



Maynooth newsletter



Serving the people of Maynooth

March 2015

local news

FREE



St. Patrick's Day Parade Tuesday 17th March 2015

Starting at 11am from Greenfield Shopping Centre. Entry forms available at the Community Council Office

MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY SPACE RECEIVES A FACELIFT



The new bright Maynooth Community Space has opened its doors this month after undergoing a complete makeover.

Situated at Unit 11/12, Maynooth Tesco Shopping Centre, Carton Park, the Space has been up & running on this site since 2013.

Supplied by Tesco as a community space under lease to Kildare County Council, it is managed on a day to day basis by Maynooth Community Council. Great credit is due to the Parents & Toddlers Group for the interior painting done during the Summer - greatly assisted by the Men's Shed.

As it is community orientated, it serves many groups within the community on a weekly/daily basis. The Space is just part of the benefit to Maynooth from Maynooth Community Council's Community Employment Scheme. The CE scheme also maintains the Harbour area and canal paths from Jackson's Bridge to Pikes Bridge, supplies staff to maintain Maynooth Town F.C.'s facilities on the Rathcoffey Road and provide staff to both Accord and IECON in St Patrick's College. CE staff in the Community Council office in Carton Park also produce the monthly Maynooth Newsletter, assist in the organising of the St Patrick's Day Parade, Summer Festival and provide support for groups such as Maynooth Tidy Towns and The Maynooth 1916 Centenary Committee.

For further information on the work of Maynooth Community Council see contact information at the bottom of this page.

THE "MARCH HARE" 5K RUN-JOG-WALK

Carton Avenue
29th March 2015

Charity Fundraiser 5k -
in aid of Sports Facility
Maynooth Educate Together
National School.



29th March 2015
Race Start Time: 2pm
Venue: Carton Avenue
Maynooth
Register Online: Precision
Timing
or register on day @ event

5K RUN- WALK- JOG



La Maison Donatello

**3 Course Special Set Menu for 2 people
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****Special Menu Available by presenting this token only to Donatello's****

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All booking subject to availability with other rules applying (see webpage).

Token valid until March 31st 2015.

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Valid Mon to Sunday, but limited availability Friday & Saturday evening.

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or Public Holidays or Special occasion days.

Voucher must be presented to restaurant with max 1 voucher per table.

Town Centre Mall, Maynooth - Tel: 01 6289660 -email info@donatellos.info - www.donatellos.info

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



Maynooth Community Council, Unit 5, Maynooth Shopping Centre, Phone -01-6285922 - Email maynoothcc@eircom.net

No 433

Oak Alley Restaurant & Cocktail Bar

AS THEY DO IT DOWN IN NEW ORLEANS

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



New Live Music Act in Oak Alley Every Saturday...

"Maria Butterfly" - Performing an intimate acoustic set in the Oak Alley Restaurant, every Saturday, 7.30pm-10.30pm with exquisite contemporary food, elegant setting & great atmosphere plus most important great music"



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Whether dropping by for a friendly drink, food or settling in to watch the match, we are sure you will find a warm welcome with great service and a comfortable setting to ensure your stay is a pleasant and memorable one.
We look forward to seeing you soon.

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www.maynoothvets.com

O'Dwyer and Jones
Veterinary Surgeons

Caring for Your Pets



Maynooth Veterinary Clinic,
Newtown Grove, Maynooth, Co. Kildare
(01) 6289467
maynoothvet@gmail.com

Eden Veterinary Clinic,
Dublin Rd, Edenderry, Co. Offaly
046 9772700
edenderryvet@gmail.com

Clane Veterinary Clinic
7 The Mall, Clane, Co. Kildare
045 982763
clanevet@gmail.com

Donal O'Dwyer MVB MRCVS, Patrick Jones MVB MRCVS & Associates

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Outside Ireland - Pet Grooming - Collection & Delivery to Your Home**



**The only 24/7 emergency on call vet service located in Maynooth
(Restricted to registered clients)**



DENTAL PROBLEMS



Pups have 28 temporary or "milk teeth". Cats have 26. Pups develop permanent teeth the last of which will generally have erupted around 6-7 months. Adult dogs will have 42 permanent teeth, each with a crown and root. Cats will have 30. Puppies will often be seen biting and chewing on

anything: slippers, carpets, skirting boards! This behaviour is due in part to the "teething" process as seen in babies and with time this behaviour should disappear.

Dental disease can affect up to 80% of dogs over 3 years of age. Dental plaque can turn into tartar, a crust deposited on teeth, this can lead to bacteria increase in the mouth and will cause tooth decay and "halitosis" otherwise known as bad breath. Bad breath is not natural for your dog or cat. Your dog's general health is directly affected by its dental health. Bacteria from your pet's mouth can be absorbed into the blood stream causing possible heart and kidney problems. In cats, feline leukaemia virus can alter the defence mechanism and can cause a severe gingivitis. It is probably easier to detect dental problems in cats than in dogs. Cats will behave as if they want to eat, will go to their dish but will not be able to eat! They will show salivation (dribbling), rubbing their face against objects and will lose considerable weight. As a general rule it is hard to detect pain from a dog



and this is where a 6 month check-up in Maynooth Veterinary Clinic (01 6289467) or Clane Veterinary Clinic (045 982763) can be very productive in treating and preventing dental disease.

Dental care can start early in a pup's life by getting it accustomed to having its teeth cleaned. A soft toothbrush can be used with a pet toothpaste.



Feeding your dog and cat dry food can help prevent dental tartar developing. In many cases problems have advanced too far and a dental scaling is necessary for your dog or cat to reduce the plaque and dental bacteria. This entails an anaesthetic and the teeth are scaled and polished and sometimes extractions are necessary. In some of our older patients a pre-anaesthetic blood test is required to determine kidney and liver function.

Dental scaling is a procedure that dramatically improves the general health and well being of your pet.



Bethany Bereavement Support Group

COPING WITH LOSS

A TALK

by

Brid Carroll - Counsellor and Psychotherapist

If you have lost a loved one by sudden or traumatic death or after a long illness this talk may help you on your journey of grief and loss.

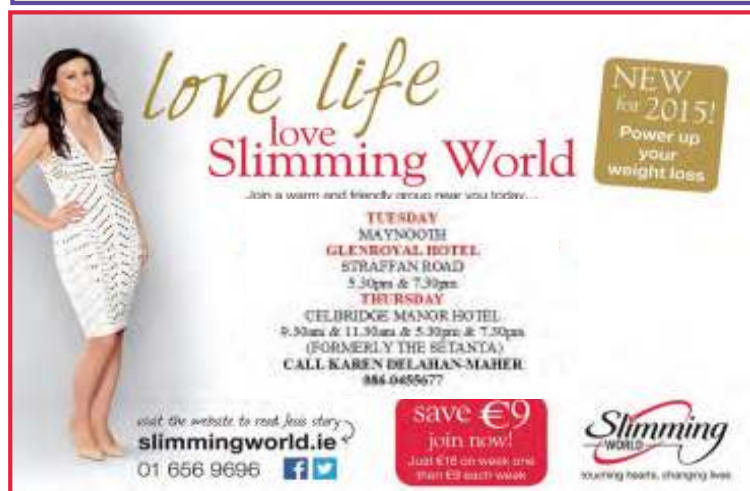
Venue

Glenroyal Hotel
Straffan Road, Maynooth
(admission free)

8.00 pm Wednesday 11th March 2015

www.bethany.ie

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Carton Veterinary Clinic
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Reception Opening Hours:

9am - 7:45pm Monday - Friday, 9am - 4pm Saturday
(Veterinary visits are by appointment only.)

24 hour emergency service

www.myvet.ie

Community Council Notes

Local Matters

Lack of Garda Personnel in Maynooth:

The Chair spoke of his recent worrying experience in trying to contact a garda in the local station during their stated opening times, when eventually referred to Leixlip was told that someone would get back to him which did not happen. It was not a pleasant experience. It was pointed out that North Kildare has the lowest gardaí population ratio. It was agreed to send a letter to the Garda Commissioner.

Parking for daily Mass attendees:

The chair raised concerns that were expressed to him about the lack of parking for daily mass goers. The elderly cannot be expected to walk a much distance, very often they do not like to use underground carparks. It was agreed to write to the Parish Priest about the matter. Naoise Ó Cearúil suggested that possible discussions could take place with Kairos. It was noted that the matter was also to be raised by the Parish Council in an upcoming meeting.

Graffiti around the town has increased:

Richard Farrell suggested that all Residents Associations be contacted to make them aware of the issue and to be vigilant. There was a strong plea for Residents Associations to let the Community Council know of their contact details. This is especially relevant as Maynooth Community Council elections will be coming up in April.

North/South Corridor

Consultation Process: This consultation process will be advertised in the Liffey Champion. It is very important that the public submit their ideas to this process. The first phase of the North/South corridor will begin at Maxol, to Glenroyal, to Harbour, to Leinster and Mill Street. This is a pilot scheme supporting a safe cycle and pedestrian lane. It is proposed to

include a pedestrian and emergency road from the harbour out on to the bottom of the bridge, roughly opposite Supervalu. The ICA Hall will not be affected. The Maynooth Fire Station will not move from its present location.

Congratulations expressed to Maynooth Post Primary School

on their recent show *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Peter Garrard (Maynooth Scouts) was in full praise of the event. A great show and wonderful to see it dedicated to Fr. David Boylan. Maynooth Community Council added there congratulations, it is a wonderful event in our community. Lots of community groups are invited to attend the musical. It was established that no representative of Maynooth Community Council receives an invitation. It was suggested that this should be brought up with the School.

New Road layout at Maxol queried.

Mattie Callaghan reported that there has been 4 accidents in the last 7 months due to the new road layout at Maxol. He queried the sense of taking away the left lane to Celbridge. Now it is visually deceptive and the signage is very poor.

Maynooth Festival – planning on going.

St. Patricks Day Parade – planning on-going. There will be a mini Fleadh in Manor Mills on the day. Sean Tracey, Naoise Ó Cearúil and Rita Doyle are working together on this.

Educate Together School – The school will be having their March Hare Day in Carton on 29th March. The school will also take part in the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Maynooth Scouts – The Scouts will be celebrating their 40th anniversary this year. There will be a group camping event at Easter in Larchill. There will be a

ceremony later in the summer. The Scouts were delighted to take part in the “Walk of Unity” on Jan 18th. Unfortunately the Scouts will be unable to take part in the St. Patrick's Day Parade mainly due to family commitments which affects the number of available leaders.

1916 Commemorative Ceremony –

Johnny Dowling highlighted the Commemorative Ceremony which will take place again this Easter. They will also be represented in the St. Patrick's Day Parade. He noted that there are great plans for 2016 itself for the town of Maynooth, which will be great for the town.

Tidy Towns – Mattie Callaghan and Mary Jennings visited the Gaelscoil to speak on litter control, water management etc. They were very warmly received with teachers and pupils assembled in the Sports Hall and there was music. They were taken to see the school garden that the students attend also. Mattie and Mary were very impressed. Other schools will be visited in the coming weeks. Maynooth Tidy Towns are organising a compost area near the Scouts Hall. Thanks to Kildare County Council for their help. Mulch from Christmas Trees (acidic) will help keep down weeds.

Upgrading of houses in Halting Site:

John McGinley stressed that this work needs to be completed as a matter of urgency. Only one house has been done. The funding must be got. John McGinley has submitted a motion on the matter.

Reported: Two ground lights not lit in the Square.

Two flags in the Square need to be replaced – Naoise Ó Cearúil to contact Kildare County Council. It was suggested that one could be replaced by the Canet-en-Rousillon flag.

Editorial

March is here already but there are some matters exercising the community that would seem to be timeless as they come up again and again no matter what the month or the year. Parking for weekday daytime mass goers continues to be an issue as parishioners attending the morning 10am mass have no where to park their cars. The church car park is also the Boys' School playground so the question is how the same space can be used for two conflicting purposes at the same time.

