

Maynooth Newsletter

Serving the people of Maynooth

February 2011 Issue

Local News

FREE

Maynooth Post Primary School. Run for Fun to Support our Sport. Launch of 10K Challenge.



(L – R) Johnny Nevin (Principal Maynooth Post Primary School)
Arthur McGauran (Sales Executive Carton House),
Deirdre O'Brien (Director of Sales Carton House),
Ciara Hewson, David Campbell, Paul Robinson.

The Maynooth Post Primary School 10K Challenge will take place on May 22nd 2011 at 10am.

This is a fundraising event which aims to raise money for the development of the school's playing pitches and the introduction of a 1.3K walking/running track. There will be full changing and shower facilities.

The development will be located on the Moyglare Road, Maynooth. The run is proudly supported by **Carton House**, also thanks to **Ross of Maynooth Photo Centre**.

Organised by our active Parents Association, details and application forms can be found on the Run Ireland website.

<http://www.runireland.com/events/maynooth-post-primary-school-10k-challenge-0>

Application forms are also available from the School reception and will be printed in the Maynooth Newsletter. You can also find us on *Facebook*. *Maynooth10kmchallenge*.

The route will take runners through the historical centre of learning that is Maynooth. Carton House Hotel Golf and Leisure have kindly allowed us to enjoy their grounds and we will also take in the historic St.Patricks College. The event will be filmed by Kildare TV.

It is hoped to have over 500 competitors on the day. This event is aimed towards all runners, joggers and walkers. It could provide a useful addition to the running schedule of those training for upcoming events such as the Women's Ladies Marathon. Senior students from the School are welcome to take part but must be over 16 years. A number of teachers are also ready to air out their runners and do

their bit for the school. It is hoped that the local community will come on board and any athletic Maynooth residents are encouraged to turn up!

This is the first time an event like this has been organised for the school. In these recessionary times it is vital for us to raise the money so we can invest back into the future of our young people.

Sport plays a fundamental role in our school community here in Maynooth Post Primary School. Through involvement in sport, young people learn discipline, commitment, respect. They experience teamwork. It builds confidence. Not least of all it helps keep a body healthy. Sport is essential to our school and the community with which we will share this new facility. As parents and teachers, we recognise the benefits and thus promote sport and other extra curricular activities for all.

Guests.

David Campbell.

Past pupil of Maynooth Post Primary School, David is Ireland's fourth Fastest man in the over 800metres category. He has represented the Country at the 2006 European Athletic Championship and the 2007 World Athletic Championships. In 2007 he achieved the title of Double National Champion in the 800 metres and 1500 metres. In 2009 he was again national 1500 metre champion. He is one of an elite group to have run a sub 4 minute mile. David currently studies Physiotherapy in UCD.

Paul Robinson.

Son of a staff member, Paul is the National Under 20, Mile Record Holder. In 2009 he represented Ireland in the European Juniors and the World Juniors. He is ranked second in the World Under 20, Mile Category. Paul studies Economics and Law at DCU. Both David and Paul run for St. Coca's Athletic Club Kilcock.

Ciara Hewson.

Ciara is a third year student in Maynooth Post Primary School. In 2009 she came third in the All Ireland Cross Country and second in the Junior Schools All Ireland. In 2010 she achieved second in the All Ireland Under 16 Cross Country and third in the All Ireland School's Intermediate. She has represented Ireland three times in International Competitions. A true inspiration to her peers, Ciara continues to run and has high ambitions for her future.



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Maynooth's St Patrick's Day Parade

Entrance Fee : Commerical Float - €50

Club/Organisation - €20

Bands - Free

The categories for which prizes will be awarded are as follows :

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 1. Best Commercial Float | Trophy |
| 2. Best Club Float | Trophy |
| 3. Best Band | Trophy |
| 4. Best School Float | Trophy |
| 5. Best Portrayal of Irish Culture | Trophy |
| 6. Best Portrayal of Environmental Awareness | Trophy |

Applications with entry fee to be sent to community council office
unit 5, Tesco Shopping Centre, Maynooth, Co. Kildare By Friday March 4th

Phone (office hours) - 6285922 / 6285053 John McGuinley Mobile 0879880845





Maynooth February Diary Planner

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

Senior Citizens Club

Club meets every Tuesday & Thursday morning in the Community Care Unit until Easter after which they will then return to the I.C.A. Hall. Valentine Tea dance takes place Sunday 20th February in the GAA Club.

History Group

Next meeting Thursday 24th February in the Glenroyal Hotel at 8.00 p.m. An evening in Carton is planned for March 14th when Dr. Pat Cosgrove of NUI Maynooth will present a history topic on Carton House and Estate at 8.00 p.m. New members welcome Peter Nevin Phone: 086 0222880

Taekwon-Do

Children's Classes for 5 years and up held every Wednesday in St. Mary's Boys School, Moyglare Road & on Fridays in Educate Together, Celbridge Road 6.30 p.m.—7.30 p.m. For details: Contact Stephen Doyle 087 6986491

Parent & Toddler Group

A voluntary community service for babies and toddlers. They meet in the GAA Club, Moyglare Road every Tuesday from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon. All are welcome.

U. 3. A.

February meetings Friday 4th & 18th at 11.00 a.m. in the Community Library. New Members Welcome Enquiries : Bernadette Phone: 6289131

Bridge Club

Open for new members. If you would like to play in a friendly club with Purpose built facilities in the centre of Maynooth, please see our website at maynoothbridgeclub.com. Contact Katherine Cooney 086 8205910

Flower & Garden Club

February 15th @ 8.00 p.m. Loftus Hall, Maynooth College Demonstrator: Adrienne Thompson Competition: "Twigs are In" Tea/Coffee served after demonstration All welcome to attend Lovely relaxing night and a great way to make new friends PRO Lila Flynn 0868740232

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

Toastmasters

Februarys meetings take place 14th & 28th at 7.45 p.m. in the Glenroyal Hotel

Community Library

Opening Times Mondays & 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.

Recipes for Freezing

Shepherd's Pie

Ingredients

1 tbsp sunflower oil
1 large onion, chopped
2-3 medium carrots, chopped
500g pack minced lamb
2 tbsp tomato purée
large splash Worcestershire sauce
500ml beef stock
900g potatoes, cut into chunks
85g butter
3 tbsp milk

Method

1. Heat the oil in a medium saucepan, then soften the onion and carrots for a few mins. When soft, turn up the heat, crumble in the lamb and brown, tipping off any excess fat. Add the tomato purée and Worcestershire sauce, then fry for a few mins. Pour over the stock, bring to a simmer, then cover and cook for 40 mins, uncovering halfway.
2. Meanwhile, heat the oven to 180C/ fan 160C/ gas 4, then make the mash. Boil the potatoes in salted water for 10-15 mins until tender. Drain, then mash with the butter and milk.
3. Put the mince into an ovenproof dish, top with the mash and ruffle with a fork. The pie can now be chilled and frozen for up to a month. Bake for 20-25 mins until the top is starting to colour and the mince is bubbling through at the edges. (To bake from frozen, cook at 160C/fan 140C/gas 3 for 1 hr-1 hr 20 mins until piping hot in the centre. Flash under the grill to brown, if you like.) Leave to stand for 5 mins. before serving, or freeze once assembled

Beef & Stout Stew

Ingredients

2 tbsp vegetable oil
1kg stewing beef, cut into chunks
1 onion, roughly chopped
10 carrots, cut into large chunks
2 tbsp plain flour
500ml can Guinness
1 beef stock cube
pinch of sugar
3 bay leaves
big thyme sprig

Method

1. Heat oven to 160C/140C fan/gas 3. Heat the oil in large lidded casserole dish, brown the meat really well in batches, then set aside. Add the onion and carrots to the dish, give them a good browning, then scatter over the flour and stir. Tip the meat and any juices back into the dish and give it all a good stir. Pour over the Guinness and crumble in the stock cube. Season the stew with salt, pepper and a pinch of sugar. Tuck in the herbs and bring everything to a simmer.



2. Cover with a lid and place in the oven for about 2½ hrs until the meat is really tender. The stew can now be chilled and frozen for up to 3 months - defrost completely before reheating until piping hot.

Crisp Crumb Fish Cakes

Ingredients

700g floury potatoes, cut into large chunks
600ml milk
800g boneless white fish, skin on
1 tbsp wholegrain mustard
5 tbsp mayonnaise or tartare sauce
6 spring onions, finely sliced
zest 1 lemon
handful parsley, roughly chopped



FOR THE COATING

100g plain flour, well seasoned, plus extra for your hands
1 egg, beaten
175g fresh breadcrumbs
2 tbsp sunflower oil, for frying

1. Boil potatoes for 15-20 mins until tender. Meanwhile, place the milk in a frying pan; season well. Bring just to boiling point, then add the fish, skin side down. Gently cook for 5-10 mins, until the fish is translucent and just flaking.
2. Remove the fish from the milk, discard the skin (this will come away easily) and milk, then wipe out the pan. Break the fish into large flakes, then drain on kitchen paper. When the potatoes are done, drain, return them to the pan, then briefly heat on the hob to dry them out. Mash well, stir in the mustard, mayonnaise or tartare sauce, spring onions, lemon zest, parsley and flaked fish, then season well.
3. Using floured hands, divide mixture into 8, then shape each portion into a large patty. Put the flour, beaten egg and breadcrumbs on 3 large plates. Dip each fish cake in turn into the flour, egg and finally the breadcrumbs, shaking off any excess as you go. Sit the fish cakes on a piece of greaseproof paper while you prepare the others. Heat the oil in the frying pan, then fry the fish cakes in batches for about 3 mins on each side, until golden and crisp. Keep the first batch warm in the oven while you finish cooking the rest.

