

Maynooth Newsletter

Serving the people of Maynooth

November 2010 Issue

Local News

FREE

Ongoing support for Fairtrade products in Maynooth urged

Maynooth's designation as County Kildare's first "Fairtrade Town" in 2006 is currently subject to review in line with all the towns that hold the designation. An update on the number of outlets stocking Fairtrade products in Maynooth must be submitted to Fairtrade Ireland within the coming weeks.

Strict requirements are laid down by the Fairtrade Mark Ireland in respect of a commitment by suppliers to provide a range of Fairtrade products in various outlets throughout the town. On achieving designation the role of the Maynooth Fairtrade Town Committee is to monitor the outlets to ensure that the products are available. Maynooth's original designation followed quickly on the heels of NUI, Maynooth becoming the first Fairtrade University in the State. This double achievement was hardly surprising in one sense, given Maynooth's unique historic links with the Developing World. There was perhaps no other location in Ireland that was more suited to embracing the Fairtrade concept than this mission town.

Fairtrade centres are providing dignity to farmers and workers in the Developing World. Just as with Irish farmers, the economic muscle exerted by large corporate organisations can discriminate against the poorest, weakest producers. Monopoly buyers can exert huge pressures on small farmers struggling to provide for their families. Fairtrade addresses these injustices of conventional trade by requiring Fairtrade-certified companies to pay at least the going rate. By being offered a fair price, the poorest suppliers can improve their position, provide better for their families, and take control of their lives to a much greater extent.

To attain and retain FT status Maynooth firstly has to guarantee the



Professor John Sweeney

presence of a number of local shops, cafes, restaurants, hotels, businesses etc. where FT products such as tea, coffee, chocolate, fruit etc can be purchased. Some of these are required to be exclusively FT suppliers. In addition, the town's main supermarkets also now stock FT products to varying degrees, as do several cafes. A most encouraging feature has been the emergence of 'own brand' FT products as mainstream items on some of our supermarket shelves. It is no longer the case that FT products are significantly more expensive. Neither is it that case that they are not well known brands or brand leaders.

The Maynooth Fairtrade Committee regularly audit where FT products are available. It is clear that there is a lot of scope for more commitment from some restaurants and greater involvement of our schools and local businesses. We would welcome volunteers to tackle these opportunities, especially as Fairtrade Fortnight approaches (28th February-13th March 2011). But the ultimate effort is made by you as a consumer. Make a choice for Fairtrade products. The next time you sit down for a cup of coffee or tea in Maynooth ask whether it is a FT product. If not, ask why not? The poor of the Developing World deserve a credible answer.

John Sweeney, Secretary: Maynooth Fairtrade Committee

Key steps taken in delivering new Maynooth Community Centre



Strong community support has been confirmed for a new multi-purpose community centre proposed by Kildare County Council for Maynooth. The initiative is a first for County Kildare and if the current momentum continues an interim centre located in the Manor Mills Centre should be open in early 2011.

Maynooth Community Council is strongly supporting the project and has established a sub-committee chaired by Paul Croghan to facilitate the community to be represented in the process. Following a viewing of the interim facility a specially convened meeting held in the Glenroyal Hotel on Tuesday 2nd November of representatives from a broad range of community groups approved the proposal. Cllr. John Mc Ginley told the meeting that it is essential that the community works together to operate the interim facility and that the group would also be required to guide the development of the permanent facility that will be built as part of the further development of the Tesco Carton Park Complex.

Chairperson, Paul Croghan welcomed the fact that Tesco would build the permanent complex and hand it over to Kildare County Council who would then ask the community to run the premises for common use. Kildare County Council will adopt a strategy for supporting communities in multi-purpose centres such as the one in Maynooth. In the interim they are providing premises in the Manor Mills Complex which we should be able to get up and running by early 2011. While the interim premises is only 1,400 sq. feet the permanent premises will be four times larger and will cater for more activities than can be handled in the Manor Mills site he said.

It is intended that the facilities will be available to all community groups in Maynooth and the Maynooth Community Council office in the Tesco centre will hold the booking diary. It is anticipated that the facilities will be available throughout the day and in the evenings.

New groups such as the Maynooth Teen Café will be one of the key groups to benefit from the arrival of the facility at this time as they set about establishing the group in Maynooth aimed at providing an outlet for young people to meet. In endorsing the proposal the community groups represented at the meeting agreed that the next steps are that Kildare County Council be advised that the community supports this initiative and that the groups consider practical issues associated with running the premises such as an appropriate legal structure.

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EDITORIAL

You will read elsewhere in this month's edition of the good news for Maynooth – that there is a good chance of establishing a Community Space for the town at long last. Along with the successes of the Tidy Towns and the announcement that the new library will begin construction in the University gives some faint glimmer of light in these dark winter days.

Over the next number of months, our country faces what may be the most daunting threat ever posed to our sovereignty and there is a sense of paralysed fear in the air. The red paint thrown over Minister Harney and the hint of violence at the Student Protest March on November 3rd shows that this fear is now morphing into understandable anger. There are already a number of attempts to explain how such a mess could have been created. Writers and commentators such as John Drennan, Fintan O'Toole and even the eminent psychiatrist, Professor Ivor Brown, have analysed the situation.

Ireland's history is different from that of our European neighbours, we were a colonised people, our identity and language have been nearly obliterated and this shadow seems to hang over the country still. There appears to be a serious inability to lead, a complete disregard for the importance or humanity of children and a sense that a certain mandarin elite have the 'right' to be in charge. There is also a serious erosion of democracy over the last 10 years; the Government disregards the Dáil, never mind the people, and simply does what it wants whether it has a mandate or not. This does not apply simply to the previous short years of recession: it was also the case during the so-called 'boom'. No-one asked the people if they wanted a white elephant motorway through Tara's Valley. The influence of the PDs has resulted in a destruction of the sense of State and of community. When a member of Sinn Féin has to resort to the judiciary to restore democratic rights there is obviously a really serious crisis. This Government is putting its own future ahead of that of the country.

Voting rights were hard fought for in this country and we have little or no respect for this right. The Dáil, in contrast with the House of Commons, is a set piece script and there is no real debate anymore. It is a parody of democracy. The man who was mostly responsible for the awful state that we are in, declares, not from the infamous cupboard, that he might run for the presidency. Our Minister for Health once declared on television that she did not espouse an ideology. It is extremely worrying when a functioning Minister does not appreciate that her agenda is a rightwing ideology to privatise the health service. Or is not prepared to admit it and is not challenged on her lack of ideology. Politics should be about ideology and those with none should not be politicians.

What a planet we live on now in comparison with 2007 when the election took place. There was a turn-out of 67% of the entire electorate; of these 41.5% voted for Fianna Fáil and 5% for the Green Party. In total, 30% of the population voted for this Government. That is hardly democratic either. But these are the voters have decided that Fianna Fáil should be the 'natural' elite.

Perhaps it is time for the 26 counties to rejoin the 6 counties, reconsider the fight for freedom, a return to the Commonwealth and a return to the Union with the United Kingdom. Our country is only the size of greater Manchester and should be easily incorporated into their system. Our republic is dead and what will we have to 'celebrate' in 2016? What do Fianna Fáil envisage for the next 6 years? A quick election so that they can be back in power for 2016? Who will be the Taoiseach presiding over these dubious celebrations? And are our ancestral, rebel leaders turning in their graves?

Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin

Maynooth Tidy Towns

Waste Minimisation Programme in Maynooth



Please be advised as follows:

YEAR	CAN TONNAGE	GLASS TONNAGE
2007	5.28	402.27
2008	4.49	416.14
2009	6.56	471.60

When you consider that one ton of cans equates to 50,000 cans and one ton of glass equates to 3,200 bottles and jars on average, it shows that the effort that the community of Maynooth makes in recycling the above products is very worthwhile.

BUT PLEASE REMEMBER TO TAKE HOME ANY BAGS OR CARTONS THAT YOU BRING TO THE RECYCLING CENTRES

OTHERWISE YOU COULD BE FINED FOR LITTERING.

Our thanks to ALDI, TESCO, for their continuing co-operation in providing recycling facilities on their premises and to Kildare County Council the recycling centre adjacent to Supervalu.

As always the Maynooth Tidy Towns committee can be contacted through the Maynooth Community Council or mobile no. 087 3153189

RICHARD FARRELL PRO

Notice To Advertisers

The **December Newsletter** will be published on **9th December 2010**. With Christmas is just around the corner if you would like to place an ad with us advertising your Christmas specials please contact Irene or Mary at 6285053. In addition if you would like us to add Seasons Greetings to your advertisement, please let us know and we will be happy to change your ad accordingly.



Features for November

November Diary
Maynooth Community Council Notes
Maynooth Castle
Know Your Rights
Cookery
Gardening
Stars for a Night
Political Notes
Colouring Competition
Crossword
Sudoku
Energy saving Tips

Casey's
SuperValu
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Would you like an Allotment?

Kildare Co. Council have been asked to use the council land at Carton Avenue/Boreen opposite Tesco to provide allotments for people living in Maynooth. The Council is refusing to do this at the moment because firstly there is no water supply at the site and no funds available to extend the water supply to the site. Another reason given is:



"In addition the experience of the pilot scheme to date in The Wonderful Barn has resulted in a large amount of administrative work associated with the scheme and because there is only one staff member to deal with this in addition to the existing varying and large list of works being undertaken across the county the addition of a further scheme of allotments is not possible within the resources available at the current time."

This was the answer given to Cllr John McGinley when he raised the matter recently at the Celbridge Area meeting.

There is a scheme being operated by the Council at the Wonderful Barn in Leixlip and in other places and if sufficient people were to come forward there might be a change of mind. Would anybody interested get in touch with the Transition Maynooth group with a view to forming a committee.

The e-address is: transition-maynooth@googlegroups.com

Transition Town Maynooth

The Transition group in Maynooth works to raise awareness of two major problems confronting our society: Peak Oil and Climate Change.

The projects we are currently concerned with include: growing fruit and vegetables, sourcing local food, productive tree planting and setting up a Community Garden. We meet on the third Wednesday of the month at :

**Room 2 Rowan House,
North Campus NUI Maynooth at 8pm.**

Our next meeting will take place on Nov. 17. Newcomers are welcome.

You may email :
transitionmaynooth@googlegroups.com
for further information.

We are holding a Food Event on Sat. Nov. 27 at the ICA Hall in Maynooth at 3.30pm. The idea is to celebrate locally produced food. We invite people to prepare their own tasty dishes and bring them along to share with others and exchange ideas.

November Diary Planner



Maynooth I.C.A.

Meetings take place every
1st Thursday
of the Month at
8.00 p.m. in the
I.C.A. Hall in the Harbour.
Crafts Every Monday Night
at 8.00 p.m.
New Members Welcome

Maynooth Flower & Garden Club

Christmas Gala Night
Glenroyal Hotel
November 16th @ 8.00 pm
Demonstrator: Malcolm
Kitt
Tickets available from
Committee Members
Wonderful Nite to get you
in Christmas mood
PRO Lila Flynn 086 8740131

December Club Night is on
the 7th in Loftus Hall,
Maynooth College at 8 pm
Demonstrator:
Margaret Collins
"Christmas Spirit"
Tea & Coffee served
after demonstration
All welcome

Maynooth Community Library

Openings Times
Mondays and Thursdays
1.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.
Tuesdays, Wednesdays
& Fridays
9.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and
2.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

University of Third Age

November's meetings
Friday 5th and 19th at
11.00 a.m. in the Community
Library.
New Member welcome
Enquiries :
Bernadette
Phone: 6289131

Maynooth Bridge Club

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If you are Intermediate
B level or above and
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please see our website at
maynoothbridgeclub.com.
Contact Katherine Cooney
086 8205910

The Irish Girl Guides

Meeting Wednesday
evening in Maynooth.
For further information
contact
Jackie on 085 1413787 or visit
I.G.G. website
www.irishgirlguides.ie

Maynooth Taekwon-Do

Classes held every
Wednesday & Friday.
For details: Contact
Stephen Doyle 087 6986491

Maynooth Toastmasters

Monday 8th & 22nd
November at 7.45 p.m. in the
Glenroyal Hotel Maynooth

If you would like your event
for December put into
The Diary please contact
The Newsletter
Tel: 01-6285922
E-mail:
maynoothcc@eircom.net
Unit 5 Tesco SC
Carton Park,
Maynooth,
Co. Kildare.

