

Maynooth Newsletter



Serving the people of Maynooth



April 2017

Local News

Issue No. 456

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

Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Parade 2017



Naoise Ó Cearúil presenting the 'Community Person of the Year Award' to Michael Dempsey.

This year's parade was bigger and better than ever despite the weather. With forecasts of rain throughout, we were extremely lucky that it stayed dry for the duration of the parade. The theme this year was "Purple and Gold", a celebration of Maynooth's success in obtaining a Purple Flag and a Tidy Towns Gold Medal in the past year. The participants took to the theme and were decked out in the regal colours of Purple and Gold.

The streets were packed and 2017 saw the biggest crowds yet at our parade. The day was kicked off by the Vintage Cars signalling that the Colour Party and the Brass and Reed band were on the way. There were 33 floats, each representing various community, voluntary and business groups in our town. It is days like St. Patrick's Day that we truly appreciate the amount of organisations that we are lucky to have here.

The parade would not be as successful or indeed run without the generous sponsorship and help from various people and groups. Our main sponsors this year were Thornton's Recycling, Brady's Bar and Lounge, O'Neills Pub, The Roost, Dr. John Merrick, Jim's Shoe Repairs, Mc Mahon's Bar and Lounge, Picaderos, Oak Alley, Donatellos, The Duke & Coachman.

The Community Council Office and the staff there, under the guidance of the Manager John Doogan were vital once again in the preparations for the parade and their help was invaluable and I am extremely thankful to them.

Pat Farrell was on hand the night previous and on the day to get the town ready. On the day Richard Farrell, Mary Farrell, Shay Corbally, Sophia Dix, Colm Ó Cearúil, Ger Uí Chearúil and Leon Diop from Maynooth Students Union were all there to help and thank you to each of them. Our Master of Ceremonies was Paul Croghan who conducted the entire affair with his usual good humour and knowledge of the community groups. Martin McMahon explained the purple flag to the crowd as a committee member, Tom McMullon Chair of MCC gave us an update on the work of the Community Council and Vinny Osbourne provided the sound on the day. The Gardaí were

helpful again with road closures and Kildare County Council provided us with barriers and sponsorship once again. I'm grateful to everyone who made the day possible and I look forward to seeing you all in 2018!

Go raibh míle maith agaibh!!

(Photo Gallery on pages 15 & 16 inside)



Naoise Ó Cearúil presenting Best Portrayal of Theme Float to Claire Barbour of the Glenroyal Hotel



Winner of the Best Commercial Float Michael Noone Motors



Naoise Ó Cearúil presenting Best Environmental Awareness award to Mary Molloy of Maynooth Tidy Towns



Muireann Ní Bhrolacháin award being presented to the Rita Doyle School of Dancing



Best School award being presented to Maynooth Educate Together School

Community Policing for North Kildare Action Group

The two demands of the Community Policing for North Kildare Action Group (CPNKAG) have been granted. A community garda has been assigned to the Maynooth Municipal District. His name is Garda Aidan McGuane. He will be based in Maynooth and will liaise with Maynooth University. Superintendent Gerry Wall has committed to having a garda on duty for public business at the following times:

Maynooth: Monday 1pm to 4pm - **Kilcock:** Tuesday 1pm to 4pm
Celbridge: Wednesday 1pm to 4pm

Our ongoing campaign has secured the deployment of a community garda along with defined opening times for our Garda stations - much needed services for North Kildare. We will continue our work in seeking further extensions to these opening times. We also want community policing to be a permanent feature of Garda provision in our areas. We wish to express our gratitude to all those who have given their time and commitment to this worthwhile campaign and to the thousands of people who signed the petition and survey.



Maynooth Community Council Ltd., Unit 5, Tesco's S.C. Carton Park, Maynooth. Phone - 01-6285922 - Email - office@maynoothcc.com



Oak Alley

Restaurant & Cocktail Bar

Wishing Happy Easter to all our customers

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Easter Set Menu's from €30pp
Available Easter Sunday & Monday

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Special Confirmation & Communion
Set Menu's also available!

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Oak Alley Restaurant & Cocktail Bar
Main Street, Maynooth, Co. Kildare
P: 01 6106558 | E: info@oakalley.ie



Gerry Nally
Construction
Limited

Member of



We Build:

- New Houses, Sun Rooms & Conservatories
- New Bathroom Suites
- Shop Fronts
- Wall & Attic Insulation
- House Extensions & Renovations
- Attic Conversions
- Roofing
- Tiling - Wall & Floors
- Timber Floor / Decking



Contact Gerry at 086 2499407

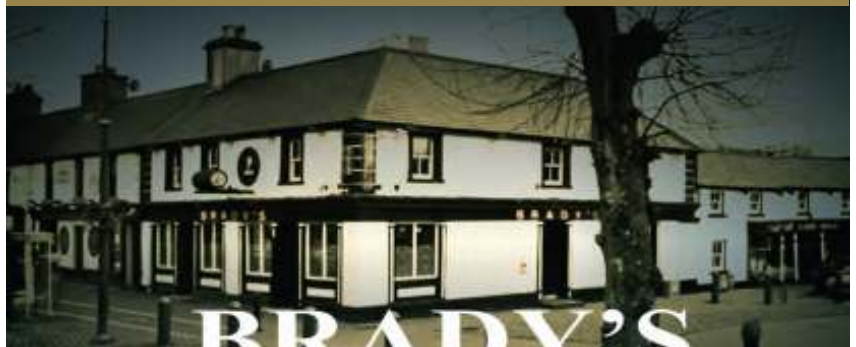
FOR ALL YOUR HOME MAINTENANCE
Cullinore, Brownstown- Kilcloon - Co Meath

Telefax: 01 6285462

Email: gerrynally@eircom.net - Website: www.gerrynally.com



Happy Easter from Declan & Staff of Brady's



BRADY'S

CLOCK HOUSE

BAR - LOUNGE - RESTAURANT

Web: www.bradysbarmaynooth.ie

E-mail: info@bradysbarmaynooth.ie

Main Street Maynooth Co Kildare

Tel: 01-505 4725

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

Great Food Served 7 Days

YOU GET BUSY LIVING WE'LL GET BUSY INVESTING

Our investment products are designed to get your money working harder to suit your financial ambitions.

Start investing today with advice from our experts who can help you make the right investment choice for you.

To get started on your investment journey with us, book an appointment with our Investment Experts in **KBC Maynooth**



Drop into us at **KBC Maynooth**, Manor Mills Shopping Centre



Call **01 513 1040**



maynoothhub@kbc.ie

THE BANK OF YOU 

WARNING: THE VALUE OF YOUR INVESTMENT MAY GO DOWN AS WELL AS UP.

Terms and conditions apply. KBC Bank Ireland plc is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.

