



Maynooth Newsletter



Serving the people of Maynooth

April 2014

Local News

FREE

Maynooth St. Patricks' Day Parade 2014

This was the 29th year for us to organise the Maynooth Parade and there is no doubt that it was one of the best that we have had for many years. The quality of the entries was fantastic and we had good weather.

There were 34 entries this year and the very big crowd particularly liked the colourful display of the floats. It was obvious that a lot of time and effort went into their preparation.

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

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

John McGinley,
Organiser, Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Parade 2014



This publication is produced by Maynooth Community Council's Community Employment Scheme, supported by Department of Social Protection, which is funded by the Irish Government under the National Development Plan 2007 - 2013





Thank You!!

The St Patrick's Day Committee would like to thank our major sponsors Thornton's Recycling, Derrinstown Stud, Kilcock Court, Brady's Clockhouse and McMahon's Bar & Lounge. Other sponsors were Allied Irish Bank, Cribbins Butchers, J.G. Merrick Dental Surgeon, O'Neill's Lounge, Coonan & Sons, Mulcahy's Butchers, Jim's Shoe Repair and Moulin Rouge Boutique.

We would also like to thank the following:

Paul Thornton of Thornton's Recycling for providing the reviewing stand and for help in sponsoring the St. Laurence O'Toole Pipe Bands.

Gabriel Martin, Andrew McMullon, Matt Callaghan, Seamus Kennedy, Willie Sauls, Jamie Kelly, Pat Farrell and David Moynan for helping with the reviewing stand and putting out the crowd control barriers.

George O'Connor for providing the control barriers.

Paul Croghan for taking on the task of Master of Ceremonies.

The Boys National Primary School for providing chairs for the reviewing stand and Marie Gleeson for providing the keys to the school.

Larine House for storing our steps for the Reviewing Stand.

Our guests on the reviewing stand.

Bernard Durkan T.D. for being our guest speaker.

Kildare County Council for Supplying the No Parking Cones and Anthony Penny for delivering and collecting them. All the stewards who yet again performed their tasks very professionally. The Parade Committee, John Doogan and the staff of the Community Council, particularly Catherine Strickland, for their great help.

The residents of Greenfield Estate for their continued co-operation. All of the business people who did such a splendid job of decorating their shop windows.

Patricia Moynan for judging the Shop Windows each

year. Susan Durack for judging the best Shop Front. Finally, a special word of thanks to the Gardai for controlling the traffic so well.

The Parade Prize Winners were:

Best Commercial Float - Glenroyal Hotel & Leisure Club

Best Community Float - Eve Larine Genil (Owen Byrne Plaque)

Best School Float - Maynooth Educate Together

Best Portrayal of Irish Culture - Michael Noone Motors

Best Portrayal of Environmental Awareness - Tidy Towns

Best Band - St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band

The Shop Window Prize Winners were:

1. Carraig Flowers



2. Moulin Rouge



3. Coonans Auctioneers



With a view to encouraging businesses to paint and maintain shop fronts in a manner appropriate to the Main Street we have introduced a new prize for the best shop front and the Winner was:

The Bon Bon Cafe.



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

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FIRST AID FOR YOUR PET

Road Traffic Accident



You find your pet dog or cat at the side of the road and you don't know what to do! Firstly, if your pet is still alive place a muzzle around its mouth. Your pet is probably in serious pain and moving or examining him may result in him biting you. A piece of cloth or tie can be slipped over his nose, looped underneath and tied behind his ears. Obviously in cases of severe respiratory distress this procedure is not

suitable. Next get a blanket and roll him on to it and bring your dog to the Vet.

Your dog or cat could have a back or leg injury so keeping him as flat as possible is vital. All dogs should be kept confined and on leads to prevent such injuries and accidents.

Poisons

In your house or home there are numerous products, obvious and otherwise, which if ingested can be lethal for your pet.

a) Foods – Alcohol, coffee, raisins, grapes, chocolate (especially dark chocolate).

b) Medication – Pain killers, anti depressants, vitamins. All these should be kept safely out of reach.

c) Others – Toilet cleaners, shoe polish, anti freeze, slug and snail bait.



d) Flowers and household plants, tulips, rhododendrons and Lilies which are highly toxic especially to cats causing severe kidney damage. These poisons if ingested can cause serious side effects – vomiting, diarrhoea, incoordination and respiratory difficulties.

Rat Poison

If ingested by your dog will cause internal haemorrhaging with evidence of

blood in faeces and urine. Bleeding from nose can be a sign of advance poisoning. In this case it is vital to induce vomiting and vitamin K is the antidote.

Bee Stings

Some dogs after been stung will show swelling of face and nose area as these are the usual sites of a sting. Find the sting, remove it and apply vinegar.



If you think your pet has been exposed to any poison you can contact us at:

Maynooth Veterinary Clinic 01 6289467 or Clane Veterinary Clinic 045 982763.



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*Our clinic*



# Community Council Notes

The Council expressed its sympathy to Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin on the recent passing of her mother, Mairéad Bean Uí Bhrolcháin.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved. There was no correspondence and the Treasurer's report was read.

## MCC Office and PC upgrade

The office is in the process of exploring the upgrade and costs of its PCs. It will explore licensing agreements, open source, funding (full or partial) by the Department of Social Protection or by companies for example Intel. It was considered prudent to explore all the possibilities before outlaying funds and to consider upgrading on a gradual basis. The current cost for an upgrade is €13 per month per PC. It is also necessary to consider that new release of software can mean that PCs may require new hardware.

## Maynooth Community Council launches a Fundraising plan – Bingo

The Council announced the establishment of a weekly fun Bingo night which begins on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April in McMahon's to raise funds for MCC. This will be a one sheet only game. It was thought that it would prove to be a good fundraising opportunity as Maynooth does not have a bingo night in the town and it was felt that this event would attract a large audience. In the past bingo was played in the Parish Hall and always attracted a large audience.

## St. Patrick's Day Parade

The St. Patrick's Parade is now organised. There will be between 30-40 floats. The committee is appealing for volunteers to do stewarding for the duration of the parade.

## Educate Together

The school has just published a cookbook which retails at €10 in the Maynooth Bookshop. The book consists of 248 pages of recipes and illustrations representing the cuisine of the various nationalities in the school. MCC members were invited to the launch which took place on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March in the school. The school will have a céile for Seachtain na Gaeilge. There will be a readathon at the end of March. The Open Day will take place on the 5<sup>th</sup> April and presents an opportunity for parents to contribute to the final plan for the school. The school is preparing for its primary science award and will take part in the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

## Maynooth Tidy Towns

Maynooth Tidy Towns held their AGM and the outgoing committee were re-elected – Mattie Callaghan, President; Paul Croghan, Secretary; Richard Farrell, PRO. MTT committee and members are very busy at the moment preparing their float for the parade. Supervalu will give flowers for the float and they will be planted in the Town afterwards. The number of volunteers turning out on Saturdays and Sundays has increased. On a less positive note it was reported that the bus shelter outside McMahan's is in need of repair. The bus shelter provider cannot repair it as the Perspex component is no longer manufactured in the required dimensions. This was a fact that was beyond the belief of members of the Council. The present state of the bus shelter is not a good image for the street especially as Maynooth is taking part in Ireland's Best Kept Town Competition. It was noted

that the shelter provider is still using the shelter for advertising. It was agreed that the matter be brought to the attention of the KCC.

It was commented that Maynooth schools are achieving Green Status awards which is great for the school environs but it appears that the message is not extending to the town where there is evidence of increased littering. There have been several complaints about school children not using litter bins in the Town. Maynooth Tidy Towns sends representatives to the schools to speak with students. It was strongly suggested that the Parents' Associations should also be contacted as the message must come from both the school and home. Work on the preservation of Farrell Bridge is ongoing. The Convent paving is almost complete. Some concern was expressed that the kerbing has extended too much out on to the main road and has narrowed the Dunboyne Road junction. It was stated that the work was carried out according to the legal road requirements. Overall the finish was considered to be of a high standard and that the object of the work was for the safety of the children. It was reported that there were complaints from some residents about the removal of two 100 year old wrought iron benches which were situated outside the entrance to Carton Avenue and the fact that they would not be returned. A member of the council suggested that they be brought to a workshop in Leixlip for renovation. It was pointed out that they had already been looked at by a local expert and were deemed to be in too bad a condition for preservation. New seating will be provided. A suggestion was made that Carton Avenue gates be painted white to mirror the white gates of the College at the other end of the town. There was a request from MTT that no election posters be put up or at the very least put up in areas that would not spoil the look of the town especially as judging would go on in the Town.

## Senior Citizens

The AGM was held at the beginning of March at which the outgoing committee was re-instated. The Annual Collection took place on the 22/23 March which was incorrectly noted in the last *Maynooth Newsletter*. The Tea Dance took place on the 16 March. Next Year the Senior Citizens' Group will celebrate 50 years.

**St. Patrick's Foundation 17<sup>th</sup> March.** All was reported to be going well with the preparations for St. Patrick's Foundation Breakfast on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> at Carton House. There will be a guest speaker, Irish and African dancers and a harpist. Members of the MCC members and Senior Citizens (at a special rate) were invited to attend in what promised to be an enjoyable event.

## Canet Fire Fighters to visit Maynooth

A group of firemen and women from Canet will visit Ireland for four days and will stay one night in Maynooth on the 9<sup>th</sup> May. The group of nine consists of 2 firemen 1 firewoman and 6 trainee fire fighters. They hope to see a GAA match while here. It was remarked that our own Fire Station in Maynooth is in an appalling condition.

The next meeting of the Maynooth Community Council will be the AGM

## Irish Girl Guides strive for Universal Primary Education

Members of Irish Girl Guides (IGG) are this week learning about the second Millennium Development Goal – to achieve universal primary education. Girls and young women from age five to 26 are taking part in games and activities in preparation for World Thinking Day - Saturday 22nd February – when 10 million Girl Guides and Girl Scouts throughout the world will focus on the theme "Education opens doors for boys and girls".

Although access to education has improved worldwide, an estimated 250 million children of primary school age lack basic reading, writing and numeracy skills, whether in school or not. Globally, 123 million youth (aged 15-24) lack basic reading and numeracy skills; 61 per cent of them are young women (Millennium Development Goal Report 2013).

"Here in Ireland it is unimaginable for a child to be denied a primary education," says Helen Concannon, IGG Chief Commissioner. "But, as a member of Irish Girl Guides, we are connected with 10 million other girls and women around the world and unfortunately they don't all get a primary education.

"We stand shoulder to shoulder with our sister Guides around the world to raise awareness of this crucial issue. Educating children is an investment in all our futures and it is our responsibility to campaign for it across the globe. World Thinking Day is an ideal time for us to join forces with all Girl Guides and Girl Scouts and work towards creating a fair and equal world."

The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) would like to see non-formal education valued and recognised as an important part of an all-round approach to education and aims to provide opportunities for Girl Guides and Girl Scouts to learn about the importance of education and to stand up for the rights of girls and young women. Girl Guides are encouraged to act as agents of change and to find ways to address issues overseas as well as in their own communities. They can earn a World Thinking Day 2014 badge by learning about issues such as access to quality education, lifelong learning and the importance of education. "Education gives girls a chance to make friends and grow in confidence and it provides opportunities for their future life," says Ruth Hennessy, a 17-year-old IGG member from Swords, Co Dublin. "Primary education is very important as girls wouldn't learn basic skills if they didn't get that opportunity," says Fiona Buckley, also 17 and from Swords. "If girls don't get a basic education, they can easily be taken advantage of and denied their human rights," says 20-year-old Louise Hennessy, an IGG leader from Swords. IGG members are collecting money for the World Thinking Day Fund, which is distributed by WAGGGS each year to five chosen countries. This year's funds will go to help education projects in Egypt, Bangladesh, Armenia, Benin and St Vincent and Grenadines.

## The Big Bad Wolf Show

With Liam Farrell

Maynooth Community Library

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2pm**

Suitable for children from 4 to 10 years of age  
Booking essential

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Email: [maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie)  
<http://www.kildare.ie/library/maynooth/>



# Editorial

There is an account of the St Patrick's Day parade with lots of photographs. But the Newsletter would like to congratulate the committee for their unstinting work on the parade. Many of them have been involved for years and they deserve our thanks and recognition. The local businesses and all the clubs etc who contribute and participate should also be recognised but some are very conspicuous by their absence. These will not be mentioned here but there are prominent groups that one might expect to take part and this is often commented upon. It should be emphasised that this is a sub-committee of the Community Council and without them the parade would not exist. This is only one of the many activities around the town that the Community Council is involved in, and this includes this publication. All the work is voluntary, the various committees give vast amounts of their time, without payment, without expenses and often without recognition. In fact they usually put up with huge amount of criticism instead and with the increasing use of social media, this can happen in a very public arena. Volunteer work in general can go unrecognised and without much thanks. There are so many volunteer groups in Maynooth and many of these organisations took part in the parade and it is a great showcase for them and they take this opportunity every year. There will always be those who find fault and criticise but they are usually those who are not involved and who would rather sit on the fence. The Community Employment project that is sponsored by the Community Council also works on the Newsletter, the parade and the Community Festival. The outdoor workers work on the canal following the work of the project that was sponsored by the Royal Canal and the Tidy Towns. The Community Council took over responsibility for that part of the project over a year ago and the workers are a great support in their spare time to the Tidy Towns committee as well. The parade in Dublin was an extraordinary spectacle as usual and there are many tourists visiting the capital city. But the economy is still very flat and although house prices are increasing in Dublin and some other small pockets this is not indicative of what is happening countrywide.

