



Maynooth Summer Festival 2014



Professor Terence Dooley
opening speech at launch of
Maynooth Summer Festival

The Maynooth Summer Festival was a great success this year and judging by the photographs in the Newsletter it looks like everyone had an enjoyable time.

The Festival was organised by the Maynooth Community Council. We would like to thank the Maynooth food establishments who gave very generous vouchers for the Taste of Maynooth Raffle which saw 4 prizes of eight vouchers going to three Maynooth residents and one to a Leixlip resident. Thanks to all our ticket sellers who volunteered their time in the week leading up to the festival to sell tickets in Tesco and Manor Mills and to those who sold tickets over the weekend.

A special word of thanks must go to Professor Terence Dooley who very kindly did the honours in launching the event. His opening remarks about the town and community were stimulating and inspirational. We were very glad to welcome some of our elected local representatives to the launch. The launch was extra special as the prizes were presented to children who took part in the children's art competition and exhibition – well done to all the winners. It was a most enjoyable evening and ended with Tony Savino entertaining us in McMahons. Thanks to McMahons for providing nibbles for our invited guests.

Friday was the start of it all. The Russell Library, the JPPII Library and the Community Library opened their doors to invite people to come and look at their exhibitions. There was the WWI and Maynooth College exhibition in the Russell, the Teresa Brayton (Kildare nationalist and poet) exhibition in the JPPII Library and Maynooth Community Library showed an online display of photographs of old Maynooth.

Saturday saw a great family fun day in the Tesco Car Park which was packed with family fun activities. Shauna Gilligan provided a creative writing workshop in the Community Space which was very well attended. Music, dance and art occupied the Square. Route 66 rounded off the evening's entertainment in great style. The Castle had music, song, dance, poetry reading. Thanks to Mary Cullen who was master of ceremonies. An added bonus was the visit from The 1916 Irish

Volunteers Commemorative Group who came along to display artefacts and share their knowledge. People were very interested to talk to them and get photographs taken with the men. Our thanks also to the Staff of the O.P.W. for their help in using the Castle as a venue again this year.

The Festival continued on Sunday in the Harbour Field with a dog show, carnival rides, bouncy castles, craft and martial arts displays. The Maynooth Brass and Reed Band provided a colourful spectacle and sense of occasion for the Festival as they marched from the Band Room up to the Harbour Field. They were superb. The Maynooth ICA provided much needed teas, coffees, cakes and biscuits throughout the afternoon. They also had a great bric-a-brac sale. Maynooth's Pound Lane Band gave a very enjoyable performance in the Square to round off the Festival in the Square.

Sincere thanks to the following: John Doogan and MCC office staff, Willie Sauls, Gabriel Martin, Pat Farrell, Andrew McMullon for the set up, Willie Kiernan for the sound, Adrienne Flynn for the Taste of Maynooth Raffle, Bernie Kane for organising the Tesco family fun and music events, Hilda Dunne for organising the Castle events, Susan Durack for organising the Square and Harbour events and Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin for her involvement in the planning leading up to the Festival. National Learning Network Maynooth, Push for Porter (trad group), Rita Doyle, Catherine Maher and Tully Schools of Dance, Tony Savino/Barry Smith, David Hynes (Poetry Readings), Comhaltas Ceolteorí Éireann Maynooth Branch, Route 66, Pound Lane Band, Shauna Gilligan – creative writing workshop, Maynooth Castle Keep Art Group, Fitsteps - Fitness Group, Kildare Animal Foundation, Maynooth Irish Country Women's Association, Peter Nevin, and Mary Cullen. All the restaurants, cafes and pubs that took part in the Taste of Maynooth Raffle. These will be mentioned separately in the Newsletter.

On behalf of Maynooth Community Council Festival Committee: Andrew McMullon, Tom McMullon, Adrienne Flynn, Bernie Kane, Gabriel Martin, Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin and Susan Durack - a big thank you to one and all and to the public who came out to support the Maynooth Festival of 2014.



Maynooth Community Council Festival Committee
L/R Andrew McMullon, Adrienne Flynn, Susan Durack,
Professor Terence Dooley (who launched the event),
Bernie Kane, Gabriel Martin & Tom McMullon

This publication is produced by Maynooth Community Council's Community Employment Scheme, supported by the Department of Social Protection, which is funded by the Irish Government.

Oak Alley Restaurant & Cocktail Bar

AS THEY DO IT DOWN IN
NEW ORLEANS

*Jambalaya and a crawfish pie and fillet gumbo
Cause tonight, I'm gonna see my ma cher a-mi-o
We'll have big fun on the bayou*



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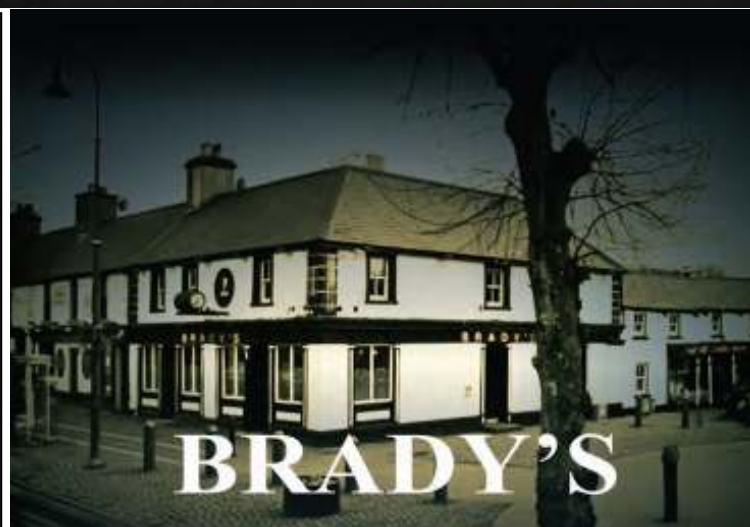
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Veterinary Life

At Maynooth Vets we offer a 24 hour service to help our Clients with either advice over the phone or a call out to deal with all situations. In our Practice we cater for the pet population and the farming community.

My Dog is Choking

Often Clients will ring saying their dog is choking. In a lot of cases this is a tracheitis (sore throat) which is causing the dog to cough in spasm. Sometimes a piece of stick or bone can become stuck across the roof of the mouth causing your dog to act as if he was choking. This dog needs to be sedated and the offending piece of bone removed.

My Dog is having Pups



How long she has been whelping and how many pups she has had will determine our response. Initially we may give a hormone injection to encourage the birthing process. If no pup appears then a caesarian section is indicated.

My Dog has been Poisoned

It is vital to make your dog vomit. An injection can be given to your pet for this purpose in our Clinic. This is especially true with cases of rat poison.



My Dog is Fitting

In a lot of cases the fits will stop after a few minutes. If they are prolonged the dog will require attention and sedation.



My Dog is Vomiting

Firstly we have to determine cause of vomiting. In cases of gastro-enteritis with dehydration your pet will be admitted and fluid replacement therapy given.

Recently we had 2 unusual cases. The first involved a black labrador jumping from the upstairs bedroom window. The children of the house were running out to play through the front door and they forgot to bring the dog, he was not going to be left behind so he ran up the stairs and vaulted out the open bedroom window and landed on a trestle table on the patio below. He suffered broken ribs and bruising but made a great recovery!

The second case was a 6 year old German Shepherd which had suddenly collapsed. A scan revealed a haemorrhaging splenic tumour which was removed. The dog made a great recovery from the surgery.

We can be contacted at Maynooth Veterinary Clinic 01 6289467 and Clane Veterinary Clinic 045 982763

*Tracing your Ancestors
"From the Classroom to the Grave"*

Was held in Ladychapel Graveyard
On 25th August 2014
7.30pm-8.30pm

Organised by Lyreen Research Forum



Four of eight gravestones with family trees compiled.
The memorials covered on the tour were as follows:

- 1 Travers Family, Graiguesallagh & Johninstown
- 2 Quigley - Dunne Family, Rathcoffey & Johninstown
- 3 Corbally - Murray Family, Rathcoffey
- 4 Dunne Family, Farnadum
- 5 Flood Family, Clonfert
- 6 Dunne - Behan Family, Painsown
- 7 Gill Family, Graiguepottle
- 8 Higgins Family, Clonfert



L/R Joe, Pat, Paddy, Mark & Eddie Travers

*Maynooth Library organised a talk
by
Seamus Cullen*

**"CARTON HOUSE AND THE
PEOPLE WHO LIVED
IN IT 1603-1975"**



*The Duke & Duchess of Leinster
with Des Galvin*



*which took place on
Wednesday 27th August*



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Pop-up Employment Fair in Maynooth a Great Success!

Maynooth Community Council in partnership with County Kildare Leader Partnership held a Pop-up Employment Information Fair in the Maynooth Community Space on 23rd September. With over 100 people visiting the Fair the morning was deemed a great success for people seeking information on entitlements, return to education, job opportunities and other information which was provided on the day. The organisers would like to thank all those who turned up on the day and all the agencies & groups who attended on the day to provide the information stands.

Organisations who provided information were: County Kildare Leader Partnership, Department of Social Protection, Leixlip Resource Centre, Kildare Wicklow Education & Training Board/VTOS, Maynooth University, National College of Ireland, Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed, Kildare Volunteer Centre, EmployAbility Kildare, Obair- Kildare Local Employment Service, Citizens Information Centre and QED Training - Momentum Courses.



Maynooth Ladies Golf Society

Captain's Day 13th September

Our lady captain for 2013/14, Alison O'Dwyer chose our venue Killeen Castle, Co. Meath for our Captain's Day. It was also the venue for the Solheim Cup in 2011. A great golf course with fantastic weather made for a very enjoyable event. We had a good turnout for the day and thanks to Alison and husband Niall for sponsoring some of the prizes.

1st prize – Ursula Byrne

2nd Prize – Alison O'Dwyer

3rd Prize – Edel Hutchinson

Front 9 – Louise Saults

Back 9 – Karen Kelly

Longest Drive – Karen Kelly

Nearest the pin – Mary Buckley

New members welcome, new season starting in February 2015. Our membership fee is €30. Contact Louise Saults

at 0857354734 or email us at

maynoothladiesgolfsociety@gmail.com



Alison O'Dwyer, Lady Captain



Ursula Byrne – 1st Prize



Alison O'Dwyer – 2nd prize



Edel Hutchinson – 3rd Prize

HALLOWEEN CELTIC MYTHOLOGY

Dearg Due – the Irish vampire

Yes, Dracula himself is an Irish creation (Irishman Bram Stoker created the monster in his masterpiece novel), but there's also a vampire that resides right smack in the middle of Ireland. Dearg-due, an Irish name meaning "red blood sucker," is a female demon that seduces men and then drains them of their blood. According to the Celtic legend, an Irish woman who was known throughout the country for her beauty, fell in love with a local peasant, which was unacceptable to her father. Dad forced her into an arranged marriage with a rich man who treated her terribly, and eventually she commit suicide.

She was buried near Strongbow's Tree in Waterford, and one night, she rose from her grave to seek revenge on her father and husband, sucking their blood until they dropped dead. Now known as Dearg-due, the vampire rises once a year, using her beauty to lure men to their deaths. Not to worry, though – there is one way to defeat Dearg-due. To prevent the undead from rising from the grave, simply build a pile of stones over her grave. No, it won't kill her, but at least you'll hold her off until next year!

The Dullahan – the Irish headless horseman

Another legendary Irish monster is the Dullahan, a name that can be translated to "dark man." Often portrayed in contemporary fantasy fiction and video games, this foreteller of death is the Irish version of the headless horseman. The Dullahan rides a headless black horse with flaming eyes, carrying his head under one arm. When he stops riding, a human dies. Some versions of this legend say that the Dullahan throws buckets of blood at people he passes, while other say he simply calls out the name of the mortal that will soon die. As with most evil forces, the Dullahan has a weakness – gold. The creature is scared of the substance, so any lonely travelers this Halloween night would be wise to have some on him in case they have a run-in with this headless horror!

The Púca

Pronounced "Pookah" is the Irish word for hobgoblin. One of the most feared spirits, according to legend, it can take on a variety of shapes and sizes in order to wreak havoc and harm. However, as the legend goes, it's now less dangerous thanks to the legendary King, Brian Boru, who is said to have tamed it and ridden it like a horse. In fact, (if one can use that word in the same sentence as talking about the supernatural), it's said that the Púca often takes on the form of a horse or calf, rushes between a victim's legs, and hoists them away for a mad dash across the countryside. Besides horses and cows, the Púca can also take on the shape of a bird or bat and has been known to scratch the face of its quarry. Usually, this ominous spirit lies in wait at suitably eerie places such as a crossroads, fence or bridge.



COMPUTER CLASSES FOR BEGINNERS

Friday 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st October 10.30am – 12.30pm

Computer classes for adults who want to learn more about computers and the internet. No experience of computers necessary. Four classes of 2 hours are available and you can learn how to:

- * Send & receive email. Add attachments to emails.
- * Search the internet.
- * Shop online and book flights.
- * How to pay for Motor Tax and TV Licence online.
- * Internet banking - view online bank statements.
- * Word processing.
- * Cloud storage - basics and account management.
- * Manage your pictures on computers and how to upload them online & much more.

Maynooth Community Library,
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ST. MARY'S BRASS AND REED BAND

We had a very successful annual week-end collection in the town last month and we would like to say a huge thank you to all who supported us. It never ceases to amaze us how supportive the people of Maynooth are to the Band. Although the Band was founded way back in 1796, it is going with a break since 1931 and a couple of the current members will be 60 years with the Band next year. I think we owe a lot to people like these who have put an enormous amount of work in to keeping the Band going for so long, particularly in recent years where there has been a huge amount of competition from other organisations, particularly sporting, in the town for the limited time that teenagers have available to them these days.

Upcoming events for October include the Annual Simon Community Fun Run in the Phoenix Park on 4th October and a particularly red letter day when we help the Maynooth Scouts to celebrate the opening of their spanking new premises in the Harbour.

The annual Mass for Deceased Members of the Band takes place on Sunday 9th November at 1pm when we invite all relatives of deceased band members to join with us in what is always a special occasion with specially chosen music for the occasion which allows Massgoers to see a different side of the Band.

The new music classes got under way in the last month but we always welcome anyone wanting to join the classes or indeed any musician living in the area who would like to play with the Band. Contact details for the Band are Hon. Secretary Catherine Heslin email address sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie or 087 9008554.



Maynooth Harvest Flower Festival

"Bounty of the Earth"

At

St Mary's Church of Ireland
Maynooth

On Saturday October 11th

10:30 am- 4.30pm

and Sunday October 12th

12:30 pm – 4.30 pm 2014

Teas, cakes and Plants



LETTER TO OUR READERS

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

Maynooth Golf Society

Results Sheet 2014
Athlone Golf Club 30/08/2014
Shay Moore Cup
Sponsored by the Moore Family

1st Prize	Terry Moore	34pts
2nd Prize	Brian Shields	31pts
3rd Prize	Brendan Bean	30pts B9
4th Prize	Barry Desmond	30pts
5th Prize	John Carroll	29pts
Front 9	Barry Farrell	15pts
Back 9	Sean Farrelly	15pts
Visitor	Maura Malone	
Nearest the Pin	Sean Lennon	
2's Club	No Winner	

Maynooth Golf Society's Annual Shay Moore Cup to Athlone Golf Club was played on 30th August, only 22 members played due to the late tee time of 1.00 to 3.00pm, and also the All Ireland semi final replay between Mayo and Kerry was on at 5.00pm. This affected the poor attendance to Athlone. The weather conditions were good for golf and the winner on the day was Shay's brother Terry Moore scoring 34 points to win the cup. 2nd place, Brian Shields 31 points, 3rd Brendan Bean 30 points, 4th Barry Desmond 30 points.

