

Maynooth Newsletter



Serving the people of Maynooth

March 2012

Local News

FREE

Gaelscoil Ui Fhiaich Confirmation Day

Fairtrade Fortnight 2012 February 27th to March 11th



Múinteoir: Dónal Mac Niocaill with Pupils Sarah Hayes, Holly Chavelly, Cáimhe Hughes, Méabh Doran, Sarah Skelton and Katy Marrick



Aisling Tracy and Family with Celebrant Dónal de Róiste



Through your purchase of products with the Fairtrade mark you support farmers in the developing world to get a fair price for their goods. In recognition of this support Maynooth was designated as a "Fairtrade town" in 2006, the first town in County Kildare to achieve this recognition. The

designation of the town followed a successful community and university campaign that secured Fairtrade status for NUI, Maynooth, and the first Fairtrade university in the Republic.

Maynooth joined a global movement that supports fair treatment for producers who otherwise faced discrimination on price and access to market. According to Paul Croghan, Maynooth Fairtrade Committee member, the global Fairtrade movement has made a significant impact and this is celebrated each year during Fairtrade Fortnight which will take place this year from February 27th to March 11th when we are reminded to continue our commitment. For 2012 we are urged to take A STEP for Fairtrade with the encouragement to buy Fairtrade cotton products.

Fairtrade designated towns have local voluntary committees whose role is to monitor the supply of Fairtrade products in local shops. Paul Croghan believes that this work has become much easier in recent years with the expanding number of products and outlets that sell Fairtrade products. Many of your normal purchases are now available from Fairtrade producers and people buy them as a matter of course.



To mark Fairtrade Fortnight 2012, President Higgins hosted an event in the Aras on February 28th attended by volunteers from Fairtrade towns across Ireland. Maynooth was represented by Prof. John Sweeney, Secretary of Maynooth Fairtrade Town Committee.

**Would you like to take part in this year's
St. Patrick's Parade?
Application Form page 25
Also see Larine Court Preparations Page 14-15**

MARCH **@The Roost**

NO 1 ENTERTAINMENT VENUE

1ST THURSDAY

**FOXY AND THE
GOOD HANDS**

3RD SATURDAY

UNUSUAL SUSPECTS & DJ

4TH SUNDAY

The Chase



Monday 5th

Wednesday 7th

**AMAZING
APPLES**

No Cover Charge

Thursday 8th

REVENGE

No Cover Charge followed by Dj

10th

Saturday
**RICO
GROOVE
& dj**



**CHRISTY
MOORE**
Tribute

11TH SUNDAY

oasis



Tribute

Monday 12th

15th Thursday **J90**

17th Sat The Gypsies 11/1

18th Sunday

beatles for sale

22th Thursday

**Dakota 5
& Dj**

24th Saturday

**Grammercy Riff
& DJ**

25th Sunday

**Bog of
the Lough**

26th Monday

**the
harleys**

29th Thursday

**31G
GENERATOR**



31st Saturday

**UNUSUAL
SUSPECT**

TUESDAY'S FUN QUIZ FRIDAY'S RUDA, ENDECI, DJ



www.louisfitzgerald.com/roost





Phantom of the Opera

Maynooth Post Primary
Transition Year Students



Phantom: Paul Mescal Age 16
Carlotta: Niamh Murray Age 16
Madame Girya: Allison O'Dea Age 16
Buquet: David Folan Age 16
M. Leffevre: Eadbhard Pernot Age 16
Police Chief: Peter Dunlea Age 16

Christine Daée: Jessica Hackett Age 16
Piangi: Eoin Mc Cormack Age 16
Firmin: Gary Biggs Age 16
Auctioneer: Anthony Barrett Age 16
Don Attilio: Andrew Boland Age 16
Porter: Rhys Connolly Age 16

Raoul: Josh Hurley Age 16
Meg Giry: Hazel Madden Age 16
Andre: Philip Darragh Age 16
M. River: Seamus Ó'Sé Age 16
Passarino: Johnathan Agbor Age 15
Madame Firmin: Niamh Feeney Age 16



Caulfield's Bar

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21st, 30's, 50's, 60's, etc.

Christenings * Communions

Confirmations * Weddings

MONDAY

CURRY EVENING

5 - 8

2 for £12

(Chicken Curry & Rice)

TUESDAY / WED./ THURS.

BURGER EVENINGS

5 - 8

2 for €12

FRIDAY

FISH & CHIPS

2 for €12

SATURDAY

MAIN COURSES

€10

**FREE BACK LOUNGE FOR
HIRE WITH DJ
FOR PARTIES OVER 100
PEOPLE**

**FRIDAY NITE TRAD NITE
10 - CLOSE**

**SUNDAY LIVE MUSIC IN BAR
6 - 8pm**

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Noreen's Grooming Room



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For appointment contact Noreen at
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- ✿ Keep your dog clean and smelling fresh.



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March Diary Planner

I.C.A.

Meetings take place every 1st Thursday of the month at 8.00pm. in the I.C.A. Hall in the Harbour. Crafts Every Monday Night at 8.00pm.
New members welcome

Parent & Toddler Group

Every Tuesday from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. in the Community Space, Manor Mills Shopping Centre.

Irish Girl Guides

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

Senior Citizens Club

Our A.G.M will take place on March 6th at 8pm in the Health Centre.
Our Easter Tea-Dance will be on Sun. April 15th

Taekwon-Do

Children's Classes for 5 years and up held every Wednesday in St. Marys 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

8th Kildare Maynooth Scouts

Fund raising quiz in Bradys on Fri 2nd March @ 8pm. Table of 4 €20. On St Patricks Day we have The Everest Challenge 8am -5pm in the Town Square, there is a 4 sided climbing wall and its open to all. It cost €5 for as many climbs as your able for. All monies raised go to a new scout den in the Geraldine hall

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

University of Third Age (U3A)

Weekly meetings on Tuesday & Friday in Maynooth Community Space, Manor Mills.
New Members Welcome
Enquiries : Bernadette
Phone: 6289131

Community Library

Opening Times
Mondays & Fridays 2pm to 5pm
Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm to 8pm
Wednesday 9.30am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm
Saturday 9.30am to 1pm

Tidy Towns

Bag pack will take place on Friday 2nd March and Saturday 3rd of March in Tesco to raise funds for Maynooth Tidy Towns

WEE Ireland will be in Maynooth Tesco carpark on Saturday 24th March from 10am to 4pm
Anything with a plug or battery can be recycled

Table Quiz will take place in Bradys Clock House on Friday 30th March from 8.30pm €10 per person, tables of four

If you would like Your event for April put into The Diary please contact The Newsletter
Phone 01 6585922/6285053

Titanic – A Maynooth Connection

Charlie Mitchell is eight years old and is in Second class in Maynooth Educate Together, his teacher is Elaine Phelan. When Charlie's Granda passed away in 2007 he left his treasured Titanic book to him. As Charlie read about the bulk heads, lifeboats and boilers on-board, I was half listening, but when he mentioned a passenger name 'Edith Nile Peacock', a window on another time slowly began to open. Charlie had discovered completely by chance his Grannys great aunt drowned on the ship in 1912. Charlie's Granny is called Yvonne Nile, yet no one in Charlie's family knew Edith existed; the story had been lost over time. So when Charlie Googled Edith, his passion was ignited.

Edith Nile Peacock was one of 11 children born into a two roomed miner's cottage in Carnkie in Cornwall. She met her husband Benjamin and they married and had two children. Her husband was offered a job in Elizabeth, New Jersey and took that opportunity and travelled there in 1911. He would send for his family when he got settled. In spring 2012 the money from Benjamin arrived and Edith booked herself, her three year old daughter (Treastall) and a son of seven months (Alfie) onto the Titanic.



Edith Nile Peacock



Charlie and his sister Aoife

There are two versions of that fateful night. One is that a crew-man was helping Edith into the lifeboat and was holding the baby, tragically he slipped from his grasp and fell into the icy waters - Edith and her daughter jumped in to save poor Alfie: All three drowned. Another version is that they remained on-board, as spaces in the lifeboats were severely restricted for Third Class passengers, and they went down with the ship.

The story of Edith had been lost over time. As we researched more of Edith she became a real person, and she was given a second chance to tell her story to a new generation.

When Titanic Artefacts Exhibition came to Dublin in 2010, Charlie went to the event and at the beginning got a random Boarding Card – and you guessed it - Charlie read aloud that he had Edith Nile Peacock's. When Robert Ballard (who discovered Titanic on the sea bed) heard this he introduced himself to Charlie he was amazed at the co-incidence.

The co-incidences didn't stop there. Charlie told Edith's story to his friend Liam whose Dad was one of the architects on the new Titanic Belfast building in Belfast. All Charlie's information and images were emailed to the new Titanic landmark building and Edith now will be part of the display.

Charlie Mitchell has spoken at length and repeatedly about Edith - his Granny's Great Aunt – he has re-told the story to his relatives, stood in front of the class and recounted the story, and indeed became something of a Titanic expert. But most importantly he gave Edith a second chance to tell her story. No one in the Mitchell family knew of her, until Charlie noticed 'Nile' an unusual surname, in the Titanic book.

We contacted the Irish Titanic Historical Society and due to Edith we are now joining the society and will be in Cobh on 14th April for the commemoration service. Thanks to Charlie, we will remember a young woman of 26, thousands of miles from home, a woman who had lost one baby in pregnancy and was about to lose her life and her family on Titanic.



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Maynooth Musical Society

<http://www.maynoothmusicalsociety.ie>

1. Table Quiz!!!

We will have the final round of our roll over table quiz on March 5th, 8pm in O' Neill's Bar, Mainstreet, Maynooth. Come along to see which team will take the hotly contested grand prize!!

2. 80's Night

We will be hosting an 80's night on 9th March in O Neill's Pub, Main street, Maynooth. €10 entry, €8 for those who come dressed up in 80's gear!! Drinks promotions on the night, and a whole lot of dancing to be done! Hope to see you all there!

RENT

Maynooth Musical Society are very pleased to announce that we will be performing the musical RENT from 22nd to the 24th March 2012!! The show will be performed in the Aula Maxima theater, located on the N.U.I Maynooth campus. Doors will open 7:30, with curtains at 8pm.

Tickets are priced €15 for adults and €10 for students and concessions. Tickets are available by emailing maynoothmusicalsociety@gmail.com, contacting Etain Selby on 087 983 4328. From the 5th of March tickets will also be available to purchase from Maynooth Bookshop and the N.U.I.M campus bookshop.

Come one, come all for what promises to be an amazing show!

Maynooth

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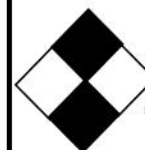
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Editorial

The town of Maynooth is unique in Ireland; an observation that has often been used when writing about our town. This is true; no other small town can claim primary, post-primary and third level institutions. There are indeed, not one but two universities, something that can be forgotten in the modern world. While the town mentions this quite often, the National University does not usually feel the need to see this as a part of its identity. Maybe those days have changed. The most recent challenge set by the Higher Education Authority – the report that mentions words like ‘rationalisation’ – may force the University here to look to its unique heritage. Part of this image or identity is the fact that it is set in a small town, 10,000 people, and that it has a particularly friendly ethos. The staff of an institution are the most important part of that ethos and this is as true of a University as it is of any other place of employment. As the National University sets about planning and presenting its Strategic Plan, it may turn to the local community for support in presenting its unique identity.