Tips on freezing fish cakes

The fish cakes will freeze beautifully for up to 2 months. To cook your fish cakes from frozen, place them on a lightly oiled tray, then drizzle with a little more oil. Cook on the middle shelf under a medium grill for 12-15 mins until golden, flip over, then cook the other side for 5 mins. It's just as easy to make two large fish cakes for everyone to share. Simply cut them into wedges before storing as above and freezing.

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EDITORIAL

You couldn't make it up, the political shenanigans of the last week. As it happens your writer was out of the country until Sunday and watched this pantomime from afar with ever-increasing embarrassment and alarm. Surrounded by English, Swedish and German tourists, I was being bombarded with questions as to why the government wanted to hold on? What was the Taoiseach doing? I couldn't give them an answer as I began to worry whether Ireland would still exist when I returned? Did I want to return? Would there even be a plane since Aer Lingus were on strike? Ryanair came to the rescue - triumphantly.

However bizarre the last week has been, before the end of February we will probably have a new government. These weeks will be exciting for those interested in the blood sport that is politics but probably infuriatingly boring for those who have no interest. But perhaps this time, people will see, for the first time in a long time, how relevant politics and ideology are to their real lives and that all parties and politicians are not the same. The sight of Brian Cowen resigning as the leader of Fianna Fáil but not as leader of the country seemed even more bizarre and puzzling. Not good enough for Fianna Fáil but good enough for the country? All we seemed to hear was what was good for the party; hardly a word about the good of the country. This is the problem that has brought us to where we are today - the tribal, parochial concerns of some, indeed many, politicians. I doubt that many of the electorate really care about who the next leader of Fianna Fáil will be, the question is – will however they chose manage to get elected or will the party be forced to have a second election? GUBU without a doubt.

This is a strange election, the outcome is clear already – all that remains are the numbers. How many Fianna Fáil and Green TDs will lose their seats? Will Fine Gael or Labour win the most seats and, as a result, who will be the next Taoiseach? Is it possible that history will be made? That there will be a Labour Taoiseach? Nearly as fascinating will be the make up of the Opposition benches. The number will be small without a doubt, but will Fianna Fáil or Sinn Féin be the leaders? Will Gerry Adams lead the Opposition in the Republic of Ireland? As I say, you just couldn't make it up.

At a local level, the parking by-laws will go on public display soon and then the public can have their say. There has been prolonged discussion on this issue at Community Council meetings over the past year and beyond. There is still a need for additional car parking spaces in the town centre in particular. There will be an information meeting where people can ask questions about the plans. Other local concerns that arose at the last Community meeting was the dangerous condition of the stone walls along both sides of Mill Street Bridge and the problems that some elderly weekday Mass-goers are having with parking near the Church.

I would like to take this opportunity to ask people again to get involved in the local community. The meetings for the St Patrick's Day Parade will begin soon and volunteers are needed on the day in particular. Get involved in your resident's association and become a representative to the Community Council – have a say in the planning of your town and environment. Get involved in the Festival. You can make a change and a difference.

Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin

Maynooth Castle

A Focal Point of Local History

The arrival in Ireland of Robert FitzStephen gave new strength to MacMurrough. These reinforcements were professional fighters, including cavalry of knights and esquires, mailed men-at-arms, and archers, Normans, Flemings and Welsh. Together MacMurrough and FitzStephen took Wexford which, together with the promised two cantreds of land, was promptly handed over to FitzStephen for himself and Maurice FitzGerald who had not yet arrived in Ireland. Then they set out to restore MacMurrough's authority in Leinster. This operation included ravaging Offelan and Omurethy, the lands of the O'Byrnes and the O'Tooles. At this stage O'Connor, the high-king, moved against MacMurrough and the result was a treaty by which Diarmait was to be allowed remain King of Leinster if he sent his Norman allies home. This he failed to do, and Maurice FitzGerald landed at Wexford at the end of 1169 to join his half-brother, bringing with him according to Giraldus, ten men-at-arms, thirty mounted retainers and about a hundred archers and foot-soldiers.

Thus strengthened, Diarmait began to think of making a bid for the High-Kingship himself. He discussed this with the two Geraldines, FitzStephen and FitzGerald, and appears to have offered to marry his daughter Aoife to either one or the other. But they advised him to send for their overlord, the Earl of Pembroke, Strongbow, and ask his help. Strongbow was impressed by the success of the Geraldines and made ready to come. He sent ahead his chosen lieutenant, still another Geraldine, Raymond le Gros, the son of Maurice's elder brother, William.

Raymond landed on the coast near Waterford in May 1170 with a small force of ten men-at-arms and seventy archers. While awaiting the arrival of Strongbow, he was attacked by a large army of Irish and Norse from Waterford but Raymond's leadership inspired his men to victory. Raymond appears to have been the most outstanding military leader among the first wave of invaders, and Giraldus has left us a description of him. As his name suggests he was "very stout and a little above the middle height; his hair was yellow and curly and he had large, grey, round eyes. His nose was rather prominent, his countenance high-coloured, cheerful and pleasant; and although he was somewhat corpulent, he was so lively and active that the incumbrance was not a blemish or inconvenience." He was also noted for his care for his troops. Giraldus was somewhat partial to his cousins the Geraldines, but there seems to be a consensus of opinion that Raymond's victory at this point was decisive for the success of the invasion, and so of course also for the subsequent history of Ireland. If he had been defeated, Strongbow might never have come to Ireland and the invasion might have remained what it was up to this point, a Geraldine adventure which would probably have ended by their assimilation into the Gaelic race or their expulsion. Hence the old rhyme:

At the creeke of Baginbunne
Ireland was lost and won.

At last Strongbow arrived near Waterford in August 1170 with an army of two hundred men-at-arms and one thousand other troops. Giraldus described him also: "His complexion was somewhat ruddy, and his skin freckled; he had grey eyes, feminine features, a weak voice and short neck." In character he was a man of "great generosity and of courteous manner." Together, Strongbow and le Gros took Waterford. MacMurrough and his daughter Aoife, and FitzGerald and FitzStephen, joined them and Strongbow and Aoife were married. Richard Roche, in *The Norman Invasion of Ireland*, pictures the "mail-clad Normans

and their Flemish, Welsh and Irish allies cramming the aisles to catch a glimpse of the famed Strongbow and his bride." Daniel Maclise's famous painting of the marriage hangs in the National Gallery in Dublin. The invasion now became a more serious affair with MacMurrough's Norman allies dictating the action. Together they took Dublin in spite of the efforts of O'Connor. MacMurrough died in May 1171, leaving Strongbow as his heir to the kingship of Leinster. But, as this legacy had no validity in Irish law, Strongbow soon found the tribes of Leinster in revolt against him. Meanwhile, the high-king was gathering an army, and the recently expelled Norse king of Dublin was attacking the city from the sea. Strongbow could not expect much help from England or Wales since his own overlord, Henry II of England, was displeased with him for ignoring his orders to return home. However, Henry had decided to come to Ireland himself. He had for long been interested in the project and had taken the trouble to get Pope Adrian IV, an Englishman, to issue the famous Bull, *Laudabiliter*, in which he granted Ireland to Henry on condition that he undertake the reform of the Irish Church. But Henry's real motivation was his fear that his Norman vassals might set up an independent lordship. Strongbow hastened to make his peace with Henry before the royal expedition set sail, but the Geraldines were still a threat and Henry wanted the Irish to accept his authority also.

So Henry sailed for Ireland in October 1171 with the largest army yet. He brought 500 knights and 1,000 others, carried on a fleet of 240 ships, according to the Annals of the Four Masters, with huge amounts of bacon, beans, cheese, salt, wheat and oats to feed them all. The ships also carried large supplies of clothing and military equipment. The mighty army achieved its purpose and did not have to fight even one battle. Everyone submitted to Henry, the Geraldines and the Irish kings and hierarchy. He stayed in Ireland for six months, during which time he summoned the synod of Cashel to further ecclesiastical reform, gave Dublin a charter which granted the city to the men of Bristol, re-organised the Norman-occupied lands along feudal lines and set up an administrative machinery and a legal and a legislative system as in England, and he kept in his own hands both Waterford and Wexford when he left Ireland in April 1172.

The success of the invasion so far had been mainly the work of the Geraldines. Now the king had stepped in and taken it over and reduced them and the other Normans to a subordinate position as his vassals. He had also taken Wexford, MacMurrough's original bribe to Maurice FitzGerald and Robert FitzStephen. The Geraldines would have to look for new territories.

(This article is based largely on Richard Roche, *The Norman Invasion of Ireland*.)

Mary Cullen

Proposed Public Meeting

As a parishioner of St Mary's parish, Maynooth, I am proposing to hold a meeting to discuss the feasibility of organising a series of seminars to inform ourselves, the laity of issues in the church, of our role as the church and our privilege and responsibility of being Christian witnesses.

The meeting is scheduled for 8 o'clock on Wednesday, February 16th in Maynooth Post Primary School.

Contact Gabriel Martin at 087 2175496

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

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Maynooth Senior Citizens

Well it's a new dawn and a new year and hopefully we have seen the last of the snow. Speaking of which I would like to thank all who helped us keep our older people safe during those terrible days. The good neighbours and general public who contacted us with their concerns. Our transport people Sean, Jim and Tom for their patience and cooperation with all the changes I had to make in the interest of safety and to Billy McCrory for delivering the fuel at short notice. Our club is in full swing again in the Community Unit until Easter at which time we will return to the I.C.A hall. Many thanks to Margaret, the H.S.E and the I.C.A for these facilities.