James Lawless TD

Kildare North Representative

**My Maynooth Constituency
Office is open
Every Monday from 9am to 4pm.
(Just off Doctors Lane,
Maynooth)**

**No need for appointment
Just drop by
Tel: 01-6183587**

Mob: 0868348869

Email: james@jameslawless.ie

Web: www.jameslawless.ie



FIANNA Fáil
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY



Rock & Rory the annual music fundraising event celebrating the works of the guitarist and songwriter Rory Gallagher and various other Rock n Blues artists took place in McMahon's on Saturday 22nd October. This year the organisers linked up with JIGSAW who have been making a difference to the mental health of young people across Ireland for over ten years. JIGSAW support young people with their mental health through their JIGSAW Services, and help provide more understanding and support for youth mental health across Ireland. They are working to change how Ireland thinks about and responds to young people's mental health through Research, Engagement and Services. All the money raised on the night was donated to JIGSAW a total of €3,010.00. A great night was had by all who attended.



Alan O'Keeffe with Dave McHugh presenting the cheque for €3010 to Caroline Norris from JIGSAW



Alan O'Keeffe & Dominic O'Keeffe the 2 organisers of the Fundraising event with the cheque for JIGSAW.

Eve Larine Hub Community Garden



Eve Larine operated a garden centre for twenty three years, supplying the local community with all their gardening needs. In recent years we realised that the garden centre was no longer viable and we looked to see if we could change the use of the site. We wanted to maintain our physical contact and good relationships

with the local community and out of this we came up with a plan for a community garden. The plan for the site is to create individual gardens within the overall space, incorporating an environmental / educational message.

The project is to be completed in three phases

Phase 1: To be completed by March 2017

Phase 2: To be completed by September 2017

Phase 3: To be completed by Spring 2018



The team working on the project learned various skills

- Team building
- Construction /Creating garden features
- Safe demolition
- Environmental impact/ flora and fauna
- Soil preparation/Planting
- Appropriate plant selection



Maud's
***** Home Services
For a deeper clean



- Regular Maid Service
- Oven Valletting
- Deep / Spring Cleans
- Carpet Cleaning
- Office Cleaning
- Stone Floor Cleaning

Call Today (01) 401 1901 Nationwide
Mob (087) 320 3201

Award Winning Customer Focused Cleaning Services
Fully Vetted Professionals
Thorough & Friendly Maids Right To Your Door

VERY COMPETITIVE RATES

GREEN AWARDS 2011 Bella Rose CSR ecofriendly

www.housecleaning.ie

"A Clean Home Is A Happy Home"
Registered in Ireland: 428555 VAT No IE9776774T

DISCOVER what
30 minutes
Strength Training
will do for you!



- 30-minute full body workout
- Strength Training and cardio
- One-on-one coaching
- Designed for women

FREE WEEK trial offer*

Curves Maynooth
016291000
Block F Unit 13
Maynooth Business Campus
Off the M4 Maynooth Exit

* Free week trial may be redeemed on the first visit or exchanged for special member discount. Valid only at participating locations from Jan-March 2017. New members only. © 2015 Curves International, Inc.

Curves
curves.eu/ie



Mc Mahon's Main Street Maynooth



Phone: 01-6291568 - e-mail: info@mcmahonsbar.com



Light Entertainment Every Weekend

Open Mic every Tuesday night

Friday night Music in Bar 9pm

Saturday night Music in Lounge 9pm



**Sunday
Evening
Session
6.00 - 8.30pm**



**Food
Served
All Day**

Coláiste Naomh Eoin An Ghaeltacht sa Bhaile

Winner of the Memorex Culture Award

Gaeltacht Summer Courses 2017

Maynooth University, Maynooth

Cúrsa A: 05/06/17 - 16/06/17

Please Note: Cúrsa A starts on Bank Holiday Monday.

Lucan Community College, Lucan

Cúrsa A: 26/06/17 - 07/07/17

Castleknock Community College

Cúrsa F: 03/07/17 - 14/07/17

(Primary Students Only)

Formal Class • Sports • Games • Competitions • Fun Activities • Céile & Sing Song • Art • Drama
"...the most Comprehensive, Enjoyable and Affordable Gaeltacht course in Ireland"

Limited Places. Book online or contact (01) 298 5287

www.ColaisteNaomhEoin.com



Language School • Ireland

French Summer Courses
Secondary School Students

**Lucan Community
College**

12/06/17 - 16/06/17

***"An excellent course,
excellently taught"***

Book Now
Limited Places

(01) 298 5287

www.lsireland.com

KILDARE TRAVEL AGENT WINS TOP AWARD



Local Kildare travel specialist Jeanette Coughlan has won a prestigious award at the annual conference for leading independent travel company, Travel Counsellors. She was awarded for achieving the most sales through Phenix, the company's in-house system, which significantly contributes to her growing her business.

The black-tie awards ceremony for Travel Counsellors Ireland took place at Fota Island Resort, Cork on Friday, March 10, celebrating the very best talent within Travel Counsellors' Irish network of franchisees. The gala was the concluding event to an action-packed two-day conference for Travel Counsellors, which was attended by over 140 travel professionals. The conference included a keynote address by prominent fashion stylist, broadcaster and entrepreneur Sonya Lennon, who spoke on the necessity of building and sharing a personal brand story.

Speaking about her win, Maynooth-based Jeanette Coughlan said: "It is an incredible honour to receive such a prestigious award, in front of so many of my peers. Working as a Travel Counsellor for the past three years, and backed by a world-class team, I take great pride in being able to offer an exceptional service, creating a bespoke, personal travel experience for every customer."

Commending Jeanette, General Manager of Travel Counsellors Ireland, Cathy Burke stated: "The awards ceremony is a chance for us to celebrate the successes of the past year and congratulate our dedicated and hardworking travel professionals. With a passion for travel, and commitment to sourcing and tailoring the best holidays for her clients, Jeanette is a thoroughly deserving recipient of this award."

Travel Counsellors is an independent travel company whose global network of travel professionals deliver bespoke travel experiences to both the leisure and corporate markets. There are 65 Travel Counsellors operating throughout Ireland, offering unparalleled industry expertise and first-hand destination knowledge coupled with a work ethic which revolves around genuine care for the customer.

Customers interested in speaking to Jeanette Coughlan about their travel plans can find her at www.travelcounsellors.ie/jeanette.coughlan



Maynooth Golf Society

Maynooth Golf Society have just had their first outing of 2017 to Castleknock Golf Club. We would like to wish our new Captain Ollie Bright the best of luck for the year ahead.

Owen Byrne Shield

**Sponsored by Maynooth Bookshop
Castleknock Golf Club 11.03.2017**

1 st	Eamon Murphy(14)	43pts
2 nd	Mick Fahey(22)	41pts
3 rd	Liam Farrelly(14)	39pts B9
4 th	Danny Finnan(15)	39pts
5 th	Brian Shields(12)	38pts
6 th	Joey Edwards(9)	37pts
7 th	Darren Weafer(5)	36pts
F9	Anthony Tyrrell	19pts
B9	Martin Shields	22pts
Over 50	Sean Farrelly	35pts
NP	Danny Finnan	
2s Club	D.Finnan, A.Tyrrell, M.Devaney, S.Feeney, W.Farrelly, P.Finnan, A.Clarke	

Next outing to St. Margaret's on the 8th April
The course was in great condition on the day and the greens in particular were very good. Our outings for this year are as follows.

April 8th St Margaret's
May 6th Portarlinton
May 19/20 Weekend away to Buncloody
June 16th Castlewarden
July 22nd Glasson (Captains Day)
Aug 19th Moyvalley
Sept 16th Carton House

New members are always welcome and if anyone has any queries please text 0894906510 and we will get back to you.

