



# Maynooth Newsletter

Serving the people of Maynooth




## Thank You to Our Main Sponsors & All Who Supported Festival 2016

This year's Maynooth Summer Festival took place over the damp weekend of July 8 -10th. A number of events suffered with the vintage and classic cars and the vintage carnival cancelling just hours before they were due to begin at the Harbour. The spirits of those attending events however were not dampened.

On Friday evening the weather remained dry for the opening ceremony and entertainment in the Square. Attendees were regaled with exhibitions of dance, song, magic and fire twirling. The trad session in the Glenroyal Hotel proved popular and the DJ workshop gave local music enthusiasts a good grounding in music production and promotion.



*Photo: Enjoying the Family Fun Day at Manor Mills on Saturday*

Saturdays children's fun day in Manor Mills was well attended but events at the Harbour were badly affected by the torrential downpours early in the morning. The weather picked up somewhat for the SilverArm session at the Castle in the afternoon. Many local groups, musicians, and stall holders and punters made the most of the sunny afternoon. The evening was finished off with 'Live in the Lane', a concert highlighting the best in young local talent.

Sunday began as a beautiful day with early attendees at the Castle enjoying the music, crafts and food available. The Maynooth Sunday Miscellany at the Church of Ireland was particularly well attended and enjoyed by all. Alas the rain came down heavily in the early evening with only a small number of die hards braving the elements to stay and hear Liam O Maonlai. The festival came to a close in O'Neill's Bar and Steakhouse on Sunday night with Liam taking to the microphone to entertain those present. The awards for the garden competition and service person



*Photo: All the Fun of the Fair at the Castle*

competition were presented and the raffle winners were drawn.

The Committee wish to thank most sincerely all those involved with the organisation of the festival. We wish to particularly thank our main sponsors, The Glenroyal Hotel, O'Neill's Bar and Steakhouse, Kildare County Council, KBC Bank, the Cecil Doyle Bursary of Naas Credit Union, the OPW and Maynooth Community Council. Without their financial help and enthusiasm the festival would not be possible. Thanks to all our volunteers and stewards, our artists, stall holders, local businesses, local community groups, and venues for their assistance. Finally, thanks to all the people of Maynooth that came out to attend events. The festival is run by the community, for the community, but it needs more community involvement. Please consider giving some of your time towards next years event.

Next for the committee will be some well deserved rest time, and then it will be all systems go for the Christmas Fair. See you there!



*Photo: Niamh Dooley at the SilverArm session in the Castle.*



*Photo: The young talent of the Brennan Academy of Performing Arts at the SilverArm Session in the Castle*



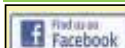
**August 2016**

**Local News**

**Issue No. 449**

**Free**

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



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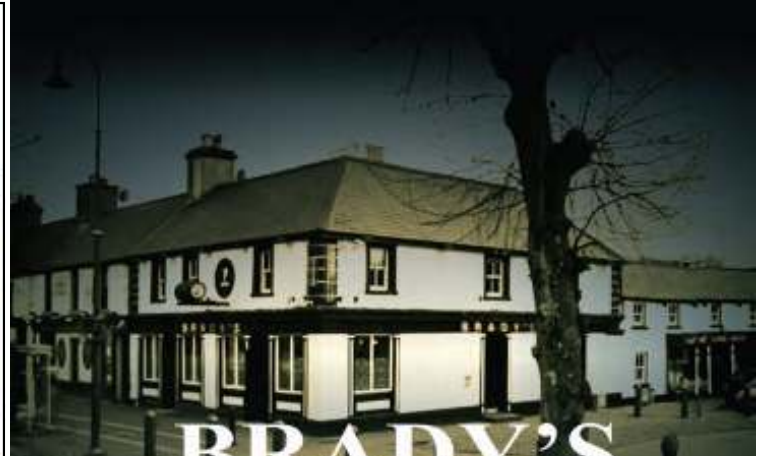
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## WHAT DEVELOPES AN ANIMAL'S BEHAVIOUR



We have to take control and responsibility for our pet's behavioural development and this starts as early as the first few weeks of life.

We may never know the real story of how dogs became domesticated but, the number worldwide and the different breeds leaves us in no doubt about their popularity. In our psychic we always think of our dog as a hero figure like "Lassie"! How many times did he rescue someone from the forest fire or save someone



from drowning? Some dogs, after the death of their owner are known to have gone into a deep depression. Why is it that some dogs are highly sociable and some dogs not? In some it is due to their breed, Setters and Retrievers can be extremely friendly. In other breeds it can be their development.

Socialization of puppies with their litter mates for a long enough period is vital in the development of your pup. Puppies need the initial 8 – 9 weeks of life to learn the way of their litter mates and their mother. Puppies weaned too early and thus homed too early, at 5 weeks, can grow up to be inhibited, introverted and sometimes aggressive in later life.

From 7 – 12 weeks of age it is important to develop human socialization. During this period the puppy is taught how to relate with humans, to accept commands and to understand boundaries. It is important for your pup in its development to get to know and understand his/her position in the pack, ie at the bottom and not to become the dominant.

By taking these small steps you and your puppy will be able to walk the long mile!





### Craobh Mhaigh Nuad

The Leinster Fleadh was held in Kilkenny with Craobh Mhaigh Nuad members competing on 9th and 10th July in various competitions. All branch members and friends who attended had a most enjoyable weekend. Congratulations and good luck to all who will represent Kildare Comhaltas at Fleadh Ceoil na hÉireann in Ennis in August.

Registration for classes for our new term will take place on Wednesday 7th September at 7.00 p.m. in Maynooth Post Primary School, with classes commencing on the 14th September same time, same venue.

Congratulations to the Maynooth Festival Committee who despite the "Irish Summer" put on another great festival this year.

**Photo's: C.C.E. Craobh Mhaigh Nuad took part in the Fringe on Main Street as part of the Maynooth Summer Festival 2016.**



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# Maynooth Community Council Notes

## Parking Back Lane – Address by Elaine Bean

Elaine thanked the meeting for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Lyreen Residents Association to raise awareness about the impact of the new parking Bye-Laws on the Back Lane. The Back Lane covers the area from Pound Lane, residential areas on upper Main Street, Convent Lane and part of the Dunboyne Road. Elaine noted the obvious improvement in the Town for parking as a result of the new parking scheme.

However, an article in the editorial highlighting different parking rates and illustrated some confusion around the matter. The €3 charge per hour is designated for residential areas.

Elaine raised the following issues regarding the impact of the introduction of paid parking in the Back Lane. The Back Lane has a number of elderly residents and it is an historic section of the town.

1. Lack of flexibility regarding parking rules
2. Evening Parking – People can park outside front doors
3. Entry and Egress blocked, health and safety issues, rollater access and entry denied.
4. Visitor Permits – Costly - estimated to cost up to €400 per year.
5. Number of visitor permits. Only 165 permits permitted in the year. Some Carers come twice a day. Talks are ongoing with KCC. Awaiting the outcome.

## Memorial Plaques

Letter from Brigid Loughlin, Heritage Officer seeking assistance with the recording of memorial plaques in the county.

## Festival Update

Tom McMullon complimented the Festival Committee on the phenomenal work done by them. John Doogan and P. Farrell did a tremendous amount of work. He stressed that more volunteers were needed to reduce the stressful burden of the work.

Paul Daly agreed it was a tough weekend but came together in the end. Bad weather on Saturday and Sunday did not help which led to some events being cancelled at the very last minute. This greatly reduced the spectacle of the event particularly in the Harbour Field and as a result the footfall was not what was expected there. Paul expressed his thanks to the main Sponsors - O'Neills Bar and Steakhouse, the Glenroyal Hotel, KBC Bank, KCC, OPW and Cecil Doyle bursary.

He thanked local groups – Tidy Towns, Scouts, Church of Ireland and to everyone who supported the Festival. Five months of invisible work went into the three days. He stressed that if the Festival is to continue more volunteers would be needed on the ground. We will be preparing earlier next year for the festival and there will need to be an improvement in our fundraising mechanism. The unexpected Road works on the Main Street was disappointing and held up setup.

## Local Matters Sub-Committees and Affiliates

### Tidy Towns

Work continues on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. MTT are unaware at this time if the Tidy Towns judges have visited Maynooth.

### Senior Citizens

A Tea Dance was in June and there will be one on 17th July. Clarification given on foot of last minutes that the Club is not closing. There will the annual break for the month of August and meetings will resume after that. Thanks were expressed to Maynooth GAA for the use of their venue for the Tea Dances and to Johnny and Tony for their support in the Scouts Hall for the Tues and Thursday meetings – very much appreciated. Thanks also expressed to students in the Scouts and the girls in the GAA who help. Josephine Moore reiterated that the Senior Citizens organisation through its activities is central to providing respite for families.

### CCE Craobh Mhaigh Nuad

On holiday at the moment. Fifteen Maynooth members and their parents attended the Leinster Fleadh in Kilkenny. It was a very enjoyable weekend. Congratulations expressed to Leixlip Ceili Band who got through to the finals. Classes will resume in September.

### Maynooth Scouts

There was an amendment to last month's minutes: Scouts are participating in Phoenix Shield, not winners as stated previously. Beavers and Cubs had a weekend in June in Pallaskenry. They will begin an 8 day Annual Camp on the 23rd July in Castle Sanderson, Co. Cavan. Venturer activities will continue throughout the Summer and they will spend the 1st week in August in Italy. They were in Kerry two weeks ago where scouts built a rig with go-pro cameras attached to explore the crash site of an American plane. The US embassy has expressed an interest in the footage.

Johnny Dowling thanked the five young maynooth people (17/18 years of age) who assisted for three weeks in Kerdiffstown looking after 185 Senior Citizens. He was astounded at their commitment and work (which were long days 8am-1am) and it is important that this be acknowledged.

## Maynooth Educate Together School

Annual Summer Fair was held on 19th June. There was also an Active School Week. The new footpath was welcomed. The schools will stay open for the first two weeks in July to provide family support for special needs children. The Department of Education visited the site regarding provision of a permanent school building. The girls' basketball team competed in the West and North Kildare section. This is their first time to enter. Paul Croghan has been appointed to the National Board of Education Together.

## AOB

Parking – Rate is cheaper in the Railway carpark than elsewhere and is filling up very quickly, in some cases displacing commuters' parking. Paid parking may result in increased parking in residential areas and this will become more evident in September. The provision of adequate amount of bike parking was questioned. Not enough in the Railway. The problem of stolen bikes was raised.

Swimming Pool. Confirmed that negotiations are still ongoing.

The cutting of the hedgerow on the Celbridge road near Rockfield was raised. Meeting had no information on this. To be investigated.

It was noted that there was a very useful and good first meeting between Moyglare Residents and Maynooth University regarding building development in the University

It was clarified that the faded yellow box outside Maxol is no longer in use. The placement of parking bay at Convent Lane has narrowed traffic lanes.

The next meeting will take place in September.

## Maynooth Town FC Lotto Results 2016

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W/End	Numbers	Jackpot	3 x €35 Winners
15-May	5,13,21,23	€1,850	Michael Doyle - Brian Herbert - Aaron Casey
22-May	4,9,11,15	€1,900	Mary Murray - Tina & Tozzie - Pat Connolly
29-May	6,18,23,27	€1,950	Evan Duff - Jim's Shoe Repair - Kieran O'Connor
05-Jun	18,20,21,22	€2,000	Mark Nolan - John Sheeran - Paul Lanigan
12-Jun	4,18,20,26	€2,050	Emma Gallagher - Aonghus - Terry Hinds
19-Jun	15,17,18,24	€2,100	Ann Monaghan - Peter Egan - Mary Claire Mathias
26-Jun	13,18,24,25	€2,150	Jim's Shoe Repair - Barry Desmond - Cam Dunne
03-Jul	8,20,21,24	€2,200	Jean Martyn - Kevin Galligan - Nuala Mc Tiernan
10-Jul	9,11,13,16	€2,250	Gus Reilly - Fergal Barton - Mick Gleeson
17-Jul	1,6,27,28	€2,300	Ciaran Flannagan - Barry Desmond - Shane O'Duffy



# Editorial

Editorials in this newspaper tend to steer clear of any political issues and August is not an exception. This month I want to raise an issue which is personal but also raises concerns for us as a society. My father is a great man, still with us physically at ninety three years of age. I say still with us physically but unfortunately he has Alzheimer's Disease for almost a decade. He has gone from being slightly forgetful to almost complete incapacity even though he thankfully still has some faculties such as his swallow. He needs twenty four hour care and he spends his days still in the comfort of his own home. He has moments of clarity that would lead you to think that he is perfectly well but with the constant care of my mother he still maintains as much dignity as possible.