There are growing concerns as well about the difficulties between the Gardaí and the Government and differing voices are emerging within the Government itself most recently. The treatment of the whistleblowers continues to be a bone of contention and this is a problem deeply rooted in Irish society. There is a tendency to shoot the messenger rather than to listen to the message and this leads to severe management problems in large organisations. There are cracks showing in the coalition over the remarks of the Garda Commissioner with the Labour Party stating that he should withdraw the 'disgusting' remark about the way in which the 2 gardaí released their information and Fine Gael ministers disagreeing. Politicians and the Government are on the left foot since the New Year, fire fighting on an ongoing basis. The latest revelations about Patrick Nulty shook the system and particularly his erstwhile colleagues in the Labour Party. He is a man who had suffered in his childhood and was admired for his bravery and entry into politics. The sudden resignation on Saturday 22nd March followed by the revelations in the Sunday World and other newspapers on the following day has shocked his constituents in particular but it seems that some of them were well aware of his activities.

This month is the 1,000 anniversary of the most famous of early Irish battles, the Battle of Clontarf and there is a full page on this event further in this publication. It took place on the 23rd of April, Good Friday of that year. Not the type of activity we would expect on the day of Christ's crucifixion and it certainly would not

happen in Ireland today! The main character was Brian Boru the man who gave us the surname Ua Briain (O'Brien). But we know the names of many of the women who surrounded him as well, his mother, sisters, daughters and his most famous wife, Gormlaith the daughter of the king of Leinster and they lived in north Leinster, possibly around this area. There is a tendency to think of history beginning in the 19th and 20th centuries and to ignore what has gone before. It is heartening then to see celebrations of this momentous event all through the year, but a lot of the commemorations are at an academic level rather than the popular level and this is a problem with a lot of medieval material. There is the misconception that Brian got rid of the Vikings out of Ireland after this battle but this is pure propaganda from the twelfth century, propaganda that worked so well that it is still believed today. In fact the battle was fought mainly between Munster and Leinster in the first real attempt to create a 'king of Ireland' an office that was never really realised despite the fact that certain figures before this were referred by that title. The Vikings were well embedded into Irish society by 1014. They were Christian, inter-married and had established the very important towns around the coast in particular. Dublin was becoming a central area of interest for anyone who wanted to be a powerful king.

Beidh cláracha raidió and teilifíse ar an ábhar maraon le léachtaí tugtha ar fud na tíre agus tá taispeántas iontach le hoscailt i mí Aibreáin ag Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann. Beidh taiscí agus seoda éagsúla ó cheantar Luimnigh agus áiteacha eile ón tréimhse stairiúil, iomráiteach sin le feiceáil. If féidir roinnt dena taiscí a fheiceáil anseo ar an shuíomh idirlíon atá ag an Músaem. <http://www.museum.ie/en/exhibition/gallery/clontarf-1014-photo-gallery.aspx> Is fiú cúairt a thabhairt ar na taispeántais eile atá acu freisin agus cuimhnigh go bhfuil sé fós saon in aisce don phobal. Tugann ár gcúairteoirí eachtrannacha cúairt ar an áit go minic ach is dóigh liom go ndéanann muintir na hÉireann iad féin dearmad ar na seoda iontacha, a déanadh anseo in Éirinn, atá i dtaisce sa bhfoirgneamh. Múireann Ní Bhrolcháin

## THE MIRACLE PRAYER

Dear Heart of Jesus in the past I have asked for many favours. This time I ask for a special one (mention here). Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken Heart where your father sees it. Then, in His merciful eyes it will become Your favour not mine. Amen.

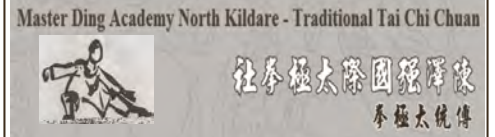
Say for three days and promise to publish.

## Maynooth Toastmasters

Maynooth Toastmasters meet every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month in the Glenroyal Hotel, meetings start at 8pm and finish at 10pm. We provide a secure and friendly environment which allows people to develop and become more confident in the skills of public speaking. People come to Toastmasters for different reasons ie to make sure that the all important wedding speech will be memorable, to overcome basic concerns about speaking in public and gain communication skills, to learn the skills of thinking quickly and responding. Everyone is encouraged to develop leadership roles as part of the training process offered by Maynooth Toastmasters. Everyone has a story to tell and your first speech termed an "An Ice Breaker" is just that, I remember mine given about 2 years ago. It went like this, playing hide and go seek with my brother at age of 7, I entered a glasshouse to see flowers in all colours of the rainbow, it opened the world of colour and design to me and became my career. Toastmasters is about enjoying yourself and each evening we break midway for coffee, tea, biscuits and chat. On the 10th March we held our club competition and selected members who will go on and represent Maynooth at the next level of competition, taking place on the 24th March in the Glenroyal Hotel with the other Kildare Clubs. At stake is the opportunity to progress, climb the ladder and possibly reach the zenith of speaking at the Toastmasters International Speech Competition in America. It starts at club level and it's great fun seeing a wide range of speeches all competing for the prize.

In Toastmasters everybody wins, as it is a mutually supportive environment whose aim is the personal development of all the members, so come along as a guest and flavour Toastmasters Maynooth, you will be surprised.

Peter Cuthbert Pro Tel 086 8752336 cuthbertpeter@gmail.com



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# Know Your Rights

## Know Your Rights : Adoptive Benefit Question

I've just adopted a child and applied for Adoptive Benefit. The amount and period of the Adoptive Benefit that I have been granted were not what I expected. How long should I be able to get Adoptive Benefit for and how much should it be?

### Answer

Adoptive Benefit is a payment to an adopting mother or a single male who adopts a child. It is paid for a continuous period of 24 weeks from the date your child is placed with you. However you will not get Adoptive Benefit for the full 24 weeks unless your adoptive leave begins on the date of placement. If you begin your adoptive leave after the date of placement, you will lose some of your Adoptive Benefit entitlement.

You must give four weeks' notice to your employer of your intention to take adoptive leave before the expected placement of the child (for both foreign and domestic adoptions). As soon as is reasonably practicable you must give your employer the expected date of the placement.

You can also take up to a further 16 weeks' additional adoptive leave, but this period is not covered by Adoptive Benefit, nor is your employer obliged to make any payment during this period unless otherwise agreed.

If you intend to take the 16 weeks' additional adoptive leave you must give your employer at least four weeks' written notice. This can be given at the same time as the initial notice to take adoptive leave.

You should apply for Adoptive Benefit six weeks before you intend to go on adoptive leave.

Since 6 January 2014 the payment rate for Adoptive Benefit has been standardised at €230 per week for new applicants. This change applies to new claimants since that date. Claimants who were getting the payment before that date are not affected by the change and continue to receive an amount based on their income, with a minimum of €17.80 and a maximum of €62. Adoptive Benefit is taxable but not liable for the Universal Social Charge or Pay Related Social Insurance (PRSI). Adoptive Benefit can be paid directly into your bank or building society account.

## Know Your Rights : Supplement to Register of Electors Question

I moved house earlier this year but have not registered to vote at my new address. Is it too late for me to register to vote in the local elections next month?

### Answer

You can still be added to the register for the local and European elections which will be held on Friday 23 May 2014.

The Register of Electors is published every year on 1 February but the closing date for submitting changes to the last draft Register was November 25 –before you moved to your new address.

Changes after this date are taken into account in a supplement to the Register of Electors and until 6 May you can apply to be added to the supplement for the upcoming elections.

You can check if you are on the register at [checktheregister.ie](http://checktheregister.ie) or at your local authority, Garda

station, post office or public library.

If you are on the register but your previous address is listed, you can have your new address added to the supplement by completing form RFA3. The form is available online at [checktheregister.ie](http://checktheregister.ie) or from your local authority, post office or public library. This will also remove you from the register for your previous address.

If you check the register and find that you are not listed on the register, you can still apply to be added to the supplement up to the closing date of 6 May 2014. In this case the form you use is called RFA2.

There is an earlier deadline of 26 April 2014 for changes to the supplement for postal voters. This may apply if you are not able to vote at a polling station because of your occupation, illness or disability, being in prison, or if you are studying full-time in Ireland but away from the address where you are registered to vote. The application form for inclusion in this supplement to the postal voters list is available from your local authority..

## Know Your Rights : Single Person Child Carer Credit Question

I claimed the One-Parent Family Tax Credit last year because I share custody of my son with my former partner. My notice of tax credits for 2014 didn't include it and I'm told I can't claim it any more if she claims it. Why is this?

### Answer

The One-Parent Family Tax Credit (OPFTC) was a credit for people parenting alone that reduced the amount of tax that they had to pay. If a child stayed with each of its parents for some part of the year, then both parents could claim the full amount of the tax credit for that tax year.

The OPFTC was abolished at the end of 2013 and the Single Person Child Carer Credit (SPCCC) was introduced from 1 January 2014.

Only one parent can claim the SPCCC in a tax year. In general, the SPCCC is given to the person with whom the qualifying child lives for the whole or greater part of the year (more than 6 months). This person is called the primary claimant. If both parents have equal custody (by court order), entitlement to the credit is decided by which parent gets Child Benefit.

When the SPCCC was introduced, Revenue automatically allocated the new credit to people who were due to receive a One-Parent Family Tax Credit and were also getting Child Benefit. If you believe that you qualify as the primary claimant but the credit has been granted automatically to your former partner, you should complete Form SPCC1 (available from Revenue) and return it with any relevant evidence in support of your claim. In the event of a dispute you can appeal Revenue's determination to the Appeal Commissioners.

If your former partner is the primary claimant, she can choose to give up the credit so that you can claim it. To do this, she submits Form SPCC1 and you submit Form SPCC2. You must meet the qualifying conditions and your son must live with you for more than 100 days in a year (for the purpose of this limit, it can count as a day if he is with you for most of the day).

You cannot claim the SPCCC if you are: jointly

assessed as a married person or civil partner; cohabiting; married or in a civil partnership (unless separated).

The SPCCC is €1,650 in 2014. If you get the SPCCC you are also entitled to an €4,000 extension in the standard rate tax band, increasing it to €36,800.

## Know Your Rights : Renewing a passport Question

I'm planning a trip abroad later this year but my passport will expire a couple of weeks before I'm due to travel. Will that leave me with enough time to renew my passport before I travel? Can I renew it before its expiry date?

### Answer

The time it takes to renew a passport can vary, depending on how you make the application. The Passport Office recommends sending your application using [An Post's Passport Express](http://An Post's Passport Express) service. In general, this guarantees that you will get your passport within 10 working days, but it may take longer at busy times of the year. Check [passport.ie](http://passport.ie) for current turnaround times. The standard adult passport costs €80 through Passport Express, with a processing charge of €9 – a total charge of €89. You can hand in your completed application at any An Post office.

The Passport Office no longer accepts applications submitted by regular or registered post from applicants living in Ireland and it is not possible to apply online.

Applying in person at the Passport Office costs €95 and is only recommended if you are due to travel in less than ten days. In this case, you can use the Passport Appointment Booking Service, [passportappointments.ie](http://passportappointments.ie). There is an additional Urgent Fee of €55 if you need your passport issued in 3–5 working days. It is not usually possible to issue a passport in less than three days unless immediate travel is required due to the death or serious illness of a family member or because you need emergency medical treatment.

If you are concerned about forgetting to renew your passport in time, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade provides a Passport Reminder Service, which sends you a reminder email before your passport is due to expire. You can register for this service at [passport.ie](http://passport.ie).

You can apply for a new passport before your current one has expired. In this case your new passport will run from when you apply rather than from the expiry date of your current passport.

You can get a passport renewal application form at any Garda station or An Post office. It is not available online.

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. Information is also available online at [citizensinformation.ie](http://citizensinformation.ie) and from the Citizens Information Phone Service, 0761 07 4000.**



# Brian Boru, Gormlaith and the Battle of Clontarf



(The main characters: **Brian Boru** of Munster, his wife **Gormlaith** daughter of **Murchad** (died 937) king of the Uí Fhaeláin of North Leinster and Kildare area, **Donnchad** their son, **Olaf** king of Dublin her first husband and their son **Sitric** later king of Dublin, **Mael Mórda** brother of Gormlaith and king of Leinster.)

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of this month we commemorate the 1000<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Clontarf (Cluain Tairbh) fought on Good Friday 1014. One character stands head and shoulders above all others, a man of the century, the famous Brian Boru from who the Uí Bhriain (O Briens) clan was named.

Until the 10<sup>th</sup> century the most powerful kings in Ireland, titled the king of Tara, belonged to the dynasty of the Uí Néill, they were roughly divided in two, the Northern Uí Néill and the Southern Uí Néill. They kept control for the best part of 600 years and two kings, Mael Sechlainn 1 of the Southern Uí Néill (died 862) and his son Flann Sinna (died 916) were called 'king of all Ireland'.

Brian's family, the Dál gCais from the mouth of the Shannon, appear from nowhere in 934, his father Cenn Étig (Kennedy) son of Lorcán (Larkin) died in 951 was called 'king of North Munster' and 'royal heir of Munster'. Brian's brothers were kings before him, when they were killed by Munster rivals he became king in 976. He ruthlessly annihilated his brother's assassins, desecrating a church and killing one of them in the sanctuary. Brian spent 20 years consolidating his power at home and then further afield until, in 999, Leinster and Dublin revolted against him. Brian defeated them and took prisoner Mael Mórda, king of Leinster. In 1005 he was giving gold to Armagh and recognizing it as apostolic city of Ireland. As a result, he is described in the Book of Armagh as 'Emperor of the Irish'.

