the classroom followed by practical training in the mountains. This will continue for the next few months both with formal and opportune training during our hiking activities.

Our visit to the Cooleys had to be cancelled due to weather conditions. Instead on the Bank Holiday Monday a few of us went off for a trek through the mountains for a bit of exercise. The weather was much better. The underfoot conditions were surprisingly good.

On Sunday 10th November our visit to the mountains between Donard and Hollywood in West Wicklow for an easy hike went down very well. We had three new visitors on activity and covered a distance of 9 miles with an ascent of 1,200ft. Everybody was fit so we had an extension to the outing. Towards the end we visited the "Pipers Stone", a 2000 B.C. stone circle close to the Blessington-Baltinglass road. Our trip brought us into an area which had remains of housing which suffered the effects of the Famine in the 1840's and the area has remained unoccupied ever since.

Sunday December 1st. brings us back to Bull Island and Dollymount Strand for a brisk trek around the perimeter of the Island. The bird population should be at its maximum with our winter migratory feathered friends here on winter holidays. It is hoped to have an audio/visual show available before hand. Please note change in departure time from the front of the Glenroyal Leisure Centre at 10.00am. sharp. Own transport. Please note change in departure time from November edition. This has proven to be a very popular hike on previous occasions. A distance of 7 miles with no Ascent. We are at sea level throughout.

New Year's Day it is hoped to conduct an easy hike along the canal from Clonsilla to Maynooth. We will meet at the Railway Station, Maynooth from 12:15 and travel by train to Clonsilla. A group rail fare will apply for those arriving at least 15 minutes early.

For the next few months we will be restricted by reduced daylight. The majority of our activities will be close by. Activities conducted further afield will be restricted in length. Our next weekend activity will not take place until the end of February '03. We normally complete a weekend of hiking around this time of year to include a night hike in an area to be decided later. This activity is limited to club members.

Please note that weather conditions may restrict our activities. Itineraries are subject to change and anyone interested should check beforehand closer to the activity with one of the contact numbers below. Most of our Easy Hiking activities cover at least 8 miles with ascent of up to 1,000ft. In cases there would be less ascent we may have longer hikes. Anyone attending our outings can expect to be walking for up to 4 hours and at a reasonable brisk speed. Only attempt our outings if you are fit to maintain this speed and distance. If it is felt that a person would not be able to complete an activity, would delay an activity, or it is not properly equipped for the occasion, the activity leaders ruling on the matter will be final. Remember in the mountains in a lot of cases there are no quick exit routes back to the car or bus.

Mountain Safety Note:


Mountaineering and climbing are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Those attending activities shall be aware of and accept these risks and agree to be responsible for their own actions and involvement. Anyone on medication or with a medical complaint should inform the leader of the hike prior to leaving the agreed meeting point. If it is felt that the person should not take part on the activity they will be advised accordingly.

Keep an eye out in future editions for further information.

Our Club Telephone is : **086-3984172**

E-mail:- maynooth_hillwalking_club@yahoo.com

Web Page:-
www.geocities.com/maynooth_hillwalking_club



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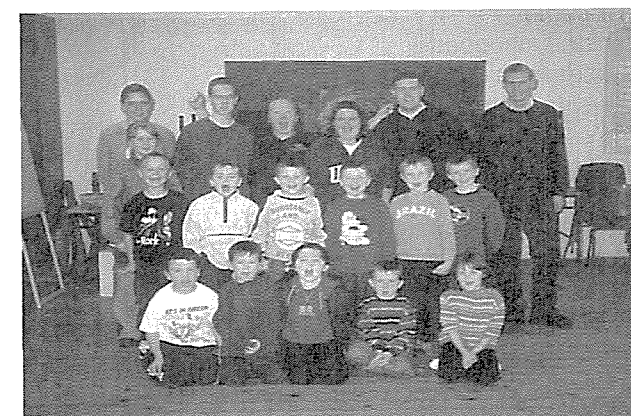
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Clubs, Organisations and Societies

Maynooth Boys Scouts

Beavers started on the 7th October in Maynooth. We are situated beside Maynooth Post Primary School. Boys and Girls between the ages of 6 to 8 are welcome. We start at 6.00pm to 7.15 pm on Monday nights. We have 11 Beavers and there are still places available for 5 children. After Christmas we hope to expand further. If you have any queries please contact Martina Perry at the scouts den on Monday nights between 6pm & 7.15.



We would like to welcome Paul Mescal, Keith Kelly, Niamh Murray, Ciaran Brown, Tony O'Neill, Peadar O'Murray, Michael Jones, Jonathan Flathery, Dylan O'Shea, Tadhg Ford, Robert Cooney.

Maynooth Mortality Society

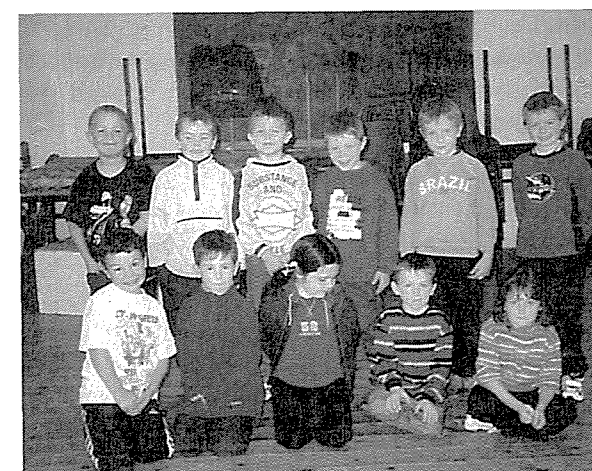
Members are reminded that Annual Subscriptions are now due. The society sits every Sunday morning in the band hall from 11.30am to 12.30. The committee wishes all members a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

P NOLAN Secretary
7 Castlebridge, Maynooth.

Maynooth Swim Club

Our second term has started and will continue until 21st December. Fees for this term are due on or before 30th November; and can be made payable to the bus supervisor any Saturday. We have two buses going to Stewarts every Saturday, where swimming lessons are given from 5 years upwards. Anyone wishing to join the club can contact Patricia Moynan or Mary Murray. We would like to wish all our members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Patricia Moynan 01 6286865.
Secretary Mary Murray 01 6244 256



Maynooth Host Town Special Olympics

We will be holding an Art Exhibition in the Library for the duration of the World Games in June 2003. We invite budding artists to submit a piece of their work for this exhibition. All amateurs, people with disability and art groups are welcome to contribute. For further information please contact; Carmel Buckley 01 6286171, Mary Fox 01 6289037.

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Dorin's Recipes

Roast Goose served with Caramelise Plums

Serves 6

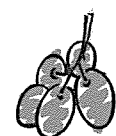
10 lb goose, thawed if frozen
2 1/2 lb potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks
1 lb carrots, peeled and cut into thick slices
2 medium onions, peeled and sliced
2 cloves garlic, peeled and left whole
Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper
A few sprigs of fresh sage, plus some for garnish

For the gravy:

Neck and gizzard of the goose
1 small onion, peeled and chopped
1 carrot, peeled and chopped
1 stick celery, chopped
4 tablespoons Madeira
3/4 pint good chicken stock
1 tablespoon redcurrant jelly
Corn flour or arrowroot paste, optional

For the plums:

4 tablespoons caster sugar
2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
6 plums, halved, stoned and quartered



Method:

Remove giblets, if any, from the goose. Set aside for the gravy. Prick goose skin all over, especially the fat gland under the wing. To get a crispy skin on the roast bird, it needs to be dry to start with. Leave the bird in a cool draught for a few hours or overnight, or if you have an oven with a defrost setting, put the goose in for 1-2 hours to help dry out the skin.

To prepare the potato stuffing:

Add the potatoes, carrots, onion slices and garlic cloves to a pan of boiling salted water and cook until the vegetables are just tender. Drain, then roughly mash them and season well. Set the oven to hot, Gas mark 7, 220c, 425f. Use the mashed vegetable mixture to stuff the cavity of the goose, adding a few sprigs of fresh sage. Tie the legs back up tightly, pulling in the parson's nose. Rub salt, about 2 teaspoons, into the goose skin, then put the bird on a rack in a large roasting tin. Cover the legs with foil. Roast for 20 minutes, then turn the temperature down to moderate, Gas mark 4, 180c, 350f. Roast for 2-2 1/2 hours. Do not baste the bird, but do remove the fat in the pan every hour. To do this safely, put the goose onto a tray, tip the fat from the roasting tin into a bowl, then put the goose back in the roasting tin. Put a piece of foil on top of the back if it starts to look as though its browning too much.

To make the gravy:

Fry the goose neck and gizzard in a little goose fat until they're browned all over. Add the chopped vegetables to the pan and let them brown. Add the Madeira, reduce by about half, then add the stock, bring to the boil and simmer for 30 minutes. Strain through a fine sieve, into a clean pan, skimming off any fat. Stir in the redcurrant jelly. Thicken with a cornflour or arrowroot paste if necessary.

To caramelise the plums:

Melt sugar in 2 tablespoons of water in a frying-pan over a low heat. Raise heat and cook until it caramelises. Take pan off heat, add the vinegar and 2 tablespoons water or stock and stir until caramel has re-melted. Add plum quarters and cook gently, turning them a couple of times until they're soft in a syrup-about 8 minutes. Cover and keep warm. Serve caramelised plums in a separate dish. Put the goose on a serving platter and scoop out some of the mash round it. Garnish with fresh sage.

Turkey Risotto

Serves 4

1 lb cooked turkey meat
2 oz butter
2 onions, chopped
1 tablespoon curry powder
1 level teaspoon mixed herbs
Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper
Dash garlic salt
8 oz Patana rice, or any other
1 chicken stock cube
3/4 pint water
1 oz stuffed olives, sliced
8 oz frozen or canned peas
Tomato quarters



Method:

Cut the meat into neat pieces. Melt the butter in a large sauce-pan, fry onion until transparent. Add curry powder, herbs, salt, pepper and garlic salt. Mix well and cook for 3 minutes. Add rice, mixing well. Mix stock cube in water, pour over rice, bring to the boil, cover and cook for 35 minutes or until the rice has absorbed all the liquid. Add the turkey and olives. Stir thoroughly and heat gently for 5 minutes. Arrange the risotto on a large platter, surround with cooked peas and garnish with tomato quarters.

Quick Cream of Turkey Soup

Serves 4

8 oz cooked turkey meat
1 oz butter
1 small onion, grated
1 rasher bacon
1 chicken stock cube
1 pint water
1/4 pint cream
1 tablespoon chopped parsley



Method:

Remove the turkey skin and cut flesh into neat pieces. Melt the butter, fry onion and bacon for 5 minutes. Add stock cube and water, bring to the boil and simmer for 10 minutes. Remove bacon and chop finely. Reserve for garnish. Add the turkey and bring back to the boil. Skim off excess fat. Add cream, stir gently, but do not boil. Pour soup into tureens, sprinkle top with chopped parsley and bacon pieces. Serve with French bread.

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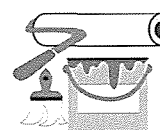
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Dorin's Recipes cont'd

Mince Pies

4 oz margarine
7 oz plain flour
1 oz cornflour
1 oz icing sugar
1/2 level teaspoon nutmeg
2 egg yolks
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1-2 tablespoons water
200g mincemeat



Method:

Sieve the flour, cornflour, icing sugar and nutmeg into a bowl. Cut the margarine into lumps and rub into flour until the mix resembles breadcrumbs. You can do this in a food processor. Mix together the egg yolks, lemon juice and water and add to the dry ingredients. Mix well to make a firm dough. Chill for half an hour then roll out pastry. Cut out twelve circles of pastry 3 inches in diameter and place in greased bun trays. Put a spoonful of mincemeat in each one. Wet pastry edges. Cut twelve smaller circles of pastry 2 1/2 inches in diameter and use to cover, pressing well together. Brush tops with beaten egg and pierce with a fork or knife. Bake for about 25-35 minutes in a hot oven 400f, 200c, Gas mark 6.

Mulled Wine

Makes about 1 1/2 pints
1/2 pint water (optional)
4 oz brown demerara sugar
4 whole cloves
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
2 lemons thinly sliced
1 bottle Burgundy or Claret
1 orange thinly sliced to decorate



Method:

Heat first four ingredients until sugar has dissolved, then bring to the boil. Add the lemon slices, stir and leave to stand for 10 minutes. Pour in wine. Heat, but do not boil. Strain through a sieve lined with kitchen paper, into a serving bowl and serve hot, decorated with orange slices.

Salmon and Dill Wheat Wafers

Slice 1 200g packet smoked salmon into 15 pieces. Ruffle each piece of salmon up on top of 15 wheat wafers or toasted blinis. Top with creme fraiche. 1 teaspoon per wafer or blini. Garnish with sprigs of dill. Season with a little freshly ground black pepper to taste.

Glazed Chicken Winglets

6 tablespoons soy sauce
4 tablespoons demerara sugar
1 tablespoon distilled vinegar
1 teaspoon garlic salt
12 chicken wings, tips removed



Method:

Combine the soy sauce, sugar, vinegar and garlic salt. Slash freshly part of wings with a sharp knife and place in a strong polythene bag with the soy sauce mixture. Seal bag and leave chicken to marinate 4-5 hours or overnight in refrigerator, turning occasionally. Place chicken wings on greased baking tray and cook in oven pre-heated to 375f, 190c, Gas mark 5, for about 35 minutes.

Cheese and Nut Balls

8 oz cream cheese
1/2 teaspoon oregano
1/2 teaspoon mixed herbs
1/2 teaspoon garlic salt
3 1/2 oz chopped almonds, toasted

Method:

Combine cheese with oregano, mixed herbs and garlic salt, mixing well. Form into bite-size balls and roll in toasted almonds to coat. Serve as canapés or as a first course on salad leaves, drizzled with lemon juice and olive oil. Makes about 16 balls.



Apricot Savouries

16 apricots
3 oz blue cheese
1-2 tablespoon cream
1/2 ground cinnamon

Method:

Slit apricot completely in half. Mix the cheese with enough cream to soften. Spoon or pipe mixture onto bottom of apricot halves and top with remaining apricots, sandwich style. Sprinkle with ground cinnamon. Makes 16 servings.



Gammon and Pineapple Skewers

Method:

Heat 1 tablespoon oil in a large frying pan; cook 12 oz gammon steak, cut into 1 inch chunks for 5 minutes, turning occasionally, until golden and cooked through. Add 1 tub fresh pineapple chunks, drained; cook for 2-3 minutes until pineapple is lightly coloured. Mix 3 tablespoon clear honey, 1 tablespoon wholegrain mustard and 2 tablespoon freshly chopped flat-leaf parsley; pour into the pan. Toss together. Stick a piece of hot gammon and pineapple onto 20 cocktail sticks; serve.

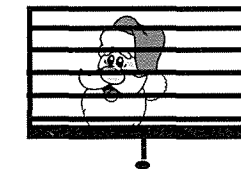
Sausages with Red Onions and Rosemary

Method:

Preheat oven to 190c, Fan 170c, Gas mark 5. Slice 2 medium red onions, trimmed and peeled into 20 wedges. Place in a baking tray with 20 cocktail sausages. Add 3 tbsp olive oil and 1 tbsp fresh rosemary leaves; toss together. Bake for 15-20 minutes until onions and sausages are softened and lightly charred in places. Stick sausages and onion wedges onto 20 cocktail sticks. Serve hot.