The country, indeed, Europe, is in an unprecedented economic situation but the media has latched onto the issue of the closure of one overseas embassy; the one to the Holy See. This closure was announced in November 2011 and seems to be a slow burner; it is growing slowly but surely. One can only wonder why? Was this the right decision to make in the first place? Surely we no longer need an embassy to a state that is not really a state after all. Can the country afford these unnecessary expenses? It is possible that the media, the people and the country can no longer face the enormity of the economic problems? Sometimes it is easier to focus on the small things than face the enormous difficulties and this closure seems to have become something of a media obsession.

In the context of our overseas relationships, the Chinese vice-president visited our country in February. There was little or no protest as Eamon Gilmore greeted him and travelled with him. Not all members of the Tánaiste’s party can have been happy to see this and they probably hope that the Irish president, a lifelong activist on human rights, will mention this delicate issue to this large delegation. There are over 4 million of us and 1.3 billion Chinese people; one can only wonder what we can give them that they do not have already? Perhaps the time has come to take a cold, critical and forensic look how we create future employment. Do we have something unique to offer or are we competing with others for markets that we cannot sustain? If we have something unique what is it? During the recent IFTA awards the president, M.D. Higgins, awarded the lifetime award to one of our emigrants – Fionnuala Flanagan. She gave a most uplifting and interesting acceptance speech, fitting, in the presence of a poet, the president. She emphasized that those at the IFTA’s would lift Ireland out of this dip. Others said that in the 80’s. Hardly anyone listened; look at the trouble M.D. Higgins had in providing TG4? We turned to property, it bombed. We are back to square one and will the powers that be listen this time? Can we keep up with the fast-moving world of IT and technology and keep training individuals to work in this industry? Or should we look forward to a more traditional framework? Our culture, heritage, history, the arts? Our talents lie more in the direction of music, song, film, theatre, literature and this should be cultivated as much as is possible. Instead of bulldozing heritage, we should cultivate it. The Chinese will not come to see motorways, they can see them anywhere. They will come for our archaeology – if we have any left.

March is the month of St Patrick when we celebrate the dubious distinction of being Irish in the 21st century. We know practically nothing about this man who arrived to our shores in the mid-fifth century as a young slave taken from Wales probably. Even in his own short account of his unusual life, he hardly mentions one place or person. It is as if he being deliberately obscure. As in many other cases, our history is built on sand but what sand that is? The world celebrates our patron saint; so much so that we have bought into the caricature of our own day; the leprechauns, the greenery, the snakes. Ah well, let’s hope the weather is fine and that the parade is as good if not better than last year in Maynooth. Biodh lá iontach agaibh uile agus tabhair do thacaíocht don pharáid áitiúil anseo in Má Nuad. Bean-nachtaí na féile oraibh uile.

Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin

Community Council Report

D. Cullen PRO

Maynooth Community Council Meeting 13 February 2012

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

1. Minute of silence to mark recent deaths. Tom McMullon (Chairperson) asked the Community Councillors to observe a minute's silence as a mark of respect for a number of people who had died recently: Alan Grant, who had worked in Maynooth Community Council office; Sean Horan; Daniel Conway; Bernie Foy; Dennis Breen.

2. Continued concern at Draft Parking Bye-Laws Deirdre Cullen (MCC PRO, Lyreen Residents Association) said that residents of the Lyreen area – Back Lane, Leinster Cottages, Pound Lane, Convent Lane, and the other residential parts of the north town centre – were still very concerned at what the Draft Maynooth Parking Bye-Laws proposed for their area. They were extremely worried about the impact of the proposed Bye-Laws on residents' quality of life and on their continued ability to carry out normal residential activities, such as parking, having visitors, and having safe access to the fronts of their properties.

She reported that the Residents Association had had meetings with local politicians and with the Transportation Department of Kildare County Council, who had drafted the proposed Bye-Laws. They would be attending a meeting with the Local Area Councillors shortly. What they were looking for was a significant role in designing a solution for residents, and to be fully consulted before any new parking scheme for their area was adopted. She said that any new scheme must recognise and accommodate the needs of residents.

3. Anger at exclusion of Gaelcholáiste application for new school patronage Colm Ó Cearúil (Deputy PDO) reported that the patronage body campaigning for a Gaelcholáiste as the additional post primary school in Maynooth was angered at the refusal of the Department of Education and Science to accept its application. He said that the department had told the applicants, An Coiste Bunaithe, that putting its application on the Departmental website would 'confuse the parents of Maynooth'. Applications from Kildare VEC and the Loreto Sisters had been accepted.

Colm Ó Cearúil said that 430 pupils had already expressed a commitment to enrol in a Maynooth Gaelcholáiste. There were already four feeder schools in the area for a new Gaelcholáiste: Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich in Maynooth, Scoil Uí Dhálaigh in Leixlip, Scoil Uí Riada in Kilcock and Gaelscoil na nÓg in Dunboyne. Parents of more than 1,600 primary school children are now planning to take action against the Department of Education and Skills.

Parents had considered the feasibility of setting up a Gaelcholáiste themselves, as was often the practice with primary level gaelscoileanna, but it was too difficult and expensive to follow this route with a secondary school. He said that the matter could yet result in a legal challenge.

He also said that the proposed siting of the new secondary school at Moyglare Hall ran against the circular model of town planning, which would support putting the second school on the Straffan side of the town.

4. Maynooth should take part in National Tree Week Community Councillors discussed the upcoming Nation Tree Week, which takes place from the 4th to the 10th of March, 2012. Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin (Secretary) said that the famous Yew Tree in St. Patrick's College has been verified as being over 800 years old. Peter Garrad (Scouts) said that a beech tree in the old Glebe House is reputed to be the oldest in Ireland. Deirdre Cullen said that the half-dozen or so lime tree that had been cut

down in Carton Avenue, some due to damage during the severe winter last year, had not yet been replaced by the County Council, and that it was very important that this was done. It was agreed that Maynooth had an important tree heritage and should participate in Tree Week in the future.

5. U3A very active at present Maura Wilcox (U3A) said that her group was very active at present, participating in Older and Bolder, and the Older Women's Network, among other groups. The group will participate in the Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Parade, has helped with the Youth Café's fund-raising bag pack, and will also help with Tidy Towns' fund raising.

6. Scouts busy with many activities Peter Garrad (Scouts) said they were busy preparing for the St. Patrick's Day Parade, including their Everest Challenge which would go on throughout the day. They would be having a fund-raising pub quiz shortly, and would be holding a Cub Day in St. Patrick's College.

He proposed that Maynooth Community Council should formally congratulate Maynooth Post Primary School on their recent performance of The Phantom of the Opera, which he said was fantastic, one of the best performances, professional or amateur, he had ever seen. The meeting agreed to this proposal.

7. Maynooth Post Primary School Gala Concert Gabriel Martin (Leinster Park Residents) told the meeting that Maynooth Post Primary School's Gala Concert would take place on 24th February 2012 in the new Sports Hall at the school, and would feature the opera singer Orla Boylan.

Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee.

On the 19th February 2012 we embarked on our Valentine’s Tea-Dance. This was a great afternoon and well attended by our own members, and by our regular supporters from Summerhill to Palmerstown and all towns in between. The icing on the cake was the wonderful music courtesy of Brian Mc. Dermott. Congratulations to the winners of our competitions. The overall Valentine’s card was won by Lima Higgins and the most romantic couple were Maureen and Vincent O’Brien from Lucan who took home the chocs and roses for their romantic poses. As I keep saying folks age has nothing to do with it.

Our Annual Collection is Scheduled for the 25th/26th of Feb but this item will have already gone to print so more about that anon.

Our A.G.M will take place on March 6th at 8pm in the Health Centre. This is an open meeting to which all are welcome. If you were thinking of coming on board or can help in any way this would be a good time to let us know. So why not come along and see what you think.

Our Easter Tea-Dance will be on Sun. April 15th so everyone has plenty of time to create their “bonnet” and give Philip Treacy a run for his money. Further dates for your diary are May 20th, June 17th and July 15th. Any further information you require can be located on our web-site. You can access this through the Parish web-site/Parish groups and click on Senior Citizens. Many thanks to Colm and Martin in the G.A.A who make all these events possible. Thank you also to the I.C.A and the H.S.E who so generously facilitate our club.

Finally may I extend the sympathy of our committee to the families of Leo Mc.Glynn, Dan Conway, Peter O’Connor and Ralph Satchwell. Ar Deis Dei go raibh a anam

Josephine Moore.
Chairperson.



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Maynooth Labour News

National Transport Authority (NTA) Funding

It was announced in the National Press on 2nd February that Limerick had been awarded €9m, Dungarvan €7.2m and Wexford 5m under the Governments Smarter Travel Destination Scheme. There were 39 initial applications from Local Authorities and this was reduced to a Shortlist of 11. It would appear as if Kildare County Council did not even apply for funding for this scheme which was titled "Become Irelands First Smarter Travel Destination". As a result Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion the Celbridge Area Committee:

"That a report be given to the committee on why Maynooth did not get the expected National Transport Authority funding for the Straffan to Moyglare roads."

He was given the following reply at the Area Meeting on 17 February:

"No allocation of funding from the NTA for 2012 has been confirmed to date. The Council is hopeful that announcements will be made in March 2012 in relation to projects to be designed and implemented. The National Cycle Network works on the Kilcock Road will form an application for funding."

Cllr. McGinley expressed his disappointment that the Council did not even apply for funding under this Scheme for Irelands only University Town, Maynooth

Cllr. McGinley Demands Action on the Appalling State of Kilcock Road

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

"That NUI, Maynooth be asked to re-landscape the grass area along their boundary from the Mill Centre to the new roundabout on the Kilcock road and that they erect wooden bollards to prevent parking on the grass in future."

He was given the following reply:

"At the request of the roads department this item has been forwarded to the planning section for compliance. However, if the erection of bollards along this area was not included as a condition of planning it cannot be enforced"

Cllr. McGinley pointed out that there was no need to get the Planning Section as this would delay action being taken. John stated that the "green" is a mud bath and the President of NUIM be written to asking him to re-landscape the grass area and to erect bollards to prevent parking on the grass. John also asked the President of NUIM be told to cater properly for the parking requirements of staff and students of NUIM.

Cllr. McGinley calls for Dogs at Carton Avenue to be controlled

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

"That steps be taken to enforce the leashing of dogs using Carton Avenue and that a campaign be mounted to get dog owners to clean up after dog fouling. "

He was given the following reply:

"The Control of Dogs Act does not make provision for the leashing of dogs. It states that owners must have "effectual control" over their dog but does not place an onus on them to ensure their dog is on a leash. The dog wardens have been asked to patrol the area more regularly to remind owners of their obligations under the act. It is Council policy to inform owners of their obligations through appropriate signage in the area. The

Environmental Awareness Officer will examine the area to identify suitable locations for these signs. "

John stated that "effectual control" means leashing as there is no other way to do so.

In addition to the signs at Carton Avenue John asked that the Council write to the Minister for the Environment asking that a National Campaign be mounted on controlling of dogs and dog fouling as it is a problem in every town in Ireland.