Our Valentine's Tea -Dance will take place on Sun. Feb. 20th and the dates for subsequent Tea-dances are: April 17th, May 15th and June 19th which will take us up to the Summer break. Many thanks to the G.A.A. club for their facility and to Colm and Martin for their ongoing kindness and support. Our A.G.M. will take place on Tues. Feb. 1st in The Health Centre, Leinster Street at 8pm. This is an open meeting and all are welcome. We would also welcome new members. Perhaps there are people out there with a little time on their hands or who would like a challenge. Perhaps you thought about it but did not have enough information. If this is so do come along to this meeting and you will get all the information you need. If by chance you can't make this meeting I can be contacted on 087.9002296 or Patricia on 087-2982455 or email Jo@greenvilla.eu. Finally It was with regret that I learned of the untimely passing of Vincent Doyle. I have known Vincent all my life and I found him to be a kind and gentle person with a brilliant talent. He was quietly generous to our organisation and we remember him fondly. May we extend our sympathy to his daughter Rachel his brothers Martin and Desmond and all his extended family.

Ar dheis De go raibh a Anam.

Josephine Moore
Chairperson.



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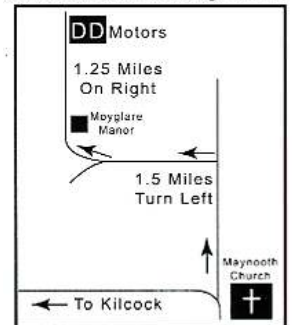
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Maynooth Community Council - Notes

Maynooth Community Council Meeting 10 January 2011

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

Concerns about possible school location

Councillor John McGinley (Labour) said that Maynooth Community Council should write to the Department of Education regarding the recent purchase by Kildare Vocational Educational Committee of 40 acres of land near Moyglare Hall, Maynooth. This location was far outside the town, he said, and to date the policy has been to have an additional second-level school, preferably an 'all Irish' one, at the 'M4 end' of the town. Paul Croghan (PDO, Tidy Towns Committee) said that there seemed to be a change of policy in favour of larger schools and multi-use campuses, and that he was concerned about this location, so far from the town centre.

Deirdre Cullen (Planning and Development Sub-Committee) said it was very good for the town to have a school that pupils could walk to, and it was good for the town centre, both socially and commercially, to have their daily presence in the town. She said that if there was a policy shift towards bigger second level schools and multi-purpose, multi-school campuses, the Community Council should seek information on the thinking behind it. The meeting agreed to write to the Department of Education for clarification on policy and plans, and to express concern at the location of the purchased lands.

2. Parking problems continue at Catholic Church

Joan Lennon (U3A Group) raised the issue of continuing parking problems for senior citizens attending weekday morning Mass, and who are no longer allowed to use the car park at the former Parish Hall site. Tom McMullon (Vice-chairperson) said that the Boys National School had written to the Community Council to say that for insurance reasons they could not allow parking in the playground during school hours. He said that there seemed to be a lack of co-operation between the school and the Church on this issue, and that at present elderly mass-goers are having to park along the very narrow Moyglare Road, causing a danger both for themselves and for other road-users and pedestrians. He said that the playground area was a large space and had previously been a community area. Only twenty to thirty elderly mass-goers needed to use the space for just one hour per day, at a time that does not coincide with the school break time.

Josie Moore (Senior Citizens Committee) pointed out that businesses or organisations usually have to provide for parking requirements but that this didn't seem to apply at church locations. Gabriel Martin (Leinster Park Residents, An Nuada Players) asked what the role of the Community Council in all this was. T. McMullon said the Community Council's interest came as a response to representations from many people in the town. The meeting agreed that the Community Council would write to the Parish Priest about the problem.

3. Twinning project with Canet-en-Roussillon making good progress

A very positive letter about the twinning project from the Mayor of Canet-en-Roussillon in France was read to the meeting. Eddie Tobin (Twinning Committee) furnished the community councillors with copies of a report that he and P. Croghan had prepared about their visit, as the Maynooth delegation, to Canet. The focus of the visit had been on sport, education and tourism. An extensive and comprehensive group of Canet people had expressed great interest in twinning with

Maynooth and had turned up to meet the delegates.

The first major outcome of the project would be an exchange visit between a number of pupils from Maynooth Post Primary school and a school in Canet. The students will travel in March 2011 and it is hoped that a group of Canet students will visit Maynooth in May. MPPS have asked the Community Council to help organise events for the visiting exchange students. Colm Ó Cearúil (Chairperson) said that there was a possibility of summer work in Canet for pupils from MPPS.

P. Croghan reported that since the report was written, Aer Lingus have introduced flights to Perpignan at reasonable rates. This service is very convenient for visiting Canet: the flight takes one hour, and Perpignan is twenty minutes from Canet. He said that the accessibility between the towns would be an important factor in making the twinning project work.

P. Croghan said that a key thing in making the project sustainable would be to have a lot of ongoing activities and interaction involving a lot of different groups. E. Tobin said that arts and culture would be an important strand. T. McMullon said this strand would be of great interest to young musicians in Maynooth, and that it should be publicised. C. Ó Cearúil said an equivalent group from Canet was very interested in forging links with the Maynooth U3A (University of the Third Age) group.

The Community Council adopted the twinning report, and P. Croghan said that it would be sent to Kildare County Council who would be asked to help provide funding for the twinning project.

4. Scouts' anniversary and planning application for Geraldine Hall

Peter Garrad (Maynooth Scouts) announced that the Scouts would be celebrating the 36th anniversary of their presence in Maynooth shortly, with a mass in the College Chapel, celebrated by Bishop Kieran O'Reilly of Killaloe. This would be preceded by a parade from Carton Avenue to the College led by St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band.

He also said that the Scouts were ready to lodge the planning application for their development of the Geraldine Hall. They would preserve the old structure and demolish the temporary structures, building a new single storey structure on the grounds. P. Croghan asked what grounds would remain around the Hall. P. Garrad said that the grounds would be the same as at present, except for the area taken up by the new structure. He said that funding was not yet in place for the project, and that the Scouts would be fundraising over the coming years. D. Cullen asked the Scouts to show the plans to the Community Council when they're ready.

5. Tidy Towns winter work and dangerous condition of Mill Street Bridge walls

Mattie Callaghan (Tidy Towns Committee) reported that winter planting had been done around the town and that a clean-up had begun. On New Years Day trailer loads of rubbish were cleared from the slipways around the town, and he thanked everyone who helped. P. Croghan said that a plaque, decorated with the Maynooth crest, was being made for the Pound and would be ready soon.

He reported that the walls at Mill Street Bridge were damaged along both sides of the road, were in a dangerous condition, and should be restored as a matter of urgency. These walls are part of the important eighteenth and nineteenth century stone-wall/masonry heritage of Maynooth and urgently need to be restored in the interest of both public safety and the protection of important and irreplaceable local heritage. The

Community Council agreed to write to KCC asking to have the walls restored as soon as possible.

M. Callaghan congratulated the shop owners on their Christmas window displays. He said that some of the Main Street trees have no Christmas lights and that there needed to be forward planning to improve this situation.

He also said that illegal parking on the Town Centre paths was still an issue. D. Cullen agreed and said that during the recent bad weather cars were parked on the Main Street blocking the pavement that had been cleared by the Army, so that pedestrians had to climb over mounds of ice in order to walk along the street.

6. Senior Citizens

Josie Moore (Senior Citizens Committee) said there had been no injuries and no lack of water among her group of senior citizens during the bad weather, and that there had been good co-operation from the local suppliers. This was the 46th anniversary year of the Maynooth Senior Citizens committee in Maynooth. There would be a drive for new members this year, as some members of the committee are now senior citizens themselves! The Senior Citizens AGM takes place at 8.00pm on 1 February 2011 at the Health Centre and everyone is welcome.

7. St Patrick's Day Parade

J. McGinley reported that businesses were now being circulated about the St. Patrick's Day Parade. The committee would welcome new ideas and any additional volunteers. Last year there had been thirty-nine floats, which was an improvement on the previous year's number. He said that there would be a meeting shortly and that all community councillors were welcome to attend. He pointed out that the parade was a very important source of funding for the Community Council.

8. Nuada Players

Gabriel Martin reported that there had been three full houses at Nuada Players' recent production of the pantomime Aladdin.

Community Council Report
D. Cullen PRO

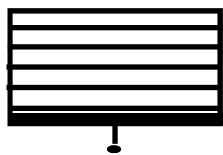
Allotments for Maynooth

The Transition Group in Maynooth is organising a campaign to secure Council allotments. Anybody who is interested in getting an allotment is invited to contact us at transition-maynooth@googlegroups.com; we would welcome any assistance in this regard. We are asking people to support this initiative by canvassing local councillors in the coming weeks. With an election coming in March there is a good opportunity to make this case to any canvassers, particularly local councillors, who come seeking votes.

A public meeting was called by Transition Town Maynooth on Jan.19th to consider the provision of County Council allotments for Maynooth. It was decided to write to each of the local councillors for the Celbridge Area urging them to support this proposal. It is now late January and this matter is urgent if anything is to be done for the coming spring. We ask the council to give its full support and to do what it can to advance the issue. .

Yours Sincerely

David Walsh

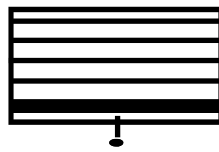


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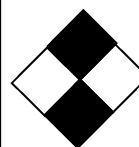
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Maynooth Newsletter Notes January 2011

Tree Pruning

Some tree pruning was done in Beaufield Estate by Kildare County Council recently. Many of the trees here were obscuring public lighting. One tree may still have to be removed, this is because it is right beside a lamp standard, following completion of the tree pruning that will be considered again. Tree pruning at Woodlands Estate is also being carried out by the Council, who are in dialogue with the Residents Association.