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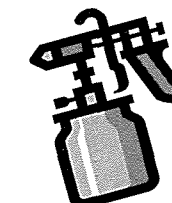
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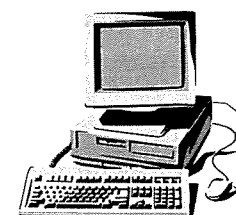
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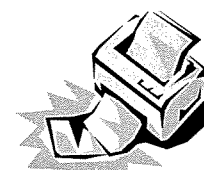
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Dorin's recipes cont'd

Apple Strudel

For the pastry:

10 oz flour
1 egg
2/3 oz castor sugar
1 pinch salt
2 oz butter or margarine
Lukewarm water

For the filling:

2 oz raisins
2 oz almonds
1 1/2 apples
3 tablespoons breadcrumbs
2 oz butter or margarine
Grated lemon peel
A few tablespoons jam
3 oz castor sugar

To finish: 2 oz butter or margarine, melted
A few tablespoons icing sugar

Method:

Sift the flour on a board, make a well in the centre and add the egg, sugar, salt, the butter or margarine, melted over very low heat with 1-2 tablespoons water, and enough lukewarm water to obtain a fairly soft dough. Work the dough quickly and vigorously, form into a ball, cover with a cloth and let stand for 30 minutes. Soak the raisins in lukewarm water for 20 minutes, drain and dry. Soak the almonds in boiling water for a few minutes, drain, peel and cut into thin slivers. Peel and core the apples and slice very finely. Sauté the breadcrumbs in half the butter or margarine until golden, then let them stand in the pan. Put the dough on a large floured cloth, roll out thinly with a floured rolling pin and spread it gently over the back of the hands, pulling and stretching it carefully until it is paper thin and transparent. Lay it out flat on the cloth, brush with the remaining butter or margarine, melted, and cover with the apple slices, raisin, almonds, breadcrumbs and lemon peel. Dot with spoonfuls of the jam and sugar, leaving a border of dough all around. Roll up the strudel using the cloth, being careful not to touch the dough with the hands, and press the edges together so that the filling does not come out during cooking. Still holding it by the cloth, put the strudel on a buttered baking sheet or a large buttered baking tin, brush with melted butter or margarine and bake in oven 180c, 350f, Gas mark 4, for 40-50 minutes. Remove from the oven and let stand for 10 minutes. Transfer to a serving dish and dust with icing sugar. The strudel can be served hot or cold.

Dauphine potatoes

Serves 6
2 lb floury potatoes
3 oz butter
3 eggs plus 3 egg yolks
Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper
Freshly grated nutmeg
Oil for deep frying



Choux pastry

8 fl oz water
3 oz butter
Pinch of salt
4 1/2 oz plain flour, sifted
4 eggs

Method:

Wash the potatoes and cook in their jackets in boiling water. While they are cooking, prepare the choux pastry. Place the water, butter and salt in a saucepan. Allow the butter to melt then bring quickly to the boil. Toss in the flour all at once and beat rapidly with a wooden spoon to obtain a smooth even paste. Continue cooking over a gentle heat, stirring constantly to dry out the paste. Remove from the heat as soon as it leaves the sides of the pan clean. Let it stand for a few moments, then add the first egg. Beat well together and add separately the 3 remaining eggs, beating well each time. Peel the potatoes and mash or sieve them. Place this puree in a saucepan and dry out over a gentle heat, stirring with a wooden spoon. Mix in the butter, then the 3 whole eggs and the 3 yolks, one by one. Mix this puree with the choux paste. Season with salt, pepper and freshly grated nutmeg. Leave to cool. Form into small balls and toss into the heated frying oil. Drain the dauphine potatoes on absorbent paper as soon as they are cooked through and golden.

Juniper and Apple Cabbage

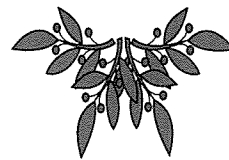
Serves 6
1/2 savoy cabbage, shredded
2 oz butter
2 apples, cored and thinly sliced
2 tbsp juniper berries, lightly crushed
1/2 small red cabbage, shredded
3 tbsp red wine vinegar

Method:

Cook savoy cabbage in boiling water for 5 minutes. Drain; set aside. Heat the butter in large frying pan; cook the apples over a medium heat for 5 minutes until softened. Add the juniper berries; stir through; season. Remove from the pan using a slotted spoon; set aside with the cabbage. Add the red cabbage to the pan juices; stir-fry for 5 minutes. Add vinegar and 5 tbsp water. Cover; simmer for 10 minutes. Add the Savoy cabbage, apples and berries to the pan. Cover; cook for a further 5 minutes. Gently toss together. Serve in a warmed serving dish.

Brussels Sprouts with Chestnuts

Peel 1 lb chestnuts, put in cold salted water with 1 bay leaf, bring to the boil and cook for about 3/4 hour. Meanwhile cook 2 lb fresh or frozen sprouts. In a pan melt 3 oz butter or margarine, add the chestnuts and sprouts, well drained. Season with sea salt and freshly ground black pepper, cook slowly until the sprouts and chestnuts are heated through. Transfer to a warm serving dish, serve immediately.



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Features

Whats in a Name

Readers were recently asked to name the new building at the Harbour. How did other Maynooth names originate?

Ashleigh, Beaufield, Brookfield, Carton Court, Castlebridge, Castle Dawson, Charter House, Cluain Aoibhinn, College Green, Glenroyal, Greenfield, Kingsbry, Laurence Avenue, Leinster —, Lyreen Park, Manor Court, Maynooth Park, Meadowbrook, Moyglare, Nagle Court, Newtown —, Old Greenfield, O'Neill Park, Parklands, Parson —, Railpark, Rockfield, Silken Vale, Straffan Way, Woodlands. What a mixture of names for a heritage town.

In the 12th century Henry the second of England became Lord of Ireland. His rule was over all of Ireland but in practice his rule extended over an area adjacent to Dublin called the Pale. *Maynooth* marked the west end of the Pale. *Maynooth Castle* was begun shortly afterwards where the Slade and *Lyreen* rivers meet. The great Anglo Norman family the Fitzgeralds, who were *Kings' Deputy* in Ireland and later Earls of Kildare and Dukes of *Leinster* lived there. One of them, *Silken Thomas* as he was known, was executed at the Tower of London. Later the Fitzgerald family lived at *Carton House* at the other end of Main Street. The inscription on the castle refers to the *Manor of Maynooth*. So now we can see where some of the place names come from: Carton Court, Kingsbry, Leinster —, Lyreen, Manor Court and Silken Vale. Slade still awaits commemoration. Moyglare and Newtown are very old names for their respective areas.

There has been a church near the castle for more than 700 years. *Parsons* — are aptly called. The spire of Saint Patrick's *College* can be seen for miles around. It was built to honour the first 100 years of the college. *Charter House* stands where the Charter School of Maynooth was for a hundred years. *Nagle Court* honours Nano Nagle - the foundress of the Presentation Order.

There are many estates which are named the lazy way. They are purely descriptive - they may sound rural in the initial advertisements at the time of building. They convey nothing about the place and would be equally applicable in most rural areas for example Beaufield, Cluain Aoibhinn, (which roughly translated means Beaufield), Greenfield, Old Greenfield, Parklands, Rockfield. Brookfield and Meadowbrook don't mention which brook.

The *Railway* give Rail Park and Castlebridge. The bridge has no connection with the castle despite what its name might imply. Glenroyal is beside the *Royal* canal. But what about the *Glen* bit? Another name to think about is College Green. Who are Dawson, O'Neill or Laurence? What about Ashleigh? Of course there is no such question about Straffan Way or Maynooth Park. What do you think new estates in Maynooth should be called? Should the names be for purely commercial reasons?

Talk about it over Christmas!

Caring for Granny and Grandad

To the young, old people seem ancient. When one begins to grow old, you can see how quickly time passes. Extra care and respect should be tendered towards the elderly who are wearing on in years. They need just as much care and attention as if they were tender babies once again in their mothers' arms. There are so many areas to take into consideration in the caring of the disabled, elderly and sick people. Unfortunately, the day is gone when grandparents would be still living with the family, as most of their daughters and daughters-in-law are now working; and most grandparents are placed in a Nursing Home. The children of to-day will also miss this lovely experience of growing up in the presence of a loving grandparent, and hearing all the folklore of long ago. Perhaps if more allowances were given by Health Boards, carers could avail of more equipment required in the caring of their loved ones in their homes.



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Features

NIGERIA AND CHRISTMAS IN NIGERIA

Nigeria is an African Country – West Africa and has a population of one hundred and twenty-nine million, Nine hundred and thirty-four thousand, Nine hundred and eleven people and the capital was officially transferred from Lagos to Abuja on 12 December, 1991.

Nigeria is the most populous country, is composed of more than 250 ethnic groups; the following are the populous and politically influential: Hausa and Fulani 29%, Yoruba 21%, Igbo(Ibo) 18%, Ijaw 10%, Kanuri 4%, Ibibio 35%, Tiv 2.5%.

There are 50%, Christian 40% indigenous belief 10%.

The main languages are- English (official),

Hausa, Yoruba, Igbo (Ibo), Fulani.

Nigeria is made of big cities as well as towns and villages.

Christmas in Nigeria is a very "colourful" joyful and happy one.. There are a lot of celebrations in every part of Nigeria. People wear colourful, beautiful, well-tailored Nigerian dress or "attire". Some of the Favourite colours that are mostly worn are blue, browns, white, green, orange red, yellow etc.

People also put on or "wear" Nigerian beautiful woven and properly dyed clothes of various colours. A week prior to Christmas a lot preparation are made by people going to the "big" markets to purchase, bags of rice, beans, plenty of meat, chicken and ingredients for African –Nigerian "soup" and stew with a lot of hot spices and seasoning.

People start making preparation by doing a lot of cooking on the 24th of December to 25th December. The Christians go to various churches i.e. The Catholics to mass in the Catholics churches, the Anglicans to Anglican Churches, The Protestants etc. The Moslems also celebrate and are happy on Christmas day by respecting the Christian's festive moods.

A lot of gifts such as wines, clothes, well-prepared food, chocolates, sweets, money, well-designed Christmas cards –both religious and well-worded special cards are sent to family, friends and well-wishers both at home and abroad.

At Christmas, a lot of families who have grudges or disagreements during the year on issues would get together before celebration. This also applies to a lot of friends who had disagreed and who were not on talking terms during the year. It is also a good period in Nigeria for some people to settle their disputes. If there is any.

During Christmas, there are a lot of parties and the poor are also cater for the by the rich. Food is shared among the poor even if one does not know them.

Since, Nigeria is an African Country with the bordering of the Gulf of Guinea, Republic of Benin, Cameroon, Chad, Niger, Equatorial Guinea, etc people from these countries fly in or travel in also to celebrate

Christmas because of the inter-marriages as well.

Christmas is a joyful, enjoyable, happy period in Nigeria.

Happy and merry Christmas.

Emmanuel Ali.
Sixth Class
St Mary Boys National School
Maynooth.

St. Flannan

Flannan (Seventh Century) was a prince of the Dál gCais in modern Country Clare. After much missionary work in the Hebrides, he was ordained bishop of his native diocese of Kildare by Pope John IV in 640 and is its patron saint. He was famous for managing to recite the entire Psalter (Psalms) each day in spite of all his labours. **His feast day is 18 December.**

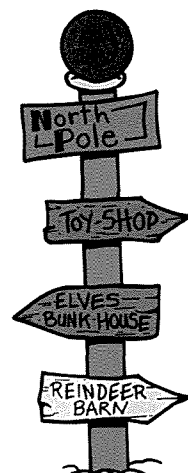
Bláith aka Flora

Bláith aka flora (d. 523) the Latin form of the Irish for flower.

Bláthe was a lay sister, working as the cook at St Brigid's convent in Kildare.

She was also known for her exemplary sanctity. **Her feast day is 29 January.**

VICTORIA ALI
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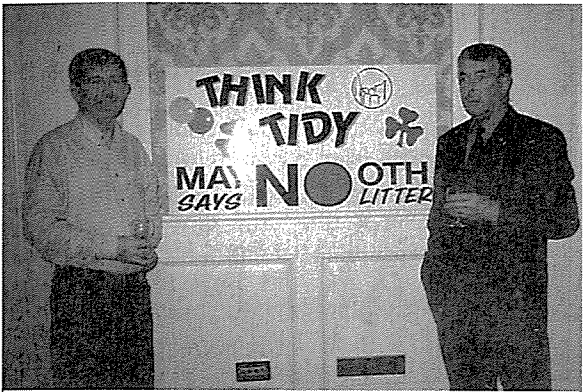
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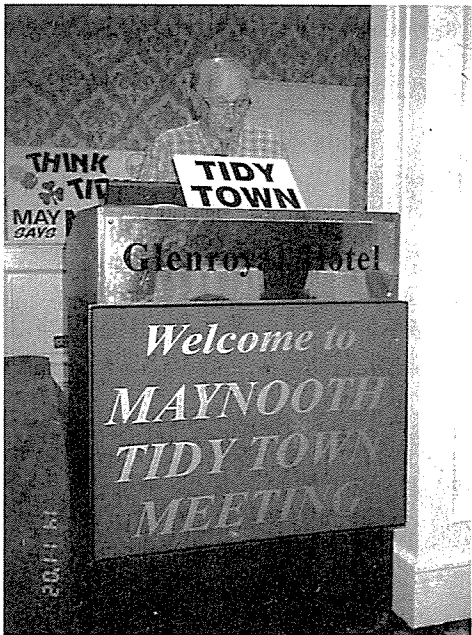
Tidy Town Awards 2002



Paul Croghan and Mattie Callaghan



Rita Edwards and Paul Croghan



Chairman Bob O'Reilly



Mr. Michael Gaffney receiving the award for The Maynooth Tidy Towns "Person of the Year 2002" from Mr. Ray Grehan, Managing Director Glenroyal Hotel



Maynooth Tidy Towns receiving the Annual Awards from Cllr. Jim Reilly, Mayor of Kildare. Mattie Callaghan, Cllr. Jim Reilly and Bob O'Reilly



Mary Jennings and Richard Farrell

1952 - 2002: Golden Jubilee of Maynooth I.C.A.