Traditionally, his greatest enemy was Mael Sechlainn the second but they had come to an agreement. In 1012 the tension was building between Brian and Leinster and when war broke out between Mael Sechlainn and the Dublin Vikings in 1013, Brian sent his son Murchad to help Mael Sechlainn and to attack Leinster. Then Murchad camped at Kilmainham, within view of Dublin. Brian joined him and blockaded the city from September to Christmas before returning home.

The enemy knew that he would return next spring and tried to get help from the Vikings of the Orkneys and the Isle of Man. Mael Sechlainn took his army home so the combatants were Brian and his Munstermen with a small group Connachtmen against the Leinstermen and some Vikings. As far as we know, Sitric king of Dublin, did not take part. The battle raged all day, an unusually long and bloody conflict for the time with huge losses on both sides. Brian won but a retreating Viking murdered him and many other leaders were also lost. Tellingly, Brian's body was brought to Armagh, via Swords, not home to Munster.

It took Munster decades to recover and the kingship of Leinster changed completely. This was not a battle between the Irish and the Vikings but mainly between Munster and Leinster. Later, in the 12<sup>th</sup> century the historical romance, *Cogad Gaeil re Gallabhb* (Battle of the Irish with the Foreigners) glorified Brian and began the story that he cleared the Vikings from Ireland despite the fact that they had become integrated with the Irish. The 12<sup>th</sup> century Viking account, the *Njalsaga*, also retells the tale. There is some disagreement about their accuracy but they agree on one aspect, they paint Gormlaith, wife of Brian and of Olaf, in a very bad light and even some modern scholars agree.

Today Gormlaith (blue/purple sovereignty) is nearly forgotten but she has attracted more attention than any other woman in medieval Ireland. Her brother Mael Mórda king of Leinster was taken prisoner by Brian in 999. When Brian made war on Dublin he forced the Viking king, Sitric Silkenbeard, to submit. Sitric was born to Gormlaith and her first husband, Olaf. Mael Sechlainn the second is also said to have married Gormlaith – these combatants knew each other very well. Sitric was also married to a daughter of Brian's, both by different partners, not incest but very closely related.

One reference says: 'It is she who made the three leaps of which is said: three leaps Gormlaith made/ that a woman will not ever make again;/a leap to Dublin, a leap to Tara;/a leap to Cashel, the rock plain that surpasses all. Amlaíb Cuarán her first husband and Mael Sechlainn son of Domnall after that and Brian.' But we do not

know if this is the proper order of her marriages. She definitely married to both Amlaíb (Olaf) and Brian and died in 1030, her death notice says: 'Gormlaith daughter of Murchad son of Finn, mother of the king of the foreigners, Sitric, and of Donnchad son of Brian, king of Munster, and of Conchobar son of Mael Sechlainn king of Tara, died.'

The marriage to Olaf probably happened when she was about 15 or 16 the norm in medieval Ireland. There would be a huge age gap as it was probably arranged by her father Murchad before his death in 972 and Olaf died 980/1. More evidence for an early marriage is that their son Sitric took the kingship of Dublin in 995. The fact that her second marriage was to Brian is shown by the fact that their son, Donnchad, died in 1064 (on pilgrimage to Rome). He was also old enough to participate in the Battle of Clontarf. The marriage to Mael Sechlainn is not certain although a son, Conchobar, is mentioned. Some death notices call her 'the queen of Munster' indicating that Brian may have been her last husband.

We learn most about Gormlaith from the sources written some one hundred and more years after the events. As seen above, there are two different descriptions of her role in the lead up to the Battle of Clontarf with the native source saying that she was at Kincora with her ex-husband and her brother. But as Gormlaith allied herself with Leinster, it seems unlikely that she was in Kincora in 1013.

The Viking account associates her with Sitric and that she played a more active role, urging Sitric to kill Brian and sending Sitric to the Orkneys and the Isle of Man to recruit soldiers. Here Brian is shown as a saintly man and she is said to be 'endowed with great beauty ... in all the characteristics for which she herself was responsible, she was utterly wicked.' She has been maligned by modern historians as well with John Ryan saying that the men of Leinster may not have arisen against Brian: 'were they not nagged into irresponsible fury by a woman's tongue' and calling her a 'sharp, able and irreconcilable woman'. There is no evidence for these comments. The question needs to be asked – why was she so disliked?

Despite our knowledge about these relationships, there is no mention of a wife for Murchad or a mother for Gormlaith, not even in the medieval, comprehensive and contemporary *Banshenchas* (Lore of Women): primarily a list of the mothers and wives of famous kings. There is one strange story in one manuscript describing a vision that her (unnamed) mother had: 'It is the mother of Gormlaith daughter of Murchad who saw a vision: that she slept with the king of Leinster and bore a son to him and that he assumed the kingship of Leinster and that she bore a daughter to the same king and that she took the kingship of Ireland ... The mother, moreover, was the daughter of the king of Connacht ...'. The king of Connacht at the time would probably have been Tadhg (†956) son of Cathal.

The nearly contemporary genealogies have an interesting reference, particularly those associated with Leinster. One manuscript says: *Cethri meic la suide: Fáelán Senior 7 Máel-Mórda 7 Muiredach a quo Húi Daimin meic Muiredaig 7 Mael-Carmain, Scirdech banamus dano a mathair-side, 7 Gormlaith ingen Murchada ben Briain*. (Four sons by him: Faelán Senior and Mael Mórda and Muiredach from whom the Uí Daimin son of Muiredach and Mael Carmain. **Scirdech (?) female servant** then his mother and Gormlaith the daughter of Murchad wife of Brian.)

I have suggested elsewhere that this is Gormlaith's mother: an unknown female servant or slave (*banamus*) whose nickname is *scirdech* from Old Norse *skíra* 'to baptise' that has the past participle *skírd*. Then the nominative singular feminine would be *skírd* 'the baptised (woman)'. If this is true, it might explain Gormlaith's allegiance to Sitric and the marriage to a Viking king of Dublin. Was it difficult for Murchad to find a proper alliance for a daughter whose maternal background was suspect? He was proud of her, giving her a royal name, Gormlaith is not used for 'common' women. Was she sending Sitric to the Orkneys and the Isle of Man to get help from her maternal relatives? Her allegiance may have been to her Viking mother's family as well as her Viking son. This would explain the contemporary animosity towards her; the daughter of a servant/slave, not just a foreigner but possibly a pagan.

Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin, 'Who was Gormlaith's mother? A detective story' in (ed.) J. Fenwick, *Lost and found 2* (Wordwell, 2009), pp 83-94.

Máire Ní Mhaonaigh, 'Tales of three Gormlaiths in medieval Irish literature', *Ériu* 52 (2002) 1-24.

Máirín Ní Dhonnchadha, 'On Gormflaith daughter of Flann Sinna and the lure of the sovereignty goddess', in Alfred P. Smyth (ed.), *Seanchas: studies in early and medieval Irish archaeology, history and literature in honour of Francis J. Byrne* (Dublin, 2000), 225-37.

## Maynooth Golf Society

Results Sheet 2014

Millicent Golf Club Date 8/03/2014

Owen Byrne Shield

Sponsored by Maynooth Bookshop

|                                         |                |          |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------|----------|
| 1st Prize                               | Martin Shields | 33pts    |
| 2nd Prize                               | Darren Moran   | 30pts B9 |
| 3rd Prize                               | Sean Lennon    | 30pts    |
| 4th Prize                               | Tommy Campbell | 29pts B9 |
| 5th Prize                               | Dave Weafer    | 29pts B9 |
| 6th Prize                               | Aaron Morison  | 29pts B9 |
| 7th Prize                               | Terry Moore    | 29pts    |
| Front 9                                 | Brendan Behan  | 17pts    |
| Back 9                                  | Joey Edwards   | 15pts    |
| Nearest the Pin                         | Paschal Dunne  |          |
| Next Outing: Trim GC on 12th April 2014 |                |          |

Maynooth Golf Society's first outing of 2014 was played at Millicent Golf Club in Clane. 46 members competed for the Owen Byrne Shield in weather conditions which were very windy but dry. Scoring was low due to the high winds, they say "professionals cannot handle the wind", well neither can amateurs judging by the scores at Millicent, golf balls were being blown off the greens with the high wind speeds and gusts were redirecting and diverting golf balls off course.

In first place with a score of 33 points was Martin Shields, second place was Daren Moran with a score of 30 points (B9) and third place was Sean Lennon with a score of 30 points. All other prize winners are listed on the results sheet.

The prizes were presented in McMahon's Bar to a large attendance from the society. The new incoming Captain Gerry McTernan thanked the sponsor Maynooth Bookshop for sponsorship of the Owen Byrne Shield. He also welcomed the new members to the society who played on the day and hoped they would enjoy the golf and their experiences in Maynooth Golf Society. He thanked McMahon's Bar who provided food to all who attended the prize giving.



### ASK SHARON THE STYLIST!!

"If angels could be jealous of men, they would be so for one reason: Holy Communion." St. Maximilian Kolbe

#### Question: "What do I wear to a First Holy Communion?"

FACT: Communion season is just around the corner and this year thousands of children will make their way up the aisle at a cost which is truly staggering and costing us millions as a nation. Apart from the clothes which are the initial expense, there is also food and drink to consider and not forgetting the bouncy castles and other kinds of entertainment on the day which all proves to be very expensive when it is all totted up. If you plan early and start organising your wardrobe now it will be one less thing to worry about when the time comes as the retail stores are all stocked up now for this special occasion for the little ones and the summer stock is already in the shops now.

**SO WHERE TO BEGIN!!** First step is to go Window Shopping, yes Window shopping because I don't want you to buy anything yet. Just look around to see some outfits you would like to wear on the day, bring a list of what you think you might need and also a calculator to give you an idea of what it will cost. Then go to your and other members of your family's wardrobe and take a look at what you already have. See if there are any items of clothing which is similar to what you have seen in the shops and maybe then you only have to buy one item to add to it which will make up a whole new outfit for you and don't forget to include shoes, bags and jewellery. Here are some ideas of what you can wear. Remember Communion, although not cocktail or wedding attire, are still quite dressy and modest; don't wear anything strapless or too revealing in church.

- **For Him:** Suit and tie for a smart look or a less formal outfit would be a jacket/blazer with open neck shirt and trousers/chinos/dark jeans.
- **For Her:** Day dress with coat/ jacket/cardigan or matching separates like a Chanel style boxy or "boucle" jacket which can be worn with smart blouse/top and trousers/dark jeans.
- **For Teenagers and Children:** Smart casual style separates will look very nice on the day. When buying the Communion outfit the first thing to purchase is the dress or suit and then you can work the rest of the outfit and accessories around this at a later date if you need to. Look for discounts and special offers because these will be the most expensive items and the price will differ from shop to shop. Wishing you all a great day from Mini Steps Styling!!

For more information or to arrange an appointment call Sharon @ 087 9962459/ Office 01 6016295

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### BNI® (Business Network International)

On Thursday the 27th Feb BNI Prosperity celebrated our 1 year anniversary and celebrated passing over 1 MILLION EURO amongst our members! If you are a business owner and would like to be part of this success in 2014 come and visit us on Thursdays in the Glenroyal Hotel Maynooth at 9.30am.

For more information or to reserve your place call Sharon on 0879962459/01 6016295 or email [sharonmccarthy33@yahoo.com](mailto:sharonmccarthy33@yahoo.com)

## Maynooth Tidy Towns

Maynooth Tidy Towns Committee respectfully request that ALL Election Candidates refrain from putting their Election Posters in the Main Street to Kilcock Road of Maynooth during the upcoming Local and European elections. The reason being is that Maynooth has been selected by the Dept of the Environment to participate in the Ireland's Best Kept Town Competition. This is an All Island competition and judging will take place at any time during the month of May.

## Maynooth Tidy Towns

Thanks to Seamus Kennedy, Mattie and Elizabeth Callaghan, John Kavanagh and Sean Cushen who got the float ready and to all who participated in the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Also to our wonderful volunteers who displayed our new Litter Buggies, if you wish to sponsor one of these you can contact John Kavanagh 0876598105. We received many compliments regarding our entry and we also won a trophy.

National Spring clean month is on during April, and if your group wants to work with us please contact us on the no. below.

We have started our Wednesday evening clean ups, we meet at the Square @ 7.30pm. and also Sunday morning clean ups to start on 6th April meet at the Square @ 7.45am.