Garda Station public office opening hours and the fact that Maynooth does not have a Community Garda are also concerning people. The low ratio of Gardai to the population in the area is the root of the problem and must be tackled. Public Art or Graffiti depending on your point of view has increased in the town since the beginning of the year. Is it time that we created some public space for people to share their artistic skills during the day with an appreciative audience rather than having to do it alone in the depths of night? There is honour among thieves as well as late night artists so if we facilitate space for artistic expression it could add to the many other unique features that we have in Maynooth.

March is not March without the St. Patrick's Day parade in Maynooth which is one of the biggest parades outside Dublin. For more years than he cares to remember John McGinley as the chief organiser ensured that we had a parade in Maynooth. Maynooth Community Council owes him a large debt of gratitude for his work. Naoise Ó Cearúil takes on the leadership to organise the 2015 parade and no doubt he will take the best of the past and bring new ideas for the parade and we wish him well with his new challenge.

Another new challenge for you if you want to run, jog or walk 5km in Maynooth takes place on Sunday March 29th with the inaugural “March Hare” fun run event organised by Maynooth Educate Together Parents Association. It will be an official timed event as well as facilitating everyone who wants to get out and enjoy the spring air. Events that supports community groups and encourages better health are worthy of support.

Paul Croghan

Letter To Our Readers

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

Community Council & Newsletter Staff

Maynooth Town FC Lotto Results 2015

www.maynoothtownfc.com - Join Us On Facebook

W/End	Numbers	Jackpot	3 x €35 Winners
11-Jan	6,7,25,27	€1,000	Peter Kiely - Carmel O Flaherty - John O Shea
18-Jan	1,12,15,22	€1,050	Gina Folan - Tina & Tozzie - Mark Cooney
25-Jan	5,11,17,26	€1,100	Paul Curtis - Orla Wall - Adrian Kenny
01-Feb	11,17,26,28	€1,150	Mary Boyd - Alan O Regan - Pilar Garrido
08-Feb	23,25,27,28	€1,200	Ciaran Reynolds - Liam & Aisling - Fergal Barton
15-Feb	2,11,21,26	€1,250	Stepnen Finnegan - Jim's Shoe Repairs - Emma Gallagher

Know Your Rights

Freedom of Information

Question

I believe you no longer have to pay fees when you make a Freedom of Information request. Are there any other changes?

Answer

A number of changes have been introduced to the Freedom of Information (FOI) scheme by the Freedom of Information Act 2014. The FOI scheme provides the following rights:

- A right to access information that is held by a body to which the FOI legislation applies
- A right to have official information relating to you amended where it is incomplete, incorrect or misleading
- A right to obtain reasons for decisions affecting you

Previously, you had to pay an application fee of €15 when making a request for information. This application fee no longer applies. The application fees have been reduced for an internal review of a decision by a body on your request and for a review of the decision by the Office of the Information Commissioner. The new fees (which do not apply in the case of personal information) are as follows:

- Internal review, €30 (€10 for medical card holder)
- Review by Information Commissioner, €50 (€15 for medical card holder)

You may be charged for the time spent finding and retrieving records, and for any copying costs. You will not normally be charged for personal records.

Under the revised scheme, if the cost of search, retrieval and copying is €100 or less, no charge is applied. If the cost exceeds €100, the full charge applies. You cannot be charged more than €500. If the estimated cost is more than €700, the body can refuse to process your request, unless you refine your request to bring the cost below this limit.

The new FOI Act widens the scope of the scheme to all public bodies, unless specifically exempt. It also allows the Government to include other bodies that get significant public funds. Under the Act the bodies must publish a wider range of information about their activities than was previously required.

Preparing for retirement

Question

I will be retiring from work in 2015 when I reach 65. What do I need to know about pensions and other benefits in retirement?

Answer

When you retire at age 65 you can claim Jobseeker's Benefit, which is based on your Pay Related Social Insurance (PRSI) contributions. If you do not qualify for Jobseeker's Benefit you can claim Jobseeker's Allowance, which is a means-tested payment.

At age 66, you may be entitled to the State Pension (Contributory). If you do not have enough PRSI contributions, you can apply for a State Pension (Non-Contributory), which is means-tested. You should apply for State pensions at least three months in advance.

You may have contributed to an occupational pension scheme during your working life or you may have a personal pension arrangement. You need to contact the pension provider to find out exactly what benefits your pension gives you.

If you move from employment to retirement in the course of the year, you should get a PAYE Balancing Statement (P21) from your local tax office at the end of the year. This will trigger a refund of any overpayment of tax you might have made.

Your Jobseeker's Benefit or State pension and any occupational pension are taxable. However, the tax exemption limits are much higher for people aged 65 or over and there are some extra tax credits.

At age 66 you will be exempt from paying PRSI. At age 70 you will pay a reduced Universal Social Charge if your annual income is €60,000 or less.

At age 66 you will also be eligible for a Free Travel Pass and may be eligible for the Household Benefits Package, which consists of a free TV licence and an electricity or gas allowance.

For medical cards and GP Visit Cards, which are means tested, the income limits are higher for people aged 70 and over.

Income tax bands and rates

Question

What are the income tax bands and tax rates for 2015?

Answer

The income tax bands and tax rates for 2015 were announced in Budget 2015.

Nearly all income is liable to tax. The amount of tax that you have to pay depends on your personal circumstances. There is a range of income tax reliefs available that can reduce the amount of tax that you have to pay.

Tax is charged as a percentage of your income. The percentage that you pay depends on the amount of your income.

	2014	2015
Single person	€32,800	€33,800
Married couple/civil partners, one income	€41,800	€42,800
Married couple/civil partners, two incomes	€41,800 (1st income) €23,800 (2nd income)	€42,800 (1st income) €24,800 (2nd income)
One parent family	€36,800	€37,800

The first part of your income, up to a certain amount, is taxed at what is known as the standard rate of tax. The amount that it applies to is known as the standard-rate tax band. The remainder of your income is taxed at a higher rate of tax.

For 2015 the standard rate of tax remains at 20% but the standard-rate tax bands have been increased as follows:

The higher rate of tax that applies to the balance of your income has been reduced from 41% in 2014 to 40% for 2015.

Consumer rights during sales

Question

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

Answer

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

Goods should be of merchantable quality, fit for their intended purpose and as described. If they are not, you

are entitled to a repair, replacement or refund. The legislation does not specify whether it is the retailer or the customer who decides which form of redress is offered.

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

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

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

For more information, visit the website of the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission at consumerhelp.ie.

Further information is available from the Citizens Information Centre below.

Know Your Rights has been compiled by Citizens Information Service which provides a free and confidential service to the public.

Information is also available online at citizensinformation.ie and from the Citizens Information Phone Service, 0761 07 4000.

WICKED YOUNG WRITERS' Larkspur Woods

It was a late Thursday evening and Ella could hardly contain herself with excitement. Her class was chosen out of 50 other schools to participate in various sports. Tomorrow they were beginning with orienteering in Larkspur Forest. No matter how hard Ella tried to stay awake, she eventually fell into a deep & peaceful sleep.

Friday was bright and sunny, just like the weather forecast had planned. Straight after breakfast, Ella sped off in the direction of the woods, with her she brought a bag filled with food, a coat, a first aid kit and a map of Larkspur.

Everyone was talking and playing when Ella arrived. Soon they were put into groups of three. Ella was in a group with her best friends Allanagh and Emilia. They began to follow the map until Allanagh pointed out "Er..... girls I think our map is upside-down". "Oh no we are lost" Emilia shrieked "heelllppp". Guys calm down we are not lost "Ella said sternly" now I bet if we follow the path we will be out of the woods in no time "OR WILL THEY ?

By Kira Barry age 11 years.

Maynooth Labour News

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

Cllr. McGinley Asks the Council to Prioritise Projects for National Transport Authority (NTA) in Future

The Council were advised by the NTA on 10 February 2015 of the Projects approved for funding in 2015. In all €1,230,000 was approved for 11 Projects throughout the county. Maynooth Municipal District got approval for only one Project and that was the one that was needed least of all, i.e. €300,000 for a cycle track along the Royal Canal from INTEL to Maynooth Harbour. It means that there are no funds this year for the footpath/cycle path to the Educate Together School/Gael Scoil, the North South Cycle Track and Footpath from Maxol to the Church, the extension of the 66 bus to Newtown, the review of Maynooth Traffic Management Plan and a footpath from Maynooth University to Laraghbryan Graveyard.

As a result of this fiasco Cllr. McGinley has submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Council:

"That the Council prioritises applications for National Transport Authority (NTA) funding and that this prioritising of Projects be done through the Municipal Districts in order to have informed decision making by the NTA and so avoid crazy decisions such as the only allocation for the Maynooth MD this year being 300,000 for a cycle path along the canal from INTEL to Maynooth, with nothing being given to the much needed footpath/cycle path to the Educate Together School and Gael Scoil Scoil at Celbridge Road, Maynooth."

Maynooth Performs Very Poorly in Councillors Allocation of Local Property Tax (LPT)

The nine Maynooth Municipal District (MD) Councillors have allocated only €36,000 for Maynooth, out of the €337,000 Local Property Tax (LPT) available to them. The €36,000 will be used on footpath improvements at Dunboyne Road (Dillons Row) and Moyglare Road (at the Post Primary School). The extraordinary thing is that the Councillors allocated €127,000 for unfinished housing estates even though the Council had allocated €776,000 for such work in the Budget.

As Cllr. John McGinley pointed out at the Maynooth MD their decision means that there won't be any improvements to The Square or the Back Lanes this year.

Cllr. McGinley Asks for a Timetable for the Implementation of Pay Parking in Maynooth

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD Committee: *That a timetable be given to the Municipal District committee for the implementation of the Maynooth Parking Bye-Laws which were agreed by council in December 2013.*

John was given the following reply at the MD Meeting on 11 February:

"Work is ongoing to tender for the purchase and maintenance of the parking meter machines for Maynooth. The Pay Parking Enforcement Contract is also out to tender at the moment and Maynooth is included as part of the new contract. When these processes have been completed it will be possible to give the Members a definitive timeline for the implementation of the bye-laws. The Members will be kept apprised of progress in this regard"

Cllr. McGinley pointed that the reply was not a timetable and he demanded that a proper timetable be available for the next MD Meeting. The Council Officials agreed.

Proposals for the Maynooth Town North/South Corridor from Maxol on Straffan Road to Moyglare Hall Has Gone on Public Display

The proposals for improved cycle paths and footpaths have gone on public display. Submissions should be made to Ger Duff, Kildare County Council, Devoy Park, Naas, before 2 April. Cllr. McGinley has already pointed out that he is opposed to the removal of the right turning lanes into Silken Vale and Old Greenfield. This proposal makes no sense and John encourages members of the public to make their views known to the Council.

Council to Compulsorily Acquire Burnt Out House in Old Greenfield

The Director of Services in the Council has advised Cllr. John McGinley on 13 February that it is the intention of the Council to compulsorily acquire the burnt out house in Old Greenfield and to renovate/rebuild it. The relevant notices are in the course of preparation. The statutory process will take 2 months if there are no objections, otherwise it could take several months. Residents will be aware that it was burnt for a fourth time in the morning of the 13th February.

Cllr. McGinley Asks for an Update on the Provision of Re-placement Public Lights at The Bandhall and at Old Greenfield (opposite 757)

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

"What progress has been made on installing replacement public lights at the Band Hall and at Old Greenfield, Maynooth?"

John was given the following reply at the MD Meeting on 11 February:

"Civil works are scheduled to commence on site at these locations on February 10th with electrical works to be completed at the band hall by 20th February and at Old Greenfield by 26th February."

Cllr. McGinley Asks for an Update on the Provision of a "No Entry" at Cross Lane

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

"When will the 'No Entry' sign be re-painted on the road at the junction of Dunboyne Road/Cross Lane?"

John was given the following reply at the MD Meeting on 11 February:

"The Municipal District Office has listed this work and it will be addressed as soon as the weather improves."