The prizes were presented by Sean Moore and the captain Gerry McTernan to all of the winners in McMahons Bar. There was a large attendance for the presentation of prizes. McMahons served food for all the members and supporters of the society on the night this added to make the presentation night a great success. Thanks to Sean and all of the staff at McMahons.

Thanks also to the Moore family for their continued sponsorship of this outing.

HATHA YOGA CLASSES

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&

The Leinster Clinic Maynooth
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7:00pm to 8:30pm

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Community Council Notes

September 2014

A vote of sympathy was extended to the Flood family on the death of Liam Flood. Described as “the gentleman” Liam was a world champion poker player and tournament organiser, his sudden death has left a shocked and saddened community.

The minutes of July 17th were read and agreed. There were no matters arising.

Concerned Parents at Maynooth’s Gael Scoil

A letter from concerned parents of Maynooth Gael Scoil was read to the meeting. It outlined their concerns at the lack of a footpath to the school and associated dangers. The letter requested MCC to consider their concerns. It was noted by the meeting that a proper footpath and cycle lane leading to the school was part of the original plans. The issue had been raised a number of times with Kildare County Council. €60,000 from Councillor John McGinley’s discretionary fund was used for the present path which is not adequate for the numbers using the path. MCC agreed with the concerns outlined and will write to the area engineer supporting the request and to encourage investigation into the matter.

Financial situation

The Chairman reported that it cost €34,000 last year to keep the scheme going (PRSI, Tax and Rent). This year is it envisaged that it will cost €50,000 due to the increase of the number of workers on the scheme. It was stressed that it is very important that the MCC fundraise to meet these demands.

Sub-Committees and affiliates

Educate together: The school is nearly full. There are 20 pupils in 6th Class. Enrolments are complete. All the staff did the Ice Bucket challenge. Some of the children created loom bands and raised €50 for Trocaire. There was a prize giving event.

Tidy Towns

One of Maynooth’s greatest success stories is the work of Maynooth Tidy Towns. Maynooth received 299 points in the Tidy Towns Competition (Large Town category – 10,000-15,000 population) which earned the town a well deserved bronze medal. The points were 10 up on last year which was a great achievement considering that some towns in other categories received a gold for 309 points. The report noted a lot to commend the town but there were some other observations such as the presence of graffiti, non-uniform trees, some and improvements needed to the top parts of the streetscape, so there is still more work to do. The judging of the town took place on 17th June.

The meeting expressed its thanks to Maynooth Tidy Towns for the wonderful work that they have done. The Chairman noted that the group is one of the greatest assets to the town. A round of applause followed.

Senior Citizens

The club has resumed after a break for the month of August. Members enjoyed their stay at Kerdiffstown, others went to Lourdes. There will be a Tea Dance and the Labour Party walk in October. There were further developments on the Meals on Wheels project. Members were delighted that the Club has restarted.

Maynooth Community Church

Maynooth Community Church organised a very enjoyable Arts Festival in the Square in July. There was an observation on the design of the Square in relation to its use for festivals and performance. It was noted that the design almost stops use. There was some discussion on the possibility of covering in or roofing the central square. It was noted that the existing beams were in a poor state. It was clarified that the Square and its

future development is included in the Maynooth Area Action Plan already. The Maynooth local area plan is in the Community Library.

St. Patrick’s Day Parade

John McGinley and Willie Saults have stepped down as the organisers of the St. Patrick’s Day Parade. It was proposed that Naoise Ó Cearúil take over the organisation of the parade. Naoise expressed his thanks at taking over the reins in organising what is the biggest parade outside Dublin.

Maynooth Local History Group

MLHG were very busy time during Heritage Week and they also contributed to the Maynooth Summer Festival. Thanks were expressed to Mary Cullen, Peter Nevin and the Irish Commemorative Volunteers (Dublin Brigade), for their involvement in the Castle events for the Maynooth Summer Festival.

Festival

The Maynooth Summer Festival was very successful. (see full report in Newsletter)

Local matters

Maynooth University rebranding and the Irish language. It was brought to the attention of the meeting that Conradh na Gaeilge were disappointed that there is no Irish in the newly rebranded title of Maynooth University. It was agreed that MCC send a letter to the President to express its disappointment and to request reconsideration.

The meeting noted the closure of Kehoe’s Delicatessen & Restaurant which has proudly served Maynooth for the last 27 years. Wishing Ted and Alverne a happy Retirement.

Nuadha Players

Auditions will take place on Wednesday 10th September in the Soccer Club for “Little Red Riding Hood”

Editorial

The president Michael D. Higgins gave an address to the Vincent de Paul recently where he warned that there is a danger that the country will enter a new era of boom and bust unless politicians are very careful. There are very few real intellectuals as leaders of Irish life, very few who could be described as knowing how important ideas, morals and ideology are in shaping a society. Indeed, society or country are seldom referred to; we live now in a place called ‘economy’ or even ‘Ireland Inc’ although that moniker was used with the poor tiger. In speaking about the economic collapse of 2007-8 the president said:

“The opportunity we must not let go to waste is that of addressing the root causes of the crisis precipitated by the global financial meltdown of 2008 and the model of society it supported. Indeed it is not enough to say that the upheavals caused by an unprecedented banking collapse and property bubble can be fixed if the right supervision and regulatory mechanisms are put in place. The current crisis has moral and intellectual ramifications that run much deeper than that. It calls for an interrogation of the values, the vision of life and of human relations that animate us as a society.”

He had spoken of these ‘moral ramifications’ long before the collapse, one of those visionaries who could see that the Western World, but Ireland in particular had simply lost the plot.

In the same speech he goes on to say:

“The risk, as I see it, is that if we do not tackle the assumptions that have inflicted such deep injuries on our moral imaginations, we will end up going back to “business as usual” – as many of those advocating acquiescent fortitude on “the road to recovery” would like us to do. There are signs already – on the housing market, on the credit markets – that such a return to business as usual may be underway.”

He also discusses the Universities in the same speech and says:

“In a first phase of the Ethics Initiative – the second of my Presidency initiatives after “Being Young and Irish” – I invited Irish third level Institutions and the Royal Irish Academy to contribute. Indeed Universities have, I believe, a crucial role to play in nurturing alternative ways of thinking and in crafting an intellectual response to our current situation. The positive answer Irish universities gave to that invitation, the many ideas they put forward, and their commitment to organise some 50 events over the course of this year – many of which have already taken place – are greatly encouraging. Yet one had the impression of a fractured vision, of concerned scholars not in contact with each other, of a system under such neo-utilitarian grip that it yielded in the goal of delivering a pluralist teaching of economic theory and history.”

His reference to the university system is interesting as the current student intake begin their education in Maynooth. One can look at this in two ways: the insider view of the university whether that is as a staff member or a student or as a resident of the town. Inside the university there are many diverse ways of looking at this as well; the academic staff will have a view, the backroom staff will have another view and those who run the institution will have yet another view and so it goes on. But the town could not believe the sudden emergence of white plastic signs announcing the ‘rebranding’ of the university as Maynooth University overnight. The ‘rebranding’ was not necessarily the issue, although that also gave pause for thought, it was the tacky white plastic letters on the Kilcock Road and other places that were thought simply hilarious. The students took the opportunity to either play ‘Countdown’ with them and re-arrange the letters or simply to steal them. The renaming of the university will continue to be a matter for debate and whether this is a good idea or not. But the fact that it happened entirely in English was raised immediately at the Community Council meeting locally. This was also a matter for anger, disbelief and reaction within the university community. This will have to be addressed as soon as possible. Bhí alltacht ar dhaoine go ginearálta i mbaile Mhá Nuad nach raibh focal Gaeilge le feiceáil ar na fógraí nua san Ollscoil agus bhí sé sin soiléir ó dhaoine nach mbeadh aon suim acu i nGaeilge de ghnáth. Bíonn daoine ag súil le dhá-theangachas ó áiteanna mar Ollscoileanna agus níor chreid siad go bhféadfadh a leithéid tarlú anseo. Ar ndóigh tá an costas a bheidh ar seo uile le ceistiú freisin – airgead pobail atá i gceist agus anois beidh ar an Ollscoil tuilleadh airgid a chaitheamh ar na leagain dá-theangacha. Cuimhnigh – tá páipéir, ríomhphost, idirlín agus gach saghas áis eile i gceist. Finally, this editorial cannot finish without some reference to the No vote in our near neighbour Scotland. It certainly raises the question and the relevance of identity and culture and language. The Scots seem to have decided that these issues will survive in the UK and that they do not need independence to ensure the survival of their culture. It also raises the same question for Wales and Northern Ireland and maybe, in view of what has been mentioned above, for us as well.

Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin

Letters to the Editor

The Chairman,
Maynooth Community Council,
Unit 5, Carton Park,
Maynooth,
Co Kildare.

8th September 2014

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to you on behalf of a group of concerned parents whose children attend the Gaelscoil Ui Fhiaich on the Celbridge Road, Maynooth, Co Kildare. I refer to the situation with regard to the pedestrian footpath on route from Maynooth to the school – the path running parallel with Laurence's Avenue.

As you are aware, there is no footpath on the other side of this narrow road. In our view, the existing path poses a significant danger to all pedestrians, in particular children using the path to and from school. This pathway is not guarded (i.e. by a rail) and its users are literally a couple of feet away from a steady and fast moving traffic flow. This is particularly heavy during the "school run" period.

The pedestrian volumes on the path are also quite heavy during early morning and school "pick up" times. There are large numbers of parents and children on the path. Some of the children use scooters and push bikes. Unfortunately it would take only a small fall from either of those, or a misplaced step by a young child, to result in potentially disastrous consequences.

There appears to be a large amount of green space on the other side of the wooden rail which bounds the right hand side of this path (the wooden rail itself constricts the pathway, preventing any leeway for path users away from the road traffic). We have heard that the residents on Laurence's Avenue have no wish to see a path introduced there. If this is indeed the case, I find it very difficult to understand what right these residents have in matters of road safety? Is it necessary for a child to be injured in some way in order for some action to be taken to remedy this situation?

We would be most grateful if you would earnestly consider our concerns regarding this very serious safety issue. Some straightforward solutions which have been suggested include:

1. The erection of a safety metal rail/fence from the junction of the Celbridge Road/Laurence's Avenue to the end of Laurence's Avenue at the Gaelscoil end of the path.
2. The removal of the existing wooden fence and hedges on the right hand side of the pathway to enable an "overflow" during busy periods.
3. The removal of the fence and hedges and the creation of a new wider footpath, incorporating the existing one, on the sizeable green space over the existing fence.

Again, we urge you to consider the matters raised and we greatly look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Barry Smith
11 Parklands Grove,
Maynooth
Co Kildare



ASK SHARON THE STYLIST!!

"I'm actually more confident when I'm tanned." Sanina Shaik - Model from Australia.

Question: "How do I apply a fake tan at home without getting loads of streaks?"

FACT: Lately we've been hearing lots of horror stories about skin cancer from using sun beds or from not using an appropriate sunscreen when out in the sun or sometimes even nothing at all. Summer is here and the safest thing to do is slowly build up your colour. Have you ever heard of 'Fake it till you make it' well getting an all over even glow doesn't mean you have to go on sun beds or wait for your summer holiday. If you want skin that looks like it's been kissed by the sun, just follow these simple steps and remember a bad tan job will fade, but the pictures will last forever.

Fake Tanning-the rules

Exfoliate: You need to exfoliate that dead skin.

Focus on rough areas like knees, elbows and ankles.

De-fuzz: A faux glow is all about preparation. Wax 48 hours beforehand/shave 24 hours before you apply tan.

Moisturise: Dry skin is a major no no. Thirsty for moisture it will suck in self tan and leave you with dark patches. Allow the skin to absorb the moisturiser before you smooth on your tan.

Vaseline: Rub a small amount of Vaseline on your eyebrows and Fingers to avoid discolouration.

Nails: To prevent destroying your manicure and toenails, use a cleansing wipe to prevent them turning brown.

The right one for your skin: Fair skin can opt for a light to medium and olive tones can opt for darker tan

Be Patient: With a Tanning Mitt or Latex gloves apply the tan in circular motions. Start at your ankles and work your way up following the manufactures instructions.

Tan at night: The perfect thing to do is apply just before bed as you can refrain from activities that will make you sweat also avoid showering for 6-8 hours after application.

What to do when it goes wrong: We've all had a tanning nightmare so whether you've made one arm three shades darker than the other or your tan is a streaky mess don't panic -there are always ways to fix it. As soon as possible have a hot shower, to speed up the process add a few squeezes of lemon into your shower gel. Lemon juice and oil make your tan fade faster and if you soak the mitt in lemon juice the acidity will break up the colour. Whitening tooth paste on your hands and in between fingers can reduce stains as the acetone in it helps fade the tan.

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

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PRESS RELEASE

Independents warn of limited Council services following Local Property Tax reductions

With Local Property Tax being essential for council services in Kildare in 2015, Independent councillors Pádraig McEvoy, Paddy Kennedy, Teresa Murray and Anthony Larkin have highlighted how service provision will continue to lag following the reduction of the Local Adjustment Factor. Voting against the agreed 7.5% cut, the independent councillors anticipate that Kildare County Council will not meet expectations associated with the LPT. While there are many unfair aspects of the LPT, a few key facts that influenced their decision.

7.5% reductions across the bands offers the following savings:

- o Band 1: 11,888 properties will each save €6.75 (€80,244)
- o Band 2: 17,089 properties will each save €16.88 (€288,462)
- o Band 3: 23,033 properties will each save €23.63 (€544,269)
- o Band 4: 11,962 properties will each save €30.38 (€363,405)
- o Higher bands: 10,328 properties will each save an average of €36.18 (€373,620)

Total value of reduced services is circa €1.65m Savings per property were considered against the history of per capita underfunding of services for Kildare's expanded population. By replacing previous funding sources, the Government's Local Property Tax is the main fund for Kildare County Council to solve issues around footpath repairs, completion of housing estates and their taking in charge, street light repairs, playgrounds, traffic calming, improved road safety measures, community grants, etc.

12.9% growth in Kildare's population to 210,212 by 2011 was not matched with proportionate funding which has compounded impacts on local services

Kildare County Council had central funding reduced by €2.5m since 2012

Kildare received €46 per person in the 2013 General Purpose Grant compared to a national average of €93 (Similarly, €150 in 2009 for a national average of €251) 2

Compared to a national average allocation of €116.85 per capita, a 0% reduction in Kildare represents €84.40 per capita.

Compared with 2014 levels, an additional €1.11 M "surplus" in 2015 (with a 15% reduction) would equate to €222,000 of discretionary works in each of the 5 Municipal Districts

Kildare County Council has the 2nd lowest staffing/population ratio (1:252) compared to a national average of 1:175 2

Increases in Kildare's car tax intake since 2012 corresponds with requests for traffic calming and safety schemes across the county

Many motions that have been put forward by councillors were not progressed due to a lack of funding Cllr Pádraig McEvoy said "There are many unfair aspects of the local property tax but it is now the main funding scheme available to deliver the services that people asked for during the 2014 local election."