Saint Vincent de Paul

The Maynooth Branch of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is available to assist those in need in the area.

Please phone:

01 8550022

to arrange for assistance and further information.

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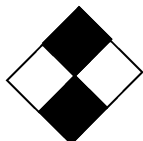
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Money saving tips



- Make sure you are getting all of your **tax relief benefits** and (if unemployed, disabled, widowed etc) your **social welfare entitlements**. The Revenue site, Department of Social and Family Affairs and the Citizens Information Centre are helpful points of contact.
- Cancel any **unwanted subscription services**. For example, did you recently sign up for a trial introductory offer on a TV channel and are now paying for the full service? Or are you paying for a gym membership or magazine subscription that you no longer use?
- Make sure you are not **duplicating insurance policies**. For example, does your employer pay for travel or health insurance as part of your package? Does your health insurance cover some elements of travel insurance?
- Check that you are using the **cheapest method of payment**. Some utility companies will give discounts if you pay by direct debit rather than cash.
- Save on your **utility and phone bills** - The Power of One site has numerous energy saving tips to help you cut costs. And the callcosts.ie site has useful tips to help you save on your phone costs.
- **Don't pay more than you have to on your personal finance products**.
- **Try buying online**. Better deals are usually offered on smaller luxury items (for birthday and Christmas gifts) such as books and CDs. But generally try to limit your non-essential spending. For special occasions, agree to a spending limit and make a list.
- **Cut back on non-essential items** if you need to free up some extra cash, but don't stop spending money on luxuries completely. If your budget is too tight, you may not stick to it. We all need little treats now and then!
- **Consider downsizing**. Certain models of cars have cheaper running, tax and insurance costs.
- Consider ways to **supplement your income temporarily**. This could include additional short term employment to cover essential bills.
- Change your credit card usage. If your credit card balance is so high that you can only pay off the minimum each month, you should switch to a card with a 0% rate on balance transfer. Your monthly repayment will then go towards clearing the outstanding balance, and therefore the debt can be cleared much quicker - once you stop using the card. Leave your credit card at home to resist the temptation to spend.
- **Pay off debts with the highest interest rate first**. By doing this, you save yourself money by paying less interest in the long run. For example, if you owe €3,000 on your credit card and €10,000 on a car loan and you have €5,000 in savings, it would make more sense to put some of your €5,000 savings into paying off your credit card debt than your car loan. This is because the interest rate on your credit card debt is likely to be far higher than you are paying on your car loan, or earning on your savings. However, before using all your savings to pay off your debts, think about whether you should keep some money for an emergency fund, to help you deal with unexpected events such as redundancy, large medical bills or just that rainy day!



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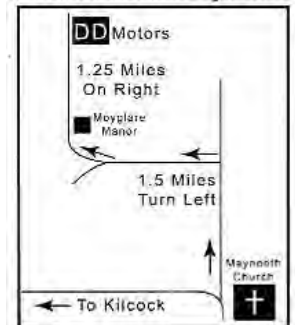
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1997	Fiat Brava	1400 cc	Silver	80k	5	Sep 10	€1000
1997	Peugeot 106	1100 cc	Silver	129k	3	July 10	€900

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References in your area from previous satisfied customers

School Days from 1944 by Tomie Murray

I started school in Rathcoffey. My neighbour Peter Flanagan brought me to school. Miss Shannon was my teacher. The School which was a mixed school consisted of two rooms. It had a dry toilet in the yard. There was an open shed in the yard where Sally Donnelly taught Irish dancing. Mrs Grealy was head teacher. My Mother died when I was eight years old. Mrs Grealy's family were very good to me after her death. I often got a good dinner after school.



I had to walk to school, you might get a lift once a week. There were three people with transport, Captain Kelly an army man in the Curragh, John Browne going for turf, and Bill Dunne, Taxi.

I made my first communion in Rathcoffey Church. My father brought me on the pony and trap. I was a bad pupil in school and I lost a lot of time out of school. I would see Ger Flood and Larry Byrne train horses on Murrays Hill on the way to school.

At summer time with the Kavanaghs' and the Mahers' we would go swimming in the Lyreen River on the way home from School. We would dam the river and Paddy Frayne would be 'giving out', he would have no water for his cows. At autumn time we would rob Travers orchard for apples on the way home from school. We had a great time at school. We used to look forward to the big card drive every year it was held in a Marquee on the school yard and we used to collect matches after the card game and we got plenty of lozenges' and also found money.

Tomie Murray of Lotus Lodge, Ladychapel, Maynooth passed away peacefully on 4th November 2009



Unemployed ?

Need information on supports and options available?

Come to:

The Manor Mills Shopping Centre, Maynooth, Co. Kildare

Thursday 25th November 9.30 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

Who will be there?

- County Kildare LEADER Partnership
- Obair – Kildare Local Employment Service
- FÁS
- Department of Social Protection – information leaflets
- Kildare VEC
- Kildare Adult Education
- Leixlip Resource Centre
- Citizen's Information Centre
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Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group

The Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group is a voluntary community service for babies and toddlers. They meet in the GAA Club, Moyglare Road every Tuesday from 10.00a.m. to 12.00 noon.

All are welcome.

Maynooth Community Council Notes

Maynooth Community Council Meeting 11 October 2010

Among the issues raised and discussed at the meeting were the following:

MCC submission to Draft County Plan

Tom McMullon (Vice-Chairperson) thanked the Planning and Development sub-committee for preparing Maynooth Community Council's recent submission to the Kildare County Plan. Councillor John McGinley (Labour) said that the content of the submission would be taken into account in the preparation of the finalised County Plan.

Draft guidelines on submissions regarding planning applications

A draft policy document (which had been prepared by Maynooth Community Council some years ago) concerning the making of submissions and observations on planning applications, was sent to community councillors prior to the meeting. The Community Council plans to update and finalise its policy. The meeting discussed the draft policy document and a number of additions were recommended. It was suggested that requests for planning interventions by the Community Council should, where possible, be discussed at a full Council meeting. It was also suggested that a protocol should be drawn up which would allow the Executive to make submissions or observations on planning applications during the summer vacation, should the need arise. It was proposed that the Community Council should make a submission or observation regarding any application that contravened MCC's planning policies as expressed in its submissions to County and Local Area Plans. It was also suggested that the Community Council should be alert to applications that contravened the provisions of Local Area and Action Area Plans for Maynooth, and make submissions where appropriate. Another proposal was that the Community Council should try to steer clear of individual disputes where possible, but should, in principle, make a submission if there was a danger of an existing amenity space being detrimentally interfered with by a development. J. McGinley suggested that the draft policy document, as it stood, needed simplification. The

meeting agreed that the Planning and Development sub-committee would be asked to take these suggestions on board and prepare a new draft policy to present to the Council.

Congratulations to Tidy Towns Committee

Colm Ó Cearúil (Chairperson) congratulated the Tidy Towns Committee on its great work for the Tidy Towns Competition, and on its very successful awards evening held recently at the Glenroyal Hotel. He said that the town was looking very well at present. Paul Croghan (Tidy Towns Committee) said that a wildlife sign erected at the river at Parson Street had disappeared on the night of the awards ceremony, and he appealed for its safe return. He said that though Maynooth had a large young population and vibrant night-time activity, it wasn't subject to very much anti-social behaviour. He asked for support from the authorities in the area, and asked that people let the Tidy Towns Committee know if they see any damage being done to Tidy Towns property.

NUIM Students Union

Aengus Ó Maoláin (NUIM Students Union President) told the meeting that the next students' magazine would have a feature on the Tidy Towns Committee's work in Maynooth. He also said that tenders had now been agreed for the work to remove the Kilcock Road footbridge, and that traffic would be affected by the work.

Local History Group

Hilda Dunne (Local History Group) said that the group had recently had their AGM and that there had been a change of officers. She reminded the meeting that a talk by Ruth Sweetman, a granddaughter of 'The O'Rahilly', would take place on 16th November at the Glenroyal Hotel.

U3A attends Age and Opportunity conference

Maynooth University of the Third Age group participated in the Age and Opportunity conference in early October. The meeting was told that a particularly interesting session at the conference concerned older people in the developing world and had been chaired by the Kenyan Ambassador. At the session it

was pointed out that aid agencies needed to focus on older people too. In many countries grandparents were caring for grandchildren whose parents had died. Old people fared worst in disasters, and most old people in developing countries worked until they died.

Maynooth Scouts have over 100 youth members

Peter Garrad (Scouts) said that each section of Maynooth Scouts had been very active this September. The group now had over 100 youth members, and 30 volunteer leaders. The Scouts will be helping the Senior Citizens Committee with their Sale of Work on 21st November in the Aula Maxima at St. Patrick's College. The Scouts continued to meet at Maynooth Post Primary School.

Tony Smith Walk

Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin (Secretary) told the meeting that the annual Tony Smith Memorial Walk organised by the Labour Party in aid of the Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee would take place on 17th October to Carton House, and would cover a distance of eight miles.

Community facilities

P. Croghan (PDO) told the meeting that the sub-committee looking at requirements for new community centre facilities had recently met with a member of Kildare County Council staff to discuss the need for temporary or interim premises, pending the provision of the Tesco space.

Kilcock Road proposals

J. McGinley reported that the National Transport Authority's proposals for Kilcock Road had been approved by Kildare County Council, with some amendments. He said that the proposed closing of the left lane to from Mill Street to Kilcock Road would not now go ahead, and that the left filter lane from Kilcock Road to Moyglare Road would be reopened if there were obvious problems. P. Croghan said that results from monitoring this junction would depend on the time of day it was monitored. J. McGinley said that 24-hour monitoring was in place. In answer to a question from community councillors, he said a new bus lane from Laraghbryan to the town was proposed, while at the same time the Dublin Bus service to Kilcock was under threat.

Problems with traffic light sequences and inconsiderate parking

T. McMullon said that the sequencing of lights was holding up traffic from Newtown and Parson Street accessing the Main Street, and needed to be adjusted. He also said that loading bays were needed in the town to stop commercial deliveries blocking the road and footpath. Mattie O'Callaghan (Tidy Towns Committee) said that cars were parking in such a way as to block cycle lanes and pedestrians but that culprits were not being 'booked' by the Gardaí.

Unightly plastic signs

M. O'Callaghan also said that four new plastic and neon signs had been erected in the town centre, contrary to the planning policy for the town.

5,000 copies Maynooth Newsletter delivered

P. Croghan said that 5,000 copies of the new format *Maynooth Newsletter* were being delivered monthly to houses in Maynooth, and that there was a call out for articles on local issues and for new contributors.

Provision of post primary schools in Maynooth

C. Ó Cearúil said that school provision in the area had been mentioned at the most recent Celbridge Area Committee meeting. Maynooth Post Primary School now had well over 1,000 pupils. He noted that Coláiste Chiaráin in Leixlip had 1,200 pupils before Confey College was provided. He said that the VEC is now looking for a second post primary school in Maynooth, and that it was desirable that a new school would be an Irish language one. Deirdre Cullen (PRO) said she thought it was a good thing for a town's community to have one school that everyone attended, where this was feasible. Some community councillors were of the view that Maynooth's population profile meant that it would soon be impractical to have just one post primary school in the town.

D. Cullen PRO Maynooth Community Council

Maynooth Newsletter

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MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

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MISSION STATEMENT

The **Maynooth Newsletter** is published as a service to the people and organisations of the neighbourhood. It is an 'open access' publication and will generally carry any material submitted to it, subject to the law of the land and to editorial judgement. This judgement is exercised by the editorial committee in order to preserve the independence and balance of the **Newsletter**. The committee reserves the right to alter, abridge or omit material which in its opinion might render the **Newsletter** the promoter or mouth-piece of sectional interests. Any contributor seeking further guidelines in this matter is invited to contact the committee.

