



# Maynooth Newsletter



Serving the people of Maynooth

April 2015

Local News

FREE

## MAYNOOTH ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADE 2015 (MORE PHOTO'S INSIDE)

This year's St. Patrick's Day parade, once again highlighted the wonderful community spirit in Maynooth. Thousands of people lined the Straffan Road and the Main Street to see this year's floats. There were thirty two floats, ranging from community groups to local businesses. The colour, vibrancy and enthusiasm was palpable and ensured that we all enjoyed the day. The winning floats were as follows, **Best Community Float: Eye Larine, Best Commercial Float: The Glenroyal Hotel, Best Band: St. Mary's Brass and Reed, Best Portrayal of Irish Culture: CCÉ Maigh Nuad, Best Portrayal of Theme: Finesse and Best School Float Maynooth Educate Together.** (See Photo's Below in order from top left to bottom right)

We are fortunate enough in Maynooth that local businesses see the benefit in having a parade and contribute to the operating costs. Without the kind sponsorship of the following businesses, it would be near impossible to fund the event.

**Thornton's Recycling, Willie Kiernan, Derrinstown Stud, Manor Mills Shopping Centre, Brady's Bar & Lounge, The Roost, McMahon's, O'Neills, Coonans, McGrath Group Properties, Bistro 53, John Merrick Dental Surgery, Shelester Properties Ltd, Mulcahy's Butchers, Moulin Rouge, An Siopa Milseán, Cribbin Family Butchers, Jim Shoe Repair and Kildare County Council.** I would also like to thank Án Gardaí for their assistance in the traffic management on the day.

The organisation of the parade takes months of preparation and work, I would like to pay tribute and thank John Doogan, Susan Murphy and everybody in the Maynooth Community Council office for their hard work and help from the beginning to the end of the project. I would like to thank those who helped get the town ready for the parade, Pat Farrell, Andrew McMullon, John Doogan, Seán Stoll, Jamie Kelly and Marie Gleeson, all those who helped steward in Greenfield Shopping Centre and along the route. Also our photographers. Rory O Connor, John Boyd and Mark Colfer.

My thanks also to Tom McMullon, Chair of MCC for giving the opening speech, to Paul Croghan for acting as Master of Ceremonies, George O'Connor for providing barriers, Thornton's Recycling for providing the viewing stand, Willie Kiernan for the sound system, St. Mary's B.N.S. for providing chairs for the viewing stand. I would like to pay tribute to John McGinley who has organised the parade the past 29 years. I have learned that it is a big task and for someone to organise the parade for so long, really deserves recognition and credit. I thoroughly enjoyed this year's parade and was honoured to organise it, I hope that you did too and look forward to seeing you at the Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Parade 2016.



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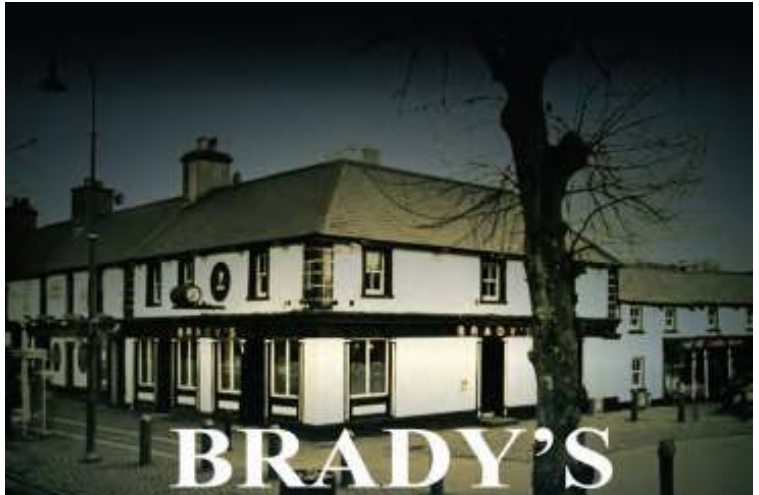
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## DISEASES OF THE EAR IN DOGS & CATS



The anatomy of the ear consists of three distinct all interconnected namely, external ear (outer ear), middle ear (tympanic membrane/ear drum) and internal ear consisting of cochlea and three semi-circular canals. Ears can be affected in any one or more of these regions giving similar or different symptoms.

The external ear is coated with skin and when inflamed is called Otitis Externa. This area of the ear can be affected by many factors:

- ◆ Extension of an existing skin problem in your dog causing over production of wax
- ◆ Food allergies and auto-immune skin conditions
- ◆ Bacterial and fungal infections
- ◆ Swimming - causing excessive moisture in the ear
- ◆ Neoplastic conditions - ear polyps
- ◆ Ear mites - most prevalent in kittens but also in dogs of any age
- ◆ Foreign bodies in ear e.g. Grass seeds
- ◆ Too much hair in ears (Poodles and Bichon Frise)
- ◆ Dogs with long ears (Basset Hounds and Cocker)

If this ear condition is neglected it can progress into the middle and internal ear causing rupture of the ear drum and inner ear disease.



### Symptoms

The dog can be presented shaking his head with a very red hot painful ear. It probably has been rubbing its ear on the ground or tilting its head to one side if only one ear affected. There may be a bad odour from the ears. In some cases violent flapping of the ears may have caused a "lump" to develop. This is an aural haematoma or burst blood vessel which bleeds under the skin of the ear due to damage caused by scratching. Infection of the inner ear can cause dogs to be incoordinated and losing their balance with other neurological signs.

### Diagnosis

Usually on first consultation diagnosis is made by clinical signs but, if condition is not responding a swab is taken from the ear and we look at the material collected under microscope for presence of bacteria, yeast and ear mites.

### Treatment

The staff at Maynooth Veterinary Clinic (01 6289467) and Clane Veterinary clinic (045 982763), will show you how to apply the medication correctly into the ear canal of your pet. This is important as a lot of cases do not respond for two reasons.



1. The owner is not applying the medication correctly.  
Or
2. The owner is not applying the medication for the required period, which can be as long as three weeks.



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# Community Council Notes

The Council welcomed Mary Murphy who was co-opted to the Council representing the Irish Country Women's Association.

**Parking around St. Mary's Church** - There was a response from the Board of Management of the Boys' National School regarding request for parking for daily Mass goers which stated that the school playground is available for parking outside of school hours and school use. The parking situation will be raised at the next Municipal meeting.

**Graffiti** - There has been an increase in graffiti around the town. It was noted that Graffiti on the ESB boxes should be removed by the ESB. Tidy Towns will be looking into the matter and prepare a list of affected areas.

**Twinning aspects** - Colm Ó Cearúil (Twinning Committee) has written to the President of Maynooth University to encourage developments between the various university societies/groups with similar groups in Canet. The university will bring the matter to the attention of the Dean of International Graduate Studies who will investigate strategic possibilities in the South-East region of France. Maynooth could have a role if the programme is developed. Paul Croghan noted that successful twinning is sustained by family involvement. This needs to be encouraged. He reminded the meeting that Canet is a good holiday location. A Facebook page has been set up and if updated regularly is very effective in broadening contacts and events, tour guides, places to see etc. This should be showcased.

The Twinning Committee is looking for more volunteers to get involved. There will be a meeting at 8pm in the Glenroyal before the next MCC meeting.

## Local Matters

Concern was expressed at the lack of gritting on the Moyglare Road and estates during frost. This is very worrying considering the high volume of traffic on the road.

It was noted that An Bord Pleanála recently went against their planners' advice. The public need to know why planning decisions are made. Transparency is crucial. The case in point refers to planning on the Moyglare Road. Permission was upheld for a vehicle access point beside the Eircom Exchange. This could become a rat road through Moyglare Hall and will have a significant impact on pedestrian safety. There is no right of appeal at this final stage. The decision has been made.

The position of the pedestrian crossing at the girls school was criticised. It is too near the girls school and cars are on top of it before they realise. The issue was raised at the Municipal meeting. KCC are to put up signage and road markings to alert drivers and pedestrians.

## Men's Sheds

The Men's Sheds Tourism Brochure was launched in the Scouts Hall on 11th March. It was commercially funded by local businesses. Congratulations was expressed to Men's Sheds and Maynooth Business Community.

## Maynooth Community Council Elections call for Residents Associations to get involved

The MCC elections will take place in the coming months. It is important that all estates especially newly established estates be represented on the council. It is hoped to designate one person in the office to contact residents associations. There are 35 estates in Maynooth at present with only a few estates represented on the council. Notification of the election will be posted in the Newsletter. The Chair of MCC noted that it needs people who are interested in enhancing Maynooth as a community.

**Educate Together School** - Are busy organising the "March Hare" 5k Run Walk Jog for Sunday 29th March. There will be a children's 1k dash organised for Friday 27th. The event is in aid of a Sports Facility at the school. The children enjoyed World Book Day. The School will be taking part in the St. Patrick's Day Parade. The present

temporary building is now 8 years old. A formal application for a permanent building is being prepared. The school would welcome the support of the MCC for the project.

## Tidy Towns

Mattie Callaghan reported that a recent clean up with Tony O' Sullivan of Leixlip Tidy Towns collected 4 trailer loads of rubbish on the road from Maynooth to Leixlip. Maynooth Community Council and Maynooth Tidy Towns are writing to Kildare County Council to ask landowners to clear rubbish from any affected areas on their land. Thanks was expressed to Leixlip Tidy Towns. The Saturday morning clean ups have resumed. Water and compost bins have been given to the Gaelscoil and the Scouts. The WEEE collection will be on Saturday 28th March in TESCO from 10am to 4pm. Twenty-six tons of material was collected last year. Maynooth Tidy Towns and Kildare County Council hope to get a window of opportunity to get the streets brushed in the town.

## ICA

There will be a Daffodil Day on 27th March at TESCO, Supervalu, Aldi, and Manor Mills. Craft meetings are on Mondays and the usual monthly meetings are on the first Thursday of the month. All welcome.

## Senior Citizens

Josephine Moore reported that Tuesday and Thursday morning meetings at the Community Unit have resumed. It is the first time since 1983 that they will not be moving back into the ICA Hall. Thanks were expressed on behalf of Senior Citizens to the ICA for their support over the years. There will be a Tea Dance on 15th February – people from Palmerstown, Kilcock and Summerhill will attend. The March Tea Dance will take place on 15th and the Easter dance will take place on 19th April. The annual church gate collection will take place 21/22 March. A presentation of €9,543 was made to Senior Citizens from the proceeds of the Liam Flood Memorial Concert which was held in St. Mary's Catholic Church. Glen Hansard was the main attraction and ensured a great attendance. It was a terrific night. The concert marked a tribute to Liam's generous support of Maynooth Senior Citizens. Thanks were expressed to Gerry Flood and the Flood family for this very welcome boost to the Senior Citizens finances and not least for their support of the Senior Citizens over the years.

**Maynooth Festival** – plans are progressing.

**St. Patrick's Day** – planning ongoing, sponsorship, invitations, sound, chairs etc. all in hand. More stewards required. Paul Croghan will be MC on the day. The only change is that the presentation of prizes will be awarded at Manor Mills. (See photos inside)

## AOB

Richard Farrell informed the meeting that the First Pieta House "Walk into Light" will take place on 9th May at 4.15am in Maynooth College.

Naoise Ó Cearúil reminded the meeting that the closing date for Arts Grants is March 19th.

**New Curriculum Maynooth University** - Colm Ó Cearúil spoke about the New Curriculum which was launched in Maynooth University recently. The initiative has been facilitated by a €150m investment from the European Investment Bank. It is an innovative development and will mean more people will attend university. The barriers between disciplines will be removed which means students will be able to combine subjects in new ways across the arts and sciences. There will be more emphasis on learning a modern language. There will be a greater emphasis on work placements and volunteering/civic engagement, and study abroad. At present Maynooth University is establishing links with County Kildare twinned town Lexington US to attract further international students. These developments could have significant positive impact on the town.

# Editorial

Many of you will hear the radio ad for "National Spring Clean" during April encouraging you to go out and do a clean up in your area. While one does not doubt the power of radio advertising, this particular ad does not seem to strike a chord with the majority of people anywhere in Ireland. Yes, there are the few who take pride in the area that they live in, but many active residents' associations will tell you the stories of the people that they always observe looking out the windows at others doing the work. If you have been the one looking out the window before, why not take the lead this month and show that you too have pride in the place where you live.