Cllr. McGinley Demands that the Houses at Blacklion Halting Site be Brought up to a Habitable Standard

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

"That the seven other houses at Blacklion Halting Site, Maynooth be heated and ventilated as house number 1 so that they can be brought up to a habitable standard."

John was given the following reply at the MD Meeting on 11 February:

"At present, there is no funding streams available to carry out works on occupied houses outside of the normal energy efficiency works programme. A number of units in Blacklion Halting site are vacant at present and consideration will be given for upgrading the houses under void management funding should suitable tenants be identified to occupy these units. The Housing Department are willing to work with tenants on addressing specific issues where they arise."

Cllr. McGinley rejected the reply completely and he

stated that in his view funds were available for such work. He pointed out that the problems with these houses has been on-going since 2007 and it was disgrace that the Council has not addressed them before now. He demanded action before the next MD Meeting on 11 March.

Stagg to Raise with Garda Commissioner Why there are No Community Gardai in Kildare

Deputy Emmet Stagg has written to the Garda Commissioner to request an explanation as to the reason the Kildare Garda Division is the only Division in the State that has no Community Gardai.

In response to a Parliamentary Question to the Minister for Justice Deputy Stagg was provided with the distribution of Community Gardai in each Division with the following community gardai in the Eastern Area:

WICKLOW DIVISION 14
LAOIS/OFFALY DIVISION 18
MEATH DIVISION 9
WESTMEATH DIVISION 9
LOUTH 16
WEXFORD DIVISION 14
DUBLIN WEST DIVISION 62
KILDARE DIVISION 0

Deputy Stagg stated the Aims of Community Policing are:

- To provide the people in an area with their own dedicated Garda, someone with whom they can discuss everyday occurrences and build up a strong and supportive personal relationship.
- To help the residents of the area to prevent crime by supporting crime prevention initiatives such as Neighbourhood Watch and Community Alert.
- To work with other social agencies in the area to help curb crime and vandalism.

In the Minister's response to Deputy Stagg she stated *'Community policing is the underpinning philosophy and ethos through which An Garda Síochána delivers a service across the Country'*. Commenting on this assertion Deputy Stagg stated that if community policing is the underpinning philosophy then why has the Kildare Division no Community Gardai.

Given that the Commissioner is responsible for the distribution of Community Gardai, Deputy Stagg stated that he would now contact the Commissioner demanding Community Gardai for the Kildare Division given the critical role they play in interacting with the Community in reducing crime.

Tenders for Construction of Two New Maynooth Secondary Schools to be Invited By June

Deputy Emmet Stagg has continued to press the case for the construction of the two new Secondary Schools and shared sports facility for Maynooth on the Moyglare Road with the Minister for Education and he has now been advised that Tenders for the construction of both Schools and the Sports Facility will be invited by June 2015.

Deputy Stagg stated that both of the schools, the new Maynooth Community College and the replacement school for Maynooth Post Primary School, will cater for 1,000 pupils each. The Design Team are currently working on the completion of the Tender Documents and the Minister has advised that tendering will

commence by the second quarter of 2015. The Minister further advised Deputy Stagg that construction of the two new Secondary Schools and Sports Facility will commence in 2015 and that the schools will open for September 2017. Welcoming the progress Deputy Stagg stated that Maynooth will have State of the Art Secondary Schools and a Sports Facility for our Secondary pupils by September 2017 and he thanked his colleague Minister for Education Jan O'Sullivan T.D. for securing the funding necessary for the Schools and Sports Facility.

15% Fall in Live Register Figures for Maynooth

Deputy Emmet Stagg has welcomed the fall in the Live Register Figures published in early February which show a 15% fall in the Live Register Figures for Maynooth Labour Exchange when compared with January 2012. Overall stated Deputy Stagg the Live Register for Co. Kildare has fallen from 18,011 in January, 2012, to 15,520 in January, 2015. The further fall confirms the downward trend in unemployment stated Deputy Stagg but we cannot be complacent as unemployment is still far too high. Exiting the bailout and economic recovery will only be meaningful for people when they see real improvements in their lives and the most important way to achieve that is by creating more jobs which is the clear focus of the Government. The Government stated Deputy Stagg through its Action Plan on Jobs is committed to creating 40,000 additional jobs in 2015 and getting the Unemployment Rate below 10% from a high of 15.1% three years ago. We can deliver on this commitment given the fact that between January 2012 and September 2014 the numbers employed in the State rose from 1,825,000 to 1,927,000.

Stagg Calls for Additional Funding to End Nursing Home Waiting List

Deputy Emmet Stagg raised as a Topical Issue in the Dail on Wednesday 21st January the urgent need to remove the funding cap for the Fair Deal Scheme to ensure that it operates as a Demand Led Scheme, thus enabling qualifying people to access Nursing Homes in a timely manner and to ensure that people do not spend long periods of time in inappropriate hospital wards. Addressing the Dáil, Deputy Stagg stated 'I thank the Minister of State for coming into the House to deal with this issue. Her dedication to the task of providing world class services for the elderly is not in doubt. How we treat the elderly is a fair mark of our society. They were the creators of the society and systems we now enjoy. They worked hard, often for low pay, paid their taxes and are now entitled to the best care that can be provided, if possible in their own homes and, where that is not possible, in available care facilities of high standard.

It is not acceptable that the elderly are left in acute hospital beds when what they need is nursing home care. It is not acceptable that they are left in their homes where they can no longer be adequately cared for. The fair deal scheme is just that - a good deal for those who need nursing home care. This excellent scheme was intended to be - I emphasise this point - demand-led where the service would be provided when required. The current practice, inherited by the Minister of State, whereby the scheme is capped financially, leads to inevitable delays in the service being provided and real hardship for the elderly persons left waiting.

I am asking that the resources needed to provide a demand-led service be provided by the Government and that the waiting for essential care for long periods be ended. Senior citizens deserve no less'. Responding to Deputy Stagg Minister of State Kathleen Lynch stated 'I thank Deputy Emmet Stagg for raising this issue which is very pertinent at this

time, given that we are in prolonged discussions with various Departments and desperately trying to do what they are asking for. As you rightly pointed out, the nursing homes support scheme provides financial support for those who require long-term nursing home care, with residents contributing a portion of the cost in accordance with their means, which is essential. It is a scheme which relieves families of potentially very onerous expense and even protects the greater part of the value of a participant's main residence. However, it is also expensive. The amount allocated to the scheme in 2015 is €948.8 million.

Again, demographic trends mean that the scheme is under pressure because of the increasing numbers of older people in the population. The number of the population over 65 years is growing by approximately 20,000 each year and the population over 80 years which has the greatest need in terms of utilisation of health services is growing by some 4% per annum. The scheme is demand-led but, as Deputy Emmet Stagg rightly pointed out, resource-capped. In the Nursing Homes Support Scheme Act 2009 a provision was included in order to ring-fence the funding for the scheme and ensure it was used for the provision of financial support under the scheme. To manage the available funds through the year, the HSE operates a national placement list in order of when applications are approved, which is very important, and funding is released in strict chronological order as it becomes available.

As of 16 January, there are 1,313 people on the placement list, with an average waiting time of 11 weeks, down in some cases from 17 and 18 weeks. The budget for the scheme in 2015 is €948.8 million, an increase of €10 million on the figure for 2014. Some €10 million allocated to the scheme related to the delayed discharges initiative. I will forward this reply in full to Deputy Stagg, but I believe we need to talk about some other issues concerning the fair deal scheme. For example, the review of the scheme which I expect to receive in the next few weeks will tell us that it is unsustainable in its current financial make-up, given the demands on it. What it should tell us and what I would like it to tell us is that people will be able to access the fair deal scheme in the community, rather than having to avail of long-stay nursing home care, if that is their preference. It is about preference and choice. I would hate to think that because I had reached a certain age and despite the fact I was capable of making these choices myself, my choices would be limited.

We also need to look seriously at the issue of capacity. Even if we could provide a fair deal scheme place for everybody in hospital who needed one, there are certain areas of the country where we do not have the capacity to move patients from hospitals. I am a great believer in identifying difficulties and finding solutions.

If the fair deal scheme was resource and demand-led, it would provide comfort for both the public and private sectors and deliver more of the beds we so desperately need. The fair deal scheme must be a combination of the two options. It must be about choices in the community and ensuring that if people are offered a bed, it is in an area close to where they live and those who might wish to visit them. For example, if the patient is in Naas or Kildare, the bed offered should not be in some place that is inaccessible to him or her such as in Waterford. We need a full and wider debate on this issue. We understand the difficulties, but we need to come up with perhaps different solutions'.

Responding to Minister Lynch Deputy Stagg stated 'I thank the Minister of State for coming to the House to deal with this issue. The medical card system which is far more expensive than the fair deal scheme is

entirely demand-led. If a person qualifies for a medical service, he or she receives that service, with no waiting time for access. Nobody says in November that all of the money is gone and that a service cannot be provided. The system should be similar to that for the fair deal scheme. If people qualify, the service should be provided when needed. I believe the Minister of State agrees with me on that point.

Has any calculation been made of the extra funding that would be required, over and above the current figure of €948 million, to fill the gap in order that the scheme would be demand-led and a service provided as required? Will the Minister of State also ensure the HIQA beds in the public sector are upgraded to the point where they would no longer be under threat? I understand there is a period of grace in which this could be done and that she is in the process of doing this. It is important that these beds are retained in the system in order that there will be no shortage of resources.

In her final response to Deputy Stagg Minister of State Lynch stated 'I could not agree more with the Deputy. I have made it clear that we cannot afford to lose any bed, private or public, for older people. In regard to the fair deal scheme, we also need to look at the issue of funding and the notion that if one lives in Dublin, X amount is paid per bed, while the rate is different if one lives in Wicklow or Galway. No account is taken of the needs of the person concerned. We need to look at this issue because the needs of some people are greater than those of others and they need more care and attention. We need to look seriously at the range of needs involved.

On the issue of cost, I am told that if we were to make the scheme resource and demand-led, it would cost an additional €30 million a year. In some years the cost would be higher and in others lower. However, if we do not do this in a planned way and a way we can see what we will be doing six months down the road, the cost will be twice that figure or more. It is about planning and ensuring we know exactly where we will find capacity and how we will meet demand as it arises'. Commenting after the debate Deputy Stagg stated that additional funding of €30 Million should be provided to end the unacceptable waiting times encountered by elderly people in accessing nursing home care and he vowed to press the Government for the required additional resources.

Stagg Congratulates INMO on 30 Additional Nursing Posts at Naas General Hospital

Deputy Emmet Stagg has congratulated the Irish Nurses and Midwives Organisation on the successful negotiations with the HSE at the Labour Relations Commission in relation to the overcrowding crisis which has resulted in the number of additional nursing posts approved for Naas General Hospital increasing to 30.

This stated Deputy Stagg is an increase from the 14 additional posts already sanctioned and resulted in the deferral of action by Nursing Staff at Naas General Hospital which was due to take place today. The additional posts now approved will assist in reducing the pressures posed by under-staffing at Naas General Hospital and should ease the serious pressure being experienced in the Accident and Emergency Department.

In conclusion Deputy Stagg congratulated Derek Reilly (INMO Industrial Relations Officer Naas), Nursing Representative Therese Dixon from Naas General Hospital and the nursing staff at Naas General Hospital on the success of their campaign.

Catherine Murphy Independent TD

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

Clamping Bill Misses the Point

Independent TD Catherine Murphy yesterday spoke in the Dáil on the Proposed Vehicle Clamping Bill 2015 and called on the Government to look at an overall parking strategy rather than the money-making exercise that is the current clamping regime.

“Clamping, as a general strategy is just not sufficient to address the problems associated with parking enforcement in towns and cities across Ireland. There is a place for clamping or removal in circumstances where there is an obvious obstruction on our main thoroughfares but there is most certainly no place for clamping in housing estates where management companies seek to use it as a revenue raising or management fee enforcing exercise. I also firmly believe that clamping, as a means of enforcement, should be outlawed in hospitals. Clamping has been misused in such ways and we should seek to implement a strategy that will change this.”