Update on the Straffan Road/Meadowbrook Link Road Junction

Cllr. McGinley was given the following update at the Area Meeting on 17 February:

"No allocation of funding from the NTA for 2012 has been confirmed to date and the Council is continuing its discussions with the NTA. The Council is hopeful that announcements will be made in March 2012 in relation to projects to be designed and implemented. The indicative cost of upgrading the junction is between €150,000 - €200,000. "

Stagg Welcomes 100 New HP Jobs for Leixlip

Labour Party TD for Kildare North, Emmet Stagg, has welcomed the announcement that Hewlett Packard is to create 280 jobs at its plants in Leixlip and Galway, with approximately 100 of the jobs going to Leixlip. This news is a massive boost for Kildare and is a reflection of how highly valued the workers of the Leixlip plant are to Hewlett Packard. The jobs will be in research and development and technical and support roles and recruitment will commence immediately. Deputy Stagg stated that he wanted to congratulate Martin Murphy, Managing Director of HP Ireland for the critical role he obviously played in bringing the jobs to Ireland and Deputy Stagg also congratulated the IDA.

The announcement stated Deputy Stagg was a clear endorsement by HP of the capabilities and expertise of Irish Workers at the Centres of Excellence in Leixlip and Galway and is a vote of confidence for the future of HP in Ireland.

Submission on Maynooth Draft Parking By-Laws

1. The Parking Bays at the houses on Double Lane from 22 to 28 and at the houses on Back Lane should not be directly outside the doors of the houses. This space should be kept clear except for house 24. A footpath from house 22 to 28 would solve many problems. Also a footpath outside the houses at Back Lane would solve many problems.
2. Parking charges at the bays at 1 above should be increased to €3 per hour with a 2 hour limit (Minimum fee €3) in order to keep them free for residents as is the case in St. Patricks Park, Celbridge. Residents of course can get a parking permit for €5 per year.
3. There should be no Double Yellow Lines at Cross Lane. All of these houses are occupied and residents would have nowhere to park if the yellow lines are put in place. Repaint the "No Entry" sign at the entrance from Dunboyne Road.
4. Repaint the "No Entry" signs at the entrance to Back Lane and Pound Lane (Street).
5. Remove the double yellow lines at Barrys house on Pound Lane and put a yellow "keep clear" box instead. This house is the first house on the right hand side as you enter from Mill Street.
6. Put Parking Bays at Dillons Row from house number 1 to 8 instead of a yellow line

7. Put a disabled parking bay outside house 4 Pound Lane (Street) as the occupant is disabled.
8. Put parking bays outside houses 3, 5, 6 and 7 Pound Lane (Street) to facilitate the residents. The Parking Charge to be set at €3 per hour with a 2 hour limit (Minimum fee---€3) to facilitate residents.
9. Pedestrianise Fagans Lane in the interest of public safety.
10. That double yellow lines be put on both sides of the small stretch of road into Manor Court from Straffan Road in the interest of public safety.
11. Move the disabled spot from Doctors Lane to outside the Citizens Information Centre on Dublin Road in the interests of public safety
12. There appears to be no provision for pulling in at the bottle bank as a result of the arrangement for the exit from the new private car park
13. Put parking bays at house numbers 5, 9 and 10 Parson Street in order to facilitate the residents. The Parking Charge to be set at €3 per hour with a 2 hour limit (Minimum fee---€3) to facilitate residents.
14. Put a cycle rack in the public car park.
15. Loading bays and passing bays are required at Double Lane (Buckleys Lane) in order to maintain access to and from the area for residents and services
16. The parking charge at houses 1 to 10 Leinster Cottages and on Convent Lane (Road) should be set at €3 per hour with a 2 hour limit (Minimum fee---€3) to facilitate residents.
17. Put a disabled parking bay outside house number 8 Leinster Cottages to facilitate the residents.
18. Change Clause 34 (2) to read as the Celbridge By Laws i.e. "The fee for a visitors parking disc shall be €20 per household per annum or part thereof consisting of any combination of residential and/or visitor permits to a maximum of three in total in any combination."
19. The procedures for obtaining Residents Parking Discs and Parking Discs for Visitors should be made clearer in the Document.
20. That the By-Laws not be enforced until the new private car park at Doctors Lane is ready to open
21. That the enforcement times shall be between 10 am to 4 pm Monday to Friday inclusive, so that the Council will have the same system in operation in Maynooth, Leixlip and Celbridge i. e. no parking fee outside of these times
22. The parking bays on Dublin Road are far too close to the entrance to Leinster Park and will make it dangerous for motorists exiting Leinster Park. (See Drawing Layout E)
23. Remove the eight parking bays from the front of the Geraldine Hall in order to provide access to the proposed new Scouts Hall and to show off the building to the general public.

Cllr. John McGinley
14 February 2012

Cllr. John McGinley can be contacted at:
6285293 or 087 9890645
E mail jmcginley@eircom.net
Web: www.labour.ie/johnmcginley/

John is also on Facebook



Maynooth Post Primary School 10k Challenge Sunday 20th May, 10.30am Entry Form



First Name(s): * _____
 Last Name: * _____
 Address: * _____
 Gender: * _____
 Email: * _____
 Age or D.O.B.: * _____ (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 10k Challenge", along with cheque or postal order made out to Maynooth 10k Challenge, cash also accepted.

Entry fee €20 up until 1st April, late entry fee €25

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

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

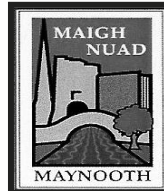
Contact details will only be used to forward information about Maynooth Post Primary 10K Challenge

Maynooth Post Primary PTA would like to thank the Maynooth business community, An Garda Siochana, Maynooth GAA, the people of Maynooth and our one hundred volunteers for their: sponsorship, assistance, support, cooperation and help with last years 10k challenge. Also St Patricks College and Carton House for the use of their grounds, All funds raised are used for the development of multi-purpose playing fields, a walking/running track and changing rooms in association with Maynooth GAA.

Teresa Murray, Chairperson of Maynooth Post Primary PTA



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Know Your Rights

Paying the Household Charge

March 2012

Question

My elderly mother doesn't know how to pay the Household Charge. Can you tell me what she should do?

Answer

If your mother owns a house in Ireland she is liable to pay the Household Charge on it. The Household Charge is an annual charge of €100 which is used to fund local services. Virtually all private residential properties, apart from certain waivers and exemptions, such as mobile homes, are liable for the Charge. She must register her house to declare her liability for the Charge and she must pay the €100 by 31 March 2012. She can do this online at householdcharge.ie or she can complete the New Account Registration form HC12N which can be downloaded from the FAQs section of householdcharge.ie. Copies of the form are available in most local authority offices, libraries and Citizens Information Centres. Your mother could also ring the Household Charge bureau at 1890 357357 or 01 222 4000 and ask for the form to be sent to her. She should fill in the HC12N form with her details and the details of her house. She can pay the €100 by cheque, postal order or credit card. The completed form should be sent to the Local Government Management Agency, PO Box 12168, Dublin 1. Up to 31 March 2012, she can also hand in the registration form and pay the charge directly at the office of her City or County Council.

If she does not pay the Household Charge by 31 March 2012 late payment interest and fees will apply.

The Household Charge is an interim measure. It is due to be replaced in 2013/2014 by a property tax based on the value of your property.

Changes to One-Parent Family Payment

March 2012

Question

I got a letter about changes to the One-Parent Family Payment. I have been getting it since my husband died in 1998. I have 3 children who are all still in school or college and the youngest is 17. He will turn 18 in 2013 and will do his Leaving Certificate that year. The only other income I have is from a part-time job. Will my payment stop from January 2013?

Answer

In 2013 the age limit for the youngest child does drop to 17 for people who were getting the payment before 27 April 2011. However there is an exception to this limit for children who are aged between 17 and 22 and who are in full-time education. Since your youngest child will be 18 and in full-time education in 2013 payment will continue until the end of the 2012-2013 academic year. The end of the academic year for students who have completed their Leaving Certificate is 23 October of that year.

This means that you can stay on your One-Parent Family Payment until 23 October 2013. You can also continue to get an increase in your payment for your other children (provided they are under 22 and still in full-time education). However after that you may need to apply for another social welfare payment. You will probably need to get advice on the most appropriate payment for your situation – for example you could apply for a Widow's, Widower's or Surviving Civil Partner's Pension. You can visit your local Citizens Information Service to look at your options and work out what is the best payment for you.

There have been some other changes to One-Parent Family Payment. In particular the amount of earnings you are allowed to have without affecting your payment has been reduced from €145 to €130 per week. If the gross earnings from your part-time job are over €130 (after you subtract PRSI, pension contributions and trade union subscriptions) your One-Parent Family Payment may be reduced.

Employment rights complaints

March 2012

Question

I am a shop assistant and I had to work on Monday 2 January. My employer said that as New Year's Day was on a Sunday the Monday was not a public holiday and we had to come to work. Is that right?

Answer

Your employer is right that Monday 2 January 2012 was not a public holiday and your employer could ask you to work that day. However, under the Organisation of Working Time Act 1997, you are entitled to a day's pay, day of annual leave or a paid day off for that New Year's Day public holiday.

If you have a problem in getting your public holiday entitlement from your employer Workplace Relations Customer Services may be able to help you. Since January 2012 it is a new single point of contact and provides information about employment, equality and industrial relations rights and obligations. It also receives employment rights and equality complaints and deals with enquiries about the status of complaints and complaints procedures.

You can contact it in a number of different ways:

- Workplace Relations Customer Services operates a lo-call information helpline 1890 80 80 90, from 9.30am to 5.00pm weekdays. You call this number to speak with a member of the team about your employment rights queries.
- Workplace Relations Customer Services can also respond to written queries. You can either email them using the online enquiry form or you can write to them at Workplace Relations Customer Services, Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, O'Brien Road, Carlow.

You can also find information on employment, equality and industrial relations legislation on the website workplacerelations.ie.

If you are making a claim for your public holiday entitlement you should use the new single complaint form and guidance notes which can be downloaded from workplacerelations.ie.

Further information is available from the Citizens Information Centre below.

JobBridge

March 2012

Question

I lost my job last year and I heard that there is a work experience scheme which will give me an extra payment on top of my Jobseeker's Benefit. Can you tell me more about it?

Answer

JobBridge is a national internship scheme providing work experience opportunities for unemployed people. Participants in the scheme are offered an internship of between 6 and 9 months with a host organisation. If you take up an internship you can keep your social welfare payment and you will get an extra €50 per week. You work as an intern in a host organisation for at least 30, and for no more than 40 hours a week.

To be eligible for the JobBridge scheme you must be unemployed and getting Jobseeker's Benefit, Jobseeker's Allowance or signing on for credits for a total of 3 months or more in the last 6 months. (Periods spent on the Back to Education Allowance, VTOS, FÁS/Fáilte Ireland training courses, Youthreach, FIT, Community Employment Schemes, Tús, the Rural Social Scheme, Back to Work Scheme, Job Initiative or Job Assist may count towards meeting the eligibility for JobBridge).

If you are eligible for the scheme you can check the current internship opportunities on jobbridge.ie. When you have identified an internship, you apply to the host organisation as specified in the advertisement. If the host organisation selects you it will give you an eligibility form to be stamped by your Social Welfare Local Office. You should return the completed form to your local FÁS office, your LES (Local Employment Service) office or JobBridge.