Cllr Paddy Kenny commented, "I am particularly concerned for community grants towards Christmas Lights, community games, Tidy Towns, twinning and for the costs associated with established festivals in the former town councils."

Cllr Teresa Murray spoke about "A need for funding to allow the council respond to requests for repairs and infrastructure across the counties. While savings on the LPT will help some families, the council will be hindered in its capacity to help the most vulnerable."

Cllr Anthony Larkin called for "A longer term view since Kildare has been poorly funded for the last 5 years. The small saving per property will result in missing big opportunities for our citizens."

For further information,
contact Pádraig McEvoy
on 086-8658262

Maynooth Labour News

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

Kildare Labour Councillors Propose a 15% Reduction in the Local Property Tax

The following Labour Party Motion was on the Agenda for yesterday's meeting (22 September) of Kildare County Council:

"That this council reduces the local property tax by 15% to ease the burden on homeowners in County Kildare as the tax cut can now be afforded without any reduction in overall funding."

Cllr. John McGinley made the following points:

1. Council services will not be reduced as a result of the 15% reduction in the Local Property Tax, indeed the opposite is the case as the Council will still have and additional €1.1m above what it was getting this year after the 15% cut.
2. The Councils Finance Committee have recommended a 15% cut
3. All of the adjoining Dublin Councils have already agreed to a 15% cut.
4. Giving it back to households is the fairest way to distribute any surplus money and each household would get on average a €50 reduction in their Local Property Tax as a result of the adoption of the Labour Party Motion. Unfortunately at the meeting two alternative motions were put forward:

The Fianna Fail/Fine Gael coalition on the Council proposed that the reduction to households be only 7.5% and incredibly the Independent Group proposed that there be NO reduction for households.

The Fianna Fail/Fine Gael motion was passed as they have a majority on the Council."

Council Agrees to Implement Maynooth Parking By-Laws

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth Municipal District (MD) meeting on 10 September:

"That the parking by-laws for Maynooth, which were adopted on 23 December 2013, be implemented irrespective of what happens with the private car park adjacent to the public car park."

The Council Officials replied that *"The Roads and Transportation Department would support this Motion and can act on that basis subject to the agreement of the Municipal District."*

The Municipal District members agreed unanimously to Cllr. McGinley's motion.

Cllr. McGinley Demands Lower Train Fares Between Maynooth and Kilcock

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth Municipal District (MD) meeting on 10 September:

"That representatives of Iarnród Éireann be called to a Maynooth Municipal District meeting to address the expensive rail fare from Kilcock to Maynooth and also to deal with litter at the track at Kilcock Station."

John pointed out that the fare between Kilcock and Maynooth is €5.70 whereas between Maynooth and Dublin it is €4.35.

It was agreed that Iarnród Éireann would be asked to send representatives to the next Maynooth MD meeting.

The Area Engineer Outlines Footpath Priorities for Maynooth

The Area Engineer outlined his priority for footpath improvements are the Maynooth MD meeting on 10 September as follows:

1. The east side of Mill Street
 2. The path along the southern boundary to Greenfield Shopping Centre
 3. Sections along the Dunboyne Road (Dillons Row)
 4. A new section of path (260m in length) between Laraghbryan Cemetery and the Leinster Clinic.
- Cllr. McGinley stated that he agreed with the priorities and that he had looked for these improvements in the past. John said that it was good to see that the footpath at Mill Street was resurfaced at the same time as the street. He also pointed out that it will probably be necessary to erect bollards along the southern boundary of Greenfield

Shopping Centre in order to prevent cars and trucks from parking on the footpath. The new path was being laid at the time of writing (22 September)

Missing Lights at entrance to Phase 2 Old Greenfield at the Band Hall

Cllr. McGinley was given the following Progress Report at the Maynooth MD meeting on 10 September on his motion to have these two lights replaced:

"ESB Networks removed these Network pole mounted lights without consulting Kildare County Council when they were upgrading the ESB network poles in the Maynooth area. Kildare County Council has identified and approved a solution for the missing light in Old Greenfield and is currently investigating options for the light removed by the ESB at the Band Hall"

Cllr. McGinley Calls for the Post Box to be put Back in Maynooth Post Office

Maynooth Post Office is probably the only one in the country that does not have a Post Box. Cllr. McGinley asked his colleague, Emmet Stagg T.D. to write to An Phost about the matter and Deputy Stagg got the following reply from the Chairman of An Phost on 29 August:

"I refer to your communications concerning the posting facilities located outside Maynooth Post Office, Co. Kildare.

Following receipt of your letter, I asked the Operations Manager for the area, Mr. Marshall Craig, to investigate the issues you raised. Mr. Craig reports that the facilities in the Maynooth area are currently under review with particular emphasis on seeking a resolution to the lack of facilities at the Post Office. It is expected that this review will be completed within the next 3 to 4 weeks. The intention is to implement any proposed changes as soon as feasible after that and we will update you on the developments.

I trust my letter explains the position. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me."

Deputy Emmet Stagg and Cllr. John McGinley Submit Observations on Appeals Lodged to An Board Pleanala Concerning Mycete Proposals for Moyglare Hall/Road
In their observations on the appeals Deputy Stagg and Cllr. McGinley fully supported the residents in their objection to the new access road onto Moyglare Road and the construction of Apartment Block 5 at Moyglare Walk.

They pointed out that:

"The National Transport Authority in their submission dated 10/7/14 clearly expressed deep concerns about this proposed new access road and the consequences it will have for congestion on the Moyglare Road and the use of this new access road to access all of the Moyglare Hall Development."

In relation to Apartment Block 5 they pointed out that it should be omitted given the serious reduction in amenities it will cause to existing residents in the area through a loss of amenity and privacy.

Deputy Stagg and Cllr. McGinley Support O'Neill Park Residents

Deputy Stagg and Cllr. McGinley have supported O'Neill Park Residents in their objections to the Housing Development behind them. The objection relates to two issues:

1. We strongly object to the proposed Walkway/Cycle Track to the Lime Walk/Carton Avenue from the new development.
2. We have asked for a 1.8m boundary wall between O'Neill Park and the new development

Cllr. McGinley Calls for the Courthouse Square to be Transformed into a Lively Civic Space

Cllr. John McGinley has submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth Municipal District:

"That measures be put in place to implement Policy TCS 8 of Maynooth Local Area Plan i.e. to transform the Courthouse Square into a lively civic space providing a quality and usable space for the community to enjoy."

In the meantime Cllr. McGinley has asked that the rotten timber beam on the pergola be replaced.

Cllr. McGinley Calls on Kildare County Council to

Speed up the Taking in Charge of Housing Estates

Cllr. McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of Kildare County Council:

"That this Council proceeds to implement Motion 21, on the taking in charge of housing estates, as agreed at 30 June 2014 meeting i.e. take in charge estates with the exception of water infrastructure."

The motion arises as a result of the failure of Irish Water and County Councils nationally to agree on a protocol for the taking in charge of water infrastructure in housing estates since the start of the year.

John was given a two page reply by Council Officials and the relevant part was as follows:

Kildare County Council proposes to resume the taking in charge of estates at the request of the residents from 1 November 2014 if a protocol for taking water services infrastructure in charge by Irish Water is not in place by then.

Separately, Cllr. McGinley also asked his colleague Emmet Stagg T.D. to raise the issue with Minister Alan Kelly and he got the following reply on 16 September:

"I refer to recent correspondence in relation to the taking in charge of housing estates. This matter is currently under discussion between Irish water, the Local Authorities and my Department. It is expected that these discussions will be concluded shortly and the relevant protocol agreed with local authorities. My Department will revert when this has been agreed."

Cllr. McGinley Again Calls for Fagan's Lane, Maynooth to be Pedestrianized

Cllr. John McGinley has submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth Municipal District:

"That Fagan's Lane, Maynooth, be made pedestrian only in the interest of public safety."

€797,796 Grant to Kildare Co. Council to Improve Social Housing Stock

Deputy Emmet Stagg has welcomed the announcement by the Minister for Environment Alan Kelly T.D. of an allocation of €797,796 to Kildare Co. Council for adaptations and extensions to Council Houses to meet needs of tenants with a disability or where there is overcrowding and a further allocation in upgrading the energy efficiency of Council Houses.

An allocation of €329,829 has been provided to Kildare Co. Council for adaptations and extensions to council houses to meet tenant's needs with a disability or to address serious overcrowding. This allocation stated Deputy Stagg will enable Tenants to continue to live in their homes with suitable adaptations to improve their quality of life. Works that may be undertaken under the funding would include the provision of stairlifts, walk in showers and building ground floor accommodation where required.

An additional allocation stated Deputy Stagg of €467,967 has been allocated to Kildare Co. Council for energy retrofitting works to Council houses. This is on top of the allocation of €416,687 announced last February. Works included in the retrofitting will include attic and wall insulation and it is estimated that the works will reduce annual heating costs by up to €400 per year. This will go a long way to reducing fuel poverty, carbon emissions and will support job creation.

In conclusion Deputy Stagg stated that the Grant announcement was good news for Tenants which will see an improvement in their quality of life.

Tony Smith Memorial Walk in Aid of Maynooth Senior Citizens on 19 October

Our Annual Tony Smith Memorial Walk will be held on Sunday 19 October. It starts at 3.00 pm from Maynooth GAA Grounds on the Moyglare Road and goes through Carton Demesne and back to the GAA. It is a very enjoyable walk through beautiful surroundings and all are welcome to participate. Sponsorship cards are available from John McGinley.

John is also available on Facebook



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BECOMING AN INDIE AUTHOR



The world of book publishing has changed. It is now relatively easy to become an Independent 'Indie' writer and many choose to take that path. Having recently successfully launched my own books on Amazon, I have some useful tips and advice for those that might want to dip their toe in the water. First and foremost of course you must ensure that you are prepared. Make sure your manuscript is print ready before you start. By this I mean that you are happy the final draft is without error and fully proof-read. If we take this as a given, the first steps to becoming a published author are relatively easy.

Probably the most uncomplicated route is with Kindle. Kindle Direct Publishing (KDP) offers the most guided route for first timers. There are submissions guidelines in terms of document format, pictures, cover design, pricing and so on, but all are explained very well and easy to follow. You can literally upload your book and have it available for sale as an eBook on Amazon in a very short time. Many people think eBooks are only accessible on e-readers like kindle but this is not the case. They can be read on PC, Kindle any Tablet or indeed eyesight permitting, smart phone. Alongside KDP there are a number of online publishing options for paperback but perhaps the easiest is create space where you can link your digital and paperback versions of your book on Amazon. None of this will cost you in financial terms but then the hard work begins.

If you are Stephen King people will find and buy your book online, if not you have to find a way to develop a fan base. Friends and family will help get you started but it is important to make your books accessible to the wider world. You can set up a web page of course, but a professional page worth having can cost money so in the early stages you can use alternative outlets to allow people access to your work.

Use social media. Create an author page on Facebook with links to your books on line. Join writers groups on Facebook where you can get useful additional advice and reviews. Reviews are important to attract readers to your book. On Amazon you have an option to create an author page where you can put a biography and any other details about your books. Goodreads is a great site for authors to promote their books to readers and get reviews also. Create a twitter account and use Twitter to attract people to your Facebook or web page or blog. Yes I said blog. Blogging is another way to attract attention to your brand. Don't be afraid and a good easy and free place to start blogging is Wordpress.com.

Importantly becoming an Indie writer is going to require some time and effort. You don't have the marketing back-up of a publisher; you are your own publisher so you have to promote your own book. It is a process and you will have to be patient. Each step will be a learning process and you will make mistakes and learn from each one. Don't imagine instant success or you will be disappointed. But put in the time and effort and it can be rewarding and satisfying. If you are unfamiliar with the world of social media and blogging, don't be afraid. You will quickly become an expert and learn some new skills along the way.

Most importantly remember one last thing. Writers write. Don't keep that book in your head. Write it down, even if it is only a few words a day, write!

Max Power is a Maynooth Local and his books are available on Amazon.

Titles include Darkly Wood and Larry Flynn and Max can be found on facebook.com/maxpowerbooks



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Chimney Fire Prevention Tips



Did you know that:

Chimney fires can cause structural damage to your house or the adjoining property
Sparks from chimney fires can set fire to surrounding properties
Blocked chimneys can result in fumes entering your home and can cause carbon monoxide poisoning

When to clean the chimney:

Coal burning fires – twice per year
Wood or turf burning fires – at least twice per year
Oil-fired appliances – once per year (if designed for sweeping)
Gas fired appliances – once per year (if designed for sweeping)

Fire Prevention:

Don't use flammable liquids such as petrol or paraffin to light your fire
Don't burn paper or rubbish
Don't overload the fire with fuel
Use a spark guard on open fires
Go into the attic occasionally when the fire is alight to check for smoke from cracks, defective brickwork, or mortar joints

If you have a chimney fire:

Dial 112 (or 999) and ask for the Fire Service
Make sure your spark-guard is in position
Move furniture and carpets away from the fireplace
Keep doors and windows to the room closed
Bring everyone in the house to the ground floor and be ready to leave the house



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A Hidden Gem in the Heart of Maynooth

Glenroyal Beauty Salon opened its doors in December 2011 and is considered by many to be a hidden gem tucked away inside the Glenroyal Leisure Club. In the 3 years since its inception, the Glenroyal Beauty Salon has built a loyal client base from Maynooth itself and surrounding areas, while also welcoming hotel guests and visitors to the area.

The therapists in the Glenroyal Beauty Salon are professional, friendly and extremely good at everything they do. Lisa, a senior therapist with the salon since its opening, has almost a decade of experience in the beauty industry and is highly qualified in many areas, achieving the level of 'specialist' with the highly acclaimed Dermalogica skin care range. Aoife, is another highly sought-after therapist with the salon and is also trained in a wide range of treatments. These girls form the backbone of the salon's continuing success.

Whether treating yourself to a luxurious treatment or just getting a little 'routine maintenance', the Glenroyal Beauty Salon has you covered. They offer everything you'd expect from a beauty salon – waxing, manicures, pedicures, facials & massage. However they also offer treatments that go beyond the routine and basic to the innovative and exciting. Enter the Minimi Body Wrap!

What is a Minimi (pronounced mini me) Body Wrap? Simply put, a Minimi wrap is a non-invasive treatment offering you a better body. It can help you to drop a dress size after just one treatment by providing permanent fat (not fluid) loss. The added anti-cellulite ingredient will achieve a noticeable improvement in the appearance of cellulite dimples, in addition to the inch loss. Results can be seen immediately but will also progress over the 72 hours following the relaxing treatment. The Glenroyal Beauty Salon offer a great discount if you book a course of these amazing wraps.

Glenroyal Beauty Salon's skin care range is largely built upon the highly-respected Dermalogica brand. The therapists are very knowledgeable in this area and offer a free detailed analysis of your skin and personalised skincare recommendations.

Lycon wax is available for all your hair removal needs at the salon. It is marketed as 'the only wax worth taking your clothes off for' and this may very well be true. It can remove stubborn hair as short as 1mm, removing the need for longer regrowth time and thanks to the pre-wax oil that is applied to your skin, this clever wax shrink-wraps just the hair (and not your skin) making the whole experience almost pain-free.