“The type of parking available, the enforcement, and the access etc. has a bearing on the viability, or unviability in many cases, of many of our town centres. There are things we can do, practical things such as halving the fine for those who pay their penalties in a timely manner and therefore cutting down on the administrative costs, similar to the practice in Belfast where the fine is halved if paid within fourteen days. We could look at introducing methods to allow for partial reviews of existing bye-laws and thereby giving a greater control locally to allow for parking arrangements which are rarely a one-size-fits-all solution.”

“I will be putting in amendments to the legislation at Committee Stage with a view to having changes made to the current wording to the legislation.”

Latest Garda Figures Represent a Backward Step

Independent TD Catherine Murphy has reacted to the latest Garda Deployment figures, obtained via a Parliamentary reply, which show that rather than an improvement in policing levels for some areas, there has actually been a worsening of resource allocation.

“Goal 2 of the 2014 Policing Plan spoke about ‘proactive policing operations’ and promised to ensure ‘patrol strategies are in place that maximise resource deployment based on demand and crime analysis capability’ yet, to date, we have seen no evidence that either demographics or increased crime rates play a part in the distribution of Garda resources.”

“Whilst I understand that the deployment can never be entirely equal – some Garda divisions have specific crime issues and therefore require specific approaches – there must be a rethinking of how and why Garda resources are deployed. These figures show that in the period 2012-2015 only one Garda division in the entire country has actually increased its allocation and that is the

Roscommon/Longford division.”

People should be able to expect a minimum level of policing that is based on demographics and/or crime rates. While many urban towns, outside of the main cities, are badly served, the rural hinterland is also significantly impacted with many places having a response time of roughly one hour which is totally unacceptable.”

“It is strikingly clear that those areas which have experienced rapid population growth have been disproportionately disadvantaged compared to lesser populated counties. We cannot continue in a situation where inadequate policing levels are facilitating the under detection of criminal offences which in turn leads to misleading statistics about falling crime rates. An unfair distribution of scarce resources will inevitably lead to distorted figures. The crime rates in Kildare cannot be accurately compared to somewhere like Sligo/Leitrim with half the population of Kildare yet an almost identical numbers of Garda resources.”

“I have requested a meeting with the Garda Commissioner seeking an assurance that no area will be allowed to fall below an acceptable policing threshold and highlighting the fact that Kildare is currently way below such a threshold.”

Catherine Murphy Tables Motion Calling for European Debt Conference

Independent TD Catherine Murphy has tabled a Private Members’ Motion calling on the Irish Government to support calls for a European Debt Conference. The motion, which will be debated Tuesday and Wednesday night in the Dáil, was launched at a press conference in Dublin this morning. The Press Conference, chaired by Catherine Murphy TD, was addressed by TCD Finance Professor Brian Lucey, and Michael Taft, Research Officer with Unite the Union.

The panel called on the Irish Government to recognise the changing dynamic in Europe and to, at the very least participate in, if not lead, a European Debt Conference.

According to Michael Taft, “Ireland is a high-debt country with significant levels of interest payments that have a massive impact on the daily lives of citizens in Ireland. We need to talk about this and find the solutions. That is why a debt conference is an imperative.”

Brian Lucey told the gathering that “you cannot dig yourself out of a hole. It’s time to put the moralising aside and start looking at solutions. From that perspective, a European Debt conference is a political, social, and economic no brainer.”

Catherine Murphy agreed, saying “We are all aware of the impact such a debt burden has; the problems it causes including the lack of fiscal expansion and the lack of investment. Tonight’s PMB is a call on the Government to recognise and endorse the call for a debt conference and to see it as a positive development.”

Cultural Institutions Must be Safeguarded

Independent TD Catherine Murphy today tabled two priority questions to the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht asking the Minister to clarify the plans in relation to making Births, Deaths and Marriage records available on the Department’s irishgenealogy.ie site and also to specify the breakdown of the extra €2 million awarded to the cultural institutions in Budget 2015.

In response, the Minister told the Dáil that the National Genealogy Plan had been approved by Cabinet in December 2012 with the aim of bringing coherence to the area of genealogical research. When questioned by Deputy Murphy about whether or not it was planned to provide the records free of charge or via a pay model the Minister confirmed that the documents will be made available free on the website. Deputy Murphy welcomed that confirmation.

“This is a change to the current regime whereby the Births, Deaths and Marriage records are only available to personal callers at the GRO offices and a charge accrues for each record searched. I welcome the change and look forward to the records becoming available on www.irishgenealogy.ie”

Deputy Murphy further drew attention to the disproportionate level of cuts to the cultural sector in recent years; in some cases the cuts amounted to over 40% of the budget, and the Minister agreed that the sector had been severely affected. The Minister then specified the breakdown of the €2 million additional funding that will be allocated to the sector this year, the largest bulk of which (€650,000) will go to the National Museum with the National Library of Ireland receiving €600,000 for specific projects and a number of other institutions, including the National Archives, receiving €100,000 each and €150,000 being retained in the Department as a contingency fund.

Deputy Murphy welcomed the funding but drew attention to the relatively minor amounts in the grand scheme of things and highlighted the fact that many of the institutions were struggling to even maintain opening hours.

“While this funding is welcome, it must be noted that a lot of it relates to specific commemorations projects and therefore it is a kind of once-off funding. There must be an analysis done to ascertain what the minimum level of need is to ensure our national collections are maintained to international standards – many currently are not – and to protect the collections into the future.”

Copy date for
April Newsletter is Wednesday 17th
April 2015



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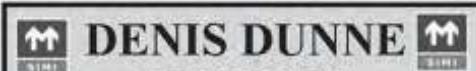
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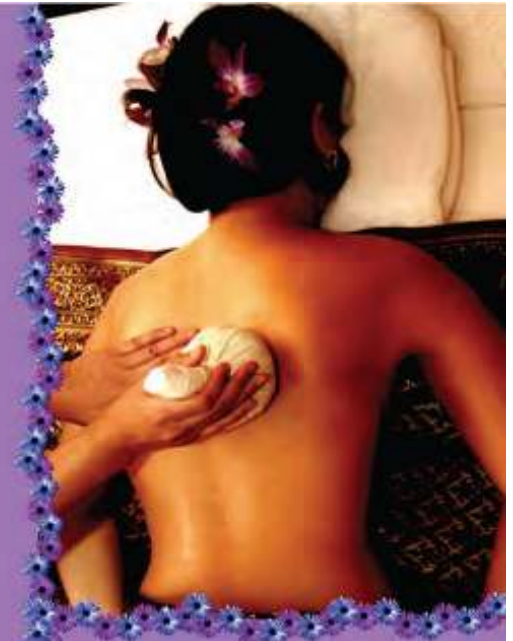
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St. Patrick's Day Recipes

Smoked Haddock & Colcannon

Serves 2

Ingredients

2 smoked haddock fillets
good splash milk
2 eggs
1kg potatoes, peeled
250g curly kale
100mls milk
100g butter
Handful of chives
Salt and black pepper



Method

Cook the potatoes in a covered pan of boiling salted water for 15-20mins until tender. Heat a knob of butter and 2 tbsp. of water. When the butter has melted, add the kale with a pinch of salt. Cook for 2mins and drain off any liquid and then season the kale with pepper. Drain the potatoes, add the milk and mash until smooth, beat in the kale and the remaining butter. Season to taste. Mix half the chives into the colcannon. Put the haddock in a shallow microwave dish and pour the milk over to half cover. Cover with cling film and microwave on high for 4-5mins until the haddock flesh flakes easily. Pouch the eggs for around 1-2 mins. Remove the fish. Top the colcannon with the haddock and egg and scatter with the remaining chives.

Dublin Coddle

Serves 4-6

Ingredients

2kg potatoes
2 large onions, peeled & sliced thickly
450g pork sausages
450g bacon, thick cut
500ml water
1 ham or beef or chicken stock cube
3-4 tbsp. fresh parsley, chopped
Salt & pepper



Method

Peel the potatoes. Cutting into 3/4 pieces. Finely chop the parsley. Boil the water and dissolve the stock cube. Grill the sausages and bacon long enough to colour them. Drain on paper towels. Chop the bacon into one-inch pieces and sausages into large pieces. Preheat the oven to 300F/150°C. Start layering the ingredients: onions, bacon, sausages, potatoes. Season each layer liberally with pepper and the chopped fresh parsley. Continue until all the ingredients are used up. Pour the stock over the top. On the stove, bring the liquid to a boil. Immediately turn the heat down and cover the pot. Put the covered pot in the oven and cook for at least 3-4 hours. At the 2 hour point, check the pot and add more water if necessary. You can add a little Guinness towards the end of the cooking time. Serve hot.

Roast Rack of Lamb with Crushed Potatoes

Serves 4

Ingredients

10 potatoes
1 handful cherry tomatoes
1 quality 6-bone rack of lamb
Olive oil
1 small handful garlic cloves
Sea salt & pepper
A few sprigs rosemary
2 lugs olive oil



Method

Preheat the oven to 190°C/375°F/Gas 5. Boil the potatoes until tender and squeeze the pips from the tomatoes. Put a large frying pan on a high heat, add a lug of olive oil and sear the lamb until golden. Remove and put to one side while you crush the drained potatoes in the frying pan, then fry for a couple of mins over a low to medium heat. Stir the tomatoes and olives into the potatoes with some seasoning, rosemary sprigs and the garlic cloves, drizzle with a little olive oil and place in a roasting tin. Place the lamb on top of the potatoes and cook. The lamb should take between 20-30 mins. When the lamb is cooked, slice it into chops and serve with crispy potatoes and a little salsa verde or an extra drizzle of olive oil.



March Gardening



March is a busy time for gardeners... the list of jobs to be done gets a little longer as everything starts to come to life. Prepare seed beds. Clean out water butts: a bit of charcoal in the bottom will keep the water sweet. As soon as you see any weeds - pull them before they become a big problem. Continue to deadhead winter-flowering pansies and other winter bedding. Watch out for downy plant mildew and black spot on winter pansies. Also deadhead the flowers of daffodils but allow the foliage to die down naturally. Get your plant supports in place before your perennials start to grow. Open the greenhouse or conservatory doors and vents on warm days. Cut back ornamental grasses to make way for new growth. Check your containers and pots to see if they need watering. Pots and tubs benefit from topping up with fresh compost.



Early spring is an ideal time to plant herbaceous perennials including geranium, astrantia and oriental poppies. Prune back the stems of dogwoods, willows and buddleias to produce fresh new growth. Feed hedges, trees and shrubs with a general-purpose fertiliser, then mulch around their bases. Continue planting new trees, hedges, climbers, roses and planting lily bulbs. Cut back hedges before birds start to nest. Prune large-flowered clematis. Start to prune roses, removing dead and diseased stems. Divide large clumps of hostas before their leaves start to grow. Don't forget to deal with slugs now as things start to grow before they devour your plants. Prune winter jasmine after flowering. Plant summer-flowering bulbs. Bush and standard roses can be pruned now as they start growing but before any leaves unfurl. Mow the lawn if the weather is mild and the grass shows signs of growth. Ensure the first cut is light, raising the blades higher than the usual cutting height. In late March apply a high nitrogen spring/summer lawn fertiliser to encourage good, strong growth to help the lawn recover after the winter. Sow peas, broad beans, parsnips and carrots. Seed potatoes. Prune autumn-fruiting raspberries back to ground level. Prune fruit trees. Feed all your fruit trees, canes and bushes with some sulphate of potash. Divide clumps of chives. Plant lettuce, radishes, turnips, spinach and onions. Also broccoli, cabbage, brussels sprouts and cauliflower can be sown.



Start feeding the fish. Little and often is best. Frogs, toads and newts begin to spawn as the weather improves. Remove pool heaters when the weather starts to warm up. Clean out pond filters. Replace pumps, water features and lighting systems, after checking they are still in working order. Remove netting from over the pond. Divide marginal and bog garden plants if overcrowded. Contain vigorous plants by planting them in containers with a layer of gravel to prevent fish stirring up the compost. Check the algae in your pond. Providing shade using floating plants such as waterlilies. Other helpful tips including filling the pond with rain water rather than tap water, avoiding getting soil or compost in the pond and removing any plant debris from the water straight away.

