

MAYNOOTH NEWSLETTER

April 2009



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Editorial

April 2009

What a weekend for Irish sport and it was badly needed to lift the spirits of the Irish nation! At least we know that we are good at two things: entertainment and sport. The parade in Dublin was such a colourful sight to behold, even if I only saw it on television. But our own parade here in Maynooth was a credit to the organisers, the participants and to the huge crowd that turned out to watch. Congratulations are due to all those involved – particularly to the dedicated committee who work so hard year after year. Congratulations also to the office staff and the supervisor.

The week of Patrick's Day brought a certain amount of soul searching and self-reflection in various branches of the media. Who are we? Where are we going? Watching the leprachaun hats, the tri-coloured faces, I wonder are we self-fulfilling the "stage Irish" image of ourselves? After 12 years of the skinny latte society, flash new cars every year – what have we got to show for all the money that sloshed around? Very little as we look at the state of hospitals, schools and public transport -whether this means buses or trains. Most of the money went on tax cuts and road building. When the word "infrastructure" is mentioned – this means roads or, more specifically, motorways. Everything else comes after the road system. But where do we go from here? Tourism is an obvious industry but what have we got to offer now? Small villages and seaside town scarred with houses and apartment blocks, the green iconic image of the countryside scarred by huge unsustainable motorways. Is there a vision anywhere for our future? Ideology seems a dirty word. But now we need vision and ideology more than ever.

There is a report elsewhere in the Newsletter of the last Community Council meeting and the address given by Prof. John Hughes, president of NUIM. He attended at the invitation of the Council and outlined the future plans for the University. His presentation was very illuminating and informative. One of the final points he made was the danger of the rationalisations planned by the Government and the possible threat to the existing third level institutions in general. The University provides 800 jobs and puts €70m into the local community and we certainly hope that there will be no diminution in its status or any effect from the current economic climate. Education is one of the only ways out of this downturn and any interference with the system, at any level, is not only retrograde but downright irresponsible. The decisions made in haste at present could have very serious ramifications in the future. There is the danger of rash slashing that we could live to regret.

Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin

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Community Council Notes

Maynooth Community Council Meeting 9th March 2009

The meeting began with a presentation by Prof. John Hughes, President of the National University of Ireland, Maynooth and this was followed by a question and answer session. The President was accompanied by Mr Frank Fitzmaurice Director of Corporate Services in NUIM for the past two years. The Chairman, Colm Ó Cearúil, said that the initial contact with the College had been made through the Planning and Development committee.

Prof. Hughes said that the University has come a long way since the '60s and emphasised that 75% is dedicated to culture, Arts and Social Sciences. In 2008 NUIM was named University of the Year, and it has been the fastest growing University in Ireland. There are over 9,000 students, in three Faculties, but this increase will soon peak – only a further 200-300 students will be taken in.

The University has the highest points in Arts and Science as well as the highest research income per academic in Ireland. It is the only university with particular contacts with Intel such as Global Education Partner and Innovation Value Institute. Intel has invested heavily in these and NUIM offers an Engineering MA for them, including people from the States. There will be future growth in spin-out, spin-in companies, in licensing technology and start up companies, this is bringing business to the area. There will be more part-time students and there is a new business and law degree.

He stressed the fact that Universities are under threat, the cuts are extensive and amalgamations/closures are possible. NUIM gives 800 jobs and brings €70m annually into the economy.

Frank Fitzmaurice said that Maynooth is the only university town in Ireland and outlined future plans. It is the intention to bring campus closer to the town, to link both campuses and the town. He outlined the major developments: New Library, Arts and Social Science Building, Carton Innovation Camp, Student Apartments, Restaurant and signature buildings close to the Kilcock Road.

The Arts/Social Science building will begin now and be ready in July 2010. There will be no theatre as there was a shortfall in the available funding. Carton Park will have research projects, developing products and incubator and start-up companies. The Apartments will add about 350 beds near playing pitches. A new restaurant is required because of the recent fire. The signature buildings are some years away, 2-5 years, because of the funding issues.

The council members raised a number of issues and questions:

The library could be connected electronically with the local library.

Building workers will be kept on-site during construction.

There is a traffic management report pending and a strategy will be developed for traffic/parking, they are trying to promote cycling and walking.

The College had looked at buying property in the town but it had been too expensive in the past.

The President spoke about the Carton development was it necessary – incubation business should be separate from education. He said that the area in Carton is derelict, screened and near the river. No trees will be felled, no impact on cultural aspect. He praised the beauty of the environment of Carton and pointed to the pristine nature of the South Campus and gardens to show their care of Heritage. NUIM had a space for archives in Castletown. Frank Fitzmaurice said that they were also interested in a connection between the H. Field developments at Parson Street and the campus and the railway. St Patrick's were independent but involved. There was a plan for a boulevard on the Kilcock Road and a question over the existing footbridge.

There were reports from the various committees of the Council, including the St Patrick's Day Parade. J. McGinley said that the floats were nearly double that of last year. There is a full report on the Parade on Pages 32 and 34.

A serious matter was raised by P. Croghan of the Tidy Towns committee – the havoc caused by the sewerage works with their areas all torn up and with no reference J. McGinley explained that the contractor began work without approval, without an archaeologist although they were working in a zone of archaeological protection around the College etc. Work had now stopped – the council agreed that the Tidy Towns committee should write a letter demanding that their work should be reinstated and that the Executive would send this to Kildare County Council.

D. Cullen of the Planning and Development committee raised two important issues. She had contacted Meath County Council regarding the changes to the Carton Park plans – they were too large to photocopy. The Meath draft local area plan included the two Smart Parks one at Moygaddy and Carton. The Plan was only publicised in the Meath Chronicle. The committee were told that they could make a submission even though the date had passed. It was agreed that the committee would make the submission and that the Executive would back this.

The second issue also concerned Meath County Council who had a planning application for 500 houses in the Maynooth Environs. The public meeting was held in Dunboyne and the display period was over. This was only one and a half kilometres from Maynooth and there was no coordination with Co. Kildare. They would be dependent on services from Kildare. After a long discussion it was decided that a letter would be sent from the committee and then endorsed by the Executive. It was emphasised that there was no onus on Meath Co. Co. to contact Kildare.

Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin
Secretary
Maynooth Community Council



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Gardening

Gardening in April — Growing your own vegetables

A good, healthy vegetable plot is essential if you're planning to grow your own. This guide gives you all the information you need to set up a successful plot and shows you one way of rotating your crops to give you years of happy vegetable gardening.



Choosing your vegetables

Deciding what to grow is one of the best things about vegetable growing, but it's important to choose carefully and not get too carried away. Choose vegetables you really like, and look out for interesting varieties that you can harvest progressively. This will ensure that you have a ready supply of delicious vegetables throughout the growing season.

Vegetables can be ordered into four main groups, so choose the vegetables you like from each of these groups.

Group one

Potatoes, beetroot, carrots, chicory, artichokes, parsnips and salsify

Group two

Broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, kale, swede and turnips

Group three

Peas, all types of beans

Group four

All other vegetables and salad crops

Plot rotation

Once you've made your selection, divide up your plot into four beds. Grow vegetables in four separate beds, grouped according to our guide. The reason for this 'grouping' is that you should not grow the same vegetable in the same place year after year. You may find other suggestions of which crops to put where, but the important thing to know is that continuous cropping of the same plant can exhaust the soil of nutrients and pests and diseases can build up.

The answer to this potential problem is consistent plot rotation: in your second year of vegetable growing, your vegetables will 'move up' one bed. Your group two vegetables will be planted where the group three vegetables previously were, group three moves to the group four bed and so on. This allows the soil to recover, and the rotation can even be beneficial to future vegetables: for example, the nitrogen that peas and beans naturally deposit in the soil is perfect for encouraging growth in cauliflowers and cabbages.

Top tips

When you're laying out your vegetable plot, bear in mind these starter tips:

- * Beds about 1.2m (4ft) wide with paths all around are perfect, because you can water and weed without having to tread on the bed.
- * Leave sufficient space between the beds to allow easy access to the plants. A path with a hard surface the width of a wheelbarrow is ideal.
- * Make sure there is a source of water nearby. It may be worth investing in an outdoor tap or installing a rainwater butt nearby.
- * If your soil is poor or doesn't drain well, consider building raised beds. By creating a retaining wall from bricks or old railway sleepers, you can add a thick layer of organic material that will improve the soil. In addition, raised beds are easier to tend and don't need digging over in the autumn.
- * If you've only got a small space, choose early or dwarf vegetable cultivars as they require less space and can be planted closer together.



Maynooth Flower and Garden Club

Spring Show

on Saturday 25th April

**Loftus Hall, St. Patricks College
Maynooth.**

***Entries welcome in the Floral Art
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Staging on Saturday from 9am---12 noon.

For details and show schedule contact 0864041927.

**Show open to public from 3.30 pm to 5.30 pm.
Admission to non – exhibitors €4.00 including tea/coffee.**

Plant sales and Raffle

Clubs, Organisations And Societies

Maynooth Taekwon-Do School

Ciaran Hickey from the Maynooth Taekwon-Do School won **Gold** at the ITF Leinster Open on Sunday 23rd February. The event hosted by the Republic of Ireland Taekwon-Do Association (RITA) was held in the Tallaght Leisure Centre, Dublin and attracted competitors from all over the island of Ireland. Ciaran won the male 15-17 years red belt sparring and will hopefully be going for his Black Belt in June. Also competing for Maynooth was Kevin Molloy who has just moved up into the adult Black Belt division. Kevin had a good spar against Irish International Gerard Byrne but unfortunately lost out to the more experienced competitor.

Training is in St Mary's Boy's National School Wednesdays from 8.30-9.30pm and on Fridays from 7-8pm. New and old members are always welcome to attend.



Contact Stephen Doyle at 087-6986491

Kevin Molloy & Ciaran Hickey

Maynooth Scouts

As part of their fundraising efforts for their new Scout Den, the 8th Kildare Maynooth are hosting a race night to be held on the 23rd May in the Glenroyal Hotel from 8pm.

Admission Free, all welcome.

Gina Mizzoni
Group Secretary / PRO
8th Kildare Maynooth Scouts



Contact:
Peter Gareth 087.2241387



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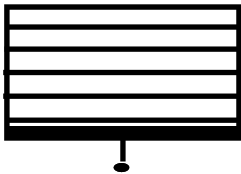
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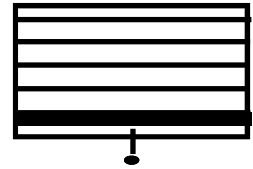
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Horoscopes

ARIES—March 21—April 20



The choice you make must be a dramatic one to get noticed. However, once you have the attention of your subject, you can be slightly more practical; i.e., learning what is needed and then provide it.

Your lucky day is Saturday, Number 5, Colour Red.

TAURUS—April 21—May 21



Here's how you know who your real friends are, if it's important to you, it's important to your friend. Even when (especially when) your friend has no other interest in the subject at hand except that it matters to you.

Your lucky day is Sunday, Number 9, Colour Blue.

GEMINI—May 22—June 22



Patience may not be your strong suit, but right now you need to cool your jets and wait. Do not give up because this payoff will be huge. Do something useful while you're waiting.

Your lucky day is Tuesday, Number 18, Colour Violet.

CANCER—June 23—July 23



You are sharp. Stay that way by avoiding mind-numbing tasks and pastimes. The one who notices your wit is a keeper. You need to be around people who recognize your intelligence and challenge you to new heights.

Your lucky day is Monday, Number 11, Colour Orange.

LEO—July 24—August 23



The only true difference between the mundane and the extraordinary is love. You have the key ingredients, so mix up some passion for what you're doing. Everyday life will suddenly sparkle.

Your lucky day is Friday, Number 2, Colour Navy.

VIRGO—August 24—Sept 23



It's cosy in your comfort zone, and unfortunately that's not where you'll find the answer you've been looking for. Trust yourself to move far enough in the right direction; step out of the shade and into enlightenment.

Your lucky day is Wednesday, Number 1, Colour Scarlet.