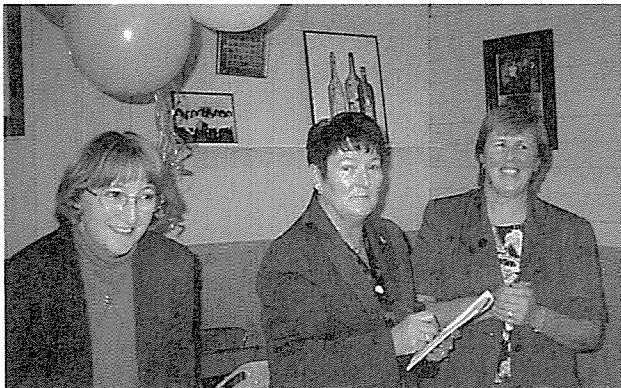
Back L-R: Madeline Stynes, Helen Doyle, Mary Holton, Helen Finn, Viva Kearns, Mairead Scanlon, Rosemary Hanley, Bernie King, Margaret Houlihan, Angela Galligan, Marian O'Donnell, Mary McNamara, Jo O'Connell, Grainne Kelly. Front L-R: Maeve Moloney, Eileen Flynn, Norah McDermott, Imelda Delaney, Betty Farrell, Teresa Brennan, Patricia Kealy, Teresa Corcoran



Helen Doyle, Norah McDermott, Eilish O'Malley & Madeline Stynes discussing their schooldays in the Convent together



Presentation to Eilish for her Remembrance Service Mary McNamara, Eilish O'Malley, Margaret Houlihan, Jo O'Connell & Grainne Kelly



Grainne Kelly (Treasurer), Jo O'Connell (Secretary) & Mary McNamara (President)

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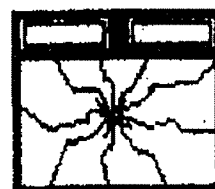
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- 2 500 R N D _____
- 3 C 22 by J H _____
- 4 B to S 1 _____
- 5 W S W 3 M A _____
- 6 1956 to S C _____
- 7 2 3 5 7 F 4 P N _____
- 8 G is 1 PC I and 99 PC P _____
- 9 3 L M F S A W _____
- 10 20 B ag F (Gaeilge) _____
- 11 9 P in the S S _____
- 12 20 N on a D B _____
- 13 1759 AGF the GB _____
- 14 A-S-2-B _____
- 15 GRC the 3D _____
- 16 4PC on MR _____
- 17 6 P on an IHT _____
- 18 24 L in the GA _____
- 19 50 Y G J _____
- 20 A the W in 80 D _____
- 21 5C in C _____
- 22 1849 the CGR _____
- 23 54321 LO _____
- 24 3 U P is an A in G _____
- 25 AAP the 3M _____
- 26 130785 LA _____
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- 28 RRW the GN 3 T _____
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- 31 30 QBT _____
- 32 EBF5 _____

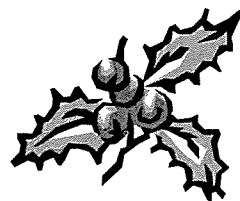
Clubs, Organisations and Societies

Maynooth Irish Countrywomen's Association

Caoga bliain

The Maynooth guild of the Irish Countrywomen's Association met at the ICA hall Maynooth Harbour. We were delighted to welcome parish priest Monsignor Alex Stenson to the ecumenical remembrance prayer service, organised for the Golden Jubilee of the guild, by Ellis O'Malley. The rector, who was unfortunately unable to attend, sent his good wishes. Thank you to Ellis who gave a thoughtful resume of events in the life of women of Maynooth over the past fifty years. A special tea party followed the service. Then all posed for some commemorative photographs. Former and prospective members, who would like to join us at a Christmas party in December in the Straffan Court Hotel, are invited to contact Mary (6290929). Our group visit to the majestic Croke Park complex was entertaining and educational. Yoga classes and badminton will ensure pre-Christmas fitness. The *Maynooth Newsletter* team was complimented on dedicating their golden November cover to the Golden Jubilee of the guild. Congratulations to all involved with the *Newsletter* on this, their 300th issue. We wish you a blessed, peaceful and joyous Christmas and fourth year of the third millennium.



Maeve Moloney, P.R.O.



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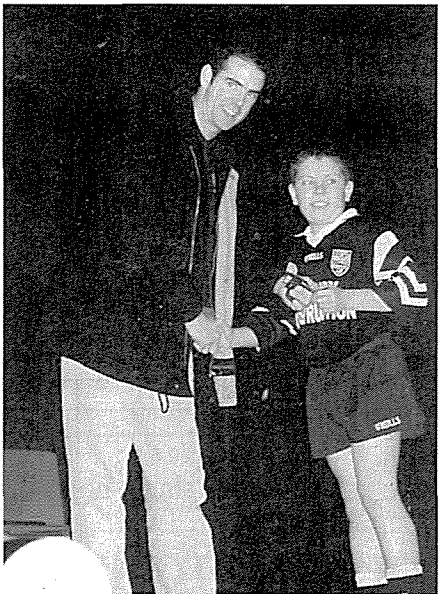
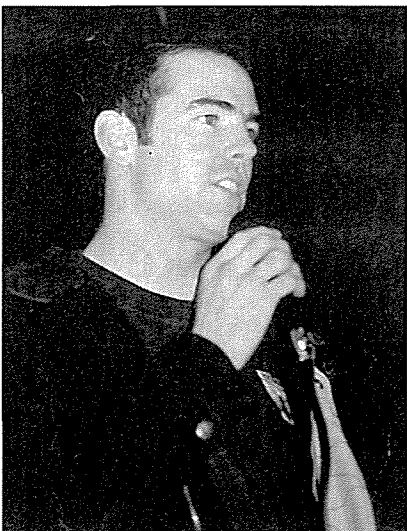
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Features

Maynooth Boys National School

Presentation

Kildare Senior Footballer Dermot Earley presented medals to Maynooth Boys National School victorious under 11 team. The presentation was made in the Parish Hall where teachers, parents and fellow pupils were present. It was a proud day for the school. All 24 players received medals and Dermot Earley presented the cup to team captain, Daragh Dunning.





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Sport



Maynooth Town F. C. Notes

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Christmas Soccer Teaser

Name 5 teams that have played in the English league with an X in their name.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____
4. _____ 5. _____

Name 20 England Players since 1966 with only 4 letters in their Surname.
(First and Surname, e.g. Michael Owen)

Give 20 different last names of English Football League Clubs (eg United) (you can't count one word teams like Arsenal)

Name 5 clubs in the English and 5 clubs in the Scottish Leagues with the same first and last letter in

their name (eg Celtic)

English
Scottish

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**SEASONS GREETINGS
TO ALL OUR MEMBERS & SUPPORTERS
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Maynooth Town F. C. Weekly Lotto Results Sponsored by Caulfields Lounge Maynooth

Date	Numbers	Jackpot	3 x €35 Winners		
13-Oct-02	7,8,9,28	€2,950	NUALA GEOGHAN	LENNY MURPHY	JOHN LOWE
20-Oct-02	12,15,23,24	€3,025	DUARTE	JOHN FAGAN	GERRY Mc TEIRNAN
27-Oct-02	14,19,24,27	€3,100	MICK LYNE	NOEL DEMPSEY	BIG MAC
3-Nov-02	4,11,12,13	€3,175	ANDREW Mc MULLON	JUNE HALLIWELL	MARK CASSELLS

Book Review

Wild Justice - Phillip M. Margolan.

Phillip M. Margolan is one of the best thriller writers of today. He has not written many books, *Wild Justice* being his 7th, but each one a gem. *Wild Justice* opens in a small airport with Dr. Clifford Grant, waiting to make a delivery, on the black market of one human heart, to Martin Breach one of the big names in Organised Crime. But things go wrong, and Grant panics when the police arrive, and he escapes with both the heart and the money. Grant goes to his silent partner, hoping for some help, but the partner knows that Martin Breach does not like unfinished business, and knows that in order to survive, he has to kill Grant, so nothing can be traced to him.

Grant's body is discovered with nine others, and the chief suspect is Dr. Vincent Cardoni, whom the police think was Grant's secret partner. Cardoni claims he is innocent and has been set up by his wife Justine, with whom he is in the middle of a bitter divorce.

Cardoni is released on a technicality and disappears, and the police think that Martin Breach was involved. Four years later a similar gruesome discovering is made and this time it is Justine Cardoni who is the chief suspect and this time it is Vincent Cardoni who is doing the setting up.

The twist in this story is one of the best I read in a long time, and how far from the end are you, before you can figure out, who the killer is?.

Local History Review 2002

Do you know the story of how a county Kildare man, was one of the first people to get to the South Pole? do you know that the first bishop of New York was the son of a shopkeeper in Creggs county Galway? These and other interesting stories are in *Local History Review 2002*; a comprehensive review of the recent work of local history societies, including Maynooth.

Well-known local historians contribute articles. It is the ideal Christmas reading to get for, or to give to local history enthusiasts. *Local History Review 2002* gives lists of local history books published recently. You will probably find a book about your own county, because most counties are included. *Local History Review 2002*; a treasure trove of information (including websites) about who to contact for the story of your own place, is available in local bookshops. *Local History Review 2002* tells you of interesting historical sites to visit on your travels in Ireland. The hon. editor is Maeve Moloney, whose book *Nineteenth-century elementary education in the archdiocese of Tuam* was published recently in the Maynooth Studies in Local History series.

Maeve Moloney

NEW BUSINESS

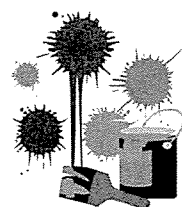
Griffin Doyle Interiors

Griffin Doyle interiors was set up by Garry Doyle and Stephen Griffin in April 2002 in Ashbourne Co. Meath. Garry has spent over 20 years working with fabrics and also worked as Branch Manager for Kirsch in Toronto. Kirsch are one of the biggest suppliers of drapery hardware in the world. Stephen has spent the last 12 years working in sales and has acquired a diploma in Interior Design. Although GDI has only be in existence for just under a year they are already making a name for themselves due to their attention to Quality and Customer Service.

As in Ashbourne Garry and Stephen noticed a lack of curtain and curtain and carpet service in Maynooth and are committed to filling that gap with their own style of customer relations. The new showroom is located just off the main street (upstairs opposite Donnatello's restaurant) and offers the best selection of fabrics in the area. All sales and installations are done by Stephan and Garry themselves thereby ensuring a quality service and keeping costs very competitive. Their aim is to make the name Griffin Doyle Interiors synonymous with best value curtain and carpet service available.

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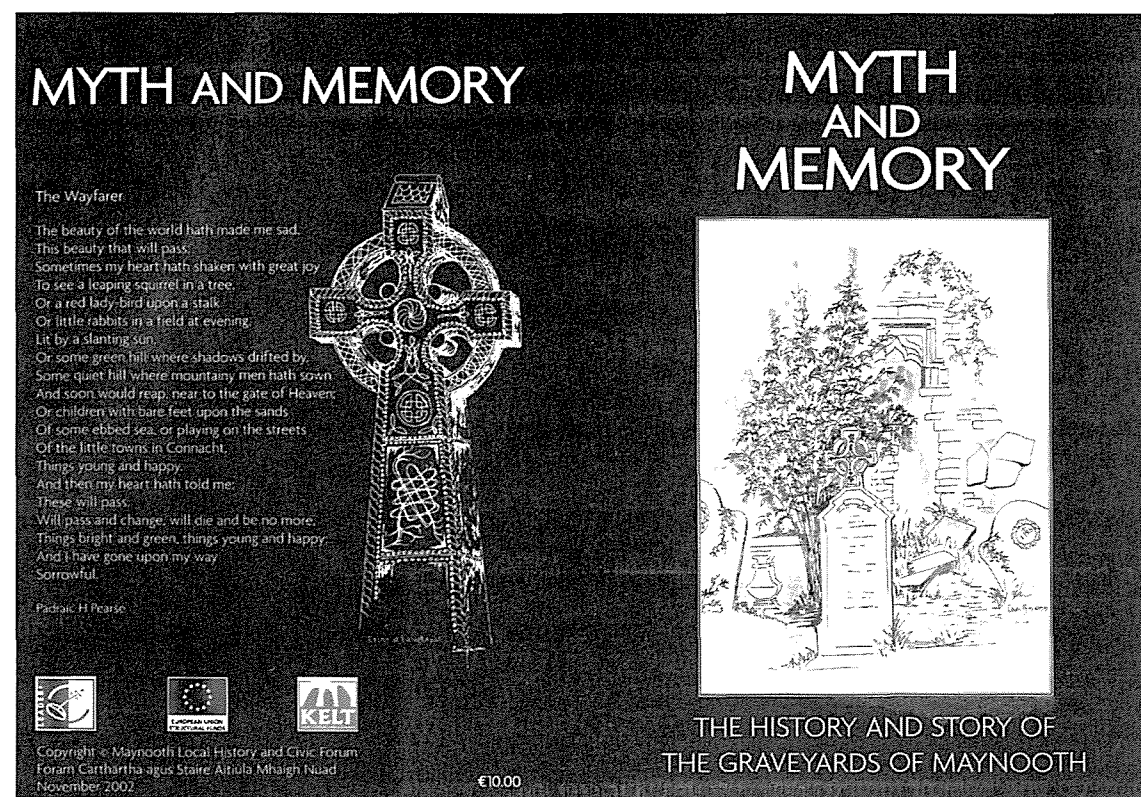
"Customer Service is Our Passion"

Christmas Message from Monsignor Stenson

Christmas Reflection

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, says the Lord God, the one who is, and who is to come" (Rev1:8). It is always a pleasure being invited by the Editor to provide a Christmas Message for the Maynooth Newsletter. Each Christmas time we recall that some two thousand years ago a loving God took on human flesh in the person of Jesus Christ and lived among us. "God so loved the World that he gave us his only Son....and the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us" (Jn.1:14-16). A short thirty years later this Jesus was crucified on Calvary, apparently a dismal failure. His glorious resurrection three days later changed everything for those early disciples, so convinced were they that he was alive and risen. So too for us his disciples of today, who remember that Christ did once die and yet also remain convinced that he is risen and in our midst: "where two or three are gathered, there am I in the midst of them," "whatever you do to one of these....you do to me": "I was hungry and you gave me food....." Yes, Christ *has* died and Christ *is* risen —but that is not all. *Christ will come again!* This final victorious and glorious chapter yet remains to unfold. This promised second coming of Christ our Saviour remains our joyful and expectant hope. So Christmas is not so much about finding Jesus in a crib many centuries old. Rather it is about finding him alive today all around us, particularly in the poor and lonely, the oppressed and marginalised. The good news is that the Christ who first came to us in **History** at Bethlehem, whom we meet today in **Mystery** in each other and in our worship, will come again in **Victory** at a time unknown. "Yes, I am coming soon. Come Lord Jesus___Maranatha, Amen" (Rev.22:20)." **Monsignor Alex Stenson, P.P. Christmas 2002**

MYTH AND MEMORY



A 'wayfarer' is one who travels and in a sense we are all travellers journeying through life trying to make sense of the human experience. In this connection, Maynooth Local History and Civic Forum are pleased to announce that our book entitled 'Myth and Memory - the history and story of the Graveyards of Maynooth' is now available in local bookshops and other retail outlets in the town. This, our third publication, in addition to giving an insight into how our ancestors made sense of their world in both pre-Christian and Christian times, also examines ancient customs and folklore connected with death, wakes and burial in Maynooth, in County Kildare and throughout the rest of the country. At € 10, it would make an excellent Christmas present for family and friends, both at home and abroad.