We realise that we are not the only family trying to manage in very difficult circumstances. Yes we have some support in the form of homecare but it is limited to thirteen hours a week with two visits a day just five days a week. While the people coming in are changed very regularly and in many cases they provide good care, the system is unreliable and one that often leaves us without any support. We are curious about how the hours are allocated as there is evidence that people with less needs seem to get more hours than we do and the people who come are often inadequately trained to deal with my father's care needs.

So as a society how do we provide care to people like my father who in his working days significantly contributed to society paying very high taxes at the end of his working life? My father's carers are employed by a private company which is contracted by the HSE. Some of the staff are employed on a Community Employment Scheme and others are paid close to the minimum wage. The HSE do not have any care staff themselves and quite actively try to push us into putting my father into a nursing home. He simply needs help three times a day, getting up in the morning, going to the toilet once a day and being put to bed at night. The cost of keeping him at home is much less for the State and much better for my father.

In recent months the issue of charities and the duplication of some services has been in the news. While many care charities do great work, they are paid by the State to replace bodies like the HSE from providing very important services directly. We will always need trained carers particularly in the part of the Country where my parents live as it is not possible for children like us to make a living there and provide support to our parents in their later years. I know that this will strike a chord with many readers who are in similar circumstances.

In July, we learned that Ireland will have to significantly increase our contribution to the EU in 2017 because of distortions in the calculation of our GDP. Just imagine how far these transfers of funds to the EU would go towards funding a proper homecare service for families. It is issues like this that bring out the Eurosceptic in me and more especially makes me question what kind of a society that we have become. Too often we read news stories about our economy but very few about our society.

*Paul Croghan*

## NUI Galway Student Niamh Cullen runner up in Headline Award for Student Journalism 2016

Niamh Cullen, an NUI Galway student from Celbridge Co. Kildare, was a runner up in the Headline Award for Student journalism 2016. Niamh's radio documentary, "Rennafix: Exercising Minds", was one of 5 entries that were shortlisted in the national competition. Headline runs the award in an effort to raise awareness among media students of the issues involved when reporting on mental health and suicide and to recognise the good work being produced. The competition was judged by Carl O'Brien, the Education Editor at The Irish Times. Speaking about the documentary, he said "Niamh's documentary is an inspiring and uplifting story of how campaigners are promoting positive mental health activities in the north-west through outdoor activities". He continued, "As well as chronicling the stories of those affected by mental ill-health or bereaved by suicide, it shows the powerful support that can be provided by groups of friends and the wider community. It also shows the complexity of providing the right kind of support and how one size does not necessarily fit all". In conclusion, he said, "This is a sensitive and well-crafted story of what one group of people can achieve with vision and determination".

Jennifer Purcell, a native of Rosbrien Co. Limerick, won the overall award for student journalism relating to mental health or suicide prevention. The award was presented at the ceremony held in The Dean Hotel, Dublin on 6th July. Her articles titled, "Our Suicide Scourge", and "Everyone's in the same Boat" won for a combination of excellent writing, compelling personal stories of grief and recovery, which included expert advice and a focus on support services.

## St Mary's Brass & Reed Band



July was a busy month for the Band opening with our annual trip to the South of Ireland Band Championships in Clonakilty County Cork. The competition from eleven bands coming from all over the country was very intense and while the band played exceptionally well we weren't among the prizes. Apart from the competition itself it was a great week-end with street performances from all the competing bands and with an opportunity to meet with and share notes (pardon the pun) with hundreds of musicians. Unfortunately the week-end this year clashed with Cemetery Sunday in Maynooth, which is usually on the last Sunday in June, and we were missing from that for the first time in many years. The Band also took part in a Band Festival in Kingscourt in Co Cavan where they joined 16 other bands in giving recitals and finishing up with a massed band parade through the town which was a sight, and sound, behold.

## THE OLD VILLAGE BAND FINOLA WATCHORN

As I slowly draw near to this place I hold dear,  
The quaint little town of Maynooth,  
The sound, rich and grand, of the old village band,  
Takes me back to the days of my youth.

I remember with joy when I stood as a boy,  
While the brass band marched cheerfully past,  
I thrilled just to hear the trumpets so clear,  
And the big drum that always came last.

Sure the whole town was gay, when the band came to play,  
And the children so eager for fun,  
Danced sprightly along to some popular song,  
While the instruments gleamed in the sun.

With the feeling of pride which none tried to hide,  
The old folk would hasten to tell,  
How, in funeral array, the band came to play  
A last farewell hymn for Parnell.

I was still in Maynooth when I left old Maynooth,  
'Twas a silent and colourless dawn,  
As my eager young feet echoed through the main street,  
While the whole town slept peacefully on.

From the seas of the north to a far eastern port,  
And southwards by way of Cape Horn.  
A life thus passed 'neath a ship's towering mast,  
till alas! too late I return.

If I make my way down through the streets of the town  
Sure, a stranger I'll be there, I know,  
For the folks I love best will have gone to rest,  
And my friends will have scattered and so-

When the trumpets clear call bids me come and leave all,  
Sure, I won't mind leaving this land,  
If they bear me away on some bright summer's day,  
To the sound of the old village band.

## Wicked Young Writers Corner



### Penny & Molly

Hello there,  
My name is Penny. I am a doll. My owner is Molly. Molly loves me so much. I am more than a doll to Molly. I am like her friend. She brings other friends around to play with me. Some of Molly's friends are like Molly and they play with me but others think playing with dolls is stupid. Molly doesn't care. She is very loyal to me and she loves me. I love Molly too. I stay at home in Molly's bedroom with lots of other toys including other dolls that belong to Molly when Molly is at school. When Molly has a rough day at school she comes and tells me all about it. She also tells me about all her good days. Molly does pony-riding also. She really loves that but she still loves me. Molly is like that. She's loyal. She will never forget the ones she loves no matter what she does. I love Molly. Molly bought me a toy pony with her

pocket money that she saved up and on rainy days when there is no school Molly puts me up on the toy pony and we go flying around Molly's bedroom. Its great fun and we laugh a lot. I understand why Molly loves pony-riding so much. I broke my arm one time and Molly had to send me away to the doll hospital. She worried all the time while I was away and the day she came to pick me up she was so excited. Molly loves all her other dolls also but I think I'm a bit special because I belonged to Molly's mom when she was little. Molly's mom was great fun too but in a different way to Molly. She loved dressing me up in fashionable clothes. I enjoyed that too but Molly gives more time playing with me. I really love that. Molly wins ribbons in her pony-riding competitions. She is so excited about that and she shows me all her ribbons and tells me what each one is for. Once she came first in the jumping competition. She's really good at the pony-riding. If I was a human person I would love Molly as my best friend. She is kind and loving, fun and caring and I love Molly so very much.

*Writer: Bernadette Thornton - Age 11*

## 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/)**

### Update on the North Kildare Swimming Pool Complex

Councillors were given the following Report by the Director of Services at the Council Meeting on 27 June in response to media comments: "The Council has received no communication from the Department indicating that the submission for the provision of the North Kildare Swimming Pool has been deemed invalid.

Following a meeting of Oireachtas Members with Minister Michael Ring, a submission was made on 16th October, 2015 in relation to the provision of a pool for North Kildare. This submission was acknowledged by the Minister personally and by his private secretary by letters dated 17th November and 21st October respectively.

Following a limited call for proposals in January 2016, for the construction of new swimming pools, Kildare County Council made a submission on 4th February, 2016. In essence, the submission was around the proposal for the provision of a North Kildare Swimming Pool and referenced Leixlip as the preferred site, but notwithstanding the selection of this site, that the council were prepared to partner with Maynooth University to deliver a swimming pool on the Maynooth University Campus. The key issue in offering the partnership arrangement with Maynooth University was the potential to have a fully funded proposal which would allow money set aside by council together with grant funding from the Department to be coupled with funding coming through the University to ensure that a project could be delivered.

In the original request for submissions, a number of conditions were identified to secure department approval for submissions. These included the following:

- Having chargeable title to the proposed facility
- Ability to progress the project without delay
- Having necessary funding to complete the project
- Ability to meet any shortfalls arising and any unanticipated additional costs.

It was indicated that the maximum grant would be €3.8 million and that the local authority would have to provide the balance of the project funding and would have to meet all operations costs of the facility.

The call for proposals further advised that local authorities would only be allowed to make one application and they would have to indicate a realistic timeframe for the draw-down of the grant and that they would have to give an undertaking in writing that any shortfall between project costs and grant allocated would have to be met.

The call for proposals also required that the local authority would enter a Deed of Covenant and Charge to protect the Minister's investment. This would ensure that should the facility cease to be used for the purpose for which the grant aid was provided before the expiration of 15 years from the date of the final payment, that the Minister would have an entitlement to have the grant re-funded.

In recognition of the concern raised in the call for proposals, undertakings were given by council in association with Maynooth University that the requisite chargeability on title would be provided in the event of the proposal receiving approval.

A copy of the legal advice pertaining to this matter was forwarded in March to the Department with a firm undertaking that the requisite guarantee would be put in place to secure the State's investment. More recently, following the formation of the new Government, a further submission of all previous papers was made to the new Minister for State for Tourism and Sport, Minister Patrick O'Donovan on 9th June, 2016. This indicated the Council's continuing interest in delivering a facility for North Kildare in partnership with Maynooth University and requested a positive response to the proposition. No communication has been received indicating a positive or negative response to either the initial submission or the recent communication and there has been no confirmation or advice that the

proposition is invalid.

### Update on the Removal of Lead and Rusted Water Mains in Maynooth:

Councillors were given the following Report at Council Meeting on 27 June: Maynooth Watermains Rehabilitation – A Consultant has been appointed to progress this scheme. Design works are ongoing. Site Investigation and Construction are anticipated to commence in Q3/Q4 2016. This scheme is being carried out in conjunction with Kildare Town Backyard Services. The Maynooth scheme is being prioritised.

### Cllr. McGinley Calls for Maintenance of the Maynooth Playground

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

*"Can the Council carry out general overall maintenance of the Maynooth Playground in order to enhance its appearance? (the two towers have moss growing on them and the sign at the basketball court needs to be replaced)"*

John got the following response from the Council on 13 July:

*"This will be included in the playground maintenance programme and completed before the end of the year."*

### Cllr. John McGinley Calls for the Demolition of the Roofless Hut in the field opposite Dunnes Stores:

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

*"Can the Council get the owner of the field opposite Dunnes Stores, Maynooth (and next to St. Mary's R.C. Church) to demolish the derelict and roofless hut in the field as it is an eyesore and is in a very sensitive location?"*

John got the following unsatisfactory response from the Council on 13 July:

*"The Environment Section will contact the owner of the site to seek a report on their proposals for the structure."*

Cllr. McGinley stated that looking for a Report on the hut was very weak and that the only acceptable solution was the demolition of the hut as its present appearance could impact on the Tidy Towns scoring.

### Cllr. McGinley Objects to the Suggestion that the Joan Slade River, at Parson Street could be Culverted for a footpath/cycleway

In response to a motion from another Maynooth Councillor calling for the removal of the footpath at the river side of Parson Street the Area engineer responded saying that the removal of the footpath was not warranted but that a long term solution may be to culvert the stream for a footpath/cycleway.

Cllr. John McGinley replied saying that he agreed with the Area Engineer that the footpath should not be removed, but that he was completely opposed to the suggestion of culverting the Joan Slade river. John pointed out that the river is there to be admired and not hidden away.