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

DEAR Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask for this special one (mention favour). Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart, where your Father sees it, then it will become your favour not mine. Say this prayer for three days, promise publication and favour will be granted no matter how impossible. **Never known to fail.**

Thanksgiving for favour received. K

EARTH BABY FAIR 2017

Maynooth: Sunday 9th April

Glenroyal Hotel

10am - 4pm



Featuring:

- 🌍 Lots of lovely stalls
- 🗣 Talks
- 🎟 Raffle Prizes
- 👶 Kids' Entertainment

A HUGE a Thank You to the Stallholders who have supported our Earth Baby Fair!

<http://www.clothnappylibrary.ie/earth-baby-fair.html>

Entrance: €5 each or €8 for 2. Kids FREE!

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ✓ Fluffybums | ✓ Ode to Motherhood | ✓ Toys & Games Ireland |
| ✓ MummyHub | ✓ BrithToBaby.ie | ✓ SuperHands Baby Sign Language |
| ✓ JoeyRoo | ✓ Private Midwives Ireland | ✓ Wickless in Ireland |
| ✓ Little Blue Stripes | ✓ Nurturing Mamas | ✓ Tiny Wellies Photography |
| ✓ KiddyFashion n more | ✓ Knee to Knee slings | ✓ Mama's Drawing Room |
| ✓ Nua Baby | ✓ Sleepydust Slings | ✓ Go Forth With Aloe |
| ✓ Funki Fleece | ✓ Leambh Babywearing | ✓ Little Green Shop |
| ✓ The Swedish Seamstress | ✓ Kangaroo Babies | ✓ Abosca |
| ✓ JaSo Organics | ✓ Snuggiebugs | ✓ Bespoke Breastmilk Keepsakes |
| ✓ Handmade by Cece | ✓ HipBaby | ✓ Alternative Endings |
| ✓ ItsyBitsy | ✓ Upa Slings | |
| ✓ Mo Chuile - Placenta Encapsulation | ✓ Aoife Rose Designs | |

Easter is the only time of year when it is acceptable to keep all your eggs in one basket.



Parenting Talks: The New Single Affordable Childcare Programme and Choosing Quality Childcare in Kildare Presented by Emily Moore and Marie Dowdall, KCCC Tuesday 25th April, 7pm At Maynooth Community Library

In this session, Emily will firstly give an overview of the new Single Affordable Childcare Programme that was announced in Budget 2017. She will go through the eligibility criteria and give an opportunity for questions and answers.

Marie will then speak about childcare in Kildare and how to choose the right setting for your child. She will take you through the guide on the KCCC website on the different things you should look for in a quality service and important questions to ask. Adults only. Booking Essential.

For further information contact :
www.kildare.ie/library
maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie
Ph: 01 6285530



Kildare County Council
Library and Arts Services
Conradh na Gaeilge
Seirbhís Leabharlánaíochta agus Ealaíona

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 and from the Citizens Information Phone Service - 0761 07 4000 or Lo-call 1890777121

Part-time work and PRSI

Question

I work part-time in a local restaurant from Thursday to

Saturday. The number of shifts I work can vary depending on the time of year. How does this part-time arrangement affect my social insurance (PRSI) contributions?

Answer

The number of social insurance contributions you make can affect your eligibility for the range of social insurance benefits that are available.

It is called Pay Related Social Insurance (PRSI) because the amount of social insurance you pay depends on your earnings and the type of work you do.

In general, you pay a PRSI contribution in respect of each PRSI contribution week in which you work. The PRSI contribution week starts on the first day of January every year. Because this may fall on any day of the week, the PRSI contribution week may differ from the working week. You must be working on at least one day in each PRSI contribution week in order to pay a contribution.

In 2017, the first of January fell on a Sunday. This means that each PRSI contribution week this year runs from Sunday to Saturday.

As your part-time work arrangement requires that you work part of every week between Sunday and Saturday, you will have your full 52 PRSI contributions for 2017. Even if, due to the seasonal nature of your work, your working days were reduced to one or two of those days per week, you would still have your full contributions.

However, if your work pattern was to change to the same days for one week on, one week off, you would only get 26 weeks of contributions in 2017.

Jury service

Question

I have been called for jury service but I'm not sure if I can take the time off work. What are my employment rights if I attend for jury service?

Answer

If you are in employment, there is a duty on your employer to allow you to attend for jury service. Time spent on jury service must be treated as if you were actually employed. In other words, you are entitled to be paid while you are away from work. Anyone with a contract of employment (including temporary or contract workers) is entitled to be paid by the employer while on jury service.

There should be no loss of any other employment rights while you serve on a jury. The Jury Office of the court will provide a certificate of attendance on request.

If you are self-employed and work alone and your attendance at jury service may mean that you can't earn a living, you may qualify to be excused from jury service. Contact the Jury Office for more information.

The County Registrar or the trial judge may also excuse you if satisfied that there is good reason for doing so.

Some people have a right to be excused from jury service, including:

- Full-time students
- People who are 65 years of age or older
- Those who provide an important community service, such as practising doctors, nurses, midwives, dentists, vets, chemists, etc.
- People in certain official positions (for example, members of the Oireachtas)
- Some public officials whose work can't be postponed or done by others
- Those who have served on a jury within the last three years, or who remain excused by a judge following previous service

If you serve on a jury and feel your employment rights have been infringed or you have lost employment rights as a result, you can make a complaint to the Workplace Relations Commission using the online complaint form available on workplacelrelations.ie. Read more about enforcing your employment rights on citizensinformation.ie.

Preparing for retirement

Question

I will be retiring from work in 2017 when I reach 65. What do I need to know about pensions and other benefits in retirement?

Answer

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

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

You may have contributed to an occupational pension scheme during your working life or you may have a personal pension arrangement. You need to contact the pension provider to find out exactly what benefits your pension gives you. If you move from employment to retirement in the course of the year, you should get a PAYE Balancing Statement (P21) from your local tax office at the end of the year. This will trigger a refund if you have paid too much tax.

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

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

At age 66, you will also be eligible for a Free Travel Pass and may be eligible for the Household

Benefits Package, which consists of a free TV licence and an electricity or gas allowance.

For medical cards and GP visit cards, which are means tested, the income thresholds are higher for people aged 66 and over. If you are over 70 there is a different means test for the medical card and you can get a GP visit card without an income test.

CAO late application

Question

The closing date for applying to college was 1 February. Can I still apply?

Answer

You apply for almost all full-time undergraduate courses through the Central Applications Office (CAO). This includes, for example, university and institute of technology undergraduate courses such as Higher Certificates at Level 6 and degrees at Levels 7 and 8.

The closing date for 2017 CAO applications was 1st February 2017. However, late applications are allowed up to 5.15pm on 1st May 2017.

There is a fee to apply for courses through the CAO and late applications are subject to an increased fee. Late online applications cost €50.

You may change the courses you picked or the order of courses on your application. This Change of Mind facility is free. It opens on 5th May and closes on 1st July 2017 at 5.15pm.

If you are a mature applicant who wants to be assessed on mature grounds, or if you want to be considered for the HEAR and/or DARE schemes, most colleges will require you to have applied to the CAO by 1st February 2017. There are also some restricted courses which cannot be applied for after 1st February 2017. The CAO provides a handbook that lists all the courses on offer and gives information on how to apply.