Pot up houseplants if showing signs of being root-bound. Putting fresh compost into the pots. Don't forget to give greenhouse plants more room as they start to grow. This will help to prevent disease and to contain early pest infestations. Also check every few days to see if they need watering, although seedlings may need daily watering. Continue to prick out and pot new seedlings and cuttings. Harden off half-hardy bedding plants that you started off under cover. Gradually remove mulch from strawberries as the weather starts to warm up. Prune apple trees. Burn/destroy all the prunings to decrease insect or disease occurrence. Watch out for aphids as they begin to hatch on fruit trees as the buds begin to open. Spray peach trees with a fungicide for the control of peach leaf curl disease. Protect fruit trees and gooseberries with netting as birds could eat your entire crop. Set up nesting boxes for birds and continue to feed them.



A Gardener knows all the dirt!



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IRISH OPEN TAEKWONDO



Pictured above is Calum Duncan with his trainers and the President of the Irish Taekwondo Federation. Calum won the Irish Open before Christmas. He had five fights in both Aclass and Belass. He won all five, taking home two gold medals and a trophy.

Congratulations and well done.

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Please contact me for more information or to make an appointment.

Maynooth 10k 2015

Date for the 2015 Event is announced!

Speaking at the announcement that this year's Maynooth 10k will take place on Sunday 17th May at 10.30, the Chairperson of the Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board, Cllr. Brendan Weld, thanked the people of Maynooth for their whole-hearted support for the 10k over the years.

He said that the playing fields could not have been developed without the funds raised and he praised the PTA for their hard work in organising the 10k. Also at the announcement Maynooth Post Primary Principal, Mr. Johnny Nevin, said that this year's 10k is being organised by the Maynooth Education Campus PTA, an amalgamation of the parent teacher associations from Maynooth Post Primary School and Maynooth Community College.

The Principal of Maynooth Community College, Ms. Siobhán McCauley predicted that with both schools working together, it will be the biggest Maynooth 10k so far. KWETB member Cllr. Teresa Murray said that the plans for this year's 10k are well advanced. A publicity campaign will commence in the next few weeks and advertisements are being sought for the events newspaper, The 10k Times.



Members of the Board of Management (l-r) Gerry Quinn, Johnny Nevin, Andrew Dunne, Brendan Weld, Senan Griffin, Joan Donlon, Mary Gaffney, Teresa Murray, Seamus Burke (pic: G. Bermingham)



MAYNOOTH 10K 2014

On Sunday 18th May @ 10.30am

www.maynooth10k.ie



Runners on Main St during the 2014 event
(Pic: Mark Colfer)



Runners Joggers Walkers

Sunday 17th May, 10.30am

Entry Form

First Name(s): *

Last Name: *

Address: *

Gender: *

Email: *

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

Mobile Number: *

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

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

Check-in, parking and cloak room facilities for Maynooth 10k will be available at Maynooth Post Primary school 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

We wish to thank St. Patrick's College and Carton House for the use of their grounds, our many sponsors, An Garda Síochána, 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.

Johnny Nevin, Principal, Maynooth Post Primary School
Siobhán McCauley, Principal, Maynooth Community College

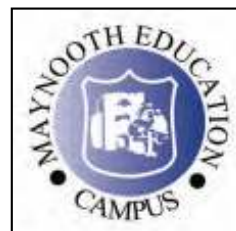


Maynooth 10k 2015



Sun 17th May at 10.30

**Enter online at
www.maynooth10k.ie**



At the announcement of the Maynooth 10k 2015. (L-R) Johnny Nevin, Principal, Maynooth Post-Primary, Teresa Murray, KWETB and MPPS BOM, Brendan Weld, Chair, MPPS BOM and Chair, KWETB and Siobhán McCauley, Principal, Maynooth Community College.

TECHNOLOGY CORNER

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

Is Your TV Spying on You?

Smart TVs are one of the newest popular gadgets on the market, but recently Samsung's privacy policy has come under scrutiny due to concerns that the TVs could be spying on people.

Smart TVs are television sets with integrated Internet capabilities, allowing users to connect to and use the Internet. The theory behind smart TV technology is good, but there are growing concerns about its implementation.

Smart TVs have built-in apps to take advantage of its Internet connectivity, making it easy to connect to Netflix or Youtube. They also have a web browser and apps to connect to Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and other common sites. They make it easier to find what you want to watch, and they help consolidate all the devices you use to watch videos, browse the Internet, and even play games. They can stream music and movies from phones, tablets, and PCs onto a big screen. Newer models can use voice activation to show you your favourite TV shows on command or change the channel, as well as tell you when your remote batteries are low and other handy prompts.

While these are good ideas in theory, an increasing body of tech experts are highlighting the flaws in current smart TV technology and warning of potential privacy issues. In February, Samsung came under fire twice for what people consider an invasion of both their privacy and entertainment experience.

The first issue involves a concerning statement in Samsung's privacy policy. The policy states, "Samsung may collect and your device may capture voice commands and associated texts so that we can provide you with Voice Recognition features and evaluate and improve the features. *Please be aware that if your spoken words include personal or other sensitive information, that information will be among the data captured and transmitted to a third party through the use of your Voice Recognition*" (emphasis added).

This has many people wondering, if you can't talk about personal information in your house, where can you talk about it? The Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF), a group that campaigns on digital rights issues, spoke out against the privacy policy, comparing it to George Orwell's novel 1984 where telescreens listen to what people say.

Samsung originally refused to comment, but after the news went viral, they released a statement emphasising that the

voice recognition software is only activated when users press the appropriate button on their remote control. However, another worrying part of the privacy policy states that not only are voice commands being transmitted, but also information about your device, including "device identifiers", will be sent to a third party "to the extent necessary to provide Voice Recognition features to you". Corynne McSherry, the intellectual property director at the EFF, said that qualifying language is worrying because of how broadly it could be interpreted.

The wording is reminiscent of another privacy issue brought up with a different smart TV manufacturer. In November of 2013, a UK IT consultant discovered that his LG smart TV was collecting information about what channels his family was watching and their use of other devices. This data was still being sent – unencrypted – to LG even when the user switched off the "collection of watching info" option, which was on by default. He found that the name of each media file stored on his television – including photos labelled with his children's names – had been sent to LG even after he switched off the data collection option. The public outcry against this invasion of privacy led to LG releasing a software update that allowed users to properly turn off data collection for users who did not want to share information.

These incidents highlight how vulnerable users of smart TVs are in relation to their private information. As technology changes rapidly, companies are able to get away with accessing more and more data about our lives. Instead of trying to design technology that users will enjoy, makers of smart TVs are currently more focused on finding more ways to squeeze money out of people. That is one of the biggest reasons why tech experts are coming to a growing consensus that in their current state, smart TVs aren't worth buying as they are designed with the advertiser in mind rather than the user.

The second time Samsung came under fire in February was directly related to these concerns. A Reddit post went viral after someone using a Samsung smart TV complained that ads were being inserted into his movies and shows. The TV was interrupting his connection while he was watching his own movies to play a commercial for Pepsi before returning to his show. This was happening because on newer TVs, ads were now enabled by default. After increasing bad publicity over the ads, Samsung apologised and claimed it was an error and the ads should have been opt-in rather than the default.

This excuse strikes many as suspicious, especially because

Caspar says that "it's problematic that Facebook wants to exchange user data between all of its various units, including WhatsApp and Instagram." He gave Facebook until the end of February to respond to questions on the data handling and has threatened a probe into the company if it fails to allay concerns.

Facebook has responded by claiming that the Germans are facing a legal clash over jurisdiction, as the Irish regulator currently has jurisdiction over any matters of privacy. In an emailed statement, Facebook said that "as a company with international headquarters in Dublin, we routinely review product and policy updates – including this one – with our regulator, the Irish Data Protection Commissioner, who oversees our compliance with the EU Data Protection Directive as implemented under Irish law." Caspar argues that he also has jurisdiction due to Facebook's Hamburg branch, which processes the data of German users.

Irish and German regulators have been fighting with Facebook for years over the implementation of European data-protection laws. In 2012, an Irish probe forced Facebook to delete data it had collected from its facial recognition software, as well as addressing a number of other security and privacy issues. In response to the German investigation, the Irish regulator has issued a statement that

this is not the first time Samsung has garnered negative publicity over inserted ads. Last year, a tech blogger noticed that his Samsung smart TV was suddenly displaying pop up ads. He detailed how he was unable to find an option under Settings to disable the pop ups and how he eventually had to search the store for a Sync Plus app to disable the ads. Samsung is not the only company to start inserting ads into their smart TV's. Owners of premium Panasonic smart TVs see an advertisement upon turning on their TV, and banner ads pop up on the bottom of the screen as the default option.

Another issue that concerns tech experts is the relatively poor technology that current smart TVs offer. They warn that existing smart TVs will become outdated far more rapidly than required, encouraging consumers to purchase a new TV every couple of years as opposed to the current average of once every ten. Considering how rapidly technology is advancing every year, the ability to update the software and operating systems of expensive, tech-heavy purchases is vital. However many "older" smart TV models are already incompatible with many of the newer video services available, and manufacturer updates are not forthcoming. It's far easier (and more profitable) for manufacturers to simply produce a new TV model than to provide updates for all of their older models, which is bad news for consumers.

User-focused progress in smart TV technology has been very slow, especially compared to other tech. Progress has been especially slow in the area of user experience, which contrasts sharply with the increasingly sophisticated advertisement delivery and user data collection capabilities. The latest NPD Connected Intelligence Application and Convergence report shows that only 10 percent of smart TV owners have used the web browser and only 15 percent have listened to music from online sources. The majority of owners only use video apps like Netflix and make very limited use of any other services their TVs offer. Given the poor user interface and lack up updates to functionality, this is not surprising. Smart TVs just aren't that smart right now.

The combination of these factors and the privacy scandals are causing more and more tech experts to speak out against the current smart TV offerings. Non-smart TVs are becoming increasingly difficult to find, but you shouldn't rush out to buy a TV based on its smart capabilities, or at least not yet. If you need to buy a new TV, you might want to consider turning off the smart features and using it as a regular television, especially if your privacy is a concern.

Facebook's New Privacy Policy Shares Your Data with Partners

Facebook's new privacy policy has now come into effect, and it is already drawing serious criticism for the changes they have implemented. Anyone who has logged into Facebook in the past month has already agreed to these new terms and conditions.

Facebook alerted users of the new privacy policy in November, which included changes giving the company the right to use information and images that users post for commercial purposes. Facebook already collects a vast amount of information on every user, including everything you shared voluntarily, your location, and who your friends and family are. The new privacy policy also allows monitoring of your Internet browsing habits and what you have bought online, as well as allowing Facebook to sell this data to third-party companies.

Johannes Caspar, the data and privacy regulator in Germany, has already questioned whether the new policy breaks German Law. The Dutch privacy regulator also opened a probe into the company in December, causing the implementation of the privacy policy to be delayed from the start of the year.

discussions with Facebook are ongoing.

If you are concerned about how much data Facebook is collecting about you, the only real way to avoid it is to delete your account. If you want to go this route, accounts can be deleted by visiting www.facebook.com/help/delete_account and following the instructions.

If you do not want to delete your account altogether but are still concerned about what the company might know about you, previous actions by the Irish Data Protection Commissioner require Facebook to make this information available. You can view this while logged in by clicking the arrow on the top right of any page, selecting Settings, and then selecting "Download a copy of your Facebook data" from the General Account Settings section.



Disclaimer: everything on this page is written in good faith and provided for general purposes only. While every effort is made to ensure the information here is accurate, technology is always changing, so please use your own discretion. Maynooth Community Council is not legally responsible for any damage or data loss you may incur through use or application of the information in these articles.

