



## **Dr. Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin, Secretary, Maynooth Community Council R.I.P.**

As the Editor of the “Maynooth Newsletter” for many years, the late Dr. Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin was well known to readers and it is impossible to fully capture her contribution to this monthly publication and her wider involvement in Maynooth Community Council without a more lengthy narrative, but this maybe for another time. For now we remain stunned at her sudden passing and are united in shock and grief with her family and friends.

Maynooth Community Council owes Muireann a huge debt for her unselfish support over the past thirty years. There was no role that she has not filled over the years, including all of the officer roles, director and sponsor of the various Community Employment projects, editor of the “Maynooth Newsletter” and active participant in many sub-committees including the St. Patrick’s Day parade and the annual festival.

At her funeral service this involvement was described as Muireann’s contribution in trying to influence the type of society that she lived in and wanting to build a community for all of Maynooth. Her influence stretched into other parts of Irish life both social and political. Many readers will have known her for different things – an academic, a writer, actress, traditional singer, a community activist, environmentalist with a strong interest in history and heritage and being politically active in the Labour Party. Most importantly she was a partner, mother and recently a grandmother.

Her funeral service at Glasnevin Crematorium was a celebration of her life and was attended by President Michael D. Higgins and Mrs Higgins who were known personally to Muireann.

The Tánaiste Joan Burton, Deputy Emmet Stagg, Deputy Bernard Durkan and other members of the Oireachtas, Kildare County Council and the Labour Party were in attendance as well as colleagues from Maynooth University and colleagues from Maynooth Community Council and representatives of both local and national organisations and the community of Maynooth. Muireann had a short period of illness and her untimely death is a sad loss in all our lives.

Paul Croghan  
(on behalf of the Members and Staff of Maynooth Community Council)



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Maynooth Community Council, Unit 5, Tesco's S.C. Carton Park, Maynooth. Phone: 01-6285922 - e-mail: maynoothcc@eircom.net No. 435



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## Leptospirosis



Leptospirosis is a very serious bacterial disease that can affect the liver and kidney. Incidence of this disease has decreased over the years in the dog world through a vaccination programme but we still see it sporadically. It has about

10% mortality rate in young dogs. Severe infection can lead to renal failure. Two types of Leptospirosis are most prevalent, *Leptospira Canicola* affecting the kidney and *Leptospira Icterhaemorrhagicae* affecting the liver and causing jaundice. This latter type is similar to the disease known as "Weils" in humans. In the cattle population this same disease can cause abortion, reduced milk yield, fertility problems and kidney disease. Through annual vaccination and management protocol this disease can be contained on the farm. These Leptospirac bacteria are carried by rats and they



shed them in their urine onto the grass. Dogs can become infected by either eating this same grass as dogs do or, by urine of other dogs. Also these bacteria have a cork-screw shape and can penetrate damaged skin.

Last week in Maynooth Veterinary Clinic a 5 year old dog,



not vaccinated, was presented showing a vague illness for a few days. The dog was very weak, not eating, vomiting, with a high temperature. After hospitalisation he developed jaundice. His gums, whites of his eyes and skin became

yellow. With intensive treatment, antibiotics and intravenous fluids, he responded but in future will have to have continuous blood tests to monitor his kidney and liver function which are carried out in our Clinic.

If you are worried about this disease or are unsure of your dog's vaccination history do not hesitate to ring us at Maynooth Veterinary Clinic 01 6289467 and Clane Veterinary Clinic 045 982763 and we will be only too happy to give you proper advice on the correct vaccination procedure.

## Maynooth Community Council Elections 2015



Are you interested in making Maynooth a better place to live?  
Do you want to contribute to the future development of this Town?

Maynooth Community Council was established in 1984 by Democratic Elections, (non-political, non-denominational), as a voluntary body to represent the local community and to respond to issues and the needs of the town.

The MCC elections will take place in the coming months. It is important that all **Residents Associations** especially in newly established estates be represented on the council. Nominations will also be sought from other Maynooth based Community Groups/Clubs.

To register your interest in nomination please forward Group Name, Contact Name, Contact Phone number and e-mail to [maynoothcc@eircom.net](mailto:maynoothcc@eircom.net)

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## Local Maynooth Guide leaders 'an inspiration to the next generation'



**Members of Irish Girl Guides' Eastern Region, including leaders from Maynooth, pictured at their national conference held recently in the Carlton Hotel Dublin Airport.**

Local Guide leaders were among 220 members of the Irish Girl Guides (IGG) who received praise at their national conference at the weekend [21st & 22nd March 2015] for the significant impact they make not only to their local communities in Ireland, but also to global development.

Addressing the delegates, who included Guide leaders from Maynooth, the Chair of the board of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), Nicola Grinstead, said: "Every day our movement is powered by you – highly-skilled, incredibly dedicated and inspirational volunteers who enjoy the fun, friendship and challenge of the movement and who are, in turn, an inspiration to the next generation of girls and young leaders."

Ms Grinstead went on to describe IGG as "a driving force" in the global Guiding movement. "Through representation in global

Leadership roles, through participation in key advocacy and influencing events,

through participation in our global programmes, working with partners on projects around the world and your tireless efforts to contribute to activities well beyond your own borders, the impact you make is significant," she said.

Ms Grinstead said that, in a world of ever-increasing connectivity, the opportunities presented by being part of the world's largest organization for girls and young women, were significant. "We each have a responsibility to ensure that girls are given every possible opportunity to fulfill their potential regardless of who they are and where they come from," she said.

Ms Grinstead said that a recent survey carried out by WAGGGS in 70 countries revealed that 45% of people believe girls are held back from taking leadership positions because of lack of confidence in their appearance. The Free Being Me body confidence programme for girls, which was developed by WAGGGS in partnership with the Dove Self-Esteem Project and which has recently been adopted by IGG, was expected to reach 16,000 girls in Ireland and 3.5 million girls worldwide by 2016.

Gillian Finan, Regional Development Officer for IGG's Eastern Region, said: "Guiding provides a safe space for girls to grow in confidence and to develop life-skills by taking part in a wide range of games, activities and challenges in a fun and non-competitive atmosphere. Leaders from our region are always delighted to attend IGG's national conference to upskill and keep up-to-date with best practice in youth work. There's always a great buzz at the event and we all come home re-energised and bursting with new ideas for our weekly meetings with Guides, Brownies and Ladybirds."

Irish Girl Guides welcomes new members from age 5+, young leaders from age 15 and adult volunteer leaders from age 18 (no previous Guiding experience is necessary). To find out more about Irish Girl Guides, see [www.irishgirlguides.ie](http://www.irishgirlguides.ie) or tel: 01 6683898.

Fiona Murdoch  
**Communications Officer**  
**Irish Girl Guides, 27 Pembroke Park, Dublin 4**  
**Tel: 01 6683898/085 8570565**  
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## Six Nations champion Orla Fitzsimons helps launch Pieta House Darkness Into Light fundraising and awareness event in Kildare



More than 50 people came to the Glenroyal Hotel Maynooth on Monday, April 13th as Pieta House launched Kildare's Darkness Into Light events with Electric Ireland. Taking place on Saturday, May 9th, Darkness Into Light is a unique, early morning experience which begins in darkness at 4.15am as thousands of people walk or run a 5km route while dawn is breaking.

Oliver Skehan, Digital Coordinator of Pieta House was joined by a number of supporters including Orla Fitzsimons, member of the rugby squad that recently won the Triple Crown and Six Nations titles for Ireland, Bryan Rodgers from Electric Ireland, representatives from Pieta House and volunteers from the Naas and Maynooth Darkness Into Light committees.

Darkness Into Light is now in its seventh year and last year's event attracted 80,000 participants in 39 locations across Ireland, including in London and Sydney. With the number of locations doubling this year, organisers are expecting over 100,000 people to take part. 80 venues will host the event on the island of Ireland and abroad including in Australia, Canada, England, Scotland and the USA.

"Darkness Into Light is a people's event organised by local committees all over the country. Although the number of people walking has never been greater, neither has the need. With two venues set to host the event in Kildare this year, including Maynooth for the first time, it's an example of how Darkness Into Light is uniting people across the globe in solidarity with those who suffer" Oliver Skehan said. He added "While suicide is a devastating tragedy, we must not forget that there is hope, there is help, and Pieta House will be there to provide both."

While Darkness Into Light raises much needed funds, it is also about awareness, solidarity and local communities. This year, Pieta House is asking those taking part to connect with others at the event. Walkers/runners are encouraged to speak to the person beside them, tell a story or simply say hello, connect and acknowledge one another. Make your presence known. No one should walk alone.

Online registration and further details are available now at [www.darknessintolight.ie](http://www.darknessintolight.ie). For more information on Darkness Into Light in Kildare contact Marie Peelo on 01 6770630.





## Drama News An Nuadha Players Community Theatre

Hi to all the followers of good community theatre, and you will not get better than An Nuadha Players latest production, 'The Hostage' by Brendan Behan which will land into the Girls Presentation School from Thurs. 4<sup>th</sup> to Sat. 6<sup>th</sup> of June.

The whole play is set in a brothel in the inner city of Dublin. For a start let me say this play is not suitable for youngsters. If you have a sensitive Granny it might be better to leave her at home watching reruns of Live at 3. This is a working brothel with a colourful array of prostitutes, men dressed as woman who are not sure who or what they are, all working hard to make a few shillings. People with names like Princess Grace, Rio Rita, Monsewer, a man born in England who thinks he's an Irishman and plays the bagpipes to prove it. Monsieur thinks its 1916 and he is fighting in the post office. The rest of the house guests go along with him because they are as mad as he is. As all this madness is taking place the I.R.A take over the brothel and use it as a safe house to keep a British soldier whom they have kidnapped. This is in response to an IRA lad who is in prison in a Belfast jail. If he is executed, the British soldier is next.

The play contains singing and dancing, crude music hall humour and it's all very very funny. But this is just part of the story. Behan has written a play about the futility of war, an eye for an eye leaving no winners, just lots of sad people and some old men who think something glorious happened but they can't remember what it was. The play is every bit as relevant as it was when first performed by the Theatre Workshop under the direction of Joan Littlewood who adapted it from the Irish version 'An Giall'. This is a great opportunity to see one of our great Irish writers in action. We hope a whole new audience will discover him 50 years after his death. Contact 086-8068068 for more information.

All road lead to Athlone and the Dean Croke Theatre for the RTE All Ireland Festival. It got started Thursday April 30<sup>th</sup> and continues to Sat May 9<sup>th</sup>. After 35 regional heats 9 finalists emerged who will battle it out to lift the trophy and be the best they can possibly be. This festival is the result of drama groups all over Ireland beaver away for the whole year since the last Festival: the excitement of picking a play the group feel could be in with a chance, the casting by the director to ensure that exactly the right person gets each part (bad casting can give a director nightmares), the rehearsals throughout the year, breaking for holidays, returning refreshed to tackle the task ahead with gusto and a firm belief that you can win this time. Then there are the men and women and their kids who help build the sets and the endless cups of tea and the occasional apple cake. All make an equal contribution to get the baby from infancy to a fully formed production. "Never again" is a term you hear during preparation but we all know come the next production we are up and ready to go. Amateur drama is addictive with no known cure. Good luck to all involved.

And now to end on a sorry note. Windmill Lane Studios who put Ireland on the international stage, was demolished last week. The iconic studio in Ringsend with the famous graffiti is no more. U2, Van the man, REM, Elvis Costello, The Stones and many many more all recorded and had worldwide hits from this very special place. The studio has moved elsewhere. The original site is in the hands of the developers. Who would dare close the Cavern or the Sun Studios in Memphis? Unthinkable - they recognise musical culture. In fairness the government have a lot more pressing things to worry other than culture. They are busy trying to get us to vote a pimply 21 year old into the Aras.

Good Luck and mind the Trams.

By Terry Nealon

### Acknowledgment

#### Harry Leavey Jnr. - 05/03/91 - 21/05/14 1st Anniversary

We, the Leavey family would like to take this opportunity to thank the doctors, nurses and staff of St. James Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown for their valient effort to try and save our beloved son Harry's life.

To the priests and committee of the parish for their empathy and the lovely mass they provided for Harry.

Lastly we would profoundly like to thank all the people of Maynooth and beyond, young and old for their love, support, letters, mass cards and kind words and love towards Harry. It meant so much to us.

