

MAYNOOTH NEWSLETTER

Toastmasters a
"roaring" success

Get cooking
Some Christmas treats to cook

Horoscopes



Tom McMullon—Maynooth
Tidy Towns Person of the
Year 2006

Maynooth
Town FC
Football
Results

Budding artists from
Kidz @ Play



Thinking of buy-
ing a computer—
see page 25 for
some advice



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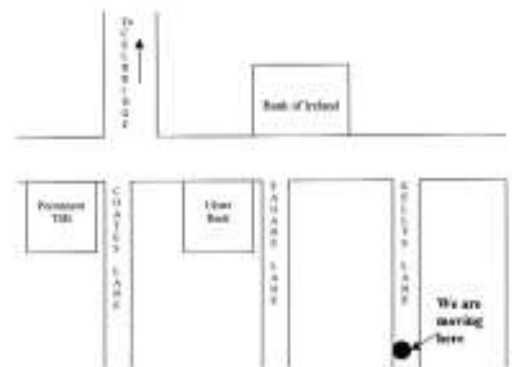
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Editorial

As we head in to the winter months and turn our attention to mostly " indoor " interests and pursuits, I would like to take the opportunity to briefly outline an issue which needs to be highlighted.

Political Party Notes in the Maynooth Newsletter.

One event of importance which is looming and drawing ever closer is the forthcoming General Election which is generally expected around May/June 2007 – only a couple of months away.

It is important at this junction to clearly outline the policy of the Editorial Board of the Newsletter with regard to the Political Party notes which are published on a monthly basis.

The policy of the Editorial Board is to be apolitical i.e. not to encourage or express political opinions or interests which are partisan or biased towards any one section of the political sector.

With this very important fact to the forefront, the Editorial Board has written to each individual Political Party in the Maynooth area and invited them to submit articles on a monthly basis for publication.

In order to demonstrate the impartiality of the Editorial Board, such articles submitted by any Party must not exceed a limit of 2,500/3,000 words. This will be vigorously enforced.

In all events, where any Political Party submits such an appropriate article, the article will be published. Where no such article appears in the monthly edition of the Newsletter, it can immediately be taken " as a given " that no such article was submitted by that particular Party to the Editorial Board for publication in that month.

In effect therefore where no Articles appear in the Newsletter from the various Political Parties, it is the Parties themselves who have to bear the responsibility for failing to provide any notes and ultimately for the absence of their presence in the local Newsletter.

To this end, the Editorial Board clearly outlined the above in our letter to the Parties concerned.

Brid Feely and Members of the Editorial Board of the Maynooth Newsletter.

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Maynooth Community Council Notes

The October meeting of Maynooth Community Council took place on Monday 9th in the Glenroyal Hotel.

Removal of lime trees from Main Street

At the last area committee meeting John McGliney stated that the original plan to remove 6 of the lime trees was not going to happen. But the County Manager said they would remove 3 of the trees, one from Brady's Pub, one at The Square, one from the Bank of Ireland. All the councillors voted against it so for the time being it has been put on hold. Doctor's Lane will be a one way towards the west as soon as a contractor has been appointed. Traffic calming will also be put in place because of the library and the public car park.

The pedestrian lights at the Bank of Ireland are going to be temporarily turned off and a survey is to be carried out to see if it will improve the situation.

Bond Bridge

Des Matthews said that the bridge will not open till December and it was an absolute disgrace that the residents of Newtown were misled by the Engineer and Contractor. He said at the meeting last September in the Newtown Inn that the bridge will be done in 26 weeks and I went away very happy and impressed that they were going to do this, but 12 months later it's just a disgrace.

John McGinley said he was told in mid September that all was going to plan and it would be open on time. Two weeks later he was given the new story.

Tom McMullon said it was also a disgrace.

Peter Connell said the Community Council should write to County Manager to express our anger and disappointment that the residents of Newtown and the Community Councillors were misled.

RYDER CUP

Sean Cushen expressed his disappointment in Kildare County Council for not keeping their promise of 7 day street cleaning, this did not happen. John McGinley said that they had promised seven day cleaning. Sean Cushen asked the Community Council to write to KCC and it was seconded by Paul Croghan.

Sub committees

Tidy Towns

The annual awards for the tidiest Town will take place on Tuesday the 24th of October in the Glenroyal Hotel at 8.00 pm, on the night we will get the results from

the survey taken by NUI Maynooth, which is to promote the Community of Maynooth.

Festival

Andrew McMullon said he was very disappointed with the Community Councillors that some of them did not deliver the Festival Brochure. That they are asked to help out only three times a year, for the Festival, St Patrick's day and the Annual Collection and that if they could not deliver the brochure all they had to do was ring the office and say they were unable to do so.

Terry Nealon said it was terrible that Andrew had done everything himself. We need more people.

Arts

Terry Nealon brought up the arts centre and said he put in plans three years ago. Peter Connell is going to meet with Terry during the week about his plan and fill in the gaps. We are still waiting on the ICA to get back to us to say if they are coming on board.

Tom McMullon is going to organise a meeting with the executive for next Monday or Tuesday. Terry and Peter will also attend.

Tom McMullon raised the issue of the Glenroyal and the music licence in the conference centre. Andrew McMullon said as there was no bars in any of the rooms they could not have a music licence.

Meeting concluded

Weston

Frank O'Shea said he was very concerned at the possibility of drugs coming into Weston and the executive was asked to write letters to the Minister of Justice and the Minister Finance to install proper customs services in all small airports to ensure that smuggling did not become an issue there..

The next meeting will be held on:

Monday 13th November 2006

in The GlenRoyal Hotel.



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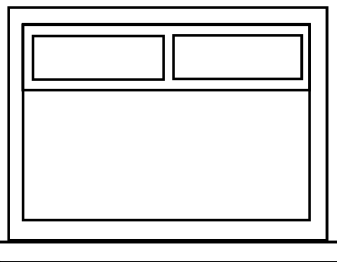
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Planning Permissions

File Number	Applicant Name	Applicant Address	Application Type	Application Received	Development Description	Development Location
06/2010	Fiona Kenny	Clonfert Maynooth Co Kildare	P	18/09/06	Construction of a five bedroom dormer bungalow mechanical aerated treatment plant with raised percolation area, new entrance onto public road and all associated site works and permission for removal pf condition 1 see 01/2027 etc	CLonfert South Maynooth Co Kildare
06/2029	Leixlip Amenity Group	Collinstown Maynooth Co Kildare	P	19/09/06	Replacement of existing GAA pitch with new athletics track and pitch, replacement of athletics track and pitch with two no full size soccer pitches, six no six-a-side soccer pitches with 3.65m high rigid mesh perimeter fencing and 16 no 12m high floc	Collinstown Maynooth Rd Leixlip Co Kildare
06/2027	Nancy Nevin	Lismore Barrogstown Maynooth Co Kildare	P	20/09/06	The erection of a house, entrance gates and the installation of an effluent treatment system and percolation area to the rear and all ancillary works	Barrogstown Maynooth Co Kildare
06/2051	Garland Homes	Unit 12 Block 5 Argus House Greenmount Office Park Harolds Cross Roads Dublin 6W	P	22/09/06	The demolition of 1 habitable house and the construction of 98 no. dwellings, comprising 4 no. 2 storey 4 bedroom semi detached houses, 28 no duplex units (of which 24 no. are 2 bed and 4 no are 3 bed) in 3 no. 3 storey terraces etc...	Mariaville Dunboyne Road Maynooth
06/2055	David & Patricia McAuliff & Ring	249 Kingsbry Maynooth Co kildare	P	25/09/06	Demolition of existing to side and construction of a new double storey extension to side of property	249 Kingsbry Maynooth Co Kildare
06/2064	Justin & Grainne Dunne	Dowdstown Maynooth Co Kildare	P	26/09/06	122 no. 3/4 storey buildings of mixed sizes of residential houses, duplex, apartment dwellings, single storey crèche, 254msq ESB substation 22msq demolition of house. 8 no. townhouses 3 storey 3 bed at terraced block A, 6 no townhouses 3 storey 3 bed	Greenfield Maynooth Co Kildare
06/2105	Mary Lennon	Kilmacredock Maynooth Co Kildare	P	29/09/06	Build a traditional 2 storey house, separate double garage, septic tank & new vehicular entrance	Kilmacredock Maynooth Co Kildare
06/2116	Mary Murray	Donaghstown Maynooth Co Kildare	P	29/09/06	Retention of a conservatory at the rear of my bungalow type dwelling and the proposed conversion of a flat roof to a pitched roof at the rear of my dwelling, erection of a B&B sign at Ladychapel Crossroads, Kealstown, Maynooth, and all associated site	Donaghstown Maynooth Co Kildare

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Entertainment Guide For November

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Sat 11th: Toss The Feather

Sat 18th: Men In Black

Sat 25th: Uptown Band

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Planning Permissions

File Number	Applicant Name	Applicant Address	Application Type	Application Received	Development Description	Development Location
06/2131	Yvonne & Sharon Regan	480, 481 The Cresnet Straffan Rd Maynooth Co Kildare	P	02/10/06	Construction of a dormer extension to the rear of the existing childcare centre, comprising of reception area, office, kitchen, cot room and four additional classrooms to ground floor with a homework facilities at former level:	480, 481 The Cresnet Straffan Rd Maynooth Co Kildare
06/2148	Brian Murphy	27 Beaufield Ave Maynooth Co Kildare	P	04/10/06	Construct no. 1 granny flat extension to the side of my existing dwelling.	27 Beaufield Ave Maynooth Co Kildare
06/2156	Aldi Stores Ireland Ltd	Newbridge Rd Naas Co Kildare	P	05/10/06	Extension of the previously permitted single storey discount foodstore reg ref 03/1233 on a 68ha site at the Kilcock Rd M, Maynooth, the gross will increase from 1,151 sqm (net retail area of 760 sq.m) to 1,529sq.m	Kilcock Rd Maynooth Co Kildare
06/2177	Peter & Alicia Alford	12 The Close Mariavilla Maynooth Co. Kildare	P	06/10/06	Change of use from domestic garage with store (as granted under PLref.06/755) to residential consisting of study room, utility and WC	12 The Close Mariavilla Maynooth Co. Kildare
06/2226	Robert Hines	Rowanstown Bungalow Maynooth Co. Kildare	P	13/10/06	Erect 1 and half storey private school totalling 273msq with 3 no. 20 child classroom's for I.M.E.B (Irish Montessori Education Board) with 1 no. classroom	Newtown Maynooth Co. Kildare
06/2240	Joseph Murphy	6 Leinster Park Maynooth Co. Kildare	P	16/10/06	Demolition of existing dwelling house, construction of 4. no detached dormer bungalows, and associated site works, provide for new, and revised existing site entrance arrangements, also to provide for connection to existing public services	2 Leinster Park Maynooth Co. Kildare
06/2242	Michael Kennedy	Johninstown Maynooth Co. Kildare	P	16/10/06	Extension to the existing split level dwelling to include (a) an extension to the existing kitchen for a new dining area, (b) and extension to the existing basement for the existing front porch area © retention permission for the existing basement	Johninstown Maynooth Co. Kildare

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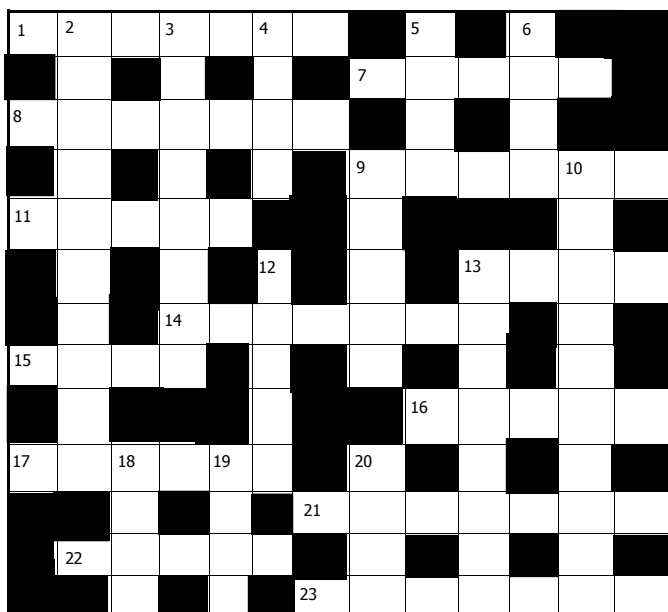
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Crossword No: 50



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Across:

1. Be in the running (7)
7. Extend (5)
8. Dignity (7)
9. Discarded odds and ends (6)
11. Threaded fastener (5)
13. David- - -, snooker presenter (4)
14. Without levy (3,4)
15. Emma- - -, Watching actress (4)
16. Harmonious sound (5)
17. Holiday place (6)
21. The papal government (7)
22. Maid (5)
23. Infectious disease (7)

Down:

2. Price too highly (10)
3. Possessions (8)
4. Brutal lout (4)
5. A performing art (4)
6. Supreme Greek god (4)
9. Model, -- - - Hall (5)
10. Destroy completely (10)
12. Wield (5)
13. Italian volcano (8)
18. Ranked player (4)
19. Boulder (4)
20. Animal's hair (4)

Doodle Box

Across:

1. Hound, 4. Shock, 10. Inept, 11. Liberal, 12. Travolta, 13. John, 15. Naples, 17. Grange, 19. Bull, 20. Sensible, 23. Leading, 24. Manet, 25. Adopt, 26. Knoll.