The latest addition to the salon's expanding product range is Fuschia Make Up. Fuschia is a fantastic multi-award winning Irish Mineral Make-Up that provides long-lasting, flawless coverage. Glenroyal Beauty Salon use Fuschia products in their make-up applications and also retail the brand so when you find the colour palette that suits you, it's easy to stay stocked up.

It's great to see a company which was set up in the midst of a recession, thriving. This is largely due to the quality and range of treatments on offer, the professionalism and friendliness of the staff who receive on-going training to stay ahead of the trends and the great value for money on treatments which is only compounded by exciting special offers each month.

Glenroyal Beauty Salon is open late 6 nights a week. Find Glenroyal Beauty Salon on Facebook and follow them on Twitter for news, special offers and competitions. Don't forget, leisure club members get 10% discount on treatments.

Eve Larine



L - R Tina Murphy, Patricia Sheridan, Ann Sheeran, Martin Carter, at the photo exhibition in Maynooth Library

Eve Larine is an Occupational Day service catering for people suffering with a Mental Health problem, where all participants come for a meaningful day. People can experience art/ceramics, gardening, catering, personal development, outings etc, with experienced staff who are always willing to listen and help when they can.

We won the Centre of excellence in 2013 with the Lundbeck. We got €3,000 and we bought six Nikon Cameras and set up our Camera club.

The idea was that the person behind the camera was in control for example: if a group take a photo of an apple, it is amazing to see the different interpretation that each person can make. It was really nice to see people that thought they did not have any skills and to see them blossom behind the lenses.

We have also made a mini film during the Green Ribbon Campaign to the tune of Pharrell Williams "Happy" with the cameras.

If you wish to view this go to www.evelarinecourt.blogspot.ie

We have a garden centre which is open to the public where you can come in a browse.

Opening times are:

8.30am – 4.00pm Mon /Thurs

8.30am- 3.00pm Friday

No Saturday or Sunday opening

If you want any more information please contact Paul Dowling Manager at 016289465

Walk to the Tyrconnell Tower, Sunday 24th August 2014



Seamus Cullen and Declan O'Connor of Maynooth Local History Group co-presented this event with 22 attendees. The Tower was reached after a gentle 20 minute walk. Seamus explained that Richard Talbot (from the Talbot Family of Malahide) owned the Leasehold of Carton when King James II created him Earl of Tyrconnell and Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in the 1680's. Richard Talbot (known to friends and opponents as "Fighting Dick" or "Lying Dick") was a divisive figure. He died during the second siege of Limerick and is interred at St. Mary's Cathedral there.

Richard Talbot had started to construct the original Tower as a Talbot Family Mausoleum.

It was a vanity exercise that was never completed because the Irish supporters of King James II were defeated, and the remains of the Tower/Mausoleum over time fell into ruins. The completed Tower would have been a striking public statement, visible from all around the area.

The Duke of Leinster remodeled the ruins in the gothic style when building Follies became a fashionable gentry exercise. In 1849 Queen Victoria visited Carton and was brought to view the Tower.

Declan handed out the lyrics of the satirical song "Lillibulero". The lyrics were composed by Thomas Wharton who was one of the prime movers when King James II was deposed in favour of his daughter Anne and her husband William of Orange. There were plenty of unflattering references to Richard Talbot in the song lyrics, which was a powerful piece of propaganda. "Lillibulero" became the marching song of the Williamite Army and continues as an Army marching song. It became the signature tune of the BBC World Service in the 1930's.

The Heritage Event concluded with a visit to the private cemetery of the Fitzgerald Family in Carton, and where flowers were laid at the tree commemorating Thomas Fitzgerald, the Earl of Offaly, only son of Maurice and Fiona Fitzgerald, the current Duke and Duchess of Leinster. Thomas had passed away following a Road Accident in Limerick.

The Duke and Duchess had planned to attend this event but were unable to do so, but they hope to attend Heritage Week in Maynooth in 2015.

Maynooth Local History Group wishes to thank the Mallaghan Family and the Management of Carton House for its kind permission to host this event, and also for their continuing support.

WHEN IT COMES TO TIDINESS MAYNOOTH IS TOPS



Maynooth achieved its best ever result in the Super Value Tidy Towns competition capturing a Bronze Medal for yet another year and coming within just one mark of bringing home Silver.

Maynooth topped Category F alongside Castlebar in Co Mayo and trumped towns of a similar population like Arklow Co Wicklow and Cavan town. It was a great honour to Represent Maynooth at the Helix. I was joined by our Chairman Mattie Callaghan, Volunteers John Kavanagh and Des Matthews.

It is heartening to see the town make significant progress every year.

Maynooth received 299 points out of a possible 450 a gain of 10 points on 2013.

This is Maynooths 38th year in the Tidy Towns Competition. We have come a long way and there are not many towns who are progressing year-on-year in the way we are. The efforts made by local Businesses, organisations and Residents Associations were all very helpful in achieving these awards (Best Kept Tidy Town in the 32 Counties 2014) and Bronze Medal in the National Competition 2014.

The Tidy Towns committee are urging the community to continue to get involved in making Maynooth a Cleaner, more environmentally friendly town to work and live.

Local volunteers meet every Saturday in Courthouse Square at 10AM and Sunday morning at 7 45AM. If you would like to help PHONE 087 3153189.

Mary Molloy

Maynooth Tidy Towns



WING TSUN - IEWTO

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Class Times

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Instructor

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E-Mail: wingtsunmaynooth@gmail.com

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Maynooth Scouts

Maynooth Scouts are
planning the opening of their
new Den in the refurbished
Geraldine Hall for Saturday
11 October 2014 at 3 p.m.

The plan on the day is to
start with a march from
Carton Avenue to the
Geraldine Hall, followed at
the Hall with an Official
Opening performed by our
Chief Scout, M.J. Shinnick.

Tony Myles
Group Secretary

THANK YOU!!

The Maynooth Festival Committee would like to thank the following local businesses for their generosity in making *"The Taste of Maynooth"* competition such a success:

ARAMARK – AVENUE CAFÉ – BISTRO 53 – BRADY'S – CAFÉ BON BON – CARTON HOUSE – CHILL DOWNTOWN – DONATELLO'S – ELITE CONFECTIONARY – GLENROYAL HOTEL – McDONALD'S – McMAHON'S – NEWTOWN CHINESE – OAK ALLEY – O'BRIEN'S – O'NEILL'S – PAPA JOHN'S – PICADERO'S – ROOST – ROYAL CITY – STONE HAVEN – SUPERMAC'S – TANSEY'S – THE COFFEE MILL – THE COFFEE LOUNGE – THE GATEHOUSE – TWIST

Taste of Maynooth Winners

- ♦ Brian Cassidy – Maynooth
- ♦ Mick Kearney – Leixlip
- ♦ Leah Edwards – Maynooth
- ♦ Jennifer Crawley – Maynooth

Our thanks to all those who supported the draw and all the ticket sellers for their help.



Brian Cassidy, being presented his "Taste of Maynooth Prize" by Sinéad



Michelle Edwards accepting the prize on behalf of her daughter Leah from Adrienne



Jennifer Crawley receiving her prize from Sinéad

Maynooth and Kildare 1916 Commemoration Committee

This exhibition is the first of three planned by the Committee relating to the Irish Volunteers during the decade of commemorations.

Next year an exhibition entitled **Conspiracy of the Maynooth and Kildare Volunteers from August 1915 - March 1916** will be exhibited throughout Heritage week 2015

The following year 1916 the exhibition is entitled **The activity of the Maynooth Volunteers during Holy Week and Easter week 1916**

This will include a specially commissioned Play and Documentary on the Women of Maynooth and North Kildare

Who played their part in the Rising, performed by An Nuadha Players

The committee wish to acknowledge the financial support from Kildare County Council also assistance from Kildare County Library and Arts Service and the National Library of Ireland

Committee:

Fergus White : Hilda Dunne:
Terry Nealon : Seamus Cullen :
Graphic Design : Terry Nealon :
Historical Research : Seamus Cullen :
Drama Research : Siomha Glynn



Inaugural Parish Ball

In aid of refurbishment of St Mary's Church

in Carton House

Saturday 8th November 2014

commencing at 7:30pm with
"Champagne Reception" in the Grand Old House
Dinner in the Main Ballroom
Music by 16 piece band Route 66

€75

Limited to 360

Tickets.....
Parish Office 01-6293018
parishball@gmail.com

Sponsored by Carton House

* Sponsored by Avenue Café

Maynooth Parish is holding a Parish Ball on Saturday 8th November in Carton House to raise funds to repaint St Mary's Church. It will be the first time anyone can remember for a major parish social get together, and excitement is building.

Tickets are €75 for the Ball (which will not be black tie, you'll be glad to know) to include a champagne reception in the grand old house of Carton; a full meal in the main ballroom, and followed with entertainment by the great 16 piece band favourite Route 66, who are guaranteed to provide music and dance to suit all tastes....great value when you consider that over €25 out of every ticket will go directly to the refurbishment fund. The overall event is being sponsored by Carton House and the champagne reception is sponsored by the Avenue Restaurant.

Tickets are already selling fast, with both individuals and some corporates showing interest. Corporates can avail of a table of ten for €750 as a pre Christmas event for staff or customers. The funds are badly needed to take on a major refurbishment of St Mary's church, with plans to repaint the interior, replace the flooring covering and to carry out repair work to the external grounds.

Over the past couple of years €52,000 has been spent on repairs to the roof area of the 175 year old building. The parish was able to fund these costs as well as cover day to day expenses, and at the same time reduce the parish debt from €175,000 3 years ago to just under €90,000 today. They received a contribution of €50,000 last year from Diocesan funds which was gratefully received. But the main contribution comes from the regular envelopes and standing order contributions from parishioners. The first and second collections at all Masses go in their entirety to the Diocese.

It is not possible therefore to take on the plans to repaint the church without special fundraising. The proceeds of the Parish Ball will go to a completely separate Church Refurbishment Account. Tickets are available from the parish office telephone 6293018, by email from parishball@gmail.com, or from the many tickets sellers.

Maynooth Summer Festival 2014 in Photo's



Maynooth Summer Festival 2014 in Photo's



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Maynooth Tidy Towns



BDO Ireland has given us the temporary use of the former premises of Home World in Main Street. This has enabled us to display the various Certificates and Trophies that we have won over the years.

Elsewhere you will read about the National Tidy Towns results 2014.
Richard Farrell PRO





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Maynooth Local History Group would like to thank the photographers Rory O'Connor & John Boyd

for their work during Heritage Week. The organisers of Ladychapel Graveyard event would also like to thank Ray Connolly, Ladychapel for the use of his field for car parking. It was much appreciated on such a wet night.



Clane Toastmasters

Clane Toastmasters is having an open day on Wednesday 1st October at 7.45pm, all are welcome. Our meetings are held in Clane GAA club on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month and we openly encourage new members. If you would like to improve your speaking and leadership skills in a friendly and encouraging atmosphere, then take the first step and come along to see for yourself.

You can also ring Maureen 087-2258020 or Tomás 086-3064474 for more information.



Copy Date for the November edition of the Maynooth Newsletter is Tuesday 21st October

Halloween Treats

Freaky Fingers

Ingredients

100g caster sugar
100g butter
1 egg yolk
200g plain flour
½ tsp vanilla extract
20 blanched almonds
red food colouring, paste is best (optional)



Method

For the freaky fingers, place the first five ingredients and a pinch of salt in a food processor and whizz just until a ball of dough forms. Tear off a golfball-size piece of dough and use your hands to roll into finger-size cylinders – you should get about 20. Place on a baking sheet lined with baking parchment – a little apart as they will spread during baking. Use a knife to make a few cuts, close together, for the knuckles. Place an almond at the end of each finger and trim away excess pastry around the edge to neaten. Place in the fridge for 30 mins, heat oven to 180C/160F/Gas 4, then bake for 10-12 mins just until firm. Leave to cool a little, then paint the almond with food colouring, if you like. Makes 20.

Marshmallow Pops

Ingredients

Skull

8 straws
8 large marshmallows
16 semisweet chocolate pieces
1 small chocolate caramel log



Mummy

8 straws
8 large marshmallows
4 ounces white rolled fondant icing
2 ounces vanilla-flavored candy coating, chopped
8 candy-coated milk chocolate pieces
8 small round candy-coated chocolate pieces

Method

Skull

Insert a straw into each marshmallow. Press in two chocolate pieces for eyes. Flatten chocolate caramel logs and cut into thin strips. Use strips to form "mouth".

Mummy

Insert a straw into each marshmallow. Roll fondant to 1/8-inch thickness and cut into 1/4-inch wide strips. In a small saucepan cook and stir candy coating until just melted. Cool slightly. Dip marshmallows into candy coating and wrap fondant around wet marshmallows. Place on waxed paper to dry. Attach "eyes" with additional melted candy coating.



Meaty Mummies

To make, skewer a purchased meatball and a 4-inch piece of summer sausage stick with a 6-inch wooden skewer. Combine 8 ounces of cream cheese and 1 teaspoon of purchased pesto. Spread some of the mixture over the meat skewer and wrap with cooked fettuccine noodles. For a more bulky body, spread with additional cream cheese mixture and wrap with another layer of cooked fettuccine. Add capers for eyes. Serve with pasta sauce for dipping.



Bloody Soda

1 cup corn syrup
10 drops red food colouring
2 tablespoons vanilla extract
1 liter soda water or lemon-lime soda

Mix the corn syrup with the food colouring and vanilla. Pour the soda into glasses and drizzle the corn syrup mixture around the rim and into the glass. For an added creepy effect, drop candy eyeballs into the bottom of the glass.



October



Autumn is truly upon us - the leaves are changing colour and the air is chillier. There are still jobs to do in the garden. Regularly clear up fallen leaves. Cut back perennials that have died down. Divide herbaceous perennials and move tender plants into the greenhouse. This



month is the last time you should have to mow the lawn this year. Leave seed-heads for the birds if you are not going to collect them. Clean out thoroughly the greenhouse before you start to store things over the winter - this prevents pests from hibernating for the winter. Prune climbing roses. Order seeds for next year. Keep planting spring-flowering bulbs such as wallflowers, forget-me-not, bellis, primula and pansies. It's a good time to plant herbaceous perennials. Lily bulbs can be planted now in pots. Lift and divide flowering or overcrowded herbaceous plants. After the first frosts lift dahlias and cannas. Not forgetting hanging baskets - keep deadheading, watering and feeding them till the end of Autumn. Once everything has finished flowering, you can re-plant with spring-flowering bulbs, winter heathers, trailing ivies and spring bedding plants.



Containers must be lifted off the ground over the winter to help with drainage so that they are not sitting in water over the winter. Remove stakes and other supports as herbaceous plants die down for the winter.



Continue to collect and store seeds. Check chrysanthemums regularly for signs of white rust and treat as soon as possible. Grey mould can also develop in wet weather. Remove affected leaves as soon as it is spotted. Avoid feeding plants late in the season. Dig the soil as this will expose pest larvae to birds and frosts. This will also help to clear weeds and improve the soil. It is an ideal time for moving and planting trees, shrubs and climbers and hedge planting. This is the last time to trim deciduous hedges. Also prune bush roses now, this will prevent wind rock. Shrubs such as buddleja davidii, cornus alba and lavatera can now be cut back by half. Take hardwood cuttings from plants like rosa, cotinus and salix. Once ripe - berries, fruits and seeds can be sowed immediately. Also check tree ties and stakes before the weather turns bad.