Decisions on offers of places are normally made in August and September, after the results of the Leaving Certificate have come out. A detailed schedule of the offer rounds is in the CAO handbook. It is important to note that there is no central applications body for Post-Leaving Certificate (PLC) courses. Students must apply directly to the individual colleges. You should check the closing date for PLC courses with the college where the PLC course is taking place.

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

DEAR Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask for this special one (mention favour). Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart, where your Father sees it, then it will become your favour not mine. Say this prayer for three days, promise publication and favour will be granted no matter how impossible.

Never known to fail.

Thanksgiving for favour received. Jacko

Maynooth Labour News

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

Update on Maynooth Traffic Management Plan

A meeting of the Maynooth MD members, Council Staff and the Consultant engaged on the Maynooth Traffic Management Plan took place on 22nd February to discuss the Draft.

To say that Cllr. McGinley was unhappy with the Draft would be putting it mildly. John stated that the Draft concentrated far too much on cyclists and that it needed to outline the priorities for the Ring Roads that are in the Maynooth Local Area Plan 2013-2019.

Another meeting is scheduled for 5th April to see if the revised Draft can go on public display.

Cllr. McGinley Demands that a Footpath be provided on the Northern Side of the Newtown Road, Maynooth:

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion to the Maynooth MD meeting on 8th March:

"That a new footpath be constructed on the northern side of the Newtown Road, Maynooth, from Castle Dawson to Bond Bridge, in the interest of public safety."

John was given the following reply by the Area Engineer:

"This issue was considered in 2015 and the members were informed that the design of and construction of this path would be a major undertaking. Further design will not be considered unless a potential source of funding is identified. Land CPO's will be required as part of this scheme."

Cllr. McGinley stated that the reply from the Area Engineer was inaccurate as the report to his motion in July 2015 indicated that there would be no need to acquisition sections of front gardens for a footpath. Sections of front gardens would have to be taken if a cycle path was included.

John stated that this is a highly pedestrianised area with around 900 houses and that the existing footpath on the southern side is too narrow to accommodate pedestrians and buggies. As the Newtown Road is soon to become a bus route it is essential that the Council make funding available for the footpath in the interest of public safety. Also, the Draft Maynooth Traffic Management Plan calls for a footpath to be put in place.

Cllr. McGinley Calls for more Car Parking Spaces for Commuters at The Harbour, Maynooth

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion to the Maynooth MD meeting on 8th March:

"Can the Council ask Waterways Ireland if they would consider using the open space at The Harbour, Maynooth, for 50+ pay per use car parking spaces for commuters?"

John was given the following reply by the Area Engineer:

This open space is in the ownership of Waterways Ireland and is infrequently used by them to access the canal via the slipway. The municipal district office will engage with and explore the option with Waterways Ireland.

Cllr. McGinley stated that the Council should point out to Waterways Ireland that they could earn €50,000 per year in car parking fees and that if they need to use the open space themselves on any occasion they could close the gate.

Maynooth MD Office Buy New Sweeper for Cycle Lanes and Footpaths in Maynooth

Cllr. McGinley was given the following information by

the Area Engineer:

"A new walk behind sweeping unit has been ordered and is expected to be commissioned by the end of March. This unit will be used to maintain the cycle lanes and footpaths in Maynooth."

Update on new Bus Turning Point at the Nursing Home at Crinstown, Maynooth:

Cllr John McGinley was given the following update by the Council:

"Funding is included in the National Transport Authority (NTA) 2017 Budget for the 66 Bus Turning Point at the Nursing Home at Crinstown. The Council's Road Design are progressing the project through detailed design and planning."

Progress on Meadowbrook Link/Straffan Road Junction Traffic Lights - Stagg

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has continued to press the Roads Section of Kildare Co. Council in relation to progressing the provision of Traffic Lights at the Junction of the Meadowbrook Link and Straffan Road, Maynooth, with the developer of Hayfield Estate, Maynooth.

The Council have now advised Mr. Stagg that the Roads Section have recently had a number of meetings with the Engineers for the developer of Hayfield Estate, and from their analysis there has been progress made on the design of the new traffic lights at the Meadowbrook Link/Straffan Road Junction and the upgrading of the existing traffic lights at the Lidl/Straffan Road Junction. It is hoped that the final design of the works and the programme of works will be agreed shortly.

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has welcomed the progress given the absolute need to make this junction safer for motorists and pedestrians and indicated that he would continue to monitor progress with the Council until the works got underway

Stagg Presses Minister on North Kildare Gaelcholaiste

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has again raised the issue of planning for the opening of the North Kildare Gaelcholaiste in Maynooth and enrolment in the Aonad in Maynooth Community College with the Minister for Education.

Given that the North Kildare Gaelcholaiste is due to be up and running in 2019, Mr. Stagg repeated that time was now of the essence in relation to securing accommodation for the Gaelcholaiste. Mr. Stagg also sought confirmation that enrolment into the Aonad at Maynooth Community College demonstrated the clear need for the North Kildare Gaelcholaiste.

The Minister advised Mr. Stagg that a Gaelcholaiste to serve the North Kildare area will open in 2019, subject to sufficient viability of the Irish-medium Aonad, which is currently part of Maynooth Community College. The Gaelcholaiste will operate under the patronage of Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board with An Foras Pátrúnachta. In that context, the Department will continue to work closely with the Education and Training Board and An Foras Pátrúnachta in relation to the provision of appropriate accommodation for the establishment of the Gaelcholaiste.

The Minister also advised that the department would continue to monitor the enrolment trend for the Aonad with the Education and Training Board

and An Foras Patrúnachta in relation to the establishment of the Gaelcholaiste.

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has welcomed the continued commitment from the Minister that his Department will continue to work closely with the patrons in securing appropriate accommodation for the Gaelcholaiste and whilst not disclosing the enrolment numbers at the Aonad, they must be satisfactory as the establishment of the Gaelcholaiste remains on track.

Stagg Blasts Coveney's Refusal to Review Rent Zone Exclusions

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has blasted Minister Simon Coveney's refusal to request the Residential Tenancies Board to review its examination of rent increases in the Maynooth Electoral Area covering Maynooth, Clane and Kilcock. Mr. Stagg pointed out that the rent decreases shown up in the examination by the Residential Tenancies Board for the Maynooth Electoral Area were an unlikely result. The examination by the Residential Tenancies Board showed that in quarter 1 of 2016 annualised rents fell by .1% and that in quarter 2 of 2016 annualised rents fell by 2.6%.

The Minister advised Mr. Stagg that he was fully confident that the Residential Tenancies Board assessments were conducted in line with the legislation and accurately reflect the data gathered for compiling the quarterly index reports. Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that he was not happy with the Minister's response and indicated that he would further pressurise the Minister to look again at the flawed result from the Residential Tenancies Board examination and to even amend the legislation to include Towns with a population of over 5,000 from examination in their own right rather than on an Electoral Area Basis which throws up anomalies.