Thankfully, the daft motion did not get the support of any of the other 8 Maynooth MD Councillors John asked the Area Engineer to remove what was the central white broken line on Parson Street as it makes no sense since the Pay Parking line was put in place.

### Update on Traffic Calming on Newtown Road, Maynooth

The Area Engineer reported at the Maynooth MD meeting on 13 July that they were considering putting a roundabout at the Newtown Road/Castle Dawson junction as a much needed traffic calming measure on this road.

### Update on Extension of 66 Bus to Newtown, Maynooth

The Area Engineer gave the following update at the Maynooth MD Meeting on 13 July:

*"The preparation of a design is currently under way for a Bus Terminus within the grounds of the Nursing Home on the Rathcoffey Road, Maynooth. Once the design and costing is ready the funding issue will be discussed with the National Transport Authority."*

The Director of Services advised Cllr. McGinley that he would be hopeful of the funding coming through as the NTA were very much in favour of the proposal.

### Stagg appointed Labour Spokesperson on Older People

Kildare North Public Representative Emmet Stagg has been appointed by the Labour Party Leader Brendan Howlin as Spokesperson on Older People. A former member of Kildare Co. Council Emmet Stagg was a member of Dail Eireann from 1987 to 2016. Emmet Stagg previously served as Minister for Housing and Minister for Energy from 1993 to 1997 and was Labour's Assistant Government Whip from 2011 to 2016.

Welcoming the announcement in an address to a meeting of Kildare North Labour Constituency Council on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June, in McMahons, Maynooth, Mr. Stagg said 'I am very honoured to have been chosen by the Party Leader as spokesperson for the Labour Party Nationally on Older People. I regard the role as an important one to which I will commit my energy to representing the interests of Older People'.

Mr. Stagg further stated 'We have a Blueprint for age related policy and service delivery in Ireland, the National Positive Ageing Strategy which was published in 2013, and I will push for its implementation. We must ensure that older people are protected from poverty through increases in the State Pension and a reversal of all cuts to the Household Benefits Package, now that the Country can afford such measures. Finally we must do everything we can to ensure that older people can remain in their communities with adequate state supports'.

In conclusion Mr. Stagg stated 'To further develop a comprehensive Labour Strategy covering all aspects of issues relating to Older People I will meet with Representative Organisations such as Age Action, Active Retirement Ireland, Third Age, Alone, Active Ageing Partnership, Age and Opportunity and the Irish Senior Citizens Parliament.

I look forward very much to meeting these groups and to working with them and my Labour colleagues in the Dail in progressing Older People's Issues.

### 13 Contractors Express Interest in Maynooth Education Campus Construction – Stagg

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has welcomed the fact that 13 Contractors have expressed their interest in tendering for the construction of the Maynooth Education Campus by the closing date of July 19<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Stagg said the Maynooth Education Campus Project involves the construction of two new Post Primary Schools and a Shared Sports Facility at an estimated value of €30 Million and the envisaged construction period is 24 months. Contractors who are deemed suitable for the Construction Project will be issued with invitations to tender for the contract on 9<sup>th</sup> September.

In more good news all of the technical issues arising from the previous tendering of the project have been resolved between the Design Team and Departmental Officials. Furthermore Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board have all but cleared all of the planning conditions with Kildare Co. Council with one matter outstanding which is expected to be finalised shortly.

Welcoming continuing progress on the re-tendering of the project Mr. Stagg concluded by stating that he was pleased that the project was now firmly back on track.



# KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

*Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth*

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

*Information is also available online at [www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie) and from the Citizens Information Phone Service - 0761 07 4000 or Lo-call 1890777121*

## State pensions and qualified adults Question

I am retiring from work when I turn 66 and will be eligible for a reduced-rate State Pension (Contributory) of €198.60. My husband is getting his full State Pension (Contributory) of €233. He thinks we would be better off if he claimed for me as a qualified adult on his pension. Is he correct? If we do this, will all the money be paid to him?

## Answer

If your husband claims for you as a qualified adult on his pension, then his pension will consist of €233 plus an increase of €209 – a total of €442. The increase is automatically paid directly to you (although you can request that it is paid with your husband's pension). If you decide to claim a reduced rate contributory pension then the total for you both will be €431.60. Therefore, it would appear that you are indeed better off being a qualified adult.

However, there are other factors that you should take into account. While your husband's pension is not means tested, the Increase for a Qualified Adult is means tested. This means that any income you have in your own right from employment, self-employment, savings, investments and capital (for example, any property except your own home) is taken into account. If you have joint savings or investments with your spouse, half is taken into account.

You also need to look at the tax situation. Your husband is entitled to claim a PAYE tax credit (€1,650) with his pension. Even though the Increase for a Qualified Adult is paid directly to you it is not a social welfare payment to you so you cannot claim a PAYE tax credit of €1,650. However if you claim a social welfare payment in your own right (for example, your reduced-rate pension) you can claim a full PAYE tax credit.

You should analyse both options carefully and do detailed calculations, taking all the factors that affect how much you receive into account. After you do the calculations, you may find that you are better off claiming the reduced-rate contributory pension in your own right.

## Garda vetting Question

I have applied for a job in a sports club and have been told that I must be vetted by the Gardaí. What does this mean?

## Answer

Since 29 April 2016, people working with children or vulnerable adults must be vetted by the Garda Síochána National Vetting Bureau. Workers include staff, volunteers and those on student placements working for an organisation through which they have unsupervised access to children and/or vulnerable adults.

Under the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012–2016, organisations that require Garda vetting of individuals must register with the National Vetting Bureau. These include childcare services, schools, hospitals, health services and organisations providing leisure, sporting or physical activities to children and/or vulnerable people.

If you are applying for a job with a registered organisation, the organisation will send you a vetting invitation form. You must complete the form and return

to the organisation with proof of your identity. After validating your identity, the organisation will send you an email with a link to the vetting application form. You then apply to be vetted online using e-Vetting. If you wish, you may apply using a paper form instead. If you are aged under 18 you must submit a signed parent or guardian consent form.

After reviewing your vetting application, the organisation submits it to the National Vetting Bureau. The National Vetting Bureau processes the application and sends a vetting disclosure to the organisation. A vetting disclosure may include details of convictions and pending prosecutions or a statement that there is no criminal record. The organisation will review the disclosure and will send you a copy of it.

You can track the progress of your e-Vetting application online.

**Further information is available from the National Vetting Bureau at <https://vetting.garda.ie/> and from the Citizens Information Centre**

## Rent a room relief July 2016 Question

I have retired from work and am planning to rent my spare room to a student lodger to supplement my pension. Will I have to pay tax on the rental income?

## Answer

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

You must live in your home as your sole or main residence during the tax year for which you are claiming the relief and the room(s) must be used as residential accommodation. For example, you can claim the relief if you are renting a room to a student for the academic year, but not if you are taking in short-term guests. If you rent a room in your home, residential tenancies legislation does not apply. So, if you are only renting out a room, you do not have to register as a landlord with the Residential Tenancies Board (RTB), provide a rent book to the tenant or ensure that the accommodation meets any minimum physical standards. However, if you rent out a self-contained unit such as a basement flat, the legislation does apply.

The gross income you get cannot be more than €12,000 in a tax year. This includes sums that the tenant pays to you for food, utilities, laundry or similar goods and services. When you are working out whether the gross income is more than this limit, you cannot deduct any costs that you incurred in earning that income. If your income from rent and other services is over the limit, the entire income (not just the amount over the limit) is taxable.

If you qualify for rent-a-room relief, the income is not liable to PRSI, the Universal Social Charge or income tax. Claiming rent-a-room relief does not affect your mortgage interest relief or your exemption from Capital Gains Tax (CGT) if you sell your home. You do not have to claim rent-a-room relief as it applies

automatically. However, if you are submitting an annual tax return you must record the amount of the exempt income on the return.

## Pre-school education for children with disabilities July 2016 Question

My child is almost three years old and has a disability. Will he be able to access the free Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) year?

## Answer

Yes, he will. A new programme – the Access and Inclusion Model (AIM) – was launched on 15 June 2016 for enrolments in September 2016. AIM ensures that supports are available for children with special needs so they can fully benefit from the free pre-school year in mainstream pre-schools.

AIM is a child-centred model, involving seven levels of progressive support which offer tailored, practical supports based on the needs of the child and the pre-school provider. It does not require a formal diagnosis of disability.

Levels 1–3 provide universal supports designed to promote and support an inclusive culture in pre-schools. If a pre-school provider and a parent think that additional support may be needed to meet the needs of a particular child, they can apply for additional targeted supports under levels 4–7 of the model. These targeted supports include expert early childhood care and educational advice and mentoring (level 4), specialised equipment, appliances and minor alterations (level 5), therapeutic supports (level 6) or additional capitation to fund extra assistance in the ECCE pre-school room (level 7).

You access AIM supports through your pre-school service provider. If you have not identified a suitable pre-school for your child, your local City or County Childcare Committee will be able to help you. When you have identified a pre-school for your child, your service provider will consider, in consultation with you, what supports may be needed to ensure that your child can participate fully in pre-school. Applications for supports under AIM are made by the service provider via the Pobal website. Pobal are the current administrators of the ECCE programme so your service provider will be familiar with the Pobal website. The application process is now open and will remain open throughout the year.

**For advice and support from the Early Years Specialist Service (Access and Inclusion) you can contact (01) 511 7222 or e-mail: [onlinesupport@pobal.ie](mailto:onlinesupport@pobal.ie)**

## 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. RD**

# Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

## From 23/06/2016 to 11/07/2016 - Information from Kildare County Council Website

App. Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	Application Date
16723	Kildare County Council	Muhammad Farooq,	12 Temple Wood, Carton House, Maynooth	11/07/2016
16727	Kildare County Council	Three Ireland (Hutchison) Limited	Carton Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	11/07/2016
16724	Kildare County Council	The Society of St. Paul,	Moyglare Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	08/07/2016
16706	Kildare County Council	Michael O'Shea	Old Greenfield, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	06/07/2016
16693	Kildare County Council	BDS Alliance Ltd	368 Maynooth Road, Celbridge, Co. Kildare	01/07/2016
16677	Kildare County Council	Hibernian Autopark Ltd.,	Leinster Street, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	29/06/2016
16678	Kildare County Council	Niamh & Scott Wallace	113 Leinster Wood South, Carton Demesne, Maynooth	29/06/2016
16667	Kildare County Council	Cora McGorry,	21 Parklands Court, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	24/06/2016
16653	Kildare County Council	Pauline Dunne	Clonfert South, Maynooth, Co Kildare	23/06/2016
16666	Kildare County Council	Maureen Reilly	Finnerty House, Dublin Road, Maynooth	23/06/2016

### A Memorable Event *with Irish Connections*

One would imagine that the State Opening of Parliament would have no Irish connections but, recently, I was surprised to find out that there were a few.

While walking down Regent Street on May 18th, we noticed that there was a lot of police activity in the area and then we heard a band playing in The Mall, which Regent Street joins at this point. The Queen would soon be travelling from Buckingham Palace, down the tree-lined Royal thoroughfare, for the State Opening of Parliament. Foot Guards, wearing imposing bearskins, scarlet tunics, black trousers and shiny boots, were standing rigid as statues, thirty feet apart, along both sides of The Mall. Those near us were Scots Guards, the Irish Guards being further down the route.

The Irish Guards, whose Colonel of the Regiment is Prince William, have a prominent blue plume on the right side of their bearskin hats and have their tunic buttons arranged in groups of four, as they were the fourth Foot Guards regiment to be founded. The current Irish Guards history dates from 1900 and they are the second unit to bear this name. The first Irish Guards fought on the Jacobite side at the Battle of the Boyne and went to France as a Stuart regiment in 1692.

The most senior infantry regiment is the Grenadier Guards, which was formed in 1656 and their tunic buttons are equally spaced. The Scots Guards have their buttons arranged in groups of three and they have no plumes on their bearskins. These eighteen-inch high fur hats are made from the entire skin of a culled Canadian black bear – officers have theirs made from female brown bears, as they have thicker fur, which is then dyed black. False fur substitutes absorb the water and look

bedraggled after a shower, so are not an option. The busby is a much smaller fur hat and is worn by the Royal Horse Artillery and Hussar regiments when in full dress.