Don't forget to place nets over small ponds to prevent leaves and debris falling in, remove any dying foliage. If you did not clean up your pond last month then do so now. Clear out weeds and excess plants, leaving them to the side of the pond so that



any wildlife has a chance to get back into the pond. Remove pumps, fountains and lights. Clean them and store them away in the greenhouse over the winter. Not forgetting to place a tennis ball on the surface of the pond as this will help the pond from freezing over when the weather gets colder. Dig up root crops (apart from parsnips) including carrots, beetroot and potatoes. Dry thoroughly before storing in boxes or paper sacks. Don't forget to take out any diseased/rotten ones. Plant crops such as winter lettuces, autumn onion sets, spring cabbages, broad beans and garlic. Cover them with fleece and net for protection from the birds. Remove any tatty yellow leaves from Brussel sprout, cabbages, cauliflowers and broccoli. Pot up mint, parsley and chives for the winter.



Harvest any remaining raspberries, apples and pears. Plant fruit trees and new strawberries; clear out old plants and weeds, position the newcomers a foot apart in rows wide enough apart so you can walk between them. Make



sure the crowns just show above the soil, firm them well and water regularly if dry. Dig up and split old rhubarb crowns, replanting with a good pile of manure under each plant. Cut out the canes of blackberries, loganberries and tayberries which fruited this year and tie in the new ones. Get your lawnmower and hedge trimmers serviced before putting away for the winter. Repair and clean all garden tools. Prepare your soil for next year, adding in as much compost, manure and organic matter as you can. Do it now before the soil gets heavier over the winter. Keep an eye on your containers as they might still need some water. Ensure that trees and shrubs have a circle of clear earth around them - this allows moisture to get to the roots. Mulching with bark will also help. Tie new shoots on roses to supports to prevent them thrashing about when the weather turns. For a natural look to planting, why not just throw some bulbs in the air and plant them where they land.

Tickle the earth with a hoe, it will laugh a harvest!

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On the night...

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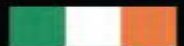
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What Time Is It, Really?



This month on Sunday, October 26th at 02:00, the clocks will change again, moving back by one hour as the Daylight Savings Time of summer comes to an end. Losing or gaining an hour twice a year is a routine feature of our lives but something about which few people think. Why do we change our clocks, and why do some countries choose not to? What exactly is GMT, and how does it relate to UTC? How many seconds are in a day?

The answers to these questions are more complicated than people might imagine because time is a system of measurement that we have invented and refined throughout history. As our methods of measuring time have increased in precision, differing and sometimes competing systems of measurement have emerged. Despite how carefully we base our lives on our sense of time, "time" is hardly a fixed concept but instead a dynamic system. We must continually update it in order to keep up with our expanding knowledge and especially our technology.

To understand our current systems of timekeeping (for we have more than one, and they do not quite agree with each other), we need to know from what they have evolved and how we have refined our time scales throughout history. There are several different categories of time scales that are generally based on what they use to measure time, such as Earth Rotation time (time scales based on the earth's rotation), Atomic time (based on the rate at which an atom decays), and Dynamical time (based on comparing the motions of objects with physical models – i.e. celestial bodies move like the hand of a clock). Only time scales based on Earth's rotation have any connection with 'days' in the traditional sense, so they do not have a simple relationship with our calendars. The idea of a 24 hour day only makes sense with regard to a time scale based on earth's rotation. However, earth's rotation is not static, either, and is gradually slowing down, making these time scales internally inconsistent as well. It remains the most well-known and widely used time scale.

Leap Years? Try Leap Seconds

Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) is the standard for civil time around much of the world and is a familiar concept as time zones are all based off positive or negative offsets from UTC, and UTC is what synchronises internet networks and cellular towers around the world. Your computer and phone both keep time using the UTC scale. Because of this, it is often mistaken for being interchangeable with Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). However, GMT is only a very specific kind of Mean Solar Time – the Mean Solar Time of Greenwich Meridian. GMT is a time scale based on the earth's rotation, so it has the same problems as any other solar time.

UTC, on the other hand, is a very contentious time scale because it is trying to compare two things that are incommensurate. It tries to combine both categories of time scale by counting both the mean solar days as measured by the rotation of the earth as well as the number of seconds as measured by Cesium atomic clocks (TAI). Because these two time scales do not match up, a problem immediately arises wherein the duration of a UTC day and the duration of a UTC second have no relation. It is the only time scale where the day is not a fixed factor of 86,400 seconds.

Because of this discrepancy between Atomic and Solar time, UTC requires a way to synchronise the atomic clock and the astronomical clock. It does this with leap seconds. Leap years are a common topic, but few people realise that every couple of years or so, the International Earth Rotation and Reference Systems Service (IERS) needs to add a leap second to that year. Atomic clocks are so precise because they remain stable over time, but the earth's rotation is not nearly that stable and is slowing down over time. If leap seconds were not added periodically, the two clocks would drift apart more and more every year.

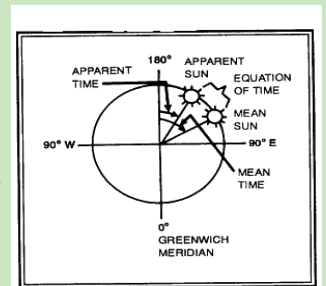
It might not be immediately observable to us as we are talking about a matter of milliseconds, but it is hugely important in our increasingly digital world. Much of our technology and computer systems work off of UTC and require a high degree of synchronisation. The clocks were already 10 seconds off when they decided to start using leap seconds, and so far, 25 leap seconds have been added since 1972, so there is currently a difference of 35 seconds between atomic and solar time. The last leap second was added on June 30th, 2012. As our efforts to measure time continue to advance, we will likely develop even more scales and with their own synchronisation problems. Our relationship with time has only grown more complex over our history rather than less.

Earth Rotation Time, or Solar Time

The day is the basic element of the calendar, as the most obvious indication of the passage of time throughout history has been the day-night cycle caused by the earth's rotation around the sun. The rotation of the Earth and moon create tides, which turn even rocks into a kind of geological watch. Rhythmites are rocks created by sediment being laid down into layers with obvious regularity and periodicity. Tidal rhythmites create a geological record of a variety of cyclical events that we track, such as the diurnal tidal cycle of low and high tides and the spring tidal cycle.

Apparent Solar Time (often called Local Time, or LT) is the first method of timekeeping humans invented and has been used since before writing and recorded history. Obvious phenomena such as the sunrise, sunset, and the sun passing the meridian (high noon) are used to calculate time. Anyone with a stick in the ground can determine high noon. However, Earth's orbit is elliptical and oblique, making any calculations based on apparent noon variable.

Mean Solar Time (MST) is the scale designed to take into account the variability inherent to Apparent Solar Time. It averages the rotation of the earth in the absence of the annual variations caused by its elliptical and oblique orbit. Even mathematicians as far back as Ptolemy understood the problems with AST and had discovered many of the principles used in MST to correct them. By the 19th century, timepieces were accurate enough that most of civilisation was using MST instead of AST. Telegraphs were the first technological advance widely used by the general public that required people to synchronise their activities over long distances, so they helped to established Mean Solar Time's prominence.



Standard Time is the mean solar time of a conveniently located meridian. The development of railroads led to the development of standard time zones so that every rail station could share the same mean solar time. The UK railways adopted Standard Time in 1840 and the US adopted it in 1883.

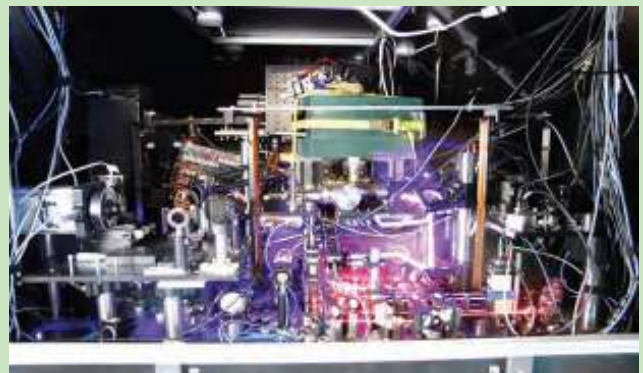
Daylight Savings Time (also known as DST, Summer Time, or British Summer Time) is not a worldwide standard time scale as it was primarily promoted by governments as a way to increase productivity and, more recently, to save energy. The practice causes a lot of argument between advocates and critics. There is little evidence or often contradictory evidence that DST saves any energy, and it causes problems for activities tied to the sun, such as farming. It also disrupts things dependent on timekeeping, such as billing and records, medical equipment, and sleep patterns among other things. Some businesses, such as theatres lose out on business due to the longer afternoon hours, while other kinds of retail shops and sports gain from the change. DST is a prime example of a time scale that has nothing to do with time and is instead based on politics and a conflicted social psychology.

Atomic Time

Atomic time is a different category of time scale altogether from those based on the rotation of the earth. Atomic time is our most precise way of answering the question of how long a second truly is. According to the International System of Units, a second is officially defined as the time it takes one Cesium-133 atom at the ground state to oscillate exactly 9,192,631,770 times. This is tracked with atomic clocks designed to detect this frequency. There are over 200 hundred atomic clocks today in over 50 laboratories, and most of them work by using atomic fountains. They are extraordinarily precise, deviating only by around 1 second every 20 million years.

International Atomic Time (also known as TAI) is the most impeccable and precise measure of time we currently have. The International Bureau of Weights and Measures determines TAI by combining the output of over 200 atomic clocks around the world. The scale is then further refined as it prioritises data from those clocks with the highest quality Cesium.

Because Atomic Time has no relation to the rotation of the earth, it consequently has no relation to our calendars. This makes it difficult to compare it meaningfully with Mean Solar Time. New time scales were created which could take into account aspects of both Atomic Time as well as Mean Solar Time.



Sinn Féin Maynooth Local News

Cllr Réada Cronin - Telephone 086 3189 730 - Email: readacronin@hotmail.com
Facebook: [facebook.com/reada.cronin](https://www.facebook.com/reada.cronin) - Twitter: @ReadaCronin

HOUSING CRISIS

The return of the students adds to the critical housing crisis we are experiencing in North Kildare. Sinn Féin made sure to put Housing on the agenda of every Kildare County Council meeting requesting a monthly update of the situation to be reported at council.

I must admit watching returned councillors talking about the crisis month after month as if it just fell out of the sky is very frustrating. One of the incentives Kildare County Council is trying to promote is the Rental Accommodation Scheme. Landlords who have rental properties available for periods between 4 to 15 years might consider what's known as the RAS scheme. If you think you might be interested please contact ras@kildarecoco.ie

The housing and homelessness crisis can't be tackled just on an either/or basis. While I have serious reservations about RAS as it certainly has not provided a safeguard against eviction, the situation is so critical at the moment that unfortunately we must face the fact that homes cannot be built overnight.

Sinn Féin, both locally and nationally, will continue to call for a local authority home building programme. The "fantasy economics" of right-wing politicians paying state funds to private landlords rather than tenants paying rent to Kildare County Council is ludicrous in the extreme. Building social housing would create thousands of jobs and increase Kildare County Council's rent revenue.

PARSON STREET – MISSION IMPOSSIBLE

With Back to School comes the increase in traffic and driving in Maynooth is becoming more and more like Mission Impossible. Traffic back-ups and congestion is ever increasing in our already over-congested town. The junction of Parson Street onto Leinster Street is seriously contributing to the problem, with asymmetric traffic lane alignment, very short green traffic light periods from Parson Street, and confusing and road markings at variance with each other.

I submitted a motion to Maynooth Municipal District meeting regarding these markings and was told that this was "best practice"! The left only road marking is covered by the second car stopped at the traffic lights and drivers not familiar with the junction can easily assume that this lane is also straight ahead. Kildare County Council has agreed to erect a sign indicating that the left lane is a left only lane. With constant traffic conflict over this I shall be following up on this matter.

ELECTION EXPENSES

Election expenses had to be returned to Kildare County Council last month. In the interests of transparency I wish to make it know that my campaign cost a total of

€1,535.78 including VAT. That covered €750.78 on my campaign literature and €785 on my posters.

This was by far the least amount spent by any of the successful candidates in this local electoral area. Sinn Féin offering the best value for money comparing expenditure to votes received. I didn't submit any figure for shoe leather. ;)

HERITAGE WEEK

There were many different activities around the county for Heritage Week with many of them taking place in Maynooth. The most enjoyable and informative was the walking tour with the Maynooth 1916 Centenary Committee and many thanks to the organiser, a local young man, Eoin McCormack.

The evening started off in Maynooth with a walk around the town with a tour of the houses where some of the volunteers lived. It was very special to be joined by the niece and nephew of Pa Weaver, one of the Maynooth 15. After a train trip into Connolly Station we met up with the Irish Volunteers Dublin Brigade, the Collins 22 Society and the granddaughter of Thomas McDonagh who guided us around the 1916 sites in Dublin.

The guided tour was splendid but it is truly a disgrace to see the state of the Moore Street revolutionary quarter. The last headquarters of the republican leaders in 1916 is controlled by NAMA and plans to turn it into another shopping mall are derisive to their memory. Moore Street and the adjoining historical lanes must be preserved and in time for the 1916 Commemoration in 2016.

MEAN-SPIRITED 7.5% REDUCTION OF LOCAL PROPERTY TAX

I was bitterly disappointed after the Fianna Fáil/Fine Gael pact prevented the Local Property Tax being reduced by the maximum permitted 15% at the full Kildare County Council meeting on 22nd September. It was galling to see Fianna Fáil, the party who dreamed up this unfair tax cosying up and voting with Fine Gael, the party that implemented it. It was especially galling as at least two of them promised that they would "work to reduce the property tax by 15%" with the other promising "to use my vote to reduce the property tax by full 15%".

But the biggest shock was when most of the Independents on the council put forward a motion to leave the tax without reducing it at all. I really feel sorry for people who voted Independent thinking they were voting for someone like themselves, because that was the perception. The narrative was that you couldn't trust the parties but that the Independents would behave in the interests of the citizen. Sadly that was not the case from both independents from the Maynooth Municipal

District.

It seems that once again the citizen will bear the brunt for the mismanagement of our country while elected councillors are unwilling to challenge national government.

Talk of potholes and the state of our roads was the order of the day leaving me to wonder why I paid my motor tax. You know ... that money you pay over to Kildare County Council that is "used to maintain and upgrade the road network in Ireland". I copied that from the Motor Tax website!

Needless to say this led to a heated debate but the fact that Kildare was in the enviable position of being one of ten counties that could afford the 15% reduction without further cuts to local services and still have an excess of €1.1 million was lost on them. The Labour councillors also had a motion to reduce by the full 15% but even with the support of two independents from two other municipal districts the numbers were against us.

They don't seem to know or care that people are really worried about where they're going to get the money to pay their water tax bills next year and a reduction in the property tax would have been a small help.

Local services in an area should NOT be determined by the value of homes in that area. This tax by its very nature suggests that affluent areas deserve better services than poorer areas and as an egalitarian republican that is repugnant to me.

Talk of "moral fibre" and "tough decisions" are an insult to our intelligence. Far better to see elected representatives have the "moral fibre" to make the "tough decision" to stand up for those they represent and keep their promises.

It is grossly unfair that every county can't reduce this hated tax by 15% and it shows what an inaccurate, thoughtless and downright cynical notion it was. Sinn Féin is committed to abolishing this tax in government and with house prices on the rise and this tax set to keep increasing the sooner that is the better.