Features

Snow-Flakes

There is snow in yonder cold gray sky of the morning! - and, through the partially frosted window-panes, I love to watch the gradual beginning of the storm. A few feathery flakes are scattered widely through the air, and hover downward with uncertain flight, now almost alighting on the earth, now whirled again aloft into remove regions of the atmosphere. These are not the bit flakes, heavy with moisture, which melt as they touch the ground, and are portentous of soaking rain. It is to be, in good earnest, a wintry storm. The two or three people visible on the side-walks have an aspect of endurance, a blue-nosed, frosty fortitude, which is evidently assumed in anticipation of a comfortless and blustering day. By nightfall, or at least before the sun sheds another glimmering smile upon us, the street and our little garden will be heaped with mountain snow-drifts. The soil, already frozen for weeks past, is prepared to sustain whatever burthen may be laid upon it; and, to a northern eye, the landscape will lose its melancholy bleakness and acquire a beauty of its own, when Mother Earth, like her children, shall have put on the fleecy garb of her winter's wear. The cloud spirits are slowly weaving her white mantle. As yet, indeed, there is barely a rime like hoar-frost over the brown surface of the street; the withered green of the grass plot is still discernible; and the slated roofs of the houses do but begin to look gray, instead of black. All the snow that has as yet fallen within the circumference of my view, were it heaped up together, would hardly equal the hillock of a grave. Thus gradually, by silent and stealthy influences, are great changes wrought. These little snow particles, which the storm-spirit flings by handfuls through the air, will bury the great earth under their accumulated mass, nor permit her to behold her sister sky again for dreary months. We, likewise, shall lose sight of our Mother's familiar visage, and must content ourselves with looking heavenward the oftener. Now we look forth again, and see how much of his task the storm-spirit has done. Slow and sure! He has the day, perchance the week, before him, and may take his own time to accomplish Nature's burial in snow. A smooth mantle is scarcely yet thrown over the withered grass plot, and the dry stalks of annuals still thrust themselves through the white surface in all parts of the garden. The leafless rose-bushes stand shivering in a shallow snow-drift, looking, poor things! as disconsolate as if they possessed a human consciousness of the dreary scene. This is a sad time for the shrubs that do not perish with the summer; they neither live nor die; what they retain of life seems but the chilling sense of death. Very said are the flower-shrubs in mid-winter! The roofs of the houses are now all white, save where the eddy wind has kept them bare at the bleak corners. To discern the real intensity of the storm, we must fix upon some distant object-as yonder spire-and observe how the riotous gust fights with the descending snow

throughout the intervening space. Sometimes the entire prospect is obscured; then, again, we have a distinct but transient glimpse of the tall steeple, like a giant's ghost; and now the dense wreaths sweep between, as if demons were flinging snow-drifts as each other, in mid-air. Look next into the street, where we have an amusing parallel to the combat of those fancied demons in the upper regions. It is a snow-battle of schoolboys. What a pretty satire on war and military glory might be written, in the form of a child's story, by describing the snow-ball fights of two rival schools, the alternate defeats and victories of each, and the final triumph of one party, or perhaps neither. What pitched battles, worthy to be chanted in Homeric strains! What storming of fortresses, built all of massive snow-blocks! What feats of individual prowess, and embodied onsets of martial enthusiasm! An when some well-contested and decisive victory had put a period to the war, both armies should unite to build a lofty monument of snow upon the battlefield, and crown it with the victor's statue, hewn of the same frozen marble. In a few days or weeks thereafter, the passer-by would observe a shapeless mound upon the level common; and, unmindful of the famous victory, would ask: "How came it there? Who reared it? And what means it?" The shattered pedestal of many a battle monument has provoked these questions, when none could answer.

Nathaniel Hawthorne, Tales.

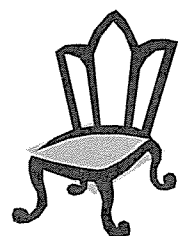
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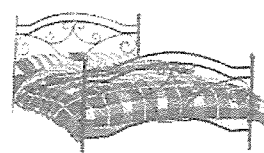
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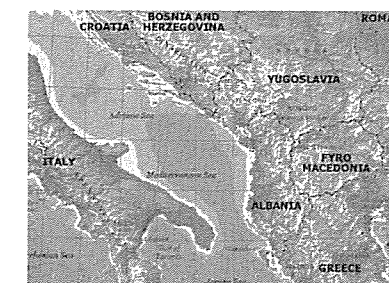
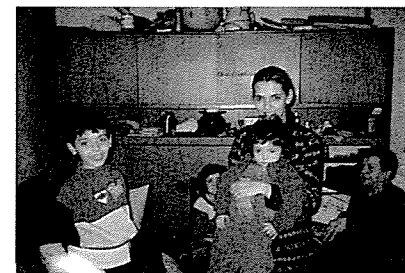
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Merry Christmas to all our Customers & Staff

Features

Christmas Appeal for Kosovo and Macedonia

Three years ago this December, I offered to do a favour for a friend. Little did I realise, however, how much such a simple decision would change my life.



In December 1999, I made my first visit to Macedonia and Kosovo. I travelled simply to oblige a friend who was involved in aid work in the troubled region, but soon realised that this would not be a once-off trip. Thus began my love-affair with these lands and their people. I have been back seven times since.

Macedonia is a land ravaged by unemployment and the lack of any decent social welfare system. Thousands of people have no work and, with no money coming into their homes, lack the essentials to simply live. For huge numbers of people, meat is a luxury that is enjoyed once a year. Those who are sick must first be able to pay for hospital care before they are admitted. Lacking the necessary money, many die suffering from the most treatable of conditions such as appendicitis.

More and more families cannot afford to pay rent for the most modest of flats and are obliged to live in the streets. Fr. Mato Jakovic, who works with the poorest people of Skopje (The Macedonian capital), relies solely on our contributions to feed, clothe and house his people. One particular family, whom I have had the privilege of getting to know, typify the problems faced by Macedonians today. Daniella and Jordan, a young couple with three children, were evicted from their flat because they could no longer afford to pay rent. Both were unemployed and had no income. They were subsequently forced to live for nine months in a tiny canvas tent outside an apartment block. Placing the children and Daniella's mother, Ratka, inside the tent, Daniella and Jordan slept outside in the snow with just a blanket covering them. Daniella was pregnant at the time, and the Macedonian winter reaches -30°C! Because of money raised here in Ireland, Fr. Mato was able to afford to help Daniella and Jordan to pay for rent and electricity in a new flat. When I visited the couple and commented on how good the young priest was to them, Daniella replied 'Yes, he is our Jesus Christ!'

The *Kosovo Appeal Fund* was set up in December 1999 to help people such as Daniella and Jordan in both Kosovo and Macedonia. All donations are used for the purposes of buying and distributing food parcels containing the most essential foodstuffs, the purchase of fuel for families during the harsh winter, the provision of clothes and shoes for children and the purchase of schoolbooks. In addition, those requiring medical treatment and operations are funded where possible.

Every cent that is donated goes directly to where it is needed most with no deduction for administration or overhead costs of any kind.

Please help make Christmas this year for the families of Macedonia and Kosovo.

Thank you.

Salvador Ryan.

Kosovo Appeal Fund

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Or directly to: Salvador Ryan, 9 Beaufield Crescent, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.

All cheques or drafts should be made payable to the *Kosovo Appeal Fund*

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Features

Violence Against Women

Domestic Violence, Rape, Sexual Assault, Harassment/Stalking.

Introduction

In most cases women are the victims of these shattering crimes. But it is not only women who suffer from these crimes. And these are not the only types of violence that can be experienced.

Women may be victimised simply because their property is seen as more vulnerable due to individual life styles and perceived lesser physical strength. Basically we can divide violence against women into attacks which are physically, sexually, or property oriented. To put this into context it is important to realise that in Ireland crimes involving physical violence of any kind are amongst the lowest in Europe.

No matter who you are, if you are subjected to violence of any kind you should contact the Gardai for immediate help and advice. An Garda Síochána is committed to a proactive policy in relation to protection through law enforcement.

What is Domestic Violence?

"Domestic Violence" is the physical, sexual, emotional or mental abuse of one partner by the other partner in a relationship which may or may not be one of the marriage or cohabitation and includes abuse by any family member against whom a safety order or a barring order may be obtained by another family member.

Who Commits Domestic Violence?

As a general rule it is a husband or partner who commit this shattering crime against women. To the public, he may appear to be a warm loving person and a law-abiding citizen. Often he will absolutely refuse to accept that he is the person responsible for his destructive behaviour. In fact, he may believe that his abusive behaviour is justified.

The three phases of Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence tends to follow three phases

- A Tension Building phase
- An Acute Battering phase
- Reconciliation phase

It is important to remember that once violence has begun, it not only continues, but also over time increases in both frequency and severity. As the violence continues, the three-phase cycle begins to change for the worst the tension building phase becomes shorter and more intense the acute battering incidents become more frequent and severe and the reconciliation periods become far shorter.

If You Are a Subject of Domestic Violence

It is important for you to know that no one has the right to assault you. You can stop it immediately by getting

help and support from the Gardai and other service providers.

If you suffer from domestic violence Gardai will give you immediate protection and advice. If you choose, a female Garda can be available to help and support you throughout your traumatic experience. The Gardai can also put you in contact with other organisations that can give you counselling, advice or refuge.

The Gardai can also advise you on agencies that can support and counsel you in seeking a Protection/Barring Order from the District Court. If you are not married and are the subject of violence by your partner you can still apply for a Court Order to prevent further abuse.

Remember - The Decision Is Yours

If you have been subjected to domestic violence, you should have no hesitation at all about reporting it to the Gardai. Remember that the priority is to look after YOU. A decision about applying for a Court Order comes later - AND THAT DECISION IS YOURS!

Always get the medical attention you need after an attack. It is best to tell the doctors and nurses exactly what happened to you, so that they can record it carefully.

Save All The Evidence You Can

Women who are subjected to family violence often feel isolated, vulnerable and afraid. Where possible, you should save all evidence of the attack, because once you are out of physical danger you will be in a better position to consider the legal options open to you, options which can, in some cases, lead to arrest and prosecution.

What is Rape?

Any attack against your person without your consent should be reported to the Gardai who will then judge the degree of the alleged reported offence.

The Gardai Can Support You In The Following Way

At any time of the day or night, trained Gardai can arrange for you to receive immediate medical care and advice. The Gardai will also advise you about the many different counselling and support services that are available. If you have been raped, you should have no hesitation about reporting it to the Gardai. Remember that the priority is to look after YOU. Trained Gardai will be available to support and advise you at every stage of the investigation.

Points To Remember

Remember if you are sexually assaulted, you are not to blame. Help and support is available 24 HOURS A DAY. The Gardai and agencies like the Rape Crisis Centre will immediately help you to get specialised medical care.

Features

(Violence against Women contd.)

Remember after an assault you may feel dirty, but to preserve evidence you should not wash, change your clothes or even clean up until after you have talked to the Gardai.

Remember every piece of information no matter how small it is that you recall about your attacker may be relevant.

Remember many crimes of rape are not reported, as a result most rapists continue until caught.

Harassment/Stalking

Harassment/ Stalking can also be a problem and recent changes in legislation means that this menace need no longer be suffered. Any person who by any means, including the use of the telephone harasses another by persistently following, watching, pestering, besetting or communicating commits this offence. Keep a record of events and report the matter to the Gardai.

Do not become a victim: follow this advice

On The Street

Do not carry a handbag unless it is essential.

Minimise your jewellery or other valuables.

Walk facing traffic, so that vehicles cannot approach from behind without you being aware their presence.

When alone, avoid dark and empty streets and passages. Arrange a lift if you are travelling at night, or hire a taxi, preferably get the taxi to collect you at home.

Ascertain Taxi Driver's name. Ask him to wait until you have entered the home.

If you think you are being followed go straight to the nearest place where there are people, even a private house. Then phone for the Gardai.

In The House

Fit chain and door viewer to front door.

Fit mortice locks to all external doors. Choose solid doors without glass panels. Windows should also be fitted with locks.

Fit an Intruder Alarm System to recognised standard. If you live alone, DO NOT advertise this fact. use only your initials and surname in telephone directories, or on doorplates.

DO NOT admit callers to your home without being satisfied that they are genuine. Have them call back when you have a friend at home.

At night, draw curtains, or pull down blinds to avoid un welcome scrutiny.

Have your front key ready to use as you approach the house so that you are not fumbling in your bag on the doorstep.

If the house appears to have been burgled DO NOT go in, the intruder could still be present. Go to a neighbour and phone the Gardai.

In The Car

Get into the habit of locking your doors when driving or waiting in the car.

DO NOT pick up hitchhikers or strangers, even if they appear to have broken down; you can always phone the Gardai to come and enquire.

Never leave your valuables within view. Place them under the seat.

Park in well lit places, preferably with lots of people around.

Some Useful Telephone Numbers

Garda Siochana '999' or any Garda station, we are available to help you 24 hours a day.

Irish Association of Victim Support - (01) 6798673

National Federation of Refugees - (064) 49049

Women's Aid Helpline - 1800-341900

Mon.- Fri 10am to 10pm

Weekdays 10am to 6pm

Samaritans - (01) 872 7700 - 24 hours a day

FLAC, South William Street - (01) 679 4239

Free Legal Advice available from 9am - 5pm, Monday - Friday

Crimestoppers 1800 250025

**This information has been provided by
Sgt. Mary Corcoran, Naas Gardai Station.**



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**WISHING ALL OUR CUSTOMERS A MERRY CHRISTMAS
& A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Features

General Tips

Christmas Decorations

Make a hanging ball of holly by sticking the holly in a large potato and using it as a base. To make a Christmas wreath, use a wire hanger shaped into a circle, push the wire through the centre of some raw potatoes (the circle when closed should be covered with raw potatoes) and stick stems of holly in the potatoes. The potatoes will keep the holly fresh over the holidays.

Christmas Tree

Keep your Christmas tree looking fresh and happy throughout the festivities by standing it in a container filled with two parts water to one part glycerine. Use pipe-cleaners as a quick and easy way of attaching decorations and presents to the tree.

Perfumed Writing Paper

Personalise your writing paper by putting a few drops of your favourite fragrance on some blotting-paper sheets and place your writing paper in between.

Frozen Plants

To revive greenhouse plants which have become frozen, make it as dark as possible in the greenhouse and thaw the plants with cold water. If watered in the light, the plants would die.

Stuffing

Cool off stuffing before filling poultry. Warm stuffing could help the growth of micro-organisms in the bird. Stuffed birds should be kept in the fridge until cooking time.

Sandwiches

When making sandwiches containing mustard, mix the mustard and butter together before spreading. The mustard will be evenly distributed and the sandwich-making will be much quicker. Put mayonnaise between two lettuce leaves in a sandwich so that it will not soak into the bread if the sandwich is left to stand.

Window Boxes

A coating of small pebbles on the soil in your window boxes will prevent the soil splashing your windows when it rains. An easy way to keep your boxes looking lovely is to fill them with plants in their pots, placing some soil around the pots. This makes it easier either to remove a plant if it is not doing well, or to take all the plants inside during cold weather. (They can be put back later when the weather improves).