It is great to see the Maynooth Men's Shed group proudly taking part in the St. Patrick's day parade and to hear that they now have a permanent home beside the garden centre on the Leixlip Road. A group like this is really important for Maynooth and with successful projects in launching a tourism brochure for Maynooth and manufacturing ramps for people with conditions such as Cerebral Palsy and Motor Neurone disease so that they can play Boccia (a game like lawn bowls) they can clearly embrace new members no matter what your interest is. While one would have thought that it would be difficult to have a successful men only group, it seems that there are bigger challenges in trying to sustain active groups for younger people and this is an issue that we as a community must try harder to achieve.

Despite our belief that everything had changed utterly in the past seven years and that as a consequence of the property crash costing all of us dearly, we would see a new era in better planning for communities. While new planning legislation is planned, it is still likely that somebody in the planning system can make a significant decision but not be accountable to anybody for it. Take the recent decision by An Bord Pleanála to allow a new access road to Moyglare Hall estate from the Moyglare Road at a point opposite Maynooth GAA Club. In making this decision An Bord Pleanála overruled a decision that they made ten years ago not to allow a vehicular entrance at this point, but instead a pedestrian and cycle access only. In making the recent change An Bord Pleanála overruled the recent advice of the An Bord Pleanála's own professional planner. What is most concerning about a decision made in these circumstances is that no explanation is given as to why An Bord Pleanála did not accept the decision of their own planner. Surely the days of anybody making decision without having to explain it no matter how independent they are in any matter is over. People should have a right to have an explanation – will this be in the new planning legislation. I doubt it.

**Paul Croghan**

## Novena

Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask you for this special one, (mention favour). Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart where your father sees it, then it will become your favour not mine. Say this prayer for three days and promise publication and favour will be granted.



# TECHNOLOGY CORNER

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

### Mercedes' Self-Driving Car of the Future

The Mercedes-Benz F015 is a self-driving car concept that seems to come straight out of science fiction. This futuristic, almost alien-looking machine was recently seen driving around San Francisco, likely as part of promotion for Mercedes' self-driving car concepts.



The F015 is known as the "Luxury in Motion", and the design of the car reveals that Mercedes is looking towards a new future in driving. Automated computer systems are becoming more common in modern cars, and several self-driving cars have already been tested.

There are major differences with the F015, however, in both fundamental design and mechanics.

Mechanically, it lacks the spinning LIDAR system that is common to most self-driving cars. In keeping with Mercedes' sense of style, there are no visible cameras or radars. Due to the design, it's impossible to see if there is a human in the car during these demo drives, and it's unclear how the car senses the world around it.

The mechanics may currently be shrouded in mystery, but it's the design elements that really show how the car company is envisioning an entirely new style of travel in the future. Mercedes is clearly looking towards a future where computers are better drivers than humans, and once that occurs, the company feels that the fundamental design of cars can change to accommodate this new reality.

If a car is autonomous, the entire interior design can change. People no longer need to be locked into forward-facing seats with the traditional setup of mirrors and pedals. The F015 reflects that with free-spinning seats, allowing the driver to turn around and chat with

passengers in the backseat. The car was unveiled in January as a "mobile living space" where everything is controlled through hand gestures, eye tracking, and touchscreens. The head of Daimler stated, "The car is growing beyond its role as a mere means of transport".

It will be quite a while before the F015 hits the market as a consumer vehicle, but Mercedes plans to have cars with some autonomous capabilities on the markets by 2020. They won't quite be mobile living spaces, but a new future of car and computer technology may be dawning.



### A (Virtual) World of Possibilities for Healing

Virtual reality has always been an intriguing concept in popular culture. In media depictions, its main purpose is almost always entertainment, but some researchers and companies are seeing new possibilities in using virtual reality as a tool for healing.

The goal of virtual reality is to create a completely immersive, computer-simulated environment that can recreate sensory experiences and let someone experience an imaginary world or situation. Its possibilities have fascinated people since the dawn of the computer age. Back in the 1990s, virtual reality was so over-hyped that people thought we were on the verge of breakthrough in technology, fuelled by credible magazines like Computer Gaming World stating that there would be "affordable virtual reality by 1994". The big breakthrough never came, and most of the hype died down. Recently, however, the virtual buzz is back and showing tangible results that will be accessible to the general public for the first time.

Much of the current excitement is being generated by the Oculus Rift, a virtual reality headset for video games. It's designed to provide an immersive gaming experience through its finely-tuned head tracking and stereoscopic 3D view. In 2012, it brought virtual reality back to the real world in a major way when a Kickstarter campaign to fund its development raised \$2.4 million, over 10 times the amount sought in the campaign.

The consumer version of the Rift is set to be released during 2015, though developers have been able to purchase a kit for \$300 each since late 2012. The kits were so popular that Oculus struggled to keep up with demand and actually ran out of the kits in March of 2014, having sold 60,000 already. Facebook stirred up even more publicity around virtual reality when they purchased Oculus for \$2 billion last March.

The Oculus Rift isn't the only virtual reality headset on the market, either: Samsung has already shipped its Gear headset, and Sony is expected to release its Project Morpheus in 2015 as well. This is good news for gaming enthusiasts, but the increasing accessibility of virtual reality has much wider implications outside of entertainment.

Though it may have vanished from the public eye,

virtual reality never truly disappeared after the 90s. For years, this technology has been used in the treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder and phobias, as well as being used in pain management therapy for burn victims. A growing body of research is pointing to virtual reality as having enormous potential as therapeutic technology. As the cost of the tech drops while the sophistication advances, greater numbers of people will have access to its medical possibilities.

Several companies and medical researchers have been offering people virtual reality simulations as a type of exposure therapy. Exposure therapy is an approach to treat anxiety disorders – such as PTSD and phobias – where the idea is to gradually expose someone to the source of their fear in a safe setting. By confronting their fear and overcoming it in a controlled setting, they are better equipped to handle their fear in a real world situation. Studies have found virtual reality to be more effective at treating phobias than traditional methods such as visualisation or using photographs.

Mike Rothenberg of Rothenberg Ventures envisions a blossoming future for virtual reality as therapeutic tech. He thinks that someday, psychiatrists will be able to help people with a variety of problems using virtual reality and that paraplegics and others crippled by age or illness will be able to roam virtual worlds without the need to leave their physical beds. To get to this point, he believes it will require people investing capital into virtual reality companies that will build new hardware and software. With this in mind, he has launched a new startup incubator named River. River will provide \$100,000 in seed funding to 10 different companies, as well as office space in San Francisco.

Psiious is a River company that specialises in virtual reality exposure therapy simulators. The exciting thing about companies like Psiious is the accessibility of the technology they are producing. Historically, virtual reality systems cost tens of thousands of euro. Psiious is selling a hardware bundle – which includes a Homido headset, a smart phone, and a haptic feedback device – for its simulator therapy for \$300.

Howard Rose is another contributing to Rothenberg's dream. He has been designing virtual worlds for medical researchers since the 1990s. His company Firsthand helped develop SpiderWorld, designed to treat arachnophobia, and IraqWorld, designed to treat PTSD

in war veterans. His company's biggest project, though, is SnowWorld, a first person action game designed to help burn victims manage their pain. The game helps distract burn victims from their pain and has been in use for over a decade. As many as 75% of patients reported a large reduction in pain while using SnowWorld.

Now Rose has a new River-backed startup company called Deepstream VR, whose focus is entirely on the use of virtual reality for pain management. Functional MRI scans show what happens in the brain when virtual reality is used to help manage pain. The fMRI images reveal significantly less pain-related activity in the brain when using virtual reality simulators, giving Deepstream the idea for a new kind of 'neuro-gaming'. The idea behind it is to use the technology for pain relief, wellness, and to increase resilience.

Rose feels that devices like Oculus Rift are exciting primarily because they are driving down the cost of virtual reality tech. Previously, most of the money for research and development of this technology went straight into the military, whose flight simulators are probably one of the most well-known examples of virtual technology. Because most of the money was in military applications rather than consumer ones, there has been little incentive to make more affordable tech until recently.

Rose points to the rising popularity of smartphones as another big factor in the increasing accessibility of virtual tech. The mainstream marketing of smartphones and the competition for lower prices has drastically lowered the cost of components such as gyroscopes and accelerometers. Four years ago, he was using \$4,000 sensor networks, but sensors are now commonplace. Also due to smartphone technology, displays have become much better and smaller.

He notes that most of the new crop of virtual reality hardware is simply a smartphone placed in a pair of goggles. The goggles use the phone's internal sensors to detect the user's head position and then display a stereoscopic image on the screen. It's not as flawlessly immersive as the virtual reality of pop culture fantasy, but for therapeutic purposes, it can work wonders for people who are suffering. With the cost already being brought down to a few hundred euro, doctors and researchers will be able to use virtual reality tech to help more people worldwide.

# Maynooth Labour News

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

## Cllr. McGinley Demands Action on Major Maynooth Projects

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth Municipal District (MD) Committee:

*“That the Director of Services outlines how the following Projects can be delivered in Maynooth this year now that NTA Funding is not available:*

- Footpath/Cycle path to the Educate Together school/Gael Scoil
- Traffic Signals at Straffan Road/Meadowbrook Link Road Junction
- 66 Bus extension to Newtown
- Review of Traffic Management Plan
- Back Lane issues with No Entry signs etc
- North South Corridor”

John was given the following response at the Municipal District (MD) meeting on 11 March: *“The Roads Department funds works from its own resources and from grants received from the Department of Transport Tourism and Sport and the National Transport Authority (NTA). All of the projects detailed by Councillor McGinley were included in an application for funding to the National Transport Authority (NTA). However, the Council did not receive grant aid for these projects in 2015. There is no alternative funding source for these works in 2015.”*

Cllr. McGinley stated that the response to his motion was completely unacceptable and that the Council must fund these Projects if the NTA are not going to do so. He said that it was ridiculous that the NTA would provide €300,000 for a cycle path along the canal from INTEL to The Harbour and fail to provide €40,000 for a footpath to the Educate Together School on the Celbridge Road.

The MD Engineer stated that there might be funds left over to start the North South Corridor. Cllr. McGinley stated that the funds would be better used on a footpath to the Educate Together School.

## Update on Maynooth By Laws-Pay Parking

Cllr. McGinley was given the following update on the implementation of Pay Parking in Maynooth at the Municipal District Meeting on 11 March:

*“Following the recent tender for the enforcement of Pay Parking (including the town of Maynooth) it is proposed that the contract will be signed before the end of March 2015.*

*Tenders for (a) the purchase and maintenance of pay parking machines and (b) cash collections are in draft form and will be advertised in the coming weeks. The Roads Department is currently undertaking site visits in Maynooth so that working drawings for signs and lines can be prepared. Once the tenders for the purchase and maintenance of machines and for cash collections have been awarded and the working drawings have been prepared a date can be determined for the commencement of the bye-laws. The Members will be informed on progress.”*

## Cllr. McGinley Asks for Unnecessary Poles to be removed from Main Street

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD Committee:

*“That all unnecessary poles be removed from the streets of Maynooth and the other towns in the Maynooth Municipal District.”*

John was given the following response at the Municipal District (MD) meeting on 11 March: *“Last year the Municipal District Office was in contact with Tidy Towns representatives who have*

*been very proactive and helpful on this issue of removal of redundant poles. A number of poles have since been removed but a number are still in place on the Main Street footpaths due to the current presence of the cycle lanes along those footpaths. The Office would hope that this situation will resolve itself in the near future and, hence, further poles may be removed”*

## Cllr. McGinley Asks for an Explanation on the Taxi Stand Advert

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD Committee:

*“Why has the Council Advertised for “Draft Appointed Taxi Stand By Laws for Maynooth?”*

John was given the following response at the Municipal District (MD) meeting on 11 March: *“The location for a taxi stand was approved by the Municipal District in the adoption of the Pay Parking Bye Laws for Maynooth. However, to provide the taxi stand and to enable enforcement the Local Authority must make Appointed Taxi Stand Bye Laws. This is a reserved function and will be submitted to the Members for consideration following the public consultation process.”*

Cllr. McGinley stated that it was crazy that the Council had to go through such an expensive process for one taxi stand at Manor Mills when this was already covered in the Parking By-Laws.