As rain was forecast, the guards had grey capes, which they had placed folded on the ground behind them. Periodically, a sergeant marched up to inspect each guard, re-arranging his cape if it was carelessly folded. One soldier was slightly out of line with the rest of his group and was ordered to shuffle slightly forward and then backwards until his position was correct. He looked just like a clockwork toy! The attention to detail was unbelievable.

Finally, our patient wait was rewarded. The first carriage in the procession, Queen Alexandra's State Coach, appeared from the direction of Buckingham Palace. It was conveying the sparkling Imperial State Crown, the Sword of State, the Cap of Maintenance and their respective bearers. Last year, while visiting Waterford's Medieval Museum, we had seen King Henry VIII's "Cap of Maintenance". The Pope had granted it to King Henry as a mark of special privilege. Made of red velvet and embroidered with a Tudor Rose on the top and daisies on the brim, Henry had later given it to his boyhood friend, William Wyse, who was a Waterford man.

It is the only piece of Henry's clothing to have survived. The present ceremonial cap of crimson velvet lined with ermine is one of the insignia of the British Sovereign and is carried directly before the monarch at the State Opening of Parliament. We learned that the footmen standing on the rear of the coach were the Queen's Bargemaster and Watermen. This is a reminder of the days when, on state occasions, the Crown Jewels were taken by boat down the Thames from the Tower of London.

We glimpsed Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, in the Irish State Coach, which was built in 1851 by "John Hutton and Sons of Dublin".

This firm was situated in Summerhill and John could trace his ancestry back to Thomas Hutton, an officer in Cromwell's army who was given confiscated land in Ulster. By 1750, the family had moved to Dublin and John's brother, Henry, became Lord Mayor of Dublin in 1803. When the Irish Post Office was established in 1784, John was commissioned to build the first mail coaches. His Irish State Coach was exhibited at the 1853 Great Industrial Exhibition and was purchased by Queen Victoria. After Prince Albert's death, Victoria refused to use the Gold State Coach, and the Irish State Coach became her state carriage. It was then used by King Edward VII's son and, after fire damage, was reconstructed to the original design in 1911.

Finally, to the crowd's delight, the Queen arrived with Prince Philip. They were in the Diamond Jubilee State Coach drawn by six white horses. This coach was constructed to celebrate the monarch's sixty years on the throne. Life Guards, the Queen's personal bodyguards, dressed in red cloaks and silver helmets with white plumes, preceded the coach. They are the most senior regiment of the Household Cavalry. Its other regiment, the Royal Horse Guards and First Dragoons, which are the only regiment to be officially known by their nickname of "Blues and Royals", followed the Queen's coach. They were dressed in navy blue cloaks with silver helmets and red plumes.

As the procession drew to a close, instead of being impressed by all the colourful pageantry and tradition, the only comment from my husband was that the horses looked magnificent! The whole parade was, however, in this age of motorized transport, a truly unique spectacle.

**By Cheryl Devaney**



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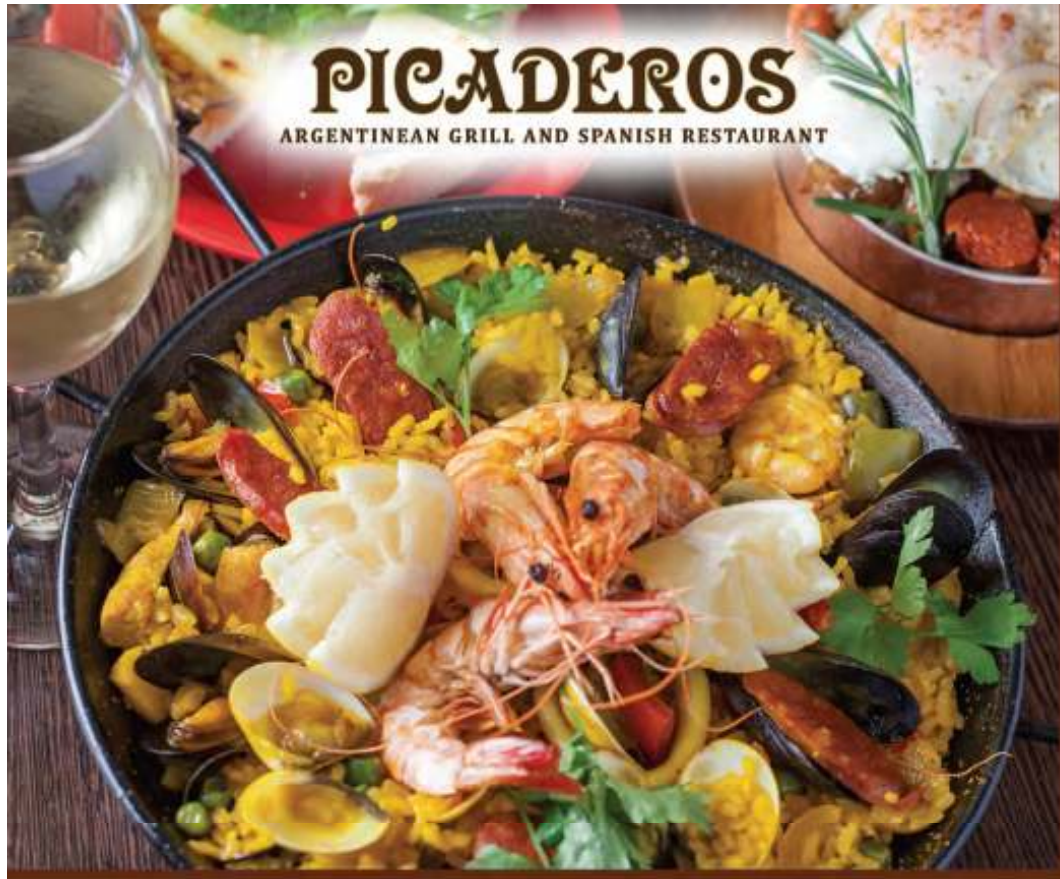
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**The Copy Date for the September Edition of the  
Maynooth Newsletter is Tuesday 23rd August**





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EXCELLENCE**  
FROM TRIP ADVISOR!

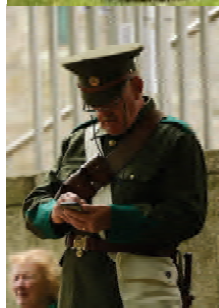
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WHO REVIEWED US SO  
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Photo's courtesy of  
Mark Colfer





## Free family fun things to do this August

*We know how expensive it can be to entertain the kids during the summer so we put together a few ideas for things to do for free.*

### Maynooth Castle



Maynooth Castle, a ruined 13<sup>th</sup> century castle which was built at the junction of two streams and became the home of the Fitzgerald family before its expansion by Sir John Fitzgerald in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The Fitzgeralds would later become the Earls of Kildare; Maynooth Castle was known as one of the largest and richest Earl's houses in Ireland.

Today, the atmospheric castle lies in ruins - only the ruins of the keep and the main entrance gateway on the southern side remain. Restoration work on the castle was undertaken by the Office of Public Works in 2000 in order to develop it into an Irish Heritage Site. An exhibition on the history of Maynooth Castle and the Fitzgerald family is on display at the on-site visitor centre. Summer opening hours: Wednesday to Sunday 10am until 6pm. The grounds close at 5.45pm and the last tour goes at 4.30pm. The Castle is opened until 28th September.

### Spot a deer at the Phoenix Park



The Park is home to a large amount of wildlife, including a large herd of deer. Pack your bikes and scooters and enjoy some of the many cycling trails around the park while you see if you can spot a deer. There are playgrounds and tearooms at the Visitors Centre. Admission to the Visitors Centre exhibition is free, and visitors can enjoy a historical

interpretation of the park from 3500BC, including the history of Áras an Uachtaráin. Free admission tickets are issued at the Visitors Centre to visit Áras an Uachtaráin on Saturdays only.

Every Sunday morning free children's workshop on nature awareness, history and heritage and arts take place, suitable for ages 6 - 12 years between 11am - 12pm.

### Natural History Museum of Ireland

Merrion Street, Dublin 2.



Ireland's Natural History Museum sometimes called the Dead Zoo is a 'cabinet-style' museum designed to showcase a wide-ranging and comprehensive zoological collection. The Irish Room on the ground floor is dedicated to animals native to Ireland, featuring a variety

of mammals, birds, fish and insects. The Discovery Zone gives adults and children a unique chance to get to grips with a badger and a Pilot Whale skull. Other popular favourites include Spotticus the giraffe, and a 20 metre long whale skeleton suspended from the roof. Discover more about natural history by attending one of the many free drop-in family activity events during August and September, visit [www.museum.ie/Natural-History](http://www.museum.ie/Natural-History) or telephone 01 6777444.

### National Botanic Gardens of Ireland

Glasnevin, Dublin 11.



National Botanic Gardens are an oasis of calm and beauty where their aim is to make it a place where leisure, recreation and education are all compatible for the enjoyment of their visitors. A premier scientific institution, the gardens also contain the National

Herbarium and several historic wrought iron glasshouses.

Summer opening hours: Monday - Friday 9am to 5pm.

Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays 10am to 6pm.

Upcoming free events for children but booking is essential.

#### Children's Workshop: Budding Botanists - Flower Pressing

Kids can join the experts on an expedition through the Gardens identifying and collecting suitable plants for pressing before constructing their very own flower press.

Date: Saturday 6th August. Time: 11am. Meet at the Visitor Centre.

#### Pond dipping

A fun event exploring the weird and wonderful diversity of insects and mini beasts living in and around the pond at the Botanic Gardens. The workshop is suitable for children aged 8 years and upwards.

Date: Saturday 13th August. Time 11am.

### National Heritage Week

National Heritage Week 2016 will run from August 20th - 28th. Many of the events that take place are free. To find out more visit [www.heritageweek.ie](http://www.heritageweek.ie).

## MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN NOTES

### Celbridge Road Cycling Facilities

In the June issue of the Newsletter, there were details of a Maynooth Municipal District meeting at which Cllr. John McGinley raised the issue of lack of cycling facilities on the Celbridge Road. The issue had been raised in the context of the National Transport Authority providing funding for the extension of a footpath between the Maynooth Educate Together School and Rockfield estate. The response of the Area Engineer was that "Unfortunately there is insufficient space for a cycle path".



Of course, it is incorrect to state that there is insufficient space. There are no people who have to be uprooted from their homes. There are no buildings that have to be demolished. There is, as far as we are aware, no rare plant or animal that will become extinct as a result. As can be seen from the photograph, there is ample space for a high quality facility except for a short section close to the Straffan Road. So why does the Council give this response?



Government policy has been to favour increased cycling for some twenty years. It originated in the early 1990s in the aftermath of the Taoiseach John Bruton being stuck in a traffic jam on Pearse Street and since then all political parties have supported increased cycling. This promotion was reinforced in 2009 when the government published the *National Cycle Policy Framework* and adopted a national target of 10% commuting by bicycle to school and work by 2020. In practice though, while cycling has increased in Dublin City, in Kildare it remains less than 2%.

In the early 2000s when Kildare County Council granted planning permission for Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich on the Celbridge Road, no cycle facilities were provided. Some ten years later, when permission was given for the second school, Maynooth Educate Together, no cycle facilities were provided either despite the objectives of the Kildare County Development Plan to promote cycling and Safer Routes to School. The latest version of the development plan, the Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2017-23 includes a list of proposed cycle projects but there is no mention of the Celbridge Road. So nearly twenty five years after the first school opened, Kildare County Council still has no plans for cycle facilities on the Celbridge Road. Does this matter? Yes if you want to encourage young people to have a more active lifestyle. Yes if you are concerned about the loss of children's independent mobility. Yes, if you want to decrease traffic congestion in Maynooth. Yes if you are concerned about child obesity. Yes if you want a high quality environment. Yes, if you want a more active and vibrant community.