Public Service Notice

Maynooth Health Centre

Main Telephone Number
9am-5pm
01 6106130

Dental Clinic
01 6106140 - 01 6106134

Public Health Nurse
01 6106133 - 01 6106132
Monday - Friday
9am - 10.30am

Community Welfare Officer
01 6285879 - 01 6106143

Speech Therapist
01 6106146 - 01 6106141

Social Worker
Celbridge Health Centre
Main Number
01 6303100

B.C.G. Clinic now takes place at
Leixlip Health Centre
3rd & 4th Friday each Month
10am - 11am
01 6244931

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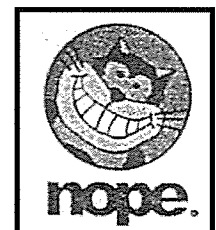
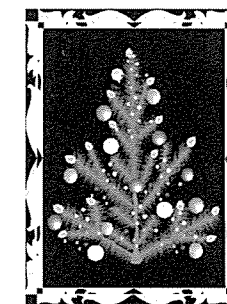
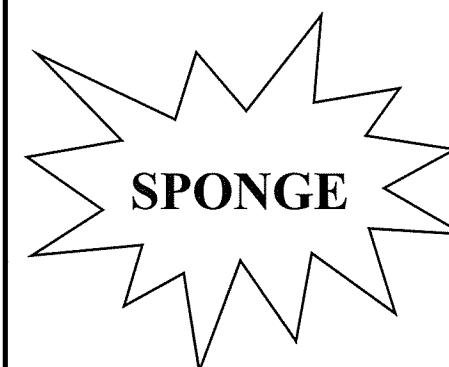
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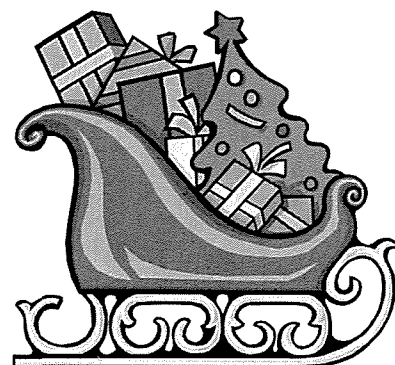
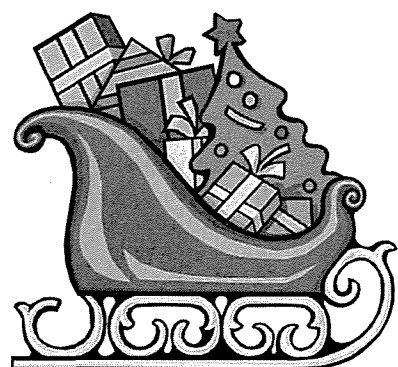
SUSST



SANTA CLAUS LETTERS

Santa Claus wrote to us from the North Pole to say he had received lots of letters from some very good children who live in Maynooth. He will most definitely be visiting all the boys and girls in Maynooth on Christmas Eve night and wants everybody to be very good before he gets here. Some people who sent Santy letters are;

Michael Carton, Cian, Hayden, Neil, Philip, Daniel O'Keeffe, Serge, Owen Byrne, Andrew Jolley, Jack Ffrench, Michael Lloyd, Joshua M Hurley, Conor Duffy, Matthew Melia, Ronan Gorey, Gary Daly, Aaron Jordan, Jason Burke, Kevin Mblyavanga, Maxsimi Burak, Séoirse, Luke Stuart Mills, Darren Kennedy, Cormac, James Penny, Ian Doyle, Declan Burke, Ryan Thompson, Dáire, Michael, Kurtis Walsh, Ryan Deegan, David Mahon, Mena, Derry, Darragh, David Condon, Eoin, Anthony, Luke, Peter, Santy also got letters from the girls in Maynooth, but he didn't give us any of their names. But he said he'll be there. BE GOOD ! SEE YOU ALL SOON



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Features



Gardening Hints



" IF WINTER COMES, CAN SPRING BE FAR BEHIND"
LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR SPRING

For some gardeners this is the end of the season but really it should be looked upon as the beginning. There's no doubt that work done now will lay the foundations for a great garden next season. Now is the time to get the digging done, have a thorough clean-up, order your seeds, finish new plantings where you can, and above all, go round the borders and correct your mistakes. We all make them and now's the time to put them right. There's still all the summer's warmth in the soil, so plants that you move will get away quickly. So, start with the big plants and take as much soil with them as you can. When they're replanted, pay special attention to the staking. Then mulch round the plant and water well- and that means for the whole of next season too.

General Tasks

Bird Boxes should be cleared of old nesting material which could harbour parasites. Wash them out with boiling water (do not use any detergent or other cleaning agent) and repair them if necessary. Do this job well before late winter, when some birds will already be surveying the scene for nest sites.

Borders can be weeded and tidied at any time through the winter, so long as the soil is dry enough not to stick to your boots. Rake fallen leaves off plants, and either collect them to make leafmould or leave them on hard ground to rot down. Dig up and compost annual weeds, but burn or throw away the roots of perennial ones.

Protect delicate plants that can suffer in frosty weather, such as cistus and fuchsias by tucking bracken or straw around their bases. Don't use peat or compost as these materials hold water and rot the plant. Bubble polythene is also useful to have for protecting shrubs and containers from severe frosts.

Hedgehogs and toads and crawl into heaps of garden rubbish, particularly leaves, to hibernate for the winter, so take a little care as you fork out the compost or turn it.

Checklist

Established lawns should have their last cut, if they have not already had it, first sweeping off leaves. Continue taking hardwood cutting of shrubs and fruit bushes. Inspect potted bulbs regularly and water sparingly if necessary. Feed flowering pot plants weekly with a liquid fertiliser. Plant spring bedding and winter pansies by the end of the month. Twist off dead indoor cyclamen leaves and flowers

where they join the corm: remaining pieces of stem can cause it to rot.

Pinch out the tips of autumn-sown sweet peas when they're about 4 inch high.

Check that tree ties are securely fitted and in no danger of rubbing.

Put guards round young trees if there's any danger of rabbit or deer damage.

Drain hosepipes, roll them up and store under cover.

Order seed catalogues.

Clean pots and seedtrays with hot water and disinfectant, ready for next spring.

Plant garlic by the end of the month.

Check stored fruit and vegetables; throw out any showing signs of rot.

Net Brussels and cabbage to protect them from birds.

Prune apples and pear trees, and black currants.

Stop feeding fish as they'll live off their reserves for the winter months.

Then take a rest!!!!!!



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Features

CHRISTMAS TO OLD CHRISTMAS DAY, 25 December to the 6 January.

Contrary to recent commercial trends in which we are led to believe that the Christmas season starts prior to Hallowe'en, traditionally, Christmas consisted of twelve days commencing on 25 of December and ending on 6 January. Records show that in the year 1444, the death of a head of the MacNamara sept took place 'between the two Christmases'. The 25 of December was known as 'Great Christmas' and the 6 of January as 'Little Christmas.' In earlier times, people lived according to what was known as 'calendar custom'. This in turn influenced their social customs and behaviour, some of which are outlined below.

The four weeks prior to Christmas, known as Advent (Advent Sunday being the Sunday nearest to the last day of November), was spent preparing spiritually for what was considered to be the great Christian festival. As the feast day drew near, more material needs were seen to in that dwellings, outhouses, farmyards and surroundings were all cleaned and tidied. The interval between Christmas and Twelfth Day (inclusive) was observed as a holiday time, when no servile work took place. Instead people took part in bull-baiting, badger-drawing, cock-fighting and in more acceptable sports by today's standards such as football and hurling.

On Christmas Eve, 24 December, the children of the house brought in the holly, ivy and other green plants to decorate the house. Holly, being evergreen and having red berries is a symbol of immortality. In some traditions, male prickly holly was considered to be lucky for men and the smooth variegated plant known, as 'she-holly' was lucky for women. Ivy was also a desirable plant to have in the home. With its ancient association with Bacchus, the Greek God of wine, it was an appropriate decoration for the Christmas season! In many homes, three candles were lit in memory of the Holy Family, usually by the youngest child, and allowed to burn until midnight.

St Stephen's Day, 26 December was the day that 'the Wren-Boys' did their rounds. The wren was hunted and killed during the previous few days and on St Stephen's day two or three of the birds were tied to a holly bush decorated with ribbons. Wrenboys, (some of whom dressed as girls, and wren girls, some of whom dressed as boys, much to the disapproval of the clergy), wearing straw masks or on occasion, animal skins or horns, went from house to house throughout the townland singing and demanding money or drinks.

The wren, the wren, the king of all birds,
On St Stephen's Day was caught in the furze;
Though his body is small, his family is great
So, if you please, your honour, give us a treat.

On Christmas Day I turned a spit;
I burned my finger: I feel it yet.
Up with the kettle, and down with the pan;
Give us some money to bury the wren.

While it is thought that the songs associated with the wren are of English origin, the masks, straw, animal skins and horns echo an older tradition. If the wrenboys were not made welcome at a house, one of them buried a dead bird opposite the hall door, thus ensuring that no luck would enter that house for an entire year. At the end of the day, when the festivities were over, each wren was usually buried with a penny.

The origins of this custom are obscure but it survived in many parts of Ireland simply because the tradition was passed down from one generation to the next. One 'origin' story relates that one night after the Vikings had invaded Ireland; the native Irish attempted to creep up on one of their camps and take them by surprise. A flock of 'scoot-wrens' were disturbed and in flying away lit on some of the drums, alerting the sentries who were asleep. As a result of the wrens' treachery, the Irish were driven off, suffering many casualties.

The folklore may explain why this minute bird was hunted in Ireland. Or alternatively, the explanation may simply lie in the fact that it was an easy catch, flittering about near the base of gorse bushes or flying short distances near the ground. In addition, its 'chick-chick' call note and its animated song, which usually came from the undergrowth, were very loud for such a small creature. In other traditions, the wren was treated with respect. In Wales an old proverb says that death threatens anyone destroying a wren's nest. An old Breton word for wren meant 'happy'. And thousands of miles away, the North American Pawnee Indians also called the wren 'the laughing bird', as it greeted the sun at dawn with a louder song than any other bird. In recent years, this age old St Stephen's Day tradition has been revived throughout the country. However, hunting the 'wren' is now illegal and ornamental decorations are used instead of dead birds.

In former times, we are told that New Year's Eve on 31 December and New Year's Day on 1 January were never fully celebrated in Ireland. The first day of January did not become the first day of the year until a new calendar was introduced in 1751. Prior to that, the legal year, both in England and in Ireland began on 25 March. In time, New Year's Day became a Holy Day, which obligated Roman Catholics to attend Mass. In County Kildare, it was customary to bake a large barmbrack on New Year's Eve. The man of the house took three bites and then dashed the rest against the main door of the house in the name of the Trinity, saying at the same time that he hoped that starvation might be banished from Ireland and go instead to the King of the Turks. The crumbs were then gathered and eaten by the rest of the household. Before retiring for the night, twelve candles were lit in honour of the twelve apostles.

Handsel Monday was the first Monday of the New Year, when children visited friends and neighbours, receiving a 'handsel' - a small gift of money. Sometimes cakes were given instead of money. In parts of Leinster, including Dublin City the gift was

Features

known as a 'suggit', which may have been derived (Christmas to old Christmas Day Contd.)

from the Irish 'so dhuit', 'here's to you'.

Finally, on the 6 of January, there is the Feast of the Epiphany, commemorating the visit of the three Magi to the stable at Bethlehem. This day is also traditionally known as Little Christmas or in Irish, 'Nollaig na mBan' (Women's Christmas). One reason given for this name is that on Christmas Day, beef and whiskey, seen as 'men's fare' were on the menu, while on Little Christmas, women rested and helped themselves to cake, tea and wine - food which needed little preparation, but gave immense pleasure.

According to one proverb, 'On the night of the three Kings, the water turns to wine.'

Thus ended Twelfth Night, and on 7 January the holly and ivy were taken down and either burned immediately or put aside to heat the pancake griddle on Shrove Tuesday, the evening before Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. But before Lent, there was always St Brigid's Day on 1 February and Candlemas Day on the 2 February to look forward to.

Rita Edwards

(Main Sources:- Kevin Danaher, *The year in Ireland* (Cork, 1972); Gorday D'Arcy, *The guide to the birds of Ireland* (Dublin, 1981); E. Estyn Evans, *Irish folk ways* (London, 1957); 'Omurethi', 'Customs peculiar to certain days, formerly observed in county Kildare in *Journal of the county Kildare Archaeological Society*, v.(July, 1908).

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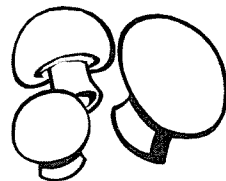
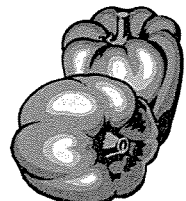
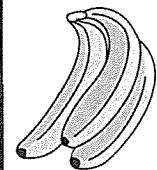
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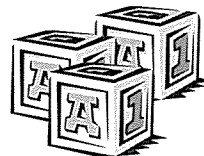
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Features

Maynooth Man Writes Irish X-Files

Maynooth man Dara White has placed his name on the shelf of nearly every bookshop in the country with the recent publication of his new book.

Former Cluain Aoibhinn and Ballygoran resident Dara launched his book, *Paranormal Ireland: An investigation into the other side of Irish life*, on October 29th. A native of Maynooth and former BNS pupil, Dara spent the last year travelling the length and breadth of the country collecting chilling tales of paranormal experience from people from all walks of life.

The result of this lengthy research is a 300 page book packed with spine-chilling and intriguing, real life tales of supernatural happenings from across the country.

According to the author, this book takes "an in depth and impartial look into a mysterious side of Irish life, not always talked about in an open manner".

Ghosts, poltergeists, lake monsters, UFOs, Alien abduction and psychic phenomena all play a major role in Dara's new book which reads like a definitive Irish X-Files.

"Over the year I put more that 20,000 miles on my car, travelling around Ireland talking to all sorts of people," said Dara.

"There's hardly a sceptic out there who doesn't know at least one person who has been affected by the paranormal. It could be something as simple as a Friday the 13th mishap or as terrifying as a face to face with a ghostly apparition," said Dara.

The former Salesian student said he interviewed more than 100 people including psychics, druids, Cryptozoologists (researchers into unknown animals), UFO contactees and abductees, priests, people living in haunted houses and castles, parapsychologists, witches and people who have proven they have lived many times over.

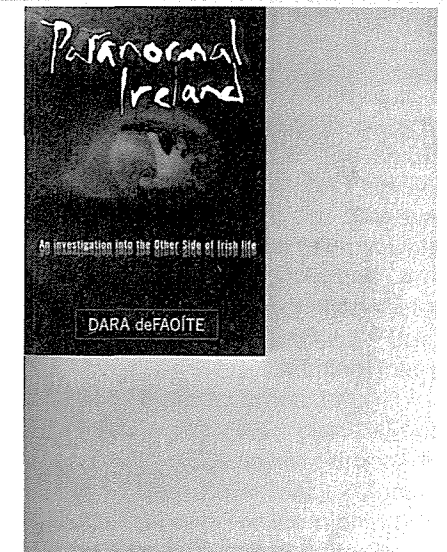
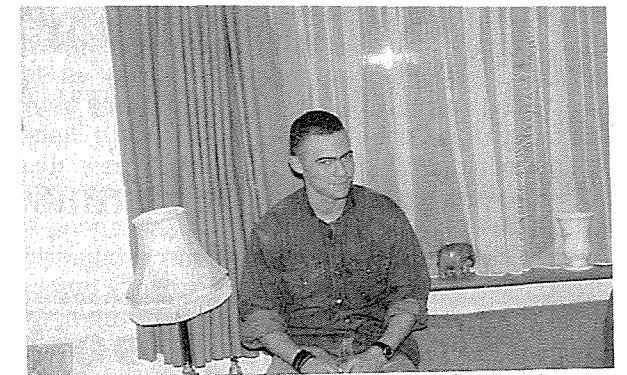
"I talked to individuals who are working on technology which they say will be able to determine what passing UFOs are made out of and have met with others who assure me that Ireland plays host to at least three different species of lake Monster," said Dara.

Paranormal Ireland carries an exclusive photograph of a "Ghost" taken by an English tourist in the great poet WB Yeats's Castle home, Thoor Ballylee in Gort Co. Galway.

It includes Alien Big Cats (ABCs) living in woods on the Limerick/Tipperary border. It visits and talks to the people living in the most haunted homes in Ireland and listens to tones of theories on close encounters with visiting extraterrestrial (ET) life. And Dara hasn't forgotten his hometown either. The famous haunted room at Maynooth College gets its dues in *Paranormal Ireland*. Dara said he remembers often going up to that particular chilling room in the House of Rhetoric when he was a young fella and, although a die hard sceptic, said he was once spooked himself when he slipped on the stairs and hurt his arm after leaving the famous Maynooth College room where two clerics took their lives. Today, Dara is a journalist with the Irish Examiner and Ireland on Sunday writing under his Irish name

deFaoite. His parents, Fergus and Ann White live in Ballygoran, Dara moved to Kilkenny last year with his wife Sue and daughter Jodie.

- *Paranormal Ireland* by Dara deFaoite is published by Maverick House and costs € 12.99.