LIBRA—Sept 24—Oct 23

Notice how your community is close-knit. People feed off of what each other are saying, wearing, doing and believing. Your actions, and even your fashion choices, have wide repercussions.

Your lucky day is Tuesday, Number 21, Colour Black.



SCORPIO—Oct 24—Nov 22

You're ready to make an improvement. Before you do, there is a step that must be addressed. It is necessary to own your part in the things that weren't going right before.

Your lucky day is Thursday, Number 33, Colour Lavender.



SAGITTARIUS—Nov 23—Dec 21

You bring peacefulness to relationships. If you looked for something to complain about, you would find it, but it's not who you want to be. You'll be actively searching for topics of fun and interest.

Your lucky day is Friday, Number 19, Colour Cerise.



CAPRICORN—Dec 22—Jan 20

Plan for mistakes, then life will suddenly get easier. For instance, start a slush fund to cover parking tickets, or leave early for an appointment in case the directions are wrong. Stay happy and stress free.

Your lucky day is Saturday, Number 40, Colour Yellow.



AQUARIUS—Jan 21—Feb 19

There's no way to anticipate what others will want from you, but there you are anyway, ready to give your all. When you do things in the spirit of love, the result is magical.

Your lucky day is Tuesday, Number 27, Colour Green.



PISCES—Feb 20—March 20

Imagine a situation getting better even though you're not sure exactly how. Your thoughts are travelling with such intensity that they could fix the situation before you even have time to formulate a plan.

Your lucky day is Monday, Number 35, Colour Pink.

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Features

THE ORIGIN OF THE EASTER BUNNY

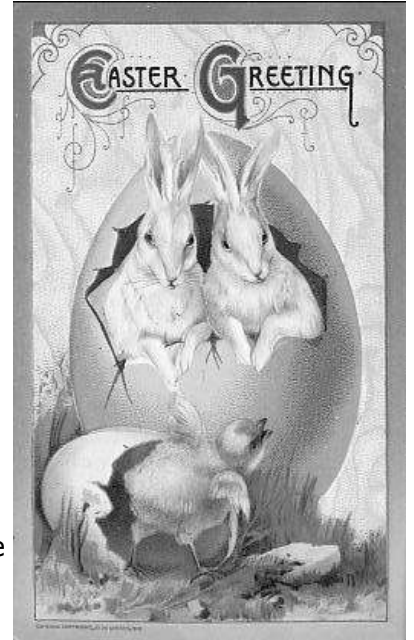


Postcard from 1915

Like the origin of Easter, the Easter Bunny has roots that go back to pre-Christian, Anglo-Saxon history. The holiday was originally a pagan celebration that worshipped the goddess Eastre. She was the goddess of fertility and springtime and her earthly symbol was the rabbit. Thus the pre-Christian Anglo-Saxons worshipped the rabbit believing it to be Eastre's earthly incarnation.

When the Anglo-Saxons were converted to Christianity, the pagan holiday, which occurred around the same time as the Christian memorial of Jesus' resurrection from the dead, was combined with the Christian celebration and given the name Easter.

The bunny as an Easter symbol seems to have its origins in Germany, where it was first mentioned in German writings in the 1500s. The first edible Easter bunnies were made in Germany during the early 1800s. And were made of pastry and sugar.



Easter Postcard from 1910

Easter Bonnet

On your Easter bonnet. The history of the Easter bonnet is a lot older than the average person believes. In 1948 Irving Berlin wrote:

*In your Easter bonnet, with all the frills upon it,
You'll be the grandest lady in the Easter Parade.
I'll be all in clover and when they look you over,
I'll be the proudest fellow in the Easter Parade.
On the avenue, Fifth Avenue, the photographers will snap us,
And you'll find that you're in the rotogravure.
Oh, I could write a sonnet about your Easter bonnet,
And of the girl I'm taking to the Easter Parade.*

--Irving Berlin's "Easter Parade" (1948)



So this is yet another Hollywood started fad? Wrong, Hollywood (or Irving Berlin) got that idea from somewhere. It is believed that the Easter Parade had its beginning in the 1870s, in New York. The Easter Parade in New York was and still is an extremely popular event. Originally the church goers would carry Easter flowers from St. Thomas's Church to St. Luke's Church. In this one street parade it became a traditional rite of spring to be seen in your new spring fashions which included hats. The hats were getting larger and larger and were decorated with more and more flowers, lace, ribbon, and birds nests were all used to decorate an Easter bonnet. The parade route then extended from Madison Square to Central Park.

Happy Easter!

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Easter Recipes

Quick Roast Lamb

Ingredients

- ♦ 4 lamb chops , or cutlets
- ♦ 400g new potatoes
- ♦ 250g large carrots cut into big chunks
- ♦ 1 tbsp oil, plus a little more for the lamb
- ♦ 1 sprig rosemary, leaves chopped
- ♦ 100ml red wine
- ♦ 100ml lamb stock, (from a cube is fine)
- ♦ redcurrant jelly
- ♦ green beans, or other veg, to serve

Method

1. Heat oven to 220C/fan 200C/gas 7. Put the potatoes and carrots onto a baking tray, toss with the oil and rosemary, then season well. Roast for 15 mins on the top shelf until the veg is golden and almost tender.
2. Meanwhile, make the gravy. Put the wine and stock into a small pan, then boil until reduced by about two-thirds. Stir in the redcurrant jelly, season and keep warm.
3. Rub the lamb in a little oil, then season. Tuck the lamb in amongst the veg, then return to the oven for 8-10 mins, turning the lamb halfway through. Serve with the redcurrant gravy.

Easter Biscuits

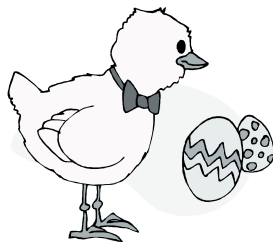
Makes 10 biscuits
Preparation time: 10 minutes
Cooking time: 15 minutes

Ingredients

- ♦ 280g plain flour
- ♦ ½ tsp baking powder
- ♦ 140g unsalted butter
- ♦ 140g castor sugar
- ♦ 55g currants
- ♦ 1 whole medium egg, beaten
- ♦ grated zest of 1 lemon

Method

1. Pre heat the oven to 200°C, Gas 6.
2. Rub the butter into the plain flour carefully, then add the baking powder.
3. Place into a bowl and add the sugar, lemon zest, currants and egg and mix well into a dough.
4. Roll out on a floured surface and cut out 10, 8cm x ¼ cm thick discs.



5. Place onto a lightly greased baking sheet and bake in the pre heated oven for 15-18 minutes, or until golden brown all over.
6. Remove from the oven and leave to cool slightly, before finally removing to a wire rack to cool completely.
7. Store in an airtight container.

Quick & Easy Easter Egg Cake



Ingredients

- ♦ 1 Packet Quick Cake Mix Plain or Chocolate
- ♦ Up to 225g of leftover Easter Egg (broken into pieces)
- ♦ Any Smarties or Buttons or chopped Mars Bars!

Method

1. Preheat oven to 180° C/350° F/Gas 4. Put paper Cases in the bun tins.
2. Prepare mixture as per instructions. Finally, stir in the broken Easter egg and sweets. If liked some sweets may be placed on top of buns before baking

Strawberry and Oatmeal Dessert

Ingredients

- ♦ 50g/2oz Porridge Oatflakes
- ♦ 450g/1lb Strawberries
- ♦ 150ml/¼ pt Greek Yoghurt
- ♦ 1 tbl Sugar
- ♦ 300ml/1½pt Double Cream
- ♦ 50g/2oz Castor Sugar

Method

1. Toast oatflakes under preheated grill until lightly browned. Allow to cool.
2. Mash the strawberries with the sugar. Whip the cream and fold in the yoghurt, castor sugar and all but 2 tablespoons of the oatflakes. In glasses, layer the strawberries and cream mixture. Sprinkle remaining oatflakes on top. Decorate with a strawberry. Chill. Serves approx 4, depending on size of glasses.
3. Strawberries may be replaced with any other fruit of your choice.



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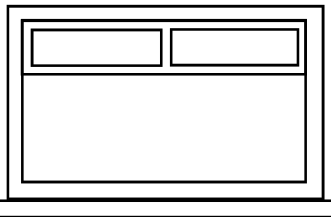
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Poetry Corner

An Easter Blessing

*Bless this day the joy of life,
The revelation of the flesh,
The paradise of man and wife
Joined to share the gift of bliss.
Bless this day the pain of life,
The passion that redeems the flesh,
The love between a man and wife
Beyond all agony and bliss.*

*Bless this day the end of life,
The peace within the dying flesh,
The bond between a man and wife
That long outlasts their bit of bliss.*

*Bless this day the whole of life,
The grace of being more than flesh,
The voyage of a man and wife
Across the mystery of bliss.*

An April Night

*The moon comes up o'er the deeps of the woods,
And the long, low dingles that hide in the hills,
Where the ancient beeches are moist with buds
Over the pools and the whimpering rills;*

*And with her the mists, like dryads that creep
From their oaks, or the spirits of pine-hid
springs,
Who hold, while the eyes of the world are
asleep,
With the wind on the hills their gay revellings.*

*Down on the marshlands with flicker and
glow
Wanders Will-o'-the-Wisp through the night,
Seeking for witch-gold lost long ago
By the glimmer of goblin lantern-light.*

*The night is a sorceress, dusk-eyed and dear,
Akin to all eerie and elfin things,
Who weaves about us in meadow and mere
The spell of a hundred vanished Springs.*

by Lucy Maud Montgomery

Easter Isn't Easy

*I heard a funny bunny say,
"I just go nuts on Easter day.
I hide about a zillion eggs
And baskets tangle up my legs.*

*"I'm tired, my eyes are full of tears
And overflowing to my ears.
If I'm to work more Easter Days
At my age I should change my
ways*

*"I know I must do something rash
So I'll start saving all my cash
Then next year, with a little luck
I'll deliver in my pick up truck."*

(Author unknown)

My April Lady

*When down the stair at morning
The sunbeams round her float,
Sweet rivulets of laughter
Are bubbling in her throat;
The gladness of her greeting
Is gold without alloy;
And in the morning sunlight
I think her name is Joy.*

*When in the evening twilight
The quiet book-room lies,
We read the sad old ballads,
While from her hidden eyes
The tears are falling, falling,
That give her heart relief;
And in the evening twilight,
I think her name is Grief.*

*My little April lady,
Of sunshine and of showers,
She weaves the old spring magic,
And breaks my heart in flowers!
But when her moods are ended,
She nestles like a dove;
Then, by the pain and rapture,
I know her name is Love.*

by Henry Van Dyke

Maynooth U3A

Seachtain na Gaeilge a bhí ann. Cuir Helena fáilte roimhinn go léir. Our 'Go for Life' programme certainly has us all moving to the sounds of Harry Bellefonte and Abba. From the laughter and shrieks emanating from the room at times one can only assume that the group is enjoying themselves. The production of a U3A banner appears to have turned into quite 'a production'. Because of the time restraints there has been an air of desperation about. The majority of our members had a most enjoyable and educational day in Newgrange recently. The ladies who had their spring break in Belfast barely had time to recover before their trip to Kilkenny. Thanks to Joan for co-ordinating same. Maura gave a very engaging talk on her early exploits in Saskatchewan, Canada. She certainly aroused our curiosity not so much by what she said but rather by what was not said. An dtuigeann tú Máire? The next instalment can be heard in Caulfields! The book chosen for March was 'The Girls' by Lori Lansens. It tells the true story of the oldest conjoined twins in history and as such should prove to be a deeply moving read. Our April meetings are on Friday 3rd and 17th at 11.00 a.m. in the Community Library.

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Phone: 6286312
and Paddy Malone, Ballycahan. Phone: 6287074



Pet Corner

pet Rabbits

Rabbits are often known affectionately by the pet name bunny or bunny rabbit, especially when referring to young, domesticated rabbits. Originally, the word for an adult rabbit was coney or cony, while rabbit referred only to the young animals. Male rabbits are called **bucks** and females **does**.