At our last committee meeting it was agreed that because of Maynooth involvement in Ireland's Best Kept Town that all candidates in the Local and European Election would be requested to refrain from posting the Main Street to the Kilcock Road. Finally, thanks to Maynooth Garden and Timber Centre for sponsoring Daffodil bulbs along the Blacklion Road

Richard Farrell  
 PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns  
 087 3153189





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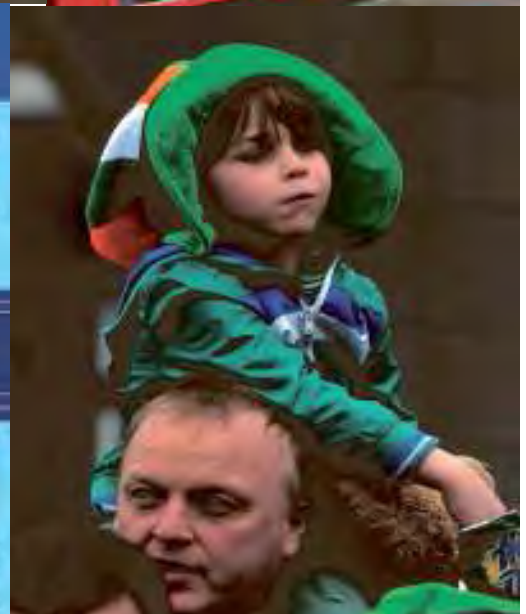
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Launching the Maynooth 10K 2014 L/R Conor Mallaghan (Carton House), Joe Schmitt (Irish Rugby Coach), Owen Byrne (Maynooth PP), Paul O'Connell (Irish Rugby Player), Teresa Murray (Chairperson of Maynooth PP PTA), Aoife Walsh, Sinead Burke, Ryan Deegan (Maynooth PP), Devon Toner (Irish Rugby Player). Photo: Mark Colfer

## Maynooth 10K 2014

They say that time flies when you're having fun and yes, that was a quick year. It only seems like yesterday when we were packing away the bollards, barriers and water bottles and here it is around again!

We're looking forward to a great event this year and we have a number of exciting additions to this year's event both to help you prepare and on the day itself.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page "Maynooth 10k 2014" and our Twitter feed "@maynooth10k" for more information and, of course, don't forget our website [www.maynooth10k.ie](http://www.maynooth10k.ie) for all the information in one place at one time!

*This year we are delighted to welcome KFM on board. KFM are giving us substantial air time to publicise the event and will also be covering the event "live" from their outside broadcasting unit at Carton Avenue.*

The 10k will commence in St. Patrick's College grounds and proceed up the Main Street to the Leixlip Road and continue through Carton to the finishing line on Carton Avenue.

The funds raised pay for the development of first class playing fields and a walking and running track. This much-needed facility will be available to everyone and is being developed in association with Maynooth GAA. From a business perspective the proposed facility will be available to host home games, currently often played away and this will bring more people and their welcome business and goodwill to the community.



## Runners Joggers Walkers

Sunday 18th May, 10.30am

## Entry Form



First Name(s): \*

Last Name: \*

Address: \*

Gender: \*

Email: \*

Age Group (if over 16): Under 40      40 to 59      Over 60

Mobile Number: \*

(Fields marked \* Must be completed. Contact details will only be used to forward information about Maynooth Post Primary 10k)

Completed applications to be returned to reception of Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road, Maynooth, in an envelope marked "Maynooth 10k" along with cheque or postal order made out to Maynooth 10k. Entry fee €20.


**Enter Online through [www.maynooth10k.ie](http://www.maynooth10k.ie)**

*A Chara,*

*Check-in, parking and cloak-room facilities for Maynooth 10k will be available at Maynooth Post Primary school from 8:00am on Sunday the 18th May. You can check-in on Saturday 17th between 2:00pm and 4:00pm. On behalf of Maynooth Post Primary P.T.A. I would like to invite you to our prize giving ceremony on Sun at 12.30 at the school where refreshments will be served. I wish to thank St. Patrick's College and Carton House for the use of their grounds, our many sponsors, An Garda Siachana, KFM, Maynooth Newsletter and all who are volunteering their time to make the day a great success.*

*Mise le meas, Teresa Murray, Chairperson of Maynooth Post Primary PTA*





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If it has been a while (longer than you care to remember!) since you last worked out, it is a good idea to visit your G.P. and get the all clear to begin a fitness programme. Your doctor will also be able to give you advice on healthy eating practices.

So whether you have forgotten what the inside of a gym looks like, or you've just lapsed a little on your fitness regime, the next step is to book in for an assessment with a qualified fitness instructor. He/she will figure out what level you are starting from and will create a customised workout plan that's manageable and easy to follow.

### Staying Motivated:

Starting out, you should aim to exercise about 3 times a week. It is important to form the habit of exercising regularly because that is one of the main reasons you will keep it up when your initial burst of motivation fades. A good rule of thumb for ensuring you workout regularly is:

"Never miss a Monday and never go more than 2 days without exercise". Once you start to see the benefits of your new healthier lifestyle, you will be spurred on.

### Benefits of Exercise:

The benefits of regular exercise can include helping with weight management, preventing health problems like high cholesterol, high blood pressure and heart disease, aiding with arthritis & pain management, improving mental health issues such as stress & depression and boosting energy levels. With all of these benefits, who can afford not to exercise?

### Other Helpful Hints & Tips:

- **Mix It Up:** Varying your workout routine will keep you interested and motivated. Get involved in the classes at your local gym or club. At the Glenroyal Leisure Club, we have Aqua Zumba, Yogalates, Spinning, Kettlebells and many more free-to-member classes. We find that members who attend classes find it easier to stick with their fitness regime and also find it more enjoyable.
- **Get Drinking:** The H.S.E. guidelines recommend drinking 6-8 glasses of water per day. This will prevent dehydration and keep you feeling alert and focused throughout the day. If you find it a little tough to drink that much water, a helpful tip is to chop up some lime and/or lemon and pop it in the bottom of your water bottle. This gives your water a subtle zingy taste and makes it easier to drink.
- **Build on your success:** When your fitness level increases from all of the hard work you've been putting in, don't forget to book a re-assessment with your fitness instructor. We recommend you have one every 6-8 weeks. This will keep you on track and ensure you progress as much as possible.

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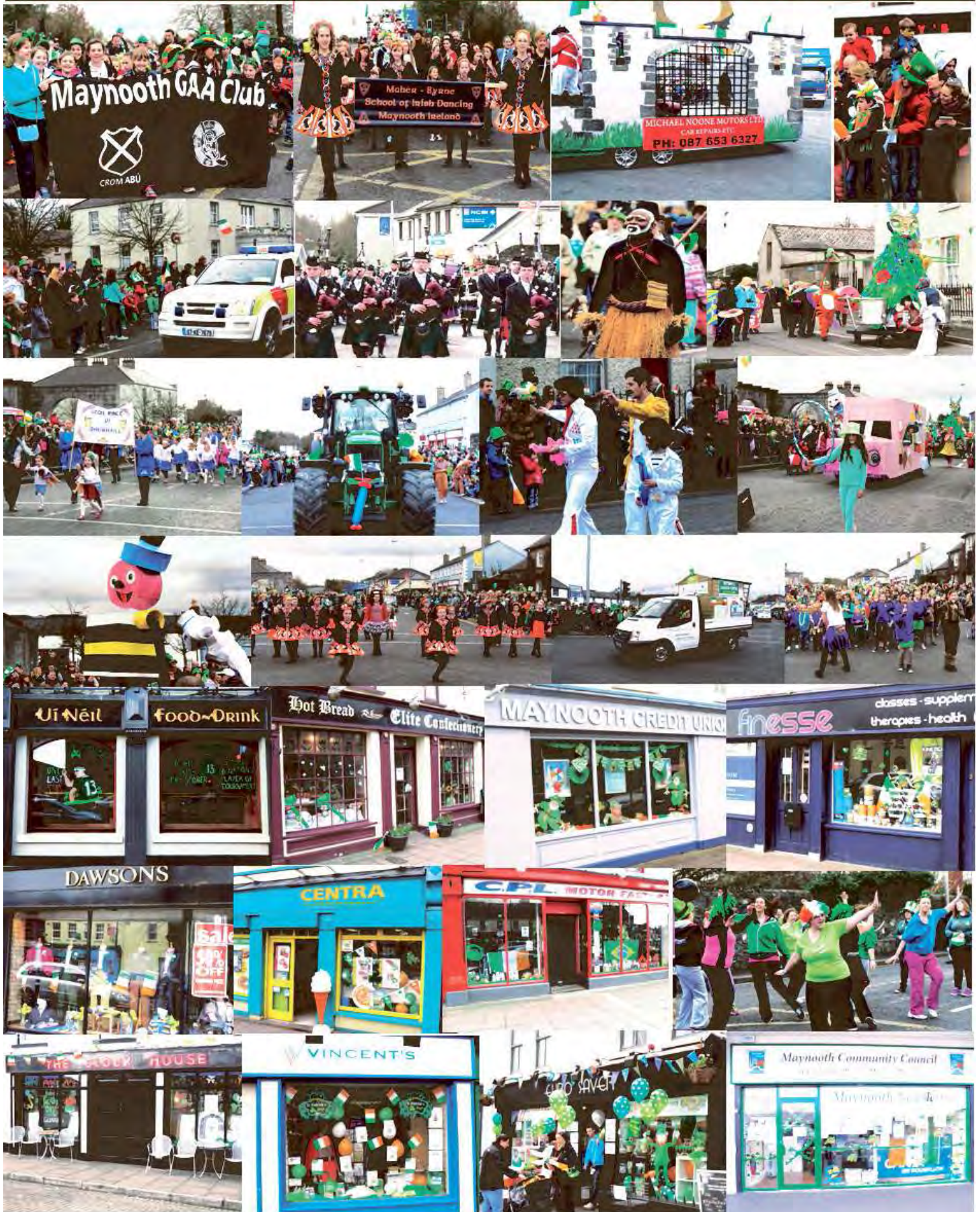


# Maynooth St. Patrick's' Day Photo's





# Maynooth St. Patrick's' Day Photo's





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Emmett Stagg T.D., Lorraine Higgins MEP Candidate & Councillor John McGinley visit the Maynooth Newsletter office while canvassing in Maynooth



Maynooth Town FC Academy's player enjoy a visit to their sponsor's McDonald's after the Maynooth St Patrick's Day Parade

# Easter Recipes

## Grilled Wild Salmon and Vegetables

### Ingredients

8 potatoes (about 8 ounces)  
 4 small red onions, cut into 1-inch slices (about 1 pound)  
 4 spring onions, quartered (about 8 ounces)  
 4 onions (about 4 ounces)  
 2 cups sliced fennel (about 7 ounces)  
 1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil  
 Cooking spray  
 1/2 teaspoon salt, divided  
 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, divided  
 1 tablespoon chopped fennel fronds  
 1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley  
 4 (6-ounce) salmon fillets  
 2 cups or baby spinach  
 1/4 cup Lemon Vinaigrette



### Method

Prepare grill. Place potatoes in a large pan of boiling water, cook 8 minutes or until tender. Add onions and sliced fennel, cook 3 minutes or until onions are tender. Drain and plunge into ice water, drain. Toss vegetables with oil. Place vegetables on grill rack coated with cooking spray, grill 4 minutes on each side or until tender and lightly browned. Sprinkle with 1/4 teaspoon salt, 1/4 teaspoon pepper, fennel fronds, and parsley. Sprinkle salmon with the remaining 1/4 teaspoon salt and remaining 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Place salmon on grill rack coated with cooking spray, and grill 5 minutes on each side or until fish flakes easily when tested with a fork or until desired degree of doneness. Place 1 salmon fillet onto each of 4 plates. Toss pea tendrils with Lemon Vinaigrette. Place about 1/2 cup pea tendril mixture over salmon. Add 1 1/2 cups grilled vegetables to each serving, and serve immediately.

## Mint-Pesto Rubbed Leg of Lamb

### Ingredients

1/2 cup packed fresh basil leaves  
 1/4 cup packed fresh mint leaves  
 1/4 cup packed fresh parsley leaves  
 2 tablespoons toasted pine nuts, (see Tip)  
 2 tablespoons grated Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese  
 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil  
 1 clove garlic, peeled  
 1 teaspoon salt, divided  
 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground pepper  
 1 3 1/2-pound boneless leg of lamb, butterflied



### Method

Preheat oven to 350°F. Place basil, mint, parsley, pine nuts, cheese, oil, garlic, 1/2 teaspoon salt and pepper in a food processor and process until fairly smooth. Sprinkle lamb all over with the remaining 1/2 teaspoon salt. Reserve 2 tablespoons of the pesto, spread the rest over the top side of the lamb and roll it closed. (It will not be a perfect cylinder.) Tie kitchen string around the roast in five places; do not tie too tightly or the pesto will squeeze out. Rub the reserved pesto over the outside of the lamb and place in a roasting pan. Roast the lamb until a thermometer inserted into the thickest part registers 140°F for medium-rare, about 1 hour 20 minutes. Transfer to a cutting board, let rest for 10 minutes. Carve the lamb, leaving the string in place to help hold the roast together.

## Green Bean Casserole

### Ingredients

3 tablespoons butter  
 1/4 cup onion, chopped  
 2 tablespoons flour  
 1/2 teaspoon salt  
 1/4 teaspoon pepper  
 1 cup sour cream  
 2 (16 ounce) cans green beans, drained  
 2 cups swiss cheese, grated  
 1/2 cup almonds, slivered  
 1 cup Ritz cracker, crushed



### Directions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Butter a 9 x 13-inch casserole dish. Melt butter in a skillet. Add chopped onion and sauté until softened. Add salt and pepper to skillet and mix inches. Stir in the sour cream and stir until thickened. Add the drained beans, grated cheese, and slivered almonds and stir inches. Pour into prepared casserole dish and top with the crushed Ritz crackers. sprinkled evenly over all. Bake in preheated oven for 20-30 minutes or until hot and bubbly.