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Features

Murder of the Month - the Millennium

As we were happily celebrating the arrival of the year 2000 two years ago there were some strange, violent and murderous activities occurring in Denver, Colorado. That was also the year of the massacre in Columbine, an event that bore a special significance to a beautiful woman called Emily Johnson. She was a teacher whose interest was looking after children with special needs. But she had a further connection with Columbine, in fact she had worked as a teacher in Columbine High in Littleton and she had been a friend of one of the teachers killed in the massacre on that occasion. There had been 15 murdered and 20 badly injured on the 20th April when two students went on a rampage with two guns before killing themselves. This particular New Year and the impending millennium meant a lot to her and although she worked part-time as a waitress that night as usual, Emily had planned to go out with her boyfriend to celebrate. It was Friday, December 31st 1999 and the restaurant closed at 10.30 p.m. leaving her plenty of time to have a good time that night.

The two of them had some reasons for celebration as well. They had just bought their dream car that day, a 1994 silver Lexus Sedan ES 300. She was so excited by the purchase that she had told her students about it. As they had only taken possession of the car she had not had an opportunity to drive it yet. As things turned out, she never got that chance. The following morning Emily was dead.

Her boyfriend was Robert Davis who at 28 was a year younger than Emily. He arrived at the restaurant before it closed and had a drink while she went upstairs to get out of her working uniform and change into her dancing clothes. As they left the restaurant heads turned to look at her. She was a particularly beautiful young woman with long blonde hair that contrasted with her boyfriend's dark looks. Friends often told her that she should have been a model. But she had to work hard at two jobs just to survive.

But work was forgotten that New Year's Eve as she and Robert went to the nightclub across the road and danced until 2.30 a.m. and then he drove very carefully to the house. It was not far, just off one of the busiest streets in Denver but it was a very quiet street, known as West Denver Place. House values were rising in the area but Emily had bought before the boom and the value of her property was increasing daily. The weather was bad and Robert was tired and the couple of drinks he had taken were taking their toll on him. They both fell asleep very quickly after returning home.

The next morning, the first day of the new millennium, Emily was found by a jogging neighbour at 8 a.m. She was lying outside on the patio not quite dead and she was rushed to hospital. But they failed to revive her and she died the following day from brain damage. She had been badly beaten with a stone that lay by her side. When the police entered the house they

found that there had been a break in. But worse - Robert lay asleep with some spots of blood on his hands. he was arrested immediately. He already had a criminal past that he was trying to put behind him with Emily's help. Apparently he was succeeding. Before this, his life was taken up with drugs, dealing and assault. He should not have been drinking and away from his own home that night at all. He would be in trouble with the parole officer but that was the least of his worries. He could not account for his movements that night. Not used to drinking he said that he could remember nothing as he had fallen asleep immediately. the precious Lexus was missing. Robert was held for questioning but not for long. The Lexus was found nearby, covered in blood and three youths were seen running from the vehicle. Emily's cell phone was inside and this led to the killers. They had made a phone call. Soon three suspects were arrested - two of them were Emily's own pupils to whom she had mentioned the new car. They were Nicholas Martinez 16 his cousin Lloyd Martinez also 16 and Lorenzo Montoya who was only 14. Both Montoya and Nicholas were her students.

Montoya eventually broke silence and gave a garbled version of the events that night. They had broken into the house, attacked Emily and then ransacked the house. They found the keys to the Lexus and they were about to leave when Emily regained consciousness and tried to get up. She was hit again and left on the patio. Undeterred by what they had done, they went to a party, got drunk, drove the car and then crashed it. He also admitted that they had all been smoking marijuana all evening. But on advice, he later withdrew his story, claiming that as a minor he could not make such a confession.

At his trial in October, Montoya pleaded not guilty and Lloyd Martinez had all charges dropped. Nicholas Martinez faced a separate trial. Montoya tried to prove that he had an alibi for the night in question and a friend, Robert Marquez, vouched for him, saying that he and his sister, Heather Marquez, had invited him for New Year's Eve and that he had been with them all night. But Montoya had provided a different storey - he was babysitting with his cousin. But a cellmate said that Montoya had told him what had happened that night and that he possessed details that did not appear in the press and to which he would have no access. The court heard forensic evidence that footprints in blood matched Montoya's shoes - there was only one chance in 127 million that another shoe could make the print. Also, two women had seen him wearing a distinctive jacket that night, the jacket was found behind Emily's home.

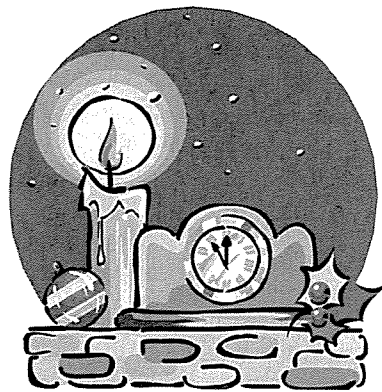
It appears that they had arrived at the house specifically to rob the car that she had been so proud of - so proud that she had mentioned it in class. Lorenzo Montoya was sentenced to a mandatory life sentence for first-degree felony murder, robbery, car theft and burglary. Felony murder must be shown to occur during the commission of felony such as arson, robbery, kidnapping or sexual assault or escaping

Features

(Murder of the Month Contd.)

from such a crime.
Nicholas Martinez was similarly convicted. They both escaped the death sentence because they were both under the age of 18.
Robert had to return to jail for violating his parole and still cannot explain how he slept through the events or how he had blood on his hands.
The house stands empty.

M. Ní Bhrolcháin.



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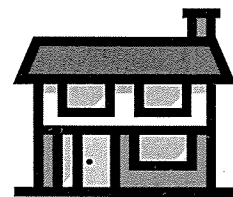
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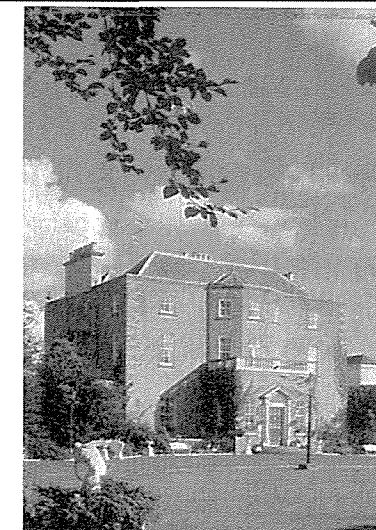
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Predictions for 2003

January

Emergency services are called to a traffic jam in Maynooth which lasts for six days. Motorists trapped in their cars in Main Street are air-lifted to Naas hospital suffering from dehydration, hunger, fatigue and total frustration. A spokesman for Kildare County Council promises that there are plans to provide ring roads around the town and that Council staff have been doodling on the back of envelopes, sketching out routes for these roads. 'We expect to have a proper roads system in place in Maynooth by the end of the century', he added. 'In the meantime we'll all just have to be patient. We advise motorists planning trips through the town to equip themselves with flasks and adequate supplies of foot. Traffic eases slightly between 3 and 4 a.m. and we advise drivers to plan their journeys to the shops and schools at these times.'

February

Following the success of the penalty points system for speeding drivers the system is extended to other areas of Irish Life. Any politician failing to give a straight answer to a question on Morning Ireland is to be given three points, misleading answers merit six points and plain lies attract a penalty of twelve points. When a politician accumulates twelve points in any twelve month period they are banned from the airwaves.

March

There will be four Irish winners at the Cheltenham meeting. To obtain the names of these horses please send a self addressed envelope containing a cheque for fifty euro, c/o Maynooth Newsletter, Maynooth Community Council.

April

In a shock move the FAI appoint Eamonn Dunphy manager of the Republic of Ireland soccer team. His first decision is to name a squad with only one player - Roy Keane. 'Roy is a model professional', claims Dunphy, 'and we don't need any of the useless bunch who played in the World Cup. Roy is a better keeper than Shay Given, a better defender than Kenny Cunningham, he's the best midfielder in the world and scores his fair share of goals. What's the point of having second-rate players on the team?' In Dunphy's first match in charge, against San Marino, Keane manages to hold the opposition scoreless for the first two minutes but then gets sent off for a reckless challenge (on the referee). Ireland eventually lose 7-0.

May

In a surprising move a meeting of developers in the Maynooth area decides to place an embargo on the building of all new houses and apartments. In a press release after the meeting they state that as they only have the interest of the town at heart they recognise that all the proper infrastructure such as roads and

community facilities have to be in place before any more building takes place. The month is also marked by the landing of a spaceship in a field off the Straffan Road. Aliens from the planet Zog colonise the southern part of the town and establish their headquarters at the Maynooth Business Campus. Both the predictions for this month are made with equal certainty.

June

Brazil comes in Maynooth!

July

Following the success of Maynooth's hosting of the Brazilian team for the Special Olympics, the town puts in its bid to host the 2012 Olympics. Maynooth Town's new grounds on the Rathcoffey Road are to host most of the athletics events, the town's new swimming pool complex on the Dublin Road will host the water-based sports. Canoeing events will take place on the canal and sailing on Satchwell's lake on the Dunboyne Road. It remains unclear whether the GAA pitches on the Moyglare Road will be made available for any events.

August

Due to continuing economic difficulties the Government advises the whole country on go abroad on holidays in August and not come back until Christmas. A spokesman points out there would be great savings if all hospitals and schools could be closed for a few months. With everyone away unemployment and poverty would be wiped out over-night and crime would be non-existent. Ryanair offers free flights (plus tax, landing charges, handling charges, VAT, taking off charges, currency charges, handling charges on the extra charges and more VAT) to anyone interested in the scheme.

September

It is a tradition that every year in these predictions we predict that Kildare will win the All-Ireland. Some year we'll get it right.

October

Halloween approaches and President Bush, fresh from conquering Iraq, threatens to invade Maynooth and destroy its weapons of mass destruction. The White House states that it will not tolerate a repeat of the aggressive display of firepower which was on show in Maynooth during Halloween 2002 when a number of US aircraft were hit by Scud missiles fired from the Maynooth area. Weapons inspectors are deployed in a number of housing estates in the town and a number of ten year olds are taken into custody suspected of being key members of the Al-Quaeda network.

November

In a revolutionary move the price of drink in Maynooth is to be cut by 50%. In a statement local publicans indicate that they have been making too much money for the last few years. 'The price of drink is just too high and we feel it's time we gave something back to the?

Features

Predictions for 2003 Contd.)

punters', says a spokesman for the Licensed Vintners Association. 'two euro is a fair price for a pint and anything higher than that is a rip-off. Anyway, what we need is far more competition in the pub trade'. During November another spaceship lands in a field off the Straffan Road. The aliens from Zog hear about the cheap drink in Maynooth.

December

Iarnroid Eireann increase the capacity on the Maynooth line to address the gross overcrowding on its trains. Their solution, however, does not meet with universal approval. 'Since we shut down our freight services we had all these auld wagons that used to carry cement and fertilizer rusting away in our stock yards', explained a spokesman. 'We'll give them a bit of a cleanup and sure they'll be grand for commuters. We'll put fresh newspapers on the floor and they'll be able to sit down and everything. Sure as it is they're jammed in like sardines anyway and it's impossible to get a seat.'

The Penance

In my part of the country there is or was a legend a very circumstantial one too-which however I am not able to verify personally, as the going occurred a little before my time-that Father Buckley, of Glenroe, cured Charley Coscoran, the greatest swearer in the barony-cured him in a most original way. He simply directed him to cut out a button from some part of his dress, no matter where-to whip it out on the instant-every time he uttered a serious curse, i.e., one involving the Sacred Name. Charley made the promise with a light heart, thinking that by only using a little caution he could easily avoid snipping off his buttons. But inveterate habit is strong. Only very shortly after he had left the priest he saw a cow in one of his cornfields playing havoc: out came a round curse, and off came a button on the spot. For Charley was a manly fellow, with a real sense of religion at bottom: and he had no notion of shirking this penance. Another curse after some time and another button. Others again followed: - coat, waistcoat, trousers, shirt-collar, were brought under contribution till his clothes began to fall off him. For a needle and thread were not always at hand, and at any rate Charley was no great shakes at the needle. At last things came to that pass with poor Charley, that life was hardly worth living; till he had to put his mind seriously to work, and by careful watching he gradually cured himself. But many score buttons passed through his hands during the process.

A Christmas Drink!

Paddy Fogarty kept a little public-house at the cross-roads in which he sold 'parliament,' i.e. legal whiskey on which the duty had been paid; but it was well known that friends could get a little drop of pottheen too, on the sly. One hot July day he was returning home from Thurles with a ten-gallon cag on his back, slung by a strong *soogaun* (hay rope). He had still two good miles before him, and he sat down to rest, when who should walk up but the new gauger. 'Well my good fellow, what have you got in that cask?' Paddy dropped his jaw, looking the picture of terror, and mumbled out some tomfoolery like an excuse. 'Ah, my man, you needn't think of coming over me: I see how it is: I seize this cask in the name of the king.' Poor Paddy begged and prayed, and talked about Biddy and the childher at home-all to no use: the gauger slung up the cag on his back (about a hundredweight) and walked on, with Paddy, heart-broken, walking behind-for the gauger's road lay towards Paddy's house. At last when they were near the cross-roads the gauger sat down to rest, and laying down the big load began to wipe his face with his handkerchief. 'Sorry I am,' says Paddy, 'to see your honour so dead bet up: sure you're sweating like a bul: maybe I could relieve you.' And with that he pulled his legal *permit* out of his pocket and laid it on the cag. The gauger was astounded: 'Why then 'tis the way your honour,' says Paddy, looking as innocent as a lamb, 'I didn't like to make so bould as I wasn't axed to show it?' So the gauger, after a volley of something that needn't be particularised here, walked off with himself without an inch of the tail. 'Faix,' says Paddy, 'tis easy to know 'twasn't our last gauger, ould Warnock, that was here: 'twouldn't be so easy to come round him; for he had a nose that would smell a needle in a forge.'

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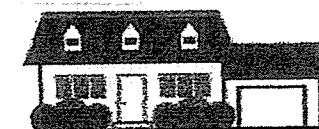
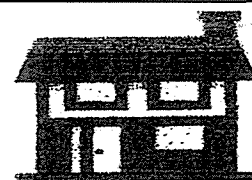


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Features

News items from the past

A Court case 1799

"Tuesday, Mr. Recorder, resumed his session for the trial of prisoners.

Michael Devin, a boy of about thirteen years old, stood charged with stealing six pounds of sugar, the property of Mr. Dunn.

The prisoner having appeared as evidence substantiated the fact, and the Jury found the prisoner guilty, who was sentenced to be transported for seven years.

Mr. Gregg informed the Court that he has confined in Newgate about forty such small boys, charge with various petty larcenies, who are nearly destitute of clothes, and that he was really at a loss for means to preserve them from perishing. Mr. Gamble and Mr. G [regg] further said, procured for them some coarse frize for coats, but the quantity was merely sufficient to give a partial covering to a few of them.

Mr. Recorder observed, that the Grand Jury should be applied to, in order to make some provision for them, as also to effectually preclude their resumption of practices of petty larceny." (*Freemans Journal*, Nov. 19 (1799).

An article on Servants 1799

"Such, is the ordinary description of both sexes, at present going the rounds of servitude, that their greatest precautions are necessary to guard against admitting improper domestic ones. 'Tis proper to observe that many of them must be supported person of good moral conduct and fidelity, and when so, no doubt, deserve every due encouragement and reward; but such in their merits are well known to their masters and employers, and must be rather raised in estimation, by drawing a line of contradistinction between them and the misconducted. The confidence reposed in domestics of the subordinate degree, is greater than that subsisting often between near relatives. They are often of necessity put in possession of bosom secrets – are about the chambers and recesses of the family, and thus the property and life of their employers are not infrequently in their hands.