## Cllr. McGinley Raises Safety Issue with Blacklion Halting Site

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD Committee:

*“When will a key for the barrier at Blacklion Halting Site be located there so that emergency vehicles can gain entry?”*

Cllr. McGinley was given the following update on the implementation of Pay Parking in Maynooth at the Municipal District Meeting on 11 March:

*“During the normal course of events, a caretaker is available to allow larger vehicles access to the site. While a key has been made available to certain emergency services, the emergency services will normally cut the barrier to gain access to the site. It is not normal practice to provide keys to residents of any halting site under the control of any local authority as it is the experience of local authorities that there is a high risk that residents holding keys will be intimidated by unscrupulous persons attempting to gain unauthorised access to the site.”*

Cllr. McGinley replied saying that he wanted the Council to review the policy of not having a key for the barrier on the site as an ambulance would not have cutting gear and lives were being put at risk. He said that it was nonsense to say that residents would admit “unscrupulous persons”.

## Maynooth Town North South Corridor is on Public Display

The Scheme extends from the Celbridge Road junction with the Straffan Road to the entrance to Moyglare Hall. The closing date for submissions is 12 May 2015. The main aspects of it are as follows:

- Footpath widths will be increased from 1.75m to 2m generally.
- Where possible the cycle track and footpath will be separate, with a landscape section provided.
- The cycle track will be increased to 2m
- The road lane width will be reduced from 3.5m to 3.25m

- The right turning lanes at Rail Park and Parklands/Castlebridge will be kept, but they will be removed at Old Greenfields, Silken Vale and Railway Station junctions.
- The speed limit from the Glenroyal through Main Street will be 30Km/hr
- The cycle lanes on Main Street footpaths will be removed.
- There will be a diagonal pedestrian crossing at the Roost junction
- There will be a 4m wide pedestrian and cycle link from the Glenroyal to Leinster Street at the bottom of the Harbour Field. Also for emergency vehicles. Leinster Street will have a new surface with a shared space between cyclists and vehicles. There will be a new footpath on the west side.
- There will be a new pedestrian 3.5m wide footbridge to the west of William Bridge (at Dunnes) on Mill Street. The cycle lanes on Mill Street will be increased from 1.4m to 1.8m
- The wall at the Boys School will be set back to give a right turning lane from Moyglare Road to Kilcock Road. (subject to agreement with the Boys School Authorities)
- There will be a 4m wide shared cycle/pedestrian link to the east of Moyglare as far as Moyglare Hall with an upgraded footpath on the west side.
- The width of Moyglare Road will be reduced from 7m to 6m

The Reports and Drawings can be viewed in the Maynooth Library or on the Council web site.

## Cllr. McGinley Gets Four New Public Lights at Straffan Road Junctions

Following representations for Cllr. McGinley three new public lights have been erected at the Straffan Road/Celbridge Road junction and one new light has been erected at the Greenfield Shopping Centre junction.

## Traffic Signals on Palmerstown Junction on N4 to be controlled by computer

Deputy Emmet Stagg has continued to raise the issue of the long delays for commuters because of the traffic signals in Palmerstown with South Dublin County Council.

South Dublin County Council have advised Deputy Stagg that within the coming month they will be commissioning a SCOOTs Urban Traffic Control Computer system on the Traffic Signals at Palmerstown which will they say have the effect of co-ordinating the traffic signals at both locations in a much more efficient and reactive manner thereby helping to reduce traffic delays at peak times. Hopefully this new SCOOTs system will work stated Deputy Stagg but ultimately the real solution is the provision of an Interchange or Underpass at Palmerstown Village to allow for free flow of traffic on the N4.

Worryingly, South Dublin County Council advised Deputy Stagg that whilst they examined the Junction in 2008 along with the NRA, that examination was not completed due to the reduction in capital funding for roads. The dual carriageway at Palmerstown is also no longer part of the National Roads Network but is now classified as a Regional Road, thus putting it outside of funding from the NRA when eventually Capital Funding is increased again. Deputy Stagg has contacted South Dublin Co. Council further asking who decided that the main Western Route into the Capital City was no longer part of the

(Continued on page 9)



(Continued from page 8)

National Roads Network. We await a response.

### €5,261,600 Allocated To Kildare for Leader Element of Rural Development Programme

Deputy Emmet Stagg has welcomed the announcement by Minister for Environment Alan Kelly T.D. and the Minister of State for Rural Affairs Anne Phelan T.D. of the allocation of €5,261,600 to Co. Kildare for the Leader Elements of the Rural Development Programme for the period 2015 to 2020.

The funding stated Deputy Stagg will be used to support sustainable economic development projects for rural communities ranging from tourism, agri-food and other business activities. The funding will be targeted at tackling social inclusion, rural isolation as well as increasing the capacity of rural communities to participate in economic development. The exact nature of the projects will be based on ideas that emerge from local communities.

Deputy Stagg stated that Leader funding is a vital lifeline for many rural communities and will support the continued sustainable development of rural communities in Kildare and throughout the Country in the coming years.

### Stagg Encourages Kildare Sports Clubs to Apply for Funding

Deputy Emmet Stagg is encouraging local sports clubs in Kildare to apply for funding following the announcement that the 2015 round of the Sports Capital Programme is now open.

The provision of an additional €40 million under this new round is key to facilitating participation in sport among local communities and will provide for improved facilities and equipment for sporting organisations across the country.

Deputy Stagg stated: "These grants will be allocated later this year, and will be used for the development of vital sports infrastructure".

"This is the third round of Sports Capital funding that has been made available under this Government, following years of neglect in this area by the previous administration. In the last two rounds over €1.6 Million was allocated to Kildare Sports Organisations. "The Programme, which is open from today, will facilitate successful applicants in carrying out essential works on pitches and facilities such as clubhouses and dressing rooms. Sport has a positive impact on communities and the individual from both a physical and a social perspective. "I would encourage all those who are interested to ensure that they are registered on the online system before 5pm, Friday, 10 April 2015 (if not already registered) and to get their applications in online at [www.sportscapitalprogramme.ie](http://www.sportscapitalprogramme.ie) before 5pm on Friday, 24 April 2015."

## Asking

Ask winds where they want to blow  
ask stiff-arched branches still resisting their ways  
ask toast-colour fences why branches pinch like  
arguments on a morning bus  
let's ask Mr.Ryan may we now have our ball back please  
ask why ambulance lights are medicinally blue  
spotlighting the warp of the fence,  
and middle-aged women asking which one found him in a  
huddled foetal heap

*By John Doyle*

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## April Diary Planner

### Irish Girl Guides

Meetings Tuesday evening in  
Maynooth. For further  
information contact Jackie on  
085 1413787 or  
visit [I.G.G. website](http://I.G.G. website)  
[www.irishgirlguides.ie](http://www.irishgirlguides.ie)

### Community Library

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

### I.C.A.

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

### Arthritis Ireland

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

### Men's Sheds

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

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

### Parent & Toddler Group

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

### Maynooth Community Church

1st Floor Manor Mills  
(entrance next to Chill)  
Service times  
every Sunday morning  
from 10.30 am  
[www.maynoothcc.org](http://www.maynoothcc.org)  
Everyone most welcome

# Catherine Murphy Independent TD

E-mail: [catherine.murphy@oireachtas.ie](mailto:catherine.murphy@oireachtas.ie) - Phone 01-6156625 (Leixlip) or 01-6183099 (Dail) - Web: [www.catherinemurphy.ie](http://www.catherinemurphy.ie)

## Have Ministers Howlin and Burton Failed to Find Common Ground on Water Resources?

Independent TD Catherine Murphy last week tabled a Parliamentary Question to the Tánaiste and Minister for Social Protection Joan Burton regarding the resources that would be required by her Department to administer the annual water 'conservation' grant. Recently, documents made available to RTE through FOI revealed that her Department had serious concerns about their capacity to administer the grant within available resources.

In the reply to the Question, dated the 26th of February, Minister Burton confirmed that her Department, in conjunction with the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, are considering the "staffing and funding needed to administer the water conservation grant" and that they are currently "carrying out a scoping exercise".

However, speaking to RTE's This Week programme on Sunday the 1st of March- just three days after the parliamentary reply to Catherine Murphy from Minister Burton, the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, Brendan Howlin, confirmed that the Government will not provide any extra resources to Minister Burton's Department to administer the grant and that they would have to work within their existing administrative budget.

Speaking in the wake of Minister Howlin's comments Catherine Murphy noted the timing between the 'ongoing' scoping exercise referred to in Minister Burton's response and the definitive statement by Minister Howlin regarding the lack of extra resources.

"It is curious how just last Thursday, Minister Burton confirmed to me that her Department was involved in an exercise with Minister's Howlin's Department in order to "explore the most effective and efficient approach to its implementation" – and the reply goes on to detail the workload in estimating resources required and the ongoing administration of the grant, yet just 3 days later, Minister Howlin was on RTE effectively telling us that the matter has been put to bed and Minister Burton will have to make do with what she has."

"Given that Minister Burton's Department had expressed such concerns about the burden that would be placed on it, it is surprising that there appears to be a divergence of opinion amongst the Departments as to whether or not extra resources are needed and how and when that decision will be reached or indeed has been reached."

## IBRC, Siteserv and Millington Timetable Raises Questions for Minister

A series of PQ replies to Independent TD Catherine Murphy has revealed the curious timing that existed regarding the controversial IBRC sale of Siteserv to the Denis O'Brien owned Millington whose subsidiary, Sierra, went onto become a part of the successful bid for the Irish Water metering contracts.

Catherine Murphy had questioned why IBRC accepted the Millington bid of €45.4million for Siteserv despite Siteserv owing €150 million to the State owned IBRC. The sale resulted in a loss to the State of just over €100 million and Millington was permitted to purchase Siteserv with no outstanding liabilities. In a PQ reply on the 26th of February this year, the Minister confirmed that any transaction which resulted in an adverse impact on total regulatory capital of the Bank of greater than €100 million would require interaction between the Minister and the IBRC.

Deputy Murphy questioned why, if the Governing protocols of IBRC required Minister Interaction for transactions exceeding €100million, had he not been involved in the discussions regarding the Millington / Siteserv deal. In a PQ reply received this evening, the Minister stated that Relationship Framework and Operational Protocol between the Minister and the IBRC only came into effect on the 29th March 2012 – days after the Millington / Siteserv deal had been completed.

Interestingly, the previous Relationship Framework that had been in place since July 2009 required the Board of IBRC to engage with the Minister on certain key issues including "any material disposals...or other transactions other than in the ordinary course of Anglo Irish Bank's banking business."

Speaking this evening Catherine Murphy said she was dismayed to see the convenient timing issues that seemed to dominate the decisions surrounding the decision of IBRC to accept what was reportedly the lowest bid for Siteserv.

"I'm not surprised by the replies which confirm what I and others have long suspected – that the background to this deal and the eventual awarding of the metering contract is mired in convenient circumstances that all amount to something which leaves a very bad taste in the mouth of most right minded citizens."

### QUESTION NO: 220

**DÁIL QUESTION** addressed to the Minister for Finance (Deputy Michael Noonan) by Deputy Catherine Murphy for WRITTEN ANSWER on 16/12/2014

To ask the Minister for Finance if he is satisfied that the Irish Bank Resolution Corporation, in its disposal of a company (details supplied) in March 2012, acted in the best financial interest of the State; if his attention has been drawn to the company being sold to a much lower bid; if so, if he sought a satisfactory answer as to the reason; the reason the company was not put into examinership or receivership; if he has questioned the reason the same legal representatives acted for both the company in question and the purchaser; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

### REPLY.

Notwithstanding the State's ownership of the bank at the time, Irish Bank Resolution Corporation operated at an arm's length capacity from the State in relation to commercial issues. It was a matter for the board and management to determine and implement such policy in their organisation.