Pet rabbits kept indoors are referred to as house rabbits. House rabbits typically have an indoor pen or cage and a rabbit-safe place to run and exercise, such as an exercise pen, living room or family room. Rabbits can be trained to use a litter box and some can learn to come when called. Domestic rabbits that do not live indoors can also often serve as companions for their owners, typically living in an easily accessible hutch outside the home. Some pet rabbits live in outside hutches during the day for the benefit of fresh air and natural daylight and are brought inside at night.



Whether indoor or outdoor, pet rabbits' pens are often equipped with enrichment activities such as shelves, tunnels, balls, and other toys. Pet rabbits are often provided additional space in which to get exercise, simulating the open space a rabbit would traverse in the wild. Exercise pens or lawn pens are often used to provide a safe place for rabbits to run.

A pet rabbit's diet typically consists of unlimited **hay**, a **small amount of pellets**, and a **small portion of fresh vegetables**.

Rabbits are social animals. Rabbits as pets can find their companionship with a variety of creatures, including humans, other rabbits, guinea pigs, and sometimes even cats and dogs. **Rabbits do not make good pets for small children** because they do not know how to stay quiet, calm, and gentle around rabbits. As prey animals, rabbits are alert, timid creatures that **startle easily**. They have fragile bones, especially in their backs, that require support on the tummy and bottom when picked up. Children 10 years old and older usually have the maturity required to care for a rabbit.

Appeal from the ISPCA— Be a Buddy to a Bunny

Many rabbits come into the care of the ISPCA, when the novelty of cleaning and caring for the rabbit wears off with its owners. As rabbits can live up to eight years, owning a rabbit is a large commitment for a family to consider. As Easter approaches and the shelves in the supermarkets are beginning to fill with chocolate eggs, the ISPCA are asking you to please consider a **thoughtful gift**. Instead of buying one Easter Egg by buying a vital gift of food or bedding it would mean that rabbits in their care could get a second chance at being loved and respected.



Bedding and food can be purchased in any pet shop. You can drop off your gifts to your local ISPCA centre, or Animal Sanctuary.

Children are very giving and you will find that **they would be delighted** to know that by sacrificing one or two Easter Eggs they are helping the plight of these bunnies.

Maynooth Community Library

MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY CHESS CLUB

We have two Children's Chess Clubs running in Maynooth Library every Monday night between 6pm - 7pm. Aimed at beginners and those who already know how to play. We have instructors who can offer guidance for those who need help.

Adult Chess Club members: Please note that the adult chess session has moved from Thursday night to Monday night from 6pm - 8pm.

New members are welcome.

Children's Book Club.

The book to be discussed at the next Children's Book Club is "**The Girl with the Broken Wing**" by Heather Dyer 5 - 7 year olds.

For 8 - 11 year olds their book is "**The BFG**" By Roald Dahl.

The next screening of Maynooth Community Library's Film for All is on April 8th at 7.45 pm. The film to be screened is **La Antena**. Spanish (subtitles).

The surreal, monochrome fairytale is sublime and as much a coup for Spanish-language cinema as Pan's Labyrinth was before.

The venue for the film is in the comfortable surroundings of the J.H.L 2 Lecture Hall in the John Hume building, North Campus Maynooth College.

The next Children's Book Club meeting is on Tuesday 7th of April at 3.30 pm.

Maynooth Community Library,

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Clubs, Organisations And Societies

Maynooth Citizens Information Centre Know Your Rights

Question

My employer plans to reduce my working week. Is there any extra payment I can get towards supporting my family and paying my mortgage?

Answer

If you are working a three-day week or less, you may qualify for Jobseeker's Benefit for the other days, provided you meet the other conditions.

You must be under 66 years of age, be unemployed for at least 3 days in 6, and have enough social insurance (PRSI) contributions. You must also be capable of work, available for work and genuinely seeking work.

Apply at your Social Welfare Local Office (SWLO). To save time, you can download the application form (UP 1) from www.welfare.ie and fill it in as far as possible before you call to the office.

If you do not qualify for Jobseeker's Benefit, you may be able to get Family Income Supplement (FIS). This is a payment for families at work on low pay, including single-parent families.

You must have at least one child who normally lives with you or is financially supported by you. Your child must be under 18 years of age or between 18 and 22 years of age and in full-time education. You (and/or your spouse or partner) must be working a total of 19 hours or more per week (or 38 hours per fortnight).

If you already get FIS, you may now be entitled to a higher rate of payment.

You will need to fill in the application form (FIS 1) and send it to the FIS Section, Department of Social and Family Affairs, Social Welfare Services Office, Government Buildings, Ballinalee Road, Longford. Enclose two recent payslips, your latest P60 form and a copy of your current Certificate of Tax Credits.

You may also qualify for Mortgage Interest Supplement. This is a weekly means-tested payment to help with the interest portion of your mortgage repayments in the short term. N.B. If you or your spouse/partner are working more than 30 hours per week, you will not qualify for Mortgage Interest Supplement.

You will not get help with the portion of your mortgage repayments that pays off the actual loan and house insurance. Contact your mortgage lender to discuss repaying the actual loan.

Apply to the Community Welfare Officer at your local health centre.

Question

I am earning much less than I did last year but I don't qualify for a medical card. Is there any other support I can get towards my family's medical bills?

Answer

Even though you cannot get a medical card, you and your family may qualify for a GP Visit Card, which entitles you to visit your family doctor for free. However, any prescribed drugs associated with the visit are not free. You should apply for a Drugs Payment Scheme card (see below) to help with these costs.

(Continued on page 20)



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Clubs, Organisations And Societies

(Continued from page 18)

As with the medical card, you must meet income guidelines and be ordinarily resident in Ireland – that is, live here and intend to stay here for at least a year. The GP Visit Card income limits are 50% higher than those for the medical card.

The application form is the same as that for a medical card. You can get it at your Local Health Office or health centre, or download it from www.hse.ie. Return the completed form to your Local Health Office or health centre.

The Drugs Payment Scheme (DPS) applies to people who do not have a full medical card. Under the DPS you and your family only have to pay a maximum monthly amount for all prescribed drugs, medicines or appliances that you use. This monthly maximum has been set at €100 for 2009.

The DPS scheme is limited to people who are ordinarily resident in Ireland.

You can get a registration form from your pharmacy or your Local Health Office. Return it to the Local Health Office, which then issues a DPS card for each person named. Show this card whenever you have a prescription filled. The pharmacist will not charge you for anything over the limit of €100 in any calendar month.

You do not have to register with a particular pharmacy. If you need to use two or more pharmacies in a month, you may pay more than €100 in total. You can claim back the excess amount from your Local Health Office.

If you are paying income tax, you can claim tax relief on your (and your family's) medical expenses. Keep all your receipts and record all the amounts on Form MED 1. Download this form from www.revenue.ie, order a copy on Revenue's leaflet line Lo-call 1890 306 706 or get it from any Revenue office. You can also apply for this tax relief online – see www.revenue.ie for details.

Question

My name is not on the electoral register which was published in February. I will turn 18 in April. How can I register to vote in the elections in June?

Answer

If you will be aged 18 by polling day for the local and

European elections (5 June 2009) you can apply now to be entered in the supplement to the 2009/2010 Electoral Register. To ensure that you are registered in time, you should make sure that the completed application form reaches your local authority (County or City Council) by Monday 18 May 2009.

You can download the application form (RFA2) from www.checktheregister.ie or ask your local authority to post it to you.

There are detailed notes accompanying the form. It is important to read them carefully and follow the instructions so that you will be registered correctly and in time to vote.

As well as filling in details of your name, address, citizenship and date of birth, you should indicate if you want to be on the edited register. This version of the register can be used for non-statutory purposes such as direct marketing. You should tick the "opt-out" box if you do not want to be on the edited register.

When you have completed the first half of the form, you should go to your local Garda Station to have your identity confirmed and get the form signed. You should bring photographic identification with you – for example, a passport, a student card or a Garda Age Card. You may also be asked for evidence of your address. You should sign the form in the presence of a member of the Garda Síochána, who will then stamp it for you.

If you cannot go to the Garda Station, you may be able to complete the form at the office of your local authority. You will need similar identification, and you will have to say in writing why you cannot go to the Garda Station.

If you have a physical illness or disability which prevents you from going to the Garda Station or local authority office, you can ask your doctor to complete part of the form.

You should send the completed form directly to your local authority. It would be useful if you could enclose a copy of your birth certificate or another proof of age.

(Continued on page 22)

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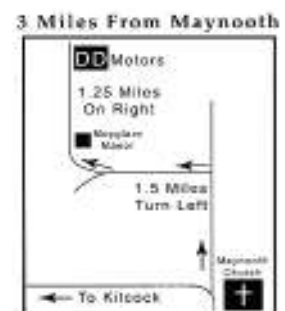
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Clubs, Organisations And Societies

(Continued from page 20)

Question

I have heard that there are new grants for roof insulation. How do they work?

Answer

There is a new national grants scheme for homeowners who invest in certain energy efficiency improvements, such as roof insulation. The scheme is administered by Sustainable Energy Ireland (SEI). It specifies the types of work covered and the maximum grants for each. Grant approval must be in place before any materials are bought or work begins. However, you can have a Building Energy Rating (BER) carried out ahead of grant approval.

The grants will be paid out after the work is completed and you (the homeowner) have paid the contractor. If the cost of the work (including VAT) is less than the maximum grant amount, the actual cost will be reimbursed.

The types of work and the maximum grants for each are listed in the table below.

Type of work covered	Maximum grant
Roof insulation	€250
Cavity wall insulation	€400
Internal wall dry lining	€2,500
External wall insulation	€4,000
Replacement high-efficiency (greater than 90%) gas or oil-fired boilers with heating controls upgrade	€700
Heating controls upgrade	€500
Building Energy Rating (BER) – you can get a BER grant if you have a BER carried out before and after the works are completed	€200

The grant amount in your first application must be at least €500. This means, for example, that you cannot get a grant if you only insulate your roof. You must get one of the other works done as well in order to qualify for a grant. N.B. The BER grant cannot form part of this €500 amount.

The scheme will be open for applications from homeowners on 23 March 2009. In the meantime, you can register your interest at Callsave 1850 927 000 or by email to hes@sei.ie. For more information, see the Sustainable Energy Ireland website www.sei.ie.

Further information is available from Citizens Information Centres and from the Citizens Information Phone Service, LoCall 1890 777 121.

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SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT

What is Supported Employment?

Supported Employment is a concept, which enables people with disabilities to be employed in paid jobs in the open labour market. Supported Employment provides support to jobseekers with disabilities and their employers and co-workers. The support given allows individuals with disabilities to become and remain gainfully employed. People with a wide range of disabilities, e.g. physical, sensory and intellectual disabilities as well as people with mental health difficulties, have become successfully employed using the Supported Employment model.

In short, Supported Employment:

- ◆ Focuses on individual skills and abilities.
- ◆ Supports the individual to identify employment opportunities.
- ◆ Works in partnership with individuals, their families and employers to achieve successful outcomes for all clients.
- ◆ Promotes inclusion through employment.
- ◆ Is a professional and free service to people with disabilities and employers.
- ◆ Has enabled hundreds of people with disabilities in Ireland to secure employment.

Who is Eligible for Supported Employment?

The service is open to all persons with a disability who are "Job Ready". For the purpose of the Supported Employment Programme, job readiness is defined as "a person who has the necessary training, education, motivation and/or ability to pursue work/career in the open labour market"

How does The Programme Work?

Supported Employment has four main phases:

Phase A: Vocational Profile & Needs Assessment.

When someone is referred to Supported Employment, they will be allocated an employment specialist called a Job Coach who will prepare a Vocational Profile and also carry out a "Needs Assessment" to help identify the type of job the jobseeker would like to do.

Phase B: Job Sourcing & Development.

The Job Coach will attempt to identify suitable jobs, carry out job analysis, and help to market the jobseeker's abilities to prospective employers.

Phase C: Matching the Jobseeker with a Suitable Employer.

Providing the jobseeker with necessary support and coaching in the workplace.
The Job Coach will support both the jobseeker and the employer.

Phase D: Aftercare and Follow Up.

To provide an aftercare service for clients and employers where applicable. The amount of support provided should decrease over time as the employee learns the skills required for the job and adapts to the workplace.