GLENROYAL HOTEL

Family Day

St. Patrick's Day Tuesday March 17th

Kids Entertainment
Fun for the kids from 2pm-5pm in the Galway Suite
Face Painting / Kids Movies

LIVE MUSIC IN THE BAR

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Breakfast served 8am - 11am
Carvery from 12pm - 8pm


Glenroyal Hotel

The Maynooth 1916



**Centenary Committee
Wreath Laying
Ceremony**
In memory of the
“Maynooth 15”

**Town Square
Maynooth**
12 Noon on
Easter Monday
6th April 2015

Barry Smith (aka Tony Savino) with a little help from his friends, wooed his fans in Maynooth Library to celebrate Valentine's Day 2015



Maynooth Tidy Towns



Wee Ireland will be in Tesco Car Park Maynooth on Saturday 28th March from 10am to 4pm. If you have any electrical goods (anything with a plug) and batteries for recycling bring them along on the day. Light bulbs can be recycled. Last year Maynooth recycled over 26 tonnes of electrical goods.

The sustainable waste and resource management category is becoming more and more important each year in the National Tidy Towns competition, to increase awareness in our local schools.

Maynooth Tidy Towns, Schools Officer Mary Jennings and Chairman Mattie Callaghan presented a Compost Bin and Water Butt to the Gael Scoil Ui Fhiaich in early February as part of our Green Schools and bio-diversity programme. The other local schools will receive their equipment in the near future.

Our first major clean up of 2015 will take place on Saturday 7th March meeting at Tesco Car park at 10am, we will be cleaning up along the Dublin Rd to Carton Gates near Pikes Bridge where we will meet our colleagues from Leixlip Tidy Towns who will be coming from Leixlip.

If you would like to volunteer for an hour or two on Saturdays or Sundays please contact us at mobile: 087 3153189.

National Spring Clean up will take place during the month of April, we would welcome any support from community groups and resident associations. Could you please text contact details to 087 3153189 or Maynooth Tidy Towns Facebook page.

Maynooth Tidy Towns looking forward to seeing you all at the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Richard Farrell - PRO - Maynooth Tidy Towns

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**Copydate for April
Newsletter is
Wednesday 18th
March 2015**



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Tiffin – your personal chef

A new business has opened up in Maynooth. Owner and chef Adrian Macholl is offering a daily food service. In India, “Tiffin” refers to a light meal eaten during lunch. Adrian’s philosophy is based on his understanding that people may not have time cook food every day, and many workplaces do not have a canteen or even eating areas for workers. That’s why Tiffin’s homemade food service delivers hot meals to people’s doors 5 days a week. Tiffin’s new service is the only one that combines a delivery of healthy nutrition and tasty meals to subscriber’s door or workplace with a weekly or monthly subscription. They deliver all of their meals in tiffin boxes – special 3 tiered containers with a tasty dish in each one. They do this as it helps to keep the meals fresher and hotter for much longer. These boxes are stainless steel which makes them easy to clean, hygienic, and environmentally friendly.

The Menu

Instead of a monotonous and stale menu, Tiffin offers subscribers different varieties in the week to ensure people do not get bored of eating the same kind of food. Every subscriber will have the option of selecting 5 dishes out of 10 each week. Each Tiffin meal consists of a soup of the day, a meat/fish dish, and a side order. Menus for the following week will be handed out to each subscriber every Monday on the first delivery, and people will have time until Thursday to choose which dishes they prefer. If this doesn’t suit, or they do not get a completed menu back from, they will always provide subscribers with the special of the day, taking into account any special dietary requirements or preferences they know about. People can select their time of delivery.

The Price

At Tiffin, they consider it their mission to offer competitive prices for the high-quality food they provide. Adrian works hard to purchase ingredients at aggressive prices so that subscribers can select from a variety of low cost meal packages. They offer a one week trial package for just €20 and are offering 20% off regular packages for the first 50 subscribers.

Corporate Events and Work Parties

Tiffin also caters for corporate events and work parties. Their facilities are located in Maynooth GAA Club, and Tiffin’s Tavern can comfortably accommodate 100 people in the restaurant, dance floor, and bar. They have large off road car parking for patrons.

While their service area is continually expanding, they currently carry out meal deliveries to the following areas: Maynooth - Kilcock - Leixlip if you are outside of this area, contact them.

Saturday & Sunday Dinners Opening Soon in Maynooth GAA Club.

3 Course Meal with Drink - €20

(Pint of Tuborg or Soft Drink)

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Maynooth Fianna Fáil Notes

Contact Details - e-mail: naoiseoceanuil@gmail.com

Motions raised by Cllr. Naoise Ó Cearúil at Febuary Municipal District

1. That the yellow boxes on Mill Street, Maynooth and the Straffan Road, opposite Maxol, are re-painted and re-instated.

The Municipal District Office replied that they will not be renewing the yellow box on Mill Street as there is no entry to Pound Lane at this point nor will it be renewing the yellow boxes on the Straffan Road opposite the Maxol station. The Office has received correspondence from the residents but is, unfortunately, not prepared to renew the yellow box.

Cllr. Ó Cearúil objected strongly to this report. He stated that residents on Pound Lane and Leinster cottages were unable to exit the street towards the Moyglare Road as vehicles were obstructing the way. This is also an issue for people using the car parks at AIB, the pharmacy and Coonan's. He stated that he was disappointed with the response and demanded that something be done.

The same was the case on the Straffan Road, where residents cannot exit their properties and people leaving Maxol towards the town centre. He insisted that the yellow boxes be re-instated for common sense purposes.

That the speed limit of 80 km/h be reduced to 50 km/h on the Ballygoran Road, Maynooth.

The Municipal District Office responded that it will list this motion for consideration at the next speed limit review.

Cllr. Ó Cearúil welcomed this response. The Ballygoran Road is being used as an alternative route around the town but is densely populated. He stated that he would like to see other rural roads in the area that are heavily populated to have a reduced speed limit. This is in line with his calls to have the speed limit in housing estates reduced from 50km/h to 30km/h to protect children.

Other Council Business

Bollards at Old Greenfield

The Roads Design Department is currently preparing required drawing(s) to commence this process. Cllr. Ó Cearúil re-iterated his objection to the removal of these bollards in line with the wishes of local residents.

Traffic Flow in Maynooth

The Municipal District Office had discussed a specification with a consultant for a full traffic review of Maynooth. A fully costed specification and proposal has been received and is being reviewed by the Traffic Management Department.

Paid Parking

The tenders for the Paid Parking Licence for Kildare, which included Maynooth has been received. A decision on the operator will be made soon and work should commence in the coming months.

Maynooth Ring Road

Any potential ring road will need the co-operation of Meath County Council.

A letter requesting a meeting with Ratoath Municipal District has issued, however, no response has been received to date. Updates will be issued once this meeting is held.

Community and festival Grants

The Community Grants from Kildare County Council are now open again. All voluntary and local organisations are welcome to submit applications. The deadline for applications is the 18th of March. Applications are available from Cllr. Ó Cearúil upon request or online at www.kildarecoco.ie

Public Participation Network

The preparatory work in relation to creating a website and an ONLINE registration form for community and voluntary groups and organisations in the county, is now complete.

This is available at <http://www.kildareppn.ie> and we encourage any recognised local groups who work in the areas of community and voluntary, social inclusion and environmental to register ONLINE. The website has all the detailed information and a Tab for Registration.

As part of the reform under Local Government Reform Act 2014, local authorities are required to establish Public Partnership Networks (PPN) in each local authority area. Membership is open to all community and voluntary groups and organisations active in Co Kildare.

The PPN will be the main link through which the Council will connect with the local Community/ Voluntary, Social Inclusion and Environmental sectors.

All groups and organisations who currently get supports from the Council or who are on the Council various records through Sports Partnership, Heritage grants, Community Grants, or Co Kildare Community & Voluntary Forum are being informed over the coming days about this opportunity to be part of the County Kildare Public participation Network (PPN). Letters will issue over coming week.

Again if anyone is in contact with a local voluntary group, I would appreciate if you would mention the PPN and ask them to register Online.

The Open Session in Maynooth will take place in Maynooth Community Library on Tuesday 3rd March between 5.20pm and 7.30pm.

Fianna Fáil News

Comhairle Dáil Ceantair AGM

The AGM for the Kildare North CDC was held recently. The new committee is as follows; David Trost (Cathaoirleach), Carmel Kelly (Secretary), Michael Coleman (Treasurer), Dan Doolan (Leas-Cathaoirleach), Conor McGarry (PRO), Stephen Church (Youth Officer).

Local Maynooth man Michael Cadden was made Honorary President.

Policy Workshop

A policy workshop was held on the 26th of Febuary in the Westgrove Hotel, Clane focusing on Transport and Tourism. Deputy Timmy Dooley, Fianna Fáil spokesperson on the area chaired the meeting. Recommendations will be published soon.

Cumann Meeting

A Cumann meeting will be held at the end of March. Notification will be sent to existing members on exact time and date. If you would like to join or give your opinions on local and national matters please get in touch with Naoise Ó Cearúil on (086) 728 0050.

Fianna Fáil proposes legislation to avoid Property Tax timebomb

Cllr. Naoise Ó Cearúil has said the Government needs to provide reassurance to thousands of homeowners across the country who face major increases in their property tax when the revaluation date for properties falls due next year.

Under the Local Property Tax Act homeowners are required to revalue their properties in 2016 but house prices in Kildare alone have increased by up to 40% since the initial valuation in 2013.

"The rising property market is storing up a timebomb for homeowners based on the current property tax law unless the Government takes action," said Cllr. Ó Cearúil.

"Fianna Fáil is presenting legislation today that would remove the strict valuation date for 2016 from law and give the Oireachtas the discretion on revaluation. We said at the time the government introduced the legislation that it was extremely unfair and an anti-urban tax.

"For most properties, the effect of moving up one valuation band is an extra €90 per year. However some homeowners in Kildare could see their home rise by three or four valuation bands, adding up to €360 to their annual property tax bill.

"Fianna Fáil has put forward a common sense measure to stop this. The party is committed to a fundamental review of the property tax which takes account of people's ability to pay. We also want to repeal the revaluation in 2016.

"At the moment the property tax yields €495m from 1.6m households but there is huge unfairness in how the legislation is applied. Fianna Fáil believes this legislation being brought forward today will go some way provide reassurance for homeowners that they will not be facing huge increases in their property tax."

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

An Irish Blessing

May you always have...
Walls for the winds
A roof for the rain
Tea beside the fire
Laughter to cheer you
Those you love near
you
And all your heart
might desire.

Sudoku Challenge

Difficult

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

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

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

**Congratulations to
 February Winner:**

**Niamh Healy
 Leinster Park**

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

JIM'S SHOE REPAIR

Tesco Shopping Centre

LADIES & GENTS HEELS

WHILE U WAIT

SHOES STRETCHED

HEELS LOWERED

LEATHER SOLES STITCHED ON

KEY CUTTING

ALL KEYS

HOUSE AND VEHICLE

PHONE 086 8657142



Fleadh Laighean

Maigh Nuad 6 - 12 July 2015

10,000 visitors

3,000 musicians

Bígí Linn!!



www.leinsterfleadh.ie

Fleadh Laighean Update

A Céilí was held in the North Kildare Club on Sunday, the 1st of February to raise funds for Fleadh Laighean. There was over 130 people in attendance from all corners of Leinster. Everybody enjoyed the variety of set dances as Frank Keenan kept everybody on their toes. There was a real buzz in the air, a wonderful atmosphere as people got into the Fleadh spirit. Old friendships were rekindled and new friendships forged. Rise the Dust Céilí Band produced energetic and lively music throughout.

Donovan's Food Store

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Mon-Sat 7.30am - 10.00pm

Sun 8.00am - 10.00pm

Breakfast Rolls, Paninis,

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Tea, Coffee & Soup. Private catering service also available.

Offering our Promotional Range

Flowers, Fruit & Veg., Groceries & Gourmet Cheese.

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ATM Machine & Phone Credit.