One definition of 'unfortunate' is 'not favoured by fortune or luck'. One thing is quite certain - luck has nothing to do the lack of cycle facilities in Maynooth - it is due to decisions by officials who ignore political policies and targets and to a lesser extent elected politicians who do not hold officials to account. Kildare County Council bears most of the blame for the lack of proper planning of the Celbridge Road but the National Transport Authority is also to blame for ignoring the needs of cyclists.

### Road Safety Issues

Two other items of interest appeared in the Newsletter under the Community Council Notes. The first concerned children not using the footpath at Rail Park and walking on the road instead. It is human nature for pedestrians to take a direct path to their destination. If they have to divert from their direct path to access a footpath, then the footpath has been constructed in the wrong place and this should be corrected. As for the statement that someone is going to die because a vulnerable person chooses to use the road, if the road is so dangerous, where do you recommend that children ride their bikes to school? Where do you recommend that adults cycle? No pedestrian (normally) dies because of walking. They die because the driver of a motorised vehicle chooses to travel at an inappropriate speed and strikes a pedestrian with their vehicle. Rather than criticising children for walking, the Community Council should be singing their praises and calling on motorists to slow down and take more care around vulnerable road users.

The Notes also stated that the schools on the Celbridge Road have a 'good' delivery and pick up system. The schools have a system which is designed around and normalises travel by car, which discriminates against people walking and cycling and which accepts cars parking on the footpath in front of a school. Rather than a 'good' system, many people would consider such a system 'broken'. In relation to the second item - bike parking at the crossing on the Straffan Road being an obstruction and a danger, while this could be construed as a nuisance, it is hard to see what the danger is unless it falls over when a pedestrian is passing. Rather than a traffic warden, the simple solution is more cycle parking. It is hoped that similar concerns will be expressed at the much greater danger arising from vehicles parking on footpaths and cycle lanes - a custom which is endemic in Maynooth.

*Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. Its aims are to promote cycling as a healthy leisure pursuit and as a safe, enjoyable and efficient mode of transport for everyone in the Maynooth area. It is affiliated to Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cyclist Advocacy Network and through it to the European Cycling Federation.*



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**For more information ring or call in to us:**

**Further Education & Training Centre, First Floor, Riverforest Shopping Centre, Leixlip.**

**Phone: 01-6246420 Email : [vtosleixlip@kwetb.ie](mailto:vtosleixlip@kwetb.ie)**



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## WING TSUN - IEWTO

### Ladies & Gents

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### Beginners Welcome

Venue: Maynooth Community Space  
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Tesco Shopping Centre  
Maynooth



**Class Times**  
Wednesday 8pm - 10pm  
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*Class Sizes Limited*

### **Instructor**

### Si-Hing Barry Smith 1st HG

Contact - Barry Smith  
Phone: 087 4504869  
E-Mail: [barrysmith265@gmail.com](mailto:barrysmith265@gmail.com)

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Maynooth

(opposite the girl's school)

## Maynooth Newsletter

Copy date for the September edition of the Maynooth  
Newsletter will be Tuesday 23rd August 2016





# Maynooth Festival 2016 Photo Gallery

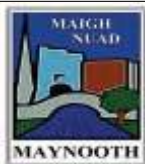
*Photo's courtesy of John Boyd & Rory O'Connor*











**Maynooth**  
Tidy Towns  
Caring for our environment

Congratulations to all concerned with the running of the Maynooth Summer Festival which was a great success.

Maynooth Tidy Towns had volunteers out at various times helping to clean up. We also loaned some equipment to the Maynooth Summer Festival organisers.

Judging in the National Tidy Towns is ongoing until the end of August. We thank all who have made an effort to improve their premises and estates.

Once again we appeal for volunteers to help with our work on Wednesday, Saturday or Sunday.

*Richard Farrell*

*PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns-*

*087 3153189 Follow us on Facebook*



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**ROYAL CANAL AMENITY GROUP (RCAG)**  
About 21 Members and Supporters from the Maynooth area travelled on the RCAG Annual Bus Trip from Dublin to Clondra, Longford on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June. There were stops at Thomastown in Killucan where we were entertained on a Barge by the Local Royal Canal Communities Group, then onto Mullingar Harbour. Leaving Mullingar we stopped at Ballymahon where refreshments were provided by the Local RCAG Group. It is a revelation to see the restored 19<sup>th</sup> Century "Canal Ticket Office" in Ballymahon.

The Bus Trip concluded at Richmond Harbour, Clondra, Longford followed by an evening meal and live music in the "Richmond Inn". The music was provided by RCAG Members and Supporters including Gerry Fitzpatrick and Christy Dempsey. RCAG revived the Bus Trip Dublin to Longford after about 20 years and it proved an outstanding success this year.

During the Maynooth Festival RCAG Company Secretary, Niall Galway (who also drives the 66 Bus) demonstrated a steam-powered boat in the Canal Harbour in Maynooth.

#### THE ROYAL CANAL GREENWAY

There was the recent welcome announcement that the funding of 2.533 Million Euro had been approved for the completion of the 38 Kilometres of the Royal Canal Greenway through Counties Kildare and Meath finishing at the Westmeath Border. The aspiration is that this be completed by the end of 2017.



Check us out at [www.royalcanal.ie](http://www.royalcanal.ie) for news of future events.

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### Organising a Conference

Are you in the process of organising a conference? It is a lot of work but can be very rewarding when you see the end project come to life and the team at the Glenroyal are always on hand to help make your event one to remember!

Organising a conference involves a lot of planning and to achieve a successful event from start to finish requires a tremendous amount of forethought. To make the process simpler we have compiled a list of the most important elements you need to make your conference a success.

Putting together a great event doesn't have to be an uphill struggle. If you follow the tips we have set out below you can create a rewarding and memorable experience for all who attend.

### Set Goals

Make sure you know what you want to get from the event. If you take the time at the beginning to think about the end goal for the day this will make the rest of the planning process much smoother and prevent last minute surprises. Get specific about how many people you would like to cater for, how long the conference will last and the kind of experience you want to offer your attendees. This will save you a lot of stress, remember 'Failing to plan is planning to fail!'

### Strength in Numbers

Surround yourself with a good team who can help you carry out different tasks. Three is the ideal number when organising a conference but you must choose your team carefully. Look for people with specific skills who are enthusiastic and driven team players. Delegating assignments to your team members based on their strengths will allow you to cover a wider area of responsibilities and focus on the main goal of the day; great content by great speakers for an engaged audience.

### Date and Budget

Give yourself plenty of time to put together everything that is required for a conference. Don't expect a spectacular event to come together in a number of days. Planning at least six months in advance will give you the best options possible. You also need to consider your costings, you need to have a detailed budget covering your venue, guest speakers, merchandise for delegate's gifts for volunteers and the smaller items such as pens and notebooks.

Another thought to consider is the cost for delegates to attend, a key component to a successful event is good attendance which will ultimately be influenced by a number of items including the cost to them for accommodation and transport, therefore keep it central and keep it good value.

### Selecting a Venue

Venue selection is highly dependent on the scale of the event. When selecting your venue it is key to know the projected number of attendees, activities for the event, exhibition space or any other requirement you may need catered for. The location and reputation of the venue should be considered along with the services that will be included. You need to know whether you will have access to the internet, audio visual equipment, etc. When meeting with a conference centre don't be afraid to ask them for their assistance where required and ensure that all the necessary equipment will be supplied on the day.

### The WOW factor

Every event should have a wow factor even beyond a great speaker and venue the small details of an event add professionalism and memorability to the event, from small treats on the table to branded water and merchandised gifts – always do something that your delegates will not expect. If you have suppliers or exhibitors attending your conference then have them sponsor these small items containing their branding, individually they don't have significant costs but collectively they have maximum impact.

### Marketing and Publicity

Once you have the who, when and where decided the most critical task of planning a conference is informing the target audience. The number of people who attend the event will ultimately depend on the strength of your marketing message. Whether you have a large or tight budget, an effective marketing strategy can be implemented. Internal events, utilise newsletters, social media, email campaigns, with external events you can utilise press releases, radio & TV advertisements, Social Media and printed advertisements, there are a number of ways you can get your message across. Keep your message updated and interesting to those looking to attend. From interviews to pictures and blog posts keeping your content on the upcoming conference fresh will keep it in the public eye and build some excitement. When planning your marketing strategy it is important to remember to keep your target audience in mind!

### The Day Itself

All the planning and preparations make up 80% of the work involved in what may only last for a few hours or days. The remaining 20% of the work is completed the day before the event. This is the time where you should visit the venue to ensure everything is in order. Audio and visual systems and presentation equipment must all be checked and in working order. You must also ensure all the items which need to be transferred over to the venue is complete and begin the set-up for the next morning. Ensure table plans, decorative effects and merchandise are set up to your plan. On the morning of the conference arrive early to ensure everything is in hand before your attendees begin to arrive.

If you follow these steps you will be capable of creating a successful event. Events are about experiences. Experiences should be memorable. Memorable should be for all the right reasons. At the Glenroyal Hotel we can help you ensure that your event is a success. We have thoughtfully considered your needs for a productive and impressive event with our purpose built conference centre and highly trained staff. If you are planning an upcoming conference don't hesitate to contact our team who can guide you through creating the perfect event.

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# Maynooth Monthly Diary Planner

Irish Girl Guides	Community Library	Bridge Club
<p>Meetings Tuesday evening in Maynooth.</p> <p>For further information contact Jackie on 0894298061 or visit the Irish Girl Guides website <a href="http://www.irishgirlguides.ie">www.irishgirlguides.ie</a></p>	<p>Opening Times</p> <p>Mondays &amp; Fridays 2pm to 5pm</p> <p>Tuesdays &amp; Thursdays 1pm to 8pm</p> <p>Wednesday 9.30am to 1pm &amp; 2pm to 5pm</p> <p>Sat 9.30am to 1pm</p>	<p>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 <a href="http://maynoothbridgeclub.com">maynoothbridgeclub.com</a>. Contact Katherine Cooney 086 8205910</p>
I.C.A.	MAYNOOTH LOCAL HISTORY GROUP	Arthritis Ireland
<p>Monthly meetings take place every 1st Thursday of the month at 8.00pm in the I.C.A. Hall in the Harbour.</p> <p>Crafts every Monday night at 8.00pm.</p> <p>New members welcome</p>	<p>Maynooth Local History Group Meets Last Thursday of each Month in the Maynooth Community Council Office (Next to the Post Office)</p> <p>New Members Welcome</p> <p>Contact: MCC Office for more details</p>	<p>Arthritis Ireland Walking Group (Maynooth)</p> <p>Summer Break for August Group will re-commence on Monday 5th Sept</p>
University of Third Age (U3A)	Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group	Maynooth Men's Sheds
<p>Summer Break Group will re-commence on Friday 2nd Sept</p>	<p>Summer Holiday Break Group will re-commence in early September</p>	<p>Weekly meetings take place every Wednesday at 11.am at the Garden Centre Dublin Road Maynooth.</p> <p>For further details contact John Fleming - 087 2041334</p>
Maynooth Tidy Towns	ALZHEIMER CAFÉ LEIXLIP	Maynooth Community Church
<p>Volunteers required to help with this work.</p> <p>Contact Number 087 3153189</p>	<p>Informal café atmosphere for people with Dementia &amp; their partners family &amp; friends. Free of charge. Venue Ryevale Nursing Home. Every second Wednesday of each month 7-9pm. Call 0894933533</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:alzheimercafeleixlip@gmail.ie">alzheimercafeleixlip@gmail.ie</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.alzheimercafeleixlip.com">www.alzheimercafeleixlip.com</a></p>	<p>1st Floor Manor Mills (entrance next to Chill)</p> <p>Service times every Sunday morning from 10.30 am</p> <p><a href="http://www.maynoothcc.org">www.maynoothcc.org</a></p> <p>Everyone most welcome</p>
Maynooth Senior Citizens	Craobh Mhaigh Nuad C.C.E.	ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND
<p>Our morning club continues on Tuesday and Thursday and new members are always welcome. Perhaps you are new to the parish or new to the age bracket, why not come along you might enjoy it. You will find us in the Geraldine Hall on Leinster St, or contact Josephine on 087 9002296.</p>	<p>Classes resume on Wednesday 14th September from 7pm to 9.30pm in Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road.</p> <p>For details please contact Sean at 086 2225540 or email <a href="mailto:craobhmaighnuad@gmail.com">craobhmaighnuad@gmail.com</a>.</p>	<p>Rehearsals are held in the Band Hall on Pound Lane each Monday night (except Bank Holidays) from 7.45pm to 9.30pm and musicians living in Maynooth and the surrounding areas are most welcome.</p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie">sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie">www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie</a></p>
<p>Diary entries are published free of charge for all Community Groups. E-mail details of your event before the copy date (2nd last Tuesday of each month) to be included in the next months edition. E-mail: <a href="mailto:maynoothcc@eircom.net">maynoothcc@eircom.net</a>. Phone: 01-6285922</p> <p><i>(The content of the Monthly Planner Dairy is published in good faith. All details should be checked with groups)</i></p>		