From Clodagh(daughter), Harry, Janet, Ciara, Aisling, Elliott, Nanny Leavey and his best friend Amy and family.

**Harry's 1st Anniversary Mass:**  
**17th May 2015 at 6pm in Maynooth Church.**

**Selina's 5th Anniversary Mass:**  
**20th September 2015 at 6pm in Maynooth Church.**

### 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 Golf Society

Results Sheet 2015

Portarlinton Golf Club 11/04/2015

John Tierney Cup

Sponsored by Brendan Leigh

Maynooth Windows and Conservatories

1st Prize	Liam Farrelly	38pts
2nd Prize	Brian Sheils	37pts B9
3rd Prize	Danny Finnan	37pts
4th Prize	Niall Farrell	36pts B9
5th Prize	Barry Doyle	36pts
6th Prize	Darren Moran	36pts
7th Prize	Terry Moore	35pts
Front 9	Marty Maguire	19pts
Back 9	Sam Feeney	19pts
Nearest the Pin	Joey Edwards	
Over 50's	Norman Kavanagh	
2's Club	Danny Finnan, Niall Murphy, Joey Edwards	

Maynooth Golf Society's outing to Portarlinton Golf Club was for the annual John Tiernan Memorial Cup which was kindly sponsored by Brendan Leigh of Maynooth Windows and Conservatories.

41 members played at this tight inland course adjacent to the river Barrow in pleasant conditions.

First prize was presented by the sponsor Brendan Leigh to Liam Farrelly who won on the day with a score of 38 points, second place was Brien Sheils with a score of 37 points, third place also with a score of 37 points was Danny Finnan who also shared the 2's club with Niall Murphy, Joey Edwards, fourth place Niall Farrell with a score of 36 points. All other prize winners are listed on the results sheet.

The prizes were presented to all winners in Bradys by the sponsor Brendan Leigh and Norman Kavanagh. Brendan thanked all the members who played on the day in memory of John Tiernan former President of the society. He also thanked Declan Kennedy of Bradys Bar who provided finger food to all who attended the prize giving on the night.

Our next outing is Millicent on 9th May  
Followed by Week End Away to Roscrea/Nenagh on 22nd/23rd May.

### Skimming Stones

*New circle mates with shimmering  
partner  
under-ripe grass poke embankment  
edge  
downed in grumpy catchments of  
underwhelmed muck  
lock-gate latitude  
heaving  
tips of skimmed stones  
slicing sharp mementos from gilded  
duck's beak*

By John Doyle

# Maynooth Labour News

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

## **Cllr. McGinley Demands Prioritising of Projects for Funding from the National Transport Authority (NTA)**

Cllr. McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Full 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 Municipal District 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 at Celbridge Road, Maynooth. “*

John was given the following reply by Council Management:

*“The Acting Director of Services would agree with the sentiment of the motion that there should be some opportunity for the Council to inform the process by which projects are prioritised for funding by the National Transport.”*

Cllr. McGinley stated he was not interested in Management agreeing with the sentiment of his motion and that he wanted it adopted full stop. John went on to say: *“The National Transport Authority (NTA) cannot objectively make decisions on Projects submitted to them by County Councils because they simply don’t have the staff or the expertise to select from such a large number of Projects.*

*The Maynooth Municipal District (MD) submitted 18 Projects for funding from the NTA in 2015. They were not prioritised and neither were those submitted by the 4 other MD’s in the county.*

*As a result Maynooth MD got approval for only one Project i.e. €300,000 for a cycle path along the Royal Canal from INTEL to The Harbour in Maynooth. Of the 6 Projects submitted for Maynooth town itself this cyclepath would be the last of my priorities. The following would be well ahead:*

- *A badly needed footpath to the Educate Together School at a cost of €40,000. Kildare County Council saw this footpath as a priority way back before the school was built because it was included as a Planning Condition for the school.*
- *We also have been asking for traffic signals at the Straffan Road/Meadowbrook Link Road junction for the past 6 years.*
- *The North South Corridor footpath/cyclepath through the town to the two new schools at Moglare Hall is also a priority as is the review of the Traffic Management Plan.*

*Of the 90 Projects submitted to the NTA by this Council only 11 were approved. It is anyone’s guess how they selected those 11 as by their own admission the NTA “is a small organisation based in Dublin with very limited staffing resources.”*

The Council agreed unanimously with Cllr. McGinley’s motion and it was also agreed to put the issue to the Head of the NTA when she attends the April Meeting of the Council.

## **Council Chief Executives Approves Funding for Maynooth Traffic Management Plan**

Following extensive representations from Cllr. John McGinley the Councils Chief Executive has approved funding for the much needed Maynooth Traffic Management Plan. When the Draft is ready it will go Public Display for comments/amendments.

## **Proposal for Traffic Signals at Straffan Road/Meadowbrook Link Road Junction Sent to NRA**

The Area Engineer has advised Cllr. McGinley that the Councils proposal for traffic signals at the Straffan Road/Meadowbrook Link Road junction has been submitted to the National Roads Authority (NRA) for approval.

## **Cllr. McGinley Makes Submission on North South Corridor**

Cllr. McGinley made the following submission to the Council:

The right turning lanes at Silken Vale, Old Greenfield and Railway Station access must be kept as it makes no sense removing them. If they are removed it will result in traffic tailbacks to Main Street.

The turnstile at the Harbour Field wall (Straffan Road side) should be kept in place when the new 4m wide pedestrian & cycle link is put in place from the Glenroyal junction to Leinster Street.

Members of the public have until 12 May to make their views known to the Council.

## **Cllr. McGinley Looks for Safety Measures at Woodlands Crossing of Newtown Road:**

Cllr. McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting of the Council:

*“That steps be taken to improve safety for pedestrians crossing the Newtown Road from Beaufield to Woodlands.”*

John was given the following reply:

*“Certain improvements have been undertaken at this crossing point but the Municipal District Office is aware of the continuing dissatisfaction of residents of Woodlands. The Office would be willing to meet representatives on site to examine how this issue can be progressed.”*

Cllr. McGinley met the Area Engineer, Jonathan Deane, on site at 10 am on 15 April. Jonathan agreed to create another crossing point at the bend itself with flattened kerb and tarmacking of the green piece on the road side of Woodlands Fence to create a path. He will also add new signage. On another Woodlands issue Eircom repaired the hole at their access box at house 28 following representations from Cllr. McGinley.

<b>Grants Approved for Residents’ Associations</b>			
Council Grants were approved as follows at the Maynooth MD meeting on 8 April:			
30	Lyreen Park Residents Association	Maynooth	€135
34	Brookfield Avenue Residents Association	Maynooth	€185
34	Woodlands Residents Association	Maynooth	€135
43	Meadowbrook Crescent Residents Association	Maynooth	€235
51	Parsons Hall Residents Association	Maynooth	€275
67	College Green Residents Association	Maynooth	€285
74	Newtown Court Residents Associaton	Maynooth	€285
78	Cluain Aoibhinn Residents Association	Maynooth	€385
86	Carton Square Residents Association	Maynooth	€285
112	Rail Park Residents Association	Maynooth	€800
123	Castle Dawson Residents Associaton	Maynooth	€385
130	Silken Vale/ The Arches Residents Association	Maynooth	€335
140	Meadowbrook Avenue Residents Association	Maynooth	€385
164	Beaufield Area Residents Association	Maynooth	€335
168	Moyglare Abbey Residents Association	Maynooth	€335
200	Straffan Wood Residents Association	Maynooth	€235
215	Rockfield Residents Association	Maynooth	€635
232	Greenfield Estates Residents Association	Maynooth	€735
253	Kingsbry Residents Association	Maynooth	€435
254	Parklands Residents Association	Maynooth	€600
270	Old Greenfield	Maynooth	€1,200

## **Cllr. McGinley Makes a Submission on Planning Application Ref: 15/200, Keltson Properties Ltd. at Carton Court/Greenfield Drive, Maynooth**

Cllr. John McGinley made the following submission on this Planning Application on 16 April:

“Dear Director,

I wish to make the following submission on this Planning Application:

1. The land adjacent to Maynooth Park and Greenfield Drive floods every year. (See attached photo) Also, the land in the centre of the public Open Space, opposite House No.74, becomes a lake at heavy rain times. Construction of the new dwellings will add seriously to this flooding. It is therefore imperative that site attenuation of surface water be a condition of planning in order to counter destructive storm water charges.
2. That a wall and railing be erected between Greenfield Drive and the public open space and that the “Key cycle & Pedestrian Connection” between Greenfield Drive and the public open space be REMOVED.
3. That the 2.2ha Public Open Space be handed over to Kildare County Council when it has been landscaped.
4. That the existing wall between Carton Court and the Public Open Space (From house 16 to house 74) be rebuilt, rendered and capped as it is unsafe, having already fallen three times since it was built.
5. That a 2m rendered and capped wall be built between the site and house numbers 57 to 74 Carton Court.
6. That house 201 be removed as it is too close to the houses at Carton Court.
7. That it be made a condition of Planning that the Distributor Road from Straffan Road to Griffin Rath/Celbridge Road be fully completed and handed over to Kildare



County Council before any dwellings are occupied.

8. That all spoil from the site be used to create a mound between the houses and the 91m Motorway Exclusion Zone in order to act as a noise barrier. Also, a forest of evergreen trees should be planted here to help reduce traffic noise and in order to prevent it from becoming an overgrown wilderness.

#### **Cllr. McGinley Asks for Parapet Stones to be Replaced at the Walls at Bond Bridge**

Cllr. McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting of the Council:

*"Can the council replace the parapet stones that were removed from the walls at Bond Bridge in order to discourage more stones from being stolen?"*

John was given the following reply:

*"This work will be assigned to the Overseer for action."*

#### **€86,858,105 Allocated To Kildare For Housing**

Deputy Emmet Stagg has welcomed the announcement on April 1st by the Minister for Environment Alan Kelly T.D. of an allocation to Kildare Co. Council of €86,858,105 which will see the delivery of 1,283 Social Housing Units in Co. Kildare between now and the end of 2017.

The investment stated Deputy Stagg gives hope of a home to those on Kildare Co. Council's Housing Waiting List with the first real Council Building Programme since the Recession. Overall €1.5 Billion is being invested by the Government throughout the State. The Housing Programme will be a combination of direct building, purchasing and leasing.

Labour stated Deputy Stagg secured a major victory in Budget 2015 when we secured this investment in Council Housing. Providing every citizen with good quality housing suited to their needs has always been a core policy of Labour and as a former Housing Minister I am delighted at the announcement.

Cllr. John McGinley can be contacted at:  
6285293 or 087 9890645

E mail [jmcginley@eircom.net](mailto:jmcginley@eircom.net)

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

## Community Council Notes

### **Community Council Notes April 2015**

It was agreed to suspend the AGM standing orders until the MCC Elections in June. The meeting continued with local matters and reports from affiliates and subcommittees

#### **Assistant Supervisor position**

The Chairman outlined that further efforts would have to be undertaken to secure the appointment of the assistant supervisor to the office. The Department of Social protection appear to be changing the conditions of the original agreement. This is unacceptable. The executive will meet with the Department of Social Protection representative as soon as possible.

#### **New members to the Council**

MCC would encourage people to come and join the Council. The Chair reiterated that we needed people who are interested in their community and not just one off issues. MCC appeals to representatives from Maynooth's 39 estates to elect representatives to the Council. Advertisements have been placed in the Newsletter.

**Senior Citizens** – (See report in Newsletter page 24)

**Maynooth Community Church** – Successful Breakfast Launch for St. Patrick's Day with awards going to Pieta House and Genil. Next year Maynooth Community Church hope to have a free St. Patrick's Breakfast and will be asking the Council for their ideas and support.

**Maynooth Festival** – Delighted to announce

three new members to the committee. Next meeting: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> at 8pm in MCC office.

**Teen Space** - Last event held for the summer. There was discussion about the importance of having a group to represent the youth of Maynooth. This needs to be addressed by the Council.

**Maynooth Local History** – Programme being finalised, there will be a talk in May and a visit to Collins Barracks or Curragh.

**Educate Together** – The March Hare run was very successful. The Gardaí were very helpful. The school won the best school prize in the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Families loved getting involved. Thanks was expressed to Naoise O Cearúil for the organisation of the Parade.