The selection therefore of a proper menial servant is a point of importance; and hence those who through mistaken lenience or indolence, recommend those who misconducted themselves in service, are highly culpable and justly punishable.

In this matter our metropolis requires and appropriated Legislative provision, as persons sometime erecting themselves into mediums between families and servants, drive, 'tis said, a lucrative business in

providing drunkards, cheats, and fugitives which counterfeit references. The specific interference of the Legislature is therefore wanted to remove such odious nuisances.

'Tis matter of notoriety, that many of those who keep what are called Register-shops, were in the habit of instructing ignorant and unfortunate servants in the mysteries of the now detected conspiracy; as....residing in cellars etc. have found means to provide a number of such deluded and incorrigible corrupted wretches with places in families" (*Freemans Journal* Dec 24 1799).

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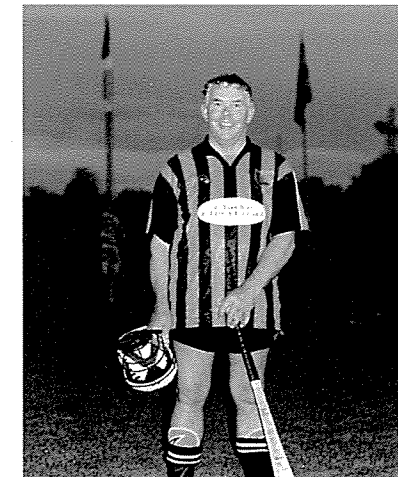


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Features

Maurice Lawlor Memorial Cup was yet another memorable day



Mattie Callaghan the main organiser

Peadar Harren collects trophy

Another successful Maurice Lawlor Memorial Cup was held at Maynooth's GAA grounds on the 19th July. The now twice-annual tournament is played for between an 'All-Counties' side and St. Fintan's from Westmeath.

The All-Counties side consists of former players living in Maynooth and the surrounding hinterland, representing their home counties.

Their opponents, St. Fintan's hail from County Westmeath, and are the home club of the event's organiser, Mattie Callaghan, now, of course, a Maynooth resident for many years.

Weather

Despite hurricane-style rain and winds just immediately before the throw-in, the game turned out to be a most enjoyable and entertaining affair.

The All-Counties have been the dominant side in previous meetings and no wonder!

The side boasts players from Kilkenny, Galway, Laois and Offaly among their ranks, whilst players from as far away as Donegal and Monaghan add colour to the game.

St. Fintan's put up a great fight nevertheless, in what was a sporting and thoroughly enjoyable game of hurling played before a sizeable crowd on a wet and windy Maynooth evening.

The build-up and the aftermath were all integral parts of the event, aside from the match, making for a great evening of fun and entertainment.

The match itself was well won by the All-Counties, led by their captain, local Maynooth Garda Peadar Harren, who, interestingly enough, is a cousin of the St. Fintan's captain, Frank Dolan.

Organiser

Of course, a huge amount of work was put into the event by the organiser, Mattie Callaghan, who spent many hours attending to every detail of the night's activities.

The National Anthem was played on the bagpipes by Eoin Donovan and sung by Johnny Keary, whilst yours truly was drafted in as a match commentator.

Fr. Sean Ryan CC blessed the cup, whilst a minute's silence was observed before the match for all deceased members of the All-Counties and St. Fintan's teams and all other family members.

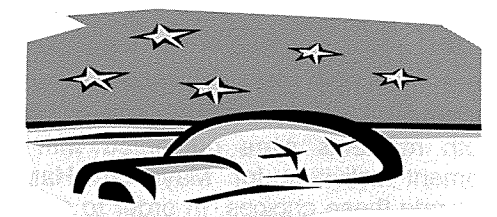
Two notable absentees from the game were the Burke brothers, Noel and Bobby, Galway natives who are long since residents of Ardcloagh.

Unfortunately, they were at a wedding and could not make it for the game.

As always, every effort was made by Mattie to ensure everything was in order and he could be heard on the airwaves the previous evening (18th July) on Midlands Radio 3 giving details of the event.

Immediately after the game, Aine Lawlor, wife of the late Maurice Lawlor, whom the cup is played in memory of, presented the trophy to the winning captain, Peadar Harren.

Brendan Coffey



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Features

RCAG QUESTIONNAIRE: DEVELOPING MAYNOOTH HARBOUR.

Written By Aedamur Kelly.

The Maynooth branch of the Royal Canal Amenity Group (RCAG), is a voluntary organisation, which, for many years, has been very active in the restoration and maintenance of Maynooth harbour and the Royal Canal. With the aid of funding, provided by FAS and Waterways Ireland, The RCAG successfully operates a maintenance and development work scheme for the Royal Canal and harbour areas, employing local residents.

Aedamur Kelly, a member of the RCAG, recently conducted an in-depth survey, (Aug/Sept. 2002) which aimed to investigate Maynooth residents' views towards developing Maynooth Harbour as a local amenity and tourism resource. The timing of this survey is very appropriate for several reasons. Currently in Maynooth, various individuals and groups are lobbying for different development proposals for Maynooth Harbour. Some of these proposals advocate preserving the amenity value of the harbour area while other proposals will reduce the amenity value of this area.

The purpose of the RCAG study is to investigate how the residents of Maynooth would like to see the harbour area developed. It was also hoped to ascertain how Maynooth residents rate the amenity value of the harbour area.

Maynooth residents were presented with a list of development activities for Maynooth Harbour and asked to rate these choices. In order to compile a list of the most realistic and appropriate development options for Maynooth Harbour, the researcher, Aedamur Kelly, consulted with numerous, informed individuals and organisations (i.e. Waterways Ireland, Canal Regeneration Officers etc.,) What follows is a brief summary of the findings and results of the survey.

A four page questionnaire was personally administered to a sample of 325 adult Residents (based on one adult per house). A large quantity of these questionnaires were administered door-to-door by volunteers. Chairpersons of Resident Associations and Community organisations were also contacted and asked to distribute the questionnaire during their meetings.

Section One of Questionnaire: Profile of Residents

54% of the sample surveyed were female and 46% were male. More than half of the respondents have

been living in Maynooth for over 10 years. 27% of respondents are active members of a Maynooth community organisation and 43% are active members of a leisure group.

Section Two: Canal-Related Activities/Development Options:

Residents were asked to rate the provision of recreational facilities in Maynooth. 86% of residents feel that there are not enough recreational facilities in Maynooth. The findings show that 84% of the sample group surveyed agreed or strongly agreed that Maynooth harbour should be developed further as a local amenity. Over 94% of feel that the harbour and harbour field **should not be developed for any other purpose other than that of an amenity.** 74% of respondents indicated that Maynooth Harbour has the potential to be developed as a tourism resource. The top three preferred canal-related activities are walking, angling/fishing and boating/cruising. Residents were very interested in seeing the development of specific canal related activities with most of them selecting two or three activities they would be interested in. (For a complete list of activities, see the questionnaire, available at the RCAG office, by the Harbour).

With regards to how the harbour field should be developed: a landscaped public park topped the polls while an athletics track/ sports ground and children's playground were also favourites. Despite Maynooth's worsening traffic congestion, less than 2% felt that the harbour field or harbour area should be converted into a car park.

29% of respondents have previously been involved in inland boating activities. An overwhelming 96% believe that Maynooth would benefit from an Arts/Cultural Centre. 85% would be interested in partaking in an annual Maynooth Harbour Festival, including sporting competitions, music, entertainment, free boat trips and floating barge theatre. Overall 75% of respondents believe that Maynooth harbour has the potential to be developed as a tourism resource. Tourism/Development may affect residents' quality of life. The survey attempts to address this issue by examining residents' social and environmental concerns. To examine the residents' perceptions of the potential development of the harbour area, questions were asked about; perceived economic costs and benefits, issues of traffic congestion and overcrowding and environmental concerns.

Features

(RCAG Questionnaire Contd.)

Economic Concerns:

Results show that 74% of respondents believe that the development of Maynooth harbour could create employment opportunities for Maynooth residents. 77% of respondents feel that the successful development of the harbour may require substantial financial input. Over half of the sample would be prepared to pay to engage in certain canal related activities while 18% were unsure as to whether they supported the prospect of a minimum charge for canal/harbour users.

Social Concerns:

Residents were asked as to whether they thought public order and security may become issues with increased numbers/visitors. 40% of residents did not think it would become an issue while 22% were unsure. Some residents mentioned that they were intimidated by the late night drinking activities that currently take place in the harbour area.

Research findings indicate that Maynooth residents greatly value amenity and recreational facilities. 82% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that tourism resulting from harbour development may encourage a wide variety of cultural and social activities. 97% of residents believe that the development of Maynooth harbour will enhance the quality of recreational facilities in Maynooth.

Environmental Concerns:

Over half of the sample group do not believe that development of the harbour will lead to the deterioration of the environment, while 22% were unsure. 79% of respondents believe that potential revenue generated from harbour development should contribute to the funding of conservation and maintenance to harbour facilities and amenities.

Conclusion:

The findings of this survey have shown, that the residents surveyed, appreciate the amenity and tourism value of the harbour area. Furthermore they would like to see Maynooth harbour developed in a manner, which will further enhance the amenity and tourism value of this resource. Every effort should be made to respect these residents' opinions when developing Maynooth harbour.

The RCAG would like to thank all those who co-operated and assisted in this survey.

Aedamur Kelly is Project Research and Development Officer for the RCAG.

She holds a B.A. Honours Degree and a Masters of Business Studies Degree specialising in Travel & Tourism Management from the Smurfit Graduate School of Business.

A complete copy of the findings may be viewed at the RCAG Office, located in the harbour. Tel: (01) 6290980.

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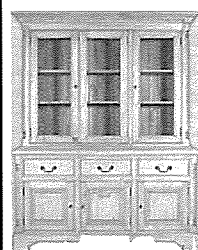
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Features



Liam Farrell in his working clothes
outside the Maynooth Bookshop
with Ursula (Byrne) Murphy

Big Bad Wolf Alive & Well

Apparently *The Big Bad Wolf* is alive and well and living quietly in Maynooth. Mr. Wolf in the guise of local children's writer Liam Farrell has come out of his retirement recently to publish his memoirs and tell his side of the story. He claims that the wolf was much maligned and that it was all the fault of *The Three Little Pigs*. They were really to blame for all the mischief and they falsely accused an innocent and inoffensive wolf. It is all in his book entitled *The True Story of The Three Little Pigs & The Big Bad Wolf*.

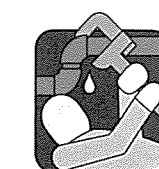
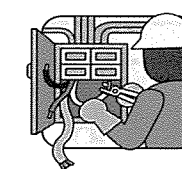
The Big Bad Wolf in person has made several public appearances over the last year. The first being to Maynooth Bookshop where he turned up unexpectedly one Saturday morning to put his case to customers. His second was when he was invited by the Presentation Convent in Maynooth to do a show for the girls from junior infants right up to sixth class. Mind you there was one child not a bit impressed by the antics of the wolf. This was his twelve year old daughter Lydia Farrell, then in sixth class and now a student in the Post Primary. She was horrified to have her father who thinks he is a wolf, come in full costume to explain his side of this old and hotly disputed story to all her friends. When asked about this her only comment was, "My dad is completely nuts." He also made a special guest appearance at the Maynooth Church of Ireland picnic in Donadea Forest Park during the summer.

His second book is *The Trial of the Big Bad Wolf*. It is a courtroom drama, where everybody who is anybody in Fairy Tale Land attends the court and the wolf has to defend himself against the malicious lies of *The Three Little Pigs*. Both books are full of surprises with some unusual twists and turns. They are all stories the author used to tell his own children when they were young and has now put in book form for his three grandsons who live in the US.

Liam sees things from a different point of view. He reckons there would never have been any Fairy Tales

without the bad guy. He claims that *Little Red Riding Hood* or *The Three Little Pigs* would never have been heard of only for *The Big Bad Wolf*. And that *Cinderella* or *Snow White* wouldn't have had a look in only for their *Wicked Stepmothers*.

Dressed in full wolf costume Liam takes his version of events around to the schools and libraries where he does shows for the children and acts out the characters in his books. He does this as part of the *Writers in Schools Scheme* run by Poetry Ireland. This scheme is designed to put living writers into the classroom to discuss their work with the young people. Liam also gives How To Write courses to older children. His next book has been accepted for publication and is due out fairly soon and is entitled *Goldilocks The Babysitter From Hell*.



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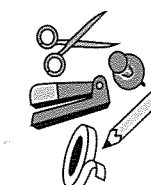
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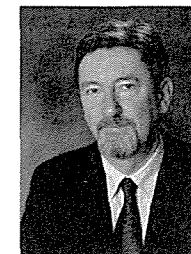
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Party Political

Maynooth Labour News



Emmet Stagg, T.D.



Cllr. John McGinley

Children's and Teenagers' Playgrounds

Cllr. John McGinley's motion: "That General Development Levies be revised in order to cater for the provision of children's and teenagers' playgrounds in towns where there is a demand for such facilities.", was agreed unanimously at the meeting of Kildare County Council on 21st. October.

Cllr. McGinley took advantage of Section 49 of the 2000 Planning and Development Acts which permits Local Authorities to impose levies for specific purposes. The passing of Cllr. McGinley's motion means that levies will be imposed, for the construction of such playgrounds, on planning permissions granted for houses and other developments throughout the County. It will ensure that lack of funding can no longer be used as a reason for not building playgrounds.

Cllr. McGinley asked for the immediate implementation of his motion and Council Officials stated that they would come back to the Council Members on the level of levies to be imposed.

In proposing the motion Cllr. McGinley stated that one of the biggest flaws in the development of the County has been the failure of the Council to provide playgrounds for our children and teenagers. As a result the fastest growing County in Ireland had no playgrounds until this year, with the opening of the excellent facility in Newbridge. Other Counties perform much better with Donegal having 7 Children's playgrounds. Cllr. McGinley went on to say that the facilities that exist in Newbridge must be provided throughout the County.

The Development Plans for Maynooth, Leixlip and Celbridge call for such facilities to be provided and in the case of Maynooth Cllr. McGinley insisted that two sites be identified for playgrounds i.e. at the new 53 acre public park at Carton Avenue and in the Harbour Field.

Action Area Plans are being drawn up for these two areas at present and with the amount of planning permissions before the Council for the Maynooth area at present, it is Cllr. McGinley's view that funding should readily be available for both locations.

Bond Bridge/Meadowbrook Link Road

The following update was given to Cllr. John McGinley at the Leixlip Area Meeting of the Council on 1st. November:

The tender documents are with the County Manager for approval to issue and it is expected that work will begin next April or May.

The tender documents for the culvert of the Meadowbrook stream, under the canal and railway at the bridge, are also with the County manager and the work on this is expected to begin next April or May.

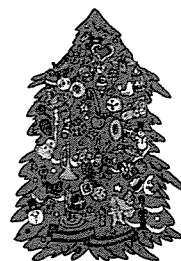
The tender documents for the bridge construction will be with the County Manager in early December and work is expected to begin next June or July.

The funding package will have to be approved by the full Council, however, with 150 acres of re-zoned land in Maynooth, it is Cllr. McGinley's view that special development levies on this land should meet any shortfall in funding.