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

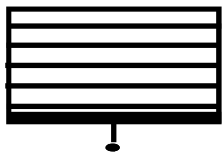
RIGHT TO REPLY

In fairness to our readers and given that this magazine is not insured against libel damages or cost, we undertake the following: 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.



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3	Renault	Clio	1999	11/09	05/09	105k	€999
4	Seat	Inca Van	1999	03/10	10/11	99k	€1595
5	Opel	Zafira	2000	10/10	11/12	114k	€2875
6	Honda	Legend	2000	01/11	02/11	82k	€2295
7	VW	Golf 1.4	2000	12/10	02/12	95k	€2799
8	Renault	Megane D	2001	06/10	10/11	93k	€2175
9	Ford Focus	1.6LX H/B	2001	08/10	01/11	121k	€2395
10	Opel	Astra Coupe	2002	12/09	03/12	95k	€3495
11	Toyota	Avensis 1.6	2002	07/10	06/12	115k	€3350
12	Peugeot	106	2002	05/10	04/12	70k	€2150
13	Opel	Corsa 5 Dr	2005	06/10	01/11	59k	€4075
14	Ford	Ka	2004	08/10	08/10	67k	€3475
15	Ford	Focus C Max	2004	08/10	07/12	61K	€5775
16	Kia	Sorrento	2005	02/11	10/11	65k	€6775
17	Mercedes	E200 Komp	2004	12/10	07/12	93k	€8995
18	Peugeot	207 ST	2007	05/10	N/A	10K	€8725

MAYNOOTH FILM FOR ALL: FILM CLUB

Film Club is made possible through a partnership between Kildare County Council Library & Arts Service and The School of English, Media and Theatre Studies NUIM. They screen on the first Wednesday of the month from October to May and membership is open to students and local community alike.

As a result of this collaboration they are in the fortunate position of having Denis Condon, Lecturer, to introduce and share his extensive film knowledge with members before each screening. At film's end Denis encourages the audience to consider and reflect on what they've seen through lively chat and discussion.

Would you like to get involved with the club? They are always keen to welcome new recruits and listen to suggestions for future screenings and ways to develop the club. Please contact

Brenda Brady, Kildare County Council Arts Service, Tel: 045 448328 Email: bbrady@kildarecoco.ie

- There is a 'one way' traffic management system now in operation on the North Campus.
- All films are accompanied by a short introduction at 7.50pm.
- Screening commences at 8.00pm promptly.
- Seats are not allocated - first come, first served!
- Please arrive in good time to minimise delay, especially if paying on the night.
- Memberships and tickets are on sale on MFFA club nights outside JHL2 from 7.30pm.
- Memberships can be purchased at any time from Maynooth Community Library, Main Street, Maynooth Tel: 01 6285530.
- There is a Centra store located in the John Hume building, light refreshments are available until 8.00pm approx.
- Date may be subject to change.

The following membership options are available:

- Season Ticket Membership-covers all 8 films and can be purchased in advance from Maynooth Community Library or at any screening and includes membership of Kildare County Council Libraries.
- On the Night membership-for one-off or occasional film attendance, available to purchase on the night of the screening.
- Student Membership-'walk up' to any screening and pay at the door (valid student card required).



ESRI REPORT IGNORES ROLE OF CYCLING

Maynooth Cycling's verdict on the recent ESRI report on 'Designing Primary Schools for the Future' is **MUST DO BETTER!** While the report concentrates on the building structure and teaching needs, the narrow focus omits any proper consideration of travel which is an essential element in the operation of schools.

The report briefly refers to public transport and walking to school but makes no mention of cycling although government policy seeks a major increase in the level of cycling to schools and policy on obesity recognises cycling as one of the measures to improve the health of our young.

A spokesperson for Maynooth Cycling Campaign said "How does the government expect cycling numbers to increase when Kildare County Council gives planning permission for new schools on the Celbridge Road (in Maynooth) with no facilities for cyclists". He continued "It is ridiculous on the one hand to expect parents to allow their children to cycle to school while on the other hand providing no facilities and tolerating 4x4s pulling up on adjacent footpaths. I think we need more joined up thinking".

Issues which should also have been more fully addressed include where schools should be located, the encouragement of driving by the provision of turning bays at schools, the desirability of independent travel by young people and the fact that pupils who walk or cycle to school are more focused on their lessons from the start of the day compared to pupils who are driven.

All in all, the ESRI need a more comprehensive vision for the future.

For further information, contact:

John Murray

Tel: 0864000881

Email: maynoothcycling@gmail.com



MAYNOOTH CASTLE

At this stage it is time to ask what we can know the way people lived in the Maynooth area when Maurice Fitzgerald was granted Offelan by Strongbow in 1176.

First of all we know that they did not live in the town of Maynooth because it did not then exist. But neither did they live in a remote or isolated area. The plain of Maigh Nuad lay beside the route of one of the major roads of Ireland from ancient times. While the five great roads radiating from Tara may have been largely mythical, established routes did link important areas of the country. These were probably made up of a series of linked routes rather than a single highway. They took advantage of the natural features of the country, eskers and areas of high, dry ground, and fords where rivers could be easily crossed, while they skirted mountains and other obstacles. By the mid-eleventh century Dublin had become the most important economic centre in Ireland and candidates for the high-kingship sought to control Dublin rather than Tara, and it is suggested that the major routes or roads now radiated from Dublin. The first of these roads, the Slighe Mór, seems to have followed the line of the Eiscir Riada, a series of gravel hills forming a natural causeway from east to west through the boglands and woodlands of the central plain. It is suggested that this road left Dublin along the line of modern High Street, Thomas Street and James' Street, and then via Inchicore, Lucan, Celbridge, Taghadoo, to Clonmacnoise and Ballinalaoe, and finally to Clarinbridge in Co. Galway. Not only was Maigh Nuad right beside the Slighe Mór, but the second of the great roads, the Slighe Dhála, passed not very far to the south in its route through Naas and Roscrea to Tarbert in Co. Kerry.

The Eiscir Riada seems to have been not simply a natural means of communication and transport but to have had a political significance in Irish history. The annals tell us that in the second century A.D., in a struggle for the high-kingship between Conn of the Hundred Battles and Mogh Nuadat, the rivals agreed to divide the country between them along the line of the Eiscir Riada, Conn taking the northern half, Leath Cuinn, and Mogh Nuadat the southern Leath Mogha. That this division had some real significance is

suggested by its role at the major reformation of the Irish Church in the twelfth century. Essentially this reform involved the re-establishment of a network of dioceses to take back the management of the Church from the monastic *paruchia* which had usurped the power of the bishops. At the Synod of Rathbreasail in 1111 Leath Cuinn and Leath Mogha were the basis for the division of the Irish Church into two new provinces, Leath Cuinn becoming the province of Armagh and Leath Mogha the province of Cashel. This organisation of the Church has lasted up to the present, with the further sub-division into Armagh and Tuam, Cashel and Dublin.

All this shows us that the people of Maigh Nuad were not isolated from important events in Irish history, but does not tell us how they actually lived or how the coming of Maurice Fitzgerald and the castle of Maynooth affected the pattern of their lives. Modern research indicates that Irish society was unstable and subject to rapid change and fluctuation at the political or ruling level, but stable and slow to change at the social and economic level of the lives of ordinary people. Because succession to the headship of a clan or kindred group did not descend from father to eldest son, but was open to any member of the group of relatives called the *derbfine*, ie, all the descendants, in the male line, of one great-grandfather, there was an ongoing struggle for dominance among different factions within the same extended family, and Irish kingdoms, or tuatha, tended to split into parts and then come together again in a constantly changing pattern, something like kaleidoscope. This is why our own Uí Fáeláin, one ambitious and successful segment of the Uí Dúnlainge dynasty, regularly provided a King of Leinster but never monopolised the succession. This system also made it very difficult to unite the whole country permanently under any *ard-ri* or high-king, since no ruler of an Irish tuath could enter into an agreement which was certain to be accepted as final and binding by all groups within his own clan.

The same system of regarding the family group rather than an individual as the property-owning unit seems to have originally been the basis for all Irish society. This has led many people, including James Connolly, to see Irish society, at

the coming of the Normans, as an ideally communistic one, where the Irish peasant was "a free clansman owning his tribeland and controlling its administration in common with his fellows.." (James Connolly, *Labour in Irish History*, 1910). However, modern research tends to establish that for several centuries before the arrival of the Normans the kindred group had been replaced by the nuclear family as the property-owning unit, and with various grades of land tenure from the relatively independent freeholder to the landless labourer, while throughout Ireland remained a hierarchical society

The holding of the wealthy farmer was large, perhaps the equivalent of a modern townland, and its centre was the ring-fort, or rath or lios, whose remains are to be found scattered all over the country. The words *rath* and *lios* are often to be found as part of place names, rath in the eastern part of the country, and lios everywhere. While some sites had a military significance, most of them were farmsteads, built and occupied as far back as the late Bronze Age, and as recently as the fourteenth century. The typical form was a circular enclosure ringed by the rath or rampart of earth or stone. Inside were the family home and farm buildings and farmyard. Immediately outside the rath were the small cultivated fields, and beyond them forest, bog and rough land, which might be privately owned or shared in common. The original small tilled fields have long since been absorbed into larger ones but the development of aerial photography as a tool in historical and archaeological research allows their boundaries to be seen. Though not visible to the observer on the ground, they show up clearly in an aerial photograph as lines of a distinctly different colour in, for example, a field of corn. Oats, barley, wheat and rye were grown. Wheaten bread was a luxury for the upper classes, while oats was the most extensively grown cereal, and oaten porridge a staple of the Irish diet. The other main elements were milk and milk products like butter, curds and various types of cheese.

Mary Cullen

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Know Your Rights

Question

I took out a loan from the bank some time ago. I have had difficulty making the full monthly payment and I have been making small payments when I can. Now I have received telephone calls from a solicitor's firm seeking immediate repayment of the debt. I find these calls distressing and threatening. Can they do this?

Answer

Your bank (or its representatives) is entitled to ask you to pay your debts but is not entitled to harass or intimidate you. There are specific rules for debt collection (under the Consumer Credit Act 1995 and the European Communities (Consumer Credit Agreements) Regulations 2010 (SI 281/2010)). For example, your lender or their representatives are only allowed to visit or telephone you at certain times. These restrictions are designed to protect your privacy as a consumer. Your lender cannot phone you or visit you in connection with your loan without your consent after 9 pm in the evening and before 9 am on weekdays (including Saturday) or at any time on a Sunday or public holiday. A lender is not permitted to call you or to visit you at your place of work unless you are also living there, or unless all reasonable efforts to contact you elsewhere have failed. Only the person involved in the loan can be contacted in connection with it. This means that your lender cannot contact your employer or a member of your family in relation to your loan.

Under Section 11 of the Non-Fatal Offences Against the Person Act 1997 it is an offence to demand payment of a debt in a way designed to alarm, distress or humiliate. If you are experiencing difficulty in paying off a loan, you should contact your lender as soon as you can. If you cannot resolve the matter directly with your lender, you can get help by contacting the Money Advice and Budgeting Service, a free and confidential service for people in Ireland with debt or money management problems. Details of your local MABS office are also available in your public telephone directory or from Citizens Information Centres.

Question

I have been self-employed for many years and paid contributions at Class S which count towards my pension. This year I had to cease trading and sign on for Jobseeker's Allowance. I'm worried about my pension. What can I do to maintain my insurance record?

Answer

You are right to be concerned. People who paid PRSI contributions at Class S do not get credited contributions or 'credits' with Jobseeker's Allowance. If

you wish to maintain your insurance record you can opt to pay voluntary contributions. Voluntary contributions can help maintain or improve your contributory pension entitlements (including State Pension and Widow's/Widowers Pension). They do not provide cover for any short term benefits such as Jobseeker's, Illness or Maternity Benefit. You must apply to become a voluntary contributor within 12 months of the end of the last contribution year (runs January to December) during which you paid compulsory PRSI or had a credited contribution.