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# Maynooth Labour News

**Cllr. John McGinley can be contacted at: - 6285293 or 087 9890645 - E mail [jmcginley@eircom.net](mailto:jmcginley@eircom.net) - Web: [www.labour.ie/johnmcginley/](http://www.labour.ie/johnmcginley/)**

## **Cllr. McGinley Calls for Greater Enforcement of Traffic Laws in Maynooth**

Cllr. McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Celbridge Area Committee:  
*"That this council asks traffic wardens to patrol Maynooth on a regular basis in order to put a stop to illegal parking and that the council asks the Garda Traffic Corps Division in Naas and Leixlip to also deal with this and the very serious issue of vehicles breaking red lights."*  
 John was given the following reply at the Area Meeting on 21 February:

*"Kildare County Council's staff traffic wardens have, on a number of occasions, been instructed to patrol Maynooth on a regular basis and to take enforcement action in respect of illegal parking. The roads department will again instruct traffic wardens to undertake such patrols and enforcement. The roads department will also write to the traffic corps of Naas and Leixlip Gardai in relation to the issue of drivers ignoring red lights."*

## **Cllr. McGinley calls for safety improvements at The Square junction in Maynooth:**

Cllr. McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Celbridge Area Committee:  
*"That signage be painted on the Straffan Road as it joins Main Street, Maynooth to indicate that the right lane is also for straight ahead into Fagan's Lane and that the left lane is for left turning traffic only."*  
 John was given the following reply at the Area Meeting on 21 February:

*"This location is a controlled signalised junction. Road markings should give advance warning and guidance to road users of the controlled movements ahead. The movement into Fagan's Lane is not a controlled movement i.e. drivers carry it out at their own discretion. Any additional road markings which would indicate an uncontrolled movement not provided for by the traffic signals may cause confusion to road users."*

John pointed out that in his opinion it is a signalised junction for traffic entering Fagans Lane but not so for traffic exiting Fagans Lane and that when Regulated Parking is introduced that it will become one way in only. The Area Engineer stated that the lights were those for a T Junction and not for a cross roads and that the traffic signals would have to be re-arranged to do what John asked for. The Area Engineer undertook to examine the problem further.

*Cllr. McGinley Calls for the NTA to Take Action on Dumping at the M4 Slip Road*

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

*"That the NRA be asked to removed the dumped drink cartons and other rubbish at the slip road from the Straffan Road into Dublin on the M4 and that they erect signs advising motorists that it is a criminal offence to litter."*

It was agreed that the Roads Department would write to the National Roads Authority in this regard.

## **Cllr. McGinley Looks for Update on M4 Junction Upgrade**

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

*"What steps have been carried out to implement Roads Objective TRO 1 of the Maynooth Local Area Plan 2013-2019 i.e. "To carry out a study investigating the safety and capacity of the existing Straffan Road M4 Interchange etc.?"*  
 John got the following reply:  
*"The roads department is currently examining this issue and a report will be available for the next Meeting."*

## **Cllr. McGinley Demands Action on Noise from the M4**

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

*"That a full report be given to Council on the progress made on the Second Noise Action Plan"*  
 John got the following unsatisfactory reply:

*"The National Roads Authority (NRA) are responsible for managing the contract for maintenance and renewal of the M4 but Kildare County Council continues to be the road authority. It should be noted that the NRA did produce "Guidelines for the treatment of noise and vibration in national road schemes" in 2004. The NRA have recently clarified that these guidelines were not intended for use in any upgrade of the existing road. The second noise action plan has been approved and it is proposed to carry out the actions specified in accordance with the timescale set out in the plan. The implementation of the second noise action plan requires funding and technical resources. The three phases for such a project are –*

1. Planning and design
2. Development of detailed design and preparation of contracts and
3. Construction.

*It is difficult to find funding or technical resources to complete the first phase in the current year but if resources do become available then the work can commence."*

As a result of John's motion the County Manager agreed to meet with the National Transport Authority to discuss the laying of low noise emitting asphalt on the M4 from Leixlip to Kilcock as the road surface is 20 years old and needs resurfacing.

## **Update on Deputation- from Pikesbridge Road, Maynooth Residents Association.**

Cllr. John McGinley was given the following update on the presentation made by the Residents of Pikesbridge Road:

*"As part of a pilot programme solar powered smart signs that will illuminate when the temperature drops below zero degrees are being fabricated. The area office hopes to have these units in place before the end of the salting season. The extension of the salting routes to accommodate Pikesbridge and Kellystown Lane have been reviewed and costed. A final decision on this issue is imminent."*

## **Update on the Proposed Extension of the 66 bus service to Newtown, Maynooth**

Cllr. John McGinley was given the following update on the proposed bus extension to Newtown at the Area Meeting on 21 February:

*"The proposed bus turning bay on the Rathcoffey Road, Maynooth is to be constructed as part of the extension of the 66 bus service to Maynooth. Dublin Bus initially approached the NTA (National Transport Authority) requesting that this bus turning bay be installed at this location. The NTA in turn requested Kildare County Council as main landowner of these lands to examine this location and to proceed with the delivery of this scheme. This location was favoured by both Kildare County Council and Dublin Bus as Kildare County Council owns most of the lands at this location. The other major landowner (Sherwood Homes) has no objection to works progressing at this location and a turning point at this location suits Dublin Bus' plans for future fleet movements. At a recent site meeting both Kildare County Council and Dublin Bus examined another location with a possible bus turning bay at the proposed nursing home site in Crinstown - planning reference 09/1197. Dublin Bus have confirmed that they do not want to use the proposed turning bay at the proposed nursing home site for a number of reasons –*

- (a) The additional cost of the dead running time/fuel is not acceptable
- (b) Little or no additional patronage

Road Design Section had a site meeting with the Parsons Hall Residents Association at the end of 2013. It was agreed to send this group information on traffic counts, HGV and speed analysis and additional information from Dublin Bus regarding proposed future bus routes. The traffic count and speed analysis was carried out in November 2013 by Kildare County Council and Dublin Bus have now submitted additional information on the bus route extension. Kildare County Council will be submitting this information to the Parsons Hall Residents Association as soon as possible. There is no statutory public consultation process required for this work. The extinguishment of a public right of way near the bus turning bay will not be dealt with under this NTA scheme as this does not comply with the design manual for urban roads and streets (DMURS) where Kildare County Council has to promote and encourage permeability and connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists with improved access to public transport facilities. The extinguishment of a public right of way can be dealt with under a separate process by Kildare County Council but the council will have to seek approval from the NTA/ DTTAS to deviate from the DMURS standards and there is no guarantee that this will be approved. The proposed traffic lights at the Straffan Road/ Meadowbrook Link Road junction are designed and are independent of the bus extension / turning bay works. There is no NTA funding for the supply and installation of these traffic lights for 2014. The NTA has approved a figure for funding for the bus turning bay works in 2014. However, additional funding will be required to complete these works and Kildare County Council are dealing with the NTA on this issue. Once the NTA have approved the detailed design for these works and the estimate of costs, tenders will be sought by Kildare County Council and a contractor will be appointed. The aim is to complete these works in 2014. The Parsons Hall residents association and all residents in the estate (by letter drop) will be notified beforehand as to when these works will commence on site.

A number of houses in Parsons Hall estate, located near the proposed bus turning bay were broken into recently and this was highlighted and discussed on site with Kildare County Council. There will be improvements in public lighting as part of the proposed bus turning bay works and there will be an increase in public transport activity at this location. This should assist in discouraging anti-social behaviour and activity at this location. The issue of security and break-ins is a matter for An Garda Síochána to deal with. If the committee requires a meeting with the Senior Executive Engineer this will be arranged."

## **Wall at Farrell Bridge Being Re-built**

Cllr. John McGinley is pleased that as result of his motion the council are re-building the wall at Farrell Bridge at the Castle. The public will be aware that this wall has been in danger of falling for some time now.

## **McGinley's Motion Rejecting Waterways Ireland Massively Increased Charges is Unanimously Passed**

Cllr. John McGinley's motion "That this Council rejects Waterways Ireland proposed amendments to the Canal By-Laws" was unanimously passed at the Council meeting on 24 February.

*Cllr. McGinley Calls for Safety Measures from The Avenue Cafe to Doctors:*

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

*"That the Council examine the feasibility of putting a footpath from the Avenue Cafe as far into Doctors Lane as possible in the interest of public safety."*

## **Cllr. McGinley Calls for Safety Improvements at the Junction at St. Marys Church:**

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Celbridge Area Committee of the Council: *"That the Council examine the feasibility of*

*(Continued on page 23)*



(Continued from page 22)

installing a right turning lane at St. Mary's Church for those vehicles coming down Moyglare Road and wishing to turn right up the Kilcock Road

#### **Cllr. McGinley Calls for the New Fire Station for Maynooth:**

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

*"That a proper location be identified for a new Maynooth Fire Station as a matter of urgency as the existing location is highly unsuitable and the state of the existing station is very poor."*

#### **Three Years on Road to Recovery - Time to Ease Burden on Hard Pressed Families - Stagg**

Deputy Emmet Stagg has welcomed the publication of the 2014 Annual Report into the Programme for Government agreed by Labour and Fine Gael at the start of their term in 2011.

Deputy Stagg stated that we were now in a very different place to three years ago when the State was unable to fund itself, unemployment was heading for half a million people, and the only way of keeping the country running was to accept the Troika Loans, and the harsh terms that came with them.

"We vowed to renegotiate the Anglo Promissory Notes deal and we succeeded in that last year, cutting the debt burden by €20 Billion and consigning Anglo Irish Bank to history.

"We successfully exited the bailout last December and an Economy that was catastrophically run aground by Fianna Fail is now forecast to grow by 2% this year. We are now creating 5,000 new jobs every month and the focus of Government must remain firmly on job creation. Recovery is meaningless to those seeking a job and who can't find one.

"We also have to look at those currently in employment but are barely surviving. The Recovery must mean that when the public finances allow that we can ease the burden on hard pressed families.

"In 2014 we must get Construction Activity back to normal - normal for our Economy and the needs of our population. The Government is working on a strategy to create 60,000 new construction jobs over the next 5 years. Part of the strategy will involve the setting up of a Strategic Investment Fund, to invest €6 Billion in critical infrastructure and sectors with potential for growth. This must include a building programme of Council Housing to meet the needs of those on the long term waiting list. F.F. stopped building Council houses in the boom years and relied on the private rented sector. That is now accepted as a costly failure.

"The path forward is the creation of jobs and the easing of the tax burden for those in employment and the Government remains committed to once again creating a Country that is a good place to work, live, to raise a family and to have a secure future."

#### **Funding of €2.5 Million for Youth Entrepreneurship Fund**

Deputy Emmet Stagg has been advised by the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation that a sum of €2.5 Million will be made available in 2014 for the Youth Entrepreneurship Fund announced by the Minister as a new initiative in early February as part of the Governments Action Plan on Jobs.

The Youth Entrepreneurship Fund stated Deputy Stagg will be targeted at young entrepreneurs, specifically those in the 18-24 age demographic. Many young entrepreneur's are struggling to access credit via the financial institutions for numerous reasons and there are limitations to state supports as the focus is primarily export driven. SME's will play a vital role in our economic recovery and supporting new entrepreneurs and their ideas will only help recovery. The establishment of the Youth Entrepreneurship Fund will address these issues and help to engender a culture of youth enterprise and innovation. Details of the how the Fund will operate are being drawn up by the Department at present. Deputy Stagg praised Darragh O'Neill of Celbridge Labour Branch who had put forward the idea of a Youth Entrepreneurship Fund in early 2013 at a meeting of Celbridge Youth Council and he congratulated Darragh on his success.

In conclusion Deputy Stagg looked forward to the official launch of the scheme and to its success.

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Web: [www.labour.ie/johnmcginley/](http://www.labour.ie/johnmcginley/)

John is also on Facebook

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# Catherine Murphy Independent TD

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## Pyrite Remediation Scheme a Welcome First Step

Independent TD Catherine Murphy today welcomed the opening of the Pyrite Remediation Scheme for those homeowners affected by pyrite. Deputy Murphy, who has worked with affected homeowners over the past few years, praised the tenacity of those homeowners involved in bringing about this remediation scheme.

"This has been a long, drawn out battle and the homeowners involved have been through emotional and financial turmoil before getting to today and so I welcome the fact that they now have access to the remediation scheme that will allow them to have their homes repaired once and for all."

"There are many others affected by pyrite issues who are not included under the remediation scheme, including those who were forced to proceed with their own remediation measures at their own cost, and I would hope the Minister would, at some stage in the future, consider extending the scheme to include all those households who have or had issues caused by pyrite but for today I welcome, wholeheartedly, the opening of this remediation scheme."

## Independents' Network Website is Now Live

Visit at: [www.independentsnetwork.org](http://www.independentsnetwork.org)

The website for the new Independents' Network has just gone live and on it are the profiles of those independent politicians and candidates who have signed up so far. The website contains a mix of candidates and elected representatives at Local, National and European level.

"The website goes live as very much a work in progress and it is envisaged that the site will attract attention from independent candidates across the country now that it is live and as a result the number of candidates featured is likely to expand over the coming days and weeks."

"The entire basis for this Network is support, support for people who are running, or considering running, for election. Running for election can be a daunting prospect and the aim of this Network is to offer support, encouragement and practical advice and guidance to encourage new and vital voices into the political process."

"If we can harness the energy that is evident at a community level throughout this country and encourage those people to step into the political arena then we can revitalise politics and offer people an alternative to the status quo."