As it stands the 7.5% decrease will last for 2015 when there will be another vote taken this time next year as to whether to reduce by the 15% for the year 2016. You may be heartened but you should probably be disgusted to hear that one of the councillors said it'll probably pass next year as the parties will be in election mode!!! Still, I suppose at least we have transparency.

If you would like to become politically active in our community feel free to contact me, Réada Cronin, using any of the contact details at the top of the page for an application form.

Alternatively you can text the words Sinn Féin, followed by your name and address to 51444.

HALLOWEEN FILM SPECIAL - HAPPY HALLOWEEN!!

It's that time of the year again folks. Autumnal leaves, students back in school/college and shorter duller days. It can only mean one thing – the witching season is nearly upon us! As usual, cinemas across the country will attempt to lure you in with the promise of gore and thrills along with your popcorn and nachos!

A Walk Among The Tombstones (starring Liam Neeson) is already doing the rounds and gothic horror will be delivered up by **Dracula Untold** when it opens nationwide on 3rd October. However, the big treat of the Halloween season will, undoubtedly, be the reissuing of the 1984 classic spook-fest – **Ghostbusters**.

Screenings will coincide with the film's 30-year anniversary. The anarchic fun and antics of Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd and Harold Ramis (paranormal investigators extraordinaire!) will once more burst on to cinema screens. Expect slimy ghouls, ectoplasm and the Stay Puft Marshmallow Monster from 24th October onwards!

Fans of British actor, Colin Firth will be happy as he's fairly ubiquitous at the moment. The debonair actor is currently starring in two films at cineplexes; the psychological thriller – **Before I Go To Sleep** and Woody Allen's period romantic-comedy, **Magic In The Moonlight**. In the New Year, Firth will also appear with Michael Caine in spy-spoof **Kingsman – The Secret Service**.



Films to watch out for include the true-life story of Christina Noble and her inspirational fight to help the homeless children of Vietnam and Mongolia. Steven Bradley directs Irish actress Deirdre O'Kane in the leading role in **Noble**. By contrast, David Fincher's screen adaptation of the best-selling novel of 2012 – **Gone Girl** – promises to deliver suspense and chilling mystery. Ben Affleck and Rosamund Pike star in this story of a missing American housewife. **Noble** is currently on general release and **Gone Girl** will be in cinemas on 3rd October.



Catherine Murphy Independent TD

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or 01-6183099 (Dail) - Web: www.catherinemurphy.ie**

Worrying Decrease in Leixlip Services

Independent TD Catherine Murphy has highlighted the gradual reduction in vital services available in the Leixlip area, most recently with the removal of the Community Welfare officer and Public Dental Service from the area.

"On the 29th of August, the current Community Welfare Officer, who was based in the Health centre on Leixlip Main Street, retired, and instead of replacing him, the Department have decided to move the entire service to Maynooth. From the end of August onwards, there will be no emergency CWO service and while there will be one hour a week standard service on Wednesday mornings for September, this will cease in October and the entire service will relocate to Maynooth. The new CWO in Maynooth will take on the Leixlip case load as well as the current Maynooth area case load and so the service will come under greater pressure to cope with increasing demand while resources decrease. I am also concerned that the Department of Social Protection have not widely advertised the closure of the CWO service in Leixlip and many people may not be aware of the loss of such a vital service."

"Recently the Public Health Dental Service, which also resided at the Community Health Centre on Main Street, was closed and relocated to Celbridge. This is extremely inconvenient, particularly for those families that don't have a car, as public transport links between Celbridge and Leixlip are non-existent and therefore those families would be forced to rely on taxi transit for a dentist appointment. This is not acceptable."

"I am very concerned that a town the size of Leixlip, with such a large population and a role as a commuter town to the capital city, would see such a downgrading of services and I am wondering where the rationale is behind the decisions to relocate these essential services to other parts of the County."

Property Tax is Nothing More than a Replacement Tax

Independent TD Catherine Murphy has reiterated her comments that the property tax was never going to be anything more than a replacement tax for the funds that are being siphoned off from Local Government Fund to pay the National Debt and establish Irish Water.

Deputy Murphy has repeatedly drawn attention to the decimation of the Local Government Fund which has reduced from its peak of €999 million in 2009 to €637 million in 2013 with an estimated further reduction to €450 million this year. Traditionally this fund was made up of motor tax receipts and Deputy Murphy says that both the Local government Fund and the Motor Tax fund have been plundered in order to fund Irish Water and pay the national debt.

"This Government deliberately misled people into believing that the introduction of property tax

would result in increased and improved services at local level. That was never going to be the case when at the same time they were decimating the traditional funding stream to local authorities. The Property Tax was introduced as nothing more than a vehicle to replace what they were already taking out of the funding for local services; it was never going to add to it."

"Additionally it is unfair that the General Purposes grants are distributed to local authorities based on the needs at a specific point in time that is in the past. This method greatly disadvantages areas that continue to see population growth and demand for services increasing, particularly urban areas. These areas are now at a double disadvantage because the property is more expensive than more rural areas and therefore they pay more property tax yet see a reduced level of government funding and therefore a reduced level of services."

"It is also important to note that many of those in the large urban centres are stuck in negative equity and because property tax is based on the property value rather than the actual net value, many people are paying a property tax on what is effectively a debt they are liable for rather than a property."

National Library Funding Crisis is Symptomatic of Wider Problem

Referring to reports today that the National Library of Ireland is at a critical point due to funding cuts that have put the collections at risk, Independent TD Catherine Murphy called on the New Minister for Arts, Heather Humphries, to reverse the recent trend of cutting supports to vital cultural institutions

Deputy Murphy been tabling Parliamentary Questions on this issue since last year and highlighting the unsatisfactory way we deal with the cultural institutions that are charged with safeguarding our most valuable historical records and artefacts and also making them as available as possible to the public.

"Recent PQ replies to me have indicated that only 1% of the collections are stored in a way that conforms to best international practice and this is just not acceptable. The funding to the National Library has fallen from just over €13 million in 2007 to €6.3 million this year. At a time when there is an increasing demand for its services with the rise in popularity of genealogical research, the resources are dwindling and the collection is being put at risk. The situation makes absolutely no sense from either an economic or a cultural aspect."

"People need to understand that these institutions are vitally important in not only preserving our history but also in making that history accessible to the millions across the world who are actively trying to reconnect to their Irish heritage and there are huge opportunities in facilitating this in a modern and progressive way but that requires investment."

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Know Your Rights

Know Your Rights : Getting a PPS number

Question

I've just moved to Ireland and I'm looking for a job. Some potential employers have asked for my PPS Number. What is it and how do I get one?

Answer

Your Personal Public Service Number (PPS Number) is a unique reference number that helps you to access public services in Ireland. Sometimes employers say that you must have a PPS Number when applying for a job. What they really mean is that you need to have the right to work in Ireland and they use the PPS Number as shorthand for this. However, in law they are not entitled to do this (and having a PPS Number does not prove that you have the right to work in Ireland).

The legislation that governs the use of PPS Numbers states that the PPS Number can only be used by:

- Any organisation listed in legislation (a public or specified body)
- Any person or body authorised by a public body to do so
- Any person who has a transaction with a public body

This means that private companies or bodies (including potential employers) cannot use the number unless they are carrying out a transaction with a public body such as Revenue. The Personal Public Service Number Code of Practice on the Department of Social Protection's website outlines who can use the PPS Number and for what purposes.

If you have newly arrived in Ireland you cannot get a PPS Number unless you need it for a transaction with a specified body. For example:

- Starting work (so you can pay tax, PRSI and Universal Social Charge)
- Applying for a driving licence or exchanging your existing one for an Irish driving licence
- Applying for Child Benefit or another social welfare payment
- Setting up an account with Irish Water

Only the Department of Social Protection can provide you with a PPS Number. You can find a list of the social welfare local offices that can allocate PPS Numbers on the Department's website. You will need to fill out an application form (which is only available from one of these PPS allocation centres), provide proof of your identity and evidence of your address. You may also be asked to show why you need a PPS number.

Know Your Rights : Local Property Tax and the local adjustment factor

Question

What is the local adjustment factor for the Local Property Tax and how will this affect me?

Answer

Until now, Local Property Tax (LPT) rates have been the same nationwide - 0.18% for properties valued up to €1 million and 0.25% on any balance over €1 million. However, from 2015 on, a local

authority may vary these basic rates within its own area by a maximum of 15%. This means that your local authority can either increase or decrease the rates of LPT payable in its area in 2015 by up to 15%. This is called the local adjustment factor. While the local authority has the power to vary the rates, the LPT will still be collected by Revenue. The elected members of a local authority must consider the issues and decide whether to apply a local adjustment factor for 2015. To do this they must have passed a formal resolution to vary the rates and must have notified Revenue on or before 30 September 2014. If they reduce LPT rates by 15% in 2015, for example, this will result in a corresponding reduction of 15% in the amount that the local authority gets from the central LPT fund in 2015. (Each local authority will retain 80% of LPT to fund public services in 2015. The remaining 20% will be redistributed to provide top-up funding to certain local authority areas that have lower property tax bases than others because of the variance in property values across the State.)

The introduction of the local adjustment factor means that residential properties of the same value in different local authority areas may pay different amounts of LPT from 2015 on, depending on whether the local authority has applied a local adjustment factor or not.

For example, if your house is valued under €100,000, you will have paid €90 LPT in 2014. If the LPT rate in your local authority area is increased by 15%, you will pay €103.50 LPT in 2015 and if this rate is decreased by 15%, you will pay €76.50 LPT in 2015. Your LPT record will be updated in October 2014 to include your 2015 LPT charge. You will be able to confirm your LPT rate for 2015 by accessing your online LPT record.

Know Your Rights: Household Benefits Package and water charges

Question

I live alone and get a State Pension. Will I be able to get any help with the new water charges?

Answer

Domestic water charges will apply from 1 October 2014 and the first bills will issue from January 2015. A free allowance of a certain amount of water will be provided for every household, with extra allowances for children. If you are getting the Household Benefits Package, you will also get help with the cost of water charges. From January 2015 the Household Benefits Package will include a new annual Water Support payment of €100 (made up of four equal payments of €25). The Water Support payment will be paid to everyone who qualifies for the Household Benefits Package. This includes people who are not customers of Irish Water and who either have their own water supply or are members of a group scheme.

If you are currently getting the Household Benefits Package and get your allowance as a credit on your bill, the Department of Social Protection (DSP) does not hold payment details for you. In September 2014 the DSP contacted customers to ask them to complete a form with their bank account information so the Water Support payment can be paid directly. The Water Support payment can also be paid in post

offices.

The Water Support payment will be paid directly to you, not to Irish Water. If your home is connected to a public water supply (or to public wastewater services) you will need to set up an account with Irish Water to pay your water charges and to claim the free household allowance. Irish Water has sent customer application packs to all households, to be returned by 31 October 2014.

Know Your Rights: Debt Relief Notice

Question

I am unemployed, getting social welfare and living in rented accommodation. I have large credit card debts and a credit union loan of €13,300. I can't make my repayments and the only asset I have is a car worth €1,200, which I need to take my son to school. Is there anything I can do to reduce my debts?

Answer

You may qualify for a Debt Relief Notice (DRN). This is one of three debt resolution mechanisms introduced under the Personal Insolvency Act 2012 for people who cannot afford to pay their personal debts. In general, you can qualify for a DRN if your net monthly income after deductions for reasonable living expenses is under €60 and your total assets are valued at €400 or less. There are some exceptions. You are allowed, for example, to own a motor vehicle valued at €2,000 or less. You may qualify for a DRN if all your qualifying debts are below €20,000, excluding certain "non-permitted" debts. You must apply for a DRN through an Approved Intermediary (AI). You must disclose all details of your financial affairs to the AI, who will then advise you whether or not you meet the conditions for a DRN, the consequences, any alternative options, and the fee that you may have to pay to the Insolvency Service of Ireland (ISI). The AI service is free. The DRN provides you with protection from creditors for three years. If your circumstances do not change and you meet all the conditions of your DRN, at the end of the three-year period the money you owe to the creditors named on the DRN will be written off.

You can choose an AI from the Register of Approved Intermediaries published by the ISI. Several Money Advice and Budgeting Service (MABS) companies have been authorised to act as AIs. If you are thinking of applying for a DRN through MABS, you will first need to answer some questions to check if you meet the eligibility criteria. You will need to gather all relevant information about your debts, assets, income and circumstances. You can get further information from MABS on 0761 07 2000 (Monday to Friday, 9 am to 8 pm) mabs.ie or from the ISI's helpline 0761 06 4200 (Monday to Friday, 9 am to 6 pm) and isi.gov.ie.

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 and from the Citizens Information Phone Service, 0761 07 4000.

Tidy Towns Competition 2014 Adjudication Report

Centre: Maynooth	Ref: 377	
County: Kildare	Mark 299	
Category: F	Date(s): 17/06/2013	
	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2014
Community Involvement & Planning	60	52
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	40
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	45
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	32
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	15
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	51
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	29
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	35
Total Mark	450	299

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail Pleanáil:

Welcome to the Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition 2014 and congratulations on your continued participation over the past 50 years. We have noted that your very active committee of twelve people have some who are contributing for more than 25 years so well done to them and it is good to see new members adding their support and that another ten volunteers have offered to help on projects. The monthly meetings throughout the year and get together on other occasions are noted. You have strong links with residents, voluntary groups and receive support from local businesses and public bodies. The support of NUI and youths in the area is also important as are the many other groups that you have listed in your application. We read the enclosed issues of Maynooth Newsletter and are pleased that they include several items on your work programmes and achievements. Being part of the community web portal is an important link as is your use of facebook, notice board newspaper etc., as a means of communication. Having a Tidy Towns Liaison Officer for the three primary schools and the Post Primary school is commendable and the participation of children and their Green Flags on your float on St Patrick's day is important. Many thanks for attaching a map of the area with project locations marked for our attention and the legend for the numbers conveniently placed beside the map. The photographs accompanying the text were very useful. We are pleased to note that you regard the competition as contributing to strengthening community support and public awareness of environmental issues.

Built Environment and Streetscape / An Timpeallacht Thógtha agus Sráid—dreacha:

Maynooth is a wonderful heritage town and we admired reading the small piece of its history in your submission. The 12th century castle ruins is a fine feature at the entrance to St Patricks College and is testament to your links with the past. Nearby, the fine St Mary's (Anglican) has an interesting history which we read on the stone plaque on the wall. We noted the improvement to Farrell bridge including new lighting so well done. The Newtown Inn and Restaurant looked well. The bunting in the Square was cheerful. Trees on the Main Street add significant character to Maynooth as do many good quality, well maintained commercial buildings that form the streetscape. Some of these include an Siopa Milseán, Elite Confectionary, Ui Neil, McMahon's pub and the lovely stone building of Mantra Hotel. No evidence of weeds or litter was observed here. Presentation Primary Girl's Primary School was well planned—a small amount of litter was seen here. We admired the redeveloped entrance to Carton estate which form a local point for Main Street the, seats and flower beds are inviting and we noted the bike racks were well used. The information sign is very helpful and the avenue of trees is spectacular. United Irishmen stone plaque on Tree of Liberty was noted. Glenroyal Hotel complex looked well and we admired the new plant containers opposite. The Lidl building was nicely landscaped; there is scope for some trees in the car

park and the grass margins of the industrial estate. The Maynooth Educate Together and Gaelscoil Ui Fhiaich schools are in good condition. Shops on the Dublin Road were well maintained and fronted with a fine stone wall. The Manor Mills Shopping Centre looked well. St Mary's Catholic Church is a fine building and St Mary's NS school has a good planting outside the Boundary; a dead tree here needs to be removed. Maynooth Post primary school also looked well. The GAA complex was clean, tidy, well painted and the grounds were well maintained. St Pauls religious house and the Moyglare Nursing Home across the road were well maintained. Genil Training Complex looked well but the boundary hedge needs attention to remove the briars and cleavers weeds. The Dunnes Stores complex is a major focal point building in the corner of Kilcock Road: we admired the planting on the side embankment. Aldi shopping complex also pleased. St Patricks College and the new University building form an important part of new and old environment in Maynooth. They are wonderful places to explore and enjoy the buildings and landscape. We are very pleased with our visit to Laraghbryan cemetery. New and old is integrated. The stone boundary walls are fine features as are the mature lime trees. The altar was nicely placed between the old and new sections. No weeds, no litter and the grass and graves were well maintained. The number of seats placed throughout were very attractive and no doubt functional for visitors.