To become a voluntary contributor you must:

- Be aged between 16 and 66
- Have at least 260 weeks (5 years) PRSI paid under compulsory PRSI in either employment or self employment, and
- Agree to pay voluntary contributions from the start of the contribution week after the week in which you last paid compulsory PRSI or had a credited contribution

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Question

I was born in Ireland but lived in Britain for most of my life and my children were all born there. My daughter is now expecting her first child who will be born in the UK. My daughter is an Irish citizen. Can the baby become an Irish citizen?

Answer

Yes, your grandchild can become an Irish citizen. Any child born outside Ireland to an Irish citizen is entitled to become an Irish citizen. However before the baby can claim Irish citizenship, he or she must have his or her birth registered in the Foreign Births Register, which is maintained by the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs. The Irish citizenship of successive generations can be maintained by each generation ensuring their registration in

the Foreign Births Register before the birth of the next generation. If you are living outside Ireland application forms and further information are available from your nearest Irish embassy or consulate. You can find more information about applying to the Foreign Births Register and the documents required on the website of the Department of Foreign Affairs, dfa.ie. Once the process is completed, your grandchild will get a certificate confirming his or her entry in the Foreign Births Register. This certificate can be used as proof of Irish citizenship when applying for an Irish passport.

Question

I am living in a committed relationship but am not married. I do not wish to get married. What difference will the new Civil Partnership Act make to my situation?

Answer

The Civil Partnership and Certain Rights and Obligations of Cohabitants Act 2010 has been passed by the Oireachtas but has not yet been commenced (is not in force). The main purpose of the Act is to provide for civil partnerships for same sex couples. The Act, when commenced (probably in early 2011), will also provide for a redress system for financially dependent cohabiting partners in both same sex and opposite-sex relationships – who are not married or in a civil partnership. Cohabiting partners are defined in the Act as two same-sex or opposite sex adults who have lived together for in an intimate relationship for five years, or two years where there is a child or children of the relationship.

When the Act becomes law it may be possible for your partner to claim part of your assets unless you both opt out of the provisions of the Act. Previously unmarried couples had no legal right to the assets or estate of their partner.

The redress scheme may be activated at the end of a relationship, whether by break-up or death. It allows a financially dependent cohabitant to apply to court for certain remedies, including maintenance, property or pension adjustment orders, or provision from the estate of a deceased cohabitant. The Act also provides for the recognition of cohabitant agreements which regulate the shared financial affairs of cohabiting couples.

You and your partner will be able to opt out of the redress scheme by drawing up a cohabitant agreement in writing. You must both take independent legal advice before signing the agreement.

Question

I hear it's going to be another cold winter. I am on a very low income. What help is available for the costs of heating my

home?

Answer

There are several ways in which low-income households are helped with the costs of fuel for home heating. There are also schemes to help you insulate your home to make it warmer and to cut your heating costs.

The Household Benefits Package includes a Electricity or Natural Gas Allowance, a free TV licence and a Telephone Allowance. The package is paid by the Department of Social Protection. If you are aged 70 or over, you qualify regardless of your income or who lives with you. The scheme is also available to people aged 66 and over who get certain social welfare payments or whose income is below certain limits.

A Fuel Allowance is paid to people who are dependent on long-term social welfare or Health Service Executive (HSE) payments and who are unable to provide for their own heating needs. The scheme operates for 32 weeks from September to the end of April and is paid by the Department of Social Protection. If you apply for the Fuel Allowance after the start of September, the allowance is not backdated. The Allowance is €20 per week generally and €23.90 in smokeless fuel areas. The Warmer Homes Scheme aims to improve the energy efficiency and warmth of homes owned by people on low incomes. It is operated by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI), Ireland's national energy agency, and is available nationwide. Work funded under the scheme includes attic insulation, draught-proofing, lagging jackets, energy-efficient lighting (CFL bulbs) and cavity wall insulation. You can also get energy advice under the scheme. Further information is available from the Citizens Information Centre below.

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Maynooth Post Primary School Language Day

Thursday 7th October was the fourth annual language day. There were quizzes in French, German and Spanish for Junior Cycle students. Films were shown in the three main European languages for Senior Classes.

For the first time ever there was a Japanese café and film. International Students provided information on their languages. These included Polish, Chinese, Albanian and Dutch.

The day aimed to celebrate and recognise the diversity of the student population in Maynooth Post Primary School.



Ursula Nic Ginn, Ciara Nolan, Áine Ni Catháin,



James Travers, Killian Campbell.



Megan McLoughlin, Rebecca O'Neill,
Maebh Donaldson, Robyn Doran.



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Maynooth Post Primary School Recycling Week

National Recycling Week was organised by the Green School's Committee and their teacher Ms. Elaine McKeown.

Students were asked to bring old clothes and recyclable material into school. The materials were used to make signs for the schools to encourage recycling. The clothes were passed onto charities such as Oxfam and St. Vincent de Paul. The weeks events were all part of the recycling action plan of the Green School's Programme.



Ursula Nic Ginn.



Green School's Committee.



Rachael Nugent, Róisín Everard.

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**Spotlight Society presents:
NUI Maynooth Diversity Fashion Show**

Spotlight Society is a style society in NUI Maynooth which organizes events all year to raise funds for charity. Our fabulous fashion show will take place on the 1st of December in Killashee House Hotel in Naas, Co. Kildare with all funds raised going to the Make A Wish Foundation. The foundation grants wishes to terminally-ill children aged between 3 and 18 years.



In April, Spotlight won 'Best Event of the Year' at the BICS (Board of Irish College Societies) Awards for last year's fashion show and we are striving to achieve this again. Spotlight is now in the process of organising this year's fashion show and our estimated number of guests and volunteers is 500. Our proposed theme this year is 'Diversity' which means that we will be showcasing a wide range of styles that will capture everybody's interest and fashion sense:- Office wear, Dinner wear, Casual wear, Gothic, Punk rock and African Attire. We will be using our local clothing line and student designers as well as external professionals. Many of the local businesses in Maynooth have already been very generous in their support and we would like to express our gratitude for this.

We have many surprise guests planned for the evening but we are proud to say Brendan Courtney will be our MC for the night and Bernard Jackson from the Leinster rugby team is also on the VIP list. So what are you waiting for? A great cause, diverse fashion, stunning models and mingling amongst the stars? We will have all of these and more on 1st of December and we would love to see you there Maynooth!

Tickets are available on request from Julie Douglas-0857377010 or by logging on to our brand new website: <http://www.nuimspotlight.com>

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Handy Winter Recipes

Winter Vegetable Colcannon

Ingredients:

- 675g/1½lb plain mashed potato, still hot
- 225g/8oz kale or savoy cabbage, cooked and chopped
- 125ml/4fl oz double cream
- 125ml/4fl oz milk
- 6 spring onions, sliced
- 55g/2oz butter, melted

Method:

1. In a large bowl combine the hot mashed potato with the cooked kale or savoy cabbage.
2. In a medium saucepan gently heat the double cream and milk.
3. Add the spring onions and continue to cook on a low heat until the spring onions have softened and cooked.
4. Fold the creamy spring onion mixture into the mashed vegetables.
5. Place in a warmed dish.
6. Indent the surface of the mixture and pour the melted butter over the top to form a puddle of butter and serve.

All-in-one chunky Winter Broth

Ingredients:

- 2 x 400g cans chopped tomatoes
- 2 litres/3½ pints vegetable stock
- 4 carrots, peeled and sliced
- 2 x 420g cans mixed beans, drained and rinsed
- 175g spinach
- 1 tbsp roasted red pepper pesto

Method :

1. Tip the canned tomatoes into a saucepan along with the stock, bring to the boil, then turn down the heat and throw in the carrots. Gently simmer the soup until the carrots are cooked, about 15 minutes.
2. Stir in the pulses and spinach and heat until the spinach has wilted. Spoon in the pesto and gently mix into the soup. Serve with some crusty bread.

Mince and Potato Hot Pot

Ingredients:

- 1kg potatoes, peeled and thinly sliced
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 500g mince
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 tablespoon tomato puree
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- salt and pepper to taste
- 50g butter
- 4 tablespoons plain flour
- 475ml milk
- 125g grated Cheddar cheese
- 175g tinned mushrooms, drained
- 50g butter

Method :

1. Preheat oven to 180 C / Gas mark 4. Place potato slices in a medium bowl with enough water to cover.
2. Heat oil in a medium saucepan over medium heat. Stir in mince, onion, tomato puree and Worcestershire sauce. Season with salt and pepper. Cook until mince is evenly browned and onions are tender.
3. In a separate medium saucepan over medium heat, melt 50g butter and thoroughly blend in flour. Gradually stir in milk. Cook and stir 5 minutes, or until thickened. Reduce heat, and blend Cheddar cheese into the mixture. Season with salt and pepper to taste.
4. Line a medium baking dish with 1/2 the potato slices. Pour in the mince mixture, and top with mushrooms. Cover with the cheese sauce mixture. Top with remaining potatoes. Dot with knobs of the remaining 50g butter.
5. Bake 30 to 40 minutes in the preheated oven, until lightly browned.



Top Energy Saving Tips



Using energy more efficiently in your daily life comes easily once you get started. This site lists many ways to save energy around the house, at work and on the road. Here, we list the overall top six:

- Many people keep their thermostat too high. Check it and if it's above 20°C turn it down. Lowering your thermostat by just 1°C will knock 10% off your heating bill.
- Much of the heat loss from a house occurs through the windows, particularly if they are single glazed. So keep your curtains closed at night, even in empty rooms and also ensure that the curtains don't hang over the radiators as that will just funnel all your heat out the window.
- Close room doors to separate heated from unheated areas of your home, and minimise the area you are heating. There is no need to spend money heating rooms nobody is in.
- Turn the lights off when leaving a room.
- Switch appliances off rather than leaving them on standby. This will save up to 20% of your appliances' energy use.

Make better use of the timers on your immersion or boiler so you can control when the heating comes on and goes off. This means you have heating and hot water when and where you want it.

While all of the above are simple tips that won't cost you anything, some people may want to go a little further and actually spend money to save money.

If you are interested in spending money on making your home more energy efficient you should consider the following:

- **Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs):** These use a fraction of the electricity an ordinary light bulb would use and last up to 10 times longer.
- **Appliances:** Be demanding when you buy. All appliances now need an energy label so check them for one. Purchase 'A' rated appliances whenever possible, the amount they will save you on electricity will be more than the cost of replacing the existing appliances you have.
- **Electric Heaters:** When buying heaters, make sure they are the right size for the rooms they are to heat. Remember that electric heaters consume electricity at the most expensive charge rate.
- **Insulation:** Insulating your attic and walls could save you 30-40% on your home heating bill. For information on the Home Energy Saving scheme grants that can help visit our grants section.
- **Heating System Upgrade:** The Home Energy Saving scheme will also grant aid high efficiency boilers and heating control improvements.



Stars for a Night



Andrew Quinlan, Tom O Flaherty, Sean O Kane.

Stars for a Night was held in Maynooth Post Primary School on October 14th. Thirteen acts from all years competed to become the MPPS Star! Among the entries were Madonna, Whitney Heuston, The Back Street Boys and Michael Buble. The show was a sell out and the atmosphere electric in the Assembly Hall.

The judges were : Jonathon Hanlon Musician, past pupil and musical director for the annual school musical. Rebecca Flynn, dancer, past pupil. Mairead Flemming of TV3's Morning Ireland and the Apprentice.

The winners on the night were :

Senior category : David Burke and Stephen Lovett as Simon and Garfunkel

Junior Category : Yetti as Whitney Heuston

Overall Winner : Daniel Hobbs as Bruno Mars

Winner recieved 200euro prize.

The night was such a huge success that plans are already underway for next years show.

Well done to Ms O'Connell and Ms Murphy and all the students involved.

Sinead O'Connell



Hugh Clarke.