How do I access The S.E. Programme?

Supported Employment is nationwide. In Kildare the service is provided by the ***Kildare Coalition of Supported Employment Ltd. (KCSE)*** which is based at Lower Main Street, Kilcullen, Co Kildare. Referrals for the service are made through FÁS. Therefore in order to access Supported Employment you should first call into your local FÁS office and register with them and request the help of Supported Employment.



MAYNOOTH TOASTMASTERS

Our next meetings will take place

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Features

The Annual MPPS Musical

The Pirates of Penzance' proved to be an overwhelming success this year selling out each night. The cast of the show performed brilliantly throughout the whole run and are a credit to both themselves and the school. Special mention must go to the teachers involved who spent so much of their own time making sure that no stone was left unturned ensuring the overall success of the event. From the set, to the costumes, to the actual delivery of the performance on each of the nights, it was definitely worth seeing, and all in Maynooth Post Primary would like to express just how proud of all who were involved. We look forward to next year's production already.



Sinead Murray & Ciaran Cunningham



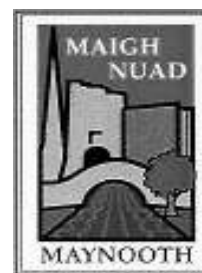
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Features

Jack Karouac

Jack Karouac's iconic novel *On the Road* scroll displayed in the Russell Library before it returned to the USA.

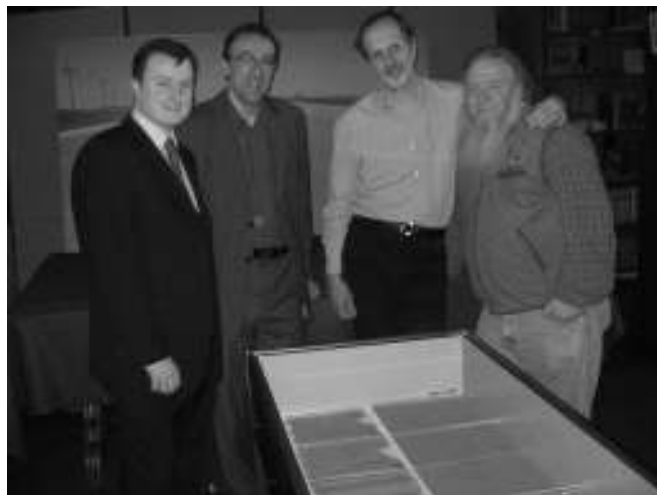
The Library in collaboration with the School of English, Media and Theatre Studies, at NUI Maynooth presented a major Exhibition, 'Jack Karouac Back on the Road'. The original 127-foot scroll of the text of *On the Road* was typed in one piece in 1951. The exhibition took place in the Russell Library NUI Maynooth from Thursday 5th March to Thursday 19th March. Karouac's novel had a major influence on the Beat generation of writers and on everything from the music of Bob Dylan to the genre of road movies.

Professor Chris Morash said: "The scroll of Karouac's *On the Road* is more than just a literary manuscript. It is a work of art in its own right, rolling out of Karouac's typewriter like the road he was writing about, reminding us that the journey can be a destination in its own right.

The Librarian Cathal McCauley thanked those involved in organising the exhibition including Library and University Colleagues but especially the scroll owner Mr. James Irsay, the curator of the scroll Mr. James Canary and Karouac scholar Professor Dick Ellis.



Jim Canary (Curator of the Scroll) of Indiana University, USA.



Librarian Cathal McCauley, Professor Chris Morash, Professor Dick Ellis, & Jim Canary.



Étaín Ó'Síocháin & Valerie Seymour at the exhibition



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Features

St. Patricks Day Parade 2009

There were 27 entries in this year's Parade, up from the 14 entries that we had last year. The lovely sunshine and the very high quality of the Floats made the Parade the best that we have had for a long time. The very big crowd particularly liked the display of the Junior Section of St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band and The Dublin All Stars Marching Band were also a big hit. A great effort was put into the preparation of the floats particularly those of the GAA, Tidy Towns and Carton House. Maynooth Town Football Club had nearly 100 children taking part while the performance of the 3 Dance Schools was much appreciated.

On behalf of the Parade Committee I would like to thank the participants and all those who helped with the organising of what was yet again a very successful Parade.

I would like to thank all the businesses who contributed to ensure that we were not at a financial loss. In particular I would like to thank Willie Kiernan who provides, erects and operates his state of the art Public Address System every year free of charge.

Our major sponsors were:

The Roost, Thornton's Recycling, Derrinstown Stud, Brady's Clockhouse, George O'Connor, John Merrick Dentist, Caulfield's Pub, O'Neill's Pub, Carton House, The Elite, Supermacs, Dr. G. B. Glass, St. Patrick's Pharmacy, Maynooth Fireplaces, Mulcahy's Butchers, A.I.B., Bruce Betting.

I would also like to thank the following:

- Paul Thornton of Thornton's Recycling for providing the reviewing stand and for sponsoring the Fintan Lawlor Pipe Band .
- Elaine Bean, Melanie Oliver, Seamus Kennedy, Paul Thornton, Willie Saults, Andrew McMullon, Pat Farrell and David Moynan for helping with the reviewing stand and putting out the crowd control barriers.
- Peter Connell for taking on the task of Master of Ceremonies.
- George O'Connor for again providing the crash barriers free of charge.
- The Boys National Primary School for providing chairs for the reviewing stand.
- Jim McManus for the power supply for the public address system.
- Maynooth Tidy Towns Committee for being out at 8am picking up the litter.
- Larine House for providing the plants for the Reviewing Stand.
- Peter Connell for taking on the task of Master of Ceremonies.
- Our guests on the reviewing stand.
- Aine Brady T.D. for being our guest speaker.
- Kildare County Council for Supplying the No Parking Cones and Shay Corbally for storing them.
- All the stewards who yet again performed their tasks very professionally.
- The Parade Committee and to Marie Gleeson and the staff of the Community Council for their great help, especially Paul Hand for his great efforts in collecting contributions.
- The residents of Greenfield Estate for their continued co-operation.
- All of the business people who did such a splendid job of decorating their shop windows.
- Finally, a special word of thanks to the Gardaí for controlling the traffic so well.

The Parade Prize Winners were:

Best Commercial Float
Best Club Float-
(The Owen Byrne Memorial Trophy)
Best Band
Best Portrayal of Irish Culture
Best Portrayal of Environmental Awareness
Best School Float

Carton House
8th Kildare Maynooth Scouts

St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band
Dublin All Stars Marching Band
Maynooth Tidy Towns
Presentation Girl's School

(Continued on page 34)

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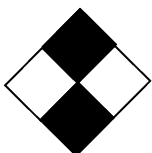
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Features

(Continued from page 32)

The Shop Window Prize Winners were:

Hula Bou
Brady's Clockhouse
Just The Biz

John McGinley,
Organiser, Maynooth's St. Patricks Day Parade
2009

Maynooth Community Council would like to thank most sincerely the following local businesses whose contributions made the Parade possible:

Easons
Gerard Brady Estate Agents
Joe Wall Imprinta
The Maynooth Bookshop
3 Pin Electrical
Maynooth Credit Union
Dawson's Menswear
CPL Factors
Maynooth Auto Electrical
Hula Bou
Mystique
KnB Music
Gerry Flood, Maynooth Photo Centre
News 4 U
Coonans Auctioneers
Moulin Rouge
Je' Meills
Masterson's Fruit & Veg
Avenue Café
The Bronzed and the Beautiful
Ted Keogh
Paddy Power
Hegarty's Solicitors
Helen Gray
Cut 'n Style

Bagel Factory
Guildea's Opticians
Michael Reilly
Paul Stack, Solicitor
Budgies Pet Shop
MECC
Coffee Mill
Twist Café
Maynooth Jewellers
McCormack's Pharmacy
Permanent TSB
Mill Wine Cellar
The Flower Mill
Jim's Shoe Repairs
Conroy's Chemist
Bank of Ireland
Royal Café
Forever Flowers
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Inkjet World
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Chockablock Ltd.



Michael & Jamie



Irish Dancers and U3A



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Fianna Fáil

Constituency Office
Town Hall Lane, Naas, Co. Kildare.
Tel. 045-888438 Fax 045-888437
Email: Michael.Fitzpatrick@oireachtas.ie



Cllr. Daragh Fitzpatrick
Tel. 087-2538184

Clinics:

- Second Thursday each month : 5.30 p.m. Leixlip, Court Yard Hotel (Lobby)
6.30 p.m. Maynooth, Glenroyal Hotel (Lobby)
7.30 p.m. Kilcock, O'Keefe's
- Celbridge Fianna Fáil Office, every Saturday morning 10 a.m.
- Jones, Main St., Clane, every Saturday morning 11 a.m.
- Naas Constituency Office, Town Hall Lane, (Tel.045-888438)
Monday and Friday mornings or by appointment.

Contact: Michael/Daragh Constituency Office: 045-888438
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Clubs, Organisations And Societies

I.C.A. Notes

Congratulations to Maynooth I.C.A. who have won the National Quiz Competition in An Grianan. The team were Rosemary Hanley, Mary Dunne and Mary O'Gorman. Mary O'Gorman was also highly recommended for her knitted toy at the National Competition, so well done to all. Thanks was extended to the Guild for their huge effort in the Shoe Box Appeal at Christmas. They will also be out on Daffodil Day doing the Cancer collection. Our President Margaret Houlihan will represent the I.C.A. on the St Patricks Day Stand, while viewing the Parade. Thanks was extended to Guild members who knitted hats & teddies for babies in hospital. Kildare week in An Grianan takes place in June and a weekend in November 09, and places are filling up quickly. Other competitions ongoing at the moment are singing, set dancing, variety show, guild of the year book. Members past and present are asked to contribute to the guild of the year book, send in your stories, photos. The Timire Mary McNamara will organise an Irish night at a later date and informed the guild that the "Rangainna as Gaeilge" were starting in Bradys on Wednesday nights from 8 - 9p.m @ €50 for 10 weeks. Craft Promoter Mary O'Gorman and her team will start work on the patchwork quilt depicting the last 100 years in Maynooth and this is to coincide with the I.C.A. celebrating 100 years in 2010.

Nellie Dillon from Clane Guild in Kildare is seeking election for National President and we wish her every success.

The next Federation Meeting takes place in Leixlip and the National A.G.M. is on 27th May in Lyrat House Hotel, Kilkenny.

The yearly Guild competition was won jointly by Veva Kearins and Rosemary Hanley, in 2nd place was Teresa Corcoran and 3rd place was shared by Cora Walsh, Mairead Scanlon and Mary O'Gorman. The members still play Badminton twice a week in the College and have been invited to play with Leixlip and Killeel.

The Guilds chosen charity for this year is Special Olympics. A Midsummer Madness Night will take place in An Grianan on the 10th July '09 so book your ticket now. The April competition for the Guild is make an Easter Card. Raffle winners at the Meeting were 1st place Jo O'Connell, 2nd place Margaret Houlihan & 3rd place Mairead Scanlon.

Meetings take place every 2nd Thursday of the month at 8 p.m. in the I.C.A. Hall in the Harbour and new members are always welcome

Norah McDermott P.R.O.

Co Kildare Vocational Education Committee Adult Basic Education Service

Book Launch

The Adult Basic Education Section of Co Kildare Vocational Education Committee recently published a collection of writings, 'Coming Together', by adult students attending the four adult basic education centres in the county.

The launch was hosted by the ABE service with Peter Sheridan as the guest speaker. He regaled the audience with many entertaining stories and some students read their own pieces. For all of them it was their first time reading in public and their courage and determination got them through.

For the writers too, this was the first time they had expressed their thoughts in print and each writer is to be commended for their work and creativity along with the perseverance they have shown in committing their life experiences to writing. It portrayed the huge amount of talent and experience that these students have and is a great reflection of the diverse interests and nationalities of the writers.

This book would not have been possible without the dedication and commitment of the marvellous tutors working in the Basic Education Service.

By sharing their skills, these tutors have enabled learners throughout the county to express themselves and to grow in confidence, believing they could commit their thoughts to paper for all to read.