John McGinley's submission to Peter Minnock, Director of Planning on the 20th March 2017

Re: Submission on Planning Application 17/237, CDS (Superstores International) Ltd at Former Tesco Store, Carton Square, Maynooth

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

Planning Permission should not be granted until Tesco meet their obligations under Condition 6 of Planning Permission 2371/05 (extension of duration 11/1077) i.e. **Condition 6** "Prior to the occupation of any new unit the applicant shall have completed the agreement in relation to the community use of the first floor of unit 16 as advised in the further information submitted to the Planning Authority on 26th May 2006."

The Further Information stated:

The matter of the community use proposed has been discussed and agreed with the Director of Services, Mr. Peter Minnock of Kildare County Council. The Director has accepted the space offered by Tesco Ireland Ltd. On the first floor level of Unit 16 with a gross floor area of 485 sq.m. However the end use of the space has not been decided by the Director of Services and until such an agreement is made Tesco Ireland Ltd. Cannot provide and further details on how to set out the facility or what the nature of the community use would be. Tesco Ireland Ltd and the Director of Services are in ongoing negotiations.

James Lawless T.D. Kildare North

Phone: 01-6183587 - e-mail: james@jameslawless.ie - Web: www.jameslawless.ie

St Patrick's Day Parade & Festivities

I was very happy to attend the St. Patrick's Day Parade recently in Maynooth. With the purple and gold theme it was a colourful delight to watch. Like the previous years the parade really showcased the best of the town. In particular I must mention Maynooth Taekwon-Do Club and Gareth Curran for their excellent demonstration! Best float must go to the Glenroyal and Ted Robinson. Lastly I want to congratulate my friend and colleague Cllr. Naoise Ó Cearúil and the other organisers on another successful parade.

Rates Revaluations in Maynooth

A number of businesses in Kildare received Rates Revaluation letters this month with a new suggested rateable value per property. Several businesses have been in touch with me with queries since these letters landed through their doors.

This is a Rates Initiative operated out of the National Valuations Office and centrally managed. Several counties are being "revalued" at present. The object of the exercise is apparently to "reassess current property market and rental values". It can result in an increase, a decrease or no change. I know of some local businesses whose rates have gone up, I also know some whose rates have gone down. There appears to be many discrepancies in the process and similar buildings at similar addresses seem to have been assessed at different values.

I am in touch with the head of the Valuation Services in relation to a number of specific cases. I have been told the rates valuations sent this week are only "indicative" and can be updated based upon further information supplied or mistakes corrected. The deadline for appealing valuations is the 18th April. I would advise all affected parties to attend at the KCC clinics, also you are welcome to send queries to me on this and I will mediate with the service. I will keep all informed as more information emerges.

Ce & Tús Schemes Need Revival

In the Dáil recently I raised the matter of community employment schemes and the urgent need for revival of these schemes. Community employment schemes place a willing worker with a local, usually not-for-profit organisation. The individual gets to contribute productively in their local community and the host organisation gets a willing pair of extra hands.

Many tidy towns groups, sports clubs and centres are examples of this. However Minister Varadkar changed the rules last summer to make it more difficult to access these schemes - for what I believe are ideological reasons, as he sees them as only a means to an end - his

view that everyone should be shoe horned into commercial activity. This is neither realistic nor desirable in many cases. I believe community activity is a worthwhile goal in itself and often a good match for the people seeking it.

When I queried this in the Dáil last November I was told a report on the scheme was imminent yet it has still not issued. I again called on the Taoiseach this month to publish and implement that report.

Vera Twomey & the HSE

I was delighted to invite Vera Twomey into my office as she was passing through Kildare. Vera was walking from Cork to Dáil Éireann to highlight the plight of her daughter Ava who suffers with a rare form of epilepsy called Dravet's syndrome and is currently unable to access a life-changing cannabis based medicine. Having spoken with Vera, it is clear that this form of treatment would make a huge difference in her daughter's daily life. The Minister needs to address the barriers and access issues as soon as possible to allow benefit from the pain relief and therapy that this drug could offer and must do this with urgency.

Fairness Needed for Mortgage Holders in Arrears

There has been an overall reduction in the percentage of mortgages in arrears, and this is welcome. However, the pace of reduction has slowed in recent quarters underlining the enormous challenge of bringing arrears back to pre-recession levels. At the present rate of reduction, it will take another five years to reach pre-2008 arrears levels.

The number of household mortgages in arrears over 720 days still remains stubbornly high at over 33,000 and for the second quarter in a row, the percentage of restructured mortgages re-defaulting has increased from 12.1% in mid-2016 to 13.1% by the end of the year.

Perhaps the most alarming aspect of today's results is the number of mortgages owned by so-called 'vulture funds'. In excess of 12,000 family home mortgages, with a total value of €2.4 billion, are now owned and managed by unregulated 'vulture funds' with over half of these in arrears by more than 90 days. The Government must act urgently to treat these funds like any other lender and bring them fully within the ambit of regulation.

Arrears Capitalisation, which results in mortgage holders paying more over the life of the loan, represents the highest proportion of restructurings. There is still a lack of sustainable options being made available to mortgage holders in arrears. For example, we do not see any debt for equity options being put in place. The Government has failed to ensure that the Mortgage-to-Rent scheme is

used to the best possible extent with only 217 completed applications since the scheme was established.

Traffic Management Survey in Maynooth

I have been inundated with messages about the traffic in the town. I completely appreciate people's difficulties in navigating Maynooth and the increasing journey lengths at peak times. Following contact with the council I can confirm that a final public consultation on traffic management plans will take place. I will provide more details as and when I have them.

Lawless Voted Vice Chair of Joint Oireachtas Committee

I am very pleased to be elected Vice Chair of Joint Oireachtas Committee on Communications, Climate Action, and Environment. It was very pleasing to be elected particularly given the support from colleagues from different parties and independents. During my time on the Committee we have held to account various bodies and debated some very important issues such as media ownership, climate change, and items which affect everyday life such as the price of stamps with the then incoming Chair of An Post.

One issue which is of tremendous importance is broadband. Both at a national level and locally in our homes in Kildare North. We need more importance on the role out of high speed broadband in the rural areas and in urban areas where coverage could be stronger. This is one matter I have made a priority since being elected one year ago and will continue to progress in this new Vice Chair role.

The Committee has a very broad remit over policy areas which impinge on the lives of citizens in every corner of the country. The Committee shadows the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment and considers general policy matters relating to the functions of this department. The committee also has an oversight role in relation to a number of regulatory bodies (CER, BAI, and ComReg).

North Kildare Civic Amenity Site Secured

I am delighted to confirm a site has been secured for a civic amenity near Maynooth. This is a matter I had raised with Kildare County Council Chief Executive Peter Carey at a recent meeting. It is my understanding the council are now working on a design for the site which should be made public in the coming weeks. This new recycling facility will cater for waste such as glass, paper, plastics, grass, timber, electrical equipment and household hazardous waste like paint and batteries. I look forward to continuing to work with the council to have this project completed.