**North/South Corridor plans on display.** It was strongly encouraged that Maynooth Community Council look at the plans and to make submissions. While most of the plan appears to be good, it is proposed that the right turning lanes off the main road into Silken Vale and Train Station are to be eliminated. This seems a ridiculous decision. **Submissions have to be in by May 12<sup>th</sup>.**

**Twinning /Canet-en-Rousillon** – There was a recent twinning committee meeting. A letter was drafted inviting Canet visitors to the Festival. The 5<sup>th</sup> exchange of students from the MPP took place. It is hoped to get students to write an article for the Newsletter about their exchange experiences.



## Parents First Aid

No parent wants to be in a position where they can't help their child in a medical emergency.

Peter Finnegan lives in Dublin and is a father of two young boys. Last October over a family meal, Peter and his wife Helen found themselves in this exact situation when their two-year-old son Robbie, began choking on a piece of dried fruit.

Peter explained, "When the incident happened and Robbie was gasping for breath, I just froze and went into a complete state of panic.

Only the previous week, my wife Helen had been watching a television programme relating to children choking and as a result, she reacted immediately and employed the correct technique to unblock the trapped piece of fruit. Luckily for us it worked. After Robbie coughed up the fruit and started breathing, I swore I would never be caught in that terrifying position again."

Peter subsequently looked to enrol himself in a suitable First Aid course and after much searching, took the decision with his wife Helen to set up Parent First Aid as they found that there was nothing on offer locally or at a convenient time. Parent First Aid was established to offer medical emergency instruction at local level and at times that suit busy lives. The courses are run by highly qualified First Aid trainers such as Jeff Kennedy, who is also an active member of the Fire Fighter / Paramedic services. Jeff regularly sees real life infant and toddler medical emergencies and is delighted to support and deliver training for Parent First Aid.

The take-up rate on Parent First Aid courses has been phenomenal and feedback has been extremely positive with comments that include: "The best investment I could make in my family. I discovered that what I thought would be the right way to react in an emergency could have actually had disastrous consequences."

The two-hour course has been specially designed for busy parents, companies and carers of children who don't have time for a full day of training. The course focuses on the following critical subjects:

- **Baby/Toddler CPR**
- **Baby/Toddler Choking**
- **Burns/Scalds**
- **Meningitis**
- **Seizures**

...plus other critical areas.



**Parent First Aid is currently running courses across Leinster and the course fee is only €30 per person. Full details of current course and location dates can be found on the website [www.parentfirstaidireland.com](http://www.parentfirstaidireland.com). Peter Finnegan can also be contacted on 087 245 3387 or emailed on [parentfirstaid@gmail.com](mailto:parentfirstaid@gmail.com)**

# Catherine Murphy Independent TD

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

## Further Revelations From Minister on Siteserv/IBRC Sale

Independent TD Catherine Murphy has this evening received further PQ replies from the Minister for Finance which expand on what is known so far in relation to the controversial IBRC/Millington sale.

In a series of responses to questions tabled by Deputy Murphy, the Minister has now confirmed that following the IBRC's decision to select the Denis O'Brien owned Millington as the successful bidder for Siteserv, representations were made to his Department from one of the unsuccessful bidders in the process. The bidder in question raised concerns about the way in which the bidding and sale process had been handled.

It has previously been reported that the Millington bid was not the highest bid and that higher (non-binding) bids, with due diligence requirements, were rejected by the Board of Siteserv & the IBRC. The successful Millington bid totalled €45million with €5 million of that amount going as a cash payment to the shareholders of Siteserv including the CEO. The remaining €40 million was paid to the IBRC in respect of debts totalling €150million. The remaining balance – over €100 million was wiped off at a loss to the State.

Deputy Murphy had requested from the Minister any minutes and/or documentation that existed in relation to the review process that the Department of Finance had undertaken on foot of the representations to his department expressing concerns about the transaction. In response this evening the Minister confirmed that these records are currently the subject of Freedom of Information requests and that they will not be released until a Deciding Officer issues a decision in this regard.

The Minister further confirmed that following an initial meeting between officials from his Department and the IBRC in May 2012 to review the transaction, serious concerns were raised regarding the quality of some of the decisions taken regarding the transaction. This led to a series of meetings culminating in a meeting between Minister Noonan and senior management at IBRC in July 2012. The Minister says that it was at this meeting that he was assured that all decisions taken had been managed in the best manner possible. Speaking this evening Catherine Murphy had this to say: "It would appear to me that many people who delved a bit deeper into the handling of this transaction have or had concerns about the curious way the tendering, bidding and eventual sale process was handled. I feel the only way we can be satisfied that these questions are answered and reassured that things were handled 'in the best manner possible' is for the Minister to ensure the records in relation to the review of this transaction are put into the public domain as quickly as possible so that people can judge for themselves."

\* To ask the Minister for Finance if records were kept of the meeting or meetings he or officials of his Department held with the Irish Bank Resolution Corporation in respect of a sale (details supplied); if so, if he will include these records in his response; if not, the reason; if not, the questions he raised in respect of payment to directors of the company, in view of the large debt that was being written down, and the answers he received; the questions he raised in respect of the number of tenders considered; the reason the bid was more advantageous to the State; the questions he raised in respect of those who were involved in the tender process, in the various entities; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

## For WRITTEN answer on Thursday, 26 March, 2015.

\* To ask the Minister for Finance if the former Irish Bank Resolution Corporation extended a €10 million credit facility to an entity which was already heavily indebted to it (details supplied), at any point between 2010 and it's sale

in 2012; if he will confirm that all due diligence procedures were followed in advance of the forwarding of this line of credit; if this €10 million or outstanding portion thereof was specifically recovered through the sale of the entity concerned or if the money was written down entirely at that point; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

- Catherine Murphy T.D.

## For WRITTEN answer on Thursday, 26 March, 2015. REPLY.

As way of background on the transaction referred to in the question, following a meeting between officials from my Department and senior management of IBRC held on 31 May 2012 it was agreed that my Department would review this transaction to better understand the decisions taken by IBRC. This review took place, by way of a meeting between officials from my Department and senior management of IBRC, on 11 June 2012. Following this review, a further meeting was held on 25 July 2012, which I attended along with officials from my Department and senior management from IBRC. At this meeting, the transaction referred to in the question was discussed further, along with a number of other topics. A further meeting between the former Secretary General of the Department of Finance, John Moran, and the then CEO of IBRC took place in August 2012 at which this matter was further discussed.

The file notes, minutes and other records regarding these meetings are currently the subject of Freedom of Information requests and will be released in due course as part of these Freedom of Information requests should officials in my Department consider their full release to be appropriate. The Deciding Officer will make the materials released under these Freedom of Information requests available to you upon their release.

Until those decisions are made by the Deciding Officer, I can confirm that at the meeting which I attended on 25 July 2012, it was put to senior management of IBRC that officials in my Department had concerns with a number of decisions taken by IBRC in relation to the sale of the company referred to in the question including the decision to allow the sale process to be led by advisors of the company referred to in the question, the decision to exclude trade buyers, the timing of exclusivity and the payment to shareholders. Senior management of IBRC confirmed to me at this meeting that the transaction involving the company referred to in the question was thoroughly assessed by the Board of IBRC prior to them approving it and that the transaction was managed in the best manner possible to achieve the best result for the State.

In relation to the Deputy's query on a €10 million credit facility extended to the company referred to in the question between 2010 and the sale of the company in 2012, I am advised that it would not have been typical for decisions around credit facilities to be disclosed or discussed with Department of Finance officials unless required under the Relationship Framework which governed interactions between the Bank and the Department of Finance as these activities typically would have been within the ordinary course of business for the Bank.

Officials in my Department have also contacted the Special Liquidators but they are unable to comment on individual cases as the information requested is confidential and it would not be appropriate for them to release such information.

To ask the Minister for Finance if he will confirm the recent media reports which state that the board of the Irish Bank Resolution Corporation turned down a reportedly higher offer for an entity (details supplied) because one element of that proposal included a mandatory eight-week due diligence exercise; if his attention has been drawn to the fact that had the board chosen this reported bid, the new framework agreement would have been in place once the said eight-week period had expired; if he has considered that the sale of the entity was rushed in that respect; if he

has invited any explanation as to what end such a rush was undertaken for; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

## REPLY.

As part of parliamentary question 97 which was answered on 12 March 2015, the Deputy is aware of the process which was undertaken to introduce a revised Relationship Framework for IBRC and the reasons behind this.

In relation to the sale of the company referred to in the question, it was after representations made by an unsuccessful bidder in the process and subsequent meetings between that party and officials in my Department that my officials met with IBRC and undertook a review of this transaction. Following this review, my officials were made aware that the transaction involving the sale of the company referred to in the question was run by the company referred to in the question along with its advisors. This review raised concerns with the quality of some of the decisions taken in respect of this transaction, including, among others, that a higher bid for the company referred to in the question was received after entering into an exclusivity agreement with the ultimate winning bidder.

In light of concerns stemming from the review of the transaction by officials in my Department, I subsequently met with IBRC's Chairman and CEO to discuss this transaction. The Chairman and CEO confirmed to me that the transaction process and its terms had been thoroughly assessed by the IBRC Board and that the transaction was managed in the best manner possible to achieve the best result for the State.

The file notes, minutes and other records regarding the review of this transaction by my officials are currently the subject of Freedom of Information requests and will be released in due course as part of these Freedom of Information requests should the Deciding Officer consider their full release to be appropriate. The Deciding Officer will make the materials released under these Freedom of Information requests available to you upon their release.

## St Catherine's Park Reinstatement Works Leave a Lot to be Desired

Independent TD Catherine Murphy has highlighted concerns surrounding the poor quality of the reinstatement works carried out in St Catherine's Park following extensive sewerage and piping works.

The area of the park affected has gone from being a lush green space to a patchy, weeded area that is incomparable to the area before these works were undertaken and this is evident in before and after photos of the area.

"I have spoken to the Council on this on a number of occasions and impressed upon them the urgency of undertaking remedial works as a matter of urgency. Both the neighbours of this park and the many people who use its fantastic facilities were disrupted to facilitate these works so the very least they should expect is to have the space returned to the standard it was previously."

"The Council originally told me they would give the contractors 12 months to rectify the situation but in the past few days they have advise me that they have no taken more urgent steps to solve this problem and to that end they intend to issue the contractor with a fixed period, most likely of 1 month, to rectify matters and reinstate the park to its former standard. If the contractor does not comply, the Council intends to invoke a clause on the contract allowing them to hire another firm to complete the works."

"I have had many people contact my office regarding this situation and I am pleased to see the Council taking this seriously. I will most certainly be following up on this issue to ensure the remediation works are carried out as a matter of urgency St Catherine's Park is such a wonderful local amenity and it cannot be compromised by shoddy work leaving it in an unfit state."





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**Copy date for the June issue of the Maynooth  
Newsletter is Tuesday 19th May 2015**

# GET BEACH BODY READY @ THE GLENROYAL LEISURE CLUB



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01-6291313 [glenroyalleisureclub.com](http://glenroyalleisureclub.com) [leisure@glenroyal.ie](mailto:leisure@glenroyal.ie)

## Time For A Change?

Do you need an entire body and lifestyle transformation? Are you tired of looking in the mirror and not being happy with what you see? Could you stand to lose a few pounds or tone up a little? Lots of people feel this way. Have you ever tried a new diet and/or exercise plan hoping that this one will work but found that after the first few weeks, when the initial burst of motivation has worn off, you find yourself back to square one? Old habits return before you know it and you're back to where you started. This is more common than you think. Below is a plan that will help you start and stick to your commitment this time.

### De-clutter:

Get rid of that old bikini, pair of jeans, top or dress you've been holding on to 'just incase' you magically lose weight overnight and it suddenly fits. Forget what you used to look like. Holding on to the past will only serve to keep you there. Today is a fresh start. It's time to make some new memories.

### Preparation, Preparation, Preparation:

The saying "Fail to Prepare, Prepare to Fail" is very true in this instance. Schedule your workout and plan your meals as you would, say, a doctor's appointment. You wouldn't cancel on the doctor, so don't cancel on yourself. Make yourself a priority and no matter what happens during your day, get your workout in before you settle for the night. People find it easier to get their workout done early in the morning before work or college or life in general starts for the day. Lay your exercise clothes out the night before. Plan your meals the night before too – if there's only fresh, healthy food prepared, that's what you'll eat!