New School Site – Moyglare Road.

The existing Post Primary School was constructed to accommodate 800 pupils, currently there are over 1,000 pupils and demand for places continues to rise. The site is much too small to allow further extensions, because of this the VEC decided it would be necessary to build a replacement school. I have been told by the VEC that several sites were considered, some were not sufficiently large while others were deemed unsuitable by the Council's Planning Department.

The VEC have now purchased a site on the Moyglare Road, beside the entrance to Moyglare Hall, they used VEC funds for this purpose. The site is large enough to become an education campus similar to that located in Pipers Hill, Naas. Such a campus could accommodate a direct replacement for the Post Primary School, in addition, an all Irish Secondary School, could be constructed, this would serve as a regional school for North Kildare where there are three all Irish primary schools.

The new Moyglare site, while not ideal, does have some things going for it, it has the advantage of being located beside the schools sports facilities. There is a continuous footpath and public lighting from Mill Street. The delivery of a new school could be advanced reasonably quickly because the site is available. It is also sufficiently large to meet future needs. I have been told that a section of the ring road would be constructed in conjunction with the school development.

On the downside there is already a problem with traffic congestion. Only a small section of Moyglare Road is included in the National Transportation Authorities cycle scheme for Maynooth, which is set to cost an estimated €1m, that scheme would need to be extended. The ring road, intended to relieve traffic problems is only at the early design stages.

While this site is not ideal, it is difficult to see where

there is a sufficiently large alternative site within the town. Sites on the far side of the Motorway are highly unlikely to be granted planning permission.

Old Carton - road accidents

I tabled the following motion for consideration at our next Area Meeting. Concerns had been raised with me following several traffic accidents at Old Carton. "In view of the number of accidents that have occurred on the road at Old Carton that the Council arranges to apply a road surface with a rough finish in order to increase the road holding of vehicles in that location."

The Council carried out work late last year, at this location, which included pressure hosing the road surface. Following an inspection the Council found there was a build up of grit, the road holding was impacted as a result. A more permanent solution would be to apply a different type of road surface on the bends, rather than intermittently repeating the power hosing. Some vehicles have turned over at this location so it is highly dangerous.

Damaged road surfaces

The condition of many road surfaces has deteriorated noticeably following the extreme weather conditions, Main Street, Maynooth, is a case in point. Kildare County Council expect to be informed of the extent of the road budget by the Department in January. In advance of this, I tabled the following question for our next meeting.

"Has an estimate been done on the cost of repairing roads/paths within the Celbridge Electoral Area following the recent severe weather, if so what is the outcome, if not, will an estimate be done?"

Loss of drinking water

I also tabled a motion for the next meeting about the loss of water during the cold spell. Many homes were without water for a protracted period and for some this is not an isolated experience. The purpose of motion is to gather facts and consider solutions.

"The Celbridge Area committee are provided with a report on the recent water disruptions, including: (1) the locations where no running water was available within our electoral area; (2) the availability of water and what are the shortcomings in supply, what action is needed to remediate this; (3) the locations where there is a persistent problem and what action can be taken. (4) The capacity for the Council to respond i.e. tanker provision, information provision etc."

I will provide responses to the Maynooth Newsletter when they are to hand.

Maynooth Parking bye-laws to go on public display

At our meeting on 12th January it was agreed to put the Draft Maynooth Parking Bye on public display. This will occur once details of additional off street parking is finalised. Prior to their display an advertisement will appear in the local media. I proposed, and it was agreed, that there would be a public session where officials from the Council's Road Section will be available, at a local venue, to meet members of the public where they will explain the bye-laws and listen to concerns.

What the bye-laws look like:

- 1) A set of map's, which show the locations where parking bays are to be provided, **or**, where there are amendments to existing parking, disabled and loading bays. New road markings such as double yellow lines are also indicated on the maps.
- 2) The by-laws also take the form of a written document. This document includes the locations where pay parking is intended, together with, the variety of tariffs and the number of hours a motorist may park in any particular location.

The bye laws that will go on display are very much a **draft**, your views and comments on all aspects of the bye laws are important

8TH KILDARE MAYNOOTH SCOUTS.

We are celebrating 35 years of scouting in Maynooth. To mark the occasion, we are having a mass and party on Saturday 12th February 2011. The foundations of the troop were laid during the winter months of 1974. Under the leadership of James St Ledger, Kieran O'Reilly SMA., Joseph Lofrano and Billy Flood, a small group of local lads were trained in the basic skills of scouting.

The first scouts were invested on February 16th 1975. The investiture service was followed by mass in St. Mary's Parish Church. In January 1976 a further sixteen boys were admitted to the troop, bringing the numbers up to twenty.

It was in 1976 that uniforms were introduced, this made it possible to take part in many parish functions, among them the Corpus Christi procession.

Scouting in Maynooth, although in its infancy was deemed a success and all the members showed great enthusiasm. Extensive programmes were planned with patrol camps, annual camps and skills training. The current scouters are still as enthusiastic. The birthday bash is being organised to celebrate how far we have progressed over the last thirty five years. Currently we have over one hundred youth members and thirty leaders - we also have a very strong Parents and Friends Committee which are a vital support to the group as they continue to raise much needed funds to support all our activities.

The day starts at 11.15 where we gather at the entrance to Carton Avenue, we will parade to the College lead by a colour party of two members from each section. We will be accompanied by St. Mary's Brass and Reed band.

At twelve we will have mass followed by the investiture of the new members. The Folk Group have been invited to join us during mass.

We follow mass with a buffet, games etc., for scouters, their families and invited guests.

Here's to many more years of scouting in the future.

Maynooth Tidy Towns

2011 has been designated as the year of the volunteer, if you have an hour or two to spare each week why not help your community by volunteering to work with us to beautify Maynooth.

We can be contacted at 087-3153189.

Next month we hope to have details of the WEE electrical recycling date for Maynooth.

Finally thanks for the nice comments about the photographs published in the last newsletter these were taken as are all our Photographs by our Chairman Mattie Callaghan.

Richard Farrell,
PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns

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The Patrick Project Needs You!!

The Saint Patrick Foundation is a new Maynooth-based reconciliation charity that was founded in 2008. It's desire is to develop the way our Patron Saint is celebrated in Ireland and around the world and to harness that celebration on behalf of those who face poverty, alienation or oppression. The ancient story of Patrick is fascinating and inspirational and the potential of the day that bears his name is enormous. Over 200 million people around the world join every year in this annual Irish pageant. Our hope is that in retelling his story and enabling others to discover again the insights and values that drove his life, March 17th can once again become a significant catalyst for transformation.

Next year will see our national launch but this year we would really value your help and participation in our latest pilot programmes here in Maynooth. There are three things we would love you to do:

Celebrate with us and with our wider community at the 2011 Saint Patrick Breakfast.

This year's event will be held in Carton House and like last year will run from 8.30am to 9.30am sharp

on March 17th. As before, and to enable as many as possible to come, the tickets are partially subsidised by us and will be €12.00 for adults and €6.50 for kids under 12. Children under 4 will be free. The Saint Patrick Breakfast is first and foremost an opportunity for all the different members of our community to meet with one another, enjoy the best of the cultures that now make up our town, and to pause in the midst of our Patron Saint's celebrations to pray for our leaders and those in need around the world. You can reserve your tickets for this at our website: www.saintpatrickfoundation.org.

Join with us in the Saint Patrick Foundation Parade Float.

Especially if you are not originally from Ireland and are now part of our "new" community here in Maynooth, we would love you to walk with us on March 17th and allow all the colour, tradition and fun of your home nation to be enjoyed as part of the spectacle during the Maynooth Parade. Last year we had the flags of almost 30 countries as part of our float and this year we would love you to join us and to wear your national costume as part of what we do. For more information and to register for our parade float please send us your details at

office@saintpatrickfoundation.org or register online by clicking on the REGISTER FOR PARADE button on our website home page.

Help us to choose the recipient of this year's Spirit of Saint Patrick Award.

The Spirit of Saint Patrick Award is a community based award scheme that seeks to honour those who have given significant input to the forming and developing of healthy and inclusive community within our town. Last year we were delighted to have Cllr Brendan Weld, Mayor of Kildare, along to our Breakfast to present the inaugural award to Maynooth Tidy Towns and to have it represented at during the Maynooth Parade. To help us with this year's Award, we would invite you to nominate the person/group that you feel is most deserving this time around. Just send us your name, the person/group you would like to nominate, and why you feel this person/group deserves to win this year's Award to office@saintpatrickfoundation.org. You will again find more information on our website.

The goal of the SPF Patrick Project is to reconnect Saint Patrick's Day to the ancient legacy that gave it birth and to see March 17th become one of the most significant community and reconciliation events in the world's annual calendar. We'd be delighted if you could join us in any of the above and in seeing that goal begin to be realised.

Dr Keith McCrory, Chairman.

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Pet Corner

KOALAS



Koalas aren't bears. They aren't even related to bears. The koala is a small bear-like, tree-dwelling, herbivorous marsupial with big ears and a big nose. They eat only Eucalyptus leaves (also known as gum leaves), and only drinks when ill or times when there is not enough moisture in the leaves (during droughts etc.).

Koalas are related to the kangaroo, but it's closest living relative is the wombat. Adults reach 25 to 30 inches in length and weigh between 15 to 30 pounds.

A koala cub is blind when it's born, and stays in the mother's pouch for 5 months.

The koala can only live in one place in the world, the East coast of Australia (Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia). They live and sleep in the eucalyptus trees (sleeping up to 19 hours a day!). Koalas are mostly nocturnal animals and they are most active during the night and at dawn and dusk, when the hours are cooler and they are less likely to lose precious moisture and energy than they would during the hotter daylight hours. Koalas live for 12 to 16 years in the wild, and up to 20 or more years in captivity.