Off-Licence Stocking

a Wide Range of Wines

Parenting Talk in Maynooth Community Library

There is a series of talks organised by Kildare Library Service in partnership with HSE Primary Care Psychology Team and Mental Health Ireland and is funded by Kildare County Council. Attendance is free but please call the Library to book your place. The first talk in Maynooth Community Library is:

Happy Parents/Happy Child

Presented by Sheila O'Malley, Parenting Expert

Sheila will share practical tips and skills to deal with sibling rivalry, difficult behaviour, homework struggles and how to enjoy easier mornings and bedtimes.

Maynooth Community Wednesday 11th March 7pm

Maynooth Community Library,

Main Street,

Maynooth,

Co.Kildare

Tel:01 6285530

Email: maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie

<http://www.kildare.ie/library/maynooth/>





Maynooth Welcomes Top Class Trad Concert

Ceardlann Earraigh is an annual event consisting of **Master Workshops** in Music and Song followed by a **Grand Concert**. Now in its 17th consecutive year it provides students and followers of traditional Irish Music with the best of tuition and performance. This year's event, under the auspices of the Kildare County Board of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann, takes place on March 28th with a lineup that can only whet the appetite of all. Among those taking part are **3 recipients of TG4's Ceoltóir Óg na Bliana**, the current **holder of Corn Uí Riada from Oireachtas na Samhna**, a Kerry legend on the Bosca Ceoil and that's not all!

Artistes performing at the Ceardlann Earraigh Grand Concert in the **Glenroyal Hotel** include Breannán Begley (accordion), Michelle Mulcahy (concertina), Louise Mulcahy (flute), Caoimhín Ó Fearghail (Uilleann Pipes), Nell Ní Chróinín (Ámhránaíocht Gaeilge agus Béarla), Donal McCague and Declan Folan (fiddle), Dave Sheridan and Noreen Gavin O'Sullivan (Tin Whistle), James Harvey (Banjo) and Junior Davey (Bodhrán).

The **Grand Concert** follows a full day of **Master Workshops** in Scoil na Mainistreach, Celbridge. The Workshops begin at 11am when students are graded and formal tuition starts at 11.30am with the above artistes. Lunch, **provided free of charge**, is at 2pm where lorry loads of sandwiches and brack, freshly made by the many volunteers, await all students. Classes resume at 2.30pm and continue to 4.30pm.

Beidh fáilte is fiche roimh gach éinne ag Ceardlann 2015. The committee look forward to welcoming old and new friends again this year to what has become a constant in the calendar of traditional music festivals.

Ceardlann Earraigh, March 28th. Bígí linn!!



GRAND CONCERT—
Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth
ADMISSION: €15

MASTER WORKSHOPS—
Scoil na Mainistreach, Celbridge
ADMISSION: €20

*To book tickets or workshops contact
Nuala on 0868422437 or
Máire on 087-2984607*

WWW.CEARDLANNEARRAIGH.COM



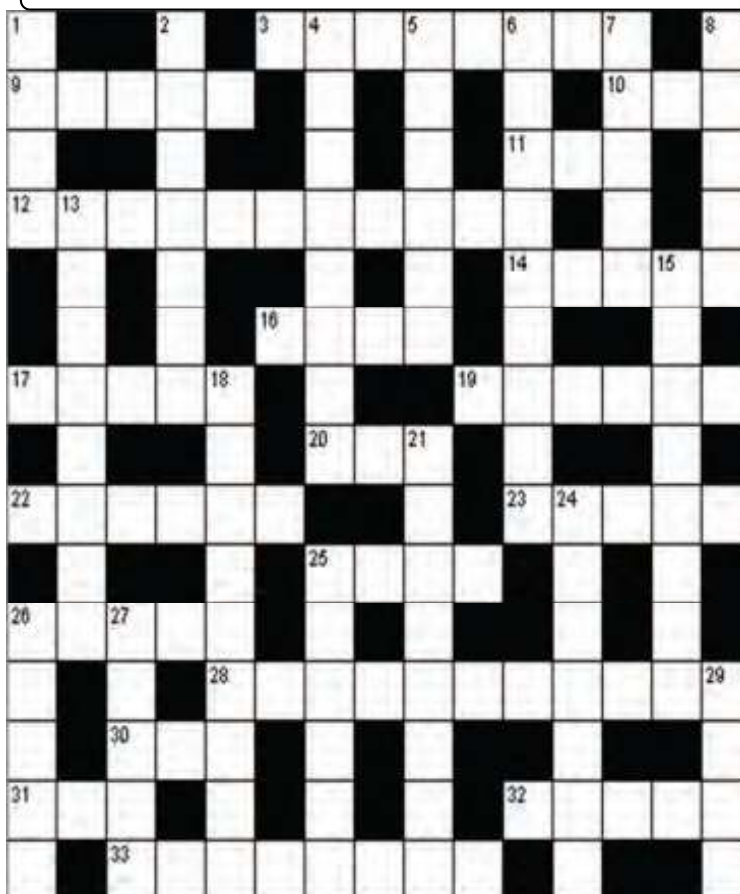
facebook.com/ceardlannearraigh



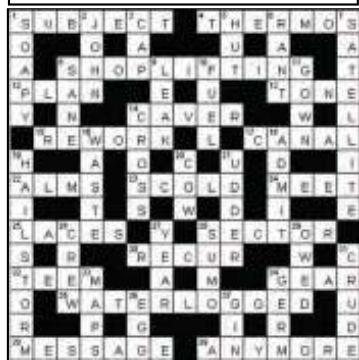
[@crdlannearraigh](https://twitter.com/crdlannearraigh)

Clues Across

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

March Crossword - (No: 433)**Clues Down**

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

Answers to Crossword (No 432)**Special Prize
Book Voucher**

Give yourself the luxury of browsing, and choosing the book/books which take your fancy from the wide selection available in the store of our sponsor

**The Maynooth
Bookshop
68 Main Street,
Maynooth**

**Entries in before:
(Wenesday 18th March)**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

**Winner of Crossword
(No. 432 February)**

**Bernadette Duffy
175 Kingsbry
Maynooth**

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

Collect prize from

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68 Main Street, Maynooth**

**Maynooth Bookshop
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Fax: 01 6291080

E-mail maynoothbookshop@eircom.net

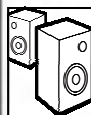
**Kiernan Sound Services
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Co. Kildare**

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Equipment delivered, set-up and collected if
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We sell weekly, Monthly, Student Monthly &
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We also stock Kildare County Council Bin Tags
Large collection of Carlton cards in stock

Opening Times: Mon - Fri: 8am - 9pm
Sat: 8am - 8pm
Sun: 9am - 6.30pm
Shop in friendly, relaxed surroundings

March Diary Planner

Irish Girl Guides

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

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

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

Men's Sheds

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

University of Third Age (U3A)

Weekly meetings on Fridays at 11am.
Maynooth Community Space
Unit 11/12
Tesco Shopping Centre
Carton Park,
Maynooth
New Members Welcome

History Group

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

Bridge Club

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

Parent & Toddler Group

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

Maynooth Community Church

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

Craddockstown Golf Course - 10th April 2015

golf Classic

In aid of Fleadh Cheoil Laighean 2015

4 Ball

Team Entry Fee: €200
(includes meal)

Book your Tee Time @
fleadhgolf@gmail.com
086 222 5540



www.leinsterfleadh.ie

Exciting New Development at the GUI National Golf Academy

The GUI National Golf Academy is delighted to announce a major new development. The outfield range area is to be redeveloped with new targets and a centrepiece target green at 165 yards.

Two new teaching greens are to be constructed to USGA specifications also. See http://www.bettergolf.ie/Development/range_new_small.aspx for a map of the new targets and greens. Construction will get underway on Monday 23rd February and will last several weeks. The recent dry weather has meant that the work can commence sooner than we had hoped – allowing us to have it all complete and in play quicker.

WHEN DOES THE WORK START AND HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?

Assuming we avoid very wet weather during construction, the Academy will close on Saturday 21st February at 4pm with construction starting on Monday 23rd February. The range area will be shaped, seeded and grown in – ready to play on 13th April.

WILL THE RANGE BE CLOSED DURING THIS TIME

Yes – with some exceptions – but generally speaking, the driving range will be closed for this eight week period.

WHAT'S NOT AFFECTED BY THIS WORK?

- Short Game Area & Putting Green, available by pre-booking by email during this period to kenny@learntogolf.ie only (No phone bookings taken – please give 24 hours notice if possible)
- Individual lessons - Group clinics

ARE THERE CUSTOM FITS DURING THIS TIME?

Please check with the professional you booked the fit with as there have been changes to the schedule.

PLEASE NOTE:

YOU MUST HAVE A BOOKING WITH US TO ACCESS THE ACADEMY FROM SUNDAY 22nd FEBRUARY TO SUNDAY 12th APRIL – THAT IS A BOOKING TO USE SHORT GAME AREA/PUTTING GREEN, LESSONS OR CLINICS. THERE ARE NO 'WALK INS' PERMITTED DURING THIS PERIOD. We apologise for the disruption this will cause, but the improvements will benefit everyone when complete.

Alan Kelly - Manager

FILM MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

Film Review: *American Sniper* Stars: Bradley Cooper Director: Clint Eastwood



After the lack-lustre *Jersey Boys*, *American Sniper* is Clint Eastwood's latest film offering in the director's seat. This Oscar nominated film is based on the autobiography of Chris Kyle, an American Navy SEAL and 'Hero'. He undertook four tours of duty in Iraq and built up an impressive record as a military killing machine. Kyle earned himself the nick-name, 'The Devil of Ramadi' as he became the most lethal sniper in U.S. military history. Eastwood's film sets out to record both the public and personal life and persona of this very American sniper.



Eastwood's film begins with Kyle, played by a beefed-up Bradley Cooper, right in the middle of war-torn Fallujah. His target is a potential female terrorist and her child. It's a tense opening scene and Kyle has to make the decision – does he fire or not? The film then abruptly backtracks to Kyle's childhood.

This Texan native grew up in the 'Bible Belt' of America, where his father (a preacher) taught him his philosophy of life: to fear God, love his country and to hunt well. The young Kyle is indoctrinated in the so-called 'virtues' required to be a man. For Kyle's father, there are three kinds of people: 'wolves', 'sheep' and 'sheep-dogs'. His son Chris really has only one option. He must emulate the 'sheep-dog' and be a protector of the weak and defenceless.



As such, the adult Chris Kyle turns his hand first to the Rodeo Circuit and then enlists as a Navy SEAL recruit. In Kyle's worldview, courage is all and a black and white sense of right and wrong informs his every decision. The bombings of the US embassies in Dar-Es-Salaam and Nairobi in 1998 instil this Texas cowboy with patriotic fervour and a desire to fight the good fight against all American aggressors.

Kyle is the sort of man who 'doesn't quit'. When a recruiting officer for the Navy SEALs informs him that most men don't last the course, Chris Kyle retorts back – "I'm not most men." True to form, the training of the soldiers is filmed by Eastwood in scenes reminiscent of a lot of other war films. It is a harsh and brutal boot-camp universe with the clear understanding that the army requires 'warriors' not wimps. Bradley Cooper's impressive bulk and swagger as the Texan native measures up.



Kyle quickly earns a reputation as a protector of his fellow SEALs in the soulless, no-man's-land of Iraqi streets. Targeting suspects and insurgents alike, he despatches Muslim men, women and children in a relentless and efficient manner. Momentary flickers of doubt are quickly overridden by the sure-fire certainty, in his view, of the validity and necessity of his killings. His sense of infallibility is nurtured by his fellow Marines who think him 'invincible' and a 'legend'. Kyle has

more kills than the combined number of his fellow snipers. The real-life Chris Kyle was credited officially with 160 kills and unofficially 255.



His courtship and marriage to Taya (Sienna Miller) provides a counterpoint to his other war-torn existence. Throughout Eastwood's film, the public and the personal life of Chris Kyle intersect very closely. Even on sniper duty, Kyle has the time to conduct the intimacies of a telephone call home. It is a bizarre collision of two worlds.