Down:

2. Opera, 3. Nitrogen, 5. Hobo, 6. Cartoon, 7. Sitting Bull, 8. Bluto, 9. Flannelette, 14. Grossman, 16. Pollard, 18. Verge, 21. Banal, 22. Limp.

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Gardening Tips for November

Things to Do in the Garden in November

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Insulate containers to stop roots from freezing. 2. Plant herbaceous perennials, providing the soil isn't too wet or frozen. 3. Continue to divide overgrown clumps of herbaceous perennials. 4. Plant tulips and lilies. 5. Prune redcurrants, blackcurrants and gooseberries if you haven't already done so. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Plant deciduous trees, hedges and shrubs, fruit trees, herbaceous plants and climbers. 7. Sow broad beans for an early crop next spring. 8. Rake autumn leaves regularly from the lawn and add them to the compost heap, if you have one. 9. Protect all tender plants from frosts with horticultural fleece or mulch. |
|---|--|

Some November plants in flower and vegetables in season

The Flower Garden	The Ornamental Garden	Vegetables in Season
Autumn Crocus Cyclamen Genetian <i>Iris Unguicularis</i> Nerine Schizostylis	Lonicera standishii Mahonia Prunus <i>Subjirtella</i> <i>Autumnalis</i> Viburnum Winter Jasmine	Artichokes, Jerusalem Brussels sprouts Cabbage Chicory Parsnip Spinach beet Swede



How to... KEEP WILD BIRDS FED THIS WINTER



Help wildlife over winter – they'll repay the favour by controlling pests in the garden and providing you with much viewing pleasure.

- ◇ Birds use a great deal of energy looking for food, and if you put food out, they'll travel long distances to eat here. So if you begin feeding them, you are making a winter-long commitment—if they turn up to find nothing to eat, they will have wasted valuable reserves that they may not be able to replace.
- ◇ If you are using a bird table, get one with a roof to keep the food dry.
- ◇ Provide a good cross section of food, making it strong on high-energy foods such as nuts, fats (butter and bacon rind) seeds and bread.
- ◇ Make a bird cake by half-filling an old yogurt pot with mixed seed, pouring melted lard over the top and mixing it together.
- ◇ Birds must have water. Use a shallow dish or permanent birdbath and refill it with fresh water every day.

Your Questions...

What herbs can be grown for use fresh in winter?

Chevril (*Anthriscus cerefolium*) is an excellent winter herb: sow it in August September; it will withstand most winters outside.

Other evergreen herbs are the thymes (*Thymus*) rosemary (*Rosemary officinalis*), which needs protection in cold areas, pot majoram, and winter savory. All these, and chervil, are more productive in winter if grown in frames or under cloches.



or

Clubs, Organisations and Societies

Maynooth Citizens Information Centre Notes

Question

My Mother is ill and needs full-time care I intend taking Carer's leave from work to look after her. Can I earn any money if I am receiving Carer's Benefit while on leave?

Answer

You can earn money but you are restricted in how much you can earn and the number of hours you can work.

Carer's Benefit, which is based on social insurance contributions, is a payment made by the Department of Social and Family Affairs to people who leave employment to look after someone in need of full-time care and attention. It is paid for up to 2 years. You can claim Carer's Benefit as a single continuous period or in any number of separated periods.

Providing you meet the contribution conditions and the Department decides that your mother is in need of full-time care and attention you should qualify for Carer's Benefit.

While looking after your mother you may

- Attend an educational or training course or take up voluntary or community work for up to 15 hours per week.
- Engage in limited self-employment in your home.
- Engage in employment outside your home for up to 15 hours per week provided it had been approved by the Department.

The maximum weekly earnings that you are allowed from such employment/self-employment is €290.

Question

What is the Family Mediation Service?

Answer

The Family Mediation Service is a confidential service that helps couples in Ireland, who have decided to separate or divorce, to negotiate their own terms of agreement, while addressing the needs and interests of all involved. The service, which is part of the Family Support Agency, is free and is available to married and non-married couples.

The service encourages the separating couple to co-operate with each other in working out mutually acceptable arrangements on all or any of the following:

- Financial support
- Family home and property
- Parenting the children
- Other problems related to the separation/divorce

The service does not provide marriage counselling or legal advice.

For an appointment with the Family Mediation Service, both parties must contact the service and confirm their willingness to attend. Mediation usually takes between two and six sessions, and each session lasts approximately one hour. A trained mediator assists the couple to reach their own agreement. The discussions are confidential and the mediator does not take sides.

Most mediations end with a written document that sets out all the details of the couple's agreement. This can then be taken to solicitors to be drawn into a legal Deed of Separation and/or used as the basis for a Decree of Divorce.

When a couple has reached an agreement, a session is offered to parents to invite their children in to discuss their new family arrangements.

There are four full-time Family Mediation Service Offices in Ireland and a number of part-time offices.

Further information is available from:

Family Mediation Service,
St Stephen's Green House,
Earlsfort Terrace,
Dublin 2.

Tel: (01) 872 8277, Website: www.fsa.ie

Question

I live in rented accommodation and my landlord is raising my rent again this year. What can I do?

Answer

Under the Residential Tenancies Act 2004, if you are in dispute with your landlord you can refer your dispute to the dispute resolution service of the Private Residential Tenancies Board (PRTB).

The legislation does not apply to owner-occupied accommodation, social housing, the formerly rent-controlled sector, long occupation equity tenancies, business lettings, holiday lettings, "rent a room" or

(Continued on page 12)

Clubs, Organisations and Societies

Maynooth Citizens Information Centre Notes (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 11)

other arrangements whereby the landlord also resides in the dwelling.

The Dispute resolution process used by the PRTB is confidential, supportive and non-confrontational. Landlords, tenants or other parties directly affected (e.g. neighbours) can initiate the dispute resolution process. Landlords must be registered with the PRTB to use the dispute resolution service.

The service covers disputes about such things as deposits, lease terms, termination of tenancies, rent arrears, complaints by neighbours, and breaches of statutory obligations by either landlord or tenant. You must refer any dispute about rent increases to the PRTB before the rent increase is due to take effect or within 28 days receiving formal notice of the new rent (whichever is later).

It should not be necessary to have legal representation when taking a case to the PRTB. Initially the dispute is dealt with by mediation or alternatively by adjudication (the parties can decide which method they prefer). The fee for referring the dispute for mediation or adjudication is €25. If the parties do not wish to accept the mediation agreement or the adjudicator's decision, the dispute can be appealed to a public hearing by a three-person Tenancy Tribunal within 21 days. It costs €40 to appeal the dispute to the Tribunal.

A mediated agreement, the decision of the adjudicator or the decision of the Tribunal results in a binding determination order from the PRTB which can be enforced through the Circuit Court.

Further information is available from
Private Residential Tenancies Board,
Canal House, Canal Road,
Dublin 6.
Tel: (01) 888 2960, Website: www.prtb.ie

Question

I bought a camera when I was in France recently. When I got back to Ireland I discovered it was faulty. I have written to the shop where I purchased it and received a reply denying any liability. Is there anything else I can do besides taking legal action?

Answer

Yes there is. You should contact the European Consumer Centre (ECC) in Dublin. The ECC will tell you what you are entitled to and it will try to resolve your complaint through direct contact with the shop. If your complaint is still unresolved the ECC will refer

your complaint to an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) body in France.

Alternative dispute resolution is a cheap and easy way to resolve consumer complaints without going to court. The ECC will deal with any complaint arising out of consumer purchase in any of the 25 EU countries as well as Norway and Iceland.

Problems with deliveries, faulty products or products that do not fit their description will all be dealt with by the ECC. The ECC will inform you of the length of time that your case will take and the cost of taking any alternative dispute resolution procedure and whether the decision of the ADR body is binding or not. They will also keep you informed of how your case is progressing if you agree to go ahead with your complaint.

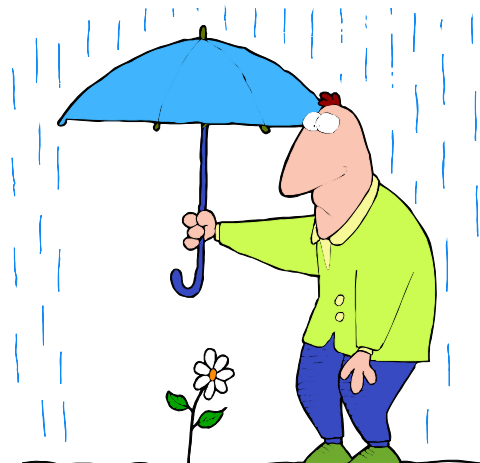
Contact the ECC with proof of purchase of the item that you bought and any copies of correspondence that you have had with the shop. The ECC will advise you of the best course of action. They can be contacted at

European Consumer Centre,
13a Upper O'Connell Street,
Dublin 1.
Tel: (01) 809 0600, Website www.eccdublin.ie

Further information is available from the Citizens Information Centre.

This column has been compiled by the Citizens Information Centre which provides a free and confidential service to the public.

Tel: 01 6285 477
Lo-Call: 1890 777 121



Features

Cluain Aotbhinn Residents Association Who did this

On Thursday the 12th October at around 2a.m. some idiot decided to have a joyride in his car and destroy our green area which was one of the main focus points and play area of our estate. Whoever this idiot is the residents association is asking you to come and repair the damage you have caused. **You were seen, your number taken. But** as we are a fair organisation we will give you the chance to repair the damage you have caused before we pass the number onto the Garda. What I would like to know is why you did it? Have you got a vendetta against us, the residents, were you drunk? Did you do it to say O look at me I'm brilliant look what I can do with my car. Well I hope you woke up today feeling like a fool and I do hope you will do the right thing and come forward and fix the damage you have caused.

C.A.R.A.



The Roost

Phone: (01) 6289844

The Roost Christmas Dinner Menu



To Start

Tomato and Gin Soup, served with brown bread
Smoked Salmon on a Horseradish Potato Salad with salsa Verde
Baked Pastry Parcel of Brie & Apple Chutney on a bed of seasonal leaves
Endive Salad with Warm Bacon, Caesar Dressing & Celeriac Crisps

Main Course

Roast Stuffed Turkey & Ham cranberry sauce & rich natural gravy
Grilled Steak Mexicano, on a bed of Cajun Potatoes with a rich tomato sauce (€3 supplement)
Vegetarian Penne Pasta with roast Mediterranean vegetables in a tomato & basil sauce
Baked Fillet of Seabass on a Red Pepper Relish with basil pesto
Pan Fried Breast of Chicken on Roasted Vegetables with garlic & Rosemary jus
Served with Fresh Market Vegetables & Potatoes

Deserts

Sticky Toffee Pudding
Dark Chocolate Roulade filled with Tia Maria cream
Warm Christmas Pudding with your choice of Brandy Butter, cream or ice-cream
Cream filled Profiteroles with homemade Butterscotch sauce
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Children's Colouring Competition



Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

**Winner's of last month's colouring competition was:
Megan O Malley, Clare Island, & Luke Nulty, 31 Castledawson, Maynooth .**

Due to the large number of entries this month we have decided to give two prizes.

(Prize to be collected from the Maynooth Community Council office)

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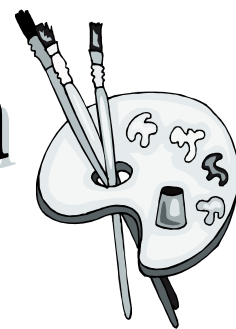
Winner of the September Children's Colouring Competition is Maeve Cowhey pictured above

Sudoku

3			2				5	
			8			2	1	4
4		8		5				
2	3	6			4			7
		7	5		3			
		1			6			
9				7				5
						8	7	6
				6		4	2	



Colouring Competition



Well Done to all the Children from
Kidz @ Play
who entered our Colouring Competition in the October Issue.