### Slowly Does It:

It's very easy when starting a new exercise plan to overdo it in the early days. You're very motivated and enthusiastic. You push it that bit harder hoping to see results sooner. This almost always leads to failure because you either get injured or too sore and are unable to train consistently. Before you know it, you've missed 3 days in a row and your new habit is already broken! When starting out, do a little less than you are able. Finish your workout with a little 'left in the tank'. That way, you're more likely to return to it the next day.

### The More The Merrier:

Get your family and friends involved in your new healthy habits. Try a jog/walk while your child cycles beside you. Bring a friend to the gym with you – workout buddies keep you interested. Ask your significant other to promise you a treat when you've stuck with your exercise & healthy eating plan for a specified number of weeks – it could be that they clean the house, take you on a weekend away, give you a foot rub....the possibilities are endless! Getting others involved will keep you on track.

### Set A Goal:

Having a target in mind will help keep you focused and motivated. Why not sign up for a 5k run/walk? Or plan to go hill walking/ hiking? On the days when you feel discouraged, think about the feeling of accomplishment you will have when you complete it. Wallow in your greatness and be proud of yourself.

### Getting There:

There will be days when you don't feel like working out. You'll be tired or stressed or busy. The best tip to combat this is to bully yourself to just get to the gym/workout class. Just focus on getting there, not thinking about what will happen when you do. Once you're there, it'd be a waste not to do some exercise. Those are the days that count. Also, as exercise releases endorphins, you'll feel much better than you did.

### Have FUN!:

The best way to keep you on track with your 'new you' plan is to have fun and keep it interesting. Change up your routine – one day go for a walk/jog, the next, try an aqua aerobics class, the next day go to the gym, the next day try some swimming, the next day take a Yogalates class... the possibilities are endless. The goal is to get yourself more active but to have fun while doing it!

At the Glenroyal Leisure Club, we can get you started on the right track. We offer free assessments & programmes and 55 free weekly classes to keep your workout varied. Contact us today to find out how we can help.

*Always consult your doctor before commencing any new workout regime*





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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.



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### Maynooth Castle Keep Art Group 17th Annual Art Exhibition

Maynooth Castle Keep Art Group held a very successful Exhibition from 10 to 12 April in the Maynooth Post Primary School. We would like to thank Maynooth Post Primary School and Kildare Vocational Educational Committee for their support.

Thanks to Mr. Thomas Ashe our patron and to Eamon Burke of the Abbey Art Group Celbridge for opening the exhibition.

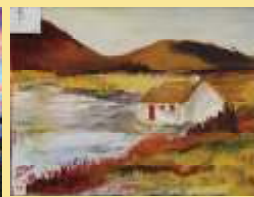
The Group was delighted to see so many people attend exhibition over the weekend.

We hope to have another exhibition during the Maynooth Festival in July.

New members welcome from next September – please contact Susan at 0877974582 for more information.



Castle Keep Art Group  
L/R: Susan Durack, Susan Carr, Toni Read,  
Veronica Brady, Lorna O’Connell and  
Anja Kruger.



## CINCO DE MAYO

*Cinco de Mayo is Mexico's national holiday. It symbolises the Military victory in 1862 against the French forces of Napoleon III. There are parades, festivals and of course wonderful food to celebrate the day. Here are some easy recipes to treat your Family and friends to a taste of Mexico this May.*

### SALSAS AND SALADS



- \* 3 jalapeno peppers
- \* 1 medium onion, quartered
- \* 1 garlic clove, halved
- \* 2 cans whole tomatoes drained (42oz)
- \* 4 fresh coriander sprigs & 1/2 tsp salt

Heat a small cast iron skillet over a high heat. With a sharp knife, pierce jalapenos, add to hot skillet and cook for 15/20 minutes until Peppers are blistered, turning occasionally. Immediately place the peppers in a small bowl, cover and let stand for 20 minutes. Peel off Charred skins, remove stems and seeds. Place onion and garlic in a food processor, cover and pulse four times. Add the tomatoes, coriander, salt and jalapenos. Process until you have desired Consistency. Chill until serving.

*This recipe can be used in a recipe for a main course or served with Nacho chips as a starter.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**ALAMBRES** are a mixture of meat, vegetables and cheese and you can use any variation that suits your personal taste. A simple one is made with small pieces of steak, slices of green pepper and some chopped bacon. Fry the bacon, add the Steak frying until tender, add the green pepper then a grated cheese of your choice. Cover until cheese has melted and serve on a corn tortilla with a generous helping Of salsa and a guacamole salad.

### GUACAMOLE SALAD

- \* 1/2 small red onion
- \* 4 avocados peeled, pitted and sliced
- \* 2 tomatoes, seeded and chopped
- \* 1/2 cucumber, sliced
- \* 1 fresh small jalapeno pepper, seeded and diced
- \* 1 can sweet corn drained (15oz)
- \* 1/2 tsp garlic salt, salt and black pepper
- \* Juice of 1 fresh lime and 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil



Lightly toss avocados, tomatoes, red onion, cucumber, jalapeno and Corn in a salad bowl until well mixed. Sprinkle with garlic salt, Salt and black pepper. Mix lime juice with olive oil and pour over salad.

\*\*\*\*\*



- \* 1 cup chopped onion
- \* 1lb chicken breast sliced
- \* 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- \* 1 teaspoon chilli powder
- \* 1 chopped fresh green chilli
- \* 1/2 cup of fresh salsa (recipe above)
- \* 1/2 cup sour cream, 1/3 cup chopped green onion
- \* 2 cups grated cheddar and 1 pkt corn tortillas

Heat a skillet over a medium heat and sauté onions until translucent. Stir in the Chicken and chillies and continue cooking until chicken is tender. Add a spoon of The salsa and sprinkle in chilli powder. Mix thoroughly. Remove from heat and Spoon a little of the chicken mixture onto a corn tortilla. Add small amounts of Salsa, cheddar cheese, sour cream and chopped green onion and serve.

\*\*\*\*\*

### MARGARITA

Complete your Cinco de Mayo feast with a Mexican margarita. Place salt in a shallow dish to rim the glass, then moisten the top of the glass and dip in the salt.

Fill the glass with ice and add 1 1/2 oz of tequila blanco, 1oz freshly squeezed

Lime juice and 1/2 oz Cointreau.

Stir until chilled and serve immediately.

**A HAPPY CINCO DE MAYO FESTIVAL TO ALL**



## May Gardening



The month of May is named for the ancient Roman goddess Maia, who embodied the concept of growth and oversaw the growth of plants and fauna. Everything will be starting to experience their summer growth, so you should be prepared for increasing amounts of work this month. We've seen some glorious patches of weather, but don't be fooled by any treacherous late frosts. Hold off on putting out any tender new bedding plants until the middle to the end of the month, and even then be prepared to cover if necessary.

Summer is approaching: bulbs will be fading while herbaceous borders really start to come into season. Lift and divide overcrowded clumps of spring-flowering bulbs. Grass will begin growing more quickly now, but still time your cuttings so that you are not removing more than one-third the length of grass blades at any cutting. Keep your mowing blade sharpened to avoid tearing the grass and creating entry points for disease. Lawns maintained at the correct height are less likely to have disease and weed infestation. Use a strimmer to freshen lawn edges and along planting beds and paths.

Lettuce and other greens tend to grow particularly well in the still somewhat cool weather of May. If pests are a problem, try growing your lettuce in containers. It's easy to plant seeds or seedlings into shallow pots. Place containers in a location that receives half

-sun. You can plant lettuce more tightly than recommended; when seedlings start to crowd each other, you can eat the thinned seedlings. Maximise harvests by only picking the outer leaves from young plants. As they mature, cut off every other leaf, leaving a one inch stub. Fertilise again after harvest, and the stubs will resprout. Wait to put heat-loving vegetables out – such as tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, cucumbers, squash, pumpkins, and okra – until the danger of frost has passed.



Use an evergreen or rhododendron type plant food for acid-loving plants such as azaleas, rhododendrons, camellias, and junipers. Feed roses, deciduous shrubs and trees. Be sure to water the fertiliser in after applying it. After early flowering deciduous shrubs such as forsythia, weigela and spirea have bloomed, prune them back by cutting a third of the oldest canes to ground level, then cut back one third of the remaining branches by one third of their

height. Work lime in the soil around hydrangeas for pink flowers or aluminium sulphate for blue flowers. Lilacs should be lightly pruned and fertilised after they finish blooming. Dahlias, gladiolas, lilies, cannas, and other summer flowering bulbs can be planted this month. Delphiniums, phlox, daylilies, carnations, aubrietia, candytuft, primroses, coral bells and other summer-flowering perennials may be planted this month. Pansies, snapdragons, dianthus, petunias, geraniums, and fuschias should be ready to plant by mid to late May.

Although you will still need to wage war against snails and slugs, watch out for viburnum beetle and lily beetle grubs this month. Vine weevil larvae are a serious pest of container plants and also become active this month. Inspect the rootball of suspect plants for creamy, orange-headed maggots that curl up into a C shape. Aphids will multiply rapidly in good weather. Don't let weeds get out of control. Keep at them while they are still young and growing. Pull up dandelions before they can seed. Weeds pull the easiest when the soil is wet.



Many beautiful plants enjoy a damp spot, such as the *Iris ensata*. You can still plant new aquatic plants this month. Plant vigorous specimens in aquatic baskets to contain their growth. Topping the surface with a layer of gravel prevents fish from stirring up the compost. Avoid introducing goldfish to wildlife ponds. They will eat the frogspawn and upset the natural balance of a pond.

The growth rate of your houseplants will change with the seasons, so you'll need to feed them more, though overuse of fertiliser can cause root and foliage burn. Mist plants regularly. This keeps leaves clean and prevents spider mites.



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# TECHNOLOGY CORNER

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

### Maynooth University Library Unveils 3D Printing Pilot Program

3D printing has been around since the 1980s, but the last several years has seen a boom in the technology. It's an exciting new field that in just 30 years has graduated from a technology in its infancy to a fully-fledged field used in various industrial and hobbyist areas. Ireland is now being caught up in the 3D printing boom, and Maynooth University is at the forefront of this.

3D printing is also known as additive manufacturing because the creation of 3D objects is achieved using additive processes rather than subtractive processes as in most other manufacturing. Objects are created by laying down successive layers of materials until the entire object is created. A digital model is used to construct the object, and a computer is used to control the additive processing.

3D-modelling is used to make a virtual design of an object, or a 3D scanner is used to make a 3D digital copy of an object and put it into a 3D-modelling program. To prepare the object for printing, the software slices the object into hundreds or thousands of horizontal layers. This layered file is then uploaded to the 3D printer, which creates the object layer by layer. The 3D printer reads every 2D layer and creates the model by blending each layer together.



Maynooth University Library's new 3D printer and examples of student and staff projects

Since the early 1980s, 3D printing technologies were patented and limited to a few companies. This made them extremely expensive and fairly limited in scope. The patents have recently expired, leading to a surge in growth since the 2010s. Now there are many small and growing companies producing their own 3D printers for both industrial and home hobbyist use as well as experimenting with the technology behind it. This has caused the price of the machines to drop substantially, allowing wider access to the technology.

3D printing has a vast and growing range of applications. It is used in rapid prototyping, manufacturing, construction, architecture, aerospace, military applications, engineering, the automotive industry, medical and dental industries, bio-technology (human tissue replacement), fashion and jewellery, footwear, confectionary and the food industry, and many other fields. There is also a growing mass market and home hobbyist field as well.

A concern held by some regarding 3D printing is that it allows for the creation of unregulated, homemade weapons. In 2012, US group Defense Distributed disclosed their plan to release a model for a 3D plastic gun that could be downloaded and created by anyone with a home printer. In May of 2013 they released the blueprints, and shortly after release the United States Department of State demanded that they remove the

blueprints from their website. The design subsequently became a heavily pirated item, especially in European countries with tight gun control laws.

However, most of its uses are proving to have exciting possibilities in wide-ranging areas of human interest. 3D printing is being used in the construction field to help build housing in poor and developing areas of the world. It's also being investigated for the possibility of building off-Earth habitats, such as a lunar base. The International Space Station already has its own 3D printer. This technology will allow them to create their own tools and replacement parts in the future, rather than relying on rockets to send up necessary parts.