You can find out more about the scheme on jobbridge.ie. The scheme is open to applications until 30 June 2013.

Further information is available from the Citizens Information Centre below.

Know Your Rights has been compiled by Citizens Information Service which provides a free and confidential service to the public. Tel: 01.6285477 Address: Derroon House, Dublin Road, Maynooth
Information is also available online at citizensinformation.ie and from the Citizens Information Phone Service, 0761 07 4000.

Maynooth Golf Society's list of outings for the coming year 2012 has been announced for members.

Maynooth Golf Society Outings 2012

Millicent Sat 3rd March 2012 11.00am -12.30pm

Knockanally Sat 14th April 2012 12.00pm - 1.30pm

Baltinglass Sat 12th May 2012 10.30am - 12.00pm

Weekend Fri/Sat May26th/27th 2012 Seafeld/Rosslare

Woodlands Fri 15th June 2012 3.00pm – 4.30pm

Glasson Sat 7th July 2012 10.30 am – 12.30 pm

Mullingar 21st July 2012 11.30am - 1.00pm

Athlone Sat 25thAugust 2012 10.00am – 11.30am

Portarlinton Sat 15th Sept. 2012 10.00pm – 11.30pm

Portugal 5th -10th October 2012

TBA October 20th

Maynooth Golf Society are also now looking new members to join the society if you are interested please contact any committee member. Prospective members are also invited to attend the first outing on Saturday 3rd March at Millicent Golf Club.

John Byrne PRO

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The Benefits of Yoga for Anxiety and Depression

The vast majority of us have suffered from bouts of anxiety or depression at sometime throughout our lives. Given the many challenges that we face today, it is not surprising that evidence has shown that anxiety and depression are on the increase worldwide. In Ireland, the depression support group Aware, reported an astonishing 29% increase in calls last year. The agency, who deals with more than 370 calls a week from individuals all over Ireland, received nearly 2,000 calls on the run up to Christmas alone, from individuals who were looking for support for depression.

Yoga is an ancient Indian practice that can greatly benefit mild depression and anxiety. Yoga differs from the normal exercise program in that it is concerned with calming the mind through a combination of breathing and physical poses.

The most common type of yoga is called Hatha Yoga. Hatha Yoga begins by working with the body on a structural level, helping to align the vertebrae, increase flexibility, and strengthen muscles and connective tissue. Internal organs are simultaneously toned and rejuvenated and the epidermal, digestive, lymphatic, cardiovascular, and pulmonary systems are purified of toxins and waste matter. The end result is increased mental clarity, emotional stability, and a greater sense of overall well-being.

Some clinical studies have been conducted on the therapeutic benefits of yoga and its effect on anxiety, depression and stress. The Harvard Medical School reported on one of these, a German study that was published in 2005. In this trial, 24 women who described themselves as "emotionally distressed" took two 90-minute yoga classes a week for three months. Women in a control group maintained their normal activities and were asked not to begin an exercise or stress-reduction program during the study period.

At the end of three months, women in the yoga group reported improvements in perceived stress, depression, anxiety, energy, fatigue, and well-being.

- Depression scores improved by 50%
 - Anxiety scores were reduced by 30%
 - Overall well-being scores increased by 65%
- Additionally, initial complaints of headaches, back pain, and poor sleep quality were resolved much more often in the yoga group than in the control group. Although these statistics are impressive, severe anxiety and depression is a medical condition and must always be treated by a doctor or qualified professional.

I have developed a short yoga sequence which will calm the mind and ease anxiety and stress. This can be practiced at home on a daily basis and will only take between 10 and 15 minutes to complete.

1. Easy Sitting pose

Don't let the name fool you. If you are used to sitting on chairs, this pose can be quite challenging! The breathing ratio during this pose slows your heart rate and calms your nervous system, making it one of the most powerful tools for emotional balance.



- ◇ Cross your shins, widen your knees, and slip each foot beneath the opposite knee as you bend your knees
- ◇ Sit on the edge of a thickly folded blanket or cushion for extra support
- ◇ Become aware of your breathing and if you can, gradually extend your exhale. The aim is to increase your exhale double the length of your inhale
- ◇ Stay in this pose for between 1 and 2 minutes

2. Standing forward bend

The forward bend, or the Uttanasana pose, generates a contemplative



state and connects you with your inner self. It also reduces fatigue and stimulates the liver and kidneys.

- ◇ From standing position, bend forward and down with a straight back, from your hip joint.
- ◇ Whilst keeping your knees bent, place your hands on the mat
- ◇ The top half of your body should be nice and relaxed, whilst working the back of the legs
- ◇ Stay in this pose for 1 minute
- ◇ When coming back up, don't roll the spine. Instead bring your hands back onto your hips and come up on an inhalation with a straight back

3. Legs up the Wall

This pose is a gentle inversion with restorative benefits. This is a great pose for anxiety and depression as it has both a soothing and energising effect. Use a thickly rolled blanket under your lower back for additional support.



- ◇ Position your yoga mat against a wall
- ◇ Lie on your mat with bended knees close to the wall
- ◇ Bring your legs up to the wall with your heels resting on the wall and your hips against the wall below the legs
- ◇ Rest the heels against the wall for support, keep your legs extended fully but do not lock your knees
- ◇ Pay attention to the body and note any areas of discomfort. You may need to shift out from the wall if the pose is uncomfortable
- ◇ Rest in this pose for at least 5 minutes to gain the full restorative benefits
- ◇ Be sure not to twist off the support when coming out. Instead, slide off the support onto the floor before turning to the side. Stay on your side for a few breaths, and come up to sitting with an exhalation

4. Cat pose

The Cat, or Marjariasana pose, resembles a cat that stretches itself. It is a great pose for bringing awareness to your breathing and can soften and slow down the process of being anxious.



- ◇ Start on all fours; make sure your knees are in line with your hips, your wrists in line with your shoulders
- ◇ As you exhale, round your spine towards the ceiling and curl your chin slightly under – you should feel a gentle squeeze in your tummy
- ◇ Stay in this pose for 1 minute

5. Childs Pose

Childs pose is a resting pose. This pose gently stretches the hips, thighs and ankles. For those suffering from anxiety, it will calm the mind and relieve stress and fatigue. It is one of the most comfortable yoga poses and creates a connection between your body and the earth.



- ◇ Start on all fours and sit back onto your heels
- ◇ Take a deep inhale and on the exhale fall forward and down, resting your forehead on the mat
- ◇ Place your arms by your side and sink into the mat
- ◇ Stay in this pose from between 1 and 3 minutes

Submitted by The Yoga Coach

Beginners yoga classes starting in Maynooth and Leixlip soon. Phone Tara on 089 4286966 to book. Private classes also available

Letters to the Editor

Muintir Mhaigh Nuad, a chairde,

Tá an Roinn Oideachais tar éis droim láimhe a thabhairt do chearta Thuismitheoirí, oideachais iar-bhunscoile a bpaistí a shealbhú trí mhéan na Gaeilge.

The Department of Education has dismissed with the back of their hand the rights of Maynooth parents that their children should continue their education through the medium of Irish. Over the last thirty years the growth in Irish medium education in the greater Maynooth area has been organic and fruitful. With over 1,600 students attending Gaelscoileanna in North Kildare this is the largest density in the country outside of Dublin city. The Founding Committee or an Coiste Bunaithe have applied twice to The Department of Education and Skills (DES) in the last five years to establish a Gaelcholáiste or Irish medium secondary school here in Maynooth. The application has been rejected on both occasions.

On announcing plans to build a new school in Maynooth in June 2014, Minister for Education Ruairi Quinn T.D. said the criteria used in deciding on patronage would place a particular emphasis on:

“Parental demand for plurality and diversity”.

“Parental preferences should be at the centre of considerations about the type of school to be recognised,”

Expressions of interest in the new school by Patronage bodies was accepted by the DES up until the 17-1-2012 and the closing date for applications is the 24-2-2012.

An Foras Pátrúnachta submitted an expression of interest on behalf of the Parents to the DES before the due date.

Expressions of interest currently posted on the DES website consist of Co Kildare V.E.C. and the Loreto Education Trust.

The reason given by the DES for the exclusion of An Foras application for a Gaelcholáiste was that a third application would confuse the people of North Kildare.

The Parents of children attending Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich, Maynooth, Scoil Uí Dhálaigh, Leixlip, Scoil Uí Riada, Kilcock and Gaelscoil na nÓg, Dunboyne are furious that their wish to have their children continue their education through the medium of Irish should be dismissed in such an unjust manner.

We demand that Ruairi Quinn T.D. Minister for Education and Skills explain why the DES is so dismissive of Parental rights and why is he opposed to a Gaelcholáiste in Maynooth.

Is fiú dul i dteagmháil le na Teachtaí Dála sa Dáil-cheantar sula chuirimid an scéal ós chomhair na Chóirteanna. Tá uisce faoi thalamh anseo go háirithe faoin slám mór airgead a chailleadh le ghairid (€20 milliúin) agus an bhealach gur athródh suíomh na scoile ó deisceart an bhaile go dtí an suíomh nua. Tá freagraí de dhíth orainn !

Bígí linn ar son an ghrá atá againn dár bpaistí, dár tír is dár teanga, agus ar ndóigh do Mhaigh Nuad Baile Oideachais na h-Éireann.

is mise, le meas,
Colm Ó Cearúil
Oifigeach Caidrimh Phoiblí
An Coiste Bunaithe
Gael-Choláiste Chill Dara Thuaidh
Maigh Nuad.
Co. Chill Dara.

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250g - €5.96/kg



SuperValu White Sliced Pan
800g - €1.25/kg

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For the month of March 2012 Maynoothvets.com, in Newtown Grove are offering a half price, full vaccination programme to all dogs that have not been vaccinated for more than 18 months.

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Leptospirosis in Dogs

Leptospirosis is a bacterial infection of dogs. It is a very serious condition which affects the blood, liver or kidneys. The bacteria are very tough and resistant to environmental conditions, therefore they survive well outside their host, usually in places where there is stagnant water such as puddles and pools. The bacteria are spread by rat urine or the urine of infected species such as dogs. Interestingly in the USA squirrels are a major source of infection. Your dog can become infected by ingesting infected urine, some forms of the bacteria can even penetrate thin or damaged skin. An example of how simple it is for infection to occur can be seen from the following scenario: the unvaccinated dog goes for a swim in the canal and comes out and licks his coat during his post-swim grooming or perhaps he has a small cut which gets infected during the swim; 4 to 12 days later he gets very sick for what appears to be an unexplained reason and you then have to seek veterinary help.

Leptospirosis is not usually seen in dogs that are up to date with their vaccinations - it truly is a case that prevention is better than cure.

Puppies can commence their vaccinations from as early as 6 weeks old.

The disease is often life threatening and is always extremely debilitating usually requiring hospitalisation, drips and intensive antibiotic and supportive therapy. The disease does occur in people and is known as Weils Disease.

The common signs of Leptospirosis depend on the form contracted by the dog: with the liver form there is a high fever, loss of appetite and lethargy with yellow colouration of the gums, whites of the eyes. With white coated dogs we may also see jaundice of the skin.

In the haemorrhagic form there is also a high fever, lethargy and inappetance but also multiple small haemorrhages in the whites of the eyes and in the mouth. There is often a bloody diarrhoea and vomiting.