Landscaping and Open Spaces/ Tirdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

The Main structural elements in the landscape are trees and you have many good examples in Maynooth. The trees in the Main Street and Carton have already been mentioned. There are also important specimens of trees in the vicinity of Maynooth Castle and in the grounds of St Patrick's College. These trees are an important part of your heritage and the famous Silken Thomas (Taxus baccata) has been included in the recent book entitled "Heritage Trees of Ireland" by the tree Council of Ireland. Perhaps this could be highlighted more for visitors. The new trees on the University grounds add significantly to the Heritage of Maynooth as do some examples in the residential estates such as Moyglare Hall. In planting new trees it is best to use a single species on a road or street uniformly as was done on Carton Avenue. Also, it is important to ensure that the base of new trees is well maintained free of weeds and grass and also flower beds to ensure early establishment and we are pleased to note this the practice in Maynooth. When trees are established it is important to remove the stakes as the stems can get damaged from the tie and stakes. This is a problem for some trees in residential estates and we have mentioned these below. Guidelines for plant containers is to use them only where planting directly into the ground is not possible, for example, hanging baskets and we wish to commend you highly for the standard of baskets especially on Main Street. The white containers at Maynooth Castle and the containers in the Square and at the Saffran bus turning were admired. The use of permanent planting is encouraged rather than relying on annuals which are more time consuming and again, this approach is evident in many of your planting schemes we note the inclusion of costs in your submission and that hanging baskets at a cost €4,000 were done based on the adjudicator's comments of 2012. In that regard, hanging baskets and window boxes do add importance to an area but the extent of usage has to be balanced with other projects needs.

Wildlife Habitats and Natural Amenities / Fiadhúlra, Gnáthóga agus Taitneamhachtaí Nádhúrtha:

Maynooth is fortunate to have a rich natural area surrounding your community and it is important to promote an awareness of its many traits and to map these habitats. We admired the new information signs on Carton Avenue and at the Harbour, they are of a very good standard. Wildflowers on the canal bank at the Train Station (Harbour) looked well and the water lilies were beginning to flower on our visit. Joan Slade river also has a very good sign with information on the history of the rivers in Maynooth and the wildlife in the area. It is a delightful spot and we hope the bug hotel is fully booked. Appreciating your local wildlife resources is vital in order to achieve under this category. In this regard researching and raising awareness is more important than 'doing' at the early stages. We note your plans to undertake a wildlife survey of Maynooth and the nest boxes being used in Primary schools as well as the 60 bird boxes in the NUI grounds. Biodiversity is under threat globally and sadly Ireland is a part of this trend. Habitats of value include specimen trees, hedge rows, treelines, streams, woodlands and wetlands. List the plants and animals to be found in your natural environment and recognise their significance, protected, or alien invasive?. This would be a very useful project for schools.

Sustainable Waste and Resource Management / Bainistiú Acmhainní agus Dramhaíola Inbhuanaithe:

This category is becoming more important and the available marks are now increased to 50 highlight the need for communities to address the issues involved in tackling the growing waste mountain that is creating problems of pollution, unwanted land use, and the use of dwindling resources. The recycling in excess of 26 tons of WEEE material and almost 600 tons of glass in Maynooth is impressive. We note your Waste Minimisation Officer's appointment to work with schools and your support for the Green Campus initiative at NUI. A number of other sustainability measures for you to consider are: Examine the waste pyramid and note the recycling is only the fourth most preferred option after avoidance, reducing and re-using. One third of our waste is organic in nature, such as grass clippings.

You can avoid collecting mown grass by more frequent cutting and using mulching mowers which shred the clipping and facilitate faster decomposition. In regard to water usage, self watering hanging baskets are a help in reducing the amount of water used and also the task of watering. Other waste minimisation projects might include working with retailers to cut down on packaging, reminding people to re-use shopping bags, discouraging junk mail, encouraging the re-use of water bottles and coffee mugs at school and at work. In response to an over use of chemicals for weed control, many useful products of the past are no longer available and therefore communities are encouraged to use other means such as hoeing to maintain weeds. There appear to be excessive use of weedkillers on the roundabout on Kilcock Road. In some cases allowing wildlife to develop is an acceptable alternative. These activities will be highlighted the fact you are focusing on this category and when you develop more projects in the future your marks will increase.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmairacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

In general we found Maynooth to a very tidy community and we do realise that a town of your size presents quite a few difficulties in trying to maintain tidiness and litter control. We could see the benefits of your weed cleaning team as well as the street signage and bins cleaning efforts. The litter buggies are a clever idea and we note the support you receive from McDonald's as well as Kildare County Council. The removal of gum (an ongoing problem) was also successful. We were pleased not see any election posters or cable ties. Some minor problems were observed and these include the following: A clutter of signage was noted opposite Lidl on the Sraffan Road. At Maynooth Garden Centre the clutter of signage could be reduced. The Tesco complex also has a number of signs on the boundary railings which spoil the impact of the complex and the roundabout. The Train Station and car park looked fine except for a small amount of litter, a broken bike chained to the rack, and the railings at the canal bank needs painting. The site opposite the GAA was not maintained and looked untidy. Some litter on the Kilcock Road roundabout.

Residential Streets & Housing Areas / Sráideanna Cónaithe & Ceantair Tithíochta:

There are many residential estates in Maynooth and the following comments are on the ones we visited are intended to provide guidance: Straffan Estate with its housing and apartments had fine established trees. The grass was well maintained and no weeds to be seen. The same comment applies to Meadowbrook; some dumped branches should be removed. Kingsbury had a mixture of trees. The 3 ton limit sign was dirty and there was graffiti on the adjacent green box. Some gardens were well planted as was the open space and we admired the linear planting here. Railpark estate has a established trees and the gardens were mostly well planted. There is a scope for a line of new trees to be planted on the large grass margin between the estate and The Celbridge Road. Griffin Rath is a nice Estate: the name stones were well done and the trees looked well. A small amount of litter was observed here. The terraced house on the Newtown Road Looked well. Beaufield Estate is well planted. We noticed the wooden fence was in need of maintenance but wonder if its needed - could it be removed. ? In Pebble Hill Park estate, the trees were fine specimens and the hedges and houses were well maintained. Carton Square and Nagle Court has houses and apartments which are well laid out and well maintained. The planting looked very good and no weeds or litter was in evidence—the supporting stakes on some trees need attention and removal if not needed. The small O' Neill Park estate would benefit from tree planting and shrubs/hedges in private gardens. The overhead wires dominate here and some litter was noted. Moyglare Meadows and Moyglare Abbey were both well landscaped with plenty of trees and no weeds. Moyglare Hall is a new Large estate which on approach has an excellent line of lime and a fine boundary wall of granite stone, brick and railings. Within the estate some trees have died and the supporting stakes need attention.

Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes / Bóthair Isteach, Sráideanna & Lánai

Maynooth looks very well on all approaches. Straffan Road roundabout and nearby Maynooth Business Park looked very well. The stone sign for Maynooth was neat and well planted. There was a hedge behind the sign and the flowers in front. Straffan Road has a fine stone wall boundary and well established planting behind it. At the junction with Celbridge road there were stainless steel planters and flags. A small amount of graffiti was seen here. We admired the new stone "welcome" sign and the new footpath near Griffin Rath Manor estate. We admired the stone wall boundary along Newtown Road. The line of trees was impressive. On the Dublin Road, the McDonalds sponsored roundabout was nicely done and we noted the new "Welcome" stone sign here and on the Kilcock Road.

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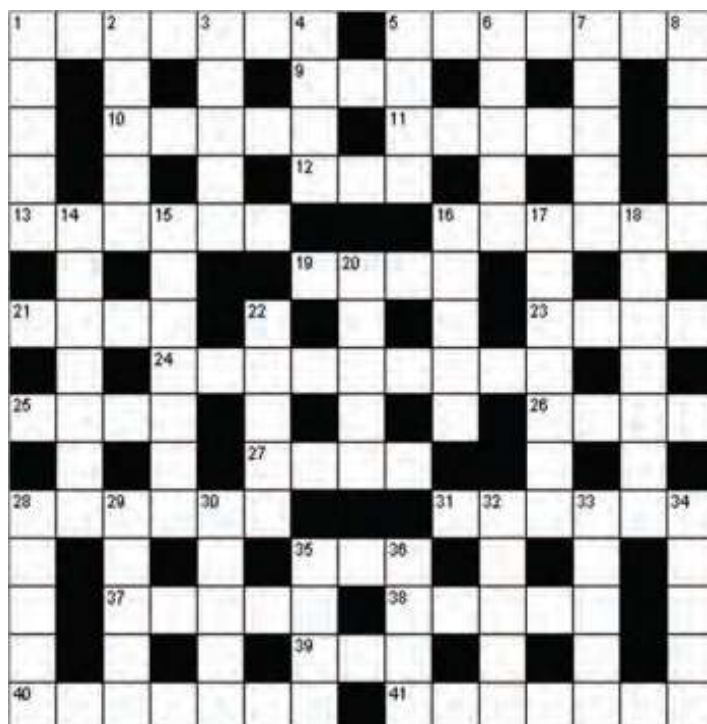
Shop in friendly, relaxed surroundings

Clues Across

1. Tries hard (7)
5. Extinguished (7)
9. Comrade (3)
10. Big (5)
11. Academy award (5)
12. Move from side to side (3)
13. Make an accusation (6)
16. Lethal (6)
19. Floating ice (4)
21. Member of Indian sect (4)
23. Journey (4)
24. Capital (5-4)
25. Old Indian coin (4)
26. Island in central Hawaii (4)
27. Snug (4)
28. Robbery at sea (6)
31. Names (6)
35. Water closet (3)
37. Italian composer (5)
38. Watery fruit (5)
39. Sum charged (3)
40. Recover (7)
41. A person nominated (7)



October 2014 Crossword - No: 429



Clues Down

1. Brazilian ballroom dance (5)
2. Souvenir (5)
3. Infectious agent (5)
4. Vomit (4)
5. Long, laborious work (4)
6. Aunt's husband (5)
7. Uncovered (5)
8. Pet term for dog (5)
14. Dry red table wine of Italy (7)
15. City in S Argentina (7)
16. Postpone (5)
17. Try (7)
18. Unhurried ease (7)
20. Songbirds (5)
22. Piquant (5)
28. Stage items (5)
29. Make merry (5)
30. About (5)
32. Religion of the Muslims (5)
33. Russian revolutionary leader (5)
34. Hog (5)
35. Animate existence (4)
36. Augury (4)

Answers to Crossword 428

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Entries in before:
21st October 2014

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Winner of Crossword
No. 428 September

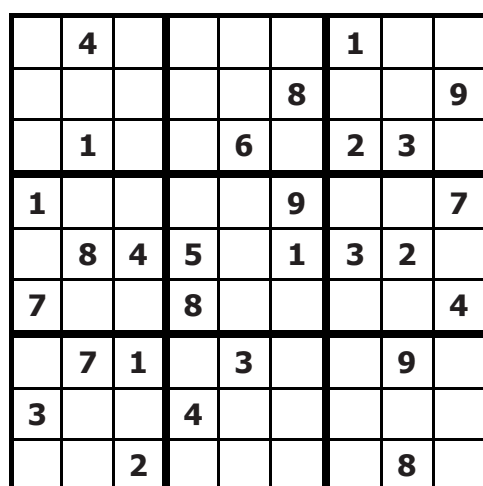
Sheila Fleming
Maynooth Park
Maynooth
Co. Kildare

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

Collect prize from

The Maynooth Bookshop
68 Main Street, Maynooth

Difficult



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

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

Collect prize from Newsletter Office

Sudoku Challenge



October 2014

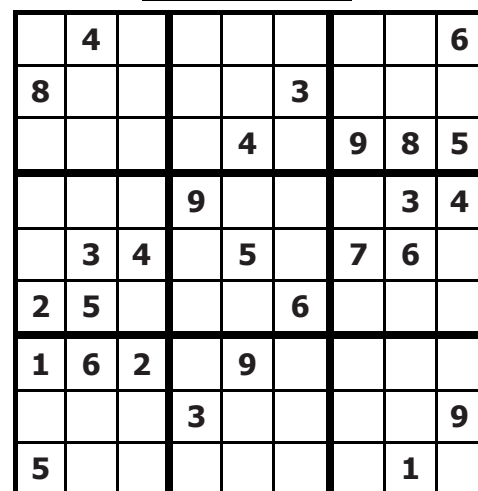
Entries must arrive before: 21st October 2014

Congratulations to
September Winner:

Malig Olatunde
Beaufield Crescent
Maynooth
Co. Kildare

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

Super Difficult



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

TECHNOLOGY CORNER

TIPS, TRICKS, AND WHAT'S NEW IN THE WORLD OF TECH

Clevermind: Technology to improve the lives of those with Alzheimer's and Dementia

Thousands of people in Ireland struggle with cognitive impairments such as Alzheimer's and Dementia. These diseases are not only progressively debilitating but also destroy people's quality of life. There is currently no cure for these diseases, but scientific research into the structure of the brain is increasingly showing that the brain is not the physiologically-static organ once believed. It has the ability to change itself on a cellular level, essentially 'rewiring' itself when presented with new challenges and facing new stimuli. Neuroscientists call the ability of the brain to reshape and recreate connections "neuroplasticity", and technology is finding new ways to aid in this process.

Prior to the 21st century, scientists largely believed that the brain was an immutable object after the period of childhood growth – that is, the structure of your brain that forms during childhood was final and could not be changed as an adult. However, new studies in neuroscience support the idea of the brain's plasticity and that our experiences can actually change the anatomical structure of our brain and its functional organisation.

This doesn't mean that diseases like Alzheimer's or Dementia can be cured or entirely reversed, but it does mean that mental exercise is just as important as physical exercise for your overall health. According to neurology.org people who don't regularly engage in mental exercise are 2.6 times more likely to develop Alzheimer's. The brains of people who regularly engage in mental exercise can learn to work around areas of

cognitive decline or impairment when they occur. Studies in neuroplasticity also mean that people suffering from cognitive impairments can see some improvement in their condition or at least slow their decline by engaging in mentally stimulating activities, as these not only help with mental and emotional wellbeing but also help with the physical structure of the brain. Technology is increasingly finding ways to make use of these studies in order to help people.