The medical field is making enormous use of 3D printing technology. Prosthetics for children with missing limbs used to be prohibitively expensive due to how quickly kids grow, but 3D printers are allowing cheaper custom models to be produced as a child matures. Bio-print replacements for people who have lost tissue due to arthritis and other diseases or who need joint replacements is a growing field. Bio-printing is one of the most exciting areas of research. In 2013 Chinese scientists began using special 3D bio-printers that print with a matrix of living tissue instead of plastic to successfully print ears, livers and kidneys. Researchers predict that fully functional printed organs may be possible in less than 2 decades. Animals are also benefiting – only one year since the technology came out, over 10,000 dogs across Europe and the US have had 3D printed titanium knee implants.

3D-modeling allow for designs to be created or changed relatively easily and quickly compared to other manufacturing processes. This allows it to be used for rapid prototyping and gives it greater flexibility when it comes to customising objects. Footwear has become popular with 3D printing as shoes can be designed to fit an individual's feet. There is a growing 3D fashion industry as well since clothes can be designed for someone's specific body. The vast variety of printing materials and processes possible with 3D printing allow people great possibility as they can print in chocolate and other foods, sand, various metals or plastics, and a variety of other mediums.

3D printing is also becoming an important technology in the classroom. Students are able to create cheap prototypes of objects they are studying without the expensive processing and tooling used in subtractive manufacturing. Many universities have department-specific 3D printers, and Maynooth University is no exception. The Design and Innovation program and the Computer Science Department each have industrial 3D printers, while Experimental Physics and Engineering have constructed their own.

However, Maynooth University Library has also recently purchased their own 3D printer for use by the student body at large. This makes Maynooth University the first university in Ireland to offer 3D printing as part of student-wide library services.

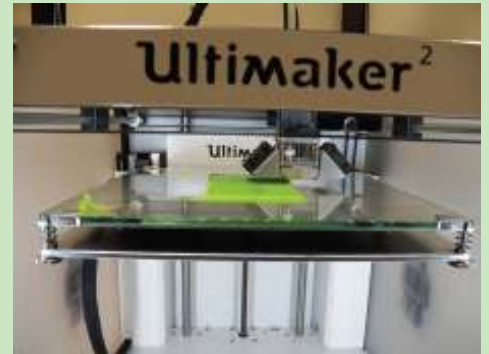
Michael Leigh, who works in Library IT Development, is very excited that Maynooth University Library is able to offer this service to the student body. The library purchased the printer for €2000 in January of 2015 and rolled out the service to students in mid-March. The pilot program has been fully operational since the beginning of April and has proven very successful. The service has seen such high demand that the library is currently seeking funding to purchase a second printer to alleviate the backlog of student projects.

The printer is an Ultimaker<sup>2</sup>, a European brand desktop model. It uses extrusion technology, which is slightly less popular than Selective Laser Sintering (SLS) printers that use lasers to fuse small particles into the desired shape. The benefit of extrusion technology is that it is more economical and user-friendly. The library printer uses PLA, a type of plastic that is made out of cornstarch.

Leigh advises that PLA is considered the entry level plastic because it is the most forgiving to work with, making it ideal for starting a pilot program for the student body. The plastic costs about €30 for 90m, and a small 1" figurine takes less than 1/2m. The software that comes with the printer is very helpful

and informs you how much material your design will take, so you know how much it will cost.

Students do not access the printer directly, instead submitting their designs via a webform they can access on the library website. Any student, staff, or faculty member can submit a model, and it operates on a first come, first serve basis with priority being given for academic work over hobby work. It is sufficiently adaptable that it can build projects with interlocking pieces and moveable parts with no assembly required. However, it's a very slow process as it can take 40 minutes to make a 1" figurine.



An Engineering student's project being printed

Leigh thinks the technology is going to continue to grow, but it does have some problems to work out. "The biggest downside is time. The cost and the time – they need to nail that down, but I see that happening in the years to come."

This is why student access to technology like this is so important. It offers big benefits to students. The library service is able to get a Design and Innovation student's prototype to them in two days. If a student is struggling with chemistry, they can have a physical model printed of a molecule to help them understand it better through tactile learning.

Many public libraries are desperate to draw people back in, and Leigh feels that offering access to technology like this is one way to do that, pointing to Copenhagen public libraries which are becoming world famous for their makerspaces. A makerspace (sometimes called a hackerspace) is a place where people gather to share resources and knowledge, provide tools and build projects. Libraries are proving to be a great community resource for these spaces. The idea is of a collaborative space for creative endeavours, especially in the area of technology.

Leigh views the Maynooth University Library as having an important role in bringing this new technology to the student population at large. "It's all about making something, building something, creating something, making that connection. The library is a great hub. It's central to all departments. I'd hope we could bring in more technology like this, maybe get a makerspace here. Technology is great, but it does need to fulfil a job."

Another use for the technology is to make rare artefacts more widely accessible. Leigh notes that the Russell Library has some precious Babylonian cuneiform tablets which are not available to the general student body due to their condition and rarity. They can't be handed out to the public, but there is an upcoming project to get 3D models made of the tablets which can be handed out to people. They won't feel like the originals since they'll be made out of plastic, but Leigh feels that in a few years, the ability to print in ceramic might have decreased in cost enough to make printing realistic 3D relics a viable option for the university.

3D printing technology is really starting to grow, so Maynooth University Library's pilot program is an exciting and unique opportunity for students. This technology is quickly finding uses across all industries and is set to become an important part of our lives. As Leigh comments, "It's going to get bigger. It's going to get better."

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**The fifth annual Maynooth 10k event will take place  
on Sunday 17th May next at 10.30am.**

**Entry Form** Maynooth **10k** + **5k** Family Run

**Runners Joggers Walkers**

**Sunday 17th May, 10.30am**

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

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

10k Single Entry €20 ☐

5k Single Entry €15 ☐

Special 5k Rate for Family of 3 or more €40 ☐

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

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

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

*We wish to thank St. Patrick's College and Carton House for the use of their grounds, our many sponsors, An Garda Siochana, Maynooth Newsletter, Maynooth Education Campus PTA and all who are volunteering their time to make the day a great success. On behalf of Maynooth Education Campus, we would like to invite you to our prize giving ceremony on Sun at 12.30 at the school where refreshments will be served. All funds raised are used for the development of multi-purpose playing fields, a walking/running track and changing room in association with Maynooth GAA.*

## Local Family take honours in Taekwondo Tournaments



Ruby Duncan (5) in her first ever competition took Gold in the Irish Open and Bronze in the pee wee category in the Meath Open. In the 32nd Belgian International Open, Leah Duncan (10) took bronze and her brother Calum (7) also took Bronze.





# IRELAND'S COLOURFUL HISTORY



## A Tricolour Story

The striking colours of green, white and orange are seen throughout Ireland, but nowhere more important than in our national flag. The story of its creation is steeped in revolution, but it carries with it a dream of peace and deep respect for the people of this country.

Initially, a green flag with a golden harp was the symbol of Ireland. This dates back to 1642 in Confederate Ireland when Owen Roe O'Neill, the most famous of the O'Neill dynasty in Ulster, used this flag during the Wars of the Three Kingdoms. It was later adopted by the Irish Volunteers and the United Irishmen.

The Society of United Irishmen launched the Irish Rebellion of 1798 with the green harp flag as the symbol of the nation. The rival organisation was the Orange Order, founded in 1795 in memory of King William III and the 'glorious revolution of 1689' and was exclusively Protestant. It seemed like nothing would ever be able to bridge the divide and represent the entire population at one time.

Thomas Francis Meagher believed in an undivided populace, and we have him to thank for our tricolour flag today. He was born on August 23, 1823 to a wealthy and respectable family and could have chosen to lead an easy gentleman's life. However, he was heavily influenced by the revolution in France and joined the Repeal Association in 1844, which was established to repeal the 1800 Act of Union. He quickly became a popular and well-known speaker who often moved crowds with his eloquence.

He became frustrated with the lack of action over time, though. Daniel O'Connell rancorously called Meagher and his other associates the 'Young Irelanders', which became the epithet for a group of young men who sought complete independence from Great Britain and led to changes in Irish nationalism. A division started growing between O'Connell's followers and the Young Irelanders within the Repeal movement. The issue came to a head when Meagher was giving a speech defending the use of physical force to secure national freedom, and O'Connell's son John interrupted Meagher to state the one of them needed to leave the hall. The meeting ended with the Young Irelanders leaving both the meeting and the group.

In January of 1847, Meagher and several of his Young Irelander associates formed the Irish Confederation, a new repeal body. He then ran in (and barely lost) a by-election. On his election speech on February 19, 1848, Meagher said, 'What strength have I to beat my way towards that bold headland upon which I have sworn to plant the flag I have rescued from the wreck?' In April of 1848, he travelled to France to study the revolution there to gain insight into Ireland's revolution, and he returned with the new flag of Ireland.

He created the new flag to symbolise the hope and peace he had outlined in his election speech. He wanted to rescue the 'wreck' that was the old sectarian Ireland. The green variously symbolises Irish republicanism and the Society of United Irishmen, the old Gaelic and Anglo-Norman roots, and the primarily Catholic portion

of the population. The orange symbolises the supporters of King William the III of the House of Orange, or the primarily Protestant planter population of Ireland. As Meagher himself said, 'The white in the centre signifies a lasting truce between the 'Orange' and the 'Green' and I trust that beneath its folds the hands of the Irish Protestant and the Irish Catholic may be clasped in heroic brotherhood'.

Having spent time in France studying the revolution, the flag was based on the French tricolour with its peaceful white centre. It was gifted to Meagher by a small group of Frenchwomen who were sympathetic to the cause of Irish freedom. After returning to Ireland, Meagher returned to his home town of Waterford. The flag was flown for the first time from Wolfe Tone Confederate Club on the 7th of March, 1848.

Meagher presented it to a Dublin meeting, and John Mitchel said, 'I hope to see that flag one day waving, as our national banner'. That day would have to wait, though, as the green harp flag continued to be used throughout the 19th and start of the 20th century. It wasn't until the Easter Rising of 1916 – when the flag was raised above the General Post Office in Dublin – that it became regarded as the national flag.

The tricolour was subsequently adopted by the Irish Republic during the Irish War for Independence. In 1922, the Irish Free State continued its use. In 1937, the tricolour was given official status in the Constitution of Ireland under Article 7, which states, 'The national flag is the tricolour of green, white and orange'.

## Wearing the Green – Or Should It Be Blue?

If asked what Ireland's national colour is, most people would not hesitate to respond with green. Worldwide Ireland is associated with the colour green. Around St. Patrick's Day, many of us may even find ourselves over-saturated with the hue as a flurry of national pride and merriment takes over the country. However, is green truly the national colour of Ireland?

The short answer is that, officially, Ireland does not have a national colour. The long answer is that while green might be more nationally and internationally recognised, blue has just as much of a historical claim to be our national colour as green does, and it still appears in many important places.

It could easily be argued that Ireland's first 'national colour' was blue, not green. Ireland's history with this colour goes back all the way to Flaitheas Éireann, the mythological embodiment of sovereignty in Ireland, who was represented as a woman wearing a blue robe.

The first formal use of blue appeared when Ireland was turned into a kingdom in 1542 during the reign of King Henry VIII. Ireland came under the domain of the Pope, but the Catholic Church gave power to the Catholic monarchs to rule over the Island while upholding Catholic values. King Henry changed all of this when he split with the Catholic Church to create the Church of England. He was Lord of Ireland at the time, so he declared it a separate kingdom. This meant it was granted its own coat of arms – a golden harp on a blue background.

In 1783, King George III created a new order of chivalry for Ireland, which required a new colour to go with it. England's Order of the Garter used a dark blue, and Scotland's Order of the Thistle used green, so a lighter blue was chosen for the Order of St. Patrick.

'St. Patrick's blue' is the name given to the various shades of blue associated with St. Patrick and Ireland. While there is much debate over the term, some historians consider that blue, rather than green, is more

closely related to St. Patrick. One speculation is that St. Patrick's blue comes from the 'woad-stain' used by Celts. Constance Markievicz incorporated St. Patrick's blue into the regalia of the Irish Citizen Army, giving the Starry Plough – the ICA banner – a blue field.