The renal form again causes lethargy, vomiting and loss of appetite. Due to the build up of urea in the blood there is often a strong pungent smell from the dog's mouth. Sometimes we will see ulcers on the dogs tongue and inside the cheeks.

As already mentioned Leptospirosis is a life threatening disease and is very difficult to treat due to the acute attack on the affected organs. If a dog does survive, the liver and kidneys are often permanently damaged.

If your dog has not been vaccinated in the last 18 months avail of our Vaccination Amnesty, contact us on 01-6289467 and get him vaccinated this month.




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Larine Court

This is how Larine House is getting ready for the Parade. Their theme is Gráinne Mhaol: the Pirate Queen. They have worked very hard on their project and it promises to be spectacular. They are looking for extra helpers on the day so if you don't have a project of your own and would like to take part just ring them on 01-6289465. If you or your group have a float going in the parade and would like us to print your before and after pictures just ring us at the Newsletter on 01-6285922



Gráinne Mhaol: Pirate Queen of May

Gráinne Mhaol is a legendary Irish pirate that lived in Ireland in the 16th century. She sailed from island to island along the west coast with her fleet of ships. She raided as she went, building up a great hoard of wealth and earning her title of Pirate Queen. She was also one of the last Irish leaders to defend against English rule in Ireland.

Gráinne was born into the **Ó Mháille** family (O'Malley) in 1530. They were a noble, seafaring family that lived in Co Mayo and her father was chieftain of his clan.

She is known by different names e.g. **Grace O'Malley**, **Granuaile**. Her real name is **Grainne Ní Mháille** but she is better known by her nickname **Gráinne Mhaol**.

As the legend goes, **Gráinne** wanted to go on a trading voyage with her father to Spain. She was told no because her beautiful long hair would catch in the ropes. This made her very angry, so she cut off all her hair! Her father had no more excuses, so he let her on board. That is how she got her nickname **Gráinne 'Mhaol'**; in Irish maol means bald.

Gráinne was an extremely tough woman, she was feared along every coast in Ireland. Once, when she was on a trip to Dublin, she wanted to rest at Howth Castle. However the Lord would not open the gates to her, she became very angry and kidnapped one of his sons. In return for his son, **Gráinne** made the Lord promise to leave his gate open to visitors and to set an extra place at every meal, this tradition continues to this day.

During her lifetime, **Gráinne** was married twice, the first to Dónal O' Flaherty and the second to Richard Burke. Both families were very powerful in Connacht. At this time King Henry VIII of England was trying to increase his rule across Ireland but **Gráinne** and her family refused to allow the English into Galway Bay.

The clashes with the English got worse after her second husband, Richard died. She was a strong, brave woman but she was eventually arrested by the English in 1584 and Connacht was brought under English rule.

According to legend she is buried on her family's land on Clare Island but this has never been proven.



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A Series of Articles on Early Irish Literature

By Dr. Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin
NUIM Maynooth

Based on her book:
An introduction to the early Irish literature

What I want to do in this series of articles is to try to make early Irish stories available by publishing readable translations here first and then maybe elsewhere. There are so many lovely and interesting texts that are hidden away in old journals and books. In school we only get the very tiny tip of a huge iceberg and this only in national school. Like our early history, our early literature is more or less ignored by the educational system past primary school for some reason I do not understand. Most of the information given out in school is inaccurate. If people want to learn more about the literature in general I am suggesting that they consult my own book (not something I do very often!), published in 2009 by Four Courts Press, *An Introduction to Early Irish Literature* – soon to become Four Court's first e-book, in April. It is aimed at the general public as well as the students of the subject. But it might help to give a quick overview of the amazing literature of early Ireland.

Most of the stories that will be included come from pre-Norman times - the centuries from about 600 A.D. to 1200 A.D. that is described as the Dark Ages elsewhere and the Early Medieval in archaeological terms. The language in which the texts are written are referred to Old Irish, the language used from 600-900 and secondly, Middle Irish, used from 900-1200. There is far more written material found in Irish during this period than in other European countries. The manuscripts that contain the literature date from the seventh century and continued well into the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries although writing appeared quite late in Ireland and emerged as a result of the arrival of Christianity in the mid fifth century. Before this we had oral tradition like everywhere else.

They use both prose and poetry and some texts survive in prose only, many are in a mixture of both (called prosimetrum) and some few sagas are in metrical form only but there is no epic poetry in early Ireland. We have no 'author' of the prose texts as such. Many of the scribes, who actually write the material in the manuscript, do give us their names and they could also be the authors but we don't know this for certain. The poets are much quicker to identify themselves and we know more about them.

The earliest form of writing is called Ogam and appears mainly on dedicated Ogam-stones but this died out relatively quickly and was never used apart from these stones. Reading and writing developed within the Christian environment of the monastery, the monks or laymen known as scribes worked in the monastery's scriptorium (writing room) where they compiled the manuscripts (literally 'hand written') and everything recorded has been filtered through a Christian prism. There is now a consensus that the early manuscripts were written in the fully christianized environment of the monastery by Christian monks. They and their monastic superiors decided what went into these works.

There is an extraordinarily wide range of literature that survives from this period. Christianity brought

with it, apart from the new religion, the Latin alphabet, reading, writing and a new way of looking at history and literature. The initial material appeared in Latin, but the scribes turned to Irish very quickly and then translated a lot of the same material like saint's lives. They also wrote religious material like hymns, poems, sermons, religious poetry, prayers, commentaries, monastic canons and rules. But they had a great interest in historical material and wrote annals, genealogies, king lists, chronology and synchronism; the bulk of Irish literature consists of this record rather than sagas and poetry.

The history of the Church in Ireland is directly related to the recording of the literature and from the beginning the Christian Irish were interested in their own pagan past and by the seventh century they were even writing tales of the Otherworld. The monastic system was prevalent in Ireland and the resulting monasteries became large, rich centres of learning that eventually developed into towns like Armagh, Kells and Trim. A lot of our place-names are related to religious settlements like these: Cill Choca (Kilcock), Cill Droichid (Celbridge), for example, both contain the word cill (small church).

The divisions in this early period are quite different from those in modern literature where we have novels, short stories, plays and poetry in very separate categories. The early literature has sagas, genealogy, law and history with both prose and poetry being used for all the different branches. Even these distinctions are blurred as a story may contain sections of law and genealogy; the legal texts may contain stories to illustrate their point and genealogy can tell a story by way of explanation as to how a group of people have arrived in a certain geographical area. Although there are frequent references to entertainers of every type and to their place within society there are no plays or theatrical tradition. But the sagas are written with such a strong, dramatic flavour that they provide theatrical entertainment in themselves and it is also possible that poetry was chanted or recited dramatically to add to the performance. Among the entertainers who are mentioned in the texts are the harper, piper, horn-player, juggler, jester, acrobat, raconteur and professional farter (braigetóir) as well as the fool (drúth) who might have earned a living by imitating someone who is mentally disabled or who could tell stories or compose satirical verse.

The early Irish sagas are the most popular area of study and of interest to the general public and most of the modern accounts describe them as being organized according to cycles. The four principle ones being the Heroic or Ulster Cycle, the Mythological Cycle or Cycle of the Gods, the Fenian (Fiannaíocht) Cycle and the Cycles of the Kings. M. Dillon in his book, *Early Irish literature*, also includes three more that contain accounts of various types of Otherworld journeys: Voyages, Adventures and Visions. Certainly by the twelfth century the material is being used in this way but the traditional way to group the sagas was according to their content such as cattleraid, wooings, battles, adventures, deaths, conceptions, and I would like to present the translations in this traditional way.

The stories often mention four different festival occasions: the first of November or Samain (Hallow'een), the first of May, Beltaine (Mayday), the first of February or Imbolc (St Brigit's day) and finally the first of August, Lúnasa that has no real English equivalent. Samain in particular is associated with the festival of the dead when the Otherworld could open and the living and the dead could move freely for a short period between the two realms. There are some motifs that also occur throughout the stories, for example the concept of geis (a taboo) or the plural form, gessa (taboos). These prohibit the

hero or king from carrying out certain actions and breaking them will lead to disaster or death.

Two activities are frequently mentioned in the stories; men are said to play chess as entertainment but it seems to be a demonstration of their status in society. On certain occasions kings compete for a woman by playing chess. The Old Irish word is fidchell (literally wisdom of wood) that we still use in Modern Irish for chess and there was a second game called brandub (dark, black). Upper class women are frequently said to pass the time in embroidery and this is a mark of their status in society. The early Irish law on fosterage mentions these as part of the training that should be received by the son and daughter of a king respectively. It will be seen that music, musicians and particularly harpers appear in many of the stories and that different types of music is used as a trigger in certain plot lines.

Those involved in conserving this tradition are primarily men and the collective term aes dána (people of arts) is used to describe the native pre-Christians. We read of 3 classes of learned men: druid's, vates and bardos corresponding roughly to the Irish references to the draí (druid), file (poet) and the bard. The file is the public record officer of the period and among the responsibilities are the composition of satire and praise, elegiac poetry, genealogy, history and onomastics (personal and place names), gnomic and wisdom literature and possibly judgement giving. The term vates is probably related to the Irish word faith (prophet, seer) and it will be seen that the file was not just a poet in the English language sense but also a seer that may have some pre-Christian elements. The composition of satire and praise poetry was one of their main functions and it was believed that the poet's satire could damage one's reputation, the loss one's status in society and even lead to the loss of the king's kingdom. With the arrival of Christianity, the official, written learning moved into the Christian sphere and although the oral tradition continued, this is impossible to access, short of travelling back in time. The native term and concept of senchas (lore, learning from the word sen, old) is quite different and distinct then from the Latin historia (history) that gives the Modern Irish word stair (history). There are approximately 4,000 manuscripts written between the ninth and the second half of the sixteenth century when books began to be printed in Irish.

The Irish landscape nearly features as a character in the literature; sagas and some poetry are fitted into the physical contours of the countryside itself. Our ancestors were familiar with the stories behind the place-names that are an essential part of the saga material; landscape and story are symbiotically linked one to the other. It is so important that there are texts devoted to place-names such as the Dinnshenchas (The lore of famous places) full of stories and anecdotes explaining how the most famous places in Ireland were named. There are both prose and metrical versions but they exist as separate texts rather than mixed together as in the case of the sagas. Place-names and their relationship to story and saga material is an intrinsic part of all the literature as deaths, combats and important events give rise to the names of places throughout. The early Irish referred to God as Rí n ndúl (king of the elements); the word for the elements or nature is dúlra further emphasising their respect for the environment and their physical surroundings. The druids were associated with groves of oaks and the saints were frequently depicted as living outdoors and having a close relationship with nature and animals.

At the end of our period, the native monasteries are being closed down and even before the arrival of the

Normans in 1169 the new Orders begin to arrive from the continent and when they established their houses the conservation of secular, native literature was no longer allowed. This was accompanied by the reform of the old system based on monasteries as an episcopal structure was put in place. There is a perceptible break in the manuscript tradition at this point and after some time the writing is taken up by secular hereditary families of scribes who continue, some of them, in unbroken line to the early twentieth century. At this point however, there is an explosion of scribal activity. Professor Gearóid Mac Eoin who taught me in college described the surviving literature as a nearly seamless creation of these two streams, native and Christian, that have created one vibrant, rushing river. I hope to show you a part of this river.