One such program is Clevermind, a multi-functional app designed for people who are suffering from cognitive impairments such as Alzheimer's and dementia. Creator Glenn Palumbo was inspired to design the app after his father was diagnosed with Alzheimer's in 2009. Glenn and his family devoted themselves to keeping his father mentally stimulated as they knew that would be the best way to slow the progression of the disease and to

maintain his quality of life. His father had never been comfortable using a computer, but he showed interest in learning to use an iPad.

However, due to his unfamiliarity with it as well as the Alzheimer's, he found it confusing and needed constant assistance with it. This led Glenn to start developing Clevermind, an app that simplifies the iPad experience for people with cognitive impairments while simultaneously providing special programmes for the mental stimulation and social interaction that are so important for people with these difficulties.

Clevermind has several important aspects utilising both voice and touch that make it beneficial for people suffering from cognitive impairments. It contains tools for cognitive assessment training, tracking and reporting. Because social interaction and speech are so important, it has a special speech recognition and interaction module called MY Intelligent Robotic Assistant (MYIRA). The app also simplifies many other common social connection tools such as Facebook and has a simplified interface with large buttons that work well for people with cognitive difficulties. It contains special resources for entertainment, mental activities, games, books, family and friends, nutrition, and more. It also has the ability to easily contact someone else for help.

Clevermind is more than a simple app. It is an entire platform that facilitates cognitive therapy, social interaction, entertainment, assessment and tracking. For more information on Clevermind, including the details of the app, the history of it and the science behind it, check out the website at myclevermind.com. The app was initially funded by Kickstarter and is now available on iTunes for €1.79.

Foodcloud: How Irish Technology is Feeding the Hungry and Reducing Waste

Although over 450,000 people suffer from hunger and food poverty in Ireland, we remain the fifth worst country in all of Europe for food waste. Over one million tonnes of food is discarded every year. Some of the biggest contributors to Ireland's food waste are restaurants, supermarkets, and other food vendors. Businesses don't like food waste, but it is difficult for vendors to predict daily supply and demand with such accuracy that no waste is generated.

At the same time, there are many organisations and charities in Ireland working to help those in need. The budgets for the groups are very tight, so it is a constant battle for them to try to feed everyone who is hungry. The situation has become increasingly dire over the past few years of recession and austerity budgets as many groups have had their funding cut and received fewer donations while seeing a surge in people who need their services. A new Irish app – Foodcloud – is helping to connect these organisations with businesses looking to reduce their food waste.

Iseult Ward and Aoibheann O'Brien, the company's founders, were students at Trinity when they decided to do something about all the suffering they saw here in Ireland. Environmentally conscious as well, they decided to combine the problem of food waste with the problem of food poverty and use technology to find a unique solution to some of the issues facing Ireland. They founded the non-profit organisation and created an app that connects businesses and food vendors with charities looking to feed the hungry. It's a simple idea with far-reaching possibilities. Businesses use their

Foodcloud app to upload the details of the excess food that they have. Local charities receive a text message to notify them that a donation is available. They can then pick up the excess food and distribute it to those who need it in their local community.

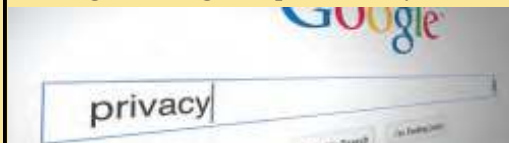
Foodcloud is a wonderful example of Irish innovation, compassion and community-based social enterprise during these difficult times. The organisation has earned several distinctions, including winning the Arthur Guinness Project, a Social Entrepreneurs Ireland Minnow Award, and a place in NDRC's startup programme, Launchpad. In 2013, Iseult won the Trinity Business Student of the Year for her efforts with this project. Her co-founder Aoibheann comes from a background of environmental consultancy with JP Morgan in London. Foodcloud has also had the support of Enactus, an international non-profit group devoted to helping university students use entrepreneurial action in a socially responsible way to create a more sustainable world.

Businesses across Ireland have started joining the project. For more information on the project, as well as information on reducing your food waste and how to sign their pledge, check out their website at foodcloud.ie.



Tech News

Google Holding European Privacy Talks



Google is currently holding a series of meetings throughout several European capitals over privacy concerns after the May court ruling. The "Right to be Forgotten" ruling allows users in Europe the advantage of having sensitive personal information removed from google search engines.

Google is now receiving thousands of requests a month to remove a variety of search results such as embarrassing photos, criminal records, instances of online bullying, and negative press stories. The latter has caused uproar with the media over freedom of the press. Within two months of the ruling, Google had received over 90,000 removal requests.

Google is responsible for more than 80% of Europe's search market, but European data regulators are starting to look at other search engines as well such as Microsoft and Yahoo! They are also in the process of drafting guidelines that all search engines will have to follow with regards to personal privacy.

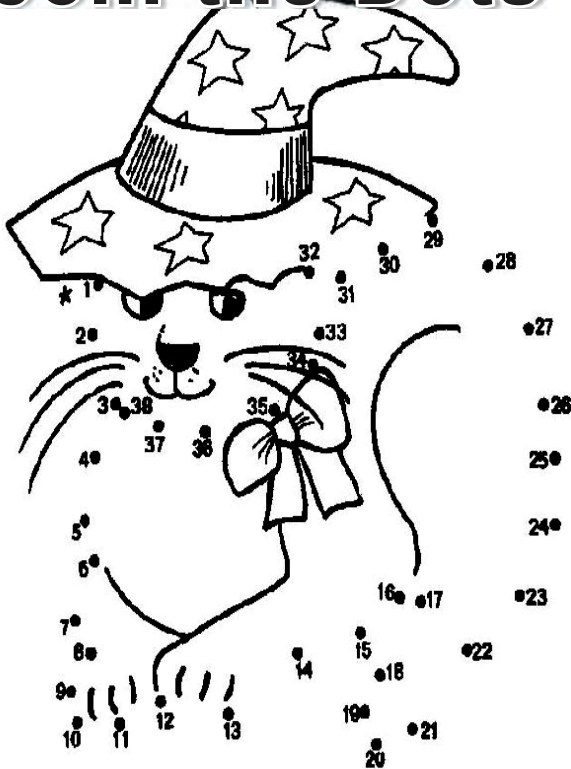
13 appeals have been filed in Ireland since May. Although Google headquarters are in Dublin, the council will only be meeting in Madrid, Rome, Warsaw, London, and Brussels.



McDonald's Maynooth

Proud Sponsor of the Colouring Competition

Join the Dots



Halloween Word Scramble



1. htgso _____
2. hciwt _____
3. sleotkne _____
4. etsormn _____
5. rpevmai _____
6. myumm _____
7. aknfseeintnr _____
8. wrfleweo _____

McDonalds Children's Colouring Competition

Prizes: Free Family Meal From
McDonald's, Maynooth

Name: _____

Age: _____

Address: _____

Phone No: _____

September Winners

Age: 3 - 5: Adrian Durran, Abbeylands

Age: 6 - 7: Kera O'Doherty, Parklands

Age: 8 & Over: Sean O'Doherty, Parklands

Prizes for Colouring Competition can be collected at:

Maynooth Community Council Office, Unit 5, Tesco Shopping Centre.
Entries must arrive before: Tuesday 21st October 2014



McDonald's

October 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

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

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

Maynooth Tidy Towns

Volunteers required to help with this work.
Contact Number 087 3153189

Maynooth Community Church

MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY CHURCH
1st Floor Manor Mills
Service times
every Sunday morning
from 10.30 am
www.maynoothcc.org

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 Helen
Phone: 01-6286592

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.
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

Men's Sheds

Weekly meetings take place every Wednesday at 11am at the Garden Centre Dublin Road Maynooth.
For further details contact John Fleming
087 2041334

Curves

Supporting The Little Way Cancer Support Centre

TOGETHER WE CAN
MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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Join Curves FOR FREE with a donation to The Little Way Cancer Support Centre

Curves Maynooth

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www.curves.ie

Curves Maynooth supporting The Little Way Cancer Support Centre for the month of October.

The team at Curves Maynooth are delighted to be supporting a local charity for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The Little Way Cancer Support Centre was set up in October 2003 to provide support for cancer patients, their families and friends. While medical concerns are addressed, many people feel that their emotional needs and those of their family and friends are not. The Little Way Cancer Support Centre meets this need by providing emotional support and practical help to people who have had cancer, their family and friends.

For the month of October you can join Curves for free with a donation to The Little Way Cancer Support Centre! In addition to this, if you are a past member of Curves, contact the club to avail of a limited offer of 10 workouts for €10 with proceeds also going to The Little Way during the month of October.

At Curves we care about your health and the health of the women around you. It takes only 30 minutes, 3 times a week on the Curves Circuit to get healthier and feel more energised. So, think pink this October and make a difference at Curves!

Contact the club at 016291000, email curvesmaynooth@yahoo.com or find us on Facebook.



FILM MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

FILM REVIEW: A MOST WANTED MAN

DIRECTOR: ANTON CORBIJN

STARRING: PHILIP SEYMOUR HOFFMAN, WILLEM DAFOE & ROBIN WRIGHT



In Anton Corbijn's stylish film **A Most Wanted Man**, post-9/11 paranoia is alive and kicking in the port city of Hamburg. Based on John Le Carré's 2008 spy novel, we are reminded in the opening captions of the film that Hamburg was the city where the fate of the Twin Towers was sealed. 'Intelligence failures' and 'interdepartmental rivalries' allowed one Mohamed Atta to slip through the net, causing untold carnage in the New York of 2011.

It is in this context that a twisty drama of subterfuge enfolds. A striking visual dominates the opening scene of **A Most Wanted Man**; a lone, ghostly figure emerges from the depths of a sewer into the sprawling city of Hamburg. This sets in place a dour chain of events which dominate the rest of Corbijn's spy thriller.

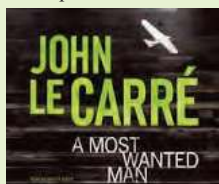
Philip Seymour Hoffman plays Gunter Bachmann, the head of a covert anti-terror squad. His modus operandi is to infiltrate and neutralise Islamic terror cells. Bachmann's current focus, as the film opens, is on the Arab intellectual, Dr. Faisal Abdullah (Homayoun Ershadi) whom he suspects of funding terror. Very soon, though, Bachmann and others are zooming in on the mysterious figure from the sewer.



This object of interest and much curiosity turns out to be a half-Chechen, half-Russian refugee on the run from his homeland. Issa Karpov (Grigoriy Dobrygin) becomes the **Most Wanted Man** of the film's title.

What are his intentions? Is he a militant jihadist about to cause mayhem across the city of Hamburg? Seymour Hoffman's Bachmann is not entirely convinced and has a job persuading, his nervous superiors, the German police and American intelligence otherwise. All participants very much want to get their hands on the man in question. The film becomes a race against time to see who will be victorious in this quest.

This is typically John Le Carré territory. In **A Most Wanted Man** he swaps the chilly milieu of Cold War politics in **Tinker Tailor Solider Spy** for an even chillier modern-day tale of paranoia and double-dealing agents. Seedy back-streets and bars become designation points for furtive and clandestine pursuits. In this environment, every dark-skinned person is viewed with suspicion.



Despite its present-day setting, Anton Corbijn's film is decidedly old-fashioned in execution, recalling an earlier era of secret agent intrigue. With a photographer's eye, the Dutch director has an unerring knack for the impact of the visual. In **A Most Wanted Man**, tall imposing buildings distort the perspective while gray and brown hues predominate matching the bleak, drab and colourless lives of the characters involved.

The late Philip Seymour Hoffman is especially striking here. He exudes loneliness, razor-sharp intelligence, frustration, anger and tenacity, in equal measure, as the espionage man surrounded on all sides. Hoffman portrays him as a sorrowful hulk of a man, shambling along with scant regard to his outer appearance. Bachmann is unkempt, overweight, rarely seen without a cigarette dangling from his mouth and tops up his Americanos with shots of whiskey. There is bleakness even to his smiles.



Gunter Bachmann has a clever game plan in mind. The canny agent prepares to bait the illegal Chechen immigrant, Karpov, in order to catch a bigger fish, the academic Abdullah. Maybe this game of patience will, in time, reap the reward of even larger plankton up the terrorist food chain.

Bachmann pursues this goal with the religious zeal of a Muslim. In this he clashes with competing authorities. A scowling police officer accuses Bachmann of potentially causing 'blood on the streets' with his cautious approach. Seymour Hoffman's response is icily derisive – 'Clown!'

The German spy recruits two players to his cause; Karpov's young, naive immigration lawyer, Annabel Richter (Rachel McAdams) and a smooth banker, Thomas Brue, played by Willem Dafoe. Of great interest to Bachmann is the mysterious inheritance of the Chechen, which is tied up in Defoe's bank. This money could prove crucial to his endgame.



Philip Seymour Hoffman's character is not always sympathetic. His aggressive interrogation of McAdams' conflicted lawyer is particularly harsh. Hoffman damns her as a lefty do-gooder, 'out of her depth' and 'a social worker for terrorists'. While Dafoe's sceptical and disillusioned banker is forced into dealing with the young Chechen at the insistence of Bachmann. The spy is also relentless in his manipulation of Muslim informants. However all players, ultimately, appear as pawns in a much larger game.

Key sequences involving Hoffman's interactions with Robin Wright's calculating CIA operative - Martha Sullivan - fairly bristle. They dance around each other, viewing the other with edgy wariness. Their meetings resemble two heavy-weights squaring up in the ring. For Hoffman's Bachmann (like Le Carré) distrusts the Americans' heavy-handed approach to terrorist containment.

In one memorable scene, Martha Sullivan reveals to Bachmann the truth behind a disastrous overseas

mission. The slaughter of his trusted colleagues still haunts the German spy. Hoffman's reaction is telling. In an instant, his face is transformed. He appears wounded, pain clearly etched on his ashen features.

'All that damage What is it for?' – he implores. Robin Wright's response is equally telling – 'To make the world a safer place... isn't that enough?' Wright's words are later echoed with bitter irony by Hoffman's weary spy. The essence of Corbijn's film may just be encapsulated in these moments.



Anton Corbijn's film is primarily an ensemble piece. Established stars like Willem Dafoe and the charismatic Robin Wright command attention in their disparate roles. The statuesque German actress, Nina Hoss, is remarkable as Seymour Hoffman's stylish colleague, Irina. Grigoriy Dobrygin and Rachel McAdams stand out, especially, as two people reaching out to each other but caught up in the spider web of others. Their touching relationship provides a human counterpoint to the more cynical action. Dobrygin, in particular, is excellent as the fragile, traumatised and tormented Karpov. His hidden and untold story leaves a deep impression.



A Most Wanted Man is exciting but not in the way you would think. Although tense and gripping betimes, this is an understated, thoughtful, slow-burner of a film. It's very much a film of ideas with themes of distrust, betrayal and compromised humanity at the forefront. Andrew Bowen's subtle screenplay is sharp and literate. The melancholy score by Herbert Groenemeyer beautifully reflects the inner lives of the characters. Anton Corbijn elicits nuanced, complex, rich and intelligent performances from his starry cast.

Above all, Philip Seymour Hoffman excels in a stunning and visceral central performance of muted rage and despair. It's a poignant watch as we realise that his untimely death has robbed us of one of the greatest actors of the modern era. The final sequence of **A Most Wanted Man** is achingly sad and gut-wrenching. It leaves you numb and a gaping sense of loss is palpable on so many levels.



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