The koala used to be endangered because people would kill the koala for its fur. But now it's against the law to kill the koala. Over 2 million koalas were killed between 1908 and 1927. Occasionally koalas are taken by Goannas, Eagles, and Owls. Humans are koala's worst enemies. Dingoes will kill the koala. Now there are 2,000 to 8,000 koalas in the wild.

The koala's territory is getting smaller because people are cutting down trees and making farms on them. Koalas can only live in this one place in the world and they only eat Eucalyptus leaves. Koalas in the wild are facing unprecedented pressure as their trees are cleared, existing habitat becomes more vulnerable and isolated and more roads bisect their territories resulting in more koalas being run over.

Loss of koala habitat is the major threat facing koalas today. Since the white settlement of Australia, roughly 80% of the koala's habitat has been destroyed and of what remains, most occurs on privately owned land. Almost none is protected.

Koalas face threats such as road death, dog attack, disease and bushfire. Many are killed by dogs and cars each year. In the 1920s, approximately 3 million koalas were shot for their fur. Today the koala is a protected species but its habitat is not protected.

The only way to save koalas is to save their habitat, the eucalyptus forests where they live, and which they must have to survive. The Australian Koala Foundation is trying to achieve this.



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Enda Clavin & Jane McNulty

This week we say goodbye and good luck to two of our colleagues Enda & Jane who are moving on to greener pastures. May we wish both of them all the best in their further endeavours. You will both be sadly missed from the office as you played such a major role here for the past few years. **Bon Voyage!!!**



Local Band Fever Felt on All Ireland Talent Show

On Sunday Feb. the 6th local band Fever Felt will represent Kildare and the East on RTE's All Ireland Talent Show at 6.30 PM.

Having been successful at the audition stages the band is now looking forward to appearing on the live show and hoping that the local community will get behind them and vote for them on the night.

Fever Felt are regular buskers on Grafton street. Band member Eoghan Konstantin is a transition year student and well known member of his GAA club. Eoghan is also involved with the Kildare GAA Development squad. He plays percussion specializing in Cajon (Wooden Drum).

Lead vocalist Oisín Tarrant is 16 years old. Oisín plays a variety of instruments and composes his own songs for the group. He can be heard on Youtube by entering 'ois94'.

The third band member is twenty year old Cian Tarrant, former under 16 and under 18 concertina champion of Kildare (Fleadh Ceoil). Cian is a 2nd Year Architecture student at UCD and plays Guitar, vocals and harmonica.

All members are former pupils of Scoil Ui Dhalaigh while Oisín and Eoghan are currently attending Colaiste Cois Life. All are very proud of their Gaelscoil and speaking Irish.

The band's influences are The Script, U2, One Republic, Coronas, John Meyer, Damien Rice. For pictures, music and more go to <http://en-gb.facebook.com/feverfelt>

**Make sure to support the lads on the
All Ireland Talent Show on Sunday
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Maynooth Post Primary School 10km Challenge



Entry Form



First Name(s): * _____
 Last Name: * _____
 Gender: * _____
 Email: * _____
 Date of Birth: * _____ (over 16's only)
 Club: _____
 Mobile Number: * _____
 Other Phone Number: _____
 T-Shirt Size (XS, S, M, L, XL): * _____

(* = Must be completed)

Completed applications to be returned to reception of Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road, Maynooth, in an envelope marked "Maynooth 10km Challenge", along with cheque or postal order made out to Maynooth 10km Challenge. Cash not accepted.

Early entry fee of €20 before 17th March. Late entry fee is €25 from 17th March to closing date 13th May.

Online entries can be made at www.runireland.com at the below address:

<http://www.runireland.com/events/maynooth-post-primary-school-10k-challenge-0>

All race information can be found on our facebook page. Search – Maynooth 10km Challenge

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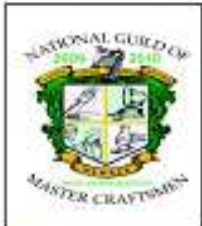


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Maynooth Post Primary School

Junior Gael Linn Debating

The Ulster-Leinster Regional Final of this competition took place on Thursday 13th Jan 2011 in the Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth. Representing Maynooth were Ciana Ni Tharlaigh, Ciara Ni Eislin and Roisin Ni Orain. They were arguing in favour of the motion “is miotas e cairdiúlacht mhuintir na hEireann” (“it’s a myth that Irish people are friendly”). Unfortunately our team narrowly missed out on progression to the next round but well done to our team and thanks to our supporters on the night.

Maynooth 10K Challenge

The launch of the Maynooth 10K Challenge took place on Monday 17th January. This event will be held on May 22nd. It will be a run, walk or crawl for anyone interested, around the historic centre of learning that is Maynooth. We encourage everyone to come and take part. The event is being held to raise money for the development of playing fields on the Moyglare Road. The facility will include 6 pitches and a 1.3k running track. Also provided will be full shower and dressing rooms. The Challenge is proudly supported by Kildare Internet TV and Carton House. Application forms for the run are available at www.runireland.com/events/maynooth-post-primary-school-10k-challenge-o. Also forms will be printed on the Maynooth Newsletter!

Young Scientist

Congratulations to Daniel Hobbs and Cillian Campbell on their recent participation in the BT Young Scientists exhibition.

Musical: Hairspray

The annual Maynooth Post Primary School Musical will run from Feb 9th to 13th. This year energy is high with the all singing all dancing “Hairspray”. Always a huge event in the school calendar, this year is sure to meet all expectations. Rehearsals are well under way; the set is being constructed as we go to print! Don’t miss out. Get your tickets from the school reception now!!

Sport

Congratulations to our Senior Boys Footballers. They won the Leinster VCE Quarter Final against Nobber. Good luck to the lads against Dunlavin in the Semi!

Good luck to the Under 16 Boys who will be playing Naas CBS in the Kildare Championship Semi-final.

Well done to the Under 16s on their success in the Leinster Ladies Football against St Wolstans.



Boys from Maynooth Post Primary
Show off their new GAA Kit

Maynooth Post Primary 10k Challenge Launch



(L –R) Mary Molloy, Fiona Maguire
& Gráinne Egan



(L –R) Gerry Quinn(PTA)
Deirdre O’Brien(Carton House)
Deirdre Glynn(PTA)

Maynooth Post Primary Musical (Hairspray Rehearsal)



TeenSpace Maynooth

A group of dedicated parents and youth leaders have been working away, paving the way to create a Christian Youth Club in Maynooth. This effort resulted in the successful launch of TeenSpace Maynooth on Friday January 21st.

All teens from third to sixth year are welcome to the club, who aims to create a fun, safe and activity filled environment. Teens will have the opportunity to take an active role, build friendships, develop their skills and interests. This will be done in an environment that nurtures curiosity for Christianity and creates space to explore faith.

TeenSpace Maynooth will organize 2 events a month. The upcoming events are on Friday Feb 18th and March 4th from 7-9pm in The Coffee Mill, Mill Street,

Maynooth. The admission fee of €2 will give the teen a free coffee/tea or soft drink and a refill. Snacks and other food will be available for purchase. Come along, bring your friends and let the fun begin!

The group is supported by 4 local Christian churches: St Mary’s Catholic Church, Maynooth Community Church, Life Sanctuary – The Redeemed Christian Church of God and St Mary’s Church of Ireland.

Youth leaders and committee members have been trained and garda vetted by Catholic Youth Care (CYC) and are all participating on a voluntary basis. For further information, you can contact Mieke Sanders, chairperson of TeenSpace at 086 100 94 84.

TeenSpace Maynooth@The Coffee Mill



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Party Political-Labour News

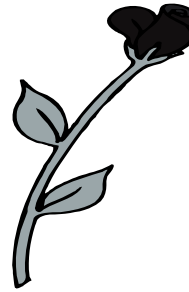


Emmet Stagg T.D.

Maynooth Labour News



Cllr. John McGinley



Maynooth Labour News

Cllr. McGinley Wants an End to Illegal Parking at Parson Street:

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

"That the Garda at senior level be asked to ensure that parking regulations are adhered to in Parsons Street, Maynooth in order to put an end to cars and four wheeled vehicles parking on the footpath and in order to permit vehicles to drive in two lanes".

John got the following reply from the Director of Services:

"I have written to the Chief Superintendent as per the members request at the November meeting. I will advise the members when a response is received. The Council have also asked the Litter/Parking Wardens to monitor this area."

Cllr. McGinley Wants the Pathway From the Train Station to The Harbour, Maynooth Tarred:

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

"That the pathway from the train station canal bridge to the Harbour, Maynooth, be tarred out of next years Road Works Budget."

John got the following reply from the Director of Services:

"This is not the property of Kildare County Council and any funding available to us in 2011 will need to be spent on roads and footpaths in our ownership."

Cllr. McGinley asked the Council to write to Waterways Ireland about the need to repair this much used pathway.

Cllr. McGinley calls for Improved Sightline at Exit from Beaufield:

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

"That measures be taken to improve the sightline for motorists turning left onto Newtown Road when exiting from Beaufield Housing Estate."

John got the following reply from the Director of Services:

"Road Design will carry out a detailed survey at this location to determine what problems exist and what solutions will be best and safe at this location. It may be beneficial if Cllr. McGinley could meet someone from the Road Design Office on site to discuss."

Name Sign to be Erected at Meadowbrook Link Road.

As a result of a motion from Cllr. John McGinley the Council will erect a sign naming the new road at Straffan Wood as the Meadowbrook Link Road.

Provision of Traffic signals Straffan Road/ Meadowbrook Link Road junction?