I want to begin with the stories of the Otherworld. Most of us have heard of Oisín's visit to Tír na nÓg (The land of youth) with Niamh Cinnóir (of the golden hair) but this is a very late rendition of a traditional theme that stretches right back to the very beginnings of early Irish writing and composition. Our first writings are related to the area of Bangor and the first known manuscript was called Cín Dromma Snechta (The little book of Drumsnacht) – a place-name in modern day Co Monaghan. This manuscript no longer exists but we have a fair idea of what was in it and tales of the Otherworld were among these.

An introduction to the stories of the Otherworld in early Ireland

The Irish vision of the Otherworld is found in three different types of stories called Echtraí (Adventures), Immrama (Voyages) and Físi (Visions). There is also the term aisling (vision) that is an Irish term in contrast with físi that come from the Latin word visio. There are both Latin and Irish tales on this topic and one of the earliest is the Navagatio Brendani (The voyage of Brendan) who is credited with many extraordinary voyages. There is also a small group of generally short tales with the title Baile (frenzy, vision, madness).

Many of the main characters in the literature such as Cú Chulainn, Cormac mac Airt or Conn Chétchathach appear as the main character in one of these tales. On the other hand, some of those who star in the stories are relatively unknown such as Bran, Conla and Laegaire. There is also the strange reprise and turn about of Cú Chulainn's returning from the Otherworld to visit in his strange chariot and tries to persuade people to convert to Christianity.

The three types of stories describe visits to the Otherworld that differ a lot one from the other. The Vision tales as in Fís Adomnáin (The vision of Adomnán) describe the Christian Heaven and Hell. The Voyages paint a predominantly Christian picture but there are images of a non-Christian Otherworld and this emerges even more strongly in the Adventures where famous heroes visit an Otherworld that has no reference whatever to either Heaven or Hell. In the case of the Voyages, the Otherworld may be reached by boat across the sea and it consists of many islands but in the Adventures it can be found on the sea, an island on a lake, in the fairy mounds (síd), underground or the hero may find himself enveloped in a fog and when it lifts he is in another place.

We know very little about the beliefs of the pre-Christian Irish but there are Continental references to the afterlife; the Celts are said to sit by the graves of their dead relatives waiting for them to appear. There is a story about a group of poets waiting for the hero Fergus to return from the dead to tell them the story of The Cattle raid of Cooley which had inexplicably been forgotten.

In Ireland, the festival of Samain (Hallowe'en) was associated with the opening of the Otherworld and there could be two-way traffic between both worlds but people could rise from the dead at other times of the year as well. Some heroes never return from the journey, others return briefly but find that, like Rip van Winkle, time has overtaken them and they return to the Otherworld but some must return after their sojourn away and continue with their life path. As might be expected in stories of this type, the gods intervene, especially Manannán, god of the sea, who is quite a central character in some stories.

Similar themes and motifs are repeated in all these genres: the description of the land as being without death etc. along with the concept of there being neither 'yours or mine', the beautiful visiting woman, magic apples or branches, wonderful music. There are various theories as to the meaning of the visit, be it a Christian message, a pagan visit, a book of the dead or even the possibility of the equivalent of what is called today a 'near-death experience' and the later vision tales that are very close Christian ecstatic experiences. It seems that this is a theme that is found worldwide; where the hero leaves the 'normal' world and visits the Otherworld where he has marvellous adventures before he returns with some wonderful powers that will help mankind. In Christianity, Christ returns with the revelation of the afterlife.

Sometimes the hero is reluctant to return home and must be forced to leave or cannot cope with the return - like Rip Van Winkle. The ability to travel between the worlds is not something that everyone can do. Some believe that the early Celts believed in 'thin places' where there was only a thin divide between the past, the present and the future. This makes it possible for people to experience older time in the present or to gain a glimpse of the future. There was very little attention paid to chronological time among the early Celts. For them, the present contains within both past events that continue to live on, as well as the seeds of future events waiting to be born. As a result, characters from different periods can be brought together in a story without difficulty and this is definitely a feature of the literature.

All three types of stories here and elsewhere contain a series of different names for the place that is referred to in English as the 'Otherworld' but this term does not translate or explain these references adequately. One of the most common words for the place, when referred to on land, is the word síd (fairy mound) but it also means 'peace' and there is a constant interplay between the two meanings of the word. The Otherworld is also associated with sovereignty and with kingship and in most cases the king receives the validation of his sovereignty from there.

Many of the Irish words include the words tír (land) and mag (plain) but water is frequently involved in the stories. The names used include Tír na mBeó (Land of the Living), Tír na mBan (Land of women), Mag Mell (The Plain of delight) Mag Mór (The great plain), Tír na nÓg (Land of the living) or In Tír Tairngire (The Promised Land). We will see that there can be detailed descriptions of these places. People do not get old or die or get sick, there are always flowers, peace and goodwill and it is the land of youth.

Sometimes, Otherworld may surround human beings but we just do not see it. Humans cannot see what is around them but they can enter another realm by entering a síd (fairy mound), travelling across the sea or a lake or simply by emerging from a magical mist that descends on the main character. In some stories, people emerge from under the ground as is the case on the wonderful place called The Cave of the Cats that is part of the Rathcroghan complex in Roscommon.

Stories about about the place that is made up of a manmade souterrain (underground passage) and a natural cave. (Photo)

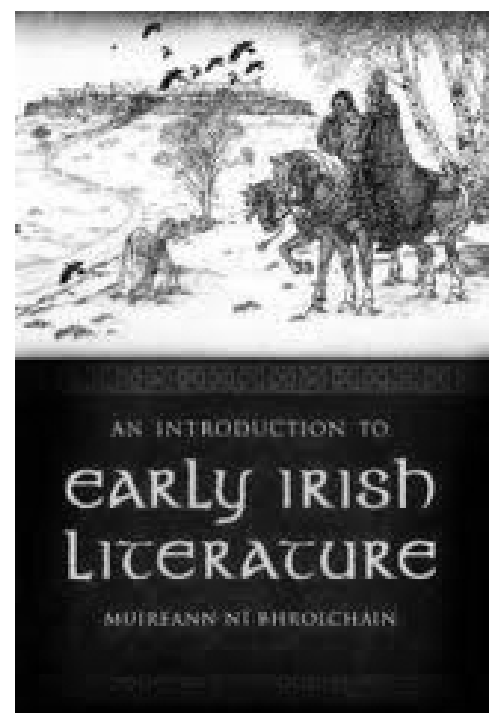
Time may pass differently in this place. Some people return from the Otherworld to find that hundreds of years have passed or they think decades have passed and find that no time has elapsed at all. It can be a land of paradox, ambiguity, betwixts-and-between: a riddle, wrapped in a mystery, inside an enigma.

The different locations and names appearing in the texts indicate that they may have seen this as 'worlds' rather than a world. In contemporary folklore the fairies live in lakes, rivers, stones, rocks, woods, trees, caves, underground places, bridges, hill, mountains, ancient earthworks, ruins or beneath the sea – what are generally described as liminal places, those in-between places.

One of the names for the Otherworld is Hy Brazil, the legendary island that appears on medieval maps. The name probably comes from the name Bressal (strife?) that is relatively common in the early period. The stories of Brendan's voyage and his supposed travels as far as America spread throughout Europe; they were found in Latin and translated to other languages. Hy Brazil was marked on medieval maps; Angelino Dulcert's map in 1325 mentions 'Insula de montoniis sive de brazill', an island corresponding to Brazil appears in a Venetian map of 1367 and a superior Catalan map of 1373 marks a large circular island west from the river Shannon 'Insula Berzil'. Brazil was not finally removed from navigation charts until 1865.

There are different spellings of the name and Brasil, Uí Breasail and Hy Brazil is conspicuous on maps from Italy, Spain, France, England and Germany. It is unknown how far the belief in this island affected the discovery of Columbus as it is said that he based his enterprise on three errors, one of which was the existence of large islands in mid-ocean and the maps and traditions known to him bore this out. He was in contact with Galway that was the centre of Irish lore of Hy Brasil and included among his sailors in 1492 a William Irez of Galway. T. Westropp notes that the Aran islanders believe that Hy Brazil can only be seen every seven years and claims to have seen it himself; supposedly it comes about from a mirage of mist in certain conditions.

Modern folklore still records the existence of an island to the west of Galway sometimes called Árainn Bheag (little Aran) or Hy Brazil beside the three real Aran





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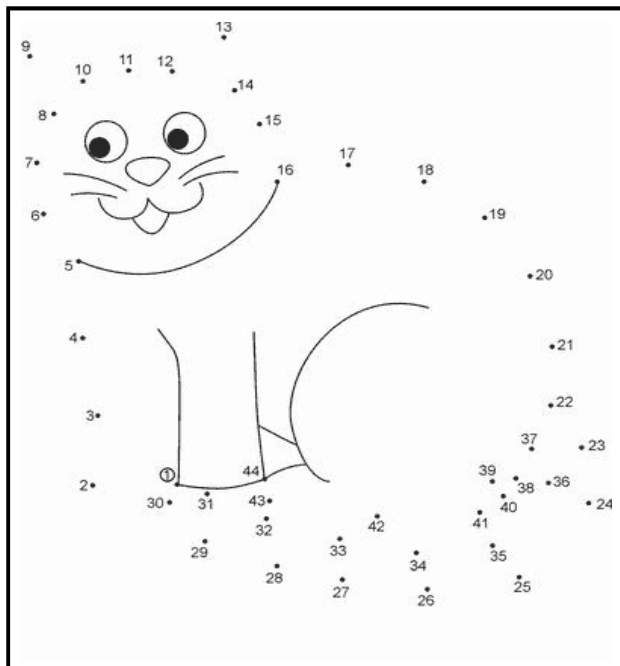
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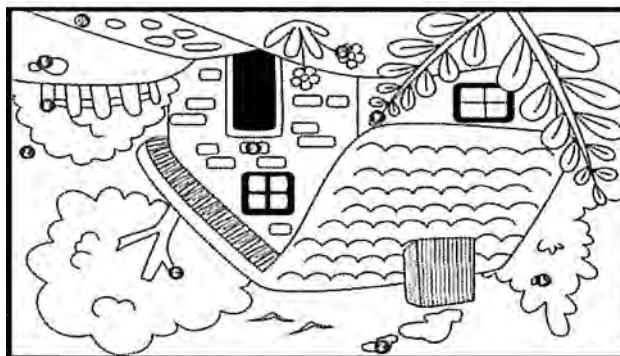
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ANSWERS



McDonalds Children's Colouring Competition



Name: _____
 Age: _____
 Address: _____

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February Winners:

Age: 3 - 5: Jane Smyth, Parklands

Age: 6 - 7: Hannah Carroll, Rockfield

Age: 8 & Over: Ingrid Tenter, Griffin Rath Hall

Prizes for Colouring Competition can be collected at:
Maynooth Community Council Office, Unit 5, Tesco Shopping Centre.
Entries must arrive before: 26th March 2012

MINISTER MUST MAKE EARLY DECISION ON MAYNOOTH SCHOOL PATRONAGE

Deputy Catherine Murphy (Ind – Kildare North) has written to the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairi Quinn seeking an early decision on the patronage of the proposed Maynooth Post Primary School(s). The Deputy is on record as favouring the junior/senior VEC option and has expressed this view to the Minister.