James Sutton

Natasha Hughes

Kirsty Fitzpatrick

Stephen Horgan

Fergal Reilly

Fiachra Brennan

Ellie Molyneaux

Isabelle Keely

Anna Ryan

Mario Mathais

Lydia Fagan

Leah Edwards

Owen Yanyongo

Jack Hourigan

Stephen Saults

Grace Brennan

Adam Dunne

Niamh Krahn

Oisin Marron

Luke Cunningham

Claire Hawkins

Eoghan Walsh

Darragh Hetherington

Veronica Stewart

Cian Doyle

Nell Mescal

Aidan Duffy

Dillon Tuke

Iseult Brennan

Aisling Wilks

Dawid Koziel

Aoife Shine

Tom Kelly

Tom Cullen-Tinley

Aoife Mescal

Cillian Karney

Alex Pure

Ella Hayes

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Recipes



Get Ahead for Christmas



Stained-glass ginger biscuits

Spiced biscuits that look great as a tree decoration

65g/2½oz butter, at room temperature
50g/2oz brown sugar
4tbsp golden syrup
150g/5oz plain flour sieved
1tsp ground ginger
½ tsp bicarbonate of soda
Clear boiled sweets (one per biscuit)
You will need some ribbon and cutter



1. In a bowl, beat butter and sugar with an electric whisk till pale. Add syrup, flour, ginger and bicarbonate soda and beat together until it forms a dough. Wrap in a clear film and chill for at least 30 minutes.

2. Preheat oven to gas mark 5/190°C (180°C in a fan oven). Roll out dough on a lightly floured surface and cut out biscuit shapes with a star or circle cutter. Stamp out hole in the centre of some biscuits with a smaller cutter, but cook these to make bite-sized biscuits. Make a small hole for ribbon using a skewer.

3. Place biscuits on a baking sheet lined with baking powder and cook for 5 minutes. Remove from oven and put a clear boiled sweet in the centre of each biscuit. Return to oven for 2 minutes till sweet has melted. Lift baking paper and biscuits onto a cooling rack and leave to cool on paper till the melted sweet has firmed up, then transfer biscuits to cooling rack. They will keep for up to a week in an airtight container. Thread with ribbon to hang.

Macaroons

These little chewy bites will melt in your mouth

100g/3½oz ground almonds
250g/9oz icing sugar/sieved
1tbsp plain flour
4 egg whites
2tbsp caster sugar
Pink food colouring (optional)



1. Preheat oven to gas mark 3/ 170°C (160°C in a fan oven). In a bowl, mix the ground almonds, icing sugar and flour together. In another bowl, whisk egg whites till they form soft peaks, then whisk sugar till its shiny. Gently fold in almond mixture in batches till it has combined to make a soft batter. Gently stir in pink food colouring (if using).

2. Drop teaspoonfuls onto a baking sheet lined with baking paper. Leave room for them to spread. Then cook for about 15mins, till crisp to touch but still soft inside. Leave to cool on baking sheet for a couple of mins before carefully transferring them to wire rack to cool completely. These will keep for up to a week in an airtight container.

Biscott

Crunchy Italian-style biscuits, perfect for coffee



300g/11oz plain flour, sieved
150g/5oz unrefined caster sugar
1tsp baking powder
3 eggs
1tbsp vanilla extract
125g/4oz chopped almonds
50g/2oz dried cranberries or cherries

1. Preheat oven to gas mark 4/ 180°C (170°C in a fan oven). In a bowl, mix flour, sugar and baking powder together. Add eggs and vanilla extract, and work with your hands until it forms a soft dough—the longer you mix it the softer it will become. Knead in almonds and dried fruit. Cut into four pieces and roll these out to slightly flattened sausage shapes—you may need to dust your hands with flour if dough becomes too sticky. Place on a baking sheet lined with baking paper and cook for 20 minutes.

2. Carefully cut into slices about 1½cm thick using a serrated knife. Then return to baking sheet and cook for about 10 mins, till golden and dry. Leave to cool completely on a wire rack. These keep in an airtight container for up to a week.



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Useful tips



Christmas

Advent Calendar

You will need:

30cm of 115cm– wide red gingham fabric
30cm of 115cm-wide red and white stripe fabric
Matching thread & Sweets or tiny gifts
6m of 3mm-wide red ribbon
White paint & 60x40cm cork memo board
Nickel drawing pins & black felt-tip pen
Flexible stencil for numerals

To Make:

1. Cut 12 rectangles measuring 25x10cm from both fabrics. Fold each one in half with right sides together and stitch the sides, taking 1cm seam allowances. Turn right side out and press. Press under 4cm around the top of each one. Fill each one with a small gift. Cut ribbon into 24 lengths measuring 25cm. Tie each ribbon around the tops of the bags and knot the ends, leaving a 5cm loop. Trim excess ribbon.
2. Paint the memo board and leave to dry.
3. Arrange the bags on the board in four staggered rows to work out positions for drawing pins and numbers. Draw numbers on the board in felt-tip pen.
4. Insert drawing pins on the board and hang the bags from them.

Striking Centrepiece

Traditional

Create a stunning festive arrangement for the table by spraying a flowerpot with gold paint and filling it with red rose heads, ivy leaves and mini baubles, before placing a pillar candle inside.

Elegant

An old glass cake stand can be dressed up with glittery flowers, baubles and pretty tea light holders to create a glam table centrepiece. Place it on a gold charger plate and finish off with some ivy.



Countdown



Instant

For a classic look that's so simple to achieve, simply place a berry wreath on a large gold cake board and sit three pillar candles inside.

Greeting Cards

You will need:

Packs of plain cards, oddments of fabric card, string, buttons, craft glue, skeleton leaves and chenille tinsel stems.

To make:

Enlarge templates by 200 per cent or to fit your cards. Draw triangle for tree and irregular star shape freehand.

For simple country style, decorate plain brown cards with string and shapes cut from oddments of fabric.

Tree

From fabric, cut a tall triangle for the tree, a rectangle for the base and a small square for the present. Glue in place and add a string bow.

Heart

Cut heart from fabric and glue in place over a string loop.

Stocking

Cut stocking and band from fabric and glue in place on top of a string loop.

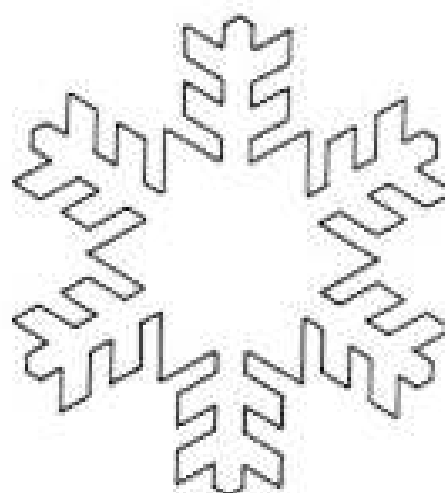
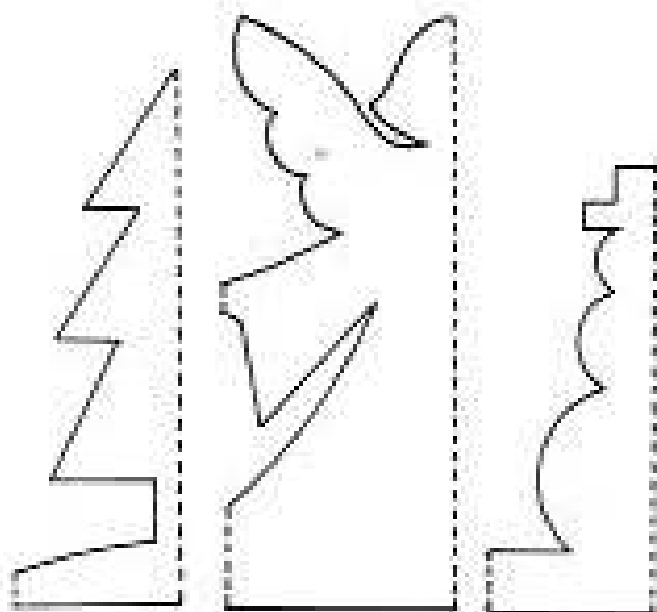
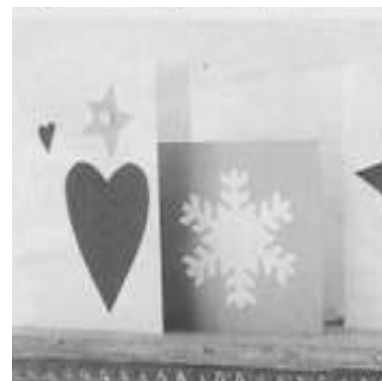
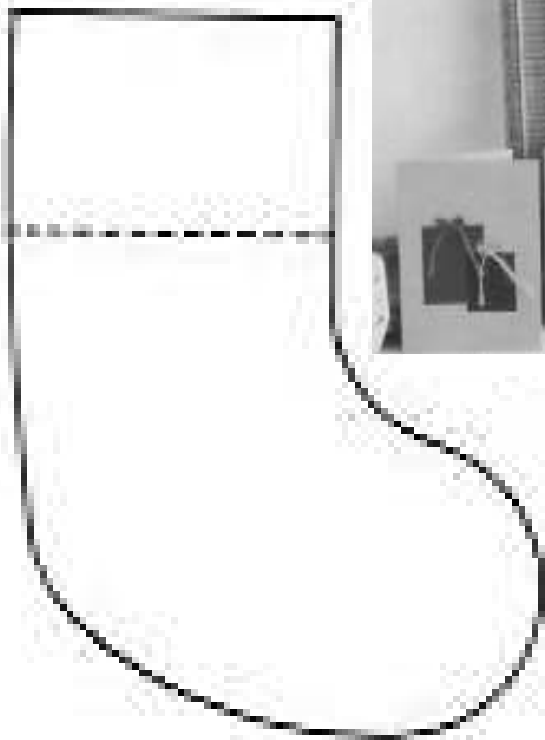
Presents

Cut rectangles of fabric and glue in place. Add string bows.



Useful tips

Templates for Christmas Card Making



Horoscopes



ARIES—March 21—April 20th

Life is full of ups and down just now but losing your cool won't help clear the air. Best just let sleeping dogs lie and smile through it all. Sunday will be one day you won't want to miss.

Lucky number 5, lucky colour black



TAURUS—April 21—May 21

You're wondering what it's all about this month when someone gives you some surprising news about a colleague. Take it with a pinch of salt and don't be the one to spread gossip. On Monday the truth will be revealed.

Lucky number 3, lucky colour yellow.



GEMINI—May 22—June 22

Getting your point across is not always easy. You need to take things slowly and avoid jumping into situations where you are not comfortable. You will get there in the end.

Lucky number 2, lucky colour gold



CANCER—June 23—July 23

Friends come and go but you can only be true to one person—yourself. Be aware of your strengths and you will be fine and more content with life. Have courage and take that risk you have been contemplating.

Lucky number 2, lucky colour gold.



LEO—July 24—August 23

A chance meeting with someone could help make your dreams come true. Get yourself ready for action and keep all doors open. Your lucky day is Saturday so be prepared.

Lucky number 9, lucky colour green.



Virgo—August 24—September 23

You feel bad about not saying how you feel to a close friend but you may get a second chance to speak up. Your friendship will be valued and you will be delighted with the outcome.

Lucky number 1, lucky colour purple



LIBRA—September 24—October 23

You are feeling unwell this week. You may be trying to do too much and suffering from burn out. Remember to relax from time to time and your body will recover. Lucky number 9, lucky colour brown.



SCORPIO—October 24—Nov 22

You could put your foot in it this week when meeting someone for the first time. Watch what you say and all will be well. You may have a hectic timetable over the next month so be sure to keep on track of everything.

Lucky number 12, colour dark red.



CAPRICORN—Dec 22—Jan. 20

A shopping spree is on the cards but keep an eye on the bank balance. Don't be tempted to buy just because you see a bargain. Make a list and stick to it.

Lucky number 10, lucky colour royal blue



SAGITTARIUS—Nov. 23—Dec. 21

Major changes are indicated in your stars this week—maybe a move to a new house or job. Don't make any hasty decisions and all will be well.

A weekend away is possible if you make plans.

Lucky number 7 lucky colour pink.



AQUARIUS—Jan 21—Feb. 19

Follow your heart this month as your feelings are spot on and you know what want. Now is the time to strike while the iron is hot and you will be going around with a big smile on your face. You get an unexpected gift of something you always wanted.

Lucky number 14, lucky colour white.



PISCES—February 20—March 20

You are not sure where to spend Christmas and want to change your normal schedule. However this won't go down well with the relatives and you will have to live with the consequences. Be brave!

Lucky number 6, lucky colour peach.

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Poetry Corner

The Moon

How I love my yellow moon
Shining so brightly in the sky
You lie in space like a ruin
So barren and ready to die
O' planet moon what brought you
here

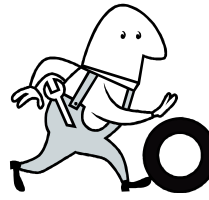
To a universe of plentiful source
To mother nature you are so near
With many a gravitational force
O' yellow moon I cherish you so
Shining over us with great light
As for your source I do not know
But you certainly are a precious sight

The moon shines over the hill
A romantic myth of your night
You stay so bright and still
With many a guiding light
Me and my old reliable moon
Stay with me forever more
Whenever my days be of gloom
Fade away like a time before

Whenever my time is of end
You will still caress the sky
My moon will always be my friend
May you never ever die

Patrick Murray

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Buying a Computer

The vast majority of people buy a PC to browse the Web, check and send e-mail, and perform word processing or spreadsheet work. Today, even the least-expensive, lowest-of-the-low-end PC can perform any of those jobs admirably. You'll want a little extra performance if you use peripherals such as a printer or scanner. You'll want even more performance if you're a gamer, if you're interested in digital video, if you perform other processor-intensive tasks, or if you simply need to have the latest and greatest. Below is a rough breakdown of some of your options.