## Maynooth Sinn Féin Notes

Contact Details - e-mail: [readacronin@hotmail.com](mailto:readacronin@hotmail.com)

Sinn Féin Kildare has selected Réada Cronin as their candidate for the Maynooth Local Area in the forthcoming Local Elections on Friday the 23rd of May. Réada lives in Moyglare Abbey in Maynooth. As a mother of four Réada has always been involved in the local community but after the last General Election she felt it necessary to become politically active to try to force real and meaningful change. "The political revolution promised at the last election has failed to deliver" she stated. "As an egalitarian committed to social justice Sinn Féin was the only party for me" she explained. "The aspirational values of the 1916 proclamation, a document well ahead of its time, are as compelling and necessary to achieve today as they ever were."

Réada, along with other like-minded community activists, is also a founding member and organiser of the campaign against the weekly 12 hour cutbacks in the North Kildare ambulance service from the Maynooth base.

Speaking on the campaign trail Réada said "Local councils need fresh ideas. For too long they have been run by the three establishment parties. They have failed to address the increasing emigration of our young people, the social isolation of our elderly and the disenfranchisement in our local communities that leads to crime and antisocial behaviour. Now, more than ever, we need a real change in direction and only a left republican voice speaking up and standing up for the people of North Kildare can deliver the local government we deserve."

### MAYNOOTH SCHOOLS GROUP

Sinn Féin Maynooth welcomes the news that 2014/15 First Years to Maynooth Post Primary and proposed Maynooth Community College will not be separated this year and will be educated together in the current building of Maynooth Post Primary.

The situation the Department of Education & Skills has proposed in Maynooth is unique. Two schools built on the same site, sharing facilities, is unprecedented and requires fresh thinking. Parents and students are not in the mood to be told Minister Ruairi Quinn has this under control and knows better than the community does.

Time and time again we read of the money wasted on consultants' fees and one is forced to wonder why. In this case our community is offering our advice and that of many experts, including Dr. Jamie Saris, an anthropologist with special interest in community at NUI Maynooth. Dr. Saris spoke with such knowledge and conviction at the

Public Meeting held in Glenroyal Hotel supporting One Community – One School.

The societal benefits of the "One Community, One School" model we have had in Maynooth cannot be taken for granted. Cross community integration and co-operation is testament to the all-encompassing education our young adults receive from this model.

We urge the Department of Education & Skills to take another look at the proposals from Maynooth Schools Group. We ask Minister Quinn to acknowledge the situation is incomparable and exercise some vision. Talk of "best practice" is no consolation to upset students and parents. Best practice has produced rival good/bad schools in almost every town in the State. The education system puts enough pressure on already stressed students without this added competition.

The Maynooth Schools Group are currently in recess but are monitoring developments around the Planning Application at the proposed campus. The group take their lead from the parents and at the moment parents are largely happy with the fact that all of the First Years will be together in the same place, with no distinction between the children of Maynooth Post Primary and Maynooth Community College. September will see the group become active again. A good line of communication is open between the group and the Dept officials and that will be maintained.

### ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Well done to the Maynooth Community Council for an excellent family day out and a very enjoyable St. Patrick's Day parade through Maynooth town. St. Patrick's Day is a very special day for us to celebrate our pride in our country and likewise to share with immigrants that have come to Ireland to make it their home.

St. Patrick's Day was also the last day of a fortnight long Seachtain na Gaeilge. Níl Gaeilge go flúirseach agamsa ach tá grá mór agam don teanga. Tá brón orm má tá cúpla botáin gramadaí anseo, ach nach raibh sé go hiontach éisteacht leis an cúpla focal as Gaeilge ar tráthnóna ar an SixOne Nuacht. Unfortunately the Maynooth parade didn't make our screens but congratulations to our neighbouring town Celbridge for flying the Lily White flag for North Kildare.

There are approximately 70 million people around the world who claim Irish roots. This current economic crisis

is forcing 240 people to leave our state every day. This has affected many of our families here in Maynooth and causes huge communal and societal damage to our town. It seems the expectation to live, work and grow old in the country of your birth is still not a right and we know too well that Skype is no substitute for human contact. Extending voting rights for Dáil elections to Irish citizens abroad for at least five years would go a long way to keeping our Diaspora connected to Ireland while we work towards a republic that tackles this outward flow of our people rather than seeing it as a solution.

### MAYNOOTH AMBULANCE BASE

Over a year ago the Maynooth Ambulance base, which serves the North Kildare area had its hours cut resulting in the closure of the base for 12 hours from 7am until 7pm every Thursday.

A socially conscience group of local residents, including Réada Cronin, formed a campaign group to highlight these cuts to our emergency healthcare. Protests took place in here in Maynooth and at An Dáil. We have been in touch with our elected representatives but we still wait for the restoration of this vital service.

On Thursday 13th March the group held a photo call outside the Maynooth Ambulance base to commence a 4 week long campaign culminating in a protest in Maynooth Square on Saturday 5th April at 12 noon.

Speaking at the photo call Réada said "The government expect our community to take cuts to health services as if it's our patriotic duty but we in Sinn Féin know it's not. It's our duty to highlight increased ambulance response times. As well as the additional pressure these cuts put on a limited service, gambling with people's lives is not acceptable."

Please come along to the protest on Saturday 5th April at 12 noon to show your support. Nobody knows when they or a loved one might need the services of an emergency ambulance we care about those that might need this vital service.

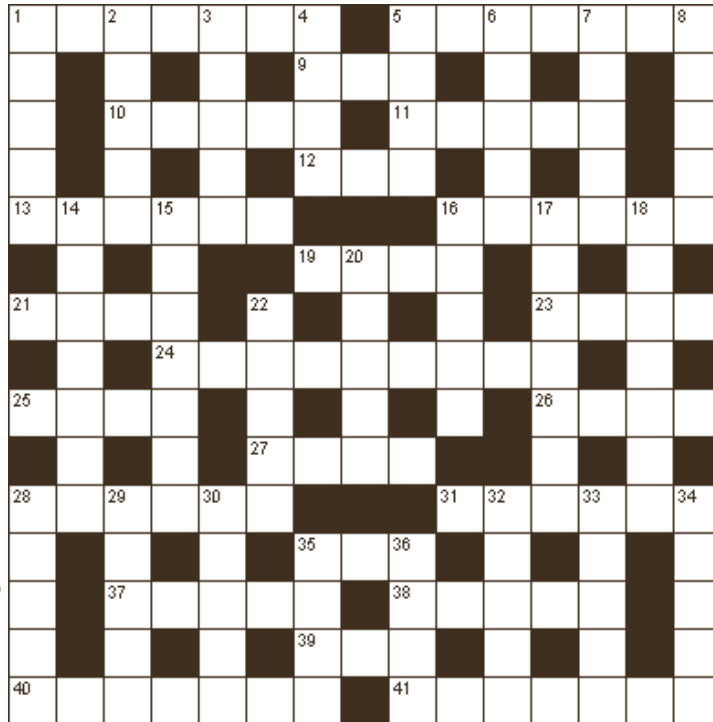
Stay in touch with the campaign at [facebook.com/StopTheNorthKildareAmbulanceCuts](https://facebook.com/StopTheNorthKildareAmbulanceCuts) or by email at [stopthenkambulancecuts@gmail.com](mailto:stopthenkambulancecuts@gmail.com)

**If you would like to become politically active in our community feel free to contact Réada Cronin Tel: 086 3189 730 Facebook: [facebook.com/readacroninsinnfein](https://facebook.com/readacroninsinnfein) Twitter: 'ReadaCronin'**

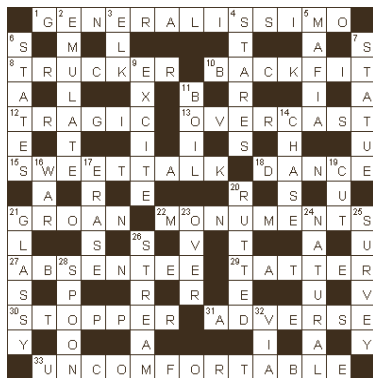


**Clues Across****April 2014 Crossword - No: 423****Clues Down**

1. Long-necked ruminant (7)
5. Counter acting acidity (7)
9. Deity (3)
10. Horse-like African mammal (5)
11. Entrance (5)
12. Loud noise (3)
13. County in SE England (6)
16. Person engaged in writing books (6)
19. Noble (4)
21. Stopper (4)
23. Wait in concealment (4)
24. Large mass of sliding snow (9)
25. Over-supply (4)
26. Well-behaved (4)
27. Overdue (4)
28. Road around an obstruction (6)
31. Hammer-like tool (6)
35. Affirmative reply (3)
37. Hidden (5)
38. Clay block (5)
39. Alkali (3)
40. Perfumed toilet water (7)
41. Republic in N Africa (7)



1. Sudden bursts of wind (5)
2. Sharp-edged instrument (9)
3. Legend (5)
4. Mild oath (4)
5. Capital of Yemen (4)
6. Teacher (5)
7. Subterranean vault (5)
8. Underwater worker (5)
14. Normally (7)
15. Boat race (7)
16. Ruin (5)
17. Forbidden by law (7)
18. Lower part of the external ear (7)
20. Make into an act (5)
22. Does not succeed (5)
28. Fundamental (5)
29. Student (5)
30. Gesture of indifference (5)
32. Extra-terrestrial (5)
33. Bodies of water (5)
34. Ornamental coronet (5)
35. Christmas (4)
36. Encourage in wrongdoing (4)

**Answers to Crossword 422****Special Prize Book Voucher**

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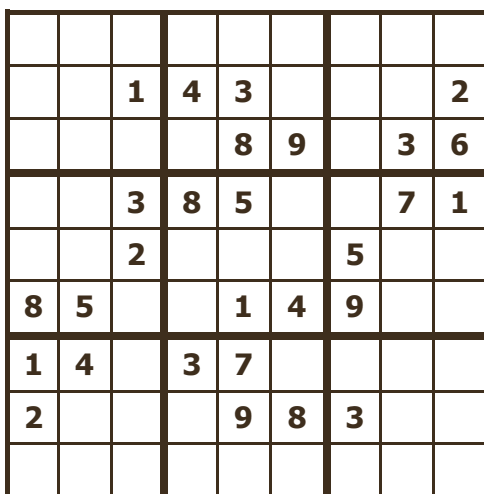
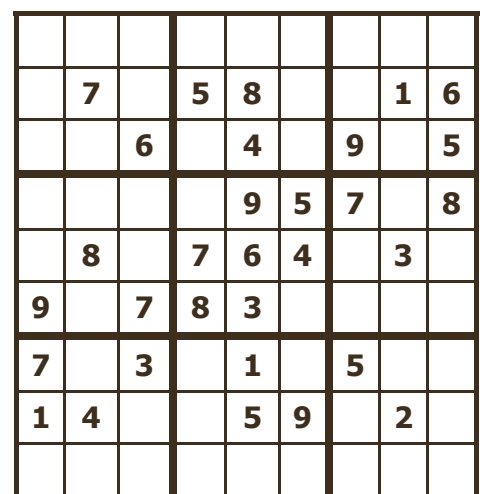
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**Winner of Crossword No. 422 March****No Correct Entries**

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**Congratulations to March Winner:**

**Vasuki Karthikesan**  
Moyglare Hall  
Maynooth

Prize winners will have 30 days to claim their prize from the time the results are made public.



# Maynooth Fianna Fáil Notes

Contact Details - e-mail: [naoiseoceanruil@gmail.com](mailto:naoiseoceanruil@gmail.com)

## St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day in Maynooth was an excellent day this year. The parade was a success once again and congratulations to the organisers and all that took part. I had the pleasure of Stewarding this year. The St. Patrick's Foundation held a hugely successful Breakfast in Carton House as part of the Patrick Project. There were over 140 people present. There was music and dancing from various cultural backgrounds, highlighting Ireland's diverse culture. Manor Mills held another successful Family Fun Day in the Centre. There was Irish dancing from the Rita Doyle School of dancing, Face Painting, Free Balloons and an Exotic Animal Showcase. St. Mary's Parish Church held their annual mass trí Ghaeilge at 10am. There was a large crowd present, with beautiful hymns from the choir and an excellent service from Fr. Liam Rigney. The GAA Club also held a family day with hundreds of people turning up and enjoying the festivities as well as the All Ireland Club Finals.

## Ó Cearúil is Pro-active with litter problems

There have been serious litter issues on the Old Greenfields lane. When contacted by residents Naoise reported the issue to the Council. Following on from this he decided to collect the rubbish himself on a Saturday morning. There were three bags of rubbish. A reminder to those passing through to please bring your rubbish home.

## Maynooth GAA 5km Fun Run

Maynooth GAA held a successful fun run through the grounds of St. Patrick's College and NUI Maynooth.

Hundreds of people turned out on the day.

Congratulations to the GAA for a wonderful day.

## Seachtain na Gaeilge

Bhí dhá ócáid ar siúl i Leabharlann Mhaigh Nuad do Sheactain na Gaeilge. Bhí Ciorcal Comhrá ar siúl ar an Máirt agus Oíche Cultúrtha ar siúl ar an Déardaoin. Bhain gach duine sásamh as na hócáideanna. Ná bíodh imní ort do bheagáinín Gaeilge a usáid pé uair gur féidir leat. There were two events on in Maynooth Library for Seachtain na Gaeilge. There was a conversation circle on Tuesday and a Cultural Night on Thursday. Everybody enjoyed the events. Don't be afraid to use whatever little Irish you have whenever you can.

## Roads and Footpaths in Newtown

There is a great need to widen the footpaths on the Newtown Road as it is far too narrow. This road has heavy footfall and must be upgraded to deal with the amount of pedestrians that use it everyday. Naoise lobbied to have pot holes in Newtown filled, which have been.