Own the signed ball signed by the squad that beat the All Blacks

There will be an auction held in O'Neill's Bar and Steakhouse on April 15th for the ball which was signed by the squad who beat the All Blacks. The auction is been run by local music group The Company with all proceeds going to the Kym Owens Recovery Fund. The Company have run events over the last few years with all proceeds going to charity and it was decided that this year Kym's fund would be the recipient. Kym is the university student who was seriously injured here in Maynooth before Christmas, but is recovering at home with her family at the moment. If anyone would like to make a bid for the ball between now and the event night, they can call into O'Neill's as phone bids won't be accepted. This auction night is only a precursor to the main event which is a music night held in the local GAA on the 19th of May with an auction and raffles along with food served on the night and once again all proceeds go to Kym's fund. All are welcome to join us at both events to support what is a very worthy cause.



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.

Put 'Tracker' mortgage customers on correct rate now— says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fail TD and Deputy Finance Spokesperson, Frank O'Rourke, has called on Banks to put Tracker mortgage customers on the correct tracker rate now.

"Thousands of mortgage customers continue to be denied the correct tracker rate to which they are contractually entitled, and I am calling on banks to put tracker mortgage customers on the correct rate now."

"A family with a mortgage of €200,000 which is wrongly paying a variable rate of around 4% and should be paying a tracker rate of 1%, is paying about €500 every single month in interest more than it should be paying." Stated Deputy O'Rourke.

"This is simply unfair both to the mortgage customer, who has much demands on their income, but also on the economy. This money could be available for increasing consumer demand and stimulating local economies."

"I know from my colleague, Finance Spokesperson, Michael McGrath, that 11,700 mortgage customers have been either denied their tracker rate or have been charged the incorrect rate."

"Incredibly, the Central Bank has not imposed any deadline on the banks for customers to be put on the correct tracker rate.

"The Central Bank says that banks are required to reinstate customers on to the correct rate as soon as they have been identified. This pace of progress is not acceptable. The number one priority for the Central Bank has to be to ensure that customers who are being wrongly denied a tracker rate or who are being charged the wrong tracker rate are put on the correct rate without any further delay," concluded Deputy O'Rourke

O'Rourke welcomes Kildare Co Co support for Naas being designated a Food Hub

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has welcomed the support by Kildare Co Co for Naas and surrounding areas to be designated as a Food Hub.

"As I have mentioned in the Dail on a number of occasions, Naas and the surrounding area is home to many Food related companies, which have strong brands. Examples include, Kerry Food, Dawn Farm Food, Queally Group, Tara Vale Foods, Green Isle, Brady Farm Food located in Timahoe, and Ballymooney Foods located in Clane." Stated Deputy O'Rourke who welcomed the support from Peter Carey, Chief Executive of Kildare Co Co, who called for Naas to be designated as a food hub at Kildare Chamber meeting.

"Since getting elected, I have campaigned for the area of North Kildare to be designated as a Food Hub. I have seen at first hand the investment that these companies, have made, and continue to make, in terms of product development, technology, human resources and infrastructure. The agri-food sector is Ireland's largest indigenous industry which employs over 175,000 people with a turnover of €11bn last year. We must support this Industry given the challenges presented by Brexit." stated Deputy O'Rourke, "We have seen recently that further investment is bringing jobs to the area with the announcement that Dawn Farm Foods will create a further 150 jobs at their facility. I have contacted again the Chief Executive of Enterprise Ireland and put a further parliamentary question down to the Minister for Enterprise Jobs and Innovation, seeking to get food hub designation for Naas."

"Given the challenge presented by BREXIT, the reduction in the value of sterling, we need to support food companies like those based in Naas as they try and retain their markets in the more challenging UK market and develop new markets. The Irish Food product is a quality brand that has potential in many markets outside of the UK. Having Naas designated as a Food hub will assist in this strategy." concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Mortgage Interest Relief extended for 300,000 households into 2018 – O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD and Deputy Finance Spokesperson Frank O'Rourke has highlighted that nearly 300,000 households will benefit from the extension of mortgage interest relief beyond 2017.

"In a reply to a Dail Question, we have established that close to 300,000 households, who are owner occupiers, were in receipt of mortgage interest relief in 2016 with families projected to receive an average tax relief of €600 this year."

"Mortgage interest relief for home loans is currently available to people who bought their home between 2004 and 2012. The vast bulk of these were bought between 2004 and 2008, when property values were inflated."

"It is very important that people that purchased their homes during that period are given relief through our Taxation system. I was delighted that Fianna Fail secured a commitment during the negotiations with Fine Gael on the Confidence and Supply arrangement to extend the mortgage interest relief scheme which was due to come to an end at the end of this year."

"The government will now extend the scheme 'on a tapered basis' beyond 2017, following the negotiations. While there will be some reduction in the relief in 2018, the extension of the relief will be of very significant benefit to many mortgage holders."

"Families are now juggling huge outgoings including their monthly mortgage, rising motor insurance costs, childcare costs and medical bills. A sudden withdrawal of this very important financial support, through the mortgage tax relief, would have been unacceptable for those that bought their home when prices were at their highest."

"Since getting elected, many constituents have highlighted the importance of having this mortgage interest tax relief. At a time when there is talk of rising interest rates, we need to ensure that people that bought their homes when prices were at their highest, receive some tax relief to assist with living costs." concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Fianna Fáil persistence leads to €5/week pension increase - O'Rourke

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North Frank O'Rourke has said that the forthcoming increase in social protection payments, such as the state pension and unemployment benefit, is a direct result of Fianna Fáil's negotiating power in the current Dáil.

Deputy O'Rourke was commenting as social protection payments were set to rise on March 10th to take account of the changes announced in Budget 2017 last October.

"Fianna Fáil made it abundantly and crystal clear to Minister Leo Varadkar that a €5 per week increase in all payments would be a red line issue for the party," explained Deputy O'Rourke.

"There was resistance from Fine Gael but we held our firm on our commitment and ultimately secured a rise in social protection payments under Budget 2017. While €5 per week isn't a life changing sum, it is a step in the right direction, and rightly sets a precedent in terms of subsequent budgets.

"Fianna Fáil is committing to providing a better standard of living for everyone on a social protection payment, and ensuring that those who can work have a viable pathway back into the workforce.

"I've no doubt that we will see members of the Fine Gael party jumping up and down to welcome the increase, but they need to remember that they had to be pushed to support it. Fine Gael has a very poor record on supporting vulnerable people," concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

WING TSUN - IEWTO

Ladies & Gents

Self – Defence Class

Beginners Welcome

Venue: Maynooth Community Space
Unit 11 Carton Park
Tesco Shopping Centre
Maynooth



Class Times
Wednesday 8pm - 10pm
Sunday 10am - 12pm
Class Sizes Limited

Instructor

Si-Hing Barry Smith 1st HG

Contact - Barry Smith
Phone: 087 9695475
E-Mail: barrysmith265@gmail.com

Oliver Reilly

Leinster Street, Maynooth,
Co. Kildare
Mobile 086 8105581 - 01 6289452
24 Hour Service



**Undertakers and
Complete Funeral Furnishers**
Wreaths, Headstones,
Mourning Coaches
**Undertakers to
Maynooth Mortality Society**
(Funeral Parlour Free to Society Members)

Main Office, Naas Tel: 045 868230
Paul Reilly Mobile: 086 8105581

*Funeral Home
The Harbour
Leinster Street
Maynooth*



Thinking of replacing your PVC Windows?