The ABE service offers all adults the opportunity to improve their skills of reading, writing, spelling and basic maths. It does this in a supportive and relaxed environment and is free for all adults. The majority of the tutors work on a voluntary basis.

If you would like a copy of the book or more information on the Adult Basic Education service in the area you can contact Mary at 01-6246528 or call to the centre in The Cornmill, Mill Lane, Leixlip

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Clubs, Organisations And Societies

Dublin College's Senior Football Championship Final

Maynooth Post Primary 4 – 06 Scoil Chathriona, Glasnevin 2 – 10

On a fine day in St Brigid's GAA grounds, Maynooth Post Primary created history by becoming champions at this grade for the first time. Both Maynooth Post Primary and Scoil Chatriona served up a feast of football for all in attendance with goals and points galore, fantastic individual performances, and a breathtaking comeback proving that a never say die attitude is one of the most important ingredients for success.

They are a credit to all involved, the school and indeed the community, and hopefully this will be a stepping stone for these lads who are destined, surely, for much more success in the future. All in Maynooth Post Primary are extremely proud.

Team:

M Donnellan, J Durcan ,(C Stenson 40 mins), J Dempsey, F Lohan, D McAvinue, D Dunning, S Delaney, E McNutt, L Comerford, P Conneally, (C O'Murchu 50 mins), M Fahey, S McBride, J Gunn, C O'Brien, B Kilduff,

Scores:

Michael Fahey	1-02	Darragh Dunning	0-01	Barry Kilduff	0-03
Seamus McBride	2-00	Conor O'Brien	1-00		



Dublin College's Senior Championship Winning Team



Darragh Dunning on the ball



Captain Darragh Dunning being held aloft

Clubs, Organisations And Societies

Leinster Colleges U/14 Football Championship

Maynooth Post Primary School: 2 – 12

St. Mary's CBS, Enniscorthy: 2 – 06

Venue: Park Ratheneska, Co. Laois

Maynooth Post Primary added the Leinster Championship title to the Dublin Championship they won last December to make it seven games unbeaten in what has become a fantastic year in sport for the Moyglare Road school. It is only the second time the school have lifted the title and credit must go to a superb group of players who have trained constantly since the second week in September under the guidance of their mentors who have given total commitment in order to make this happen.

Scores:

Philly Murphy	0 – 06
Neil Flynn	1 – 03
Alex Birchall	0 – 03
Shane Monaghan	1 – 00

Team:

Ryan Clifford Clancy, Paul Mescal, Ciaran Broderick, Paddy Murray, Eoin Clarke, Robert Maguire, Ciaran Whelan, Conor Davin, Brendan Sheridan, Philip Murphy, Bankole Agunsoye, Owen Byrne, Neil Flynn, Alex Birchall, Shane Monaghan

Subs:

Matthew Melia, Donnhadh Healy, Sean Walsh, Derry Bradley, Michael Oxley, Ian Doyle, Ronan Gorey, Mossie Mc Bride, Conor Roche, Michael Browne, Killian Campbell, Shane Fagan, Eoin Kirwan, Connell Cuning.

Management:

S. Gill, A. Dalton, P. Winders.

Maynooth Local History Group

Programme

April – June 2009

Everyone Welcome

Thursday 16 April 2009

Venue: O'Neill's Public House

Main Street, Maynooth at 8.00pm

Speaker: Ciarán Reilly

Land League activity in north Kildare and east Offaly in the 1880s

Ciarán will examine the role of the Irish land agent in nineteenth century landed estates

Thursday 14 May 2009

Venue: O'Neill's Public House

Main Street, Maynooth at 8.00pm

Speaker: Angela Byrne

The European travels of Mr John & Mrs Dorothea Catherine Ladeveze

Adlercron of Moyglare, 1806-1844

Angela will focus mainly on John Adlercron's journey to Moscow via Austria, Poland and Belarus 1805-1806 and the family's tours in France, Switzerland and Italy between 1824-1844

June – Outing to be determined.

For further details contact secretary:

Rita Edwards at 01-6016332 or at ritaedwards@eircom.net

Features

In the Middle of Spring

A lovely spring morning dawned as Susie got up and jumped out of bed and looked out the window. Her Pony Isabel was out in the pasture already. She was a lovely chestnut mare with a long flowing mane and white socks on her hoofs. She was a picture to behold.

Susie couldn't wait to have breakfast and hurry out to her pony. It was a Saturday morning and she had no school. It would be mid-term break soon. She hurried to dress herself. She bounded down the stairs and into the kitchen. Maria, the cook, was bending over a hot stove making pancakes.



Susie grabbed the percolator and poured herself some coffee. Her mother and father were upstairs showering and getting ready for their friends barbeque. Her parents were always invited somewhere every weekend. Susie sat down to her breakfast of pancakes.

When she was finished she ran out of the house to her Pony. Isabel was a lovely quiet cute pony and was so easy to catch to tack her up. She saddled up the pony and rode out across country. She went riding across the fields.

Her parents would be at the barbeque by now, she thought. She came to the lake. She often came here. It was so peaceful and quiet. She dismounted her pony and left the pony to drink some water from the lake. She sat down in the grass and just lay there in the peace and tranquillity of the countryside.

She was startled when she heard something. She looked up and there was this boy on a horse peering over her. She jumped up quiet startled. Well hello, she exclaimed. The boy said hello back to her. How long where you there, Susie asked? "Just a few minutes. I didn't want to disturb you, because you looked so majestic just lying there in the grass".

The boy got down off his horse and he too left his horse by the lake. "My name is Larry". "My name is Susie". Can I sit here with you?". Yes you can, they were sitting in the green grass just talking and laughing.

"I didn't see you around here before. Where are you from?". "I live in the house over on the other side of the village" he replied. "That big hall". Well it is a big house.

After a while they decided it was time to go back home. They had a lovely afternoon just lying there in the grass. Susie mounted her pony and clicked the reins and galloped on home. Larry made his way home too.

Maria had some cookies made. Susie walked into the kitchen and took one. They were still hot. That night she rang Larry. He had given her his phone number. They talked for ages on the phone. They agreed to meet at the same place the following Saturday.

School passed quickly enough that week. Susie had told her mother that she was meeting Larry from the big house on Saturday. "We met last Saturday, I was at the lake when he rode by on his horse". "Well it's alright you can meet" replied her mother.

On Saturday they met at the lake just as they had promised. They just lay there in the warm spring sunshine. That summer they met every Saturday at the lake. Their friendship was like the middle of spring, full of laughter and joy. Those memories would stay with them for a long time to come. The lake had become a magic place for them to build their friendship. Then in the winter months it was all over until next spring.

Enda Clavin

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Maynooth I.C.A.

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Maynooth Toastmasters

Monday 13th & 27th April
in Glenroyal Hotel Maynooth
at 7.45 p.m.

Maynooth Local History Group

Thursday 16th April at 8.00 p.m.
in O'Neill's Public House.

Maynooth Flower & Garden Club

Saturday 25th April
Spring Show

In Loftus Hall,
St. Patricks College
Show Open to the Public
3.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Maynooth Scouts

Saturday 23rd May

Race Night to be held in The
Glenroyal Hotel from 8.p.m.

Maynooth Alumni Ball

Saturday 6th June 2009

Pugin Hall, South Campus

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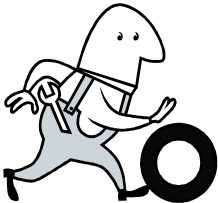
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Síofra Ní Dhuin



David Doherty & Joe Doherty.

Scoil Uí Fhíaich — Confirmation Day 26th Feb 2009



Bishop Fíachra O'Ceallaigh

Senna Howley



Father Liam Rigney P.P.

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Children's Colouring Competition

April 2009

Competition for Under 7 year olds



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Address _____

Phone Number _____

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LETTER TO OUR READERS

This is just a note to remind you all that the **Newsletter** exists for your enjoyment and that we welcome all contributions from our readers. We would like to hear from any organisation or indeed from individuals with something to say or suggest. We hope you continue to enjoy your monthly read and keep us informed of your activities.

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Party Political-Labour News



Emmet Stagg T.D.

Maynooth Labour News



Cllr. John McGinley

Council Replies to Cllr. McGinley's Motions on Traffic Management:

Cllr. John McGinley was given the following reply to his motion to install a roundabout at the Junction of the Meadowbrook Link Road/Straffan Road or if that was not possible to move the lights from Lidl to the junction:

"The management of traffic in Maynooth is monitored on a daily basis in the Traffic Management Centre and all issues are given appropriate consideration.

The suggestion to install a roundabout at this junction is not considered appropriate. Problems for turning traffic at this location have been identified and traffic signals are considered to be an improvement for all users of this junction. A number of planning applications have received planning conditions to install a new signalised arrangement at this junction. A source of funding from within the County Council has not been identified to date.

The SCOOT system installed in the town recently has sufficient capacity to link the existing traffic signals at the entrance to LIDL with the Meadowbrook Link Road junction in the future."

Cllr. John McGinley pointed out that with Dublin Bus proposing to move their terminus from this location it would be much easier and cheaper to install a roundabout. John will continue to press for a roundabout or lights at this dangerous junction.

Johns Campaign to Have the Traffic Lights at the Glenroyal Removed:

John got the following reply from the Council:

"Further to investigation of your query by technical staff, I can confirm that:

There are no plans to switch off the SCOOT adaptive control system in the Traffic Management Centre at the location in question. However, it should be noted that the issue will be reviewed as part of the general traffic management of the town during the year.

This set of traffic lights forms part of the wider area traffic management plan for the area. It is unwise to view this junction in isolation to other signals in the area.

Due to the nature of traffic signals, there will always be a perceived delay for users.

Traffic Management Centre staff continue to closely monitor the situation in the town on a daily basis.

The Council is solely interested in improving traffic management for all users, including vulnerable road users."

Needless to say John rejected the reply and he was given full support by the four other Councillors on the Area Committee. If you would like to support this campaign please E mail the Council at tmc@kildarecoco.ie or write to John at 50 Greenfield Drive.

Celbridge Road/Straffan Road Junction:

Maxol have applied for Planning Permission 08/2173 to re-vamp their shop at this junction.

Cllr. John McGinley has asked the Council that it be made a Planning Condition that the left turning lane at the Junction of Celbridge Road/Straffan be lengthened by Maxol removing the sharp angle on their boundary

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Party Political-Labour News

(Continued from page 50)

wall. This would allow cars to freely use the already existing green filter.

John has also asked that it be made a condition that Maxol extend the footpath from their premises to the bus stop on the Celbridge Road. At present pedestrian customers of Maxol Shop have to walk on the mud on the Celbridge Road or on the Road which of course is hazardous.

Safety Measures on Rathcoffey:

Cllr. John McGinley got the following reply to his motion:

"Further to a preliminary design and discussions with the NRA it was recommended that prior to any final design a stage 1 and 2 safety audit would be carried out for this project. The cost of such an audit would be in the region of €3,000 and as no funding has been allocated to this project no further progress has been made."

Cllr. McGinley pointed out that the Area Committee had unanimously agreed that this project should be funded from the Deficit in Infrastructure Funds but, unfortunately the Council Management have done away with this Fund. However, John will continue to look for these essential safety measures to be put in place to the Football Pitches and the houses on the Rathcoffey road.

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

1. Removal of Graffiti Sought:

"What steps are being taken to remove the graffiti from walls at Kingsbry, Parklands, Rockfield, The Teenage Activity Area and other locations in Maynooth and what discussions have taken place with the Gardai to prevent graffiti from being sprayed in the first place?"

2 Safety Measures Sought at Entrance to the Public Car Park:

"That double yellow lines be painted on the left hand side of the entrance to the Public Car Park in Maynooth in order to prevent motorists from parking at this extremely dangerous corner."

Since submitting this motion the Council painted yellow lines. Unfortunately, they are 12m too short and John will be asking for this mistake to be corrected.

3. Safety Measures Sought for Moyglare Road:

"That HGV's be banned from Moyglare Road, Maynooth and that traffic calming speed cushions be installed on

the road in the interest of public safety."