In modern times, St. Patrick's blue is found in a variety of places. In 1910, University College Dublin adopted 'St. Patrick's Blue and Saffron' as their official sporting colours. This light blue colour is also commonly called 'Dublin blue' due to its adoption by the Dublin GAA county teams.

Outside of sports, St. Patrick's blue also features in the Irish academic world. The National University of Ireland's faculty of Science and the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland both wear this blue for their academical dress, while NUI's faculty of Veterinary Medicine wears a darker 'Celtic Blue'.

St. Patrick's blue also appears on official state regalia. Douglas Hyde served as the first president of Ireland from 1938-1945. At the end of his term, the Standard of the President of Ireland was adopted – a gold Irish harp with silver strings on a blue background that contemporary news reports described as St. Patrick's blue. The coat of arms of Ireland, which matches the Standard, was granted on the 9th of November, 1945 by the Chief Herald of Ireland. This also flies as a flag over Áras an Uachtaráin.

The President is regarded as the owner of horses at the Irish National Stud, so they are entitled to wear the President's colours when they race. The colours are 'St. Patrick's blue with gold sleeves, and a St. Patrick's blue cap with gold tassel'.

The printed edition of the Constitution of Ireland also has a blue cover, and the carpets in the Dáil and the Seanad are a deep blue as well.

While green may be the most recognised colour in Ireland, blue definitely has its place in the national picture.

## Flag Facts

- \*What is the difference between the National Colours and the National Flag?
  - The National Colours is trimmed on three sides with golden fringe
- \*No flag or pennant should be flown above the Flag
- \*The National Flag should always be in the place of honour when among other flags
- \*Only one National Flag should be displayed in each group of flags
- \*When being displayed on a platform, the National Flag should be above and behind the speaker
- \*The National Flag should not be used to cover the speaker's desk or draped over the platform
- \*When raising or lowering the National Flag, it should not be allowed to touch the ground
- \*If the National Flag becomes frayed or worn, it should be replaced as it is no longer fit for display and should not be used in a manner implying disrespect
- \*The National Flag should be displayed only between sunrise and sunset
- \*The National Flag may be displayed, day and night, for the duration of a funeral
- \*The National Flag is frequently flown at half-mast on the death of a national or international figure
- \*Where the National Flag is flown at half-mast, no other flag should be half-masted
- \*The National Flag should never be defaced by placing slogans, logos, lettering, or pictures of any kind on it, for example at sporting events
- \*The National Flag should not be draped on cars or other modes of transport
- \*The National Flag should not be carried flat but should always be carried aloft and free, except when it is used to drape a coffin
- \*Care should be taken at all times to ensure that the National Flag does not touch the ground, trail in water, or become entangled in obstacles
- \*While being carried, the National Flag should not be dipped by way of salute or compliment

*For these and other flag facts, please refer to the guidelines of the Department of An Taoiseach at [www.taoiseach.gov.ie](http://www.taoiseach.gov.ie)*



# Leinster Fleadh Cheoil Notes



## Golf Classic

A very successful Golf Classic was held in Craddockstown Golf Course on the 10th of April with teams out on the course early in the morning, right throughout the day. The golfers were then wined and dined and the presentation of prizes took place. There was music long into the night in the Clubhouse as Kildare musicians came together to celebrate a very successful day. Fleadh Cheoil Laighean wish to thank everybody who contributed on the day - golfers, sponsors & the team in Craddockstown Golf Course who made the day very enjoyable.

**9th May 2015**

**50km Cycle**

**Fleadh Cheoil Laighean**

Registration: 8:30am  
Start time: 9:30am  
Entry Fee: €25  
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## 50km Cycle Fundraiser

A 50km Cycle Fundraiser for Fleadh Cheoil Laighean will be taking place on the 9th of May. We hope to have up to 200 cyclists taking part on the day. The day will be rounded off with a session in the GAA Club that night at 9:30 and everybody is invited to attend and relax after the day's activities.

Route: Maynooth – Dunboyne – Summerhill – Kilcock – Maynooth.  
Register: 8:30am (Maynooth GAA Club – Moyglare Road)  
Start: 9:30am (Maynooth GAA Club – Moyglare Road) Fee: €25



## Irish TV

Local Kildare musicians recently played on and were interviewed by Irish TV in the Glenroyal Hotel. The programme was aired on Saturday, April 25th at 9pm.

## Session Trail

The 3rd session of the Session Trail took place on Saturday, the 18th of April in Brady's. There was tunes long into the night, finger food and the customary raffle!! Thanks to Brady's for facilitating the event and to everybody who participated. The next stop on the Session Trail is on the 9th of May in the GAA Club at 9:30pm. Bígí Linn!!



**Fleadh Session Trail**

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

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

Fingerfood, Raffle, Ceol & Craic  
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**Fleadh Cheoil Laighean**

## Maynooth Tidy Towns Notes



Maynooth Tidy Towns extend our deepest sympathies to Don, Eithne, Rachel and extended family on the death of our friend and community colleague Muireann Ni Bhrolchain. Muireann was a great supporter and advocate for Maynooth Tidy Towns.

National Spring Clean Up in Maynooth was held on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April. Many thanks to all who took part on projects throughout Maynooth. We thank all who brought electrical items for recycling on Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup>. It resulted in over 24.1 tonnes collected

in Maynooth, thanks to Mattie Callaghan, Vinny Mulready, John Kavanagh and Richard Farrell who helped on the day. This is one of the biggest collections in Ireland according to WEEE Ireland.

John and Ursula from Maynooth and University Book Shops presented Maynooth Tidy Towns with a Cheque for €300 as a result of the Calendars sales, thanks to all who purchased same. Greeting cards and postcards are available in both shops.

At time of writing we are working on our National Tidy Towns application for 2015 which is to be completed by 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2015.

Maynooth Tidy Towns Annual collection takes place from Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> to Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May in various locations.

We have recommended our Wednesday night clean ups @ 7.30pm, on Saturday mornings @ 10am and also Sunday mornings @ 7.45am meeting in the Courthouse Square. If you require any further information please contact: Richard Farrell - PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns - 087 3153189 and on Facebook





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### *The Maynooth 1916 Commemoration Ceremony Easter Monday*



Sheila O'Leary the daughter of Tom Byrne (one of the Maynooth 15) laying the wreath in memory of the volunteers from Maynooth.



*Copy date for the June issue of  
the Maynooth Newsletter is  
Tuesday 19th May 2015*



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**Farewell Irene**



We here at Maynooth Newsletter are sad to loose a valued member of staff to retirement. For the past six years Irene Matthews has been an integral part of our office and has played a vital role in putting together the Newsletter. She has shown great dedication and service to Maynooth Community Council and the wider community over the years, but most of all she has brought much laughter and joy to those of us who have worked with her. Irene you will be deeply missed but we wish you all the best with your retirement and in your future endeavours.

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## Maynooth Newsletter

Maynooth Newsletter is printed monthly. We print 4700 copies each month and 3200 of those are delivered to major local estates. The remainder are distributed to local business premises in Maynooth and outlying areas. With this kind of circulation an advert placed with us ensures your product or service is brought in to homes and workplaces in your community.

### **ADVERTISING RATES**

**Size 1** Colour: W8.1cm x H10.8cm - €33.00/Monochrome - €25.00

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**Size 5** Colour: W25cm x H33cm - €225.00 (Full Page)/Monochrome - €170.00

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## **Maynooth Community Council**

### **Secretarial Services**

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# Sudoku Challenge

**Difficult**

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

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

**2015**

Entries must arrive before:  
Tuesday the 19th of May



**Congratulations to  
April Winner:**

**David Thompson**  
**Parsons Hall**  
**Maynooth**

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

**Super Difficult**

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

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

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

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## Maynooth 10K/5k Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May Diversions

To facilitate the event a one way traffic system (East to West) will be in place on Sunday morning 17<sup>th</sup> May from McDonalds roundabout to Parsons Street, (10.15am to 11.15am) and for the duration of the races traffic diversions will take place between McDonalds roundabout and Pike Bridge, and between Kildare Bridge roundabout and the Dublin/Leixlip Road (10.15am to 12.15pm). Please follow diversion signs and we apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

### ALTERNATIVE ROUTES.

#### From Straffan Road area:

**To access** Carton House, Leixlip, Dunboyne, *please use* Celbridge Road.

**To access** Saint Patrick's College, Saint Mary's Church (C of I), *please use* Meadowbrook Link Road, Meadowbrook Road, Bond Bridge.

**To access** Manor Mills, Saint Mary's Church (Catholic), Kilcock, Dunboyne, Maynooth University, Maynooth Education Campus, *please use* Meadowbrook Link Road, Meadowbrook Road, Bond Bridge, Newtown Road, Crinstown Cross, Jackson's Bridge, Kilcock Road.

#### From all other areas:

**To access Straffan Road/M4** from Moyglare Road, Mill Street, Back Lane area *please use* Kilcock Road, Jackson's Bridge, Crinstown Cross, Newtown Road, Bond Bridge, Meadowbrook Road, Meadowbrook Link Road.

**To access Straffan Road/M4** from the Dunboyne Road area, via Kilcock Road etc., *please use* Back Lane, Mill Street.

**To access Straffan Road/M4** from the Dublin Road area *please use* Doctor's Lane.

**To access Straffan Road/M4** from the Newtown Road, Meadowbrook Road area *please use* Meadowbrook Link Road.

**Please note:** The M4 Motor way is not affected by the diversions.

Your cooperation with An Garda Siochana and the stewards would be appreciated.

## Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee Notes

Allow me to bring you up to speed on what we have been doing in 2015. Our morning club reopened in January after our Christmas break. We had a most exiting Valentine's Tea-dance on Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> and while there were lots of prizes to be had the most coveted prize was won by Jean Sweeney and Noel O'Neill for the most romantic couple. The music for the afternoon was provided by Brian Mc Dermott who never fails to please. We celebrated St. Patrick's weekend with a very "green" afternoon and what a display we had. Well done to all who entered into the spirit of the occasion and we all danced the evening away to the music of the very aptly named "Footsteps".

We held our annual collection on the following weekend and raised €2,055. Many thanks to all who supported our collection and to Fr. Liam who facilitates us each year. It's gratifying to know that this community never fail us, even in a recession. You are just the gift that keeps on giving.

On April 7<sup>th</sup> we finally moved to our new home in the Geraldine Hall. Many thanks to the 8<sup>th</sup> Kildare Scouts for their tenacity in making it all happen. I also take this opportunity to thank the ICA who facilitated our club for the past twenty nine years and Margaret Merrick in the HSE Community Care Unit who gave us refuge when we needed it most.

As we have plenty of space now in the Geraldine Hall we hope to expand our club mornings with not just bingo but cards and yoga etc. Do come along on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and tell us what you would like. For more information you can phone 087 9002296 or 087 7661116.

Our Easter Tea-Dance took place on April 19<sup>th</sup> with a huge crowd from all the surrounding areas. This was a very enjoyable afternoon with Music by "Harmony" and the top prize in the Easter Bonnet competition was won by Phylomena Clinton.

Our next Tea-dance will be on May 17<sup>th</sup> when we will celebrate "Bealtaine" with a display of arts , crafts, paintings etc. So shake the dust off your paint brushes, needles and cameras and rise to the occasion.

By the time this edition of the Newsletter comes out we hope to be putting the finishing touches to our fourth book. This will be an illustration of the past fifty years to celebrate our Golden Jubilee. So a busy and exciting year ahead.

Finally I have to end on a sad note. We lost one of our former committee members in April. Imelda Delaney passed away having spent most of her life in Maynooth. She contributed hugely to this town and was part of many organisations. She was almost twenty years a member of the Senior Citizens Committee and was Chairperson for seven. We were all the richer for having known Imelda. On behalf of our Senior Citizens and Committee I extend our sympathy to the Delaney and Foley Families.

"Ar Deis De go raibh a hanam".

Josephine Moore.  
Chairperson.