Cllr. John McGinley got the following reply from the Director of Services to his motion on this important issue:

"On 6th April 2010 I wrote to the developer regarding planning permission no. 08/2174 and the condition therein to provide traffic signals at the Straffan Road / Meadowbrook Link Road Junction. I have never received a response to this correspondence. The Planning permission that was granted is still valid and the condition states that the junction should be signalised."

Cllr. McGinley stated that as Dublin Bus intended moving the terminus from this location that the ideal solution would be to provide a roundabout here instead of more lights

Proposed Maynooth Parking By-Laws

It was agreed at a meeting of the Celbridge Area Committee of the Council on 12 January that the proposed Maynooth Parking By-Laws would go on public display so that members of the public could make their views known. It was agreed that the By-Laws would not be implemented until there was additional car parking capacity provided in the town centre. The Council are at present seeking an extension to the existing car park behind Caulfields.

It was also agreed that the Council would hold an information meeting in the town during the public display period where people could ask questions on the proposals.

Provision of Allotments

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

"That the bottom of The Harbour Field, Maynooth, behind the town side goal posts, be used for allotments in order to overcome the problems in providing them at Carton Avenue/The Boreen."

Poor Road Markings in Maynooth

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

"That the following road markings in Maynooth be re-painted in the interest of public safety:

- Yellow boxes at the two exits from the College to Parsons Street
- The yellow boxes at the Roost and at Buckley House on Main Street
- Along Mill Street and at the Boys School
- The yellow box at the exit from Greenfield Shopping Centre

STAGG AND MCGINLEY CRITICAL OF FAILURE TO USE FULL CAPACITY OF MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY CARE UNIT

Deputy Emmet Stagg questioned the Minister for Health in relation to the reasons for the failure to operate the Maynooth Community Care Unit at The Harbour in Maynooth at full capacity.

The HSE responding to Deputy Stagg on behalf of Minister of State Aine Brady T.D. stated that the optimal bed capacity of the Maynooth Community Care Unit was 44 and at present 39 patients are using the facility. They indicated that the range and level of services would remain under constant review but that the impact of the moratorium on staff recruitment and the current budgetary position continues to challenge their capacity to maintain the existing level of services.

Reacting to the response Deputy Stagg and Cllr. McGinley stated that it was unacceptable to leave 5 beds empty at the State run facility whilst so many senior citizens required full time nursing home care. The facility is a State of the Art facility built at a cost of €5.4 Million in 2002. In addition, whilst it would not have made a major impact on patients in hospital who are ready to discharge but who still occupy acute beds in hospitals, its ridiculous to leave 5 empty beds in Maynooth thus adding to the pressures we saw in A & E in Naas General Hospital last week. The Government and our absent Minister for Health seem quite happy to leave beds closed in our General Hospitals and Community Hospitals.

In conclusion Deputy Stagg and Cllr. McGinley stated that the operation of such facilities reflected the ineptitude of the Government itself in managing our affairs.

Cllr. John McGinley can be contacted at:

6285293h ; 087 9890645
E mail jmginley@eircom.net
Web: www.labour.ie/johnmginley/
John is also on Facebook



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Party Political - Áine Brady T.D.

Intel Investment a strong vote of confidence in Ireland

Local TD and Minister of State, Aine Brady, has welcomed Intel's announcement that it is to begin a **\$500m upgrade** of its facilities at its Leixlip campus, with the creation of **850 construction jobs** and an additional **200 jobs** at the campus as a result of the upgrade.

'This is a significant announcement by Intel, not only for Kildare, but also for the country. **It reflects the resilience of the Irish Economy, its improving competitiveness in terms of Labour Costs and Construction Costs, demonstrates the importance of our corporation tax policy and is a strong vote of confidence in the quality of our workforce.**'

Since I got elected in 2007, I have kept in regular contact with Intel, given its significance as an employer in North Kildare. I have witnessed Intel build strong links with Kildare, both in terms of appointing NUI Maynooth as its Global Education Partner and in its Intel Volunteer Programme which provided much needed resources for local sports and community organisations.

In recent years, Intel chose its Leixlip plant as one of the two European Research and Development hubs which is also positive news for Leixlip and demonstrates that Kildare is still attractive for inward investment.

Supporting older people in Budget 2011 – Brady

Kildare North Fianna Fáil TD and Minister of State with responsibility for older people, Áine Brady has welcomed the support older people in Budget 2011.

This is a challenging budget but one very welcome aspect is the **support for older people with the safeguarding of the State Pension, additional fuel allowance and extra funding for Home Care Packages.**"

We have significantly increased the State Pension over the last ten years and I am happy to see that this is now protected.

There will be an additional payment of **€40 to each household** in receipt of the fuel allowance payment.

For those older people who need some additional practical support, I am very pleased that additional funding has been made available for the expansion of the Home Care Package Initiative.

New measures to help homeowners in arrears

Recommendations made by an expert group set up to look into the issue of personal debt and mortgage arrears have the support of the government and will be implemented shortly. Included in these recommendations are

A **Deferred Interest Scheme for borrowers** can pay at least 66% of the interest. This would give borrowers up to 5 years to get back on their feet."

Lenders should consider facilitating borrowers



Áine Brady, Fianna Fáil T.D.

Working For You In Your Area

Contact Details

Dáil office: Dáil Eireann, Kildare Street, Dublin 2
Maynooth Constituency Office: No. 4 Centre Point Mall, Maynooth

Tel: 01 618 3057, **Fax:** 0 618 4510

E-mail: aine.brady@oireachtas.ie

Advice Centre Details:

Every Monday at 11.30 am	Constituency Office, No. 4 Centre Point Mall, Maynooth
1st Monday of every month at 8 pm	Leixlip GAA
Every Monday at 2.30 pm	Fianna Fáil Office, Main St., Celbridge
1st Monday of every month at 7 pm	O'Keefe's, Kilcock



in negative equity who wish to **trade down to a more affordable home.**

Where a mortgage is unsustainable, **assessment for social housing should be done before repossession takes place.** A mechanism is recommended to allow repossessed borrowers to remain in their homes for a time, allowing the housing authority time to source appropriate accommodation.

It is furthermore recommended that a **statutory non-judicial debt settlement system** should be established. The **MABS National Telephone Helpline – 1890 283 438** is available from 9am to 8pm Monday to Friday and the MABS website can be accessed 24 hours a day at www.mabs.ie.

Local MABS Address:

MABS, Unit 3, Millenium House, Harbour View, Kilcock, Co. Kildare

Tel: (01) 6284466 **Fax:** (01) 66284469

Email: kilcock@mabs.ie

See also website – www.keepingyourhome.ie

Fuel Allowance -

A Fuel Allowance is a payment under the National Fuel Scheme to **help with the cost of heating your home.** It is paid to **people who are dependant 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 the **end of September to May.** Further details on the scheme can be obtained from the **Social Welfare Services Office, Government Buildings, Ballinalee Road County: Longford. Tel: (043) 334 0000 Locall: 1890 927 770 or from my constituency office – 01 6183057**
Two New Secondary Schools Planned for North Kildare says Brady

Local TD and Minister of State, Aine Brady, has confirmed that two new secondary schools are planned for North Kildare, **one in Maynooth** and the other in Naas.

Over the last year, I have met with the Minister for Education and Department of Education Officials, on a number of occasions, to outline the need to plan for the

establishment of new secondary schools to cater for the demographic growth in the school going population in North Kildare.

In recent years, we have made significant progress with improving our school buildings. **Even now, work is on-going with**

a new school **Gaelscoil Ui Fhiach in Maynooth**

a new **National School in Ardclough,**

a new **National School in Kill,**

an extensions **Scoil Choca Naofa in Kilcock,**

an extension to **Carragh NS,**

an extension at the **CBS in Naas.**

In the last three years, we have completed an extension to the **three schools in Maynooth (Boys National School, Girls National School, Secondary School).**

In addition

Approval given to **Kildare VEC** to purchase facility at Manor Mills Maynooth, which will be home to an **Integrated Further Education and Training (FET) Campus.**

Kildare VEC has been given approval to purchase land on the Moyglare Road for **future Educational requirement of the area.** It could potentially be a home for a Gael Colaiste in the future – given that we have three Primary Gael Scoils in the North Kildare area.

This week, I have been informed that the following schools - **projects where briefs are prepared in 2011 and the process of appointing a Design Team will commence** include,