Sienna Miller's role as the wife appears to present a lone dissenting voice to Bradley Cooper's gung-ho narrative and approach as the American sniper. Taya is increasingly concerned about her husband's activities in Fallujah and his loyalty to his comrades. Despairingly, she chides him, "it's not about them...it's us...you have to make it back to us!" She believes that Kyle is decimating his family life on the altar of blood sacrifice in Fallujah.

Yet, Eastwood, the director, appears to be on the side of Cooper, the loner sharpshooter. Chris Kyle is a distant relation to the unsociable anti-heroes that Eastwood made a speciality of playing in various Sergio Leone Spaghetti Westerns (*The Good, The Bad and The Ugly*, *The Man With No Name*) in the 1960s and '70s.



So is *American Sniper* a Western in a Fallujah setting? Certainly the use of a Syrian sniper provides Cooper's Chris Kyle with an enemy equal to his status and brutality. A gun-fight of the OK Corral stand-off is inevitable. Curiously, the relentless pursuit of the Syrian (dubbed 'The Butcher') by the American sniper becomes the main focus of Eastwood's film. In Kyle's actual memoirs, the Syrian terrorist (second-in-command to al-Qaeda leader, al-Zarqawi) merited only a few lines.

American Sniper, on its release in 2014, was wildly successful at the U.S. Box Office. It has, however, also sparked controversy for its depiction of the Iraqi War. Eastwood has been criticised by some commentators for his lack of political and historical context behind the war.



The false premise for the American operation out there is never questioned or examined in the film. The simplified moral compass where Kyle and the rest of the Navy SEALs are depicted as defenders of God and their country against heathen 'savages' is a major flaw in *American Sniper*. Eastwood has been criticised for producing a piece of American jingoism. It's a criticism that's hard to dispute. Also, critics have slated Chris Kyle's 2013 autobiography with alleged inaccuracies and unsubstantiated events peppering his book.

Eastwood has defended his film on the basis that it is a character study which showcases the effects of war on the individual. He has called *American Sniper* "the biggest anti-war statement any film can make". Does the film achieve this? Well, Bradley Cooper is an excellent actor, but his role as Chris Kyle poses more questions than answers. Does Kyle, the person and family man, suffer any consequences in his role as a sniper?



Behind his sniper's gun, Cooper cuts a solitary and detached figure. We never get much beyond this hollow surface. His motivations for enduring four tours of Iraq appear simplistic and naive. His comrades, who he purports to protect and care about, are not properly fleshed out as individuals. They are interchangeable and blend into the background of the film. Therefore, it is hard to relate to characters that are not much more than plastic cardboard cut-outs.

A shadowy figure, rarely showing the effects and strain of war, Cooper's sniper remains as aloof as he is from his targets. Kyle's problems with blood pressure and commonplace noises back in civilian life (like his baby daughter crying) serve to highlight a slight chink in this sniper's otherwise cool demeanour. The only real sense of a melt-down for Kyle occurs when he attacks the family dog at a garden party. Even then it is sketchy and serves almost as a footnote at the end of the film. In particular, the scenes involving the recovery of the sniper seem hurried and contrived.



Where Clint Eastwood is successful is in conveying the sheer devastation and chaos of the Iraqi War. The veteran director's use of cinematography is striking. In aerial shots, he captures the vastness of the Iraqi cities and the sheer confusion and madness of it all. Rooftops constantly spew out fire and smoke like an erupting volcano.



The film rests on two performances only. Bradley Cooper is superb at portraying a deeply flawed 'hero' who, ironically, fails to elicit much sympathy. An unrecognisable Sienna Miller gives a strong performance as the loyal but despondent wife to the always in control sniper.

However, Eastwood's cool and precise direction never allows the film to become too involved, dramatic or heated. Granted, the action sequences have occasional grit but not enough tension to sustain a whole film. Ultimately, his lack of political insight and depiction of the Iraqi War and Arabs in a one-dimensional way makes for a less than satisfactory cinematic experience. Rather like his main character, the film rings a bit hollow.



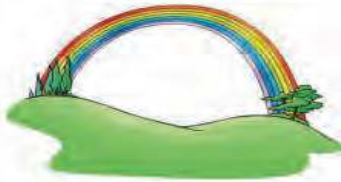
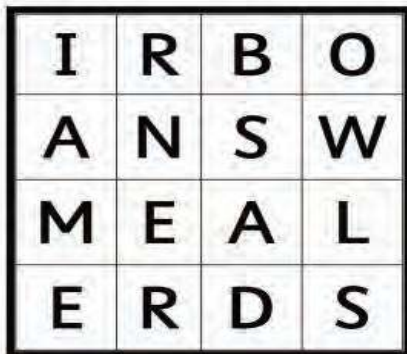


McDonald's Maynooth

Proud Sponsor of the Colouring Competition

St Patrick's Day Boggler Puzzle

How many words of 3 letters or more can you find using the letters below? Words are formed from adjoining letters. Letters must join in the proper sequence to spell a word and may join horizontally, vertically, or diagonally, to the left, right, or up-and-down. No letter squares, however, may be used more than once within a single word. You may use plurals if available. Score 1 point for each 3 letter word, 2 points for 4 letter words, 3 points for 5 letter words and so on. Score an extra 2 points for every St Patrick's Day word that you make!



My points _____



Learn to Draw a Leprechaun



McDonalds Children's Colouring Competition

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

Name: _____

Age: _____

Address: _____

Phone No: _____

February Winners:

Age: 3 - 5: Áine O Flaherty,
Parklands Way, Maynooth

Age: 6 - 7: Caolainn Hanlon,
Meadowbrook Close, Maynooth

Age: 8 & Over: Lilli Mathias,
Rockfield Green, Maynooth



Prizes for Colouring Competition can be collected at:

**Maynooth Community Council Office, Unit 5, Tesco Shopping Centre.
Entries must arrive before: Wednesday 18th March 2015**



McDonald's Advert

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Saturday 28th March 2015
10am - 4pm

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household
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Eve Larine getting ready for the St Patrick's Day Parade in Maynooth



It's that time of the year; yes it's the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Maynooth and it's Larine in the Galaxy of Stars this year.

We are looking forward to showing our showcase of different Aliens, Rockets, Giant Daleks all made with recycle materials in collaboration again with Genil, Pathways and St.Raphael's Celbridge. This should dazzle the onlookers at the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Eve Larine is an occupational service centre in the heart of the Maynooth Community, at the back of Brady's Pub on Doctors Lane, there is an entrance in the council carpark also.

We have a beautiful garden centre, a designated art area and a kitchen where all the meals are prepared by the participants under the supervision of our great Chef Ann Mulligan.

Drop in to see us any time especially since the garden centre is open to the public 08:30a.m - 04:00p.m - Mon -Thurs: - 08:30a.m - 03.30p.m - Friday only

Any queries about our service please contact: Paul Dowling Manager Tina Murphy Assistant Manager, Martin Carter Supervisor or Ann Mulligan Supervisor at: 016289465 or pdowling@eve.ie

Check out our blog at: www.evelarinecourt.blogspot.ie

If you are interested in working with recycle materials we have been using Recreate in Ballymount industrial estate, they collect recycle materials from different sources and it is like a sweet shop for anybody with vision, their email is: <http://www.recreate.ie/> and their phone number is: 015568798.

La Maison

DONATELLO's

Town Center Mall, Maynooth, Co. Kildare - Tel: 016289660 - Email: eat@donatellos.info - web: www.donatellos.info

**See Voucher on
Front Page**



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>Soupe à l'Oignon Pate de Carottes Potée Oignonnée Chou Tartine Apéritive (M)</p> <p>Main Courses: Concise Quatre Fowl Succotche of Guinea Fowl with a Pumpkin and Wild Fennel, Cardamom, Juniper berry glaze and Potato Fondant. Butterfly Squash Risotto (V) Risotto with fresh Sage, truffle oil and parmesan shavings. Beef Bourguignon Beef marinated in a Burgundy Red Jus & slowly braised for 8 hours with a typical French bouquet garni and a Mushroom Pastry. Filet of Irish Beef 10 oz prime dry aged & hung premium Irish Beef Filet served on a prime Irish carrot and potato puree, with a choice of sauce. * Black Peppercorn * Fungi * Mushrooms * Calf de Paris Butter</p>	<p>Pappardelle Insalata Caprese di Burrata di Bruschetta di Pomodoro (V) Antipasti Misto Chicken Wings Crostini</p> <p>Main Courses: Penne Matriciana Spaghetti Bolognese Penne all'Arrabbiata (V) Spaghetti Carbonara Linguine con Cozze Lasagne Chicken Morris Bones Pollo Rusticano Pollo Parmigiano Fritto Pizzola Plus our full Gourmet Pizza Menu</p>

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5 day Membership €150
Ladies Membership €350
Students Membership €250
Junior Membership €90

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A Mother's Love Of all the special joys in life, The big ones and the small,

A mother's love and tenderness, Is the greatest of them all.

Happy Mothers Day



Drama News

An Nuadha Players Community Theatre

Hi to all you people who love the Arts as much as the members of An Nuadha Players Community Theatre. Welcome to the month of March which they say can come in like a lion. Of course, with global warming, this may no longer be the fact. What is a fact is that the first reading of *The Hostage* took place in McMahons Pub on Main St., Maynooth. An enthusiastic reading with enthusiastic actors, will make for a great show. Still some parts left to be cast. As the great actor, Sir Doris Day Lewis, once remarked there are no small parts, only small actors! It's important to note that *The Hostage* is about the capture of a British soldier by the IRA. It's not a prequel to 50 shades of gray which is about bondage. It's important we get the correct audience for our production and not a rump of voyeurs! First produced in Irish in the Damer Hall, St. Stephen's Green. Behan gave a version in English to the great theatre producer and wife of Ewan McColl, Joan Littlewood... Between Behan and Littlewood they produced a bawdy romp set in a brothel with music, dance and lots of laughter. This makes for great entertainment.

The story has a darker side. A young British soldier is kidnapped by the IRA in retaliation for a republican awaiting execution in a Belfast Jail. He then falls in love with a young innocent girl from the country who works in the house. As in *Romeo and Juliet* the relationship is tragic and doomed. The great thing about Behan is that he is not a blinkered republican. Although he despised the British Empire he had a lot of respect for English people, especially the Governor of the Borstal he served time in. This man recognised Brendan's talent and gave him all the encouragement and confidence required for him to become a great writer. It takes an open mind to make this distinction. The play will be staged in May 2015. Venue to be decided.

First reading of *The Hostage* in McMahons Pub. The news that Maynooth University's expansion over the next five years includes a cinema, theatre and sports centre is exactly what Maynooth needs. Dr Philip Nolan, President of Maynooth University, and his team deserve full marks for this adventurous project. This really puts the University up there with the best and makes Maynooth an even most desirable place to live. Remember a town without a theatre is like a eunuch - lots of talk about it but it does not have the facility to perform!

A Nuadha had its annual table quiz in McMahons at the end of February. What a great night with Martin Higgins asking the tricky questions. Questions like, what is the meaning of life? He did not get the answer he was looking for. This will be included in every quiz till we find the answer. Thank you to all the quizzers who came along and added much needed money to the coffers for upcoming productions.

Look out for Insight Theatre Groups new production *The Hunt for Red Willie* directed by Michael Giblin. If you have not come across this play before, you are in for a real treat. Not to be missed. Switch off the wireless and head to the Kildrought Inn, Celbridge starting March 18th.

And last and certainly not least who will forget the latest offering from Maynooth Post Primary. Jesus Christ Superstar became Jesus Christ Super Show. The bar is raised again. Congratulations to the production team and the entire cast and crew. Jesus and his entire family would approve!!

Have a really peaceful St. Patrick's Day with maybe a glass of sherry before lunch with a loved one. If you have any aspects of the Arts you would like me to mention. Contact me at teriann@eircom.net
By Terry Nealon

Labour Advice Service



Emmet Stagg TD

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

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