Winner of the Memorex Culture Award

## Gaeltacht Summer Courses 2015

Maynooth University, Maynooth

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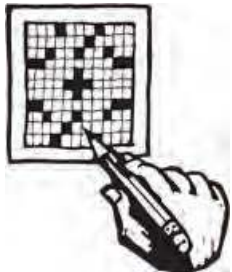
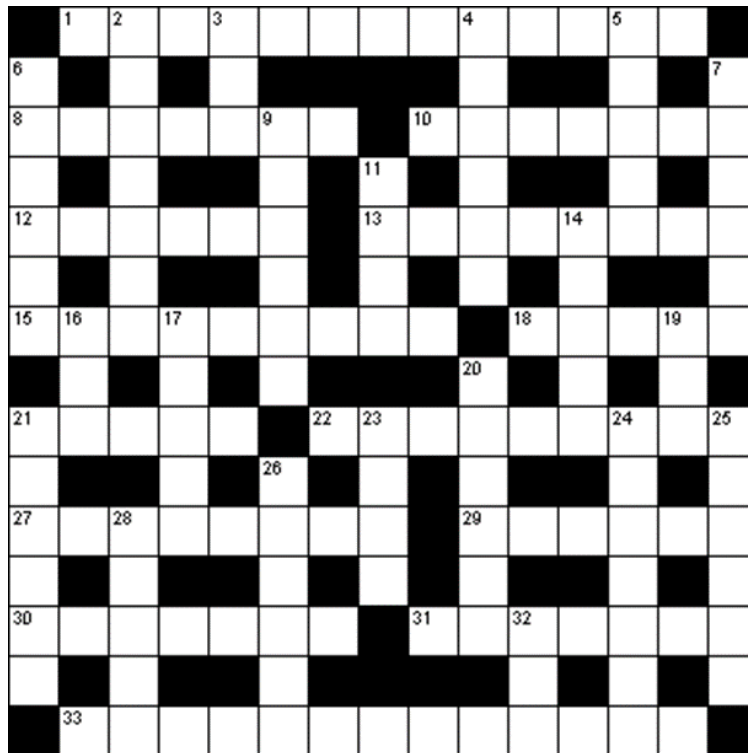
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**Clues Across**

1. Uncertain (13)
8. Polar (7)
10. Nightgown (7)
12. Cambridgeshire village (6)
13. Italian bread (8)
15. Heard by accident (9)
18. Lightweight overgarment (5)
21. Finished (5)
22. Bath crystals (4,5)
27. State in the E United States (8)
29. Ten-pound note (6)
30. Tough person (7)
31. Companion (7)
33. Vicinity (13)

**May Crossword - No: 435****Clues Down**

2. Avenge (7)
3. Racket (3)
4. Jerk rapidly (6)
5. Loft (5)
6. Speedometer (6)
7. Comment (6)
9. Person who fishes (6)
11. From a distance (4)
14. Punctuation mark (5)
16. Covered vehicle (3)
17. Full of reeds (5)
19. Portable bed (3)
20. Slum area inhabited by a minority group (6)
21. Animosity (6)
23. Increases (4)
24. Pertaining to the distant past (4,3)
25. Fruit ice (6)
26. Pertaining to Denmark (6)
28. Awake (5)
32. Miles per hour (3)

**Answers to Crossword No 434****Special Prize Book Voucher**

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**Winner of Crossword  
No. 434 April**

**Noel McDermott**  
**Woodlands**  
**Maynooth**

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Our website is developing and why not check it out at: [www.royalcanal.ie](http://www.royalcanal.ie) and through which you can join-review your membership-buy books and guides. You do not need a PayPal account to use this service as your credit or debit card will do.

You can also buy Peter Clarke's Book "Walking the Royal Canal-5 Walks from Dublin to Maynooth" at the Maynooth Book Shop.

We plan some activities for the Weekend of the Leinster Fleadh Cheoil in Maynooth on the weekend of the 11th/12th July next.

In September 1971 the first issue of "Royal Canal News" was published, and the following is an extract under the heading "Maynooth and Leixlip":

"Work parties, organised by the Maynooth Development Association and the Kildare Association of An Taisce have been busy on this stretch of the canal.... In April, 94 canoes took part in a race from Maynooth. Two miles down the canal there was portage round the 13th Lock and at the Rye Aqueduct the contestants carried their canoes to the river, 100 feet below, to complete the race to Leixlip. The event may become a regular fixture...."

Here are some return walking distances:

Maynooth Harbour to Jackson's Bridge (Lock 14) is 2.7 miles (4.4kms) and  
Maynooth Harbour to Pike Bridge and Carton Harbour is 2.9 miles (4.6kms).

Check out on U-tube Dick Warner's 6 Part 2011 series ... "Waterways the Royal Canal", and particularly "The Deep Sinking", which covers the canal journey from Blanchardstown to Maynooth.

*Think about joining the RCAG, Make new friends and support a great cause.*



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## Maynooth Town FC Lotto Results 2015

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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	Stephen Finnegan - Jim's Shoe Repairs - Emma Gallagher
22-Feb	4,5,9,16	€1,300	Liam Walsh - Gerard Hynes - Imelda Farrelly
01-Mar	11,14,18,25	€1,350	M & S O'Regan - Ellie Hopkins - Patrick Burke
08-Mar	1,9,11,15	€1,400	Trish Mulchrone - Jim Moore - Tom Nestor
15-Mar	5,9,18,24	€1,450	Rachel Gill - Three Pin - Paula Donaldson
22-Mar	1,6,9,15	€1,500	Mary Murray - Dave Vavasour - Bronagh Mc Shane
29-Mar	4,9,12,21	€1,550	Fiona Healy - Charlotte O Hanlon - Philip Hynes
05-Apr			No Draw Easter Weekend
12-Apr	4,9,11,18	€1,600	Denis & Sheila O'Brien - Jim Moore - Denis Tracey
19-Apr	1,8,14,27	€1,650	Pat Pearce - Luke Maher - Paul Daly



# Know Your Rights

## Jobseeker's Allowance transitional arrangement

### Question

I've been getting a One-Parent Family Payment but I will no longer qualify when my youngest child turns seven. What is the Jobseeker's Allowance transitional arrangement and how do I qualify?

### Answer

If you no longer qualify for a One-Parent Family Payment because your youngest child is over the age limit, you may be eligible for the Jobseeker's Allowance transitional arrangement (often called JST). This is a social welfare payment that aims to support you into the workforce while also acknowledging that you are parenting alone and caring for young children aged between 7 and 13. JST allows you to work part-time and still receive a partial payment (depending on your earnings).

The rules that apply to Jobseeker's Allowance (JA) and JST are very similar. The means test is similar and the maximum weekly rate of payment is the same. The main differences between JA and JST are that on JST:

- You do not have to be available for and genuinely seeking full-time work. This is to allow you to meet your caring responsibilities. There are childcare supports available if you do find work.
- You must be capable of work but you do not have to be fully unemployed for 4 out of 7 days. This means that you could work part-time for 5 days and still receive a payment (subject to the means test). For example, you could work mornings only while your children are in school. Income from work is assessed with a €20 earnings disregard per day of employment (up to a maximum of €60 per week). Any earnings above that are assessed at 60%.
- You cannot cohabit with another person while you are getting JST. You must continue to parent alone. When you start getting JST you will be scheduled to attend an activation meeting with a case officer. The purpose of this meeting is to identify and access supports (such as education, training and employment schemes) that will prepare you for full-time employment. If you do not participate in this process, you may be paid a reduced rate of JST (a penalty rate) or you may be disqualified from your JST payment. If you were getting a Fuel Allowance with your OFP you can keep this when you go onto JST. Further information is available from the Citizens Information Centre below.

## Employment services

### Question

I am signing for unemployment credits but I don't qualify for Jobseeker's Allowance because my partner's income is over the limits. What supports are there to help me back into the workforce?

### Answer

The Department of Social Protection (DSP) provides employment support and advice to jobseekers nationwide. Jobseekers include people who are getting a jobseeker's payment, people who are signing for credits and people who are unemployed but not eligible for a payment. In general, DSP employment services focus on people getting social welfare payments. However, there are a range of supports for people who are not getting a social welfare payment.

You can avail of upskilling opportunities, for example, through Further Education and Training (FET) courses provided by the Education and Training Boards (ETBs). Day courses and evening courses are available. Although people signing for credits do not

get an allowance during the course, you may receive some support for expenses on travel, meals and accommodation.

If you have been signing for credits (for three or nine months depending on the course) you can take part in the Back to Education Allowance scheme. You do not get the allowance but you can apply for a student grant (both the fee and maintenance component of the grant).

If you have been signing for credits for six months, or more you can take part in the Vocational Training Opportunities Scheme (VTOS) run by the ETBs (subject to availability). You do not get a training allowance but you may get travel and lunch allowances. If you have been signing for credits for 12 months or longer in the previous 18 months you can take part in Momentum courses. However, you will not receive any payment.

Springboard and Skillnets courses are also open to many people who may not be eligible for a social welfare payment – such as people signing for credits and unemployed graduates. If you have been signing for credits for three months (78 days) in the last six months, you are eligible for the JobBridge programme (and a payment of €50 a week).

Other employment services, such as advice on jobseeking and online job search tools, are available to people who register with DSP employment services regardless of their social welfare status. In general you apply for courses and JobBridge through your local Intreo centre or social welfare local office.

## Health insurance and lifetime community rating

### Question

I don't have health insurance and I've been told it will be more expensive for me after 1 May because of my age. Can you explain what is changing?

### Answer

Up to now, the cost of an inpatient health insurance policy has been the same for everyone regardless of age. This is known as community rating. From 1 May 2015 a system of lifetime community rating will apply, which means that people may be charged more if they are older when they first take out health insurance. This change will not affect you if you already have health insurance before 1 May 2015 and continue to be insured.

If you are taking out health insurance after this date and you are 35 years of age or older, your annual premium will increase depending on the age you are when you start – by 2% for each year over 34. This increase is called a loading. So, for example, if you are aged 35 there will be a 2% loading, but if you start health insurance at 39 there will be a 10% loading. The maximum loading will be 70%.

If you previously had health insurance but let it lapse, the period for which you had health insurance will be taken into account to reduce the loading that applies.

An allowance (of up to three years) can also be made if you gave up health insurance since the start of 2008 because of unemployment.

People who move to Ireland from another country after 1 May 2015 can avoid having a loading applied if they take out health insurance within 9 months and continue to be insured.

If you have health insurance, you can change your health insurance policy or change your insurer without affecting your loading. A gap in insurance of up to 13 weeks is allowed.

## Voting in the referendums

### Question

I want to vote in the referendums in May but I may be abroad at that time. Will I be able to vote?

### Answer

In order to vote in the referendums on 22 May 2015 you must be an Irish citizen and registered to vote. Every local authority is responsible for compiling and publishing a list of voters in its area. This is called the Register of Electors or the electoral register.

If you are an Irish citizen living abroad you cannot be entered on the Register of Electors. This means that you cannot vote in the referendums. The only exception to this is in the case of Irish officials on duty abroad (and their spouses) who may register on the postal voters list.

The Register of Electors is published every year on 1 February. You can check if you are on the register at [checktheregister.ie](http://checktheregister.ie) or at your local authority, Garda station, post office or public library.

If you are not listed on the register, you can apply to be added to the supplement to the Register up to the closing date of 5 May 2015. You apply to be added to the supplement using a form called RFA2 which is available online at [checktheregister.ie](http://checktheregister.ie) or from your local authority, post office or public library.

You are normally required to vote in person at an official voting centre but you may be eligible for a postal vote. Local authorities prepare a postal voters list as part of the Register of Electors. You can only apply for registration as a postal voter if you are not able to vote at a polling station because of your occupation, illness or disability, being in prison, or if you are studying full-time in Ireland but away from the address where you are registered to vote.

You can apply to be added to the supplement to the postal voters list up to 25 April 2015. The application form for inclusion in the supplement to the postal voters list is available from your local authority.

**Further information is available from the Citizens Information Centre below. Know Your Rights has been compiled by Citizens Information Service which provides a free and confidential service to the public.**

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

### THE MIRACLE PRAYER

Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask you for this special one, (mention here). Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken Heart where your father sees it. Then, in His merciful eyes it will become Your favour not mine. Amen Say this prayer for three days. Promise publication and prayer and favour will be granted, no matter how impossible.