A 2-GHz Athlon 64 X2 3800+ or 2.8-GHz Pentium D 915 processor. For everyday work, word processing, spreadsheets, and e-mail, you don't need the latest, greatest, and most expensive processor.

At least 512MB memory. Anything less will slow your work. Buy as much as you can afford, up to 1GB.

Be careful when you buy integrated graphics.

If you buy a computer with integrated graphics, ask if it has a PCI Express slot. If it doesn't, you won't be able to upgrade your graphics chip.

Subwoofers improve sound. Adding a sound system with a subwoofer (a large speaker that produces very low bass tones) can dramatically improve the sound quality of a home system. But think of the neighbours!

A 17-inch flat-panel LCD monitor. Unless you're really pinching pennies, a 17-inch LCD will let you see your documents with greater definition than smaller displays would.

A rewritable DVD drive. Floppy drives have faded away. CD-RW-only drives are on the way out. Though your computer might still include a CD-RW drive, many users find that USB flash drive, (a small stick-like drive, very useful for backing up or transferring data). CD-RW/DVD-ROM combination drives, and recordable DVD drives are better options for data storage and transfer.

Word of mouth can often give you the best info on who provides the best (and worst) value, technical support and warranty service.

A 60GB or larger hard drive. A 40GB hard drive is fine for simple word processing or Web browsing tasks, but you'll likely fill that hard drive pretty quickly. .

Connectivity up front. Many PCs now offer a pair of USB ports on the front of the case, so you can connect multiple peripherals such as digital cameras or MP3 players without having to fumble around in back.

Graphics cards for novice gamers. If you want to do some gaming and you're keeping an eye on the future, get a mainstream graphics board. You'll need a card with a built-in TV tuner if you plan to record from your TV.

Other Shopping Tips

In addition to choosing a PC with the above specifications, you can save money and avoid unnecessary hassle by following these tips:

Don't buy additional software unless you really need it. Purchase an operating system, an office suite, and an antivirus package. But if you need more, look for vendors' software bundles to upgrade your software. Also students are entitled to buy Microsoft software at discounted prices. Ask about this if you are upgrading.

Upgrade at the time of purchase. Often, you can get a better deal on a larger hard drive or a better monitor when you first order your computer. Even doubling the size of a hard drive may add very little to the cost, and upgrading to a higher-quality monitor may add only €50.

When buying a printer, ask about cartridge costs—often a printer sells cheaply but the manufacturers make their money on print cartridges. A printer may cost only €80 but replacement cartridges may cost €40!

Get the lowdown on the store before you buy. Word of mouth can often give you the best info on who provide the best (and worst) value, technical support and warranty service.

And finally—good luck!

Next Month's Article will be on choosing and buying a printer. So watch this space for tips.

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Poetry Corner

November

As soon as Halloween ends
Winter awakes like a hungry bear
He growls that he is finally here
Whipping wind around us as we
walk
Teaming rain of which we talk
Old raincoats taken out
Its damn cold to be out and
about!

And the local garden centre is
already
Decked out for Christmas time
Some run to buy before the rush
Will it be natural or fake pine?

The first month of Winter
And evening darkens ever earlier
Time to put the cents aside
Or is this your rainy day?

The cogs and wheels that
Put the year in motion
Now begin to creak
And in ending, tune a notion
Of birth and rebirth speak

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Clubs, Organisations and Societies

Maynooth ICA Notes

The Guild started back its new year in September, with everyone ready to take on this years programme, a Drama Workshop was held in Castledermot on 12th, 19th and 26th of October and the tutor was Peter Hussey a former employee of the Community Council. There will be a fun night in Kilteel on Wednesday 1st November where hopefully we will see some Drama from the classes. Kildare ICA weekend in An Grianán took place from Friday 20th to Sunday 22nd October and seventy members attended on this weekend.

A one day course on style and image will take place on the 14th March 2007 given by Celia Larkin. A Council meeting had taken place in Dolmen Hotel Co Carlow on 14th October and the next federation meeting will take place on Thursday 23rd November in Kildare Town. Competitions coming up are gingham embroidery and coloured embroidery, there is also a new Irish Competition "A Short Storey" as Gaeilge. The Timmire hopes to organise Irish classes for members and Set dancing classes are held every Monday night by Rita Doyle in the Boys School.

At the November meeting we will have a service for deceased members.

Winners of the September Competition in the Guild were as follows:

- 1st Madeline Stynes,
- 2nd Mary O Gorman
- 3rd Mary Halton

Crafts continue every Monday night and Badminton continues on Monday and Thursday mornings. More members are needed to join the Badminton group. The Guild members will help out at the Church Gate Collection for Arthritis. European week will take place in An Grianán from 13th to 16th November and Kildare week in An Grianán will take place from 2nd to 6th July 2007. The Kildare weekend will be 2nd to 4th November 2007.

Congratulations to Mary O' Gorman who was in the top three at National level with her candlewick item.

Handcrafts week will take place in An Grianán from 16th to 20th April 2007 with twenty one workshops to choose from, certainly something for everyone here. Kildare has been requested to host the National ICA AGM in the County and work has started on this event as it takes place in May 2007.

Winners of the October Competition were as follows:

- 1st Catherine O' Reilly
- 2nd Mary Halton and Mairead Scanlon
- 3rd Mary Mc Namara

The raffle winners are as follows:

- 1st Irene Mathews
- 2nd Vera Kearins
- 3rd Betty Farrell
- 4th Mary Dunne

As you can see by this report there is plenty of variety in ICA, something for everyone and we would like to see lots of new members join this year.

Our next meeting will take place on Thursday 2nd November at 8.00 p.m. in the ICA Hall in the Harbour.

New Members always welcome



Poetry Corner

The Four Seasons

Seasons of the year in pattern lay
Constantly changing as the years
progress.

An influence of weather for each day
Each passing day our Mother Nature
bless.

Early growth of Spring sprightly free
A youthful start to each landscape
known

A lively spirited time for me
Each seedling in time is grown.

Summer when the sun shines down
With its radiant beauty to all
An ecstasy free time without a groan
With lots of good weather in stall.

Then the fading Autumn gradually
comes near
A harvest time with a generous reward
It is a time for great love and cheer
With fruit of plenty from our true lord.

The winter scorn comes its way
With rainfall, snow or frosty nights
This hardship season seems forever to
stay
With grey clouds and dismal sights.

May the seasons guide us in nature's
course
With special days of a new tomorrow
No one knows of your strange source
With weathered days of all our sorrow.

Patrick Murray

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Features

Racial Awareness night which was held in the Parish Hall recently.



Tazy Berman, Tyra Berman, Shannon Thomson, Elenor McCovey & Lydia Doyle



Pat Twoney, Jairus Thomas (Romeo) & Thomaz Gorski



Marie Josee Grah, Jojack Killo & Luigi



Jairus Thomas (Romeo), Thomaz Gorski & Louise Muntandu



Pat Twoney, Aideen (Shorty), Jairus Thomas (Romeo), Thomaz Muntandu, Marie Josee Grah & Jojack Killo

Features

The following is an Executive Summary of recommendations from the NUI Maynooth who carried out two surveys for the Tidy Towns:

LITTER SURVEY - RECOMMENDATIONS

- Efforts should focus on education of the public to reduce incidence of littering and on enforcement of existing legislation;
- Businesses should be encouraged to reduce packaging where possible and/ or use more biodegradable materials. Outlets which appear to be particularly involved in the problem by reason of their customers dumping packaging should be encouraged to participate more actively in its removal.
- Street cleaning and emptying of litter bins should be undertaken by Kildare County Council on a daily basis in the most heavily used areas and regularly elsewhere in the town.
- More frequent emptying of bring banks in public car park, plus usage of CCTV cameras (already in place) to target offenders.
- An "Environmental Management Plan" should be implemented so that a coherent strategy to deal with all environmental issues is in place.

RESIDENTS SURVEY - RECOMMENDATIONS

Tidy Towns awareness/ participation

- Concentration on raising awareness of the local programme, and the exploration of ways to communicate with people. One way to do this is clearly using the local newspapers, which are already a major source, but it is likely that direct contact, such as leafleting, may be needed to contact the rest of the population.

Recycling/ General waste in Maynooth

- Provision of a local site or widening the range of acceptable contents for home recycling bins.

- Further information provided to householders on acceptable contents of home recycling bins.

Attractions/ detractions of Maynooth

- In addition to more frequent and more widespread street cleaning, focus by authorities improving traffic conditions in the town and by property owners on maintenance would improve the general appearance of Maynooth.

Active Citizenship/ community involvement

- Research should be undertaken on ways to encourage increased participation in voluntary groups, followed by the implementation of the most useful strategies
- Additionally, local and national authorities may need to review provision on a non-voluntary basis if the required increase in active participation by volunteers can not be achieved, since it would be unreasonable to expect the same level of involvement to be maintained by a decreasing, and ageing volunteer body.

Involvement of young people

- To develop links between TT and the local young people
- For authorities to develop programmes within schools and elsewhere to encourage children and young people to move from awareness and interest into active involvement in their community and environment.

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Features

Members of the Maynooth Boys' National School Chess Club



Fawaz Oduyebo, Mubarak Oduyebo & Anthony Barrett



Adam Cully & Joseph Millett



Tomas Feeney & Seoirse Murray



Robert Reilly, Maverick Andaloc & Luke Coyle,



Lorcan Halton, Daniel O'Kee, Ross O'Connor & Sean Kearney



Aaron Tobin & Brian McGloughlin

Features

Maynooth Toastmasters

Maynooth's Newest Club Launches with a sell out audience !!!!

A great night was had by all upstairs in Brady's Clockhouse Bar on Monday Oct 9th. If you yourself had been there, there would have been a total of 40 people at the launch meeting. Lucia Hughes was the Chairperson (Toastmaster) of the meeting. Excellent speeches were given by Michael Fitzpatrick, Deborah Brannelly and Peter Farrelly. Liam Power led a lively and humorous session where everyone present had their opportunity to contribute. The Ryder Cup Award was won by Mary Jennings of Maynooth.

Prepare for meetings no. 3 and 4 upstairs in Brady's Clockhouse Bar on Monday November 13th and 27th at 7.45pm, for further episodes of fun and enjoyment.

All are Welcome !

Toastmasters: "Better Speaking, Better Listening, Better Leading".

For further details contact:

Lucia Hughes	086 2491051
Peter Farrelly	086 2510880
Sean Brady	0872413297



L-R: Mike Lang & Andrew Lang



P. L. Curran presents the Ryder Cup Award to the first winner Mary Jennings



L-R: Sigi Fan & Martin Vural



L-R: John Cronin & Deborah Brannelly



L-R: Maureen Giblin, May Farrell and Lucia Hughes

Features

Press Release

An interesting event takes place in our local Maynooth library on Thursday 9th November, when a teacher from India will give an introductory talk on meditation and spirituality. Thursday's presentation will include a guided meditation, which will bring deep relaxation to the mind and body. It will serve as an introduction to its practise in daily life and will also introduce and explain the programme in the upcoming workshops.

Diwakari Devi is a teacher of Transpersonal Relaxation and Divine love meditation. She has helped thousands of people in her workshops and programmes in New Zealand, India, Hong Kong, Canada and the United States. Her extensive studies over the last twenty years include years of advanced studies in India, where she investigated the deeper aspects of both the philosophy and practise of Meditation, and incorporating spirituality into daily life. The form of meditation as taught by Diwakari Devi is a very simple and natural process and is extremely effective in developing a person's positive potential.

Its benefits are profound: Sincere practise deepens the awareness, bringing inner peace and contentment in life.

Diwakari Devi will also conduct a number of workshops during her visit to Ireland and the following are some of the comments from previous course participants:

"Nothing could have prepared me for the total relaxation I experienced in the workshop. An so easy to do! It awoke feelings of great love in my heart".....Gerard, Galway.

"It is rare in life that you come across something so special, so pure, so beautiful, that it can touch the essence of your being and change your life".....Carol, Dublin.

"This joyful programme gave me insight and tranquillity. But what is more surprising for me is that this something special never left me, it stays and guides me, it became a strong foundation that streams joy, peace and love. Alex, Dublin.

You are invited to attend this free, public lecture at the library at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday, 9th November. For further information telephone (01) 490 5495 / 086-891 5580.

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Maynooth Public Library

Thursday 9 Nov

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Admission: No Charge

Workshops:

Four 3 hour workshops will be held in Rathgar.

**Dates: Nov 11 and 12
 Nov 18 and 19**

Booking and Details: 014905495/0868915580



Maynooth Town FC



For their safety, please ensure that younger children are accompanied to and from training in the evenings, and for their prompt collection at the finishing time.