4. Improvements Sought for Old Greenfield:

"That the following works be carried out in Old Greenfield, Maynooth:

1. That the hedge at the side of house number 861 be pruned so as to make it easier for people to use the footpath, particularly those on wheelchairs, and that this small area be given a general clean up.
2. That the hedge along the bottom of Old Greenfield Lane be trimmed on both sides and that a general clean up be carried out in an effort to get rid of the rats and to remove the magnet for litter."

5. Removal of Concrete Tank on the Green at The College Gates

"When will the concrete tank on the green in front of the College Gate/Geraldine Castle, Maynooth be removed and will there be any structure over ground when this is done?"

Straffan Wood Housing Estate

At the request of Cllr. John McGinley the Council has asked Albany Homes to repair the 12 lights that are out of order and the leak on the footpath at No. 7 The Avenue.

Teenage Activity Area & Fitness Zone at The Harbour Field

Cllr. John McGinley was given the following update on 11 March:

"The contractor is due back here next week to complete the works. The reinstatement of the grass areas will be done when the ground dries out more. It is too wet at the moment."

Serious Litter on the Slip Road to the M4 Eastward:

Cllr. John McGinley was given the following reply from the Council on 3 March:

"We are organising a clean up of the motorway and this slip road within the next week or two."

STAGG DENOUNCES PUBLIC SERVICE TAX IN DAIL

Speaking on a Labour Private Members Motion in the Dail on Wednesday February 18th, which sought the suspension of Government Plans to impose a pension levy on Public Servants and the recommencement of negotiations with the social partners, Deputy Emmet Stagg denounced the Governments attack on Public Servants.

(Continued on page 52)

Party Political-Labour News

(Continued from page 51)

In his speech Deputy Stagg stated that he valued the Public Service and those who worked in it and he deplored the denigration of the workers by the Government and the Media in recent months. An orchestrated campaign of half truths and downright lies culminated in the unfair and severe wage cuts dressed up as a pension levy. The most oft repeated lie was that public service workers did not pay for their pensions.

Deputy Stagg further stated that the levy was unfair and inequitable in that it targeted one section of the community. Every Public Service Worker who contacted me is prepared to pay their fair share to rescue the economy, but whatever is done must be worked out on a fair and equitable basis across all of society and not on a sectional basis as is the case with the levy. Public Servants are angry that they and the public service they provide have been vilified as lazy and overpaid by the Government and the Media. They are angry that the bankers and speculators, who caused the malaise are getting off scot free and are walking off with golden handshakes and pensions of which the Public Service could not dream. They are angry at the attempt by the Government to drive a wedge between Public and Private Sector workers with misinformation and lies.

Concluding his speech Deputy Stagg stated that the Labour Party supports the Public Service and its workers. We reject this crude, unfair measure and call for its withdrawal and for the reconvening of the talks with the social partners with a view to finding the savings needed where all will share the burden equally.

STAGG WELCOMES GOVERNMENT UTURN ON MAYNOOTH B.N.S.

Deputy Emmet Stagg has welcomed the U Turn by the Minister for Education following the announcement that a grant of €360,000 is to be made to Maynooth Boys National School for the building of 3 permanent classrooms at the school.

The allocation of the funding will stated Deputy Stagg, provide 1 additional classroom and the removal of 2 prefabricated classrooms. This will bring the number of classrooms at the school up to 18 and will help to reduce overcrowding in the school. The plan to make the school a three stream school with 24 classrooms has been dropped for the present because of the cessation of building in the Maynooth area and the school authorities are happy with this Deputy Stagg has been advised.

Commenting on the decision Deputy Stagg stated that he welcomed the Ministers change of heart on the required extension to Maynooth Boys National School.

Only as recently as the 12th February last, the Minister announced the School Building Programme for 2009 which excluded the required extension to Maynooth B.N.S. That was an extraordinary decision given the fact that the school had the highest priority band rating in the Department assigned to major capital projects.

In conclusion Deputy Stagg congratulated the Principal, teachers and Parents Association on successfully forcing the Ministers hand on the funding.

AS UNEMPLOYMENT DOUBLES IN KILDARE IN PAST YEAR STAGG CALLS FOR RELEASE OF PENSION RESERVE MONEY FOR EMPLOYMENT GENERATION

With the Publication of the Live Register figures for Kildare by the CSO which show that Unemployment in the County has more than doubled in the past year rising from 7,110 at the end of February 2008 to 14,428 people at the end of February 2009, a rise of 102%, Deputy Emmet Stagg has called for the use of funds held in the National Pension Reserve Fund to create jobs and stem the tide of Unemployment in the State.

The monthly figures continue to shock everybody stated Deputy Stagg but the figures for the Maynooth Exchange showing an increase of 128% in the past year, compared to a national average of 87%, show how hard the commuter belt areas are being hit.

The Government have no plan to reverse the trend in Unemployment continued Deputy Stagg. Their Governance of the Economy remains fixated on bringing Public Expenditure under control at all costs and bailing out the disgraced bankers. If we can give €7 Billion to the Bankers we surely are capable of devising Labour intensive projects to get people back to work whilst at the same time providing social capital in improving conditions for pupils in our schools, the disabled and elderly in their homes and for society by bringing forward urban regeneration. Why leave the €11 Billion in Reserve when we can expand Public Work Programmes throughout the State. In addition to getting people back to work the Exchequer will save enormous amounts of money as the average cost to the Exchequer in terms of Social Welfare Assistance and taxes foregone is in the order of €20,000 per worker.

The Government stated Deputy Stagg want suggestions from the Opposition in relation to the mini-budget in April. We are prepared to play our part but only if our suggestions are taken seriously and if the Government accepts that an Economic Plan means rebooting the Economy through Investment in Job Creation as well as looking at Tax Changes.

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DELAYS IN PROCESSING UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS SIMPLY UNACCEPTABLE

Deputy Emmet Stagg has criticised the Minister for Social Welfare for the unacceptable delays in processing claims for Jobseekers Benefit and Jobseekers Allowance at the Maynooth Labour Exchange Office.

Figures provided recently stated Deputy Stagg show that on average it takes 4.73 weeks to process an application for Jobseekers Benefit whilst it takes 10 weeks to process an application for Jobseekers Allowance. These waiting times are just unacceptable and its high time the Minister ensured that satisfactory staffing levels existed in both the Maynooth Exchange and the Ballyfermot Local Social Welfare Office where claims are decided upon.

During 2008 two additional staff were recruited to both the Maynooth Exchange and the Ballyfermot Office but from the figures on waiting times this is simply not enough to cater for the huge increase in those signing on in Maynooth which rose by 128% in the past year.

In addition to the delays in processing Jobseekers Claims, Deputy Stagg stated that Community Welfare Officer workloads have doubled in the past 12 months because of the large number of applications for assistance with rent and mortgage payments but also because of the delay in processing unemployment payments. The delays in processing Jobseeker Claims are affecting the delivery of this service also.

In conclusion Deputy Stagg stated that he intended to raise the issue further with the Minister as staffing levels are simply inadequate to deal with the entitlements of those who have lost their jobs. Cllr. John McGinley can be contacted at: 6285293h ; 087 9890645
E mail jmcginley@eircom.net
Web: www.labour.ie/johnmcginley/

ART EXHIBITION Maynooth Castle Keep Art Group



11th Annual Art Exhibition 2009 Maynooth Post Primary School

**Saturday April 18
12 noon to 6pm**

**Sunday April 19
12 noon to 5pm**

Admission Free

All Welcome

Features

New novel by former Maynooth teacher features Úna Bhán as 17th Century rebel

Review by Mike Lennon



The medium of the historical novel is used to great effect by Patrick Devaney to dramatise the life and times of Úna Bhán MacDermot of Moylurg in Co. Roscommon. Many will have heard the legendary tale of Úna's ill-fated love affair with Tomás Láidir Costello: her father refused to allow them to marry and Úna died of a broken heart; Tomás used to swim to Trinity Island in Lough Key to keep vigil at her grave, resulting in his death from pneumonia; he was buried beside Úna and two trees grew over their graves, which intertwined to form a lovers' knot.



Using a novelist's license in his latest book, 'Úna Bhán, Flaxen-Haired Rebel', Patrick Devaney paints a very different picture of Úna. Far from being a "garden rose" or a "gold candle on the queen's table", as portrayed by her poet-lover Costello, Devaney depicts Úna as a courageous but troubled young woman who demands to be treated as an equal in the male-dominated world of the 17th Century. She becomes a rebel committed to driving the foreigners out of Ireland. Like her heroine, Joan of Arc, she dresses in doublet, breeches and jerkin, the male attire of her day, and traverses Roscommon, Sligo, Leitrim, Cavan and Fermanagh in pursuit of her goal.

Textbook accounts of the defeat of the Irish in the 1642 Battle of Ballintober tell of a soldier pulling a cap from the head of a fallen Irish fighter to reveal the long flaxen tresses of a woman. In his graphic account of the battle Devaney identifies this woman as the dying Úna Bhán. There is no romantic resting place for Úna's body in this story: "Perhaps the New Gall had removed it before they withdrew or perhaps wolves had devoured it, for wolves were still plentiful in those days."

The Úna Bhán story is a sequel to Patrick Devaney's critically acclaimed novel 'Through the Gate of Ivory', which describes the Gaelic way of life in pre-Cromwellian Ireland. Scholarly reviewers agree that the period details in both books are superbly presented. Ciaran Parker, the distinguished historian and author of 'County Cavan', states in a recent review that: "The historical aspect is drawn with awe-inspiring accuracy", and goes on to note that "the well-drawn characters are ... rounded, three-dimension creations...They...express the tensions inherent in living in a world whose demise they anticipated but could do little or nothing to assuage." He also refers to the "very complex character" of the heroine: Úna is "frustrated at her perceived inferiority to males", whose cowardice inspires her identification with Joan of Arc. The unrequited love of the narrator, Daibhí, for Úna is an important motif in the novel, which, however, is much more than "a doomed love story".

In case anybody gets the impression that this 200-page book is just a turgid recreation of historical incidents, it is anything but. The narrative combines fine storytelling with an easy, pacy manner which vividly describes events and characters. I completely agree with Ann Dunne of the Irish Independent who wrote. "If only school history books were this much fun!"

Patrick Devaney, who retired from teaching in Maynooth Post-primary in 2002, now lives with his wife Cheryl in Co. Cavan. As well as the aforementioned 'Through The Gate of Ivory' (Lilliput Press), he has published four novels for teenagers: 'Rua the Red Grouse' (Kildanore), and 'The Stranger and the Pooka', 'The Psychic Edge', and 'Tribal Scars' (all by Mentor Press).

'Una Bhan, Flaxen-Haired Rebel' is on sale for €10 in Easons and Maynooth Bookshop.

Party Political—Michael Fitzpatrick T.D.

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Constituency Office - Tel.: 045 888438
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Michael Fitzpatrick T.D.

Fitzpatrick welcomes new steps to assist small enterprises

The Government Convenor of the Oireachtas Enterprise Committee and Fianna Fail TD for Kildare North, Michael Fitzpatrick, has welcomed the announcement by An Taoiseach that steps are to be taken to assist the enterprise sector.

"An Taoiseach has announced that each County Council will establish a 'Business Support Unit' as a point of contact to ensure a quick, co-ordinated response to businesses when dealing with local authorities."

"An Tanaiste will meet with local authority managers shortly with the Minister for the Environment to discuss how they can increase their level of support to start-up enterprises and how conditions for running businesses can be improved locally."

"I hear from local businesses in Kildare and beyond that cash flow is a major problem for them. In response to this, the Minister will shortly announce a number of improvements to reduce regulatory burdens to local small and medium enterprises. The Government is committing to reducing the payment period for businesses from Central Government from 30 to 15 days. This may be extended to the local authority, health and education sectors depending on the results of an assessment at the end of April."

"Details of additional measures will be announced shortly."

"It is vital that every practical support possible is given to the small business sector. They form a vital part of our economy and are valuable employers. In these tough economic times we must try to protect and promote small enterprise," concluded Deputy Fitzpatrick.