a new school for **St Patrick's in Celbridge,**

an extension to **Mercy NS in Naas,**

an extension to **St Joseph's in Kilcock,**

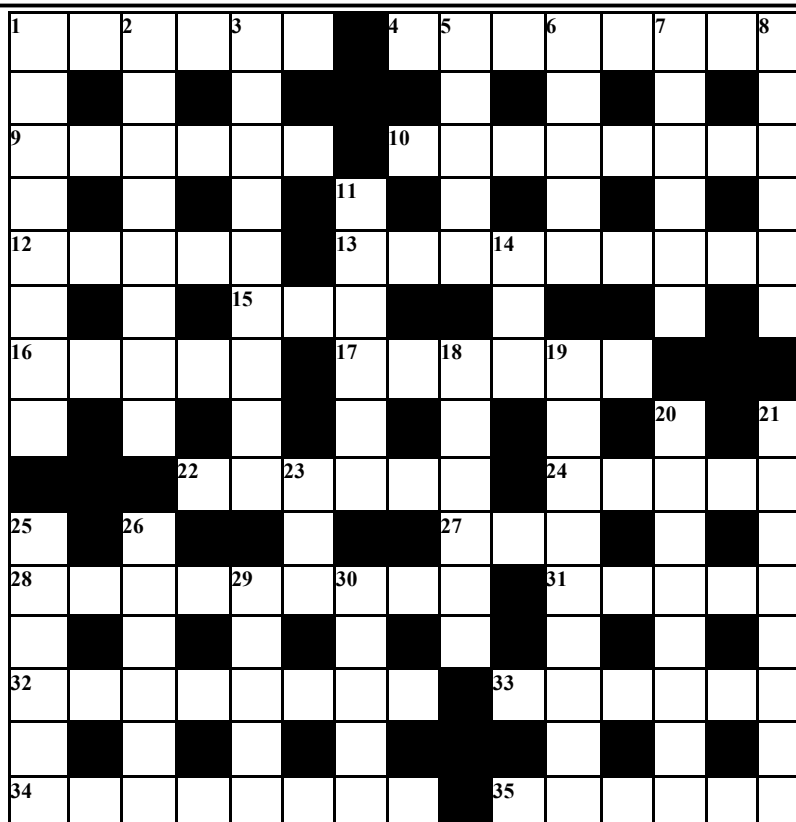
a new **St David's NS in Naas,**

an extension to **SN Bhride NS, Prosperous Road, Clane.**

February 2011 Crossword —No: 388

ACROSS

1. Impressive displays (6)
4. Sharp spasms of pain (8)
9. Without equal (6)
10. A flower, I swear it (8)
12. Carrying out action (5)
13. Flapping, hesitating (9)
15. Lacking self-confidence (3)
16. "She walks in beauty, like the" (Byron) (5)
17. Walked lamely (6)
22. Jail (6)
24. Blunder, slip (5)
27. Portion of a circle (3)
28. Putting tags on (9)
31. Leaping amphibians (5)
32. International boundary (8)
33. Observe, perceive (6)
34. Unexpectedly, abruptly (8)
35. Agreement (6)



DOWN

1. Plentiful, ample (8)
2. Protective barriers (8)
3. Child, minor (9)
5. Contaminate (5)
6. Lord, sir or doctor, say (5)
7. Showing extreme courage (6)
8. Describes thick and poorly groomed hair (6)
11. Episodes of pastoral or romantic charm (6)
14. This joint is trendy (3)
18. Handle, run (6)
19. Particles with a negative charge (9)
20. Co-ordinate, set up (8)
21. Look for valuable minerals (8)
23. Not in good health (3)
25. Steep faces of rock (6)
26. Overseas (6)
29. Metric unit of capacity (5)
30. Something that one hopes to attain (5)

Solutions to No. 387



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Winner of Crossword No 387:

Affric Egan
 Parsons Hall, Maynooth

Difficult

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

Sudoku Challenge



Super Difficult

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

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

Send completed puzzles to
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Entries must arrive before: 21st Feb. 2011

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Phone: _____

**Congratulations to
 Dec/January Winner:**

**Patrick O'Donogue
 Kinsbry Maynooth**

Party Political-Michael Fitzpatrick T.D.

Home ownership incentive for long term Council Tenants

Deputy Michael Fitzpatrick T.D. has welcomed the announcement in the Budget of the intention to make the terms of the existing tenant purchase scheme more attractive.

The Minister has advised that for this year tenants will be able to avail of a discount of up to 45% on the market price of a house they are eligible to purchase under the scheme. This is a temporary increase from the maximum 30% discount normally available. The 30% discount is accumulated over a 10 year period at a rate of 3% for each year of the tenancy. **The revised temporary arrangements will allow tenants to accumulate the 45% discount over a 15 year period, also at a rate of 3% for each year of the tenancy. The revised arrangements will thus be of particular benefit to long-term tenants.**

A key aim of Government housing policy is to support the development of sustainable communities with a mix of residents enjoying a tenure of their choice. The tenant purchase scheme has made a significant contribution in this area and before the scheme concludes, to be replaced by the new incremental purchase scheme which was introduced in 2010 and which already applies to the purchase of new local authority houses, the more favourable terms now being introduced will provide a final opportunity for eligible tenants to avail of the scheme.

This more favourable tenant purchase scheme will ensure that a significant number of long-term social housing tenants will now have a better opportunity of purchasing their homes.

An estimated 45,000 local authority tenancies have been in place for 10 years or longer.

Full details of the scheme, including in respect of the loan finance are available from local authorities, permitting the expanded scheme to be introduced since 1 January.

Register of Electors – check the register now to ensure you can vote.

The Local authority is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the Register of electors. Deputy Michael Fitzpatrick is advising people to check with Kildare County Council directly by email on regelectors@kildarecoco.ie or by telephone on 045 980201 or alternatively check www.checktheregister.ie to see if they are registered to vote in the forthcoming general election.

The new Register of Electors will be published on 1 February 2011 and will come into force on 15 February 2011. Anyone that Qualifies to go on the Register and who is not on it can avail of the supplement to the Register up until 15 days before polling day. You can apply to go on the supplement at any time but if you miss the 15 day deadline before polling day the application will not be taken into account for that election.

Application forms (RFA 2) are available from Kildare County Council and can be downloaded from <http://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/PrintingForms/RegisterofElectors/>



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 Leixlip Town Councillor is Bernard Caldwell
Contact 086 2653455



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Each application for entry to the supplement to the Register must be signed in the applicant's local Garda station in the presence of a member of the Garda Síochána, who must first be satisfied as to the person's identity before signing, dating and stamping the form. The Garda may request photographic or other identification. Where the applicant is unable to go to the local Garda station, and sets out the reason in writing, the form can be signed in the presence of an official of their registration authority. Again, photographic or other identification may be required. If neither option is viable due to physical illness or physical disability, the application form must be accompanied by a medical certificate.

Issued on On behalf of **Michael Fitzpatrick T.D.**
Tel: 045 888438
Email: Michael.fitzpatrick@oireachtas.ie
January 2011

Public Notice

There have been a number of attacks on people in the locality in recent months as they walk home at night.

In the interest of personal safety can we remind people not to walk alone at night.

If you see anything suspicious please report it to the Gardaí to help prevent further incidents

Maynooth Citizens Information - Centre Know Your Rights

Citizens Information Phone Service, LoCall 1890 777 121.

Question

What is the new Universal Social Charge? Who has to pay it?

Answer

The Universal Social Charge is a new tax payable on your gross income. It is payable on notional income (benefit in kind payments) and it is deducted before pension contributions. It replaces the health contribution and the income levy and comes into effect on 1 January 2011. It does not replace the Pay Related Social Insurance (PRSI) system.

Everyone (including medical card holders) is liable to pay the Universal Social Charge if their gross income is over the threshold of €4,004 in a year. All Department of Social Protection payments (including State pensions and Child Benefit) and similar payments (for example, CE schemes and Back to Education Allowance) and income on which DIRT has been paid are exempt.

The rates of the Universal Social Charge are:

- 2% on the first €10,036
- 4% on the next €5,980
- 7% on the balance

People over 70 are not liable for the 7% rate but pay at 2% on income up to €10,036 and at 4% on all their income above €10,036.

The Universal Social Charge will be deducted from all income. If you have earned less than €4,004 during the year, you can apply to your local Revenue office for a refund at the end of the year.

Question

I am on Jobseeker's Allowance. I have three boys aged 15, 17 and 18. They are all in full-time education. I stopped getting Child Benefit for my 18-year old in 2010 but I got an extra payment of €15 every week with my qualified child payment for him. Will I get this in 2011 when my next child turns 18?

Answer

Child Benefit was discontinued for children aged 18 from January 2010 (regardless of whether they are in education or not). In 2010 parents

dependent on social welfare payments got a special compensatory payment of €15 per week for dependent children aged 18.

This compensatory payment will no longer be paid in 2011. This means that when your second son turns 18 you will no longer get Child Benefit nor a compensatory payment for him. However you continue to be entitled to an increase for a qualified child with your social welfare payment for any children in full-time education (until they are 22). This remains at €29.80 per week in 2011.

You should also remember that when your 15-year old turns 16 in 2011, you will need to confirm that he is still in full-time education to ensure that Child Benefit continues to be paid. You should fill in a Child Benefit form (CB2) one month before his 16th birthday. Since you are already getting Child Benefit for him, the Child Benefit section of the Department of Social Protection will send you the application form. This form must also be signed and officially stamped by:

- The school or college if your child is in full-time education
- FÁS if your child is on a full-time Youthreach course
- A doctor if your child has a disability

Question

What are my consumer rights when I buy something in the sales? Can I return sales items?

Answer

Your consumer rights during a sale are exactly the same as at any other time of the year.

Goods should be of merchantable quality, fit for their intended purpose and as described. If they are not, you are entitled to a repair, replacement or refund. The legislation does not specify whether it is the retailer/supplier or the customer who decides which form of redress is offered.

If you have a problem with goods you bought at full price which are now on sale at a reduced price, you are entitled to a refund of the full price (if the shop is willing to offer a refund).

However you are not entitled to an exchange (or a refund or a credit note) simply because you change your mind about something you've bought in a shop, whether this is during the sales or at any other time of the year. Many shops do allow you to exchange goods that you've had second thoughts about, but this is at their discretion. It's a good idea to check the shop's refund policy before buying anything.

If you buy goods at full price but change your mind about them, and they are now on sale at a lower price, you may only be offered the reduced amount (if the shop is willing to offer your money back). You should always keep your receipts as proof of purchase and the price paid.

For more information visit the National Consumer Agency's website at consumerconnect.ie.

Question

I am a medical card holder. My pharmacy recently charged me above the monthly cap of €10 for my prescriptions. Why did this happen?

Answer

If you have a medical card, you are charged 50c for each prescription item you receive. Usually your pharmacy keeps records of how much you have paid and makes sure that you do not pay more than €10 each month on prescription charges. However you may use different pharmacies in the same month or your family members may not have the same medical card number (for example, where a different doctor is used by the family) and you may end up paying above the cap of €10 per family per month.