## Supporting Local Jobs

Local Election Candidate Naoise Ó Cearúil, held a very successful Public Meeting on Wednesday the 26th of March in the Glenroyal Hotel. Many local businesses turned up to hear Dara Calleary T.D. speak on finance, grants and supports available to small and medium businesses. Ó Cearúil commented, "I organised this meeting to ensure that Local Businesses are aware of supports available to

them. At the end of the day it is Local Business that supply local jobs and keep our local economy strong"

## Fianna Fáil Ard Fheis

The Fianna Fáil Ard Fheis was held on the 23rd of March in the INEC Killarney. Thousands of supporters attended along with numerous members from Maynooth. Thomas Byrne and Pat "The Cope" Gallagher Selected to run for Europe Senator Thomas Byrne and MEP Pat "The Cope" Gallagher have been selected to run for Fianna Fáil in the new Midlands North-West Constituency. People from Maynooth will have the opportunity to vote for either candidate.

## 66 Terminus at Parson's Hall

After speaking to local residents of Parsons Hall, Naoise Ó Cearúil has been looking to have the proposed bus terminus moved to Crinstown. Naoise will continue to lobby for this change.

## Upgrades at Carton Avenue

There was an unfortunate accident at the entrance to Carton Avenue. A car crashed into one of the new steel balls. Naoise has highlighted how the curb comes out too far and is a danger for road users.

## TEAM NAOISE 14

The Local Maynooth Candidate in the upcoming local elections is Naoise Ó Cearúil. If you would like to join a vibrant Team in their attempt to elect a local Maynooth Candidate. Contact [naoise2014@gmail.com](mailto:naoise2014@gmail.com) or 086 456 5204

## Maynooth Band At Croke Park

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March Amhrán Na bhfiann could be proudly heard in Croke Park being played by one of the finest and oldest band's in the country. St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band Maynooth returned to Croke Park to march the camogie finalists around the pitch and perform the national anthem; the sun shined brightly as they entertained the crowd in the stadium.

"It was a very proud and enjoyable experience" said the PRO Eoin McCormack, "It's been two years since the last time we marched in Croke Park and this was the first time we performed there in our new uniforms" "We were delighted to do it and we hope to be invited back there again".

Marching tunes the band played included 'The Dawning' 'Finnegan's wake' and Dublin's famous 'Molly Malone' There was an enthusiastic response from the crowd as they clapped and cheered.

This year the band will march in three parades on St. Patrick's weekend, Dunboyne, Kilcock and Maynooth. The band is also participating in the National Band Championships of Ireland on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April; last year the band achieved second place and they hope to better themselves again.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of April the band will be leading the parade in Maynooth for the 1916 commemoration being planned in the town starting at St. Patrick's College Gates at 11.50am.

If you would like to contact the band they can be reached through their website [www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie](http://www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie) and they can also be found on Facebook.

## SLIMMINGWORLD GROUPS COME TOGETHER TO RAISE FUNDS FOR LOCAL CHARITIES

Between 24th February and 5th April Slimming World in Ireland and the UK are running a 6-week Slim for Good slimathon. Each group will raise much needed funds to support a local charity and services picked by their members. We asked some local Slimming World groups who they selected and why. Karen Delahan Maher's group in the Maynooth Town Football Club have chosen "iPads for Gheel Autism". Founded in 1971, Gheel Autism Services support young men and women on the autistic spectrum. They have residential homes in Ballycurraghan and Rail Park, as well as a day service in Laragh,

Maynooth, where they currently support twelve young adults on the autistic spectrum. Karen's group are hoping to raise sufficient funds so each person in the Maynooth service can get their own specially adapted iPad. In recent years portable devices such as the iPad have changed how children and adults with autism communicate. With the aid of preloaded Apps the iPad's have successfully replaced the bulky PECS system, an extremely popular and invaluable communication system for people who cannot convey their wants, needs or emotions. Karen Delahan Maher's group runs every Tuesday 5:30pm and 7:30pm. Please feel free to contact Karen on 0860455677. We will welcome any help with this project however big or small.

## Maynooth Town Football Club - Weekly Lotto Results 2014

| W/End  | Numbers     | Jackpot | 3 x €35 Winners                                      |
|--------|-------------|---------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 05-Jan | 1,14,17,27  | €2,400  | Paul Keogh - Daniel Hever - Dave Keegan              |
| 12-Jan | 18,19,21,26 | €2,450  | David Mc Cormack - Emer Darcy - Anne Naughton        |
| 19-Jan | 2,17,22,23  | €2,500  | Mary Murray - Slim - Mick Mc Govern                  |
| 26-Jan | 6,8,9,19    | €2,550  | Niall Cronolly - John Hanrahan - Emma Gallagher      |
| 02-Feb | 6,11,19,27  | €2,600  | Joan Carroll - Conor Strickland - Noel Dempsey       |
| 09-Feb | 7,15,21,23  | €2,650  | Elaine & Suzanne - Pauline Mc Avinue - Richard Tighe |
| 16-Feb | 11,15,16,18 | €2,700  | Stephen Finnegan - Jill Judge - Nigel O Shea         |
| 23-Feb | 9,24,25,28  | €2,750  | Gerry Reilly - John Saults - Dave Vavasour           |
| 02-Mar | 15,16,21,25 | €2,800  | Ailbhe Quinn - Gina Folan - Katie Neville            |
| 09-Mar | 7,14,17,21  | €2,850  | Aileen Gleeson - Fiona Healy - Pat Power             |
| 16-Mar | 1,10,14,28  | €2,900  | Mike Coyne - Tony Clifford - Anthony Casey           |



## PEOPLE BEFORE PROFIT ALLIANCE LOCAL NEWS

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Twitter: @MGrehanPBP2014 - Wordpress: martingrehan.wordpress.com

### HOUSING - LAUNCH OF "THE RENT IS TOO DAMN HIGH" BLOG

Martin Grehan, the People Before Profit Alliance candidate for Maynooth/Clane/Kilcock local electoral area, is delighted to announce the launch of the "Rent is Too Damn High" Blog. The blog was launched in February 2014 and its purpose is to highlight the specific crisis in housing that is occurring in Maynooth and surrounding areas due to proximity to the University and Intel.

The main issues facing those trying to access housing in the locality or those in rented accommodation are exploitative landlords, rising rents, inadequacy of rent allowance caps, lack of affordable housing, and the unwillingness and inability of NUI Maynooth to provide affordable accommodation to its students. The blog aims to highlight the salient local issues by publishing anonymous accounts by local students and residents.

The blog is not just limited to the private rental market, we encourage submissions from individuals in negative equity, residents of unfinished estates, individuals or families who are homeless, etc.,

Martin Grehan, who founded the blog, says: "The aims of the blog are to highlight the specific housing issues we face here in North Kildare, and to place them into the context of the wider housing crisis. The blog has been very successful already, huge numbers of people have engaged with it. We plan to lobby the university and local authority, using the stories collected by the blog, to force them to act on the issue of affordable housing."

You can find the blog at:

[therentistoodamnhighmaynooth.wordpress.com](http://therentistoodamnhighmaynooth.wordpress.com)

OR [facebook.com/RentIsTooDamnHighMaynooth](https://www.facebook.com/RentIsTooDamnHighMaynooth)

### SAVE LOCAL JOBS- SUPPORT ELVERYS STAFF @MANOR MILLS

People Before Profit Alliance North Kildare extends its support to the employees of Elverys in Manor Mills SC Maynooth, who are fighting to save their jobs. Martin Grehan, People Before Profit's candidate in the Maynooth local electoral area, has called to the store on numerous occasions to offer support to the staff.

Elverys are in examinership and staff are concerned that potential new owners may seek to close stores and sack staff once a takeover is completed. People before Profit call on the examiner to commit the incoming owners to continuing the employment of all 700 staff at Elverys, including their staff in Maynooth. Local residents can help out by popping down to the store to sign a petition to maintain jobs across all Elverys stores.

Martin Grehan said: "Clare and all the staff are very worried about the future for Elverys in Maynooth. A public outpouring of solidarity would be of great comfort to them. It would also exert huge pressure on the examiner to act in good faith and secure jobs. Please call in and sign their petition."

### STUDENTS AGAINST SEXISM – CALL TO END SEXISM IN MAYNOOTH STUDENTS' UNION

People Before Profit Alliance are delighted to support NUI Maynooth's FemSoc in the formation of Students against Sexism. The action group, formed on Tuesday March 11th in NUI Maynooth, came about as a result of the ongoing scandal in relation to SU involvement in the decision to hire strippers to perform in the Students' Union (SU) bar on campus. Martin Grehan, People Before Profit's candidate for the Maynooth local electoral area, is a founding member of the action group.

Martin Grehan said: "I studied and worked in the university for over 10 years and there has been a consistent issue in my time of campus not being a safe place for women. The SU are meant to be a support for all students, yet when they hold events like this they deliberately exclude students. I'm delighted that students and staff have come together to make a stand against institutional sexism in the Students' Union."

### KILDARE INTERCULTURAL ACTION GROUP (KIA)

Kildare Inter-Cultural Action Group is a non profit-making voluntary organisation that aims to promote the positive effects of inter-culturalism in Maynooth and surrounding areas. Martin Grehan, our candidate in the local elections, is a member. People Before Profit support the work of KIA and hope to run meetings in the lead up to the election informing non-Irish residents of their rights to vote in the local elections.

If you're interested in getting involved you can contact Maeve on 0868517675.

### AMBULANCE CUTS – PROTEST, SATURDAY APRIL 5th @12PM, THE SQUARE

Over the past month our local election candidate Martin Grehan has been at the heart of attempts to revitalise the campaign to restore the ambulance on Thursdays. The campaign is being stepped up in the run-up to the local elections, under the tagline: "Austerity Kills - Save Our Ambulance".

To highlight the closure of the Maynooth ambulance base on Thursdays, we hold regular protests and stunts on Thursdays to draw attention to the issue. We are calling a protest in Maynooth on Saturday April 5th @12pm in The Square. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

Events were held every Thursday over the last month including:

Photo call at the HSE Ambulance Base in Maynooth Business Park to introduce our new posters.

Erection of the new posters around North Kildare.

White-line pickets in Maynooth to highlight the issue.

A banner drop on the M4 bridge.

Multiple twitter-storms to attract press attention on social media.

Martin calls for a full North Kildare service from Maynooth ambulance base and if elected, will use his mandate to fight for the return of the Thursday ambulance. Martin also pledges to vote against council budgets that include cuts to any other services if elected.

Martin Grehan said: "The restoration of the ambulance is the key issue for People Before Profit going into the local elections. We will raise the issue on every door we knock on between now and May 23rd. If elected I pledge to fight, inside and outside of the council chamber, to restore the full ambulance service in North Kildare. I will work with Brendan Young and Readha Cronin on this issue, the only other local election candidates who have ever seriously campaigned on this issue."

### CANVASSING BEGINS

In advance of the local elections on May 23rd we have begun canvassing Maynooth. Our group, including candidate Martin Grehan, are out several times a week and you may have received a knock on the door already. If you missed us or otherwise, please feel free to contact us at the details above. We will be aiming to call to every house in Maynooth at least once before the election.

The main issues residents are raising with us on the doorsteps are:

The Ambulance Cuts.

The Property Tax and how it's not paying for local services. The Maynooth Schools Issue.

If you wish to help us out in relation to any of these issues or would like to help in relation to leafleting or canvassing in advance of the election please do get in touch.

### UNFINISHED ESTATES IN MAYNOOTH – WHY ARE WE PAYING PROPERTY TAX?

There are numerous unfinished estates across Maynooth. Moyglare Hall, Newtown Hall and Griffin Rath all have specific problems but issues include lighting failures, pyrite, sewage and other utility issues, and lack of maintenance of communal areas.

#### Bankrupt or disinterested developers

Many of these issues are caused by developers being declared bankrupt, leaving the maintenance of the estate in limbo. When Kildare County Council (KCC) do not step in,

utilities can be cut-off, resulting in severe consequences for residents.

Another issue is that building has restarted in some unfinished estates. This is especially prevalent in Maynooth with demand for housing high. Why are developers being allowed to leave estates in dangerous levels of disrepair while continuing to build houses? The maintenance of the estate for the residents who currently reside there should be their main priority.

Property Tax – Was that not meant to pay for the upkeep of our estates?

If you live in an unfinished estate and have paid your Local Property Tax (LPT) you might be wondering exactly what it is you're paying for. We were sold the lie by Fine Gael and Labour that the LPT would go into funding local services, administered by KCC. This has not happened, in fact the first tranche of the LPT has gone into the setting up of Irish Water.

#### Solutions

Abolish the Property Tax. It's not paying for local services - that's what general taxation is for.

An exemption for Property Tax for all residents of unfinished estates, no matter the seriousness of the issues in the estate.

KCC must take responsibility for all estates where developers are bankrupt or not maintaining the estate.

Make it illegal for developers to restart housebuilding in unfinished estates.

#### Get in touch

Organising residents in estates to force action from KCC is essential and People Before Profit have a huge network of people in the area fighting on this issue. Unlike politicians from the main parties, we will not claim to write letters and fix the issues for you. We want to give residents the confidence to organise collaboratively to get their estates fixed.

#### Local elections

We would encourage you to Vote #1 for our candidate, Martin Grehan in the upcoming local elections. Martin has opposed the Property Tax since its inception. Martin pledges to vote against all cuts to local services if elected.