New jobs for north Kildare with expansion of Hewlett Packard - Fitzpatrick

North Kildare Fianna Fail TD and Government Convenor of the Oireachtas Enterprise Committee, Michael Fitzpatrick has welcomed the news that 500 jobs are to be created locally with Hewlett Packard.

"At a time when the economy is contracting it is very encouraging that these jobs are coming to north Kildare."

"These jobs are high quality and are a reflection on the local workforce."

"I know that the Government, in particular the Tanaiste and Minister for Enterprise and the IDA are working hard to secure all possible investment for Ireland. It is not easy with the global economic downturn but it is a statement of confidence in Ireland and north Kildare that HP have expanded here. I am sure that our local workforce combined with excellent local road and rail network would have been a positive influence on their decision."

"I am further encouraged that HP have indicated that they have every intention of expanding even further with potentially another 500 jobs over the next 2 – 3 years."

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Party Political—Michael Fitzpatrick T.D.

(Continued from page 55)

"HP will make an investment of €18million in their Global Service Desk operation in the Liffey Park Technology Campus and this will be supported by the IDA and the growth plans will include the creation of a research, development and innovation capability for HP's global service desk."

"I know that the Government and the IDA will provide every possible support and encouragement to any other companies wishing to invest here," concluded Deputy Fitzpatrick.

Bankers will be held to account - Fitzpatrick

Bankers involved in any kind of wrongdoing that added to the difficulties that the financial institutions now find themselves in will be fully held to account, according to local Fianna Fáil TD Michael Fitzpatrick.

"There is understandably a lot of anger out there about the lack of sufficient regulation in the banking industry but I want to assure people that anyone found to be involved in any kind of wrongdoing will be fully held to account."

"The Government must give due process to each of the individuals involved. All the facts must be firmly established before any action is taken."

"But every element of suggested wrongdoing in the banking sector is being investigated extensively and those found guilty of wrongdoing will face severe penalty."

"The problems stemmed from the actions of a small number of people. The people working in Kildare banks are in no way responsible for the events of recent weeks and that is important to remember."

"Under the Recapitalisation Scheme, total pay of senior banking executives in Bank of Ireland and Allied Irish Bank will be reduced by 33 per cent, and further cuts are also expected to be made."

"There is suggestion in some quarters that Fianna Fáil only nationalised Anglo Irish Bank in order to 'bail out' developers. This is not true. Had the Government not nationalised Anglo Irish Bank and the bank had gone bust, most of the bad debt would be written off which would have cost the Irish taxpayer not millions but billions."

"The reason the Government nationalised the bank was to put some stability into the bank. Now in turn those billions of euro in bad debt will be pursued and this is in the best interests of the taxpayer."

"When a bank goes bust, a liquidator would step in and would normally only recover 10-15 per cent of the bad debt. That situation would have had dire consequences for this country."

"The Government have no fear or favour of any individual either investing or involved in any collusion in the Irish banking sector. All bad debtors will be rigorously chased whether that individual be a developer or otherwise."

"In relation to AIB and Bank of Ireland, it is every individual in the State that the Government are guaranteeing, and with the €3.5 billion investment in each bank codes of conduct and safeguards are established between Government and the banks whereby banks cannot re-possess homes without having due regard to the new code of conduct set down by Government."

"Money will now be available again within the banks for business loans and first time buyers. Strict controls and regimes will be in place from here on in."

"The events of the last number of weeks are truly unprecedented and I hope that we will never see events like this again. I have full confidence in the Taoiseach Brian Cowen TD and the Minister for Finance, Brian Lenihan TD, to ensure that strict regulations are put in place to see that the likes of this can never happen again," concluded Deputy Fitzpatrick.

Recommended cap on bankers salaries must be agreed to – Fitzpatrick

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North and Convenor of the Enterprise Committee, Michael Fitzpatrick has welcomed the news that the Government is seeking a salary cap of €500,000 on bankers' salaries.

"The Minister for Finance Brian Lenihan TD has written to those financial institutions covered by the State bank guarantee scheme seeking a salary cap of €500,000 on bankers salaries, saying that any deviation from this figure should only be made in exceptional circumstances."

"The request has come from the Minister on the back of the publication of a report by the Covered Institutions Remuneration Oversight Committee which recommended the salaries, bonuses and pension levels for bank chief executives, chairs and ordinary board members."

"The sum of €500,000 that the Minister has requested is lower than the sum recommended by the Committee."

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Party Political—Michael Fitzpatrick T.D.

(Continued from page 56)

It should be noted that Germany and the United States have also capped the salaries of executives in bailed out banks."

"When the taxpayer is bailing out these banks it has had a real affect on public confidence to hear about the salaries into the millions of top executives. At a time when families are under increasing financial pressure, these capped salaries simply must be agreed to."

"I hope that the participating banks respond quickly to the Minister's request," concluded Deputy Fitzpatrick.

Regional Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area-closing date for submissions Monday, March 30th 2009.

Regional Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area cover seven different Councils, including Kildare County Council. It is a policy document which aims to direct the future growth of the Greater Dublin Area, ensuring sustainable and good planning in the right places, protecting sensitive or environmentally important locations. The guidelines inform and direct the City and County Development Plans of each of the Councils.

Deputy Michael Fitzpatrick urges interested organisations, business interests, community and environmental groups and the general public to submit their key concerns, suggestions and ideas on what they would like Kildare to look like, where investment should be focused.

"These guidelines give direction to the County Development Plans of each of the local Councils and also seek to guide central Government departments on issues such as investment in water services, new road and public transport, health investment and new schools, said Deputy Fitzpatrick.

He further added that "the guidelines also inform State bodies such as Irish Rail, the ESB so that they can make decisions. The aim is to ensure a match between where people live and work and the services needed to support them".

The closing date for submission is March 30th 2009. More information is available on www.rpg.ie

Planning and Development Act should be changed to Facilitate Greater Consultation and Reduce Conflict between Minister for Environment and County Councils.

Provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 should be improved to enable more discussion and

consultation between local authorities and the Department of the Environment when City and County plans are being drawn up. This would lead to fewer disagreements between Local Authorities and the Department of the Environment and result in more timely and effective local planning.

These are some of the key findings contained in a report published by the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Environment, Heritage and Local Government. "The findings of the report recommend a clear process whereby this form of discord could be avoided in the future", according to Deputy Michael Fitzpatrick who is a member of this committee.

The report states that the Planning and Development Act should be amended to allow for a period of consultation involving the Department, local authorities and general public, should there be a direction to vary a County Development Plan. Furthermore, new development plans should not be initiated within two years of local council elections. This measure is to facilitate continuity, by ensuring that the councillors who commenced the plan are still in office when the plan is to be completed.

"The recommendations contained in this report should considerably assist the process of co-ordination between local and central governments. In future, more collaboration is needed to bring about a more efficient working relationship between local authorities and government departments. This relationship is crucial to ensure effective and successful local administration", added Michael.

The recommendations of the report will be passed on to the Minister for Environment, Heritage and Local Government to advise him regarding any changes to the legislation.

The report itself will be laid before the Houses of the Oireachtas.

County Development Plans provide a framework for land use, development, strategic planning, conservation and heritage. It provides objectives, standards and development controls which will be applied to all development within the County.

For a full copy of the report see www.oireachtas.ie

Issued on behalf of

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St. Patrick's Day Parade



Parade Organiser John McGinley



Party Political-Áine Brady T.D.

**Áine Brady TD - Constituency Office Maynooth,
No 4 Centre Point, The Mall, Maynooth - available
to meet constituents every Monday.
Please phone 01 618 3057 or 01 628 5257 for
an appointment.**



Aine Brady T.D.

Jobs boost for north Kildare with 500 new positions for Hewlett-Packard - Brady

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North Áine Brady has today welcomed the news that 500 new jobs are coming to Leixlip with the expansion of operations at Hewlett-Packard at the Liffey Park Technology Campus.

"This is great news for the local people and also for local businesses that will see the knock on effect of new people employed locally."

"I am delighted that the Tanaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment Mary Coughlan TD and the IDA have been successful in securing these jobs for north Kildare. At a time of severe economic downturn and loss of jobs it is encouraging to see that investment can be generated and new jobs can be created."

"The 500 jobs will be created over the next 12 months in the areas of technical support, R&D and training. Recruitment for 300 positions will begin immediately."

"HP have stated that they chose Ireland for expansion because of access to a highly skilled workforce and I know that HP will not be disappointed."

"It is a statement of confidence in Ireland and the workforce in north Kildare that HP have chosen us for their investment."

"I understand that HP intends to further expand their operations over the coming years and increase their workforce by an additional 500 positions. I know that the Government and the IDA will provide every support possible to enable this to happen."

"North Kildare has had a long and successful relationship with HP and they invested more than half a billion euro in the site in Co. Kildare expanding their operations to include their sales and services division, their financial services, the ink-jet supplies manufacturing and the Global Service Desk Operation."

"I would like to wish HP every success with their endeavour and their continuing investment in north Kildare," concluded Deputy Brady.

Integrated Smart Card on the way for Commuters says Brady.

Deputy Áine Brady has stated that the proposed integrated ticketing system, for the Greater Dublin Area, is being introduced on a phased basis, based on smart card technology, replacing magnetic strip technology.

'The Minister for Transport informed me, following my question, that as part of the integrated ticketing development, Irish Rail will launch an interim smart card scheme from late summer.

These smart card schemes will enable customers to familiarise themselves with the use and flexibilities of smart card systems in advance of the introduction of the single smart card scheme.'

'From late 2009, a single smart card will be introduced on a progressive basis for tickets on Dublin Bus and Luas services. This smart card will also have an electronic purse capability for use on both services. "This single smart card system will then be extended to Irish Rail DART and the commuter rail services that service Kildare, within a further 12 months. Bus Éireann will also be included in the project on a pilot basis on a number of its commuter routes.' stated Deputy Brady

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Party Political—Áine Brady T.D.

(Continued from page 59)

Maynooth Boys School gets funding approved for Extension.

Deputy Áine Brady has been informed by the Minister for Education at a meeting with the Minister on Thursday last, that Maynooth Boys National School has been successful in securing funding for an extension.

'I am delighted that Maynooth Boys National School has been successful in securing funding to enable the school to provide a 3 classroom extension which will replace the existing two prefabs and provide an additional classroom at the School.' stated Deputy Brady.

'While I have worked extremely hard to bring this issue to a successful conclusion, I do want to acknowledge the work of the Principal, Board of Management, Teachers and Parents, who worked in a positive and professional manner with all concerned, and brought this project to the next stage.'

'The Department Officials will be in contact with the school authorities and agree a way forward to the tender and construction stage. I arranged for the School Management to meet with the Minister for Education on his recent visit to Maynooth. I want to thank the Minister for the pro-active and innovative approach he has taken to resolving the issue.' stated Deputy Brady.

'This announcement, taken with the approval for the construction of the new Maynooth Gael Scoil, the approval for the construction of a new school in Ardclough, the completion of the extension to the Girls School in Maynooth and the new Educate Together in Maynooth, demonstrate to any fair observer that we are punching above our weight from an investment in Education Infrastructure perspective in these challenging times.' concluded Deputy Brady.

Job Seekers Entitlement delays raised with Minister - Brady

Deputy Áine Brady has raised the issue of the waiting time that some Kildare people are currently experiencing in obtaining their job seekers benefits and allowances, with the Minister for Social Affairs, Mary Hanafin T. D.

'I am fully aware that staff at our Social Affairs Offices are working extremely hard to process the rising number of applications for Job Seekers Allowances and other entitlements. Most people are securing their entitlements in a timely fashion. Last month, the average processing time for Jobseeker benefit is two weeks and Jobseekers allowance was five weeks with almost 2000 staff nationwide working in Social Affairs

processing these claims. The average processing time, in the Maynooth office, is 2.77 weeks for Jobseeker Benefit.'

'However, I do know from my clinics that there are a small number of applications who are waiting too long for their entitlements. I understand that, in some of these cases, it relates to incomplete information being on people's P 45's. I have asked the Minister to check out these types of delays.'

'It is important that people who have lost their jobs are given all their entitlements as soon as possible. The Minister for Social Affairs has also assured me that her Department and the Department of Enterprise and the Department of Education are co-operating to create more jobs and training opportunities for those losing their jobs.'