Therefore, commercial decisions in relation to IBRC were solely a decision for the bank. I am aware that KPMG Corporate Finance and Davy Corporate Finance ran a joint sales process to sell Siteserv which was in severe financial difficulties and was unable to service or pay back its loans to IBRC. The sale process was initiated by Siteserv and overseen by a subcommittee of the Siteserv Board. The sale process involved two stages and IBRC was briefed after each stage. The Board of Siteserv, as advised by KPMG Corporate Finance and Davy Corporate Finance, recommended the successful bid as representing the best return for IBRC. I am advised that the Board of the bank at that time were satisfied that this was the case.

### QUESTION NO: 75

**DÁIL QUESTION** addressed to the Minister for Finance (Deputy Michael Noonan) by Deputy Catherine Murphy for WRITTEN ANSWER on 04/03/2015

To ask the Minister for Finance further to **Parliamentary Question No. 30** of 4 February 2015, the reason he stated in his reply that the sale of an entity by Irish Bank Resolution Corporation prior to its liquidation (details supplied), which resulted in a net loss to IBRC of approximately €105 million, did not meet the financial thresholds which trigger mandatory consultation with the State under Paragraph 4 of the Operational Protocol for the Relationship Framework which governed interactions between himself as Minister and IBRC, even though those thresholds clearly state that any adverse impact on the total capital of IBRC of €100m or more should do so; if he will account for the reason no such consultation took place in this instance; if he received any representations regarding this sale from any of the parties involved; if so, if he will provide the dates and names of parties concerned; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

### REPLY.

The Relationship Framework and Operational Protocol dated 29th March 2012 between the Minister for Finance and Irish Bank Resolution Corporation (IBRC), referred to in my answer to Parliamentary Question No. 30 of 4th February 2015, came into effect after the sale of the company referred to in the question.

A previous Relationship Framework dated 8th July 2009 was in effect at the time the Board of IBRC approved the sale of the company referred to in the question on 15th March 2012. Under this previous Relationship Framework, the Board were required to engage with the Minister for Finance on

certain key issues which included "Any material acquisitions, disposals, investments, realisations or other transactions, other than in the ordinary course of Anglo Irish Bank's banking business."

It should be noted that this previous Relationship Framework did not include any specific monetary thresholds which would trigger mandatory consultation with the Minister for Finance. It should also be noted, that at that time, the ordinary course of the Bank's business was to conduct an orderly run-down and ultimate liquidation of the Bank. As such, IBRC's efforts, as a secured lender, to maximise the recovery on its loans to the company referred to in the question was considered to be in the ordinary course of business. For that reason, and under the Relationship Framework in place at that time, IBRC were not required to consult with the Minister for Finance on this matter in advance of making a decision.

It should be noted that the Relationship Framework and Operational Protocol put in place on 29th March 2012 contained specific financial thresholds which would, from that date on, trigger mandatory consultation with the Minister for Finance for qualifying transactions.

### QUESTION NO: 79

**DÁIL QUESTION** addressed to the Minister for Finance (Deputy Michael Noonan) by Deputy Catherine Murphy for WRITTEN ANSWER on 26/02/2015

To ask the Minister for Finance if he will provide a copy of the Relationship Framework, which governed the interactions between his Department and the former management and board of the Irish Bank Resolution Corporation, prior to its liquidation; if he will indicate the precise financial thresholds under the framework, which would have triggered mandatory consultation in advance of a transaction, and / or disposal; if he will provide a list of all instances, where such consultation took place, and the sums involved; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

### REPLY.

A copy of the Relationship Framework (including the Operational Protocol), which governed interactions between I, as Minister for Finance, and Irish Bank Resolution Corporation can be found on the Department of Finance website through the below link:

<http://www.finance.gov.ie/sites/default/files/Relationship%20Framework%20incorporating%20Operational%20Protocol.pdf>

Paragraph 4 of the Operational Protocol for the Relationship Framework in respect of Irish Bank Resolution Corporation contains the consent/consultation procedure between the Bank and I, as Minister for Finance.

Paragraph 4 of the Operational Protocol states that, "For the purposes of paragraph 14 of the Relationship Framework, the Bank shall consult with the Minister in accordance with the Consent/Consultation Procedure in respect of any proposed decision or action that is within the Ordinary Course of Business but which:

4.1 is likely to have an adverse impact on total regulatory capital of the Bank of greater than €100 million;  
4.2 is an actual or potential acquisition, investment or disposal (or series of related transactions) and the total purchase price, investment or proceeds individually or in aggregate could exceed €100 million; or

4.3 is a realisation, reorganisation, restructuring or other transaction or event and it is likely to have an adverse impact on the total equity of the Bank of greater than €100 million."

The Relationship Framework outlines the instances in which Irish Bank Resolution Corporation were required to gain consent from me or consult with me, as Minister for Finance, and these instances went beyond individual transactions and/or disposals; they also included consent for board approvals, management appointments and litigation matters. In total, there were 29 instances where the Bank required Ministerial consent or consultation but given customer confidentiality in certain instances and on-going litigation in other instances, I am unable to provide further detail on the individual instances where Ministerial consent or consideration was required.





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## Benefit Night

In memory of Helen Sharp (nee O'Reilly)  
Formerly of Greenfield Maynooth,  
Avondale Leixlip and Hortland Donadea  
will be held in the Maynooth GAA Club  
on Saturday 18th April 2015  
Tickets €10

Music by: The Beer Mats - James Crehan

To support the night or to purchase tickets please  
Contact Kathleen 087- 2244837  
or Eimear 086-3205459

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**Copy Date for May Newsletter is  
Tuesday 21st April**

## April Special Offers

**1/2 Hour Facial & 1/2  
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**€40**

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At Glenroyal Beauty, we have a wide range of treatments but here is some more information on our most popular ones.

### Lycon Waxing

Using only the finest resins, natural ingredients and aromatherapy oils, Lycon delivers superior performance, removing stubborn hair as short as 1mm. What's also great about this wonder wax is that it's so gentle on your skin, it can be used on the same patch up to FIVE times. Lycon is a premium waxing system that is designed to make your waxing treatments easier & virtually pain free (which we're all for!).

### Minimi Body Wraps

A Minimi Body Wrap is a wrap with a difference! It's a revolutionary body wrap that can help you to drop a dress size – perfect in time for summer! While most body wraps that claim to provide inch loss tend to result in just fluid loss, the clever ingredients in Minimi actually shrink fat cells, helping to tone and firm your skin and even reducing the appearance of cellulite. This means your inch-loss results can be permanent if you follow a healthy lifestyle. What a great way to kick-start your bikini body!

### Dermalogica

With so much choice on the market for skin care nowadays, it can be a difficult decision to make when buying a product. The good thing about Dermalogica is that, not only is it a high quality skin care brand which targets problem areas of your skin with high quality ingredients, but there are plenty of ranges within the brand. You can find something that will work for just about any skin care problem. Our therapists Lisa & Aoife are highly trained and can recommend products to suit your unique skin type.

### Fuschia

Fuschia make-up guarantees the perfect finish every time. These silky mineral powders brush onto the skin, giving exceptional coverage and a lightweight feel. Completely natural, the foundations give a healthy natural glow to all skin types and all ages, and will adapt to suit your skin. Why not book in for a Fuschia make-up application for an upcoming special occasion? Lisa & Aoife will ensure you leave looking extra fabulous! Glenroyal Beauty also retails Fuschia products, so pop in to us to stock up!

### Gelish

Gelish is applied like a normal polish (base coat, colour coat and top coat) but cured under UV light. Clients may also find that their natural nails can grow longer than usual as Gelish provides strength to the natural nail. It holds up to 3 weeks of high shine gloss. It is chip and scratch free – and lasts even longer on toes! No more post manicure nicks, chips, dents or smudges. Removal is free (once you've had it done in Glenroyal Beauty) & done easily in 10-15 minutes – no drilling/buffing or filing and so there is no damage to the natural nail.

Call 01-6291313 to book an appointment in Glenroyal Beauty or find us on Facebook for more information or details on our special offers.



# Maynooth 10k 2015 + 5k Family Run



Pictured (l-r) Paul Robinson, elite athlete, Johnny Nevin, Principal MPPS, Monica O'Byrne, Director of Sales and Marketing Carton House, Siobhan McCauley, Principal MCC, John O'Regan, elite athlete, Gerry Quinn MPPS Board and Event Organiser (pic: Mark Colfer)

## Maynooth 10k and 5k Family Run formally launched at Carton House.

The fifth annual Maynooth 10k was formally launched at Carton House recently. The event will take place on Sunday 17th May next at 10.30am.

Speaking at the launch, event organiser Gerry Quinn said that this year it's been decided to have a "family friendly" 5k event in tandem with the 10k. This is due to popular demand by those who were keen to support us but felt that 10k was too much of a commitment. The committee is hoping for a big turn-out to clear the final payment for phase one of the playing field development.

The committee are particularly grateful to elite athletes Paul Robinson and John O'Regan who were present to help launch this years event along with the principals from both schools and Monica O'Byrne from Carton House.

Paul Robinson is a 1500m runner with St. Cocus club and has run several sub-four minute miles. Paul is looking forward to going to Rio next year for the Olympics and his "Road to Rio" campaign can be followed on Facebook.

John O'Regan is an Extreme athlete who took up running at age 31 competing in his first 5k. He has since taken part in some of the toughest and most gruelling events around the world including The North Pole, Sahara Desert and Mount Everest.

Keep in touch with the Maynooth 10k and 5k event through the website [www.maynooth10k.ie](http://www.maynooth10k.ie), Facebook, Twitter and here in the Maynooth Newsletter.

## Entry Form

Maynooth



+ 5k Family Run

## Runners Joggers Walkers

Sunday 17th May, 10.30am

First Name: \* \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \* \_\_\_\_\_

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

Gender: \* \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \* \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Number: \* \_\_\_\_\_

(Fields marked \* Must be completed. Please tick a box below to indicate the entry type.)

10k Single Entry €20 ☐ 5k Single Entry €15 ☐

Special 5k Rate for Family of 3 or more ONLY with this form €40 ☐

Completed entry forms to be returned to reception of Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road, Maynooth, in an envelope marked "Maynooth 10k" along with your entry fee.

*Check-in, parking and cloak room facilities for Maynooth 10k will be available at Maynooth Education Campus from 8:00am on Sunday the 17th May. You can check-in on Saturday 16th between 2:00pm and 4:00pm.*

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

*We wish to thank St. Patrick's College and Carton House for the use of their grounds, our many sponsors, An Garda Siochana, Maynooth Newsletter, Maynooth Education Campus PTA and all who are volunteering their time to make the day a great success.*

*On behalf of Maynooth Education Campus, we would like to invite you to our prize giving ceremony on Sun at 12.30 at the school where refreshments will be served.*

*All funds raised are used for the development of multi-purpose playing fields, a walking/running track and changing room in association with Maynooth GAA.*

## EASTER RECIPES

Easter marks the onset of spring and is a lovely time to share a relaxed meal with family and friends. With a bit of imagination you can turn any meal into a feast and the following are some recipes using traditional fare tweaked to add a little bit of flare. The Gelato is made in advance, the cake can be made a day ahead and the bacon can be boiled ready for glazing on Easter morning ensuring your Sunday is laid back and you can enjoy donning the apron without any pressure. Enjoy!!

### GLAZED LOIN OF BACON WITH PARSLEY SAUCE OVEN BAKED POTATOES AND ASPARAGUS AMANDINE



- \* 1.5kg piece of bacon skin on
- \* 1 litre sweet cider
- \* 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- \* 100g caster sugar

Turn oven to preheat 200c or gas mark 6. Place the bacon in a saucepan with a tight fitting lid and cover with cider. Simmer for 1 hour. Remove from cider leaving 100mls of the liquid. Remove the skin from the bacon leaving a little fat and score with a sharp knife. Place the bacon in an ovenproof dish fat side up and cover with the 100mls of liquid then sprinkle with sugar. Bake for 10/15 minutes.



- \* 500ml milk
- \* 50g butter
- \* 50g plain flour
- \* 1 onion peeled
- \* Bunch of chopped parsley ( keep stalks)

Heat milk, onion and parsley stalks in a pot then in a separate pan melt the butter, add the flour and cook stirring continuously for a couple of minutes making a roux. Remove the onion and stalks from the warm milk and add the roux whisking until it thickens. Add some roughly chopped parsley and season well.