Under 7's start out

Pictured left are Maynooth Town's new Under 7's team following their 1-6 win away to rush F.C. This is the first year The Town have compete at the under 7's training with 2 teams entered for the 2006/7 season. Best of luck to both teams as they start their footballing careers and we look forward to seeing them play at senior level in 13/14 years.

Parents Help Needed:

We are again appealing to parents to assist us in the running of our club.

Under 12s:

We are looking for one or two parents to come forward and take on the management of the second Under 12 Team. At present we have 25 players at the under 12 age group, but only one team due to lack of people to look after the second team. This results in many players not having the opportunity to play football on a regular basis. Full support is available from the club.

Transport:

A big thank you to those parents who regularly help out with transport to away games. However, we do need others to take their turn occasionally and offer to bring lads to away games, rather than leaving it to the same families all the time. We find a car-pooling rota-system often works best, and lessens the load on everyone.

Winter Training:

Now that autumn has arrived, the weather worsens, and the evenings get darker, we have to relocate training away from the playing pitches to other suitable locations.

Each Manager will be making the appropriate arrangements for his team according to its needs. The club has now arranged for the renting of the All Weather pitch at the boys school, which will be used by many teams, while others will train in the harbour field.

Weekly Lotto Jackpot heading for €5000!

The Maynooth Town FC weekly Lotto is the Club's main source of income, and the funds raised are used to cover our running costs and other expenses involved in putting 25 teams on the pitch each week.

You can enter the lotto draw by selecting 4 correct numbers from 1 to 28 on either panel to win. Entries are available from Team Managers and Committee Members, and they are sold in local pubs on Sunday evenings. The jackpot currently stands at €4275 and it is increased by €75 each week if there is no winner. Tickets cost €2.

You can also choose to be included in the lotto every week, by completing an auto-lotto entry form. Your entry will be automatically included in the draw each week and €8 will be deducted monthly from your bank account by standing order.

Club Website:

Have you visited the Club's website yet? You can find out the weekend fixtures, see league tables and check pitch availability, as well as a host of other useful information. Visit us at www.maynoothtownfc.com

Club Contact Details:

Chairman	Pat Moynan	6286865
Secretary	Seamus Thompson	6286270
Treasurer	Joe Walsh	6285871
Vice-Chairman	Tommy Daly	6289817

Maynooth Town FC Results To Date:

Results To Date

Seniors LSL Sunday Premier:

27/8/06	Maynooth Town	3	Athy Town	2
10/09/06	Maynooth	0	Mid-Sutton	1
17/09/06	Fort Rangers	3	Maynooth	5
24/09/06	Maynooth	6	Palatine Celtic	0
1/10/06	Pearse Club 61	0	Maynooth Town	0

Seniors LSL Saturday Division 2:

19/8/06	Maynooth Town	0	Blanchardstown	3
26/8/06	Blackrock	5	Maynooth	2
2/09/06	Maynooth	6	Dunshaughlin	2
9/09/06	Ballyouster	5	Maynooth	1
23/9/06	Freewheelers	7	Maynooth Town	0
30/9/06	Cherryfield	0	Maynooth	1

Seniors LSL Sunday Division 3A:

20/8/06	Maynooth Town	7	East Meath	2
27/08/06	Walkinstown	2	Maynooth	1
3/09/06	Maynooth	2	St Pats CY	2
10/9/06	Clonee	2	Maynooth Town	0

NDSL Under 17A:

3/9/06	Maynooth Town	1	Hartstown	3
10/09/06	Portmarnock	0	Maynooth	9
24/09/06	Mid Sutton	2	Maynooth	1
1/10/06	Maynooth	3	Clontarf	1

NDSL Under 16A:

3/9/06	Maynooth	2	Castleknock	2
10/09/06	Priorswood	2	Maynooth	6
24/09/06	Boyne Rovers	2	Maynooth	1
1/10/06	Maynooth	2	Boyne Rovers	4

NDSL Under 16B:

17/09/06	Balbriggan	0	Maynooth	1
1/10/06	Maynooth	3	Athboy	1

NDSL Under 15 Premier:

3/9/06	Balbriggan	4	Maynooth	0
5/9/06	Mullingar	1	Maynooth	1
10/09/06	Maynooth	1	Dunboyne	3
1/10/06	Clontarf		Maynooth	

NDSL Under 15B:

10/9/06	Swords Rvs	3	Maynooth	1
24/9/06	Trinity	3	Maynooth	4
1/10/06	Swords Rvs	1	Maynooth	5

NDSL Under 14 Premier:

10/09/06	Maynooth	1	Ratoath	3
1/10/06	Maynooth	2	Boyne Rvs	1

NDSL Under 14 D:

24/09/06	Maynooth		Castleknock	
1/10/06	Darndale		Maynooth	

NDSL Under 13D:

17/09/06	Darndale	1	Maynooth	1
24/09/06	Maynooth		Portmarknock	
1/10/06	Maynooth		Castleknock	

NDSL Under 12A:

24/09/06	Swords Rvs	1	Maynooth	5
1/10/06	Maynooth	6	Donaghmede	0

NDSL Under 11Premier:

3/9/06	Maynooth	0	Clontarf	3
10/09/06	Maynooth	4	Rivervally	2
17/09/06	Skerries	3	Maynooth	2
24/09/06	Maynooth	4	Boyne Rvs	1
1/10/06	Maynooth	2	Raheny	3

Seniors Under 11 B:

3/9/06	Maynooth	8	Clonee	2
10/09/06	Castleknock	2	Maynooth	5
24/09/06	Maynooth	7	Ratoath	3

NDSL Under 10A:

9/9/06	Maynooth	0	Tolka Rvs	2
16/9/06	Corduff	2	Maynooth	4
23/9/06	Maynooth	2	Swords Manor	1
30/9/06	Ashbourne		Maynooth	

NDSL Under 10A1:

16/9/06	Cloughertown	0	Maynooth	3
30/9/06	Woodlawn	2	Maynooth	1

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Larkspur—The Epsom Derby of 1962

The first of six Epsom Derby winners for Dr. M V O'Brien

1962 was to prove a momentous year in the history of Irish Racing. The Irish Derby sponsored for the first time by the Irish Hospital Sweepstakes heralded a new era for the Curragh. The newly constructed Grandstand was an outwards sign of confidence for the future of the sport. The economic situation was also improving. Sean Lemass left to labour in the background for decades was finally having his day. Lemass set about improving the economy and increasing the prosperity of the Irish people. A draft outline of a free trade agreement with the United Kingdom was prepared and contacts made with Germany and France regarding association with the emerging Common Market.

The same year heralded the arrival of Doctor Vincent O'Brien on the English Classic scene. Born at the family home, Clashganif, near the town of Buttevant Co. Cork in April of 1917. Vincent was involved with horses from an early age. His father Dan, although primarily a farmer, always trained horses for local owners. Vincent received his early education at the local national school in Churchtown and was subsequently sent to Mungret College, Limerick to complete his secondary education. His heart was not in it and his father agreed to him leaving the College when he was sixteen.

Already an accomplished horse rider and huntsman he spent the remainder of that year (1933) with Fred Clarke in Leopardstown before returning to assist his father. In the years that followed he took over the training responsibilities previously exercised by his father. He won the Irish Cambridgeshire with Solford in 1939 and the Irish Cesarewitch with Asometer in 1941. As a sign of things to come he won the Beresford Stakes at the Curragh with Barfelt in 1947.

However, in the space of eight years from 1948 to 1955, Doctor O'Brien became one of the great national hunt trainers of our time. He won the Cheltenham Gold Cup on four occasions and the Champion Hurdle on three. Cottage Rake won a hat trick of Gold Cups and Hatton's Grace repeated the feat in the Champion Hurdle. The fourth success in the Gold Cup was achieved by Knock Hard in the 1953 running of the race. His success with novice hurdlers at Cheltenham was nothing short of sensational. From 1952 to 1959 he won divisions one and two of the Gloucestershire Hurdle on no less than ten occasions. His feat of winning three successive Aintree Grand Nationals with three different horses has never been equalled. Early Mist won in 1953, Royal Tan in 1954 and Quare Times completed the hat trick in 1955.

His successes were not confined to the national hunt. From the early days of his training career he had shown a deft hand in laying out some of his national

(Continued on page 40)



American owner Raymond Guest leads in Larkspur and Neville Sellwood

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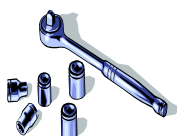
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Features

(Continued from page 38)

hunt horses for the big flat racing handicaps. A typical example was Hatton's Grace. A few weeks after winning the Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham, the horse was turned out to win the Irish Lincoln at the Curragh. Vincent also trained the same horse to win the Irish Cesarewitch on two occasions. It has to be said that Hatton's Grace was probably one of the best Champion Hurler of all time. Vincent only got the horse when he was eight years old. What might have been the case if he got the hurler at five or six years of age? However, it was at this time that his national hunt career was drawing to a close.

During the mid fifties the quality of the flat horse entrusted to his care showed a marked improvement and Vincent moved his training operation to an exclusively flat one. John McShain who later donated large areas of Killarney parklands to the State as a gift to the Irish Nation was one of the first significant flat racing patron of Ballydoyle. John Mcshain was the owner of both Ballymoss and Gladness. Ballymoss finished second to the great Crepello in the Epsom Derby of 1957. He probably would have won the Derby in any other year. After winning the Irish Derby and the English St. Leger, Ballymoss remained in training as a 4-yr-old. In 1958 he won the King George and Queen Elizabeth Stakes at Ascot before crowning a great career by winning the Arc in Paris on a rain drenched track. Gladness, an exceptional mare won the Ebor under a welter burden of nine stone seven pounds and also won the Ascot Gold Cup.

This was a significant year for the Irish Blood-Horse as Larkspur, on his breeding, was a more likely thoroughbred to win the Derby than our two previous winners, Orby and Hard Ridden, who were at best, unfashionably bred and would have never expected to compete never mind win the Blue Riband at Epsom. Larkspur was bred at the Marley House Stud at Rathfarnham, Dublin, by Mr. Phillip Love. He was a January foal by Never Say Die, out of the mare, Skylarking. Never Say Die, with Lester Piggott in the saddle won the Epsom Derby in 1954 and was the first of nine winners of that race for the Champion Jockey. Larkspur's dam, Skylarking, won three races up to a mile and six furlongs and also finished third in the Park Hill Stakes.

Larkspur was submitted to Goff's yearling sales at Ballsbridge and was knocked down to Vincent O'Brien acting for the horse's new owner, American Ambassador, Mr Raymond Guest. The purchase price of 12,000 Guineas was substantial for those times and as it turned out, a record price for a future Derby winner at that time. His two year old career was not rushed. He made his debut in the Barrow Maiden Plate

at the Curragh. He finished unplaced, and was not seen on a race course again until Sept.1961. Larkspur showed greatly improved form to win the Laragh Maiden Stakes at Leopardstown over seven furlongs. He was not fancied to win as he started at odds of 100/8. His next run was in top class company. He started joint favourite with Arctic Storm for the National Stakes, run over seven furlongs, at the Curragh. He ran well, finishing third to the Ann Biddle owned, Mystery, with Arctic Storm not in the first three. Arctic Storm was to mature into a very good three-year-old, winning the Irish 2000 Guineas and coming within the proverbial whisker of winning the first running of the Irish Sweeps Derby at the Curragh.

Larkspur was sent to Doncaster for his final start as a two-year-old. The Timeform Gold Cup run over a mile had a field of thirteen runners. He was never in the running and finished out of the first six home. Vincent

"The purchase price of 12,000 Guineas was substantial for those times and as it turned out, a record price for a future Derby winner at that time".

O'Brien and owner, Guest were not despondent. Larkspur's sire had not shown much as a two-year-old and the trainer felt that the colt had shown enough to inspire confidence for his three-year-old career. Interestingly enough, jockey, Tommy Gosling, who had ridden Larkspur in the Timeform Gold Cup had been impressed by the horse. He maintained that with better luck in running his mount would have finished far closer to the eventual winner, Miralgo.

Larkspur ran twice as a three-year-old before the Epsom Derby in 1962. In April he was unplaced in the Madrid Free Handicap at the Curragh. One month later he won the Wills Gold Flake Stakes at Leopardstown by a length from Sicilian Prince. The second horse home, trained by Michael Hurley, went on to win the French St. Leger ridden by Liam Ward. As the flat season progressed, more attention was focused on Vincent O'Brien's second entry for the Derby, Sebring. After an impressive performance by the son of Aureole in the Players Navy Cut Stakes at the Phoenix Park, Pat Glennon, the talented Australian stable jockey for Ballydoyle decided to stay with Sebring as his Derby mount. Pat will be remembered in racing history as the rider of the magnificent Sea Bird II who won the Epsom Derby in 1967 and is rated as the best Derby winner of all time. A number of top class jockeys were approached to ride Larkspur but all declined because they were already booked to ride in the race. Neville Sellwood, a highly competent Aussie, riding in France and well in contention for the jockey championship was eventually booked for the ride.