Ciara Heslin, Hazel Madden.



Ben Connolly.



Danny Hobbs.

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Party Political-Labour News

Update on Youth Cafe/Community Centre:

Cllr. John McGinley was advised at the Celbridge Area Committee of the Council on 19 October that the Council has practically finalised the arrangements for a lease on a new premises. It is on Mill Street and has an area of 1,100sq.ft. It was extremely disappointing that the other premises fell through. But this new one looks promising and should look after our needs until the TESCO premises comes to hand.

The Community Council and the County Council have arranged a meeting for the 2nd November in the Glenroyal to discuss and decide on the management of the facility.

Update on Provision of Allotments at Carton Avenue/The Boreen

Cllr John McGinley was given the following reply to his motion at the meeting of the Celbridge Area Committee on 19 October:

"In light of the success of the allotments at the Wonderful Barn, when is it proposed to proceed with the allotments at Carton Avenue/The Boreen?

"There are a number of issues which negate against the development of allotments in Carton Avenue. Firstly the supply of water to the site is problematic as there is no mains supply to the area and there is no finance available to extend the supply to the site. The possibility of providing a water source from a well was also considered but this is not possible as there is no electrical supply near the proposed site.

In addition the experience of the pilot scheme to date in The Wonderful Barn has resulted in a large amount of administrative work associated with the scheme and because there is only one staff member to deal with this in addition to the existing varying and large list of works being undertaken across the county the addition a further scheme of allotments is not possible within the resources available at the current time."

Of the 80 Plots in Barnhall, 68 are being used. From Day 1 they wanted a water supply. In order to make progress on the Maynooth Allotments Cllr. McGinley believes that it would be helpful if those who are interested form a committee and maybe come up with solutions to the Carton Avenue/The Boreen Site.

Unauthorised Development at Leinster Park

Cllr John McGinley got the following reply to his motion at the Celbridge Area Committee of the Council on 19 October: "A site inspection has been carried out by the Enforcement Officer and the report is currently in progress. The completion of the report is expected within the next two weeks. A further update will be available for the next Area Committee Meeting." John made the point that the owners were making a fool of the Council with their vexatious Planning Applications and he asked that the matter be brought to a head with a Court Injunction.



Emmet Stagg T.D.



Cllr. John McGinley

Cllr. McGinley Demands Action on Derelict Houses at Parson Street, Maynooth.

Cllr. John McGinley has been for some time demanding that the Council take steps under the Derelict Sites act to have the row of derelict houses at Parson Street restored.

John was given the following update at the Council meeting on 19 October:

"Kildare Co Council has served a section (8) 2 notice on 24th September on the owner. This notice informs the owner that no action has been taken since the first notice was served (section 11) and directs the owner to carry out works within 1 month or face entry in the derelict sites register. The section 8(2) notice expires on 24th October. The property will be examined at that date and if no works have been undertaken Kildare Co Council will enter the property in the register.

Kildare Co Council arranges to have a property valuation carried out on the premises. Kildare Co Council then writes and informs the owner of the property valuation. The owner is also informed that the site will be entered in the derelict sites register on a date which is one month from the date of the letter.

After that month passes Kildare Co Council then invoices the owner to make payment of a sum equal to 3% of the valuation. The owner is invoiced for the 3% each year until the Council are satisfied as to the condition of the houses."

Update on Proposed Bus Extensions to Moyglare Hall and Newtown:

At the Celbridge Area Committee Meeting of the Council on 19 October Cllr. John McGinley had a motion on the Agenda looking for an update on the extension of the bus service.

John got the following reply to his question: What progress has been made on facilitating the extension of the 66 and 67 buses in Maynooth?

"A meeting has been held with the National Transport Authority to discuss the works to be undertaken in 2010. It has been agreed that the replacement of the 2 traffic ramps with 2 bus-platform ramps on the Moyglare Road will be funded out of the 2010 allocation. No agreement on the extension of the bus route to the south of the town along the Meadowbrook Link Road has been made with Dublin Bus, and no funding has been identified to pay for any works required."

When John queried the reply he was advised that the National Transport Authority (NTA) were paying for the work on the Moyglare Road and that it was coming from the 1million allocated for the Kilcock Road Improvement Works. Unfortunately, unless the NTA pay for the works they won't take place as the Council don't have the funds for such work. John asked about the turning

point location but unfortunately the Council Official did not know about it and she said that she would contact Dublin Bus to get the information.

Update on Taking in Charge of Meadowbrook and Brookfield Estates:

Councilors were given the following update at the Celbridge Area Committee Meeting of the Council on 19 October:

"The status of the developer of Meadowbrook (Lark Developments) is that the company is in receivership. We have written to the receiver requesting a meeting to discuss the status of the company and any associated developments. A meeting was also arranged with the residents of Meadowbrook in July to review the options for taking the estate in charge in light of the fact that the developer was in receivership. This meeting was cancelled by the residents. They were to come back to us to arrange another meeting. This has not yet happened. It is recommended that the meeting with the residents be deferred in light of the proposed meeting with the receiver".

Still no Sign of Gaelcholaiste For North Kildare Despite FF Promises

Deputy Emmet Stagg questioned the Tanaiste and Minister for Education in relation to her plans to provide a Gaelcholaiste in North Kildare to serve pupils from Scoil Ui Riada in Kilcock, Scoil Ui Dhalaigh in Leixlip and Gaelscoil Ui Fhiach in Maynooth, who wish to continue their education in secondary school through Irish.

The Tanaiste in her response to Deputy Stagg repeated her position that Colaiste Cois Life in Lucan was built to serve the needs of the West Dublin/North Kildare area. She further pointed out that Colaiste Cois Life could cater for 600 pupils and given that enrolment there at present was 345 pupils, Colaiste Cois Life would appear to have capacity to cater for the North Kildare area.

Deputy Stagg expressed his disappointment at the continued negative attitude of the Tanaiste and the Government to the establishment of a Gaelcholaiste for the North Kildare Area. A previous study found that only 31% of pupils attending Gaelscoils in North Kildare continued to study through Irish in Secondary School in Colaiste Cois Life. This disappointing take up was obviously down to the fact that pupils did not want additional travelling to and from Lucan and the only way of resolving this stated Deputy Stagg was through the provision of a Gaelcholaiste in North Kildare.

Deputy Stagg concluded by stating that in May 2007 FF raised false hopes for the provision of a Gaelcholaiste for North Kildare in their quest to retain power, but Labour will continue to pursue its provision.

Adult and Child Psychologist Service in Kildare Remains Severely Understaffed

Deputy Emmet Stagg questioned the Minister for Health in relation to the number of Adult Psychologists and Child Psychologists currently employed in Co. Kildare and the number of psychologists who would be required to meet existing demands.

The HSE responding to Deputy Stagg stated that there were 12 Psychologists employed at present but indicated that 38 psychologists would be required to meet existing demands in Kildare. The HSE also advised that the average waiting time for children for psychological assessment was 27 weeks and

12 weeks for adults, but the HSE did state that where there is a clinical urgency the average waiting time did not apply.

Reacting to the response Deputy Stagg stated that we effectively have a service that is operating at 31% of the level required, a slight improvement since Deputy Stagg last raised this issue in October 2009 when we only had 25% cover. The Government by failing to properly resource the Psychology service was condemning both adults and children to continued distress and forcing parents and relatives to seek assessment in the Private Sector if they can afford it. This is unacceptable but is the common thread in all of the Public Health Services provided by this Government.

In conclusion Deputy Stagg stated that he intended to continue highlighting the issue but feared total inaction from this defunct Government.

"Drinking in Public By Laws"

Cllr. John McGinley had the following motion on the Agenda for consideration at yesterday's (26.10.'10) Kildare County Council Meeting:

"That a report be given on how the "Drinking in Public By Laws" are being enforced i.e

1. The number of tickets issued by Gardai in the towns where there are such By Laws in 2010?
2. How many fines were paid in 2010?
3. How many prosecutions did the Council pursue in 2010 and what was the outcome of the prosecutions?

John got the following astounding reply: "Two tickets were issued by gardai since January '10, the fine was paid in respect of one of them and no prosecutions have taken place during the year."

Cllr. McGinley stated that he finds it incredible that only two tickets were issued by gardai for drinking in public in the whole county when every town has "Drinking By Laws" in place. He pointed out that it is a complete waste of money and effort producing the "By laws" if they are not being enforced.

This law worked particularly well in Leixlip for many years because of good enforcement by the gardai. Unfortunately, like other towns that is no longer the case and this has led to what is politely called anti social behaviour.

Cllr. McGinley has been advised by a garda in Lucan that the fines work very well and that it is a great deterrent.

The gardai in Celbridge stated at a recent Area Meeting of the Council that they stopped issuing fines because the Council were not prosecuting.

In order to establish when the breakdown of co-operation between the Council and the gardai took place Cllr. McGinley has asked the Council to write to the Chief Superintendent to get the figures for fines issued for '08 and '09.

John stated that there is an onus on us to put a stop to this drinking in public so that our community can get some peace at night.

Cllr. John McGinley
087 9890645



Party Political-Michael Fitzpatrick T.D.

€9.75m scheme to promote water conservation measures in 1,823 schools

Funding of almost €10m will see major improvements in water conservation in primary and post primary schools around the country.

1,823 primary and post primary schools across the country will be able to carry out works to reduce their use of water under a €9.75m scheme announced by the Tánaiste and Minister for Education and Skills, Mary Coughlan TD.

Deputy Michael Fitzpatrick is delighted that **70 Schools in Co. Kildare** will benefit from funding which will help to reduce their use of water, with a consequent reduction in the running cost of schools. The fund will finance projects in these schools to reduce their water usage through the installation of water displacement devices, percussion spray taps, thermostatic mixing valves and other water controls.

‘These works will reduce the water charges being paid by schools and I am delighted that Boards of Management and Trustees are being provided with a means to do so,’ added Deputy Fitzpatrick.

The Maynooth Schools are :Presentation Convent, Maynooth Boys National School, Maynooth Post Primary, Moyglare Road.

The Planning and Building Unit will shortly contact all schools approved for grant aid under the scheme with further details and instructions on how to proceed.

This latest announcement forms part of this year's €579 million school building and modernisation programme.

The programme makes a very significant contribution towards job creation in the construction sector.

The list of schools is available on the Department's website www.education.ie/servlet/blobServlet/pr_water_conservation_school_list.xls

Maynooth to get a new Educational Campus.

Deputy Michael Fitzpatrick has been informed by Tanaiste & Minister for Education and Skills, Mary Coughlan that her department has approved County Kildare Vocational Committee to acquire 41 acres of land at Mariaville, Maynooth to provide for an educational campus in the Maynooth area.

The Department of Education has also approved County Kildare Vocational Committee to acquire a purpose designed and equipped premises in the centre of Maynooth to establish an integrated Further Education and Training (FET) campus offering all current further education and training programmes which are being provided by the VEC at separate locations throughout North Kildare.

‘This will help secure the long term provision of educational facilities in the North Kildare area for the foreseeable future, and once again shows this government’s commitment to education in this country’ added Deputy Fitzpatrick.



WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE OUR COMMUNITY

Fianna Fáil

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



Michael Fitzpatrick T.D.
Tel. 086-2706150

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, Saturday morning 11 a.m.

Naas Constituency Office, Town Hall Lane, (Tel. 045-888438) Monday and Friday mornings
Please telephone the Constituency Office 045 888438 for appointment
Contact: Michael at Constituency Office: 045-888438

Your Local County Councillor is Paul Kelly
Contact: 99 Main Street Leixlip Ph. 01 6243624 086 2560548
Email: paul.kelly@pkelly.ie Web: www.pkelly.ie
Your Local Leixlip Town Councillor is Bernard Caldwell
Contact 086 2653455

Castletown House Demesne - Rights of Way

Following representations to Minister of State Dr Martin Mansergh, T.D. at the Department of Finance with special responsibility for the Office of Public Works, Deputy Michael Fitzpatrick has today been informed that – **“The Office of Public Works would not interfere with any established rights of way”**.