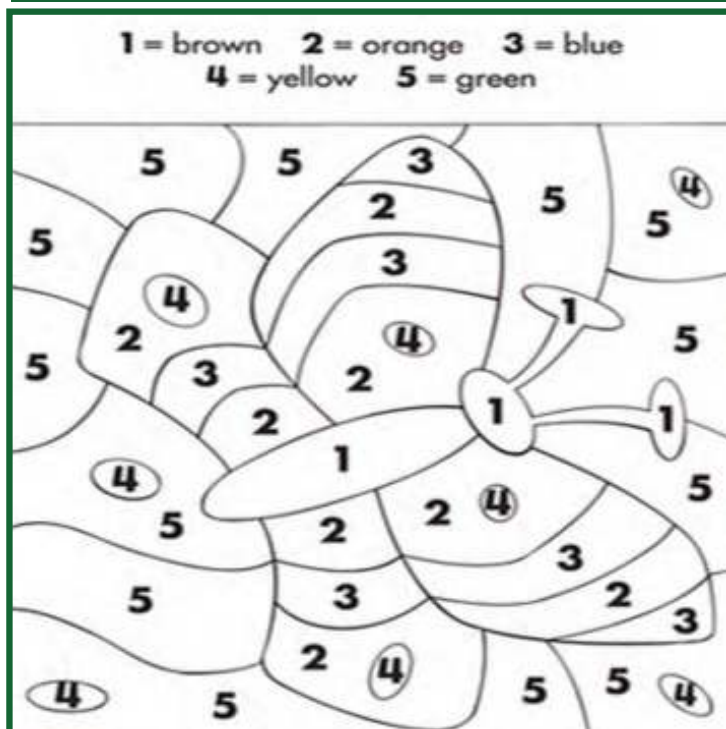
**Never known to fail.  
Thanksgiving for favour received.**



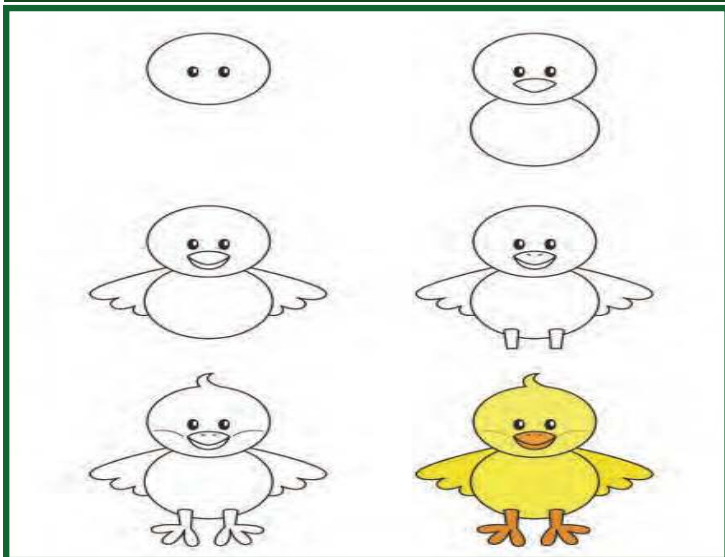
# McDonald's Maynooth

## Proud Sponsor of the Colouring Competition

### Colour by Numbers Butterfly



### Learn to Draw a Chick



### McDonalds Children's Colouring Competition

Prizes: Free Family Meal  
From McDonald's, Maynooth

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

#### April Winners:

Age: 3 - 5: Ruth Walsh,  
Castle Park, Maynooth

Age: 6 - 7: Georgia O'Neill,  
Carton Court, Maynooth

Age: 8 & Over: Ruth Makiese,  
Moyglare Hall, Maynooth



Prizes for Colouring Competition can be collected at:  
Maynooth Community Council Office, Unit 5, Tesco Shopping Centre.  
Entries must arrive before: Tuesday 19th May 2015





# **McDonald's Advert**

## May Diary Planner

### Irish Girl Guides

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

### Community Library

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

### I.C.A.

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

### Arthritis Ireland

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

### Maynooth Tidy Towns

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

### Men's Sheds

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

### University of Third Age (U3A)

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

### History Group

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

### Bridge Club

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

### Parent & Toddler Group

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

### Maynooth Community Church

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



**YOU DESERVE 30 MINUTES OF YOUR OWN TIME**

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\*Offer based on first visit only. Not valid with any other offer or discount. No cash-refund. Add'l members only. Valid only at participating locations. Reservations apply. See local club for details. © 2015 Curves International, Inc.

### The Maynooth 1916 Centenary Commemoration



On Easter Monday evening 1916, the "Maynooth 15" took leave from Buckley's shop in the main street and marched towards the college gates where they received a blessing from the college president, they then proceeded along the royal canal into Dublin. When they eventually reached the G.P.O Padraig Pearse greeted them by saying "your actions in marching from Kildare, even if you do no more in the Rebellion, will gain you a place in history".



This Easter Monday 2015 gone in glorious sunshine the Centenary Committee organised a Parade from the College gates to the Town Square, where they had a Wreath Laying Ceremony, a Reading of the Proclamation, the Blessing of the Wreath, followed by one minute silence the Last Post and Hoisting of the National Flag to full mast and a Reveille followed by The National Anthem, it was indeed a glorious occasion.

After the Ceremony concluded there was a display of Irish Military Vehicles (IMVG) in the Town Square for everyone to admire and enjoy' upstairs in Brady's Clockhouse there was a display by the Irish Volunteers Dublin Brigade and the Collins 22 society.



The Maynooth 1916 Centenary Committee would like to extend their thanks to : St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band, Maynooth, The 8th Kildare Scouts, The Maynooth Local History Group, The Organisation of National Ex-Servicemen and Women Ireland (ONE), The Irish United Nations Veterans Association (I.U.N.V.A), The 5th Infantry Battalion Association, Fr. John Nevin, Carraig Florists, Brady's Clockhouse, Ms.Doreen Mc Cormack.





## FILM MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

### FILM REVIEW: THE SOUND OF MUSIC

**STARRING: JULIE ANDREWS & CHRISTOPHER PLUMMER**



The recent Jameson's *Dublin International Film Festival* was graced by the presence of veteran English actress/singer Julie Andrews. The latter was in town to herald the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of a musical classic, *The Sound of Music*. This hugely familiar and much-loved tale of an Austrian family of singers, nuns and Nazis has a unique and enduring appeal that has lasted half a century. Directed by Robert Wise (*West Side Story*), *The Sound of Music* first burst on to cinema screens in glorious Technicolor in 1965.

Easily one of the most popular musicals of all time, the story hardly needs retelling, but for the sake of those few still unacquainted with or new to its workings, a quick re-cap might be in order!



*The Sound of Music* is loosely based on the memoir - *The Story of the Trapp Family Singers* - of Maria Von Trapp. Julie Andrews plays Maria, a young trainee novice in the convent of Nonnberg Abbey, in 1930's Salzburg. Her youthful enthusiasm, love of music and lack of self-discipline proves problematic for her fellow nuns. The avuncular Mother Abbess (played by Peggy Wood) suggests a solution to the 'problem' of Maria. A sabbatical break away from the convent and new duties as governess to a widowed naval captain's seven children seems the perfect compromise.



A reluctant, nervous Maria sets forth into the real world and an unknown future. Mustering all the confidence she can, the gauche nun, musical instrument in hand, arrives at the palatial villa of Captain Georg Von Trapp. Encountering the Von Trapp children's icy version of a welcome routine, Maria wonders if she has made a big mistake coming to the Villa. The entry of Christopher Plummer's whistle-blowing and strict disciplinarian head of the Von-Trapp family only serves to consolidate first impressions for Maria.



However, from this most unpromising of starts, Maria gradually succeeds in gaining the trust and winning over the nanny-phobic and spider-loving Von Trapp children! Maria's rescuing of the children from a thunderstorm by reminding them of their 'favourite things', designing new play clothes (to replace their regimented attire) and teaching them to sing on various excursions around Salzburg aids the resourceful and determined nanny in her task. However, the cold, wary and aloof Captain Von Trapp is a trickier proposition for the singing governess. When the Captain brings wealthy, beautiful Baroness Elsa (Eleanor Parker) back to his Villa from Vienna, added emotional and romantic complications ensue...

With Maria's heartfelt plea for the Captain to get closer

to his children and a gradual thaw in his forbidding demeanour (encouraged by hearing his children sing for the Baroness), Von Trapp finds himself warming to the governess - 'You brought music back into the house'. Despite the presence of the jealous Baroness, the Captain is soon falling passionately in love with Maria. Parker's Elsa gradually admits defeat in the romantic stakes and Maria and Von Trapp are free to declare their love and marry. However, more sinister complications lie ahead in the form of the *Anschluss*. Von Trapp (like his real-life counterpart) is fervently anti-Nazi and the clouds of Nazi occupied Austria threaten to dampen his new-found happiness with Maria.



Despite the potential for saccharine overload, director Robert Wise (used to grittier film projects) keeps his film firmly on course and largely avoids overt sentimentality. No mean feat with a cast which included children and singing nuns! Wise, both producer and director, assembled a wonderful cast to enact this most Austrian of tales. Julie Andrews, fresh from her Oscar winning turn as *Mary Poppins*, is perfectly cast as the shy aspirant nun finding her real vocation in the worldly love of a man and his family.

Andrews' first appearance on screen is one of the most memorable in cinema history. As the camera soars and swoops over the glorious mountains of Salzburg, the distant and solitary figure of the star gradually pans into view. Her magnificent voice reverberates through the screen setting up the impressive opening sequence to *The Sound of Music*.



The handsome Christopher Plummer brings brooding presence to his role as the austere, stiff and domineering Captain Von Trapp. His performance wasn't much of a stretch for the Canadian thespian as he apparently loathed his involvement in the film. Plummer infamously dubbed the film 'The Sound of Mucus' and consoled himself off set by getting acquainted with Alpine beer on a regular basis!



Possibly to the delight of the film's detractors, his Captain Von Trapp is a subversive presence in *The Sound of Music*. In the early part of the film the actor's snarling, grumpy and cynical navy officer provides a stark contrast to the upbeat mood of the film in general. Maybe this is Wise's trump card, not allowing the film to get too schmaltzy for its own good.

*The Sound of Music* really has stood the test of time and is absolutely gorgeous to look at. The film itself could be a travelogue for the stunning city of Salzburg. Nearly all the outdoor location shooting took place in Mozart's birthplace, and its picturesque scenery is used to maximum effect in the film. The 'Do-Re-Mi' song fest,

which features Julie Andrews' Maria and the Von Trapp children cavorting all over Salzburg, utilises two key locations: the imposing Untersberg Mountain and the famous Mirabell Palace Gardens (with its beautiful fountains and steps). These sequences are expertly choreographed to the rousing melody of 'Do-Re-Mi' providing one of the film's several highlights.



The genius partnership of Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein (Oklahoma, *Carousel*, *South Pacific*, *The King and I*) produced some of the finest songs ever composed for a musical in *The Sound of Music*. How could they fail with their track record? Every number in the film was a hit, but *Sixteen Going on Seventeen*, *My Favourite Things*, *Do-Re-Mi*, *Edelweiss*, *Climb Every Mountain* and the title track are the stand-out contributions to the Rodgers and Hammerstein score. In particular, the scenes involving the Captain's rendition of *Edelweiss* (Plummer's voice was actually dubbed) are quite poignant and speak to the larger sense of loss associated with the impending Nazi incursion into his homeland.



There isn't a false note in the supporting cast. All the child actors are uniformly excellent as the Von Trapp clan. Charmian Carr is particularly effective and graceful as the eldest daughter, Liesl. She has her big moment in the famous Gazebo sequence (*Sixteen Going on Seventeen*) in the film. Eleanor Parker's blonde Baroness is sexy, coolly calculating but ultimately sympathetic. The superb Richard Hayden provides comic relief as Von Trapp's friend, Max Detweiler.

The *Sound of Music* is now half a century old. Love it or loathe it, you can't deny its irrepressible force and sheer *joie de vivre*. Expertly directed by Wise (a near three-hour running time rarely drags), it boasts a clever screenplay by Ernest Lehman (who expands mightily on the original stage musical), gorgeous cinematography and Rodgers and Hammerstein's best ever score.



Ultimately, though, this is Julie Andrews' film, and she is its central beating heart. Her vocal virtuosity and panache in the role of Maria has rarely been surpassed. *The Sound of Music* rightly deserves its place in the cinematic canon of classic films. It is, without doubt, the greatest screen adaptation of a musical ever. Here's to the next 50 years of Austrian magic, edelweiss, weiner schnitzel and singing nuns!



# 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**