A couple of weeks before the Derby, Larkspur developed a swelling on his hock. The injury was

(Continued on page 42)

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Features

(Continued from page 40)

noticed at a morning inspection and it was left to head lad, Maurice o'Callaghan to break the news to Vincent. Also present in the trainer's kitchen that morning were, owner, Raymond Guest and jockey Neville Sellwood who had flown over from France to ride work on the horse. Vincent O'Brien was sufficiently concerned that the betting public be advised of the horse's condition and the press were notified accordingly. However, by June 1st, six days before the Derby, the Trainer issued a further statement saying that the horse had recovered and would run.

The Derby of 1962 will be remembered for the sensational fall of seven runners on the descent to Tattenham Corner. Amongst the fallers was the race favourite, Hethersett, trained by Dick Hern and ridden by Harry Carr. The field of twenty six runners was the largest in years and was ultimately responsible for the carnage that occurred. It was widely considered a sub-standard field with many of the leading contenders not showing a consistency of form. Favourite at 9/2 was Hethersett, a colt by Hugh Lupus. Joint second favourite at 8/1 was Miralgo, winner of the Timeform Gold Cup at two and a narrowly beaten second in the Lingfield Derby Trial. The other joint second favourite was Le Cantillien from France, runner up to Montfleur in the Prix Lupin. Sebring was the better fancied runner from the O'Brien stable with Larkspur virtually friendless at 22/1.

Romancero made the early running closely followed by Valentine, Escort, Ribobo, Miralgo and Sebring. At halfway, Hethersett began to close as Larkspur improved his position to shadow the favourite. Halfway down the hill the disaster occurred. To this day it is not known precisely what happened. All that is known is that the bad horses were falling back as the contenders jostled for position. Romulus was the first to fall, he brought down Hethersett. In the following seconds, Crossen, Pindaric, Persian Fantasy, Changing Times and King Canute II were brought down. Larkspur narrowly escaped being brought down by the first to fall, Romulus. As the race developed Larkspur joined Sebring to mount a challenge to the new race leader, River Chanter. With two furlongs to go it looked all over as Sebring looked poised for victory. However, it was Larkspur who showed a better turn of foot to win by two lengths. The fast finishing Arcor finished second with Le Cantillien, third. Sebring faded to finish fifth. A brief stewards inquiry was held into the betting patterns for Larkspur and the circumstances surrounding his injury before the Derby. Needless to say this was unnecessary and again reflected the Jockey Club's peremptory way of dealing with anything Irish at the time.

Larkspur's subsequent racing career did not set the world on fire. Favourite for the first running of the

Irish Sweeps Derby, he finished fourth to the French trained winner, Tambourine II. He was beaten by Sicilian Prince in the Blannford stakes by a short head, conceding three pounds to the winner. This was not a bad performance, as Michael Hurleys colt went on to win the French St. Leger. His final race was the English St. Leger at Doncaster where he finished 6th to Hederstett. Larkspur was syndicated for stud purposes and stood at Ballygoran Park, Maynooth. He was subsequently sold to Japan in 1967. Larkspur was the first of six winners of the Epsom Derby for the greatest trainer of the 20th century, Doctor Vincent O'Brien



The great Neville Sellwood.

Nevill Sellwood, Larkspur's jockey, was born in 1922. He was born to be a jockey. His father, Charlie, was himself a retired jockey and his mother, a capable horse-woman. Neville began his riding career as apprentice to Queensland trainer Jim Shean. In his early days Neville had nearly as many falls as he rode winners but his luck changed after he had spent four years in the army during World War II. In 1946 Maurice McCarten invited him to become first jockey to his stable in Sydney. Neville battled as a senior jockey and won his first Championship in 1949. In the following 13 years Neville rode 1700 winners, including two Melbourne Cups (on Delta and Toparoa), three Caulfield Cups (on Grey Booth, Basha Felika and Tulloch) three Sydney Cups (on Gold Scheme, Sailor's Bride and Grand Garry), a Brisbane

(Continued on page 44)



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Features

(Continued from page 42)

Cup (on Cambridge) and an Adelaide Cup (on Spearfolio). Few of Sydney's big races eluded him and he won five Victoria Derbys at Flemington. Australia has a great tradition of sprinters going way back. That tradition had been emphasised at Royal Ascot in recent years by the stunning performances of Choisir and Take-over Target. Neville had the privilege of riding one of the Walabies greatest ever sprinters, Todman. Trained by Maurice McCarten Todman smashed time records in six of his ten runs.

Neville first came to England in 1951 to ride for Atty Pearse. He made his mark straight away and his victory on the temperamental Val d'Assa in the Royal Hunt Cup was among his notable successes. He became homesick, however, and returned to Australia at the end of the flat season. It was to take a decade for Neville to return to Europe. Alex Head, the legendary French based trainer, with the backing of the Aga Khan persuaded the Jockey to take up a retainer for his stable. The year was to encompass both triumph and ultimate tragedy. On June 6th 1962 Neville experienced a career highlight when he rode Larkspur to victory in the Epsom Derby. On November 7th, in the same year, the highly respected and well liked Australian, aged 39, lost his life in a tragic fall, when his mount, ironically called Lucky Seven, fell at Maisons-Laffitte. Quiet and friendly, a first class race rider and like all good Australian jockeys, a fine judge of pace. Neville Sellwood was a good loser and a modest winner. it is appropriate that his name is engraved on the records of the Blue Riband.

Jim Healy

*If anyone has a
Christmas Story to
tell we would like to
hear from you.*

*Our Closing Date for
receipt of articles is
November 13th.*

Maynooth Town FC

NDSL Under 9A:

9/9/06	Maynooth	0	Clontarf	6
16/9/06	Huntstown	4	Maynooth	0
23/9/06	Maynooth	0	Glebe Nth	2
30/9/06	Darndale	2	Maynooth	1

NDSL Under 9C:

9/9/06	St Itas	3	Maynooth	0
23/9/06	Lusk	3	Maynooth	0
30/9/06	Maynooth		Swords Manor	

NDSL Under 9E:

9/9/06	Maynooth	1	Malahide	2
16/9/06	Drumcondra	5	Maynooth	1
23/9/06	Maynooth	1	Rivervalley	3
30/9/06	Maynooth	0	Ratoath	6

NDSL Under 8B:

9/9/06	Maynooth	6	Hartstown	1
16/9/06	Baldoyle	2	Maynooth	1
23/9/06	Maynooth	1	Mid Sutton	6
30/9/06	Maynooth		Malahide	

NDSL Under 8C1:

9/9/06	Swords Celtic	6	Maynooth	3
16/9/06	Clontarf	0	Maynooth	2
23/9/06	Rivervalley	2	Maynooth	3
30/9/06	Maynooth	5	Rivervalley	1

NDSL Under 7B:

23/9/06	Maynooth	1	Clonee	0
30/9/06	Maynooth	5	Balbriggan	1

NDSL Under 7C1:

23/9/06	Maynooth	4	Cloughertown	0
30/9/06	Rush		Maynooth	



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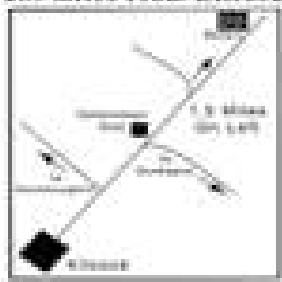
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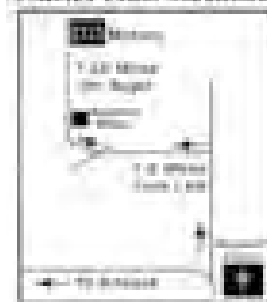


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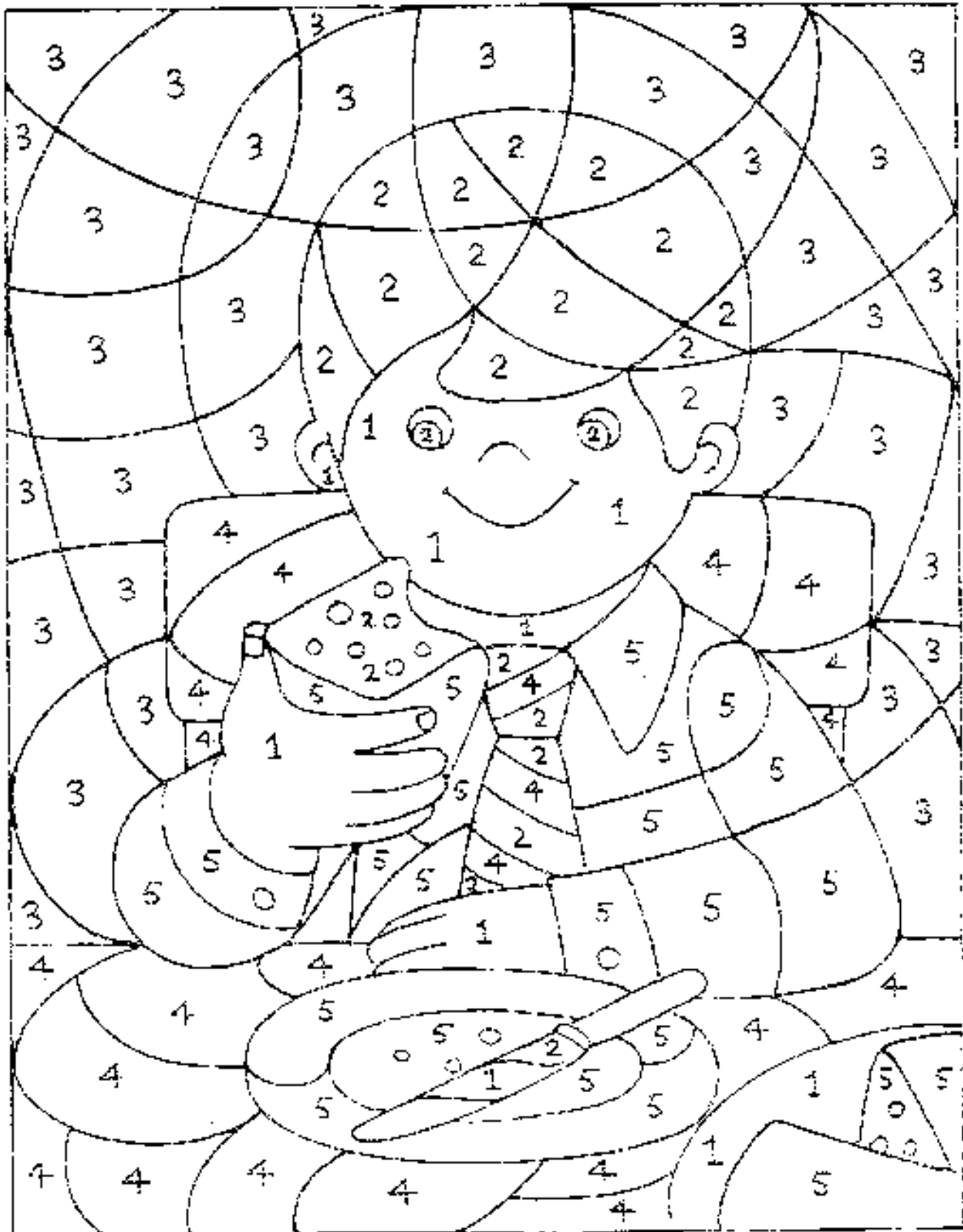
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Features

Installation of Chief Druid of Ireland and Tara

On Sunday 22nd October 2006, Gina McGarry was installed as the chief druid of Ireland and Tara. She takes this position from the previous archdruid, Michael McGrath of Kilkenny. The ceremony lasted an hour and was attended by dozens of druids. A lone piper played a tune as she was congratulated by her followers. The ceremony was also watched by dozens of interested bystanders.



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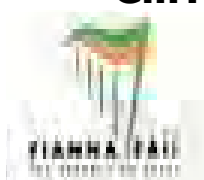
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Michael is also available to meet constituents outside the above times by appointment and he can be contacted any time on 086 2706150

Cllr Michael Fitzpatrick Fianna Fail

HALLOWEEN SAFETY SCHOOLS ROADSHOW

Over fifteen hundred students across Co. Kildare received a stark warning last week about the dangers of messing with bangers this coming Halloween.

A Halloween Schools Safety Roadshow took place in schools in Naas, Clane and Kilcock in a bid to combat the irresponsible use of 'bangers'.

Cllr. Michael Fitzpatrick FF organised 3 speakers, including a Consultant from the A and E Department of Naas General Hospital to address the students and educate them to the dangers of using bangers.

Dr. George Little, who has extensive experience of treating injuries incurred from bangers, packed no punches during his 15 minute address at the various schools and used visual images to hammer home the message that young people are playing 'Russian Roulette' once they engage in the practise. He drew similarities between bangers and rocket launchers saying that this similarity is 'Not extreme, as bangers are essentially made of the same explosive components. They are deadly dangerous and it is just

not 'cool' to use them. There is nothing 'cool, about pure recklessness and downright stupidity".