The Office of Public Works (OPW) has spent considerable funds on the development of Castletown as a major national heritage site since its acquisition in 1994. Development is ongoing, more recently with significant capital investment in conference and banqueting facilities and upgrading of the landscape funded by Bord Fáilte Ireland.

In recent time there has been a significant increase in anti-social behaviour on the estate – fires, irreparable damage to trees, expensive machinery set on fire; native habitats have been destroyed with consequent loss of wildlife. The anti-social behaviour occurs mainly at night-time. The impact of these activities on the protection of the House and Demesne and the continued development of the property and the amenity value for all visitors is most worrying.

In the interest of safety and enjoyment of visitors and the protection of the national historic demesne, the OPW is now obliged to review its current policy of allowing local access to the estate outside of normal dawn to dusk hours.

With regard to the boundary fence the OPW is most anxious to have clearly defined, delineated and protected boundaries between privately and publicly owned lands at Castletown Demesne. By and large

Kildare County Council owns most of the property along a line between the Castletown Demesne and private households. The OPW is encouraging the Council and local groups to agree all issues in relation to securing their common boundary and the erection of appropriate fencing.

Deputy Fitzpatrick has been told by the Minister that as a practical gesture and encouragement to these efforts the OPW has indicated its willingness to contribute towards the cost of erecting an agreed boundary fence.

Issued on behalf of Deputy Michael Fitzpatrick T.D.

Tel: 045 888438

Email: Michael.fitzpatrick@oireachtas.ie

Members of Editorial Board

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Pet Corner

Benefits in Microchipping Pets

Nobody wants to lose a pet. Pets become part of the family and when they disappear it can be very upsetting. Microchips for pets will not stop your pet running away, and it may not completely remove the possibility that they will disappear, but they definitely increase the chances that you will have your pet returned. Everyone with a dog or cat should at least consider the possibility of a pet microchip. One simple, inexpensive procedure could prevent you losing your pet - and may even save its life.



- Microchips help identify your pet. If your pet is lost and ends up at an animal shelter, they will know whose pet it is.
- It is a permanent method of identification. The microchip will stay with your pet for life.
- Identification information can be easily updated. As the information is kept on a database, it is a simple matter to update your details whenever you move or your number changes.
- It is fairly painless for your pet. The microchip is very small and is injected with a needle. It feels about the same as a vaccination.
- It cannot be removed. ID tags can be removed and even tattoos can become illegible over time, but a microchip is a permanent method of identification.
- Pet or dog microchip cost is relatively cheap (approx. €20). When you consider that this microchip stays with your dog for life, it is a very inexpensive method of identification.
- It saves time. If your pet runs away, you will not need to spend as much time looking for it, posting up advertisements and visiting animal shelters.
- It may save your pet's life. If a pet ends up at an animal shelter, it will stay there for a certain period of time before it has to be put down. However, if your pet has a microchip, then the contact details will be retrieved and your pet will be returned.
- It is standard practice now for all thoroughbred puppies to be microchipped before they are sold. If you are buying a thoroughbred puppy insist it is vaccinated, wormed, and microchipped before purchase,

TONY SMITH MEMORIAL WALK 2010 TO RAISE IN EXCESS OF €8,000

The Tony Smith Memorial Walk 2010 was held on Sunday 17th October last and is expected to raise in excess of €8,000 for Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee.

The Annual Walk is organised by Maynooth Labour Branch and all funds raised go directly to the Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee who use it in their various supports for senior citizens in the area.

The Walk was led off from Maynooth G.A.A. grounds at 3 pm on Sunday 17th by Deputy Emmet Stagg and Cllr. John McGinley and then proceeded down to the Main Street, up Carton Avenue and into Carton Estate. We would like to thank Carton Estate for their continued support for our Annual Walk.

The Sponsored Walk was first held in 1979 and was the idea of the then Treasurer of Maynooth Labour Branch, Tony Smith, who wanted to assist the senior citizens of the Town. Tony died tragically at the age of 33 in 1982 and the Walk was then renamed in his honour.

The proceeds of the Walk will be handed over to the Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee at their Annual Christmas Party in December.

Finally we would like to thank the Participants and all those who sponsored us for this worthy cause.

Dave Moynan - Treasurer Maynooth Labour Branch



Some of the Participants at the Commencement of the Walk with Deputy Emmet Stagg and Cllr. John McGinley

charge, to carry out this work, neither can the Council compel the developer to do such work, which is an impossible situation where estates have been allowed to mature and are not as yet taken in charge by the Council, it is yet another example of disproportionate rights for a developer over those who have purchased houses in an estate.

Dublin Bus Network extension – update

The Transportation Department of Kildare County Council reported that a meeting had been held with the National Transport Authority (NTA) to discuss the works to be undertaken in 2010. It had been agreed that the replacement of the two traffic ramps with two bus-platform ramps on the Moyglare Road would be funded out of the 2010 allocation. These are being funded primarily because they fall within the area being developed for the €1m Pilot Cycle project in the vicinity of Maynooth College.

The committee was told there is no funding to do road alterations for the Meadowbrook Link bus extension. A Traffic Management Plan for Maynooth is due to be considered by the Area Committee in the near future, this should include provision for the amended bus service. The NTA will only fund such changes if they are part of a Traffic Management Plan. Even if it is agreed at Council level and submitted to the NTA before the end of the year, it is not clear if they will provide the Council with funding for this in 2011.

Meadowbrook Estate - Council in discussions with Receiver.

Again, at our October meeting, I sought to find out if there was any update on the legal status of the developer of Meadowbrook Estate & Brookfield Avenue.

The planning department informed me they have now confirmed the developer of Meadowbrook Estate & Brookfield Avenue, (Lark Developments), is in receivership. The Planning Department has written to the receiver requesting a meeting to discuss the status of the company and any associated developments. Once that meeting has been arranged the Council will present the receiver with the outstanding list of works required prior to the Council taking the estate in charge.

Taking in Charge of Castledawson - developer considering handing over road.

I was informed by the Council that the Building Control Section held a meeting with the owner of the main access road in Castledawson/Newtown Hall on the 13th October. He was requested to hand the Castledawson section of the

road over to the Council, he agreed to consider the request and revert back. I have urged the Council to maintain contact in order that there is a quick response to this. Should the developer decide to hand over the road this will allow the Council to take Castledawson Estate in charge. The law in relation to taking estates in charge, in my opinion, disproportionately favors the rights of the developer over homeowners.

Tesco Unit Maynooth – update

When given planning permission for the new supermarket in Maynooth, which is the largest Tesco in Ireland, as part of the community gain Tesco were to provide a unit on part of the site of the old store, for public use. Because of a changing economic environment development of new units, on the old supermarket site, have been delayed, therefore, the community unit has not yet materialised. Tesco in conjunction with Kildare County Council have offered to fund a temporary facility. A unit has been identified and discussions are underway but nothing has been finalised yet. Should a satisfactory arrangement be arrived at this unit could be available to the community in the near future. The intention would be that such a unit should be multi functional.

Planning Application by Irish Rail for 38 Extra Spaces beside Old Station Masters House. Concerns about lighting at Silken Vale and access to the site raised.

The planning application made by Irish Rail in early September (10/891) has been referred back to them for further information. In a formal submission, while accepting the need for more car parking in proximity of the train station, I had raised some concerns about access to the site for vehicles particularly at peak times; I also raised concerns about how the new public lighting would affect adjoining homes in Silken Vale.

The Council have now asked Irish Rail to provide a site specific report on the impact of the proposed lamp posts to the adjoining Silken Vale residences. Irish Rail has been requested to show how it is proposed to facilitate the access from each platform to the other for mobility impaired users. They must also provide details of a signage system to indicate occupancy of the proposed car park in order to minimise unnecessary vehicular movements into the car park. Once Irish Rail respond (they have a maximum of 6 months in which to do so) the Council have 2 months to make a decision.

Footnote:

The Celbridge Area Committee includes, Maynooth, Celbridge, Leixlip, Ardclough and Straffan.

Prune the trees and let the light out

At our October meeting, of the Celbridge Area Committee, I highlighted the need to prune trees and in some instances remove them, where they obscure public lighting. I pointed out this is a serious problem in mature estates. I particularly drew attention to the Main Avenue at Beaufield, where there are examples of trees, now mature, which were planted beside lamp standards, or where other trees urgently require pruning. I pointed out that when planning permission is given for a housing estate, a standard of public lighting is required which is intended to protect both pedestrians and motorists, by allowing these trees to grow without a management plan the value of public lighting is often partially or completely lost.

Kildare County Council pays for the electricity, however, in many cases it is simply lighting up the trees. The only one of the North Kildare Towns where substantial work has been done on tree pruning in recent years has been Leixlip; this is because the Town Council has a budget for this work. The County Council has no function, where estates are not in

Winner of McDonald's Colouring Competition



September Winner Harry Keegan

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DRY SEASONED FIREWOOD FOR SALE
Quality seasoned Ash firewood delivered to your home in bags or in bulk loads.

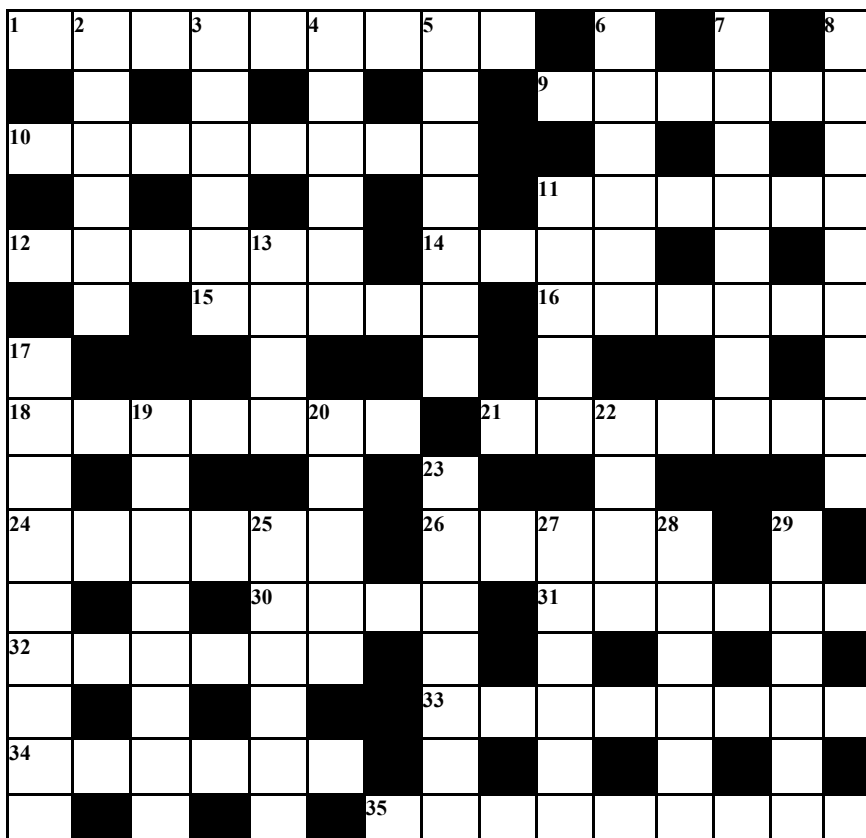
All logs are air dried and can be delivered in either handy net bags, large waterproof bumper bags or in loose loads.