## Difficult

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

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

Send completed puzzles to  
**Maynooth Newsletter**  
**Unit 5 Tesco S/C Maynooth**  
 Collect prize from Newsletter Office

# Sudoku Challenge

Entries must arrive before:  
 23rd August 2016



**Congratulations to  
 July Winner:**

**Martin Doyle**  
**26 Rail Park**  
**Maynooth**

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

## Super Difficult

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

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

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

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

## James Lawless T.D. Kildare North

Phone: 01-6183587 - e-mail: [james@jameslawless.ie](mailto:james@jameslawless.ie)

Web: [www.jameslawless.ie](http://www.jameslawless.ie)

### Paid Parking

I am aware of the residents' concerns with the new paid parking which has been brought into the area. I have been on site with residents who are affected to examine the individual streets. At the moment I am working with the council on ironing out issues on behalf of residents. If you wish to contact me on the same please do as I will be raising this matter with Kildare County Council.

### End of Mayoral Term

I want to wish former Mayor of the Maynooth District Cllr. Naoise O'Cearúil well on his successful year. It was great to attend this year's St Patricks Day parade which he is heavily involved in. Having worked closely with Cllr O'Cearúil before I look forward to continuing this relationship during his council term.

### Bus Services

I have met with officials from Dublin Bus to discuss the service to Maynooth, the 66, 67, and Express services. Advocating for more Express services in the mornings and evenings while also looking to see an increase in the volume of bus routes on Sundays, Dublin Bus have taken these points on board. I have been informed an increase on the 67 services is to take place, particularly on Sundays, which I know is an issue brought to my Maynooth office often.

### Town Centre Rates

In the Dail recently I raised the issue of town centres and rates paid by businesses in discussion with the Minister. Following this Minister Simon Coveney T.D. committed to a

comprehensive public consultation & review of the commercial rates system which will be instigated in the autumn

### Traffic Management Plan

Kildare County Council have now initiated a Traffic Management Survey which will run over the next two months and will assess the peak stress points around the town. I would be delighted to assist any residents or groups who wish to make submissions on the traffic management plan.

### Maynooth University

Big congrats to Maynooth University who have moved up 461 places in the world university rankings. I have the pleasure of meeting with Professor Phillip Nolan recently who detailed his exciting plans for the future of the university. I am looking forward to working with all involved to assist in bringing those plans to fruition.

### Appointed Fianna Fáil spokesperson on Science, Technology, and Innovation

I am delighted to have been appointed as the party spokesperson on Science, Technology, Research & Development today. Ireland has pinned its economic strategy around the knowledge economy, attracting high end jobs and companies, with the Tech, Pharma, Food Science and research sectors critical to ongoing FDI along with supports for our universities and institutes to reach world class. As a Maths/Physics Grad myself and as probably the first Software Engineer ever elected to Dáil Eireann, it's a sector I am passionate about and look forward to getting stuck into.

## SAP are Recruiting



SAP Landscapes has been landscaping and maintaining Irish landscapes for 40 years. Our current customer list includes the most prestigious Business Parks, Pharmaceutical Grounds, Educational Institutes, Local Authorities, Hotels as well as Private Gardens. SAP is the only Irish Landscaping and Grounds Maintenance company with dedicated horticultural professionals and H&S Officer to ensure we meet the most stringent technical and H&S requirements. We offer a comprehensive construction service covering all aspects of landscape installation through our close working relationship with main contractors, landscape architects and specifiers. We have an unparalleled award winning history, winning awards across many categories consistently since 1998.

Due to a growth in our business we are recruiting for three full time positions:

- **General Operative**
- **Foreperson**
- **Contracts Supervisor**

1. The **General Operative** role is an entry level role, therefore some working experience is essential for this role, however all candidates will be fully inducted and trained. The successful candidates will be required to maintain client's sites by grass cutting, cleaning & tidying, planting etc.

2. We are also recruiting a **Foreperson** to manage a team of general operatives. For this role you will be required to have foreperson / team lead experience. The successful candidate will be required to monitor the work on site, conduct daily reports and adhere to H&S regulations.

3. We have an exciting opportunity for a **Contract Supervisor** to join our team in SAP. The successful Candidate will be responsible for managing a number of crews, scheduling daily tasks, managing fleet & ensuring the smooth running of jobs on site. This role will be field & office based.

Should you be interested in any of the above three roles, please email your CV directly to Michelle Tully – HR Manager – [michelle.tully@saplandscapes.ie](mailto:michelle.tully@saplandscapes.ie) or alternatively you can call the main office in Maynooth on 01-6275177

## Frank O'Rourke T.D. Kildare North

Contact Details: **Dail Office: 01 6183109 - Mobile: 087 2555257 - e-mail: frank.orourke@oireachtas.ie** -  /Frank O'Rourke

**Clinics: Monday in the Glenroyal Hotel - Constituency Office: Main Street Celbridge.**

### Home Care Packages

I was delighted to be given the opportunity to speak in the Dáil chamber, under Topical Issue, on the issue of home care packages.

Health is a constant issue at my weekly clinics. Access to vital health services is a challenge, waiting lists are increasing and securing home care is a constant struggle for many older people. Most of us like to think that when the time comes, we will have the means to care for ill or aging family members who, given the choice, would rather be in their own homes than in a hospital or nursing home.

This is where the home care package comes in. The package consists of a range of services provided by the HSE to facilitate the care of older people in their own homes. Whether it is therapy, home help, respite, transport to and from medical appointments, or day-care services, the package aims to make it easier for people to remain independent for as long as possible.

The HSE has a core provision of €324 million for home supports in 2016 and its national service plan for the year provides for a target of 10.4 million home help hours, 15,450 home care packages, 130 intensive home care packages for clients with very complex needs and a further 80 packages for clients with dementia. While I welcome this provision, the unfortunate reality is that accessing these services on the ground can be a very frustrating and protracted process.

The suspension of home help hours and home care packages earlier this year has had a major impact and the effects are still being felt. On a system-wide basis, the cuts have ended up costing dearly, both financially and in terms of patient health. Increased pressure has been placed on an already creaking system through delayed discharges from hospitals and more people have been re-admitted to hospital due to inadequate supports in the community and home.

Respite care is another issue. Good home care provision ideally supports both a medical and social model of care whereby both the carer and the cared-for person are supported physically with therapy, respite and home help and psychologically. It should allow the carer time to get a much needed break.

I recently submitted a Parliamentary Question to the Minister for Health asking why there were only 2 respite beds available at Maynooth Community Care Unit. The Minister replied that previously, a number of long stay beds that were vacant were used for respite, but that these beds have now been filled by long stay residents.

Speaking on these matters in the Dáil chamber was an excellent forum to raise a number of concerns specific to health services in Kildare North and I was delighted to secure the Minister's assurance of the government's priority to continue increasing the finances for home help services, home care and intensive care packages, as committed to in the programme for Government.

### Maynooth Traffic Management Plan.

I recently met with consultants from AECOM, on behalf of Kildare County Council, to discuss the Maynooth Traffic Management Plan.

The consultation, which was held at the Glenroyal Hotel, was with all stakeholders and its aim was to identify the current issues and difficulties while at the same time getting input for our future vision for Maynooth. I was pleased to be able to give feedback to the consultants on all the current traffic problems and potential solutions which I have been given by the residents and businesses from Maynooth and the

surrounding area. It was a valuable and informative briefing and I will be attending further meetings on this matter and will keep you updated.

### Broadband Roll Out

I very much welcome the recent progress on the roll out of quality high speed Broadband for Kildare, as 560 new premises have been added to the Broadband network during the month of June, as new Cabinets were installed.

In June, new cabinets were added to the exchanges which further extended fibre coverage to over 560 premises in these parts of Kildare. This was part of Eir's rollout of fibre broadband to over 22,000 additional homes and businesses nationally last month. Recently, I met with Eir to outline to them the importance of providing broadband connection to key areas such as Maynooth, Celbridge, Kilcock, Leixlip, Newtown, Timahoe, Eadestown and Killeel. By the end of March next, over 2,500 additional rural Kildare premises will be connected to broadband by the Fibre to the Home Technology (FTHH). This is very positive indeed as 400 rural premises in the Maynooth area, 370 in Kilcock, 480 in Donadea, 520 in Straffan and 470 in Carbury are examples of the planned rollout for this year in rural Kildare.

I will keep making representations and meeting with all the relevant authorities to ensure that we continue with the planned rollout of high-speed quality Broadband for Kildare, which will benefit businesses and homes in the future.

Great credit is due to the residents associations and businesses that keep the pressure on to secure adequate broadband coverage.

### O'Rourke raises concerns of Local Businesses after Brexit and presses for Government Dedicated Unit to be set up

Kildare North Fianna Fáil TD and Junior Spokesperson on Financial Services, e-Government and Procurement, Deputy Frank O'Rourke, has supported calls for a dedicated unit within the Department of Jobs Enterprise and Innovation to be set up which would coordinate an approach to counteract the negative impact of the Brexit vote for businesses, including businesses in Kildare, that are exporting to the UK.

"A number of businesses, including food related companies, have been in touch with me recently to discuss the Brexit vote and the decision of the UK to leave the European Union (EU). The general consensus is that the overall economic fallout for Ireland will take time to become clear, but it will require careful management."

"Much will now depend on the negotiations around the UK's exit from the EU. However, it has the potential to lead to a protracted period of uncertainty and instability in Europe and affect our relationship with the UK. Our Government will need to ensure that our strong economic relationship with the UK is recognised, and is to the fore in these negotiations at EU level. While we must remain positive, we have to be focussed on what is important for our own economy, and that Irish interests are safeguarded in British EU exit negotiations."

"In the meantime, a dedicated unit within the Department of Jobs Enterprise and Innovation to coordinate a focused approach to counteract the negative impact of the Brexit vote should be put in place immediately."

"The immediate and short-term effect of a weaker sterling, and currency fluctuations, will have major implications for SME exporters and for the Tourism trade here, 41% of which are British holiday-makers." "The Irish food sector, much of which is based in Kildare, is highly dependent on the British market. The UK is our largest export market for food and drink and accounts for over 40 per cent of our total exports. Any

reduction in our relative competitiveness, vis-a-vis currency changes, is a huge concern."

"However, we do need a dedicated unit to assist companies that are exporting to the UK. From a local perspective, there are many companies that are exporting to the UK, in particular the food sector, I want to ensure that we have all their concerns captured and dealt with by the Government."





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Say this prayer for three days. Promise publication and prayer and favour will be granted, no matter how impossible.