Peel some potatoes and cut almost all the way through with a sharp knife. Cover with olive oil, butter and some sea salt and bake in a preheated oven 220c for 40 minutes. When potatoes are almost cooked boil some fresh asparagus till tender then plunge into cold water. Set aside and in a skillet melt 2 tablespoons of butter and add 1/4 cup sliced almonds tossing to saute, then add 2 tablespoons of diced red pepper and add the asparagus for another 2 minutes. Sprinkle with lemon juice salt and pepper and you have a real crowd pleaser for a gathering that includes young and old.

### LEMON DRIZZLE CAKE WITH DEBBIE'S GELATO

- \* 3oz self raising flour
- \* 3oz caster sugar
- \* 3oz softened butter

Finely grated zest of 1/2 lemon  
Preheat oven to gas mark 4 180c and beat together eggs, caster sugar, butter, baking powder and lemon zest until smooth. Turn into 1 lb loaf tin and bake for about 35 minutes until golden. While cake is still warm make the lemon drizzle by mixing together 2oz granulated sugar and 1/2 lemon juice and pour over cake.

- \* 500ml double cream
- \* 1 can condensed milk
- \* 2 teaspoons of vanilla essence

Pour all ingredients into a large bowl and whisk until soft peaks form. Pour into a fairly shallow container and place in the freezer for at least 5 hours or overnight if possible.

Serve on the side of your warm lemon drizzle cake to finish off your Easter feast in style.

Flavourings can be added to the Gelato by introducing wet (alcohol) at mixing stage or if you prefer fruit or chocolate you can add half way through the freezing stage.



## April Gardening

Spring weather is definitely hitting our shores, and that means there's plenty to keep you busy in the garden this month. While there will be a lot of growth, especially during mild spells, be careful for frosts and always protect new and vulnerable plants and seedlings during cold weather. Wait until later in the month to put out tender bedding plants and be prepared to protect them if the weather changes.

The soil is starting to warm up now, so lots of things will start experiencing vibrant growth. Now is the time to get mulch down before everything is covered in new spring growth. Add general purpose fertiliser before covering with mulch, especially in borders and fruit and vegetable plots and containers. If you already added mulch earlier in the year, try drawing it back a little, teasing the soil, adding fertiliser, and then replacing the mulch. Clean your garden tools and mow the grass fortnightly, more during mild periods of high growth. Gradually lower the cutting height of the blade to avoid scalping.



Continue with spring cleaning. Don't let weeds take hold, or they'll become increasingly difficult to deal with as the year continues. Annual weeds such as bitter cress and groundsel are a nightmare to remove once they seed, so keep them under control. Remove moss and weeds from paths and drives. Hoe your borders and attack ground elder when it's dry. Early

spring is a great time to dig up dandelions before they can seed. Slugs and snails will be out in force and hungry for tender new plants. Use pet-friendly slug pellets around tulips, delphiniums and hostas as well as any sprouting vegetables. Birds will use any decorative flat stones in your garden to catch and eat snails, so keeping your garden wildlife-friendly will also help keep it pest-free. Check for aphid infestations, especially when the weather is mild. Birds will be nesting, so continue feeding them.



If you have a sunny area with poor soil, plant nasturtiums for a colourful show. Too much water and fertiliser reduces the number of flowers they produce. Cut flower stalks back on daffodils, hyacinths, and other spring flowering bulbs. Do not cut the foliage until it dies naturally as the leaves are necessary to create strong bulbs capable of reflowering the next year. Prune spring-blooming shrubs such as forsythia and spirea after they have finished flowering. Transplant any trees or large shrubs by the middle of the month. Scatter annual poppy seeds in borders of flower beds. The seeds are so fine that they need no covering, and they will add early summer colour to your garden. Prune the flowered shoots of hydrangeas and winter jasmine. Dose acid-loving rhododendrons and camellias with sequestered iron. Start fertilising roses.



First early potatoes should be planted from mid-March to early April. Second earlies are planted in early April, and maincrop potatoes should be planted from mid-April onwards. If you have limited space, consider focusing primarily on early varieties. They are also less vulnerable to pests and diseases. Potatoes can be

grown in nearly any container as long as it has drainage, so you can try new varieties while making use of any old buckets, barrels, boxes or bags you have lying around. Sow peas, broad beans, brassicas, leeks, root veg, spinach, salads, chard, and hardy herbs. Start tender-veg and half-hardy annuals under cover.



Clear out debris and muck from the bottom of ponds and add it to your compost heap. Water lilies are hungry plants; these and other large plants can be fed with slow-release fertiliser tablets placed under the soil level. Start feeding fish when water temperatures reach 10C or the fish become active again.

Give your indoor plants a spring cleaning as well – dust off leaves (clean leaves allow the plant to breathe) and remove spent flowers and dead or yellowing leaves. Watch African Violets for leaf scorch as daylight increases. Pinch back the tips of foliage plants to stimulate new growth.



**So many weeds,  
so little thyme!**







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# Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Parade

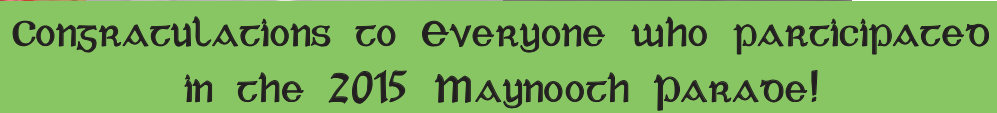


## Maynooth St. Patrick's Day best Shop fronts



beannachtaí na féile parais oraidh!







## FLEADH CHEOIL LAIGHEAN

### Golf Classic

The Fleadh Cheoil Laighean fundraising Golf Classic will take place on the 10th of April in Craddockstown Golf Club, Naas, County Kildare. This is a 4 Ball Scramble event and the entry fee for a team is €200. Tee times can be booked from 8:36am. A meal will be served after the golf and entertainment will be provided by the local Comhaltas Branches. The presentation of prizes will take place after the meal.

This promises to be a great event and we look forward to seeing you there in support of the Fleadh Cheoil Laighean, Maynooth 2015.

If you wish to provide sponsorship for the Golf Classic, the following options are available:

- Sponsor Nearest the Pin or Longest Drive
- Sponsor a tee - €120
- Sponsor a Prize

If you wish to enter a team or provide sponsorship please email or phone at:

- fleadhgolf@gmail.com
- Sandra - 087 297 7075
- Seán - 086 222 5540

### Session Trail

Fleadh Cheoil Laighean are delighted to announce details of our Session Trail. The purpose of the Session Trail is to give the local community a taste of what is to come in July and to get people into the Fleadh spirit. These will be very enjoyable nights full of music, songs and good craic. A raffle will be held at each session with great prizes on offer and finger food will be served.

The details for the Session Trail are:

- Saturday, 14th March  
@9:30 – McMahon's
- Saturday, 21st March  
@9:30 – Newtown Inn
- Saturday, 18th April  
@9:30 – Brady's
- Saturday, 9th May  
@9:30 – Maynooth GAA Club
- Saturday, 23rd May  
@9:30 – O'Neill's
- Saturday, 20th June  
@9:30 – The Roost

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Maynooth, Co. Kildare, Ireland

MAYNOOTH CASTLE KEEP ART GROUP  
17th Annual Art Exhibition  
Maynooth Post Primary School  
Saturday April 11th & Sunday April 12th  
12-5 pm - Admission Free- All Welcome



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Tidy Towns

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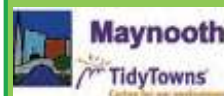
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### Maynooth Tidy Towns



St. Patrick's Day was a very busy day for Maynooth Tidy Towns with the Kavanagh and

Callaghan families getting our float ready for the parade.

Eddie Casey of Supervalu Maynooth provided the flowers and signage congratulating

Maynooth on winning Ireland's Best Kept Large Town.

St. Patrick's Day Parade was a great success so a big thank you to Naoise and team.

On Saturday 7th March Maynooth Tidy Towns met up with Leixlip Tidy Towns to clean along the Dublin Road, so between

the two of us we

collected 4

trailer loads of

discarded

material. Also our

thanks to Leixlip

Tidy Towns who

provided a picnic

after we were finished at Pikes Bridge. National Spring Clean month is April and

we will be doing this on Saturday 16th April if you wish to come along and help

for an hour or two. Our contact details are below.

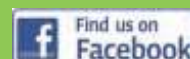
Maynooth Tidy Town are continuing their Saturday morning clean ups @ 10am

and Sunday morning clean ups @ 7.45am, we meet in the Square if you have some time to spare so please help

us to keep Maynooth clean and tidy.

Richard Farrell PRO  
087 3153189

find us on Facebook





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### Maynooth

### Self – Defence Class

Venue: Maynooth Community Space  
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# Maynooth Fianna Fáil Notes

Contact Details - e-mail: [naoiseoceanuil@gmail.com](mailto:naoiseoceanuil@gmail.com) - Mobile - (086) 728 0050

## Motions raised by Cllr. Naoise Ó Cearúil at March Municipal District

**Motion 1** - That the litter warden investigate continuous dumping at Blacklion, Maynooth and that appropriate action be taken thereafter in terms of clean-up and prosecution of perpetrators.

**Motion 2** - Can the area office carry out a review of road conditions in Laragh and see if a solution to the setup ration of roads can be found?

**Motion 3** - Can we have clarity in relation to road markings and parking outside Divine Word Missionaries, on the Moyglare Road Maynooth?

## Update re. Moyglare Hall Planning Issue:

An Bord Pleanála ruled on the appeals they received from residents in Moyglare and Moyglare Hall in relation to planning concerns. The following was the outcome;

1. The apartment block at the Walk has had permission revoked. This was the biggest concern for most residents.
2. The Vehicular Access Point on the Moyglare Road has been granted.
3. All other aspects of the permission, which were uncontested, have been upheld.

## Fianna Fáil News

### Selection Convention for General Election

The selection convention for the general election was held in the Westgrove Hotel Clane on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March. The candidates were Cllr. James Lawless and Cllr. Frank O'Rourke. At time of going to print the convention had

not taken place yet.

Local councillor Naoise Ó Cearúil has decided not to contest convention and instead focus on improving local issues in Maynooth.

## **Minister must explain over-inflated housing strategy – Cowen**

*- Govt spin culture seeps into civil service -*

Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on Environment

Barry Cowen TD has hit out at Minister Alan Kelly for knowingly overstating the number of homes the Government plans to build under its housing strategy. Emails between the Departments of Environment and Finance admit that the Government has been "spinning" the figures.

Deputy Cowen commented, "This government has been obsessed with spin since they were elected in 2011. Now this culture appears to be seeping into the civil service. This is a very serious development and needs to be addressed at Secretary General level. There has always been a proud history within the Irish civil service of being apolitical and this should not be allowed to change under this government.

"Reports today confirm an email was sent from one senior civil servant to another in Minister Alan Kelly's department. It states *"we have been spinning"* that there is sufficient land with planning permission for 46,000 units across Dublin, before revealing that *"the reality"* is that the real figure is closer to 30,000 units.

"There is no doubt that Minister Kelly is under pressure to deliver on this housing strategy as the

number of families in emergency accommodation has risen steadily despite promises to address the crisis. One of the cornerstones of that plan was the construction of tens of thousands of additional housing units. Now we learn that those figures have been overinflated, and that there is not even planning permission for many of the proposed builds.

"The Environment Minister needs to explain why he promised 46,000 units for Dublin when there was only planning permission for 30,000 units. Was he trying to deliberately mislead the public, or was it a case that he was not given the proper information by civil servants in his department?

"This is an extremely serious issue, not only because it appears as if the Minister was overinflating the figures to curry favour with the public, but also because the civil service appears to have been used to fudge the numbers. The Minister must clarify the issue without delay".