**For further details Check out our website www.logonfirewood.ie
 Phone Peter at 087 6329228**

November 2010 Crossword—No: 386

ACROSS

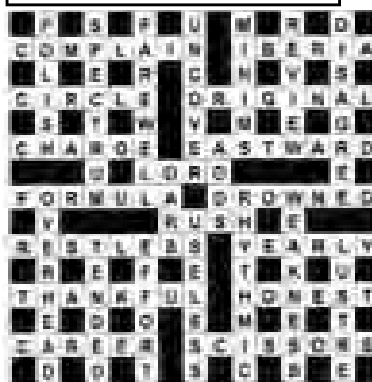
1. Imagined to be true (9)
9. Daughter of Uranus and Gaia (6)
10. Be like or similar to (8)
11. Globe, orb (6)
12. Injure the reputation of (6)
14. Printed characters (4)
15. Holy Book (5)
16. Fills with apprehension (6)
18. People killed, hurt, or abused (7)
21. One more (7)
24. Express discontent (6)
26. Existed or dwelt (5)
30. Killer whale (4)
31. Source, root (6)
32. Animals (6)
33. Busy or inhabited (8)
34. Supping (6)
35. Head of state has a red instep (9)



DOWN

2. Not smooth (6)
3. Building assembled from pre-manufactured parts, in short (6)
4. Spider's filaments (6)
5. Chose by poll (7)
6. Place of worship (6)
7. Systematic seeking after knowledge (8)
8. Indispensable, essential (9)
11. It pains one to be there (5)
13. Very short skirt (4)
17. One and all (9)
19. Commissioned officers (8)
20. Irishman diarist (5)
22. Ended (4)
23. Taste (7)
25. Observing or taking down (6)
27. Sounds of people (6)
28. Went down momentarily (6)
29. One pig for the bird (6)

Solutions to No. 385

**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

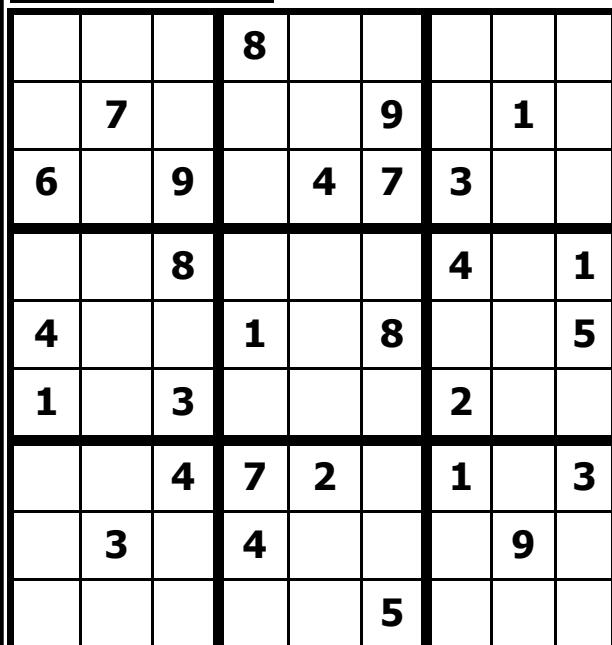
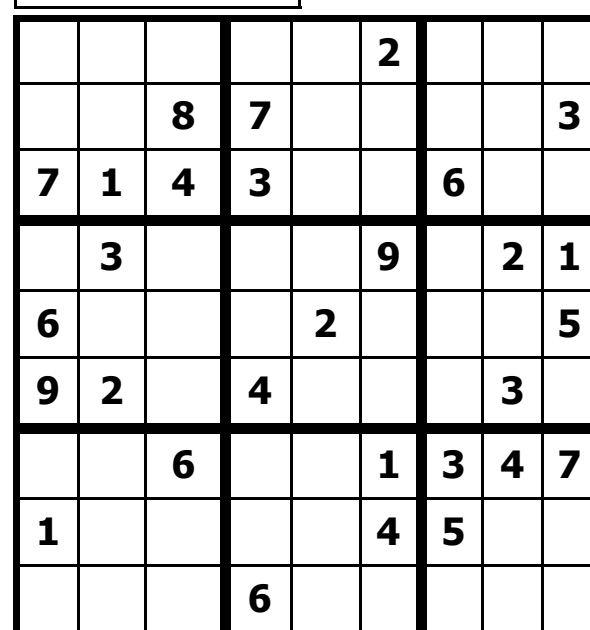
Entries in before: 24th November '10

Name: _____

Address:-

**Congratulations to
 Winner of Crossword
 No. 385:**

**Mary G. MacNamara,
 Woodlands,
 Maynooth**

Difficult**Suduko Challenge****Super Difficult**

Win a €10 book voucher if you are the first entry drawn with both puzzles correct.

**Send completed puzzles to
 Maynooth Newsletter
 Unit 5 Tesco S/C Maynooth**

Entries must arrive before : 24 November 2010

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

**Congratulations to October
 Winner:
 Larry French,
 Parklands court,
 Maynooth**

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 (Hannah or Eamon) or 01 628 5269 (Trish) for an appointment.
E-mail contact – aine.brady@oireachtas.ie
Please feel free to contact me at any stage about any local or national issue.
Local Fianna Fáil Councillor Paul Kelly – Contact Details: 086 2560548;
e-mail paul.kelly@pkelly.ie website www.pkelly.ie

Funding for Maynooth Schools for Water Conversation Measures says Brady

Local TD and Minister of State Áine Brady has welcomed the approval by the Minister for Education that the Maynooth Post Primary, Boys National School and the Girls Presentation National School have received approval for funding to improve water conservation measures in their schools.

‘This funding will help to reduce the schools use of water, with a consequent reduction in the running cost of schools.’

‘The fund of almost €10 million nationally will finance over 1823 projects throughout the country to reduce their water usage through the installation of water displacement devices, percussion spray taps, thermostatic mixing valves and other water controls.’;

‘The investment in our schools, taken together with the Summer Works Schemes and the on-going construction works at schools throughout North Kildare currently, create much-needed jobs in the construction sector.’

‘The Planning and Building Unit will shortly contact all approved schools in Maynooth with further details and instructions on how to proceed.’ concluded Minister Brady.

Contract signed for major investment in NUI Maynooth – Minister of State Brady

The contract has been signed to progress major investment in Maynooth according to local Fianna Fáil TD, Minister of State Áine Brady.

“The Tánaiste Mary Coughlan TD has just signed the contract to allow work to begin on the new €20million investment in NUI Maynooth.”

“The investment in the university will result in a new state of the art library.”

“The increase in numbers of students in recent years has resulted in the need for this library and I am delighted to see that the work will now progress.”

“NUI Maynooth has grown and developed over the years and it is now a first class educational facility that attracts top students, researchers and staff.”

“NUI Maynooth also has a long and credible relationship with high tech industry in the county and works closely with Intel and others to develop courses and research.”

“I am delighted to see this project go ahead as it is essential that despite strains on the public finances that we continue to invest in education to ensure that we support the students and workers of the future,” concluded Minister of State Brady.

Clampdown on Welfare Cheats To Save Over €500m - Minister of State Brady

Kildare North Fianna Fáil TD and Minister of State, Áine Brady has today welcomed the news that the Government is on track to save more than half a billion this year through a clampdown on welfare cheats.

Minister Brady was responding to comments made by the Minister for Social Protection, Eamon O’Cuív that his Department was pushing beyond the original target of saving more than €533 million by the end of 2010.

“The Department’s tough stance on welfare cheats will ensure that the money we’re spending on Social Welfare is going where it’s supposed to go – to the people and families who need it most. The message is clear - there is no hiding place for those who are defrauding the system.”

“The huge effort being undertaken to crack down on welfare fraud is reflected by the fact that more than 760,000 claims will be reviewed by the end of this year. A team of no less than 600 investigators is tasked with ensuring that the resources we have are going to those who need them.”

“The Department’s issuing of direct mailshots to confirm contact details has proved particularly successful with savings of over €47million alone in child benefit. These letters help to ensure that payments are not being made to those who have left the jurisdiction. Other techniques include cross-departmental and cross border sharing of information and vehicle checks.”

“The public has also played its part in detecting fraud. In the first eight

months of the year almost 5, 000 individuals have contacted the Department’s information hotline on www.welfare.ie to report suspected cases of welfare cheating.”

“Fianna Fáil has always done more than any other party for the most vulnerable in society. When resources were available, we invested heavily in improving social welfare rates and services for all those who were reliant on the State for income support.”

“We are now, however, being forced to do more with less. The clampdown on fraud is aimed at protecting those who are genuinely entitled to social welfare support. We should remember that those who cheat the system are really cheating their neighbours and friends,” concluded Minister Brady.

Funding boost for recycling facilities in Kildare – Minister of State Brady

Recycling facilities in Kildare are to receive a funding boost from the Government according to local Fianna Fáil TD and Minister of State, Áine Brady.

“Kildare County Council will receive €229,867 to assist with the cost of running local bring banks and civic recycling facilities.”

“I am delighted in the continuance of this financial support for recycling facilities despite constraints on the public finances.”

“The funding is made available from the Environment Fund gets revenue from the Plastic Bag Levy and landfill levies.”

“It is essential that we provide every encouragement and support to Kildare households in their bid to recycle as much as possible. The provision of easily accessible, clean and convenient recycling facilities makes a huge difference,” concluded Minister of State Brady.

High speed Broadband boost for three Kildare schools – Brady

Three Kildare schools are to receive high speed broadband under a Government scheme according to local Fianna Fáil TD and Minister of State, Áine Brady.

“Coláiste Naomh Mhuire on the Sallins Road, the Salesian College in Celbridge and Maynooth Post Primary on the Moyglare Road will each receive high speed broadband under the €13 million Broadband to Schools Scheme. The schools will get 100 megabit high speed fibre and wireless broadband.”

“The Broadband speeds that will now be

available to these schools are the equivalent to the speeds on offer to multinational corporations here.”

“I am delighted to see this investment in Kildare schools. The Broadband to Schools scheme will be available to other local secondary schools within the next two years.”

“As our economy becomes more high-tech it is vital that students are confident in their use of technology and having these extra facilities at school will assist,” concluded Minister Brady.

Educational Campus approved for Maynooth

Local TD and Minister of State Aine Brady, has welcomed the decision by the Minister for Education to approve the acquisition by Kildare VEC of a property in the centre of Maynooth to establish an Integrated Further Education and Training (FET) Campus.

‘Kildare VEC have been given approval to acquire a purpose designed and equipped premises in the centre of Maynooth which will be home to an Integrated Further Education and Training Campus. This Campus will offer all current and Future Educational and Training (FET) Programmes which are currently being provided by the VEC at different locations throughout North Kildare.’

‘The VEC’s Adult Education Guidance Services will also be located at the Campus. This will provide a one stop shop FET facility and will make for a more efficient service.’

‘In recent months, we have made significant progress on the provision of extra school facilities throughout North Kildare. Recently, we got approval for school extensions in Straffan and Clane. a new Gael Scoil is being built in Maynooth, 11 classroom extension to Scoil Choca Naofa in Kilcock is currently underway and the new Kill National School will be completed later this year. I will continue to work with all concerned to build on the progress to-date.’ concluded Minister Brady.

Gardening in the month of November

It's cold, it's wet and it's nasty out, and the last thing on your mind is playing in the mud in your garden.....

It's really hard to get motivated to do much of anything outdoors, but here are a few gardening tasks and projects that you can do this month to help keep your garden looking it's best for the rest of this season, and prepare for the long cold winter and upcoming spring.

Perennials, annuals, and bulbs

Make sure that the canes of your climbing roses and other vining plants are securely fastened to their supports. Winter winds can whip and severely damage unprotected plants. Don't tie them so tightly that the string or twist-tie cuts into the stem.

I recommend using a length old tights because it will stretch as the plant grows, rather than cutting into the stem, as string will do.

Mound five to six inches of soil around the bases of your hardy fuchsias and roses. *Use soil from another part of the garden, rather than risking damage to the roots by digging around the base of the plant.*

Cut Chrysanthemum stems to 2-3 inches from the soil once they have begun to die back.

You can continue to transplant your perennials throughout the autumn and winter, as long as they remain dormant.

Tulip bulbs may still be planted in the early part of the month.

Tender bulbs should be dug up and stored in a cool, dark area after first frost.

Be sure that your tender plants are protected from frost. Mulching with bark, sawdust or straw will help create a blanket of protection over the root system. Should the weather get suddenly cold, place cloth or dark plastic over your *tender plants* to give them some added protection from the cold. Be sure to remove this covering when the weather has stabilized!.