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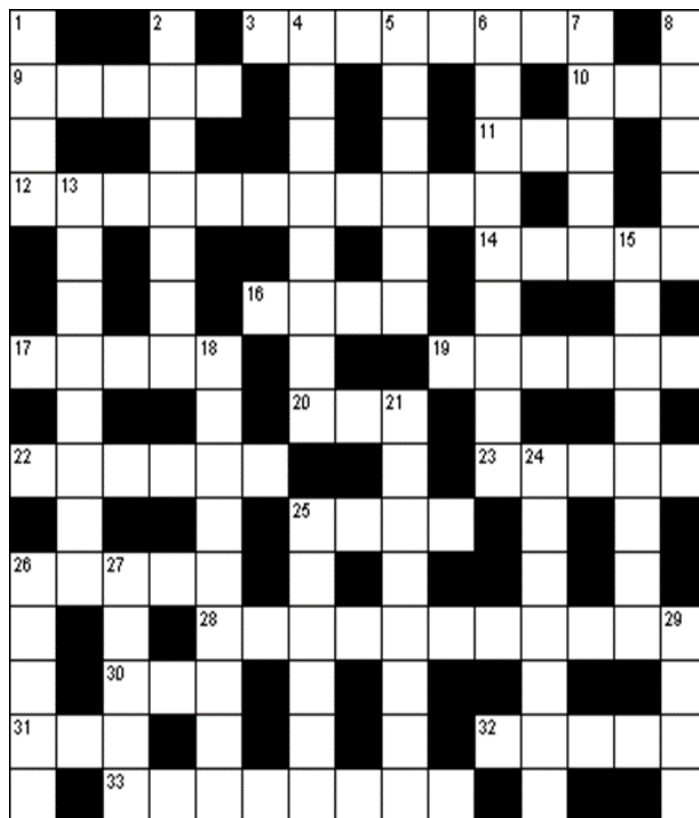


## Clues Across

3. Communicating corridors (8)
9. Harass (5)
10. Electrically charged atom (3)
11. Toward the stern (3)
12. Woman who herds sheep (11)
14. Resembling suds (5)
16. Club-like weapon (4)
17. Past tense of stand (5)
19. Gibberish (6)
20. Belonging to him (3)
22. Little job (6)
23. Planet (5)
25. Ruffian (4)
26. Wash (5)
28. Tenant under a lease (11)
30. 21st letter of the Greek alphabet (3)
31. Period of human life (3)
32. Tugs (5)
33. Direct light of the sun (8)



## August Crossword - No. 449

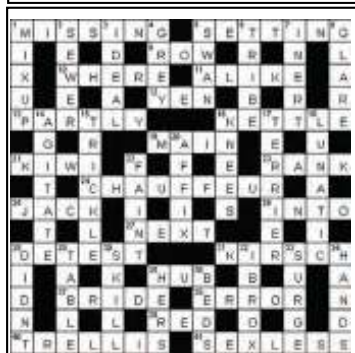


## Clues Down

1. Sailors (4)
2. Underwater missile (7)
4. To come nearer to (8)
5. Plot (6)
6. Articles of glass (9)
7. Located (5)
8. Take pleasure in (5)
13. Emotional outburst (8)
15. Deficiency in quantity (8)
18. Weed plant (9)
21. Cooking pan (8)
24. Clap (7)
25. Roof covering (6)
26. Sheep cry (5)
27. Ribbons (5)
29. Coarse file (4)



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Winner of Crossword  
No. 448 July

**Barbara Kelly**  
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Moyglare Abbey  
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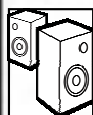
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# Our Thanks to the following businesses who generously donated prizes for the Taste of Maynooth Raffle.

Proceeds from The Taste of Maynooth Raffle assist in meeting the cost of this year's Maynooth Summer Festival. Our Thanks to All who supported the Raffle.

3 Pin Electrical 2 Rockfield Square Maynooth	Allure Beauty Salon 2 Mill Street Maynooth	Aramark Café Tesco S. C. Maynooth	Becks Beauty Salon Courthouse Square Maynooth	Boots Chemist Carton Park Dublin Road Maynooth	Brady's Clockhouse Bar & Lounge Main Street Maynooth
Brennan Academy of Performing Arts e-mail: bapabookings@gmail.com Call Ciara on 087 9734211	Bruce Betting Main Street Maynooth	Callagy's Pharmacy Glenroyal S.C. Maynooth	Carraig Donn Manor Mills S.C. Maynooth	Carton House Hotel Maynooth	Casey's SuperValu Glenroyal S.C. Maynooth
Centra (Scally's) Main Street Maynooth	Chill Downtown Manor Mills S. C. Maynooth	Coffee Lounge Mill Street Maynooth	Coffee Mill Mill Street Maynooth	Coynes Butchers Tesco S.C. Maynooth	Craobh Mhaigh Nuad C.C.E. contact Sean on 086 2225540 or email craobhmaighnuad@gmail.com
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Tansey's Deli Parson Street Maynooth	The Avenue Café - Restaurant - Bar Main Street Maynooth	The Brewery Coffee House Straffan Road Maynooth	The Fish Market Glenroyal S.C. Maynooth	The Gatehouse Restaurant Main Street Maynooth	The Glass Doll Court House Square Maynooth
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## Taste of Maynooth Prize Winners:

A. Crawley - Mary Farrell - Trisha Murray - Rory McDonough - Matthew Way - Ciara Caulfield - Grainne Farrell - Kate Dempsey - Trish Harkin - Emma Walsh - Melanie Oliver.

**All Prizes have been collected**





## Our Thanks to the following who supported the Maynooth Summer Festival 2016

Alan Coyne Yoga	Ania Stempel (Musician)	An Nuadha Players Terry Nealon, Ann Kelly, Naoise Nig Fhlionn & Ken Byrne	An Siopa Milseán Main St Maynooth	Apache Pizza Mill St Maynooth	Barbara Skuratowicz (Musician)	Barretts Hardware Straffan Road Maynooth
Barry Smith aka Tony Savino	Bistro 53 Main St Maynooth	Boots Chemists Carton Retail Park Maynooth	Boyne Writers Group Michael Farry & Orla Fay	Brady Property Partners Main St Maynooth	Castle Keep Arts Group	Cath's Creative Crafts
Common Grounds Collective	Coonans Auctioneers Main St Maynooth	Curves Gym Maynooth Business Park	Cut n Style Mill St Maynooth	Danny McCarthy (Musician)	Debbie Glennon	Dr. Karen Moore (Ecologist) Biodiversity Walk
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Mary Cullen (Historian)	Maynooth Fire Brigade	Maynooth Garden Centre Dublin Rd Maynooth	Maynooth Local History Group Rita Edwards, Peter Curran & Hilda Dunne	Maynooth Town Football Club	Maynooth Tidy Towns	Maynooth University
Mroz Maynooth	Naas Credit Union Cecil Doyle Bursary	NCS Auto Parts Main St Maynooth	North Kildare Writers Group - Kate Dempsey, Emma Clarke- Conway and Clare O'Reilly;	Office of Public Works Maynooth Castle Staff	Pete McCluskey (Musician)	Push for Porter (Local Trad Group)
Quickstitch Dublin Rd Maynooth	Rachel Taylor & Anna Cleary Forever Living agents	Ron Carey (Poet)	Royal Canal Amenity Group Maynooth	Scoil Rince Uí Dhubháill (Rita Doyle)	Scoopies Manor Mills S.C. Maynooth	Sean Tracey Bus Hire Maynooth
Shauna Gilligan (Writer)	St Mary's Church of Ireland (Cherry Prendergast)	St Mary's Scouts Geraldine Hall	St Patrick's College Maynooth	Swerve Design Graphic Artwork	T & R Cupcakes	The Beauty Boutique Maynooth
The Maynooth Bookshop Main St Maynooth	The Orient Asian Restaurant & Sushi Bar Main St Maynooth	The Treatment Room Town Centre Mall Maynooth	The Staff of Kildare County Council's Maynooth Office	The Staff of Maynooth Community Council	A big thanks to all the volunteers & organisers who gave their time & effort to organise the Maynooth Festival 2016	

### Maynooth Toastmasters

Yes, the rumours are right, Maynooth Toastmasters are indeed restarting another year of the successful communication workshops in August. Why so early, some might ask. "The early bird catches the Worm" is my response. Let's be realistic there are so many reasons why you want to become an effective communicator, to progress in the office, to make that personal speech, to empower that special person.

Come September, Come the Autumn Classes, Come Decisions

### Maynooth Toastmasters is coming of Age, it has reached its Tenth Anniversary as a Distinguished Club.

Ten Years of helping people succeed in reaching their personal goals

Ten years of achieving success, but we are still hungry for more. We want you to come as a guest, and enjoy our friendly progressive club, even bring a friend.

So let's recap 29th August 8 pm  
Glenroyal Hotel. Ring me Felicity  
Cuthbert. 087 1337750. See our  
Maynooth Toastmasters Facebook  
Page



### Free places on Springboard+ Courses at Maynooth University

Courses provide training in high value employment sectors of ICT and Data Analytics. Maynooth University has this week announced the availability of 90 places on two Springboard+ courses at the University; the Higher Diploma in Software Development (1 year full time) and the Higher Diploma in Data Analytics (1 year full time). Both courses are designed to offer graduates the opportunity to develop careers in the software and data analytics job sectors, which are growing, and in need of skilled personnel.

Speaking about the Higher Diploma in Software Development, lecturer Joe Duffin from the Department of Computer Science at Maynooth University, explains: "This course is a one year programme for graduates who already have a level 8 degree qualification in any subject other than computer science or software development, and who want to up-skill for a career in ICT. The course modules have an industrial IT focus, including databases, web development and mobile applications, as well as a work placement module which provides CV writing and interview skills."

Describing the Higher Diploma in Data Analytics, Dr Caroline Brophy, lecturer in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Maynooth University explains: "Huge volumes of data are collected every day in sectors such as healthcare, finance, food science and travel, and graduates with the skills to analyse this data are in huge demand. The Higher Diploma in Data Analytics includes modules on programming, statistical methods and databases with a strong emphasis on real world data. Graduates interested in this course should have a primary degree with some mathematical content."

The Springboard+ initiative in Higher Education offers free courses at certificate, degree and masters level leading to qualifications in areas where there are employment opportunities in the economy. Closing date for application to both courses is 15 August, 2016, with the programme commencing on 29 August, 2016. Students can apply for Maynooth University's Springboard courses at [www.springboardcourses.ie](http://www.springboardcourses.ie). Springboard+ is co-funded by the Irish Government and the European Social Fund as part of the ESF programme for employability, inclusion and learning 2014-2020.



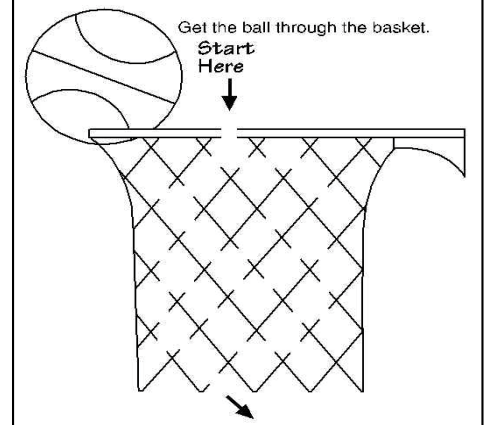
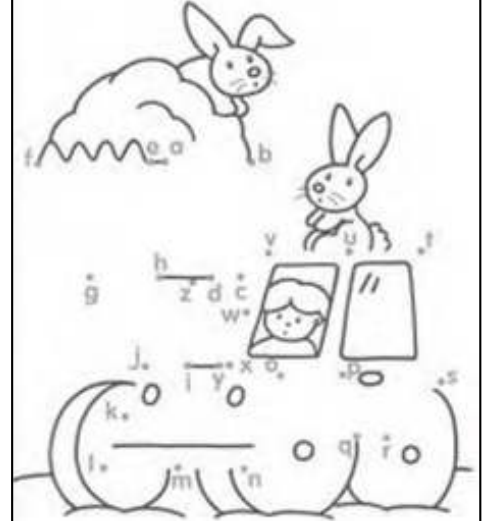
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Maynooth

Age: 6-7: Adrian Durran  
472A Easton Road  
Leixlip

Age: 8 & Over: Caoilainn Hanlon  
7 Meadowbrook Close  
Maynooth



Prizes for Colouring Competition can be collected at:  
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## August Gardening

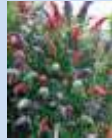
August is a time to relax and enjoy the garden, with all the cheerful colours and scents around, your garden or patio serves as a summer lounge where you can enjoy the long warm evenings to the full. There are still tasks to be completed but these are generally light and overcast days are perfect to get on top of little chores that will prolong the abundance of flowers.