'The Government has established a €4 million scheme to assist Apprentices who are out of work, and enable FÁS to implement an Employer Based Redundant Apprentice Rotation scheme. This scheme will assist Apprentices gain the required experience to progress to the next off-the-job phase or to complete their apprenticeship. Details of the scheme can be obtained from on the **FÁS website www.fas.ie** or **FÁS Jobs Ireland at Free phone 1800 611 116** or **FÁS offices in Athlone 090 6486590.**' stated Deputy Brady.

'Anyone who is under financial pressure while awaiting a decision on their claims can apply to their local Community Welfare Officer for Supplementary Welfare Allowance.' concluded Deputy Brady.

School funding boost for Maynooth – Brady

Kildare North Fianna Fáil TD, Áine Brady has welcomed the news that Scoil Ú Fhiach in Maynooth will get a new 16 classroom school.

'I am delighted that Maynooth will benefit from this investment as I have had many meetings with this Minister and the previous Minister about the need for this new school.'

'Over the last number of years the population around Maynooth has grown considerably, especially the numbers of young families. It is vital that we give these children the best start possible and the provision of high quality education is vital.'

'I am confident that the work will progress quickly and we will all see the benefits of this investment shortly. Officials from the Department of Education will be in

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Party Political—Áine Brady T.D.

(Continued from page 60)

touch with the schools to advise them on the next steps to take.”

“I understand from the Minister that details regarding the Summer Works Scheme and a new plan to improve energy efficiency in schools will be announced shortly.”

“I want to pay tribute to the Principal, Teachers, Parents and Board of Management for the efforts that they put in a very positive campaign to achieve this announcement today. I will keep the pressure on the Department to have the construction phase commence as soon as possible. The construction of the new school will hopefully also generate employment locally.”

“This investment taken in conjunction with the recently completed extension to the Maynooth Girls School will increase the school place capacity in Maynooth. I met with the Minister again yesterday to press for the extension to the Boys School. I will keep working on this project until we get approval.” concluded Deputy Brady.

PETER (PEADAR) KEARNEY, R.I.P.

It was with great shock and sadness that we learned of the sudden and untimely death of our colleague Superintendent Peadar Kearney recently. Peadar served in Maynooth from 1984 as a Garda until his promotion to Sergeant in June 1993. He returned as Sergeant in July 1994 and served the people of Maynooth until his promotion to rank of Inspector. He was held in high esteem by the people of Maynooth and his colleagues and made many lasting friends in the town. At the time of his sudden death he was serving as Superintendent in Ballinasloe, Co. Galway. Taken from this world in his prime he will be sadly missed by all especially his wife Carmel and his three children.

May He Rest in Peace.

Gardaí, Maynooth.

Tidy Towns

Maynooth Tidy Towns

Seven years of voluntary work by the tidy towns committee destroyed in a few short hours without even the courtesy of notice so that we could save the plants at least.

Before



After



Tidy Towns

Before



After



Maynooth Tidy Towns would like to thank SuperValu for their continuous sponsorship

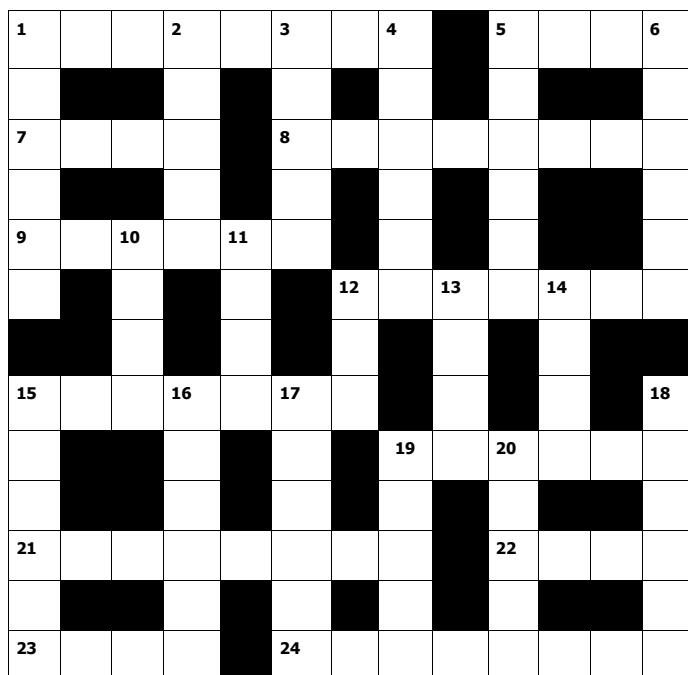
Local Useful Telephone Numbers

Name	Details	Telephone No.
A.C.R.A	National Association of Resident Associations Contact Michael Quinn, 3 Laurence Avenue, Maynooth	6285258
ADULT CEILI AND SET DANCING	Contact: Rita Doyle	086-2862475/ 6286169
AN NUADA PLAYERS	Contact: Terry Nealon	086-8068068
BRIDGE CLUB	Contact: Joan Howard Williams	6289239
CASTLE COMMITTEE	Contact Tony Bean Sec. Gerald & Joan Howard Williams, Carton Demense	087-949459
CASTLE KEEP ART GROUP	Contact: Susan Durack Sec.	6289349
CITIZENS INFORMATION CENTRE		6285477
COMMUNITY GAMES	Contact: Joe Geraghty Margaret Houlihan	087-6181235 087-2054854
CONRADH na GAEILGE	Contact: Colm Ó Cearúil	086-1762212
DENTIST	Dr. G.B. Glass Dr. G.A. O'Reilly Dr. J.G. Merrick	6289284 6286318 6286318
DOCTORS	DR. D. Gaffney DR. D. Nolan DR. C.D. O'Rourke DR. J. Corish DR. N. Wilson DR. M. Cowhey	6291169 6285943 6285210 6292556 5052135 6289044
FAS OFFICE		6290556
FLOWER CLUB	Contact: Moira Baxter, Applewood, Laraghbryan ,Maynooth	6289102
FOLK GROUP	Contact: Elaine Bean	087-9704912
G.A.A. CLUB	Maynooth G.A.A. Club Contact :Dominic Nugent	6285020 087-6368722
GARDA STATION		6291413/6286234
GATEWAY WRITER GROUP	Contact : Kate Dempsey	086-8583316
GOLF	Maynooth Golf Society Contact: Kevin Loftus	086-8261221
HEALTH CENTRE		6285415
I.C.A.	Contact: Norah Mc Dermot	6244695
KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL		045-980200
LARAGHBRYAN CEMETRY COMMITTEE	Contact: Breda Holmes, Barrogstown, Maynooth Sec. Helen Johnson	6289757
LIONS CLUB	Contact: Freddie Melia,	6289555
MAHER SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCING	Contact : Catherine Maher	6285739 087-8222740
MARTIAL TAEKWON-DO	Contact: Stephen Doyle	087-6986491

Local Useful Telephone Numbers (Cont'd)

MAYNOOTH ADULT DAYTIME EDUCATION (MADE)	Contact: Bernadette Duffy	6016179
MAYNOOTH LOCAL HISTORY	Contact: Rita Edwards	087-6387687
MAYNOOTH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION	Contact: Brid Feely	087-2052649
MAYNOOTH FAIR TRADE	Contact: Dr. John Sweeney	087-2476516
MAYNOOTH JUDO CLUB	Contact: Mary Mc Donald	087-9677596
MAYNOOTH PHYSIOTHERAPY CLINIC & LEINSTER CLINIC		6290895
MORTALITY SOCIETY	Contact: Paddy Nolan	6286312
NEWSLETTER DIARY (If you want to highlight or Advertise your FUTURE EVENT)	Contact: Irene or Brian	6285922 maynoothcc@eircom.net
NORTH KILDARE JUNIOR TENNIS CLUB	North Kildare Club	6103909 6287243
PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP	Contact: Bronwyn Mooney	6289405
PARISH	Fr. Paul Coyle Fr. Liam Rigney Parish Office	6290553 6286220 6293018
POST OFFICE		6286259
MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY LIBRARY	Librarian: Bernadette Gilligan	6285530
ROYAL CANAL AMENITY AND RESTORATION GROUP	Office Contact: Mark Kennedy, 83 Maynooth Park Maynooth	6290980 6286463
SCHOOLS	Boys' National School Presentation Girls' Primary School Post Primary School Gaelscoil Ui Fháich Maynooth Educate Together National School	6293021 6286034 6286060 6290667 6106823
SCOUTS	Scouting Ireland Contact: Peter Gareth	087-2241387
SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE	Contact: Patricia Cusker, Silken Vale, Maynooth. Josie Moore, Greenville, Straffan Road, Maynooth.	087-2982455
SOCCER CLUB	Contact: Edel Pat Moynihan	087-2998661 087-9078861
ST. MARY'S BRASS AND REED BAND	Contact: Melanie Oliver	087-9704910
SWIMMING CLUB	Contact: Edel	087-2680405
TIDY TOWNS	Contact: Secretary	087-3153189
U3A	Contact: Bernadette	6289131
VIOLENCE IN THE HOME		1800-341-900

Crossword No. 76



Entries in before: 16th April 2009

Name: _____

Address: _____

Across:

1. Reprimand (8)
5. Hospital room (4)
7. Roman emperor (4)
8. Common gas (8)
9. Chum (6)
12. Surround (7)
15. Headstrong (7)
19. Revulsion (6)
21. The Laughing _ _ _ , Hals painting (8)
22. Insensitive (4)
23. Spoke (4)
24. Physical work-out (8)

Doodle Box

Special Prize

Book Voucher

Give yourself the luxury of browsing and choosing the book/books which take your fancy from the wide selection available in the store of our sponsor

The Maynooth Bookshop
68 Main Street, Maynooth

Winner

Kevin McGovern
Greenfield, Maynooth

Down:

1. Fled (3-3)
2. Major European River (5)
3. Plant- infesting insect (5)
4. Crowd together (6)
5. Actress, _ _ _ Goldberg (6)
6. Crocodile _ _ _ , film (6)
10. Lazily (4)
11. Girl's name (4)
12. Corrupt (3)
13. Settee (4)
14. Water jug (4)
15. Flinches (6)
16. Pinball _ _ _ , Who song (6)
17. Purify (6)
18. Digestible (6)
19. Crazy _ _ _ , Sioux Indian chief (5)
20. Uniform jacket (5)

Answers to crossword No. 75

Across:

1. Suppress, 5. Beef, 7. Steel, 8. Tearful, 9. Constable, 13. Read, 16. Eve, 17. Ilk, 18. Some, 21. Tradition, 24. Artiste, 26. Virus, 27. Hire, 28. Employer.

Down:

1. Sister, 2. Paella, 3. Relic, 4. See, 5. Barracks, 6. False, 8. Tan, 10. Overt, 11. Sligo, 12. Loam, 14. Emir, 15. Deadline, 19. Osprey, 20. Eraser, 21. Teach, 22. Ire, 23. Novel, 25. Tie.

St. Patrick's Day Parade



Dublin All Stars Marching Band (Best portrayal of Irish Culture)



Spectators enjoying St. Patrick's Day Parade

Maynooth Newsletter

Maynooth Newsletter

PUBLISHED BY MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The opinions and statements expressed in the articles are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the Editorial Board. All materials to be included in the next edition of the **Newsletter** should be addressed to The Editor, Maynooth Newsletter, Unit 5, Maynooth Shopping Centre, (Beside Tesco) Maynooth, Co. Kildare.
Tel: 01-6285922/6285053
E-mail Maynooth Community Council: maynoothcc@eircom.net

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NOTE TO CONTRIBUTORS

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

Email us at maynoothcc@eircom.net

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In case of errors of fact we will publish corrections when we become aware of such.

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

LETTER TO OUR READERS

This is just a note to remind you all that the **Newsletter** exists for your enjoyment and that we welcome all contributions from our readers. We would like to hear from any organisation or indeed from individuals with something to say or suggest. We hope you continue to enjoy your monthly read and keep us informed of your activities.

Community Council & Newsletter Staff

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