WHAT TO DO NEXT

Download Your **Free** Guide Book:
**'7 Big Mistakes people make
when buying PVC Windows'.**

In this book you will learn:

- Key Questions to ask my window installer before engaging them
- 7 Critical mistakes everyone makes
- 3 Steps to a perfect window solution from start to finish

It's easy to download,
Simply visit www.keanewindows.ie
Showrooms open 7 days a week



Call 01-6203232

Gildea's Opticians

Maynooth
(3 Fagans Lane, off Main St)

CONTACT LENSES

Best Value Daily Lenses **Free Trials**

SPECTACLES

Latest Styles - **2 for 1 Offers**

FREE EYETEST

with PRSI & Medical Card

FREE SPECTACLES

with Medical Card



**Appointments
Monday - Sat**
Late night Thursdays



Gildea's Opticians

Call us to book an appointment:

(01) 629 0370

info@gildeasopticians.ie

www.gildeasopticians.ie

Salon : 91 Hair Salon

April Offer

Back by Popular Demand

€10 Straight Blow-dry

€15 Curly Blow-dry

On Tuesday & Wednesday

Hair Extensions Available

Student Offers

Mon-Thurs 20% off all Treatments

Fri-Sat 10% off all Treatments



Phone: 01-6106570

for appointment

Dillons Row, Dunboyne Rd.

Maynooth

(opposite the girl's school)

Maynooth Newsletter

Copy date for the May edition of the Maynooth
Newsletter will be Tuesday 18th April 2017



PICADEROS


ARGENTINEAN GRILL AND SPANISH RESTAURANT

MEMBERSHIP

SIGN UP NOW FOR

EXCLUSIVE DEALS EVERY MONTH

Email your name, number & address to info@picaderos.ie



PICADEROS, MAIN ST, MAYNOOTH, CO. KILDARE

P: 01 6292806 | WWW.PICADEROS.IE | INFO@PICADEROS.IE

Life and Business Coaching



*Need help with a direction in
your work or personal life?*

*Facing significant life
changes or decisions?*

*Does confidence and
self belief hold you back?*

*To find out how one to one
coaching can really help.*

Contact: Deirdre O'Shea 087 7945456
Email: info@deirdreosheaconsulting.ie
Web: deirdreosheaconsulting.ie

Gerard Mulcahy-Traditional Craft Butcher

Est. 1984

Special Occasion
& Party Food

Greenfield Shopping Centre
Maynooth

See Our Weekly
Special Offers

See selection of Barbeque Meats

See our Free
Draw for
April May
& June

6 FREE HOMEMADE
MULCAHY PORK SAUSAGES
WITH THIS ADVERT

Mulcahy Family Butchers
Gerry Mulcahy is trading for 33 years in
Greenfield Shopping Centre and has 40
years experience in the Meat trade.
Mulcahys have excellent Beef, Lamb,
Pork & Bacon

In 1984 Mulcahy Butchers began
producing Home Made Pork sausages.
We now cure our own Bacon, Low Salt
Fillet of Ham & Low Salt collar of Bacon
to the Highest Quality.

Mulcahy's also produce the Highest
Quality Home Baked Ham, Roast Turkey,
Coleslaw & Potato Salad.

Happy Easter from
Gerry, Tom,
David & Caroline



Hours of Business
Mon - Fri 8.30am - 6.30pm
Sat - 8am - 6pm
Phone: 01 6286317

All our Meat is
100% Irish &
matured to the
Best Quality

**Happy Easter to all our Advertisers,
Contributors and Readers
From all the staff at Maynooth
Community Council**



shoda
MARKET CAFE
AT GLENROYAL HOTEL

It's all about the taste

Open 7 Days a Week From 8am | Shoda House Blend Coffee | Grab & Go Dedicated Area

087 912 7174 | info@shoda.ie | www.shoda.ie



Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group **Wed & Thurs Mornings**



We are delighted to be hosting Playball every Wednesday in the Community Space from the 26th of April. This class is specifically for the 2 year old age group and is really great fun.

Playball is a multi-sport and movement-based program specifically designed for young children. Playball is a sports programme with a difference- children do not merely learn sport, balance and motor coordination but they also learn important life skills such as self-confidence, persistence, listening skills, sequencing, turn-taking, concentration and much more.

Playball classes are small, age-specific, progressive and outcome-based. They are structured, action-packed, fun and uplifting. Their specific programs are designed by sport scientists and child psychologists to meet all your child's needs. Learn, practice, play - that is the *Playball* way!

2 year old classes
Maynooth Community Centre
Wed 26th April – 10 week term - €65

Contact Wendy for more info 086-2987551 or wendy@playball-ireland.com

Thursday Mornings will still go ahead as usual from 9.30am to 11.30am. We have Gymboree with us to entertain the little ones every second week. The weekly fee is €4 and this covers all your snacks and beverages. The toddler group is a great place to come to meet other parents from the town and a great place for the children to play with others their own age. Check us out on:

<https://www.facebook.com/Maynooth-Toddlers>

We are located in the Community Space, Carton Park Shopping Centre, Maynooth.

*****We only run Toddler Mornings during school term*****

We look forward to seeing you all there.

Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee



Our AGM took place as planned on March 7th. There was no change on the executive committee, which is a pity really as it would be nice to see some younger people coming along with new ideas. Our organisation has been in existence now for almost fifty two years and it is time for an injection of "new blood" so to speak.

While the necessary experience only comes with age, vibrancy comes with youth. We need both to survive.

Many thanks to all who supported the Tony Smith Memorial walk and our annual collection in March, which together raised €4,454.

Our St. Patrick's weekend Tea-Dance was a great success with a great flourish of green. The best dressed person on the day was Kevin Cullen wearing a suit with more Shamrock than "Enda's Bowl". The music on the day was provided by "Harmony". Full marks to all for effort. A big thank you to the GAA not only for the facility of their club but also for all their bunting which added to the occasion.

Our next Tea-Dance will take place on Sunday April 23rd which is our Easter Parade. By now the bonnets should be well under way and there will be Easter eggs galore on the day. When you have your Bonnets made don't put away your work baskets just yet as we will celebrate "Bealtaine" on May 21st when you have the opportunity to display all your needlework, paintings etc. So plenty there to keep you occupied.

Meanwhile a group of our seniors have joined with "Third Age Ireland" for a digital skills programme and we wish them well in their endeavours.

Our morning club continues every Tuesday and Thursday in the Geraldine Hall and all our Senior Citizens are welcome. If you have not yet joined us why not give it a go.

Josephine Moore.
Chairperson.



Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Parade 2017 Photo Gallery

Photos by John Boyd





1st: The Barbers (Richie Mulligan) - 2nd: Maynooth Bookshop - 3rd: The Glassdoll



Congratulations to Everyone who participated in the 2017 Maynooth Parade!



Maynooth
Tidy Towns
Caring for our environment

St. Patrick's Day Parade

The theme for Maynooth Tidy Towns St Patrick's Day Parade float was Gold and Purple. Our target this year is to retain the National Tidy Towns Gold Medal which we won in 2016. Thanks to John Kavanagh and his team for putting together the float.



Later on St. Patrick's Day, our Secretary Mary Molloy was presented by Cllr. Naoise O'Cearuill with a trophy for the Environmental Awareness section of the parade. An Taisce's National Spring clean will be held during the month of April. Details will be on our Facebook page.