“The model Maynooth Post Primary school has developed is tried and trusted and very much part of the social fabric of Maynooth. In order to retain the school intact and deal with the existing and growing problem of overcrowding, the only viable solution is for a whole school move as soon as possible.

“Should the Minister decide on dual patronage on the new site, this could mean that a new building is built and populated with students on a gradual basis, only taking in between 100 and 125 students in first year and filling the school over 5-6 years. At the same time, Maynooth Post Primary would continue on its overcrowded site for an unacceptably long time.

“The cost of administration and caretaking could be shared if one administration block was built between junior and senior cycles as part of the new build. There would be no duplication in the provision of such essentials as a school hall and gym, and because of the size of the junior/senior school teacher expertise would ensure a wide selection of subjects and specialist classroom facilities. I also believe there is a strong economic advantage in this model in a time when funds are very limited.”

CATHERINE MURPHY WELCOMES MINISTER HOGAN'S ACCEPTANCE OF HER PROPOSAL TO ALLOW FOR REDUCTIONS IN PARTY FUNDING

Deputy Catherine Murphy (Independent TD for Kildare North) today welcomed the move by Minister Hogan to make changes to the rules governing how political parties are funded. The amendment, tabled by Minister Hogan in the Seanad during the committee stage of the Electoral (Amendment) (Political Funding) Bill 2011, comes following Murphy's having proposed an identical amendment to the Electoral (Amendment) Act, 2011 last July.

Under the Electoral Acts, increased exchequer payments to political parties are directly linked to increases in public service pay but anomalously there is, at present, no mechanism linking payments to reductions in public service pay. The amendment changes this situation and Murphy has welcomed Minister Hogan's acceptance of her proposal to include it in the Electoral Acts.

When introducing the amendment in the Seanad on Tuesday 21st February, Minister Hogan acknowledged Deputy Murphy's original proposal to make this change and explained that the amendment is now being brought forward following consideration by him over the past seven months to do so.

“I very much welcome Minister Hogan's tabling of this amendment. The changes in the legislation, once passed, will hopefully allow the Government to reduce the payments to political parties made under the Electoral Acts in line with recent reductions in public service pay. Payments made under these Acts, which make up only a portion of the total public funding & resourcing received by political parties, last year

Catherine MURPHY Independent TD

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Unit 4, The Post House,
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Main Street, Leixlip,
Co. Kildare

Opening Hours:
Monday to Friday, 10am-1pm

Phone: (01) 615 6625
e-mail: catherine.murphy@oireachtas.ie
website: www.catherinemurphy.ie

Advice Service:
Advice Centres will take place on the last Friday of every calendar month at the following locations:

2pm: The Turn Inn, Derrinturn
4pm: Keogh's The Corner House, Clane
6pm: The Monread Lodge, Naas



Catherine Murphy TD • Independent • Kildare North

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totalled €5,448,962.92, so I very much welcome the scope provided by this amendment to reduce that in line with reductions in public service pay rates.”

Murphy continued; “as welcome as this move is, I hope it's just a beginning where the reform of the political funding system is concerned where ultimately we reach a stage where political funding is fully transparent, fully vouched, adequate without being exorbitant and distributed as fairly as possible to encourage the development of alternative political entities, thus expanding choice.”

Catherine Murphy, TD
KILDARE NORTH

catherine.murphy@oireachtas.ie
www.catherinemurphy.ie



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**“AUTONOMY AND
ACCOUNTABILITY IN UNIVERSITY
EDUCATION IS KEY TO INNOVATION
AND PROSPERITY”
NUI MAYNOOTH PRESIDENT**

Professor Philip Nolan delivers Inaugural Lecture ‘A Place of Universal Learning’ at NUI Maynooth

16th February 2012: Irish universities should be institutions which welcome and accommodate all types of research, learning and teaching, with students of widely diverse backgrounds and cultures. They should be engines of innovation and economic growth, central to the maintenance of democratic society and free to act autonomously. These are some of the key themes explored by Professor Philip Nolan, President of NUI Maynooth who delivered his inaugural lecture at the University this afternoon.

Professor Nolan said it was critical that third level education was funded correctly – either from public or private sources and equivocation on this issue had the potential to do lasting damage to Irish education and its students. “We are foolish to imagine that failure to adequately and decisively provide for higher education will result in anything other than an inevitable mediocrity to the detriment of generations of students”.

In a wide ranging lecture to an audience of colleagues, students and representatives of the wider academic community, Professor Nolan espoused the virtues of a liberal education that prepares students for life and to be critical and rational thinkers, rather than merely trained for employment or solely to meet perceived demand in selected industries.


President Nolan described learning and scholarship as having the power to change lives. This placed, he said, an enormous responsibility on the scholars and teachers of NUI Maynooth, a responsibility which they welcomed.

In referencing the writings of John Henry Newman, the Oxford academic and Roman Catholic Cardinal who was central to the development of educational philosophy in Ireland, he emphasised his belief that a liberal education is the best way a modern university can prepare a student to be critical thinkers and innovators, to provide them with the tools they need for all aspects of their lives. Professor Nolan said “We are a place of learning and furnish our graduates not just with knowledge and skills, but with the capacity to reflect, to analyse, to reason, to articulate and to argue, and with the confidence and courage to act, to challenge, to contest and if necessary, to defy”.

In calling for a rounded approach to education that would help create an innovative society and a people capable of innovation, Professor Nolan warned of “the dangers of an exclusive focus on narrow skills in immediate demand or imagining that science alone holds the key to economic and social progress. If we choose this path, we may achieve some short-term gains but they will not be sustained, or sustainable, and in the process we will have lost the social capacity and cultural equipment to address the unknowable problems of the future and to renew ourselves as a society”.

He said he it was critical that academic institutions must be free to act autonomously “if they are to prosper”. “I would go further to say that policy interventions by those with little or no experience of teaching or research can be profoundly damaging. But autonomy is the freedom to act, not an excuse for complacency, and our future requires that we be trenchantly self-critical and committed to continuous learning adaptation and improvement”.

Professor Nolan highlighted public accountability as a key challenge for universities, particularly in these very



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- All vehicles entering **must have a float**, preferably a **live band** with **traditional, rock or pop music**.
- HGV's, lorries or cars ***without a float will not be accepted***.
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Entrance Fee:

- **Commercial Float ~ €50**
- **Club/Organisation ~ €20**

Bands ~ Free

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

<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #808080; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-right: 5px; text-align: center;">1</div> <div> Best Commercial Float 3 Best Band 5 Best Portrayal of Irish Culture </div> </div>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="margin-right: 5px;">Trophy</div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #808080; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-right: 5px; text-align: center;">2</div> <div> Best Club Float 4 Best School Float 6 Best Portrayal of Environmental Awareness </div> </div> <div style="margin-left: 5px;">Trophy</div> </div>
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="margin-right: 5px;">Perpetual Cup</div> </div>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="margin-right: 5px;">Trophy</div> </div>

Applications with entry fee to be sent to Community Council Office
 Unit 5, Tesco Shopping Centre, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.
 By Friday 2nd March or phone (office hours - 6285922 or 6285053) or
 John McGinley (6285293 (H) or 087-9890645 (M))

challenging times. “How good an account of ourselves do we give? What modes and systems have we established to give an account of ourselves to the society we serve? What have we done to build public trust in our institutions and supplant a dangerously negative public discourse on the value of education? The truly courageous institution, proud of its work, valuing its autonomy, will move quickly to explain itself, account for its successes and failures and describe its constant quest for self-improvement”.

Higher education, he said, was committed to the generation of new knowledge but also to the conservation of the old. “And not merely to conserve, but to revisit and revitalise and re-evaluate, knowing that the old serves as a foil to, a test of and the genesis of the new”. Educators have a duty to “engage with the world, with the problems of real people, real enterprise and real communities”.

Aside from funding a third level sector which now accommodated more than 50% of school leavers, and the question of accountability, Professor Nolan identified the embracing of technology in education, and the broadening of universities away from the traditional campus to include learners and teachers in industry and in

the community as key challenges for institutions like NUI Maynooth. He said that successful universities would have “a large and loose association of knowledge workers retaining a sense of community and a capacity to learn from one another”.

Professor Nolan said NUI Maynooth was the type of university he wished to lead – “one that sets itself the highest of goals, asks itself the hardest of questions, finds the best of answers and has the courage to adapt and change for the better, no matter how difficult that may be. A university is about people and ideas and culture, because, all material benefits aside, at the end of the day, what is meaningful is the struggle to understand, to put some order and shape on the universe; it is an expression of the better angels of our nature, it makes us human. This is the spirit of the university, a flame that we forget to name, but which is the source of all our energy and vitality”.

Further information from:

Deirdre Watters
NUI Maynooth

TeenSpace Maynooth

TeenSpace is a Christian based group for teens in 3rd to 6th year (15 to 18 year olds). The youth leaders are all volunteers, and organize events, to get to know teens and give them advice on life's little dilemmas from a Christian point of view. We are not a Bible study group –but know a lot about it- so here you are welcome to ask questions about religion and how it actually works as well.

Since September of last year, we are running a drop-in centre on Friday afternoon from 2 to 5pm in Maynooth Community Space (beside entrance of Manor Mills).

During the months of March and April, we have planned various activities such as a pool competition and table tennis, as well as themed events, such as quizzes, games evenings and a funky culture night. Our planning for the next couple of weeks:



Date	Time	Activity	Location
Fri 2 March	Doors open at 7pm Event: 7:30-9:30pm	Table tennis and badminton	Sportshall, Maynooth Post Primary School
Thu 8 March	Meet at 7pm at Maynooth Community Space Event: 7:30-9:30pm	Pool competition	Snooker Hall, NUIM
Thu 15 March	Meet at 7pm at Maynooth Community Space Event: 7:30-9:30pm	Pool competition	Snooker Hall, NUIM
Mon 26 March	Event: 7:30-9pm	Fun, games & teambuilding	Maynooth Community Space
Mon 2 April	Event 7:30-9pm	Culture night	Maynooth Community Space



The idea is to have fun and give yourselves a chance to chat to some-one about life, without being too pc about it.

Interested? Bring €2 (includes drink and snack) and show up at 7pm on Friday March 2nd, or either call us on 086 1009484 or have a look at our Facebook page: Teenspace Maynooth.

For parents: TeenSpace is supported by 4 Christian churches in Maynooth: St Mary's Catholic Church, Redeemed Christian Church of God, Maynooth Community Church and St Mary's Church of Ireland.

The TeenSpace Youth leaders

MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY LIBRARY

March Events Maynooth Community Library

World Book Day Thursday 1st March 11am: Documentary Film:

Book Smugglers

Free admission: Advance booking necessary.

Classic Director Series Film Club:

Starts Saturday 3rd March 2012.

Admission Free: Contact Library for further details.

Maynooth Film for All NUI Maynooth: SNAP:

Tuesday 13th March 2012: 8pm Snap: Its every parent's nightmare: your toddler is snatched in a public park. It's another parent's nightmare; your teenager is the one who abducts the toddler. Director of this tense thriller Carmel Winters will attend for a question and answer session after the screening. All welcome.