Showing images of injuries suffered by young people, Dr. Little warned the assembled students that bangers are generally made in back street workrooms and have absolutely no safety standards. "Look guys, these are lethal objects, you can do yourselves serious, often lifelong damage if you mess around with them, so think on and please get the message".

Dr. Little concluded his address to the students with this salutary warning "I sincerely hope that I will not have to meet any of you in the A and E rooms of Naas Hospital this coming Halloween".

For his part, Stuart King, Senior Inspector with the KSPCA outlined the cruelty inflicted on animals at Halloween. He chronicled horrific injuries suffered mainly by dogs and cats, terming this "Mindless thuggery, targeting defenceless animals". He said that those responsible for causing harm to animals could "Just as easily cause harm to a tiny child".

Mr. King appealed to the assembled students "Not to make Halloween memorable for all the wrong reasons. Have sense and stay away from bangers. You don't need them to have fun"

(Continued on page 50)

Party Political

(Continued from page 49)

The legal implications were clearly spelt out by Garda Mark Doran of Naas Garda Station who reiterated the fact that bangers are illegal and severe punishment will be meted out to those who persist in "Engaging in this sort of stuff".

Garda Doran told the students that their tender years would not protect them from the rigours of the law, saying that anybody found in the possession of bangers would be dealt with in the juvenile courts.

"Make no mistake about it, if we catch you with bangers, you will be prosecuted".

The principals and teachers at the various schools expressed great satisfaction with the day saying that it was very important, useful and proactive.

Mr PJ Gannon, Principal of Scoil Dara in Kilcock had praise for the speakers saying that "You have served a very useful purpose here today and we are all thrilled that you came" and he thanked Cllr. Fitzpatrick for organising the day calling it a hugely important exercise.

For his part, Cllr. Fitzpatrick said that he was delighted with the day, saying that the three speakers had "Delivered an excellent presentation that was both educational and practical. I think this is the only way that we will get the message across to young people. We all thought we were invincible when we were young and that we would come to no harm and the young people here today think the exact same. However, we know the dangers out there now and bangers are very close to the top of that list. Young people have to be responsible and I hope that our Roadshow will serve its part in saving life and limb in Co. Kildare."

Cllr Fitzpatrick appealed to all the young people of Maynooth to be extra careful and mindful of the dangers and risks posed by the use of bangers, to themselves, neighbours, old people, their environment and of course also, domestic pets.



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100 New buses for Dublin bus nothing more than a drop in the Ocean

Catherine Murphy, TD has today labelled the allocation to Dublin Bus of 100 new buses by the Department of Transport a mere “drop in the ocean”, which will make only “a negligible difference” to the quality and volume of service provided to Kildare commuters. She has highlighted the urgent need for a more substantial resource allocation to be made to Dublin Bus immediately in order to provide a true alternative to private motor transport.

“Its essential that we see expanded services with increased frequency and efficiency if we’re going to encourage commuters to rely fully on the public transport network and leave their cars at home. We need significant investment in Dublin Bus for that to happen, so while I strongly welcome these 100 buses, the investment cannot stop there.”

While Minister for Transport, Martin Cullen TD has given a commitment on the record of the Dáil that funding for a further 100 buses will be made available to private operations in attempts to establish new bus routes, Murphy has expressed her concern at how bus services will be coordinated between the private operators and Dublin Bus:

“We need a public transport network that has truly integrated ticketing and timetabling in order that commuters can make connections using bus, rail, and Luas. Introducing numerous private operators on top of those we already have only puts this type of integration even further out of reach, and will dramatically affect the way in which public transport can be supplied to users. We need a cost effective, reliable efficient, and frequent service for commuters not a mishmash of uncoordinated services that provide a costly and confusing service to commuters.”

National Consumer Agency Report on Management Companies Welcome

Deputy Catherine Murphy has welcomed the publication of the Report and Information Booklet by the National

(Continued on page 54)

Deputy Catherine Murphy (Ind) News Cont'd

(Continued from page 53)

Consumer Agency on the issue of Management Companies. It is very clear the Information Booklet is a work in progress and flags some issues consumers should be aware of, it is clear however the solutions lie in both legislation and regulation. The Booklet covers both Apartment blocks and traditional Housing Estate's I welcome the fact that the Minister for the Environment has issued a circular to Local Authorities to the effect that conditions should not be imposed on planning permission for Management Companies however it is clear that Developers are still insisting on a management company as part of the condition of sale, this obviously needs to be stopped.

Many of the recommendations in the actual Report are good for example recommendation 14 which states "a strong case exists for restricting the voting rights to one vote per household, irrespective of tenure..." Currently a developer can issue more shares (vote) than the number of dwellings which means they hold a controlling interest. The Report is comprehensive but not exhaustive indeed it does recommend further consultation with affected parties.

It is exactly 12 months since I was the first person to raise this matter in the Dáil specifically in relation to Management Companies in traditional housing estates, I have been concerned since with the lack of urgency in relation to producing legislation, there is still no indication of when we might see this published.

I would however strongly recommend that consumers don't restrict themselves to reading the information booklet but also read the report the National Consumers Association has produced.

Competition Essential to Telecoms Market

Catherine Murphy, TD today demanded in the Dáil that Government tackle an issue which has left over 40,000 households and businesses without landline telephone services since 5. p.m. on the 2nd of October. Murphy contends that "In selling the national telecommunications network into private ownership the Government has created a private monopoly.

Murphy made the following statement in the Dáil this afternoon:

"In selling the national telecommunications network into private ownership the Government has created a private monopoly. This has highlighted the urgent need for Government to tackle the impossible situation where 40,000 Smart Telecom customers are now without a service are being held to ransom. The Minister must act to provide an interim solution otherwise the only one message that will emerge will be the only supplier that can guarantee a service is Eircom."

Airport Security

Until recently, had most people heard a description of a 10 million euro drugs haul at an airfield on the continent, bound for a small unmonitored aerodrome on the outskirts of Dublin, using a plane borrowed without the knowledge of it's owner, they would have assumed it was an extract from a television show on the lines of Miami Vice. But, unfortunately, life is beginning to imitate art in a very dangerous and worrying way at Weston Aerodrome in Leixlip; where an overwhelming 50 Kilograms of heroin would have landed, and according to the aerodrome's own website, been delayed only "5 minutes between plane touch down and taxi or limousine departure". What is this quote "Key benefit" of a mere 5 minute delay between touch-down and airport exit if not an open advertisement of a light or non-existent security standard? And just who will be attracted most by such an advert? I think we can all agree that the recent events in Belgium provide a clue in answering this question.

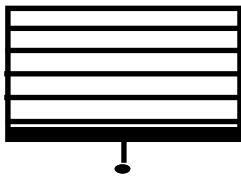
Following ongoing discussions with Local people in North Kildare and West Dublin regarding the level of security at Weston, I first raised this issue with the Minister for Finance via a parliamentary question enquiring about customs arrangements at the Aerodrome. The response I received went as follows:

"The volume and type of business conducted at Weston ... does not justify the deployment of a permanent customs presence there. However customs officers visit the Aerodrome regularly as a check against the landing or exportation of prohibited goods, in particular controlled drugs."

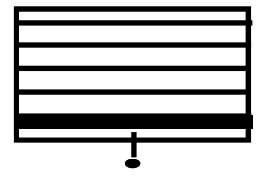
Again in February of this year, I asked a further question as to the actual number of customs visits conducted at the Aerodrome and was told:

"that during 2004 officers attached to their Dublin enforcement district carried out 12 planned and six

(Continued on page 56)



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Deputy Catherine Murphy (Ind) News Cont'd

(Continued from page 54)

unplanned visits to Weston Aerodrome. During 2005, ten planned and six unplanned visits were made by officers to Weston Aerodrome."

Basically what we have here is self regulation at the 27 private airfields within the State. And, while the Government dead bolts front-door access to the State at our major airports, it has handed out copies of the backdoor key to anyone who showed an interest in having one. Lets face it anyone can own, or run, or work at a private airfield without going through a security check, while Aer Rianta, which operates under strict Garda and Customs supervision, won't even issue a security badge to someone with a criminal record, never mind letting them take a plane out for a spin. How can we justify such a relaxed approach to security at private airfields, when we are only too aware of the instances of drugs smuggling at the larger more heavily monitored airports?

Just as there is very limited customs cover at Weston, the same can be said of the Immigration arrangements. In a response to a parliamentary question I tabled to the Minister for Justice I was informed that immigration officials are dispatched to the Aerodrome when they have prior notice of the arrival of a non EEA Citizen. Indeed I refer to an article in the Village Magazine, on the 24th of August, which states:

"An internal Garda report has highlighted 'security risks' at Weston..... the airport has no immigration officers and no x-ray or baggage or people-scanning machines.....The report goes on to say the airport makes it possible for terrorists to enter England or the rest of Europe with explosives". I raised similar security concerns during the Second Stage Debate of the Air Navigation and Transport (Indemnities) Act, 2005. Need I again remind the Government that two major Multinational Operations, and the State Laboratories are based within a short distance of Weston so such opportunistic terrorists wouldn't be without their targets even within our borders. Given the State's obligation in providing a 9 Billion Euro Indemnity against such acts, are we really satisfied to allow private operators enforce their own security standards?

A dedicated operation targeting drug shipments into Ireland by air was cancelled almost 10 years ago because there was no money to keep it going, that operation must be restored without delay. I want to congratulate those involved in the recent heroin detection and seizure in Belgium, those involved in similar operations, and indeed those involved in Customs operations around the country. Just think

how much more success we would see in this area if Government provided the level of funding required by the Gardaí and Revenue Commissioners to police this area properly.

But we also have to consider the financial implications of failure to intercept such copious amounts of heroin before they reach the street. While a street value of 10 million euro, as has been attached to the Belgium Seizure, is an enormous sum, it pales into insignificance when we consider what such an amount of heroin costs the State, the Communities and Families of those using this drug, and the users themselves, in monetary, but most importantly human terms.

Lets consider the monetary cost of drug treatment programmes; drug related crimes and their prevention; lets even consider the cost of imprisoning those who have fallen through the cracks and wound up in our overcrowded, and again underfunded prison system. What about the trail of human misery and destruction that drug gangs, organised crime, and drug use causes for everyone surrounding and including users. It takes far less than 10 million euro of heroin to destroy lives, however can we justify under funding Garda and Customs divisions that could help to prevent all of this?

Every person and every community is affected in some way by this problem. At the most detached level as a taxpayer, and the most involved as a victim of drug related crime, or a victim of drug addiction. And while I don't for a minute suggest that we can prevent all drug use in the future by tightening security at airfields like Weston, we can definitely make it difficult for dealers and users to get their hands on them.

I want to finish in highlighting the irony of the destination for which the Belgium Heroin was headed. Weston Aerodrome is a stone's throw away from Lucan Garda Station where Gardaí have worked tirelessly in gathering evidence relating to the Murder of Veronica Guerin, a victim herself of drugs related crime of the worst kind. I put it to the Government that it's their responsibility to stop the trail of destruction of the drugs trade in its tracks before it hits our shores. We owe it to people like Veronica Guerin and the thousands of other victims of the drugs trade to do everything we can to keep drugs out.

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Maynooth Labour News



Cllr. John McGinley

Bond Bridge Delay in Opening

Readers will be aware that Cllr. John McGinley was advised on 25th September that the opening of Bond Bridge to traffic has gone back two months to the 6th December. The Council Official stated that the delay was due to **"problems with the contractor"**. When John sought details of these problems he was advised by another Council Official **"additional works had to be carried out and also for health and safety reasons"**. Another Council Official advised the Media that there was no delay with the completion of the bridge and that it was actually 12 months ahead of schedule as it was a two year contract.

It is Cllr. John McGinley's view that both Councillors and the general public were misled by Council Officials. We were advised at a public meeting that if we agreed to the complete closure of the bridge the project would be completed in seven months and that it would take two years if the bridge had to be kept open during construction.

Incredibly, the seven months to completion was never put in writing. If we were told at the public meeting that the time to completion could be reduced in half if we agreed to the closure of the site, there would have been acceptance from the public. It is the deception that it is unforgivable.

Proposal to Remove Some trees at Main Street, Maynooth

The trees have been saved for the time being thanks to the support that members of the general public gave Cllr. John McGinley in his opposition to the removal of any trees from Main Street. At the Leixlip Area Committee of the Council on the 25th September the Roads Engineers produced revised proposals. Instead of removing 5/6 trees they now want to remove three and replace them with mature trees about 2m closer to the buildings. Cllr. McGinley objected strongly to this proposal as it would alter the alignment of the trees and it would have very little impact on improving traffic flow at The Square junction. He was supported in varying degrees by the other Councillors. The Council Engineers admitted that their proposal was only an interim solution and that the permanent solution was the provision of the ring road from Dublin Road to the Straffan Road.