#### MAYNOOTH SCHOOLS ISSUE

People Before Profit North Kildare and our candidate for the local elections, Martin Grehan, have been outspoken in their support of the aims of the campaign. One school, is the most inclusive option, ensuring community cohesion into the future.

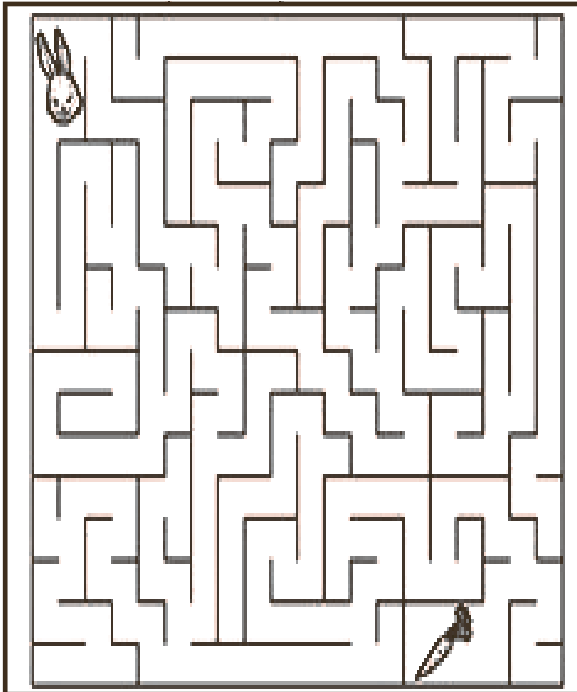
In the last issue we spoke about how the campaign had won a de facto victory. That came with the announcement that all of the first year children for the two proposed schools in Maynooth are to be housed together in the building of Maynooth Post Primary school this coming year. Maynooth Schools Group stated that they were very pleased with this progress, because one of the main objectives of their group was to ensure that there will continue to be no distinctions made between all of the children attending post-primary school in Maynooth.

However, the apparent reason for this victory appears to be an issue with the planning permission for the school. As we understand things, queries have led to a hold up in the process and we're possibly looking at 2017 before the new buildings are constructed. Which considering the unsuitability of Maynooth Post Primary is a worrying development. At time of press we're seeking clarity on the exact issues surrounding the planning side of things and will wait for that clarity before announcing our opinion on which direction the campaign should take.

No matter the developments of the next few months it is essential that the pressure is maintained. The Maynooth Schools Group has thousands of Maynooth residents on its side and if it keeps the squeeze on, victory is inevitable. People Before Profit will continue to offer our support in any way we can to the campaign over the coming months.



*Help the Easter Bunny find the carrot*



*Can you solve our Word Search Puzzle?*



## Easter



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| C | N | T | C | R | E | A | V | B | B | M | Y | U | H | F |
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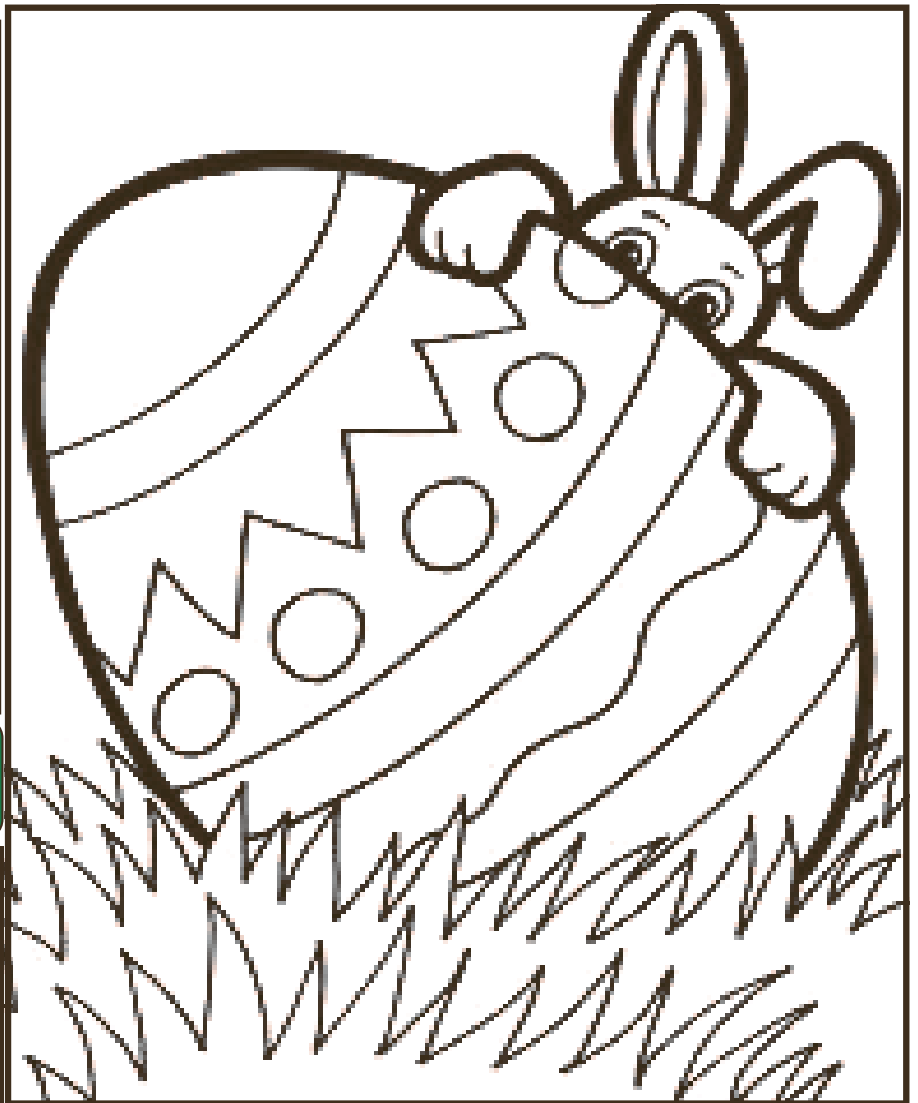
BASKET  
CHICKS  
EGGS  
HUNT  
SPRING

BEANS  
CHOCOLATE  
GRASS  
JELLY

BUNNY  
EASTER  
HATS  
PEEPS



*McDonalds Children's Colouring Competition*



**Prizes:**  
Free Family Meal From  
McDonald's, Maynooth



**i'm lovin' it**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_

**March Winners:**

Age: 3 - 5: Oisin Gillen, Moyglare Abbey

Age: 6 - 7: Vishal Tutte, Moyglare Hall

Age: 8 & Over: Casey Nolan Usher, Moyglare Hall

**Prizes for Colouring Competition can be collected at:**

**Maynooth Community Council Office, Unit 5, Tesco Shopping Centre.**

**Entries must arrive before: Tuesday 22nd April 2014**

# McDonald's



## April 2014 Diary Planner

### 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](http://www.irishgirlguides.ie)

### 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

### I.C.A.

Monthly 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

### Arthritis Ireland (Maynooth)

Arthritis Ireland Walking Group (Maynooth)  
Meeting Monday's at 12 Noon  
Maynooth Community Space  
Unit 11/12 Tesco SC  
Carton Park, Maynooth  
For Seated Exercise & Walking  
New Members Welcome

### Men's Sheds

Weekly meetings take place every Wednesday at 11.am  
Maynooth Community Space  
Unit 11/12 Tesco SC  
Carton Park, Maynooth

### University of Third Age (U3A)

Weekly meetings on Fridays at 11am.  
Maynooth Community Space  
Unit 11/12 Tesco SC  
Carton Park, Maynooth  
New Members Welcome  
Please contact Helena  
Phone: 087 6717062

### History Group

Meetings every last Thursday of the month in Maynooth Community Council Office  
Tesco Shopping Centre at 8.00pm.  
All Welcome

### 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](http://maynoothbridgeclub.com).  
Contact Katherine Cooney  
086 8205910

### Parent & Toddler Group

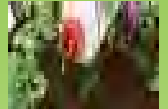
Every Thursday from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.  
Maynooth Community Space  
Unit 11/12 Tesco SC  
Carton Park, Maynooth

### Traditional Tai Chi Chuan

Classes in traditional Yang Style  
Tai Chi Chuan and Chi Kung  
The Leinster Clinic Maynooth  
Thursdays at 7.30pm  
Tel: Brian 087 2157231

## April Gardening

Spring is in the air and daffodils and tree blossoms are starting to bloom. It's time to sow outdoors but just watch out for frosts. Hardy annuals can be sown in pots for colour. Bamboos or rhizomes can be divided now. Apply a general-purpose fertiliser to borders and beds. Be careful not to damage any shoots or bulbs. Don't forget to check for bugs. Aphids can multiply very quickly during mild spells. Remove infestations as soon as possible so that they won't get out of hand. Keep an eye out for downy mildew and black spot on winter pansies. Feed trees, shrubs and hedges with a balanced fertiliser, sprinkling over the root area before hoeing into the soil surface. Check for damage or cankers on deciduous trees. Loosen any tree ties that are too tight. Put rabbit guards around newly planted trees and shrubs to protect the bark. Inspect box and holly trees for signs of blight.



Remove faded daffodil and tulip flowers. Deadhead pansies, primulas and all spring plants. Pansies should continue well into the summer if you keep doing this. Check to see if any of the containers need watering. Not forgetting to top them up with compost or remove old compost to a depth of 2 inches and recommit. Mulch rose and shrub beds with a layer of organic matter. Be careful mulching around rhododendrons, azaleas and camellias because if they are allowed to dry out, this will impact flowering.



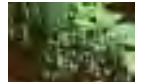
Sweet peas can be sown outside. Plant summer-flowering bulbs now if you haven't done already. Not forgetting to prepare the soil first and making sure that drainage is sufficient to prevent the bulbs rotting. You can still plant herbaceous perennials such as geranium, astringia and oriental poppies. Also make a plan so that you have a continuous crop of cut flowers for this summer. Perennials such as delphiniums and annuals can be grown for a beautiful display. Delay pruning spring-flowering shrubs such as forsythia and chaenomeles until after they have finished flowering. Lightly cut back lavenders to prevent them getting too leggy and woody. Also climbers such as honeysuckle and clematis need regular tying and twining around their supports.



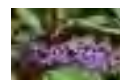
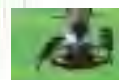
Sowing new lawns or over-seeding dead patches can be done from mid-April to early May. If the soil is very wet germination will be poor, so delay until the weather improves. Don't walk or mow newly sown grass until it has grown 3 inches and even then only give it a light trim. Apply a high nitrogen spring lawn fertiliser at the start of the month for strong growth. If you have a moss problem use a combined fertiliser and moss killer.



Early potatoes can be planted now and the main crop at the end of the month. Potatoes already planted won't need earthing up. Carry on growing salad crops. Plant onion sets, shallots and garlic if you didn't plant them last month. Direct sow lettuces, spinach and other spring vegetables. Sow herbs such as chives, parsley, sage, dill, thyme, marjoram in open spots in the borders.

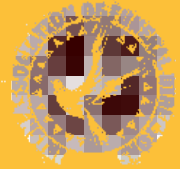


Large plants in your pond can be fed by inserting slow-release fertiliser tablets well below soil level around the base of the plant. Waterlilies need a lot of food. You can feed any plants that are not being divided. Divide and replant waterlilies once they start growing. If ponds are neglected, you need to drain and clean it if black and sludgy. Increase the watering of indoor and conservatory plants. Feed them once they start growing. Clean shiny-leaved plants with a damp cloth and spiky with a soft brush. Don't forget to turn the compost and sharpen your tools. Don't forget the wildlife!!! Keep feeding the birds - small sized food. Hedgehogs will be waking up from hibernating so put some food out for them also. If you want to attract butterflies into your garden, plant some buddleia, honesty or even nettles.



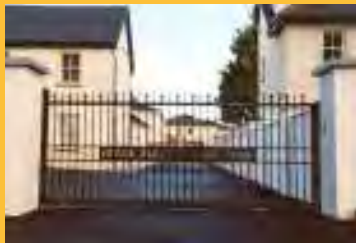
**Copy Date for the May edition of the Maynooth Newsletter is Tuesday 22nd April**

# OLIVER REILLY FUNERAL HOME



**YOU ARE INVITED TO AN OPEN DAY AT REILLY'S FUNERAL HOME AT  
THE HARBOUR, LEINSTER STREEET, MAYNOOTH  
SUNDAY APRIL 13TH FROM 1.00PM TO 4.00PM  
WITH A BLESSING AT 3.00P.M.  
REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED ON THE DAY**

Oliver Reilly Funeral Directors has constructed a purpose-built Funeral Home in Leinster Street, Maynooth, suitable for both Religious and Civil Services, Final Farewells and Life Celebrations. Skype feature available in the service room to connect to family abroad via broadband connection. The Funeral Home contains a showroom of coffins and caskets to suit all tastes and budgets.



*Oliver Reilly Funeral Home  
The Harbour  
Leinster Street  
Maynooth*

*Maynooth Office: Telephone 01 6289 452*

*Naas Office: Telephone 045 868230*

*Paul Reilly Mobile: 086 8105581*

*[www.reillyfuneralhome.ie](http://www.reillyfuneralhome.ie)*





# Labour Advice Service



**Emmet Stagg TD**

**Every Monday at 4.00 pm in  
McMahon's  
(Formerly Caulfield's)  
(Except Bank Holiday Weekends)  
Dáil contact Numbers  
01-6183013/6183797**

**HAPPY EASTER TO ALL**