Traffic Management on Main Street, Maynooth

The Leixlip Area Committee were presented with revised proposals for traffic management on Main Street at their meeting on 1st. November. The proposed traffic management layout is a condition of the granting of Planning Permission for the Kavanaghs Mill site. It comprises:

- Traffic signals from the new shopping centre exit on the Kilcock Road and a pedestrian crossing at this location
- Traffic signals, flashing ambers and a pedestrian crossing at the church
- Pedestrian crossing on Mill Street
- Traffic signals and pedestrian crossings at The Roost



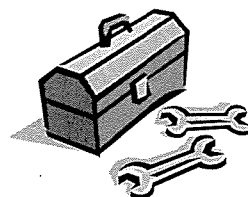
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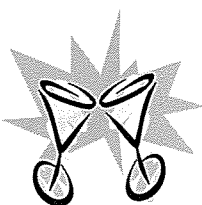


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Party Political

(Maynooth Labour News Contd.)

Traffic signals at the Glenroyal Complex
On road cycle tracks on Mill Street and the Kilcock Road
New footpath on left hand side of Mill Street and Kilcock Road
The existing traffic signals at The Square to be linked by UTC system to new traffic signals.
If you have any comments or queries please contact Cllr. John McGinley at 6285293h or 7026536w or E Mail jmcginley@eircom.net

Geraldine Hall & Harbour Field

Cllr. John McGinley is very pleased to be able to report progress, at long last, on this thorny issue. Council officials advised John, at the November Area Meeting, that the Council expect to take possession of both properties by the end of the month. In the meantime, the present owner has indicated that he has no objection to the building being secured and this work will be undertaken as soon as possible. At Cllr. McGinley's request the Council have also agreed to take the billiard table from the Hall into safekeeping. With the properties in public ownership it is now open to the people of Maynooth to decide what they want to do with them and the vehicle for this is through the Action Area Plan which will be drawn up over the next four months. Again, please contact Cllr. McGinley with your views.

Swimming Pool Complex Report

The long awaited consultants report, on which town was the most suitable for a North Kildare Swimming Pool Complex, was a disaster as it did not address the question that it was asked. It stated that the three towns of Maynooth, Leixlip and Celbridge could all facilitate a Swimming Pool Complex. The need for the report arose as a result of a motion from Cllr. John McGinley calling for a North Kildare Swimming Pool Complex, similar to those already approved for Naas and Athy. Cllr. McGinley raised the issue at the October Council Meeting and stated that the consultants report should be thrown in the waste bin and he asked that the Councils Area Committees from the North of the county meet to address the question. As a result the Area Committees of Leixlip, Celbridge and Clane had a joint meeting on 1st. November. The main issues raised at the meeting related to:

Speed of provision
Range of leisure facilities
Funding of capital required
Responsibility and sustainability of operation.

It was agreed that each Councillor would make a written case for his/her preferred location before the next joint meeting on 6th December. Cllr, John McGinley believes that Maynooth is the best location and any pointers that you have to assist the case for

Maynooth would be much appreciated by John. Again, please feel free to give him a call.

Carton Avenue

The following progress was reported at the November Area Meeting:

A full specification has been drawn up and tenders received for the following works:

- Tree surgery and landscaping
- Civil works on footpath and external paving works

Contractors will be in place and works begun in early November.

Works outside the gates to Carton Avenue will be carried out in conjunction with the Charter House Bus Bays. Cllr. McGinley was advised that the latter is being held up by ongoing negotiations on land acquisition for the bus bays. He asked that every effort possible be made to speed up matters as the safety of school children is the issue.

Westside Waste Appeal

Westside Waste appealed the decision of Kildare County Council to refuse planning permission for a waste processing centre at Blacklion. Deputy Emmet Stagg and Cllr. John McGinley have made observations to An Bord Pleanala in support of the Council's decision. Cllr. McGinley was also given the following report by the Council:

"This particular development is currently being assessed by the Kildare County Council to determine what unauthorised development, if any has commenced in the last 5 years. Resulting from this assessment of the development, the Planning Authority will then determine which of the following courses of action, if any, would be most suitable:

1. Issue a warning letter
2. Serve an Enforcement Notice
3. Seek an injunction in the relevant Court."

Cllr. McGinley asked that the Council take all steps necessary to "encourage" Westside to move their operation to a more suitable location as called for in the Maynooth Development Plan.

Cllr. McGinley's Submission on the Council's Estimates (Budget) for 2003

Cllr. John McGinley has asked that the following be included in the Estimates (Budget) for 2003:

Increased provision for Bond Bridge (It is E127,000 per year at present)

Party Political

(Maynooth Labour News Contd.)

- Provision for a North Kildare Swimming Pool Complex.
- Provision for children's and teenagers' playgrounds in all major towns in the County. The Estimates should also include a revised Development Levies Statement to cater for the provision of these amenities.
- Increased provision for Parks.
- Provision for the Council's One-Stop-Shop in Maynooth.
- Provision for the necessary remedial work to prevent the freezing of water mains on public footpaths in Greenfield Estate, Maynooth and in other affected housing estates in the County.
- Increased provision for the re-surfacing of housing estate roads, where the estates are greater than 20 years old.
- Increased provision for the reconstruction of footpaths in housing estates.
- Provision for the extension of the waste recycling pilot scheme in Leixlip to all other major towns in the County.
- Provision be made for the emptying of litter bins provided under the Council Litter Bin Grants Scheme.
- Increased provision so that the free skip scheme for housing estates can run for the 12 months of the year.

Traffic Calming Schemes

Cllr. John McGinley has asked for a progress report on the traffic schemes that he has asked for in Maynooth i.e. Pound Lane/Back Lane, Old Greenfield Lane and Kingsbry Estate.

Old Greenfield Environmental Improvement Scheme

Cllr. McGinley has expressed his annoyance at the Council's delay in submitting this scheme to the Department for approval. It was held up by the Council for 6 weeks and was only sent to the Department on 14th October and there has been no decision so far.

Shelter for 67a bus Turning Point

Cllr. John McGinley has submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Leixlip Area Committee of the Council:

"That Kildare County Council remove the small front wall at the 67a bus stop, opposite the Glenroyal Hotel, on the Straffan Road, in order to enable Dublin Bus to erect a shelter."

Dublin Bus has advised Cllr. McGinley that they cannot erect the shelter with the small wall in place. As the Council's engineers dispute this Cllr. McGinley

has asked them to talk to Dublin Bus reps to resolve the matter.

Developments on Main Street, Maynooth

Cllr. McGinley has expressed his concern at the number of pubs being granted planning permission on Main Street, with the resultant loss of residential premises. He asked the Council's planners to consider what steps need to be taken to protect the character of the Main Street and if it requires a variation of the Development Plan then it will need to be done.

Dunne's Field South of Kingsbry

Planning permission issued to Michael Dunne for 203 dwellings on 25th October. The permission is for 1 detached dwelling, 90 four bedroom two storey semi-detached dwellings and 112 two bedroom apartments in 28 two storey blocks.

The original application on this site sought the provision of apartments in three storey blocks and Deputy Emmet Stagg and Cllr. John McGinley are pleased that this proposal was reduced to 2 storey following submissions made about the overlooking of residents in Kingsbry.

Objection to Three Storey Development on Nun's Field

Deputy Emmet Stagg and Cllr. John McGinley have lodged objections to the proposal by Glenmoy Developments Limited to develop 128 two bedroomed apartments in two and three storey buildings at Dillons Row, Maynooth, on lands formerly know as the Nun's Field.

38 of the dwellings are to be provided in 3 two storey blocks of which two are to the rear and side of the existing senior citizens bungalows at Nagle Court. Deputy Stagg and Cllr. McGinley have called on the Council to insist that these buildings be reduced to one storey to prevent overlooking of the senior citizens bungalows.

Two three storey blocks are proposed which will overlook Pebble Hill Housing Estate and the Presentation School. Deputy Stagg and Cllr. McGinley have indicated that these should be reduced to two storey to prevent overlooking and to also ensure that the three storey element is not an imposing feature when viewed from Carton Avenue.

Deputy Stagg and Cllr. McGinley are also concerned at the large number of apartments proposed given that a similar application for 137 apartments is proposed for the old pitch and putt course on the other side of Dillons Row. If the Council allow 250 apartments to be built in this old residential area it will not benefit the local community as those residing in such apartments tend to be very mobile and do not get involved in local community affairs. The provision of a mix of standard housing with apartments would give some balance to these proposals.

Party Political

(Maynooth Labour News Contd.)

Deputy Stagg and Cllr. McGinley hope the Glenmoy Development Limited application will be rejected and they will lodge a strong objection to the proposal for the former pitch and putt lands.

Feeder Bus for Train Services

Following discussion at a recent Branch Meeting, Deputy Emmet Stagg has requested the Managing Director of Iarnród Éireann to examine the possibility of the provision of a feeder bus service.

At present many commuters walk to the station but a considerable number drive also which leaves the car park at the station full all day with other commuters parking all day in housing estates nearby and in the car park at Doctor's Lane.

The provision of a feeder bus service would help to alleviate these problems and increase the usage of the train services.

Advice Service Change of Venue

Due to the demolition of Caulfields Pub, Deputy Emmet Stagg's Advice Service has moved to No. 2 Convent Lane. The Advice Service will revert to Caulfields when the new premises is completed.

Happy Christmas

Deputy Emmet Stagg and Cllr. John McGinley would like to wish the people of Maynooth a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

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Party Political

Fine Gael Notes

Deputy Bernard Durkan & Cllr. Senan Griffin wish all the people of Maynooth and the surrounding areas a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Carton Avenue

Work on Carton Avenue is due to commence during the middle of November and is expected to last approximately five weeks. The work will entail an improved footpath, the replacement and pruning of trees and an enhanced entrance from the Main Street. The cost of the works is estimated at €200,000 of which €75,000 came from Kelt.

Some extra work will be required in order to provide a bus bay for the children attending the Girls National School. This work will entail the removal of the existing boundary wall and will be carried out at a later stage.

Harbour Field & Geraldine Hall

Kildare County Council expects to have the lease on the Harbour Field and the Hall transferred to them by early December. The Area Committee have worked extremely hard to achieve this result, which is long overdue. The Council has been requested by the Area Committee to secure the Geraldine Hall building in order to prevent further vandalism.

Traffic Management

The developers of the Kavanaghs Mills project have submitted a very much improved traffic plan for Maynooth. The area covered by this plan is from the Kilcock Road to the entrance to the Glenroyal complex. Cllr. Senan Griffin has requested that Kildare County Council put yellow box markings at the entrance to Parklands, Rail Park, Greenfield and Silken Vale as part of the overall traffic plan. In a statement to the local Fine Gael Branch, Cllr. Griffin highlighted the failure of the Maynooth Plan to include a ring road from Blacklion to the Straffan Road interchange. Cllr. Griffin further stated that the volume of traffic now using the Main Street is far greater than the pre-bypass days. He said that it was a major mistake not to insist on this road being built. Cllr. Griffin has urged Kildare County Council to put in place speed tables on the Celbridge Road and the Gael Scoil in the meantime, as safety of school children has to be paramount.

Meadowbrook Link/Bond Bridge

The final details of the transfer of land to accommodate the Meadowbrook Link have now been agreed. The Dunne Family is to be complimented for their assistance in ensuring that this project is now possible. Contract documents are currently being prepared. It now seems likely that the Meadowbrook Link project will commence in advance of the Bond Bridge project. The Bond

Bridge project is likely to commence in May 2003. Cllr. Senan Griffin has sought assurances that proper traffic calming measures will be put in place along the Meadowbrook Road.

Traffic Calming

Cllr. Senan Griffin has submitted two areas in Maynooth as being suitable for traffic calming, namely the Moyglare Road at the entrance to Moyglare Village or at the entrance to Moyglare Abbey and secondly at Maynooth Park. Cllr. Griffin has insisted that the table cushion type of traffic calming measure is used rather than the ramp type. The table cushion is much more effective and aesthetically pleasing for everybody.

Maynooth Post Primary

Deputy Bernard Durkan has requested that the Department of Education expedite the construction of the extension to Maynooth Post Primary School. Deputy Durkan has also requested the Minister for Finance to include the cost of the extension as part of his budget proposals. It should be noted that the school has had planning permission for this extension since last December, but is still awaiting funding from the Department of Education.

Westside Waste

Cllr. Senan Griffin has requested Kildare County Council to bring their expertise to bear on An Bord Pleanála in order that the EPA conform with the Maynooth Development Plan. The residents of Parklands and the surrounding area are concerned about noise levels and the potential for pollution from this venture. Cllr. Senan Griffin's proposal that the Council enter into discussions with Glenmoy with the view to providing a fully serviced children's playground in the open space allotted to the site, was accepted by the Area Committee. A children's playground in this vicinity (close to Carton Avenue) would be of tremendous benefit to the residents of the area.

Traffic Lights at Maynooth Interchange

Cllr. Senan Griffin has demanded that the NRA (or their agents Kildare County Council) not install traffic lights at the northern side of the interchange. The present roundabout on the south side is working well. In Cllr. Griffin's view, the lights will worsen the situation. Cllr. Griffin has requested Kildare County Council or the NRA to prepare plans for another roundabout north of the interchange, which should also include access to a link for the Blacklion Road.

Swimming Pool

The three local Area Committees are due to meet on December 6th in order to consider the most suitable

Party Political

(Fine Gael News Contd.)

site for a swimming pool. The Clane, Celbridge and Leixlip Committees will have an updated report to assist them in determining the most suitable location. Cllr. Senan Griffin has at all times been of the view that the whole catchment area of North Kildare be considered for a fully equipped pool. He has also demanded that a fully equipped gym should be part of the pool development - top class facilities should be provided in the North of the County. It is important to remember that Naas and Athy have pools, which are currently being refurbished. According to Cllr. Senan Griffin, it is time for Kildare County Council to provide the North of the county with at least one good quality amenity.

Maynooth Newsletter

would welcome new contributors in relation to Articles, Residents Association News, Clubs & Organisations, Family Celebrations, Upcoming Events, Book Reviews, Film Reviews, Restaurant Reviews or any thing you might think would be of interest to our Readers.

Any of the above can be submitted to our office at
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Oliver Reilly

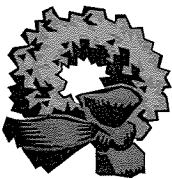
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Maynooth Newsletter

PUBLISHED BY MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The opinions and statements expressed in the articles are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the Editorial Board. All materials to be included in the next edition of the **Newsletter** should be addressed to:-

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Maximum number of words 500 per article.

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We request all our contributors to make sure their material is legible. If possible, material should be typed, but as not everyone has access to typewriters, the best way to present material is to use either neat legible writing or block letters, on one side of the paper. In future all letters to the Editor must have the writer's name and address available for publication. We emphasise that material submitted after the copydate will not be accepted and will be withheld until the following copydate

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In the case of unfairly impugning the reputation of any person we hereby offer that person or their reputation the right to reply.

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Maynooth Flower & Garden Club.

On Sunday December 1st in the Boys National School, we are having a Christmas Bazaar! with the help and support of Saint Marys Church of Ireland. There will be many hand-made gifts for the home, jams, chutneys, cake sale, raffle and teas. This is the last fund raising event for the Special Olympic Fund. So we hope for great support.

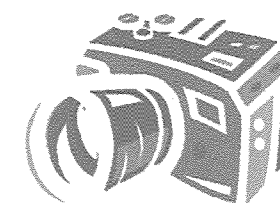
On December 10th Ann Kinsella will be at our club meeting in the Loftus Hall giving us Christmas Ideas.

The annual dinner will be held as usual in Moyglare Manor on January 21st. Names to Felicity Satchwell.

On behalf of all the committee I want to wish all our friends a Very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year. I look forward to seeing you all at our monthly meetings during 2003.

Moirá Baxter, P.R.O.

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