Cllr. McGinley again asked for the removal of the pedestrian lights at the Bank of Ireland as they were a hazard to pedestrian safety and were completely unnecessary now that there are four new pedestrian crossings at The Roost. John was supported by the other Councilors and the Roads Engineer reluctantly agree to turn them off for a trial period.

It was also agreed to proceed with a one-way system for Doctors Lane (traffic going westwards) at a cost of €80,000 and for improvements on Dublin Road at a cost of €60,000.

Northern Relief Road

As requested by Cllr. John McGinley a meeting has been sought with the Dunshaughlin Area Committee of Meath County Council to discuss the provision of the Northern Relief Road from Moyglare Road to Dunboyne Road. As part of this relief road is in Meath, Kildare County Council cannot proceed with it without the approval of Meath County Council. Also, with Meath preparing a County Development Plan it is important that the Leixlip

(Continued on page 59)

Party Political

(Continued from page 58)

Area Committee are involved in any proposals for the adjoining land in Meath.

Land Between Bond Bridge and Silken Vale/The Arches

Cllr. John McGinley's motion to have this land planted with low maintenance shrubs/trees was agreed. The Council's Director of Service felt that there would need to be a maintenance gate at Bond Bridge. Cllr. McGinley disputed this and he believed that the amount of maintenance that would be carried out by the council would be very minimal and that access could be gained through the estate for this. The Director of Services stated that one of his staff would contact the Residents' Association to agree on the matter.

Cllr. McGinley's Motions and Questions for the Next Leixlip Area Meeting:

Moyglare Road:

"That the footpath and public lighting on the Moyglare Road, Maynooth be extended from the Nursing Home to Moyglare Hall in the interest of public safety"

Old Greenfield

"That the wild section of green at the bottom of Old Greenfield, Maynooth be tidied up and landscaped so that the residents can maintain it"

Meadowbrook

"That the traffic calming and Miscellaneous Safety Measures outlined in Dwg. No. E-3153 be put in place on the Meadowbrook Road prior to the opening of Bond Bridge."

Public Lighting at The Harbour

" When is the new Public Lighting being installed in The Harbour, Maynooth?"

New Relief Road from Dublin Road to Straffan Road

"What steps have been taken to progress the relief road from Dublin Road to the Straffan Road, Maynooth?"

Stagg welcomes €70,000 funding which will

enable taking in charge of Moyglare Village to proceed

Deputy Emmet Stagg has welcomed the approval by Kildare Co. Council of a sum of €70,000 to carry out essential repairs in Moyglare Village Estate, Maynooth, which will enable the Taking In Charge of the Estate.

Deputy Stagg stated that on the proposal of his colleague Cllr. John McGinley the funding was approved on the recommendation of the Co. Manager at the Council meeting held on Monday 25th September.

The process will now move forward as follows stated Deputy Stagg;

Officials from the Council will go through the Repair List with the Residents Association in Moyglare Village to agree on the work required.

Following agreement on the works required it is likely that a proposal to take Moyglare Village Estate in Charge will go before the Full Council meeting in October.

The Taking In Charge Decision will then go on Public Display for comments from Residents.

After the Public Display there will be a Final proposal before the full Council to take the estate in charge.

Once this decision is agreed then the Council will have the legal right to carry out the essential repairs identified and for which the funding of €70,000 has been provided.

Deputy Stagg stated that the campaign to take Moyglare Village In Charge had been ongoing for far too long and that at various stages even Bord Gais refused to supply Natural Gas to the Estate without the permission of the Original Developer which was not forthcoming. Even the resolution of the Boundary with the Moyglare Road a number of years ago when his colleague Cllr. John McGinley provided discretionary funding for Stud Fencing did not resolve all the issues as the Sewer system appeared to deteriorate in a number of areas.

But at last Deputy Stagg concluded we are near the end of the Campaign and he and his colleague Cllr. John McGinley congratulated the Residents Association on their success.

Stagg disappointed at decision on mobile base station at Newtown Inn sets undesirable precedent

Deputy Emmet Stagg has expressed his

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disappointment at the decision by An Bord Pleanála to grant Planning Permission to O2 Communications for a Mobile Base Station on the Newtown Inn, Maynooth, incorporating the provision of a flagpole on the roof of the pub with 3 concealed antenna and a Radio Link Dish on the roof.

Deputy Stagg stated that Kildare Co. Council had originally refused planning permission for the Mobile Base Station on March 21st on the basis that the proposal represented a material contravention of the Maynooth Development Plan 2002 which stipulates that such telecommunications equipment should not be located in the vicinity of residential areas. The Council also stated that the proposal, located in a residential area, would have had a negative impact on the value of residential property in the area and would have set an undesirable precedent for further such developments in the area.

In their decision to Grant planning permission An Bord Pleanála cited National Strategy regarding the improvement of mobile communications services and the fact that the site was within a neighbourhood shopping centre.

Deputy Stagg stated that he remained of the opinion that such telecommunications structures should not be located in Neighbourhood Shopping Areas as these areas were generally surrounded by houses. He was not convinced that O2 had sought other suitable locations for their Base Station.

Whilst the antenna will be visually hidden in the flagpole, this decision Deputy Stagg concluded sets an undesirable precedent in relation to the use of Neighbourhood Shopping Areas for such telecommunications equipment.

Moves underway to eliminate waiting times for eye tests for Children in Maynooth and Naas Health Centres

Deputy Emmet Stagg has consistently raised the scandalous waiting times for Eye Tests for Children at Maynooth Health Centre where there is a 12 month waiting list and at Naas Health Centre where there is a 11 month waiting list with the Health Services Executive.

Over the past 9 months Deputy Stagg has repeatedly questioned the Minister for Health on the issue and as is the norm for this Minister and her Government she passed the matter on to the HSE as if she had no responsibility for the children of hard working families in Kildare.

Deputy Stagg has now been advised by the HSE that negotiations are now under way with the Community Ophthalmologist with a view to pursuing the elimination of the child optical waiting lists in these Health Centres.

Welcoming this positive move Deputy Stagg stated that he awaited the outcome of the negotiations with interest and that he expected a plan to be in place within the next month to eliminate the waiting times at Maynooth and Naas Health Centres.

In conclusion Deputy Stagg stated that it was unacceptable in this rich country of ours that children with eye problems were left to suffer negatively from a delay in their treatment, but hopefully that situation will be eliminated soon.

Investigation of suitability of Maynooth business campus for new Maynooth Ambulance Base underway

Deputy Emmet Stagg questioned the Minister for Health in relation to progress in identifying a site for the new Ambulance Base for Maynooth given the funding of €1 Million which is available for the relocation of the Ambulance base from its present position at the Harbour, Maynooth.

The HSE responding on behalf of the Minister for Health have advised Deputy Stagg that the Property Services Section of the HSE have raised the issue with the Agents for the Vendor of the Maynooth Business Campus with a view to confirming the suitability of the site for the new Ambulance Base.

Deputy Stagg whilst welcoming the contact with the agents, stated that the Maynooth Business Campus Site had been looked at before and given the fact that the funding for the new Ambulance Base had been provided last May he had expected more progress at this stage. The Maynooth Business Campus is an excellent site given its location near to the M4 and the direct access it affords to all parts of Maynooth which can readily be achieved speedily off the Straffan Road and down to Main Street.

Deputy Stagg stated that the present site at The Harbour was not very accessible given the narrowness of Leinster Street and the fact that it was a highly pedestrianised area as a link to the Railway Station, The Harbour Field and Children's Playground. For these reasons Ambulances responding to calls had to be very careful in traversing this stretch of road thus hindering response times. In addition with the major developments which will follow the adoption of the Action Area Plan in this area, the Ambulance Service

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would have been severely restricted in responding to calls. Finally the new Ambulance Station will provide better facilities for the Paramedics working with the Ambulance Service.

In conclusion Deputy Stagg stated that he would raise the issue further with the Minister and the HSE to ensure the project progresses without any further delay.

Extra buses welcomed-not enough-and why did it take 6 years to deliver

Deputy Emmet Stagg has welcomed the decision to sanction the purchase of an additional 100 Buses by Dublin Bus which was announced by the Government on Thursday 28th September but stated that the numbers being purchased were not enough and he questioned why it had taken 6 years to deliver on a promise to provide additional buses.

Deputy Stagg stated that Dublin Bus is the Workhorse of the Public Transport System carrying over 146 Million passengers in 2005. Since 2000 Dublin Bus have been starved of additional buses to increase services and open up new routes as the Greater Dublin Area developed, by the ideological squabbling of incompatible partners in this right wing Government. In the National Development Plan 2000 to 2006, an additional 205 buses were to be provided and yet we are at the end of 2006 and only 100 are now to come on stream.

In 2000 Dublin Bus had sought the provision of an additional 15 buses to serve the Maynooth, Leixlip and Celbridge Routes and we don't know at this stage how many of the additional buses announced yesterday will be allocated to the 3 North Kildare Towns. However Deputy Stagg declared that these buses should be allocated to the North Kildare Region which has been starved of resources for so long and areas served by LUAS and the DART should be at the back of the queue for additional services.

In conclusion Deputy Stagg stated that he would raise the issue with Dublin Bus but pointed out that this State Body had again been left in the lurch by this Government at the expense of the travelling public.

Dempsey's refusal to insist on local exchange upgrade preventing broadband usage

Deputy Emmet Stagg questioned the Minister for Communications in relation to assurances he received or sought from Eircom in relation to the Upgrading of Local Exchanges, given the significant Investment by the State of some €13 Million in rolling out Broadband to towns in Co. Kildare.

The Minister responding to Deputy Stagg stated that the provision of Broadband is a matter for Private Sector Companies and the Upgrading of Local Exchanges is an operational matter for Eircom, and that he did not have a function in the matter.

Responding to the Ministers remarks Deputy Stagg stated that it was regrettable that this Government failed to establish a quid pro quo with Eircom in relation to the Upgrade of the Local Exchanges whilst Tax Payers money was being used to roll out high speed open access Broadband networks. Rolling out the Network without upgrading the Local Exchanges is like building a house to live in and not putting on a roof.

Deputy Stagg stated that about 70% of the Country is now Broadband Enabled but just 14% of internet enabled households have a Broadband Connection. The reason for the low take up in Broadband is because Eircom have failed to Upgrade their Local Exchanges.

Given the importance of Broadband to both Families and Businesses Deputy Stagg stated that the Government might as well go the whole way and pay for the Upgrade of the Exchanges. After all this Private Company created by this Government when they Privatised our Telecommunications Infrastructure, have no intention of paying for the upgrades and are holding out for more State Handouts.

Deputy Stagg stated that he would raise this issue further with the Minister and whilst it was regrettable that further State Aid was required at least we might get a service then.

Carlow/Kildare Garda division—worst manned Garda division in the State

For a number of years Deputy Emmet Stagg has been highlighting the serious under-manning of the Garda Force in the Carlow/Kildare Division seeking additional Gardai to be assigned to the Division given the increase in the number of Gardai over the past number of years which has only barely kept up with the population increase in the State since 1996.

New figures released to Deputy Stagg by the Tanaiste and Minister for Justice show no improvement and a shocking level of under-policing in our area. The figures show the Garda Strength as of 25th September 2006.

The following are some examples (City Areas Excluded);

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Garda Division	Number of Gardai	Per Population
Carlow/Kildare people	1 Garda	for Every 558 people
Clare people	1 Garda	for Every 311 people
Cavan/Monaghan people	1 Garda	for Every 305 people
Donegal people	1 Garda	for Every 312 people
Roscommon/Galway E. people	1 Garda	for Every 366 people
Kerry people	1 Garda	for Every 448 people
Mayo people	1 Garda	for Every 451 people
Longford/Westmeath people	1 Garda	for Every 418 people
Laois/Offaly people	1 Garda	for Every 420 people

What this means stated Deputy Stagg is that our Garda Force has been systematically discriminated against in terms of numbers despite the huge population increase in the Carlow/Kildare Area in the past 10 years. This in effect means our Gardai are under pressure to deliver a proper service to the public and has led in recent times to people, who are subjected to crime saying what's the point in contacting the Gardai as they won't show up. Given the figures above few can blame fully our existing force.

To even get to the worst ratio of population to gardai shown above, 451 to 1, Deputy Stagg stated that we would require an immediate allocation of an additional 86 Gardai. To arrive at the best ratio of 305 to 1, we would require an additional 301 gardai.

These figures stated Deputy Stagg show how the Hard Working families of Kildare are treated by this Government. We pay our taxes, suffer incredibly from commuter fatigue, have our children being taught in prefabs, our loved ones are left in Accident and Emergency for Days on end and they can't even allocate Gardai to protect our Communities on a Fair and Equitable Basis.

Deputy Stagg concluded by stating that he intended to increase the pressure on the Minister for Justice to get a fair share of Gardai for Kildare.

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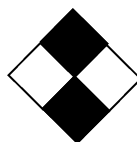


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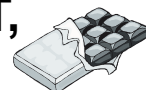


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Maynooth Newsletter

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