## Representations

Cllr. Naoise Ó Cearúil has been making representations on behalf of residents on a range of issues. If you have an issue or need advice please get in contact. Areas covered to date include;

- Local Issues
- Grants for Older People
- College Grants (SUSI)
- Housing Issues
- Planning Issues
- Medical Card Issues
- Business Start Ups
- Community Grants

You can contact Naoise by telephone on (086) 728 0050, email [cllrnaoise@gmail.com](mailto:cllrnaoise@gmail.com) or via [facebook.com/naoiseoceanuil](https://www.facebook.com/naoiseoceanuil)




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## *Beauty and the Beast by Leixlip Musical and Variety Group*

Earlier this year I decided to go and see the Pantomime in Leixlip which was performed by the Leixlip Musical and Variety Group. The show started at 8pm and it was a full 2 hours of laughter and entertainment. The story began in the north side of storybook-land where Belle a beautiful young lady lives. Her best friend is Bubbles who is a bit of a Ditz but will do anything for Belle. Bubbles lives with his mother Polly, she's sweet but tough, and Bubbles takes a good battering from her throughout the show.

Now there is this guy Gaston who comes from the Southside of storybook-land and is totally in love with Belle and will do anything to marry her but Belle can't stand him. Gaston has a brother who is called Cop-on and the two of them are complete and utter twits. When Belle runs into the woods she comes across the castle belonging to the Beast, also Pots, Pans and Plates live there who are all mad in their own individual way, but very loveable people. And of course Belle falls in love with the Beast and they all live happily ever after.

I must say as a spectator it was an absolutely fantastic production. Having helped out with the production the amount of work that goes into a show is unreal and I must give credit to all involved. Leixlip Musical Variety Group is staging the musical Grease on April 21st and it will be well worth going to see.

The cast for Beauty and the Beast were:

Belle – Elaine Burnton - Bubbles – Dylan McQuaid - Polly – Dave Miller  
Gaston – Brian Tighe - Pots – Aoife Masterson - Pans – Brain Philips – Plates  
Jack Flanagan - Cop-on – John Dennehy - Beast – Jordan Donnelly

Also the Dancers who did a brilliant job and of course the ever brilliant Sean Duffy who had at least 10 costume changes.





# Sudoku Challenge

**Difficult**

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

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

**Super Difficult**

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

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

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**2015**

Entries must arrive before:  
 Tuesday the 21st of April



**Congratulations to  
 March Winner:**

**Mark O'Mahoney  
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Prize winners will have 30 days to  
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## MAYNOOTH MEN'S SHED NOTES

### Launch of Tourist Brochure by Maynooth Men's Shed



On Wednesday 11th March 2015 Maynooth Men's Shed officially launched a Tourist Brochure for Maynooth. The ceremony was performed by Micheal O'Muircheartaigh in the New Scout Den, Geraldine Hall. Over 2 years ago the Men's Shed group looked around for a project that would benefit the local community. They discovered there was no tourist brochure in the town, despite the huge historical interest associated with Maynooth.

With help from several local people and organisations, in particular the History Group, a very presentable document was compiled. A special

thank you is due here to John Doogan and staff of the Newsletter. The brochures will now be distributed throughout the town, including the College and Hotels. A supply will also be sent to our twin town, Canet.

In addition to those who supplied information, Men's Shed wish to thank, those who sponsored the publication, namely Maynooth Campus and Accommodation and the Proprietor, Management and Staff of the Glenroyal Hotel, Carton House and the K Club.



### Men's Shed - Handover of premises and Boccia Ramp Project



Having waited over 2 years, Men's Shed finally have a place of our own, thanks to Vincent Flood who handed over keys to the Out Office, Garden Centre, Dublin Road at a ceremony on 20th February, 2015. We had first come in contact with Vincent last year when we entered a joint float in the St Patrick's day parade. He agreed to lease the premises rent free for two years. Up to this we had been moving between various locations. With these premises we can plan for a greater variety of projects.

Also present was Patrick (Padge) Kelly, who suffers from Motor Neurone disease. He had contacted us recently to produce a ramp for use by disabled people to play the game of Boccia, which is similar to lawn bowls. Padge, himself has qualified for the European Continental Cup in Barcelona next month. Padge's parents, Paddy and Joan were present, together with Brenda O'Donnell, Cerebral Palsy Sport Ireland.

Also on hand were members of the Maynooth/Kilcock Lions. Their President, Arthur O'Hara said he was delighted to be in a position to support Maynooth Men's Shed towards the cost of producing the Boccia ramps and will continue to do so into the future.

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## FILM MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

### FILM REVIEW: FIFTY SHADES OF GREY

#### STARS: JAMIE DORNAN & DAKOTA JOHNSON



Unless you have been living under a rock in outer Mongolia in recent months, you can't have failed to notice a slight commotion about a certain film called *50 Shades of Grey*. Based on E.L. James' sensational and phenomenally successful trilogy of books, the big-screen adaptation has been the most hyped and hotly-anticipated film of the past year. Its first sneak preview online clocked up a staggering 93 million views, making it the most watched trailer of 2014.

This erotic romance, directed by Sam Taylor-Johnson, hit cinema screens worldwide on, appropriately enough, Valentine's weekend. It details the complicated, bizarre and sensual relationship between a naive English Literature student, Anastasia Steele, and a worldly billionaire entrepreneur called Christian Grey. Ana (played by Dakota Johnson) first encounters the mysterious Grey (Jamie Dornan) when she interviews the Seattle businessman for her college magazine.



The initial meeting between Ana and Christian is awkward, tense and uncomfortable even. Still, enough sparks fly to ensure this will not be a one-off. For some reason, Anastasia's hesitant, clumsy (she literally falls into his office) ingénue attracts the attention of the very attractive, smart, but intimidating CEO. Christian, in his bespoke grey suit, glowers and pouts his perfectly-formed lips at the impressionable young girl as he chides her for her intrusive line of questioning – "I exercise control in all things Miss Steele".

Ana escapes from Grey and the offices of Grey Building into the grey Seattle skyline to wonder what the heck that was all about. There's a lot of grey in *50 Shades*! Christian, in turn, proceeds to pursue a not unwilling Ana and even turns up, out-of-the-blue, at the hardware store where she works part-time.



However, here's the catch: Christian Grey's interest in Ana stretches far beyond the boundaries of a normal romance. As she soon discovers, Christian doesn't do "hearts and flowers". He has something completely different in mind for the inexperienced Anastasia. By way of explanation, he tells the blue-eyed undergraduate that his "tastes are very singular". Even a warning from the young billionaire – "you should steer clear of me" – doesn't frighten away the clearly enamoured student.

Her infatuation (spurred on, no doubt, by his impressive display of pecs!) is matched in intensity by Christian's, and he's soon introducing her to his 'playroom' and those - ahem - 'tastes'. Ana quickly finds herself out of her depth and wading through contractual and emotional complications as she becomes ever more deeply involved with the strange but charismatic Christian Grey.



*50 Shades of Grey* began life as *Twilight* fan fiction. Under the pseudonym of SnowQueens Icedragon,

James penned her *Masters of the Universe* tribute to Stephenie Meyer's books online. The pale-faced Bella was transformed into the unsophisticated Anastasia, and vampire Edward Cullen's thirst for blood was replaced with Christian Grey's appetite for BDSM practices.

Relative newcomers Dakota Johnson and Jamie Dornan share a sizzling chemistry onscreen. Johnson is fresh-faced with the kind of unpolished natural beauty of a Charlotte Gainsbourg. As the college girl, the actress exudes vulnerability, dignity, feistiness and humour in equal measure. We chart Ana's progress from wide-eyed innocence to womanly confidence in her unusual relationship with the damaged but fascinating Grey.



Northern-Irish actor Jamie Dornan is a perfect match for the character of Christian Grey as written by E.L. James. With his tousled dark-copper coloured locks, striking grey eyes and model looks, he easily incarnates the fantasy male figure beloved of millions of women. Dornan is most recognisable for his role as the serial killer, Paul Spector, in the BBC series *The Fall*. The actor seems to be cornering the market in playing sexy psychopaths who tie women up! Dornan's Christian is somewhat aloof, imperious, stand-offish, controlling and tormented by turns but has enough smouldering presence to light up both Ana and the screen.



So what is the attraction of *50 Shades of Grey* apart from the Dornan factor? With a female audience patently in mind, the book is essentially a Mills and Boons love story, albeit with the added bite of kinky subversion. Although literary purists would balk at this comparison, E.L. James has clearly been influenced by the troubled relationships of classic Romance novels such as *Jane Eyre* and *Wuthering Heights*. Grey - dark, brooding and tortured - is a modern-day equivalent to a Rochester or Heathcliff. His guilty secret, though, is not of the 'mad woman in the attic' variety but rather, as Ana terms it, involves a "red room of pain".



Perhaps the most interesting thing about *50 Shades of Grey* is the off-screen antics which surrounded the making of the film. E.L. James retained an extraordinary amount of control over her novel and characters once the film rights were snapped up by Universal Studios. For this very reason, director Sam Taylor-Johnson and E.L. James shared an acrimonious and, according to some commentators, 'toxic' relationship on set.

The two women continually locked horns in how they envisioned the *50 Shades of Grey* story playing out. Taylor-Johnson's background as an artist saw her pushing for a more imaginative, classier screen interpretation of the novel. She pictured *50 Shades of Grey* as a 'dark fairy-tale' while E.L. James wanted to please her fans by retaining the veracity of the book's numerous depictions of carnality.

Script writer Kelly Marcel was brought in to punch some shape into E.L. James's notoriously lumbering and repetitive prose. Anastasia's 'Inner Goddess'

monologues and a dizzying number of 'double craps' have been dispensed with for the film version! Instead Marcel coaxes out the latent humour in the situations involving Ana and Christian.



As Christian does a spot of shopping for cable ties, rope and masking tape (billionaires can't get the staff these days!) in Ana's place of work, she quips - "You're the complete serial killer!" A boardroom meeting with a difference witnesses a hard-bargaining Ana and a frisky Christian teasing out the implications of a Dominant/Submissive relationship. Their interaction here is funny, playful and mischievous with Ana expertly turning the tables on a flustered Christian.

However, director Taylor-Johnson struggles to keep this early momentum going throughout the film. Inevitably, she is unable to deliver on the huge expectations of such an albatross as *50 Shades of Grey*. Disappointment in all its shades is the end result. Fans of the book may despair at the exclusion of favourite scenes and of the scenes left in, some seem so rushed as to be pointless and unsatisfactory. There's also a lot more warmth and cheeky banter between the book's Christian and Ana than this film will allow. People not acquainted with E.L. James may just wonder what all the fuss is about!



Still, there are some pleasures to be had. Christian Grey does a nice line in silk grey ties, riding crops, helicopters, cars and gliders! The production values in the film are as high, sleek and gorgeous to look at as his designer glass-covered penthouse. The soundtrack is exquisite and Beyoncé's slowed-down version of 'Crazy in Love' is used to mesmerising effect in one crucial scene between Dakota Johnson and Jamie Dornan.