If a person or family pay more than €10, the HSE will issue a refund at the end of the quarter, without you needing to apply. This is done on the basis of the information received from the dispensing pharmacy.

However, if you think that you have not received the refund due you can also claim directly from the HSE using a special refund claim form (available from your Local Health Office). An online version of the form is available on medicalcard.ie.

It is important for all your family members to be grouped together so you do not pay more than the cap per month for their prescriptions. A family is you, your spouse/partner and your children under 21 who are in full-time education. You can check on medicalcard.ie whether all members of your family are grouped together. If not you can set your family up as a family group on medicalcard.ie and print off a certificate (family certificate) to give to your pharmacist. You can also contact your Local Health Office or call 1890 252 919 to provide your family details and a certificate will be posted out.

UNIVERSITY OF THIRD AGE

Another year has drawn to a close. An apt opportunity to express our appreciation and gratitude. Thank you to all our members who dusted off their knitting needles, at very short notice and got involved in the Age Action 'Big Knit' campaign. The goal was to produce 80,000 mini-hats nationally. These adorned all 'innocent' smoothie bottles during December, with 25c from each sale going to Age Action.

Delighted to be able to report that our Book Club membership has dramatically expanded since September. Our most recent book was Felicias's Journey by William Trevor. A short but chilling read. Definitely engaging but perhaps best read during daylight hours! Consequently it made for a lively and animated discussion. On behalf of our group can we say 'thank you' to June who has facilitated the book club but also for the chats and cuppa. We will miss you and wish you well in Leixlip.

We had our musical theatre classes which proved very popular. Any initial reluctance soon gave way to spontaneity and creativity. Everyone's input was really appreciated. Furthermore we now have a lovely video of the Grand Finale thanks to Mattie Callaghan, a man of many talents. As a group we are very grateful to Kildare County Council Arts Service who funded this project under the Awards & Opportunities 2010.

Next on our agenda was the annual carol singing in aid of Pieta House, Lucan. With our new found confidence we strutted off to the Manor Mills Shopping Centre for an afternoon of carols. Thank you to Joe Buckley for taking time out of his own busy schedule to rehearse and perform with us and for rallying the musicians on the day. You so enhanced our performance.

We are all thrilled to be back in action again, having been housebound during the snow and ice. It looks like this is going to be an action packed year with lots of ideas and suggestions already on the table. Thanks to the generosity of Paddy Reid, creative writing teacher and recent prize winner we are now progressing nicely through a creative writing course. Patricia, congratulations on your publication. All your own work, I hope!

As we leave behind a year full of activities, adventure, learning and most importantly fun and friendship, we say thanks to all who contributed in making this happen. Most importantly we would like to acknowledge the support of the Community Library Staff throughout the year.

Information : Bernadette 6289131

Presentation Convent Girls' NS St. Mary's Boys' NS Maynooth, Co. Kildare

Enrolment Week for New School Year - September 2011

Parents/Guardians are welcome to each school to enrol your child during the week:
Mon 14th - Fri 18th February
copy of your child's Birth & Baptismal Certificates and his/her PPS Number are required.

Children must be 4 years of age by August 31st 2011

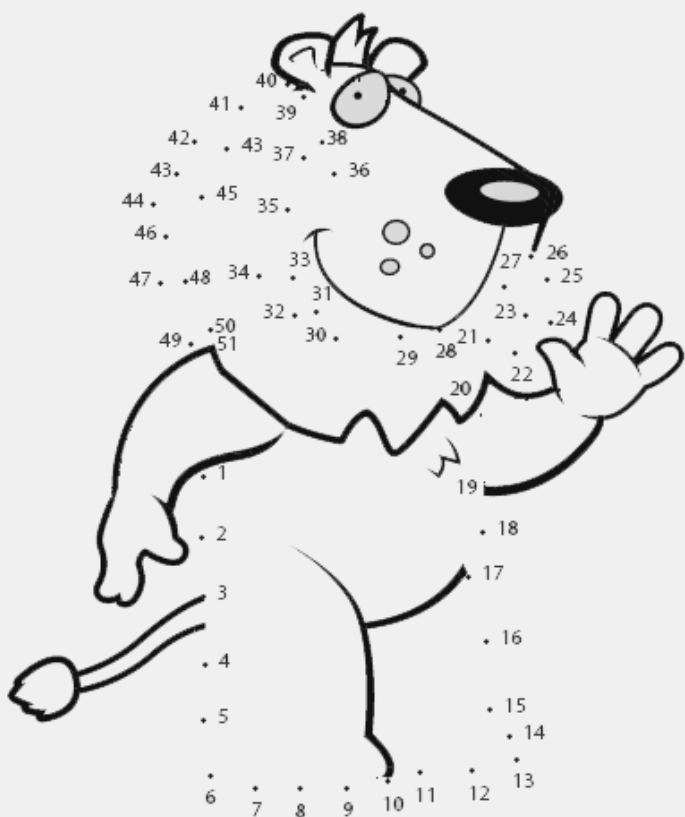
Ph: Girls' School - 01 6286034 Boys' School - 01 6293021

FIND THE HIDDEN WORDS

D	F	Q	N	W	G	M	H
M	Z	P	Z	V	P	R	A
L	Y	C	B	A	L	L	L
M	K	A	D	W	N	Z	L
R	J	L	Y	A	M	B	M
T	T	L	X	L	P	K	G
F	A	L	L	L	V	K	Y
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Dec/Jan WINNERS;

Age: 3—5 : No winner

Age: 6—7 : Conor Mooney - Ladychapel

Age: 7 & Over: Sinéad Crowley

Prizes for Colouring Competition can be collected at:

Maynooth Community Council Office, Unit 5 Tesco Shopping Centre,



February in the Garden



With spring just around the corner (hopefully) the month of February is your last chance to get many jobs done around the garden. There are signs of growth, which is great to see—snowdrops on the way and buds on the trees.

Even though it may still be cold, damp and miserable outdoors, an occasional dose of sunshine could certainly put the gardening bug into you. With a little luck, Mother Nature will send a few blossoms your way this month. We are now at a time when we can no longer put off those garden projects, waiting for a nice day..... Don't be caught off guard though, winter is far from being over! If exceptionally cold weather is forecast, provide protection to early flowering or tender plants by covering them with some type of cloth material. Remove the covering as soon as the weather moderates again.

Mid to late February is the time to fertilize shrubs and evergreens. Use an acid type rhododendron fertilizer to feed evergreens, conifers, broad leaf evergreens, rhododendrons, azaleas and camellias. Use an all-purpose fertilizer to feed roses and other deciduous trees and shrubs. If you use dry type fertilizers, be sure to water it in thoroughly.

If it is mild enough, now is a good time to divide, clumps of Perennials that have been undisturbed for year's. Perennials planted now will get a head start before the growing season begins.

Pansies and Primroses should be regularly deadheaded at this time of year to encourage them to flower well into spring.

Prune your summer flowering clematis right down to the lowest pair of spring buds.

Check ties on trees and shrubs to make sure that they are not too tight and cutting into the bark.

At this time of year it is important to rake fallen leaves and other debris off your lawn and try not to walk on the grass when there is frost on the ground as this can cause serious damage.

Clean pots and seed trays by giving them a good wash with hot water and washing up liquid, rinse them with clean water, this will prevent pests and diseases in old compost from spreading to your new plants.

If you are lucky enough to have a pond make sure that it is cleared of leaves and other debris regularly as this will prevent disease from harming your fish. If you have fish in your pond it's a good idea to float a ball on it as this will prevent the whole pond from freezing and starving your fish of oxygen.



Perennials, annuals, and bulbs

Plants which may have been pushed out of the ground by frost heave should be pressed firmly back into place.

Plant daylilies, bleeding hearts, and plantain lilies this month.

Deciduous vines such as honeysuckle should be pruned and shaped.

Most perennials may be divided and moved up until they begin to show new growth.

Check your stored plants such as Fuchsias and geraniums, and if they are shrivelled water them lightly.

Summer flowering bulbs may try to start into growth if they are subjected to heat. They should be kept very dry, and stored at 45 degrees F. If they are shrivelling, put them into slightly damp peat moss, but keep them cool!

If you plan to grow lobelia, ageratum, verbena, petunia, vinca, or other plants from scratch, the seeds should be started indoors in the later part of the month.

Climbing roses should be thinned out to get rid of last years tangled growth.

Odds and ends

House plants may notice the longer days, and begin growing. You can begin feeding them again, but use a dilute 50% fertilizer mix until the growth is robust.

Continue feeding our feathered friends, you'll want them to stick around to help you in insect control when the weather warms again. Food supplies may be almost exhausted, and in chilly weather many birds spend almost their entire waking moments searching for food, to ensure they have enough reserves each night to survive the bitter cold. Your generous tables, feeders and titbits are incredibly important to our wildlife.

The best time to spot frogs is during the breeding season when adults lay frogspawn in ponds between February and March

Did you check your garden tools yet? Don't wait 'til the spring rush to get your mower back in shape!

In the event of snow, be sure to shake or brush off the white stuff from the branches of your evergreens and shrubs.

Invitation

to parents and prospective parents



OPEN DAY

9:30 - 12:30 p.m.

Thursday 17th February 2011

at
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Maynooth



'Beidh fáilte roimh cách...

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E-mail: presgirls_las@eircom.net



HAPPY VALENTINES DAY TO ALL OUR READERS

Maynooth Boys' NS Open Day

Wednesday 16th February

There will be 2 separate sessions
- morning & afternoon

Please check school website for times

www.maynoothbns.ie

or Phone: 01 6293021

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



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