### Flowers



There are many plants that are attractive both in flower and in seedhead to bees, butterflies and birds and at this time of the year they are really coming into their own. One of my favourites is Buddleia

commonly known as the butterfly bush. This plant has softly scented flowers and is often covered in butterflies which feed on its honey scented nectar. Lavender is another fantastic plant for butterflies and no wonder with that incredible scent.



**In flower beds and borders** weeds should not be allowed to go to seed to avoid future trouble. Bedding plants in pots and baskets still need regular watering and feeding. Feeding every two weeks or so is essential to keep the plants going after the first flush. Because the roots have now filled the pots, watering has become more critical than before. Sow seeds of perennial flowers and collect seeds of others to sow in autumn or in spring. Make sure to label them and store in a fridge. Spring bulbs are appearing in the shops and it is a good time to make an assessment of new locations for bulbs.



### Trees, Shrubs and Roses

A late show of roses from strong new shoots can still be obtained by pruning the flowered stems back to a strong bud. New shoots are quickly produced and flower buds will form for late flowers. An application of rose fertilizer will speed this up. Early flowering shrub roses and ramblers that have now finished could be pruned by removing some of the shoots that flowered. Check young trees and shrubs for water shortage. Clip deciduous and broad-leaved evergreen hedges during this time. Make sure that camellias and rhododendrons in pots do not dry out, especially in late summer, as they now set flower buds for next spring. The planting period for trees, shrubs, hedges and roses will soon be starting again and if you wish to plant any of these, the ground should be prepared now by digging or cultivation to bury grass and weeds.



### Lawns



It is time to prepare for sowing new lawn areas, or re-sowing in September, by killing all vegetation, cultivating thoroughly and allowing the soil to settle. Pale-coloured lawns should be fed, but only when the soil is moist. If a lawn is tired looking, apply lawn fertilizer in broken weather so that it is well-washed in and there is no risk of scorching the grass, spread evenly and this will provide a boost to growth and encourage good growth for winter.

### Fruit, Vegetables and Herbs

Raspberry canes that have finished fruiting could be pruned out and the new canes tied into position. Vegetables can be sown, for instance, lettuce, chard and spring onions. Spring cabbage should be sown without delay. Harvest other fruits and vegetables as they become ready. Lift and pot up rooted strawberry runners. Pinch off onion flower buds from the top of the plants to direct all of the plant's energy into the developing bulb instead of seed production. To reduce the number of pests on your fruit tree for the coming year, pick up and destroy all fallen fruit.



### Greenhouse and House Plants



In a greenhouse or tunnel, shrub cuttings can be taken now. Many kinds are easy to raise. Take cuttings of geraniums, fuchsias and other tender plants for next year. Continue to train and side-shoot tomatoes and cucumbers, and pick the fruit as it ripens. Continue watering and feeding greenhouse plants. Be especially careful to water plants in pots or grow-bags regularly. Tidy up all kinds of plant debris from the greenhouse now and be careful not to overwater or to splash water about. From now on, grey mould disease becomes a problem for many greenhouse plants and good hygiene is the best way to avoid it.

**You reap what you sow!**

## SUMMER SALADS

### Strawberry and goat's cheese salad

#### Ingredients:

- 1 cucumber
- 2 punnets of strawberries,
- 2 tbsps olive oil
- Juice of 1 lemon
- Good squeeze of honey or maple syrup
- 100g soft goat's cheese
- 1 small red onion
- Bunch of basil
- Black pepper

#### For the balsamic syrup

- 200 mls balsamic vinegar
- Sprig rosemary
- Good squeeze of honey or maple syrup
- 2 tbsps olive oil

#### Method:

Peel the cucumber and cut it in half lengthways. Then using a spoon scoop out the seeds. Slice the cucumber into thin slices so you get half moons. Once ready to serve cut the strawberries in half and gently toss them in the olive oil, lemon juice and honey/maple syrup. Do this in the bowl you will serve them in. Then scatter the cucumber around the dish. Add the goat's cheese, which you should crumble, and a sprinkling of onion and basil. Give a light mix and then drizzle with your balsamic syrup and serve.

To make the balsamic syrup, heat up the balsamic vinegar and sprig of rosemary, very gently until simmering. Reduce it down by a third and then remove from the heat, discard the rosemary and whisk in the honey /maple syrup and olive oil.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Smoked salmon salad with beetroot, red cabbage and horseradish

#### Ingredients:

- ½ pickled red cabbage, drained
- 200g crème fraîche
- 2 tbsps horseradish sauce
- Salt and pepper
- 3 cooked beetroots (about 350g), thickly sliced
- 95g Irish organic smoked salmon
- Extra virgin olive oil

#### Serves 4



#### Method:

This dish is so simple to prepare, you're really only bringing ingredients together. The combination of smoked salmon, beetroot and pickled red cabbage works really well together. Mix the cabbage with the crème fraîche and horseradish sauce and season with salt and pepper. Season the beetroot and divide evenly between four plates. Spoon some of the cabbage cream over and then drape the smoked salmon in the centre. Drizzle a little olive oil over the dish to serve.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Salad of exotic fruits with ginger and vanilla

#### Ingredients:

- 1 small pink grapefruit
- 1 small fresh mango
- 1 banana
- 1 pineapple
- 1 small punnet of blueberries
- 1 vanilla pod
- 1 small piece of fresh ginger
- 1 lime
- 1 lemon
- 100g of light demerara sugar
- Handful of fresh mint leaves: chop finely



#### Method:

Cut the vanilla pods in two lengthwise. Peel the ginger, then grate the whole piece finely. Grate the zest of both the lime and the lemon and then squeeze out the juice. Heat roughly 25cl of cold water with all of the sugar in a small saucepan; add the split vanilla plus the grated ginger, lime and lemon. Bring to the boil then add the juice from the citrus fruits and leave to cook until a syrup is formed. Peel the grapefruit, segment it, removing all membrane and cut the segments into small cubes. Peel the pineapple and cut it into rounds. Prepare the mango by peeling it and slice its flesh into large cubes. Heat a grill pan and lightly grill the pineapple on both sides. In a large salad bowl, mix the grilled pineapple with the diced grapefruit, mango and blueberries. Stir in the chopped mint. Douse liberally with the ginger syrup and remove the vanilla pod. Cover with cling-film and leave to marinate for at least 45 minutes until well-chilled. When ready to serve add the sliced banana and serve in individual bowls.



FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

# GHOSTBUSTERS (2016)

Starring: MELISSA MCCARTHY & KRISTEN WIIG



Is there a film of the past thirty years whose magic has been trickier to reproduce than the iconic supernatural comedy *Ghostbusters*? In 1984 some of the most talented comedians of that era (Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd and Harold Ramis) got together to kick the Ass out of Spook Central. Under the direction of Ivan Reitman and with the assistance of Ray Parker's hugely popular theme song, *Ghostbusters* became an instant and enduring classic.



A third film was in the pipeline for years after *Ghostbusters II* in 1989. Dan Aykroyd and others had even penned scripts but Bill Murray's lack of interest stalled the project and the franchise went into hibernation. When Harold Ramis died in 2014, it looked like a third *Ghostbusters* film was surely doomed.

This all changed when comedy-director Paul Feig took up the challenge. Feig has comedy pedigree and was the ideal choice to direct a new *Ghostbusters*. Although by his own admission he turned down this directing gig several times because of the 1984 film's status as a beloved classic. Who could possibly replace or equal the ghost-busting dynamism of Murray and Co?



Cleverly Feig doesn't seek to replace or outdo the *Ghostbusters* original. Rather he's given it a different spin by injecting a gender swap into the mix. His comedy regulars Melissa McCarthy and Kristen Wiig (*Bridesmaids*, *Spy*) are joined by newcomers Kate McKinnon (a *Saturday Night Live* regular) and Leslie Jones as the geeky paranormal investigators.

Paul Feig's finished product is somewhere between a reboot and a remake. The director and Katie Dippold's screenplay pays homage to the 80s blockbuster with a sprinkling of references, story cues and influences from the original. There is even a number of cameos from original cast members. However *Ghostbusters 2016* has just enough freshness and inventiveness to make it stand apart from its illustrious predecessor.



The central relationship of this *Ghostbusters* is between Wiig's uptight physicist Erin Gilbert and McCarthy's unrepentant paranormal researcher, Abby Yates. Erin is desperate to hide her ghost-hunting past which could hamper her chances of promotion in her academic career. However,

the reappearance of a book the estranged friends co-wrote results in Erin being fired from her University position. When bizarre things occur at a historical mansion, a reluctant Erin gets roped into helping Abby and her oddball nuclear engineer friend Jillian (McKinnon) in their ghost-seeking enterprises. Just like the original film, the trio of scientists set up shop above a Chinese Restaurant as supernatural researchers/trappers for hire.



They are soon joined by Patty (Leslie Jones) a Transport employee, whose own subterranean encounter with a slimy spook has her running in the direction of the Ghostbusters. Add Chris Hemsworth's gorgeous but spectacularly useless receptionist (he has trouble just answering phones!) into the mix and the fun really begins!

The imminent threat of a ghost flood, unleashed by Neil Casey's nerdy, anti-social loner, sets the Ghostbusters at odds with Andy Garcia's New York Mayor. Soon the girls are wielding proton-blasting equipment and turning numerous creepy ghouls into ectoplasmic slime.

The original *Ghostbusters* had its own brand of quotable memorable humour based around the male cast's specific strengths. Bill Murray in particular stole the show with his cynical wise-cracking asides, poking fun at the film's attempt to inject ghostly scariness into proceedings. Director Paul Feig wisely avoids copying this formula in his latest film. There are scares and laughs aplenty but his cast are very much a team.



Feig's female cast do play to their own individual comic talents but the director also allows them to have more developed connections than was evident in the original film. McCarthy, Wiig, McKinnon and Jones are some of the best female comics working today. Their own brand of infectious humour, wackiness, gags, pratfalls and improvisation inject the first half of the film with manic energy.

McCarthy and Wiig subdue their usual brash personae in Feig's films to give likeable and quirky performances as the friends attempting to mend fences. The former exudes bumbling charm as the screwball scientist. Wiig is the reasonable, rational centre of the film. hilariously, she only becomes unstuck in her awkward attraction to Hemsworth's dim-witted receptionist. Leslie Jones infuses her subway worker and Big Apple history buff character with endless energy and fun.

The real standout performance comes from Kate McKinnon who has some of the film's funniest lines. She's nerdy and forcefully weird with her oddball interjections during any social interaction. McKinnon steals scenes from the rest of the cast just with her hilarious facial expressions and reactions. Even when she's in the background, she's interesting to watch!



*Thor* star Chris Hemsworth swaps his usual macho persona for something radically different. The actor has described his character, Kevin, as 'a big dumb puppy dog, full of enthusiasm, but completely naïve.' The actor has a lot of fun sending up his image in the role of an almost 'too dumb to function' hunk hired by the Ghostbusters. He has impeccable comic timing. Like McKinnon, Hemsworth is endlessly watchable.



This new adaptation of a supernatural classic is not without its controversy. The trailer was dubbed 'the most hated one of all time' and male critics have been vitriolic in their rants against the female-led project online. This very topic is even addressed in the film when Abby warns Erin to avoid reading the nasty online trolling.

So does the new *Ghostbusters* compare favourably to the old one? Was it worth redoing? The film certainly has its issues as well as its strengths. The neon-glowing ghosts have real presence and shock value. However the CGI special effects, although high-tech, big, colourful and noisy, threaten to smother the latter half of the film.

Up to this point, it is a hilarious, fun-filled ride. The gags are plentiful with genuine laugh-out-loud moments. The new group of female characters are appealing and endearing in their own right. When the new *Ghostbusters* breaks free from the urge to pay homage - and focuses on the charming interplay between these eccentric misfits - the film really shines. Paul Feig's reboot certainly captures the spirit of the original but also has enough new material and outstanding comical characters to keep it fresh and relevant. As the New York Times proclaimed 'Women are funny - get over it!'





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