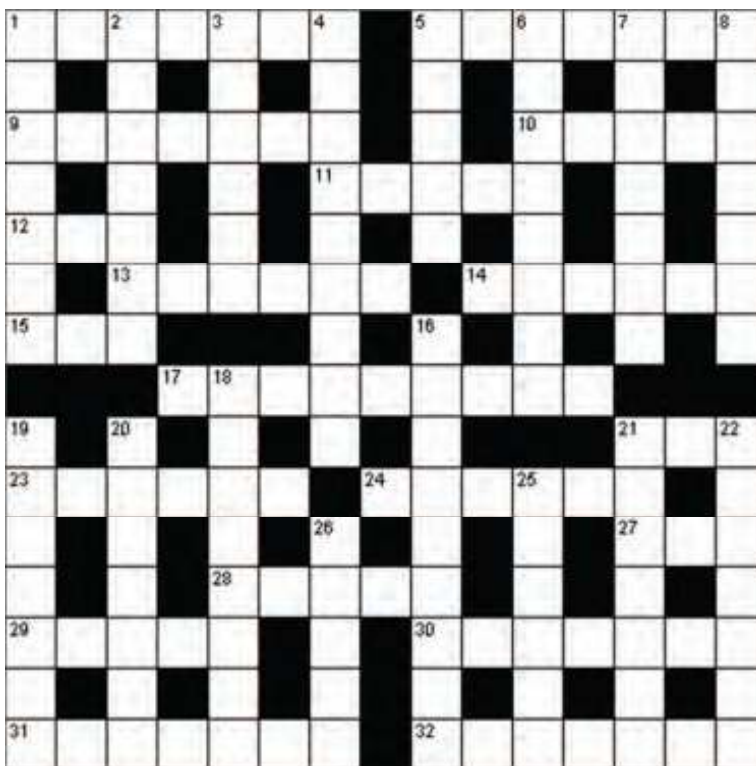
In the end, the elegant blonde director of *50 Shades of Grey* has fashioned a stylish if decidedly conservative take on James' source novel. It is *Cinderella* meets *The Dark Knight*. The emphasis is squarely on the love story between the two key characters, and the renowned explicit scenes of James's novel have been pared right back to make the film acceptable to a mainstream audience. Dakota Johnson and Jamie Dornan's couplings on screen might push a few boundaries but are tastefully, sensually executed and in little danger of shocking your maiden aunt or the horses! As Ana attempts to bring her Mr 50 Shades into the light, the film ends on an abrupt, unexpected note. Don't worry, a sequel is on its way – *Later Baby!*





**Clues Across****April Crossword - No: 434****Clues Down**

1. Continue to live (7)
5. Objects (7)
9. Petroleum well (3,4)
10. Land measures (5)
11. Foe (5)
12. A container (3)
13. Settle in a camp (6)
14. Forgiveness (6)
15. Slender bar (3)
17. Elated (9)
21. Silent (3)
23. Hang loosely (6)
24. Sucking fish (6)
27. Fish (3)
28. Overhead (5)
29. Small tree (5)
30. Ailment (7)
31. Breeding place of rooks (7)
32. Room for infants (7)



1. Drool (7)
2. Informal (7)
3. Conciliatory (6)
4. Town near Oswestry (9)
5. Possessed (5)
6. Companion of a child (8)
7. Burial clothes (7)
8. Postpone (7)
16. Monarch (9)
18. Having considerable worth (8)
19. Counsellor (7)
20. Experience (7)
21. Sword-like knife (7)
22. Lack of vanity (7)
25. Stableman (6)
26. This present day (5)

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## Maynooth World War One Dead

On 21 February 2015, Maynooth Local History Group hosted a series of talks and an exhibition in the Glenroyal Hotel in Maynooth on 'History, Memory & Commemoration – Aspects of World War One, Ireland, Kildare & Maynooth'. The purpose of the event was to remember, or as one historian has put it, 'to rediscover' the men and women who fought in World War One.

During the last ten years, in addition to the study of the course of the war itself, increased emphasis has been placed on individuals and groups and the part they played in the major events that took place in Ireland, Europe and elsewhere between the years 1914 and 1918. This has added a further dimension to the conflict – that of human experience.

Irish history, similar to the history of many other countries, is a nuanced and complex subject. Family histories are also nuanced and complex in that there can be many opposing opinions and many legitimate points of view.

In 1901, James Kent, a retired member of the Royal Irish Constabulary and an Irish speaker, was living with his daughter and four of his sons at Fairview Avenue in Clontarf, Dublin. One of his sons, Edward Thomas, then aged 19, worked as a clerk in Dublin Corporation. Another son, William, had joined the British Army and had taken part in the Boer War in South Africa.

A search of the 1911 Census failed to locate Edward Thomas Kent. Then with a bit of lateral thinking, he was found. In 1911 Éamonn Ceannt is 'Pósta' (married) and is living in Kilmainham with his wife Áine (bean Éamonn Ceannt) and his son, Rónán aged 4, and is still working as a 'cléireach' (clerk). The census form is clearly written in beautiful Gaelic script. James Kent had passed on the love of the Irish language to his son.

As is now well known, Edward Kent became politically active and as Éamonn Ceannt, Commandant, 4th Battalion of the Irish Volunteers, was one of the seven signatories of the 1916 Proclamation and was executed after the Rising. He was 34 years of age. He is remembered on the Memorial at Arbour Hill Cemetery in Dublin.

Sgt William Kent served with the 1st Battalion of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers in World War One. He was killed at Arras in northern France on 24 April 1917 – one year to the date after the Rising in Dublin. His age is not recorded. He is remembered on the Arras Memorial in Pas de Calais in France.

Irishmen, from the Middle Ages to the Vietnam War and to the present day have enlisted in overseas armies. Their motivation for doing so has been documented elsewhere. What may be less well-known is that in the final three months of World War One, from August to November 1918, c. 10,000 Irishmen voluntarily enlisted in the British Army. This was at a time (and almost two years after the Easter Rising of 1916) when the horrors attributed to an all-out 'industrial war' on a scale that had never before been experienced were well-known. What was their motivation?

With regard to World War One, when one examines the overall scale of deaths and casualties, numbers become meaningless. However, on a local scale, every town and village in Ireland was affected by the war. It is estimated that c. 600 from the county of Kildare died either during the war or afterwards from the effects of war. It is further estimated that c. twenty came from the town of Maynooth and surrounding area. They came from the town itself, including Parson's Street, Greenfield and

Buckley's Lane. They came from Moyglare, Crewhill, Carton and Grangewilliam. These are the men who died. It is much more difficult to trace the names of those who survived.

The majority of those who died were young men in their 20s – young men without family responsibilities. This is evident from the fact that in the 'Informal Wills' that survive and which are available to view online at the National Archives in Dublin, many of the young wrote, in pencil, "In the event of my death I give the whole of my property and effects to my mother ..."

Where are these young men remembered? When the war was over they were, of course, remembered by their families, friends and neighbours. If we are to take a conservative figure of 35,000 Irish war dead, this means that after 1918 at least 500,000 people in Ireland were in deep mourning for the loss of a loved one, and some families lost more than one member. Their loss was compounded by the circumstances in which the men died and the fact that in the short term, families had no body to mourn over and in the long term, many had no known grave.

Today, the Maynooth war dead are remembered in various cemeteries and on various memorials that are scattered throughout Europe and the Middle East and elsewhere.

They are remembered in Prowse Point Military Cemetery and at the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial in Belgium. They are remembered in Bailleul Communal Cemetery, in St Sever Cemetery, Rouen, at the Loos Memorial, in Calais Southern Cemetery, in Noeux-Les-Mines Communal Cemetery, in Quarry Cemetery, Montauban, at the Thiepval Memorial, and in the Villiers-Faucon Communal Cemetery – all in France. They are remembered at V Beach Cemetery on the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey and at the Jerusalem Memorial in what was then Palestine – now Israel.

A few (who survived the war, but died a few years later)



are remembered in Ireland, at the Glasnevin Memorial in Dublin, in Moyglare Church of Ireland Churchyard at Moyglare and in Maynooth (Lady's Chapel) Graveyard at Maynooth.

We know of one young man from Maynooth who survived the war. He worked as a barman and enlisted in the Royal Navy in June 1915 when he was 18 years of

age. He served as a stoker on various depot ships including the HMS Titania which was a depot ship for submarines. Titania was described as a floating power station that provided power to submarines that moored alongside her. She also operated a powerful wireless transmitter acting as a 24-hour navigational aid to submarines and other vessels off the coast in the North Sea. This young man was honourably discharged in 1927.

We know of one young woman from Maynooth who in January 1918 at 21 years of age applied to join the newly established Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (WAACS). Her motivation for applying may have had something to do with the fact that she had lost a brother, aged 20, who was killed 'going over the top' on the first day of the Battle of the Somme on 1 July, 1916. She was to lose a second brother (age not given) who was killed in action, also in France on 21 March, 1918.



With heavy losses on the Western Front in 1916, the British Army became concerned by its reduced number of fighting soldiers. It was suggested to the War Office that far too many men were doing what they called 'soft jobs'. After talks with the government it was decided to use women to replace men doing certain administrative jobs in Britain and in France. These men could then be sent to the front. Over 57,000 women from Britain and Ireland served in the WAACs between January 1917 and November 1918 – with a number of them serving in France. The corps was disbanded in September 1921.

The last word goes to a soldier who took part in the Battle of Nablus (19-25 Sept 1918) on the northern West Bank in Palestine during the final months of the campaign: "Dead men and animals, torn with ruthless bombs, swollen and distorted, stank fearfully. Many of the animals still lived in speechless agony, and some of the wretched wounded were in many cases pinned down by carrion, but there was no time to stop and help them. That was for others who came behind. War is hell, and looks well only in a picture show." (C G Powles & Wilkie, 1922).

**Rita Edwards**

**Maynooth Local History Group**

**16 March 2015**

Maynooth Local History Group would like to acknowledge the support of Kildare County Council Library & Arts Services towards the hosting of the above mentioned event. Further details regarding the Maynooth War Dead may be accessed on request from the Reference Library at Maynooth Community Library, Main Street, Maynooth.



# Know Your Rights

## Rent-a-room relief

### Question

I heard that I can get a tax exemption if I rent out a room in my home. How does this work?

### Answer

If you rent out a room or rooms in your home as residential accommodation, the income you earn is exempt from tax, provided the total paid by the tenant (s) is not more than €12,000 in a tax year (this was €10,000 from 2008 to 2014) and you satisfy the qualifying conditions for the relief (for example, the relief does not apply to rent payable by your child). This is called rent-a-room relief. It applies to a room or rooms in your home – which can include a self-contained unit such as a basement flat or a converted garage. The relief does not apply to rooms that are not attached to your home.

You must live in your home as your sole or main residence during the tax year for which you are claiming the relief. You do not have to own the property – you could be a tenant and be sub-letting to someone else. (In such cases, you would have to check with your own landlord that sub-letting is allowed.) Your tenant(s) must be using the room as residential accommodation. For example, you can claim relief if you are renting a room to a student for the academic year, but not if you are taking in short-term guests.

Renting a room in your home is not covered by landlord and tenant legislation so you do not have to register as a landlord with the Private Residential Tenancies Board (PRTB), provide a rent book to the tenant or ensure that the accommodation meets any minimum physical standards. The gross income you receive cannot be more than the relevant limit for the year in question. This includes sums that the tenant pays to you for food, utilities, laundry or similar goods and services. When you are working out whether the gross income is more than the limit, you cannot deduct any costs you incurred in earning that income. If your income from rent and other services is over the limit, the profits from the entire income (not just the amount over the limit) are taxable.

If you qualify for rent-a-room relief, the income is not liable to PRSI, the Universal Social Charge or income tax. Claiming rent-a-room relief does not affect your mortgage interest relief or your exemption from Capital Gains Tax (CGT) if you sell your home. You do not have to claim rent-a-room relief as it applies automatically. However, if you are submitting an annual tax return you must record the amount of the exempt income on the return.

Further information is available from the Citizens Information Centre below and from [revenue.ie](http://revenue.ie).

## Changes to the One-Parent Family Payment

### Question

I'm getting a One-Parent Family Payment. I know that the age limits for the payment will be changing in July. What's happening and how will it affect me?

### Answer

On 2 July 2015 the age limit for the One-Parent Family Payment (OFP) will reduce to 7 years for most claimants. This means that a large number of people will no longer qualify for OFP from July 2015 because their youngest child will be over the age limit. If your youngest child is aged under 7 you can continue to qualify for OFP. (There are exemptions to

the age limit for people parenting alone who are getting a Domiciliary Care Allowance or who have been recently bereaved.)

If your payment is ending in July 2015 the Department of Social Protection (DSP) will write to tell you the date your payment ends. You may also be requested to attend an information seminar. At this seminar you will get information about the other social welfare payments that may be available to you and help with applying for these. It is very important that you attend the seminar so you fully understand your options and so that you are not left without a payment when your OFP ends in July.

If you are getting Family Income Supplement or a carer's payment this payment will automatically be adjusted when your OFP ends and you will not be invited to a seminar.

You may also qualify for the new Back to Work Family Dividend (BTWFD). If you are getting FIS and your OFP is ending in July 2015, you will be sent an application form for the BTWFD along with the letter explaining the changes to your OFP payment.

If you were getting a One-Parent Family Payment in the last 3 years and your youngest child is aged under 14 you may qualify for the Jobseeker's Allowance transitional arrangement. This arrangement allows you to work part-time and still receive a partial payment.

You can get more information and advice on these changes at your social welfare local office or Intreo centre or your nearest Citizens Information Centre.