Saturday 10th March: **Saturday Book Club Meeting: 2.30pm**

Friday 16th March: Maynooth U3A group are celebrating **Seachtain na Gaeilge**

Friday 16th March 3pm in the library. All are welcome to come along and enjoy music, song and dance.

Saturday 24th March 2012. **Laban/Capacitar** workshop 2.30pm

Admission free: Booking essential

Every Wednesday **Toddler Story time** 10. - 10.30am

All welcome.

The Library is now open on Saturday mornings 9.30 – 1pm
We have books, magazines, dvds, cds and computer games
available free to all of our members.

All enquiries ph: 01 6285530 or email:

maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie

Recent Bereavements

Alan Grant

Alan sadly passed away on the 6th of February. Alan was a well respected member of staff with Maynooth Community Council Limited in Maynooth where he will be most remembered for taking photographs of local events in the Maynooth area for the "Maynooth Newsletter" over the last three years. He was also one of the best typists in the office handling most of the correspondence for the community council and office related matters. Alan also worked on correspondence, curriculum vitae's and reports for the general public, where his efficiency and courtesy was noted. He was liked by all who came into contact with him. Alan was full of life and always had a cheery word for the people he worked with. His tragic death leaves a void and he will always be remembered with affection. Our thoughts are with his family at this time.

In our thoughts this month.

Who recently passed away

Leo McGlynn

Founder member of Maynooth Community Council

Buggie Horan

Old Greenfield

Dan Conway

Old Greenfield

Peter O'Connor

Old Greenfield

Ralph Satchwell

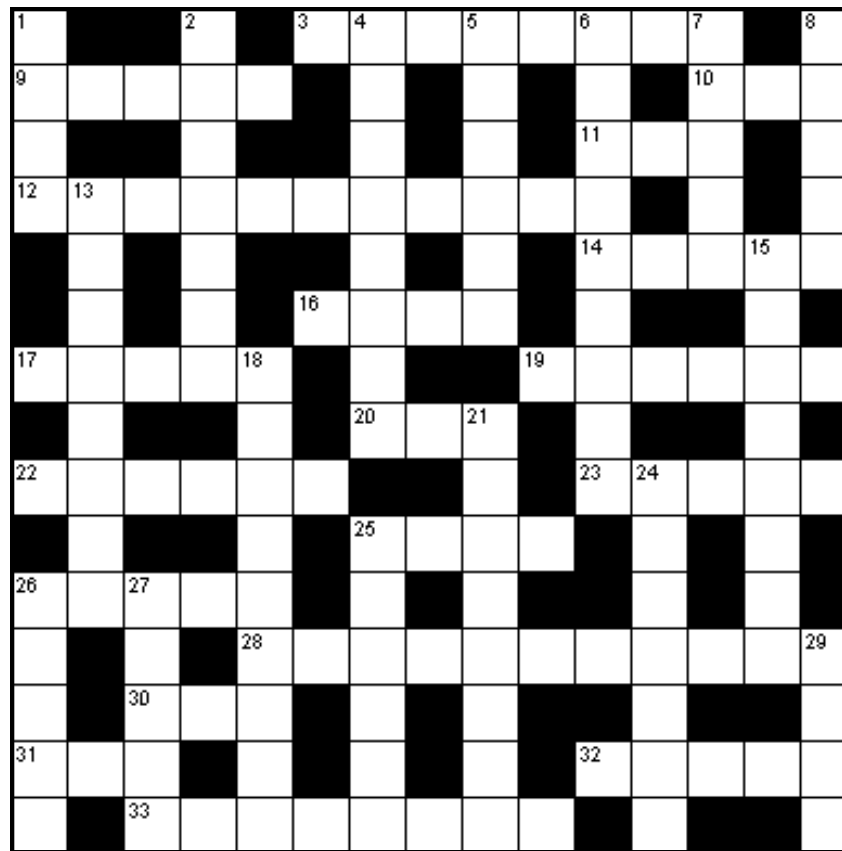
Mrs Bernie Foy

Parsons Street

Clues Across

3. Academic world (8)
 9. Narrow street (5)
 10. Acquire (3)
 11. New Zealand parrot (3)
 12. Defraud (5,6)
 14. Meat (5)
 16. Drama (4)
 17. Summed (5)
 19. God-like (6)
 20. Drinking vessel (3)
 22. Opera by Bizet (6)
 23. Former Russian rulers (5)
 25. Wind instrument (4)
 26. Raw hides (5)
 28. At once (11)
 30. Storage container (3)
 31. Ingot (3)
 32. Eccentric (5)

March 2012 Crossword - No: 400



Clues Down

1. 24 hour periods (4)
 2. Body of peers (7)
 4. Universal in extent (8)
 5. Of delicate beauty (6)
 6. Temporary expedient (9)
 7. Wide open (5)
 8. Pile (5)
 13. Made by hand (8)
 15. Not normal (8)
 18. Bandages (9)
 21. Heaven (8)
 24. Stopping place (7)
 25. Tool used for driving nails (6)
 26. Common people (5)
 27. Seventh sign of the zodiac (5)

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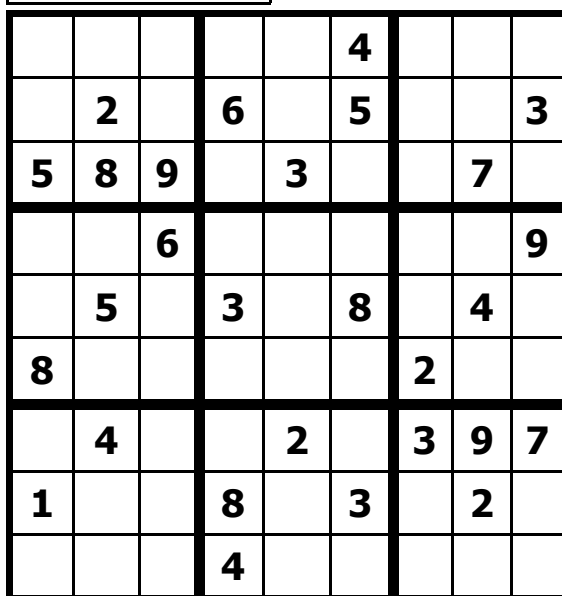
Winner of Crossword No. 399

Ann O'Shea,
 The Arches,
 Maynooth

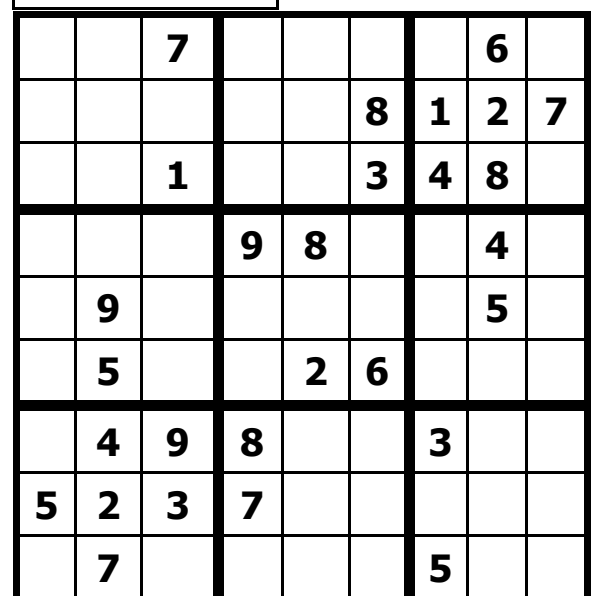
Answers to Crossword 399



Difficult

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March 2012

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Free recycling events in Kildare with WEEE Ireland and Tesco

WEEE Ireland, the Irish compliance scheme for electrical and battery recycling, is holding two free recycling events in **Kildare** on the 24th of March. The collection events will take place in the following locations:

Sat 24th March - Tesco car park, Maynooth, 10am-4pm

Sat 24th March - Tesco car park, Celbridge, 10am-4pm

These free WEEE Ireland events allow people to get rid of any household electrical equipment and batteries in a safe and environmentally friendly manner.

Anything in the home with a battery or a plug can be recycled at these collections. Waste collection specialists from WEEE Ireland will be there on the day to help you send your toasters, vacuum cleaners, fridges and every other electrical item imaginable to a better place.

As a consumer of electrical items, you are entitled to bring your waste electrical equipment to your electrical retailer when purchasing an item of similar type, i.e. on a one-for-one, like-for-like basis. Waste batteries can be brought back to any battery retailer that sells similar batteries, even if you don't purchase anything. All WEEE and waste batteries can also be brought to your local civic amenity site free of charge.

For further information on all future recycling events in Kildare, or to find your nearest civic amenity site, please log on to WEEE Ireland's website www.recyclefree.ie.

For more information contact:

Lorraine Cronin

Insight Consultants

Lorraine@insightconsultants.ie

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THE GARDEN IN MARCH

Growing shamrock

You don't need the luck of the Irish to grow a shamrock. Give it moist soil and cool Irish nights—night temperatures in the 50s are best. Don't worry if the plant turns yellow after a few months. Your shamrock plant is just starting to rest, just like all of us do now and then. If this happens, just ease up on the watering and re - pot the bulbs in fall. Take care of your shamrock plant and next St. Paddy's Day it will be as green as the Emerald Isle.



Geraniums

Do you have any geraniums that you kept over winter? Now is a good time to re-pot them. Cut them back (6 inches or so) to keep them bushier.



Cannas, callas, begonias, and dahlias

Start indoors in late March or April to promote earlier blooming. Plant the bulbs in small pots and transplant the plants to the garden later in spring.

Trees and shrubs

This is the best month for pruning leafy trees and shrubs. The stress of pruning to dormant plants is minimal and the wounds will heal nicely when spring arrives. The wound of a well-pruned limb will look like a donut as it heals itself.



Shredded wood from evergreens is fine for use as mulching. The sap in maples and birch trees can run strong in March. Nevertheless, now is a good time to prune these trees. Don't worry about the bleeding of the sap. Some scientists believe this sap can actually help seal wounds.

Vegetables

Tomato seedlings exposed to a slight breeze will grow more compact and sturdy. A small fan can be used to create the breeze. Constant breezes are best, but fanning the plants for only a few minutes per day can be beneficial. Overwatering is the 1 killer of young transplant seedlings. This causes stem rot, a condition called "damping off". Avoid watering seedlings when the soil is already moist. The use of sterile, soilless mixes will also prevent diseases.

Lawns and Grasses

Rake your lawn as soon as the final snow melts. This raking removes debris that contributes to leaf diseases. Ornamental grasses can be clipped back to the ground in late March before new growth begins. This will promote faster re - growth.



Wildlife

Early arriving robins will appreciate a snack of raisins. Now is the most important time to feed birds. Their sources of natural food are scarce now. Squirrels often dig up bulbs. Combat these "furry-tailed rats" by placing a barrier over the emerging bulbs. Nylon netting, which is often used to protect strawberry beds and cherry trees from birds, may be temporarily placed over the soil. Chicken wire or floating row covers are other options. Our goal is to frustrate the squirrel—then it will move to the neighbor's tulip bed. If you are feeding birds, temporarily stop because bird feeders attract squirrels. Now is the best time to trap rabbits. Bait your live trap with greens or carrots. Rabbits are starved for food now and can be easily captured. Trap them now before they start breeding in spring. A single mother rabbit can bear 36 bunnies in a year!



The Irish compliance scheme for electrical and battery recycling

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