Shrubs and trees One of the most asked questions at this time of year is "when can I transplant my shrubs and trees?" This month and throughout the next several months will be good times to transplant trees and shrubs. At this time of the year, most ornamentals have entered into dormancy, and can be safely dug and replanted. The key to transplanting is to dig a large root ball (*get as much of the root system as is possible*). Equally important, is getting the plant back into the prepared soil as quickly as possible, to keep the roots from drying out.

(Only a transplanting fertilizer should be used at this time of the year.) Large trees or shrubs should be staked to protect them from wind whipping during winter storms. Keep them staked until the roots have a chance to develop and anchor them.

Prune your evergreens to shape.

Fruits and veggies

Cut the tops off your asparagus plants, and add a winter dressing of aged manure to the bed.

Cover strawberries two inches deep with hay or straw.

Secure your raspberry canes to stakes to protect them from wind whipping.

Lawn If you haven't already applied an autumn or winter type of lawn fertilizer (20-9-9), now is the time to do it. This encourages good root development and helps improve the colour of the lawn. Lime can also be applied, if needed.

Give your lawn a good raking to lift away accumulations of debris.



Keep leaves raked from the lawn. They should be composted. Alternatively, you can just mow over them, turning them to a mulch which adds important nutrients back to the lawn

House Plants Winter heating dries the air out in your home considerably. Help your house plants survive by misting them or placing the pots on a pebble filled tray of water to ensure adequate humidity and moisture.

Pot up some spring flowering bulbs for indoor colour during the winter. Store the pots in a cool, dark place, until new growth emerges from the soil, and then move them to a bright window.

Continue to watch for insect or disease damage and take the necessary steps to control the problem.

Odds and ends Please feed the birds and other small creatures which may not be able to find food due to snow on the ground or other causes.

Their natural food sources have pretty much dried up by this time of the year. For only a few dollars you can feed an enormous number of birds.

You don't have to be a bird watcher to enjoy the feeling that you get when you've helped out one of God's creatures.

Drain your hoses and put them away so they don't freeze and burst.

Continue to watch for insect, slug and snail, or disease damage throughout the garden, and take the necessary steps to control the problem.

Use small stakes or markers where you've planted bulbs or late starting spring plants in the perennial garden, to avoid disturbing them when you begin spring soil preparation. If you feel that stakes don't fit your landscape style.... you might consider marking stones with fingernail polish or paint, and set them on the planting spot (*painted side down*)

When you have finished your last mowing of the year, make sure that it is properly stored.

Clean and oil your garden tools for winter storage. Place some sand and some oil in a large bucket, then slide your garden tools in and out of the sand.

This will do an excellent job of cleaning them, as well as applying a light coat of oil to prevent rusting. This is also a good month to restock any tools that have seen better days, while the prices are lower.

A tip from The 1899 Old Farmer's Almanac "Useful Hints": "Keep all fruit stones (pits), cooked or uncooked. Dry them slowly in the oven, put in a large jar, and in winter throw a handful on the fire of an evening. They will crackle for a moment, send up a bright flame, and fill the room with a delicious aroma."

Marian Gale

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Maynooth Royal Canal Amenity Group

Members and Supporters of Maynooth Royal Canal Amenity Group (MRCAG) were present at the recent official opening of the restored Royal Canal at Clondra, County Longford, and which was featured on RTE television at the Bank Holiday weekend.

MRCAG, now 25 years in existence, is lobbying Public Representatives to promote Maynooth as the Eastern Tourism and Recreational hub of the Royal Canal.

Maynooth Harbour has a large dedicated boat-launch area, which is fully tarmaced, and a purpose built boat-slipway which is steel-reinforced in order to accommodate even barge-sized boats.

MRCAG also welcomes the recent renewal of the Community Employment Scheme for Maynooth Environmental Group Limited, a partnership between MRCAG and Maynooth Tidy Towns.

Declan O'Connor

The Funny Side Of Life

A man takes his Rottweiler to the vet. 'My dog's cross-eyed, is there anything you can do for him?' 'Well, 'says the vet, 'let's have a look at him' so he picks the dog up and examines his eyes, then checks his teeth. Finally, he says ' I'm going to have to put him down. 'What? Because he's cross-eyed?' No, because he's really heavy'

My wife dresses to kill. She cooks the same way.

My wife and I were happy for twenty years. Then we met.

The secret of a happy marriage remains a secret.

After a quarrel, a wife said to her husband, 'You know, I was a fool when I married you.' The husband replied, 'Yes, dear, but I was in love and didn't notice.'

A man inserted an 'ad' in the classifieds: 'Wife wanted'. Next day he received a hundred letters. They all said the same thing: 'You can have mine.'

Just think, if it weren't for marriage, men would go through life thinking they had no faults at all.

I married Miss Right. I just didn't know her first name was Always.

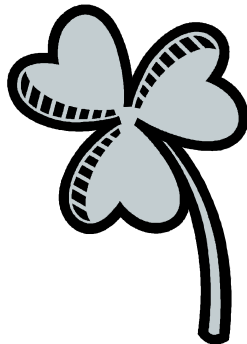
I went for that laser eye surgery today and it went really well until I came to pay the bill. When I asked why it was nearly £1000 per eye instead of the advertised £395, they simply said "Hidden charges, didn't you see the small print?"

2011 St. Patrick's Day Parade

Thursday 17th March 2011

Reminder:

Look out for the Application Form for the 2011 Parade which will be published in the December Newsletter, so start planning your entry now.



Crafts

Fresh Pine Centrepiece

If you're lucky enough to have a pine or spruce tree, you may be able to trim enough branches to make these beautiful pine centrepieces for almost no cost. Fresh boughs can also be found at craft stores and garden centres.



Material:	
Container for centrepiece (bowl, planter, etc)	Floral wire
Floral foam for fresh flowers	Candle
Candle holder (any sort will do)	Waterproof glue
Fresh Pine and Spruce branches	Faux Snow or white paint & Paint Brush

Glue the floral foam to the centre of your dish. You could use a regular glass soup bowl about 11 inches wide. Allow the glue to dry completely. Place your candle holder in the centre of your foam as shown here and add enough water to completely saturate the floral foam.



Begin inserting pieces of pine as shown at right, beginning at the outside edge of the foam and working your way toward the centre until you reach about one inch from the outside of your candle ring.



With the empty space surrounding your candle holder, insert small pieces of spruce staying far enough away from the candle holder (about a quarter inch) so that you can easily lift your candle holder out of the piece and re-insert it. Add any springs of pine or spruce throughout the arrangement to cover any hollow areas.

To add pine cones to your arrangement, simply wrap floral wire around the bottom of your cone, and twisting the wire to secure it to the cone. Leave enough excess wire so that you can insert the wire into the foam. Refer to the photos for placement of pine cones. Half of the pine cones used in each arrangement has white snow added to the edges of the cones. To do this, simply paint on a little faux snow (white paint works too) along the edges of the pine cones.

Add a few Berries or simply add a few artificial floral leaves. Place your candle in the holder and you're all done.

This arrangement costs very little to make and makes wonderful gifts.

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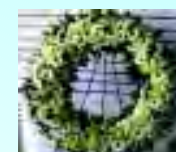
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Particulars and Arrangements Contact:

Paddy Nolan (Secretary to Maynooth Mortality Society),
 7 Castlebridge, Maynooth. Phone: 6286312
 and Paddy Malone, Ballycahan. Phone: 6287074



FIND THE HIDDEN WORDS

X	Y	M	B	I	T	A	C	K	K	J
K	X	F	Y	O	F	A	S	O	K	D
S	X	T	M	T	T	C	B	M	W	H
R	R	A	N	A	T	B	S	P	K	H
H	T	O	T	C	D	W	L	Z	O	R
O	E	P	T	V	V	Z	O	P	I	F
R	K	E	M	C	S	G	J	N	D	N
S	S	E	C	Q	A	C	I	Z	L	W
E	A	H	C	F	X	R	B	K	Y	K
C	B	S	L	M	Q	X	T	L	R	A

TOMATO
COW
TRACTOR
HORSE

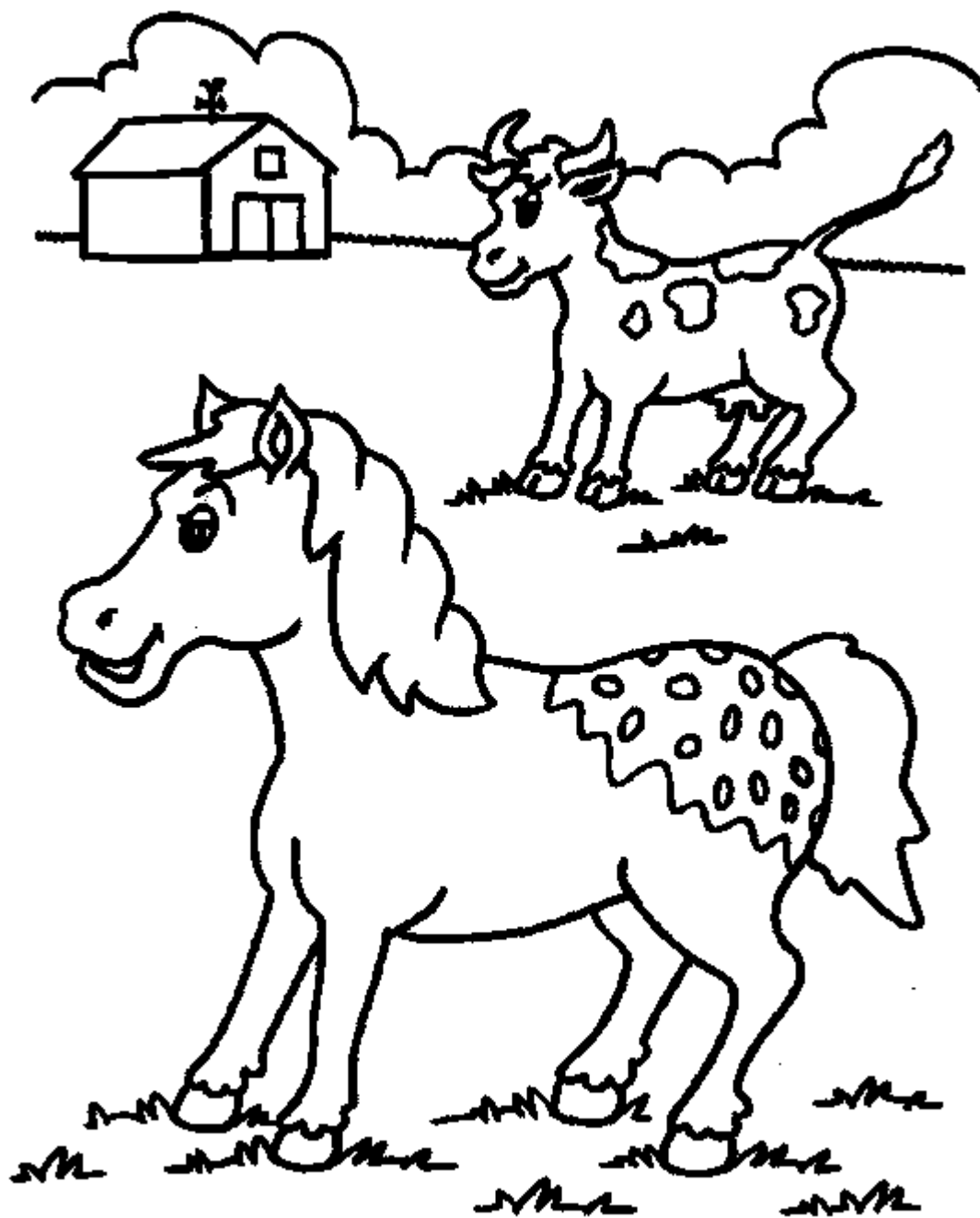
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Age: _____
Address: _____
Phone No.: _____

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Moyglare Abbey, Maynooth.

Age: 6—7 : Oisín Marron, College Green, Maynooth

Age: 7 & Over: Ciara Mahon, Silkenvale, Maynooth

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