## Getting married abroad

### Question

My partner and I are getting married next year. We are planning to travel abroad for the ceremony. What do we need to do?

### Answer

If either you or your partner are Irish citizens and you are thinking of getting married outside Ireland, the legal validity of your marriage is governed, in part, by the laws of the country in which you marry. In most, if not all cases, the legal formalities abroad are very different to those in Ireland. For example, a church marriage abroad is usually a purely religious ceremony with no legal effect. Because it is not recognised in law in the country in which it takes place, it cannot be regarded as a legal marriage in Ireland. This is the case even though a marriage in the same church or denomination in Ireland is legally binding. This is because the religious ceremony is recognised in Ireland as a civil contract.

It is very important, therefore, that you make sure to meet all the legal requirements of the country you are marrying in. You should contact the civil registration office in that country to find out what is required. You may decide to have a civil marriage in Ireland followed by a religious ceremony abroad.

Although you must meet the foreign requirements, you are still bound by Irish law as far as the capacity to marry is concerned. For example, your marriage abroad will not be recognised under Irish law if one or both of you was ordinarily resident in Ireland and one or both of you was aged under 18 at the time of the marriage and did not have a Court Exemption Order.

Marriages that take place outside the State are not normally registered in Ireland. They are usually registered in the country where they occur. Your foreign marriage certificate will usually be accepted for official purposes in Ireland if you need to show evidence that you are married. If the certificate is in a foreign language, you must provide an official translation or a translation from a recognised translation agency.

You may require a Certificate of Freedom to Marry to get married in some foreign countries. This may also be called "Certificat de Coutume" or "Certificate of Nulla Osta". You apply online to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for a Certificate of Freedom to Marry.

## Medical card holders and prescription charges

### Question

I am a medical card holder. I have just realised that I am paying more than the monthly cap of €25 for our family's prescriptions. Why did this happen and can I get a refund?

### Answer

If you have a medical card, you are charged €2.50 for each prescription item you receive. Usually your pharmacy keeps records of how much you have paid and makes sure that you do not pay more than €25 each month on prescription charges. However, you may use different pharmacies in the same month or your family members may not have the same medical card number (for example, if a different doctor is used) and you may end up paying more than the cap of €25 per family per month.

If a person or family pays more than €25 in a month, the Health Service Executive (HSE) will issue a refund at the end of the quarter, without you needing to apply. This is done on the basis of the information received from your pharmacy.

However, if you think that you have not received the refund due you can also claim directly from the HSE using claim form PC1 (which you can download from [medicalcard.ie](http://medicalcard.ie), collect at your Local Health Office or get by phoning 1890 252 919 (Monday to Friday, 9am–5pm).)

You can set your family up as a family group on [medicalcard.ie](http://medicalcard.ie) and print off a family certificate to give to your pharmacist. This will show all of the members of your family so that the pharmacy will not collect charges above the monthly limit. Your family is defined as you, your spouse or partner, any children under 16 years of age and any children between 16 and 21 years of age who are in full time education.

If you do not have access to the internet you can ask your Local Health Office to help with setting up a family group. You can also call 1890 252 919 or your local pharmacist may be able to help you. Further information is available from the Citizens Information Centre below.

**Maynooth CIC, Dublin Road, Maynooth**  
**Know Your Rights has been compiled by Citizens Information Service which provides a free and confidential service to the public. Information is also available online at [citizensinformation.ie](http://citizensinformation.ie) and from the Citizens Information Phone Service : 0761 07 4000.**



# McDonald's Maynooth

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k	z	j	s	p	r	i	n	g	u
x	l	b	q	o	h	q	v	z	d
d	a	b	w	q	o	b	v	m	n
x	l	u	w	n	x	q	r	r	e
b	v	n	l	z	r	d	b	f	a
a	y	n	r	m	y	r	d	x	s
s	b	y	c	h	i	c	k	s	t
k	f	l	o	w	e	r	m	w	e
e	k	r	u	f	t	r	d	n	r
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easter

basket

bunny

spring

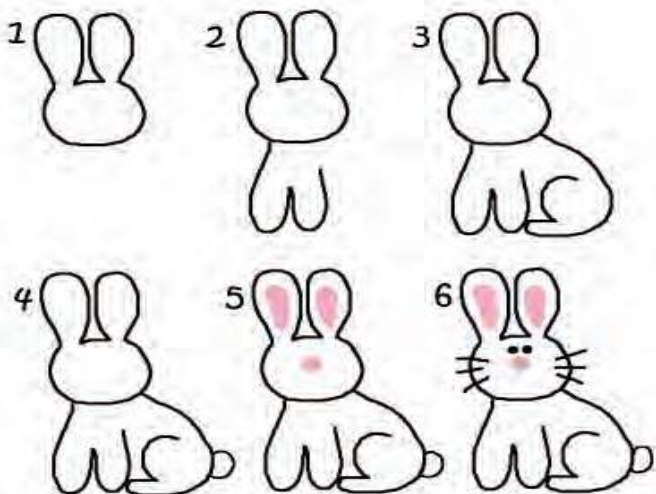
egg

chicks

flower



### Learn to Draw an Easter Bunny



### McDonalds Children's Colouring Competition

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

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#### March Winners:

Age: 3 - 5: No Entries

Age: 6 - 7: Evelyn Fagan,  
Castle Dawson, MaynoothAge: 8 & Over: Jack Egan,  
Newtown Hall, Maynooth

Prizes for Colouring Competition can be collected at:

**Maynooth Community Council Office, Unit 5, Tesco Shopping Centre.  
Entries must arrive before: Tuesday 21st April 2015**





# **McDonald's Advert**

# Maynooth Post Primary School Musical 2015



Maynooth Post Primary School performed their 21st annual musical extravaganza “Jesus Christ Superstar” to awesome acclaim in early February. The efforts of Teachers, Pupils and all those involved was evident in the quality of the production. The annual musical production has become one of the highlights of the entertainment scene throughout the year. The photos above give a small flavour of the show. Congratulations to all involved.

@fleadhlaighean

## Fleadh Session Trail

*Come and sample the fun! Get into the Fleadh spirit!*

Saturday 14 March McMahon's 9:30pm	Saturday 21 March Newtown Inn 9:30pm
Saturday 18 April Brady's 9:30pm	Saturday 9 May GAA Club 9:30pm
Saturday 23 May O'Neill's 9:30pm	Saturday 20 June The Roost 9:30pm

**Fingerfood, Raffle, Ceol & Craic**  
Entertainment provided by local CCE branches & local musicians

[www.leinsterfleadh.ie](http://www.leinsterfleadh.ie)

**Fleadh Cheoil**  
Laighean Maigh Nuad  
2015

Celebrate Women's Day together #getinthering #womensday

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- 30-minute workout
- Designed for women
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\*Offer based on first visit and recruitment; minimum 12 month membership; 1 hour membership only. Not valid with any other offer. Valid only at participating locations from 3/3/15-30/4/15. ©2015 Curves International, Inc.



# La Maison

## DONATELLO's

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OPENING HOURS: Mon-Sat: 5pm till late | Sun: 4pm till late

Our new stylish & elegant décor alongside an exquisite menu of rustic French dishes & authentic Italian cuisine delivers a new concept of dining.

Sample from our extensive Menu

French	Italian
<p><b>Soups &amp; Light</b></p> <p>Pate de Campagne Potée Oignonnet Oie Tartine Alpengue M</p> <p><b>Main Courses:</b></p> <p>Concise Guinea Fowl Succulent of Guinea Fowl with a Pumpkin and White Potatoes, Cardamom, Juniper berry glaze and Potato Fondant</p> <p>Butternut Squash Risotto (V) Risotto with fresh Sage, turbot oil and parmesan shavings</p> <p>Beef Bourguignon Beef marinated in a Burgundy Red Jus &amp; slowly braised for 8 hours with a typical French bouquet garni and a Maitre d' Herby</p> <p><b>Fillet of Irish Beef</b> 10 oz prime dry aged &amp; hung premium Irish Beef Fillet seared on extreme high heat and pan fried, with a choice of sauces. * Black Peppercorn * Fungus Mushrooms * Cauliflower Puree Butter</p>	<p><b>Pop Corn</b></p> <p>Insalata Caprese di Bresaola Bruschetta al Pomodoro (V) Antipasto Misto Chicken Wings Crostini</p> <p><b>Main Courses:</b></p> <p>Penne Misticiana Spaghetti Bolognese Penne Al'Arrabbiata (V) Spaghetti Carbonara Linguine con Cozze Lasagne Chicken Marli Bianca Polo Rusticana Polo Parmigiano Fillet Pizzola Plus our full Gourmet Pizza Menu</p>



*In the city of Dublin, at no distance date.  
We resolved on a Tostal ----a sort of fate  
In the culture of Europe we wished to take part  
So we made it a feast of Theatrical Art.  
Tooralay . Tooraloo  
And we got a few bob from Bord Failite too----*

The above was a satirical look at a festival which was introduced to celebrate all things Irish. It consisted of parades, sporting events, chess championships, music, ballet and theatre.

The name of the festival was An Tostal. Hands up who remembers this very ambitious event. The idea was to celebrate the best of all things Irish and in turn attract lots of tourists to our green and pleasant land. The success of this would show that Ireland could hold its own in Europe and further afield as a tourist destination. An Tostal means Pageant or as some people called it "Ireland at home" The Festival, which was opened by President Sean T O'Kelly, took place all over Ireland from 1953 to 1958. It's still celebrated today in Drumshambo.

As a permanent fixture to remember the festival, a large copper bowl was placed on O'Connell Bridge, called the Bowl of Light. Surrounded by flowers this represented a new modern Ireland. Unfortunately not everyone liked it. A controversy over the design and what it stood for caused a bit of a stir. In 1958, a Trinity student, who was apparently offended by the installation, dumped it into Anna Livia. I wonder if that student's grandson is the student who leaves empty bottles on my front wall every Thursday night! The festival ended in 1958 but it proved to be a good sound idea for attracting tourists. The festival was helped along with the release in 1952 of the film The Quiet Man. This was also seen as a great asset to tourism.

An Tostal was responsible for the formation of some aspects of Irish life which still have an impact today. Firstly the Tidy Towns and we don't have to look any further than outside our lovely town of Maynooth to know and see just what an asset this is - a big thank you to all involved. And secondly the All Ireland Drama Festival which started in 1953 as a result of a grant from Board Failte as part of the An Tostal festival. This festival is now sponsored by RTE and is held each year in Athlone. It represents the best of Irish amateur drama. The standard gets higher every year and the spirit of An Tostal lives on.

The most memorable event of An Tostal was performed in Croke Park in 1955. It was called The Pageant of St. Patrick and was to celebrate the life of Patrick. Nearly every professional actor in Ireland was employed with hundreds of extras. People marvel at Cecil B DeMill when he filmed his epic Ben Hur. Sorry Cecil, but Ben was only in the halfpenny place compared to this! Even by today's standards, this was a logistical miracle. It starred Anew McMaster as St. Patrick and was scripted by his brother in law, Michael MacLiammoir and directed by Hilton Edwards. Not only did Hilton Edwards have to direct actors he had to contend with sheep, horses, wolfhounds, fireworks, Red Branch Knights, ravens and 800 extras from the parish of Drimnagh. These young people were from youth sodalities and confraternities. It ran for 10 nights with great success and it brought lots of people into the world of amateur and professional drama. It got the international coverage the festival was designed to get. Pearse himself would surely have approved of this Celtic Pageantry - young men and women of Ireland running free round Croke Park! I'm sure President O'Kelly and the Government were more than happy with the result.

The 50s in Ireland were not all in black and white. At times there were bursts of glorious colour. There are lots of great stories connected with An Tostal which we will revisit again.

And now, a large round of applause to Insight Theatre Group Celbridge and their production of "The Hunt for Red Willie" which ran from the 18th to 28th March. A great night's entertainment from Michael Giblin and his crew. Happy Easter.

By Terry Nealon

## Albums in the Attic

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# Labour Advice Service



**Emmet Stagg TD**

**Every Monday at 4.00 pm in  
McMahon's  
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(Except Bank Holiday Weekends)**

**Dáil contact Numbers  
01-6183013/6183797**