We have started back cleaning up and planting on Wednesday nights @ 7.0pm meet at Courthouse Square, on Saturdays meet at the Courthouse Square @ 10am and for Sunday morning clean ups meet at the Courthouse Square @ 7.45am.



If you have an hour or two to spare we could do with your help.

Richard Farrell
PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns 087 3153189
See us on Facebook or Twitter



Emmet Stagg presenting the Senior Citizens Committee with a cheque for €2,714, the proceeds of the Tony Smith Memorial Walk.

L/R: Stasia Moran, Josie Moore, Emmet Stagg, Rosie Comerford & George Fennell.

STROKESTOWN FAMINE EMIGRANT WALK 2017 "FOLLOWING in the FOOTSTEPS of our MISSING 1,490" by Rita Edwards, Maynooth Local History Group.

Strokestown Park House is a Palladian house located in Strokestown, Co Roscommon. It was the family home of the Pakenham Mahons from the 1600s to 1979. On the eve of the Great Famine (1845-1852), "despite the best efforts of Major Denis Mahon, his agent and bailiffs, the estate rental continued to show mounting arrears" and unable to pay their rents "conditions for those on the Strokestown estate were about to get much worse".



In 1847 while there were 745 lessees or direct rent payers on the books, there were in fact "a mostly impoverished population of 11,958" living on the c. 11,000 acre estate. Under these circumstances "an assisted emigration scheme made perfect economic sense". And at the time, many were glad to leave. However, the tenants who travelled to British North America (Canada) in 1847 were among the first to sail on what became known as 'coffin ships'.

The 1,490 who had been chosen to avail of the emigration scheme were escorted to Dublin and Liverpool by the bailiff, John Robinson "who was instructed to wait until the last of the tenants had emigrated. On his return to Strokestown in late May, he informed the landlord Major Denis Mahon that everything had gone smoothly". The term 'coffin ship' is well-applied in this instance because "the final death toll of the Mahon emigrants was staggering: of the 1,490 who had left Strokestown over 700 died, and were buried at sea or on Grosse Île in Canada.

Opened to the public in 1987, Strokestown Park is now home to the Irish National Famine Museum, established in 1994. An ongoing exhibition draws parallels with the Great Famine and the occurrence of famine in today's world. Strokestown Park House which was previously owned by a Roscommon-based company, the Westward Group, is now run by The Irish Heritage Trust.

The 2nd Strokestown Famine Emigrants' Walk will take place from Saturday 27th May to Thursday 1st June this year. Carolin Callery who is organising the event is working closely with interested groups including Waterways Ireland. People from Strokestown will be joined by a group who are involved in Famine Studies on an international basis as well as interested individuals who will join with them for a short walk along the proposed route.

The walk commences in Strokestown and Clondra in Co. Longford where the Royal Canal meets the Shannon River, and over a number of days proceeds through Mosstown; Abbeyshrule; Mullingar; Longwood, arriving in Maynooth c. 4.00pm on Wednesday 31st May, before finally ending in Dublin the following day. If anyone is free on the day, why not come to the Canal Harbour in Maynooth to meet and greet the Strokestown Famine Emigrant walkers in order to remember and honour the "missing 1,490" and all those "missing" who emigrated and/or lost their lives in Black '47.

The hope is that this event will take place every two years and that a National Famine Way along the Royal Canal with suitable markers, such as pieces of artwork, will be established.

Extracts from: Strokestown and the Great Irish Famine by Ciarán Reilly, (Four Courts Press, 2014)



St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band

March has been a very busy month for the band with so many requests from so many Parade Committees for our services. Unfortunately with so many of these parades happening on March 17th it's impossible to please everyone. The one exception is the Dunboyne parade as they hold it on the nearest Sunday before St. Patrick's Day and this turned out to be almost a rain free parade with just a 10 minute shower before we moved off. However our luck didn't last as St. Patrick's Day brought lots of rain and with three parades, Maynooth, Kilcock and Enfield to get through a hot shower and some dry clothing was very much the target of the brave band members when they got back to Maynooth. Hopefully we will have better weather next year.



We are very grateful to Manor Mills Maynooth for their kind sponsorship of the band in the Maynooth parade and we managed to squeeze in a short recital in the Centre before we headed to the Kilcock Parade. We were delighted to see a long serving band member, Michael Dempsey, receiving the award for Community Person of the Year after the parade, a very well deserved honour indeed.

We are delighted to report that the Junior Band is progressing very well and we are looking forward to welcoming them in to the Senior Band as soon as they feel comfortable with the move. The Band welcomes interest from anyone, young or old, who would like to play in the band, just contact the Secretary at sec@stmarysbandmaynoothi.ie and you will be given all the information you need.

As always we invite musicians living in the area who would like to play with the band to drop in to the Band Hall in Pound Lane between 8 and 9.30pm any Monday night (except Bank Holidays) where you will receive a very warm welcome. In recent months we have been joined by musicians from Clondalkin, Celbridge and even as far away as Italy and there is always room for more no matter where you live.

**Community Person of the Year
Michael with our Conductor
Karen Ní Bhroin and his Award**





Comhaltas Craobh Mhaigh Nuad



As you'll read all over the Newsletter, we had a great St. Patrick's Day this year in Maynooth, with the somewhat dodgy weather unable to dampen the spirits of the local community. Fortune smiled on Maynooth, as our parade was done and dusted, before the loitering showers made their way here. So unlike our neighbours in North Kildare, we enjoyed a dry and fairly pleasant hour or so that made all the difference!



Our Purple Float, with our players: Niamh, Seán, Matthew, Katie, Emma, Seán, Caoimhe, Riobárd, Emma, Seán, Lauren and Kerstin

As usual, Craobh Mhaigh Nuad was well represented, with our, ever growing gang of young musicians playing their hearts out all day, until sundown. After a great effort by Owen Byrne and his purple aerosol – the float was looking resplendent and the on-board team were also well coordinated.

Our group were slotted in ahead of Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich so they got to enjoy the march down to the main gallery where they performed a reel and then kept the tunes belting out all the way through the town to Tesco's car park. With the main event over, the musicians got to take a breather before the next gig at 2.30pm

Maynooth GAA Club

St Patrick's Day is a big day in the club and we were delighted to be able to play for the punters from 6 that evening, once the club finals were done and dusted. There's a session in the club once a month now for the junior gang, so they're well used to this venue and again some great tunes and a few songs were enjoyed by all into the late hours.

Again the group's development is a joy to behold and a couple of hours of music is now no bother to them – kitted out with their fancy new sound system there'll be no stopping them! There was still lots of traditional music being played around the town – a session in Brady's, music in the Glenroyal, the Roost & the

Newtown Inn – it almost felt like those lazy crazy days of July 2014 and Fleadh Laighean. So plenty of outlets for those who were not quite spent after this tiring, but very memorable day.



Maynooth GAA club with Riobárd, Tom, Kirsten, Caoimhe, Niamh, Seán, Emma, Roisín, Katie, Cillian and our bodhránista Sandra.

Maynooth Lodge

The trip to Maynooth Lodge is becoming a lovely tradition for the branch, so thanks a million to all the staff who made this lovely session and sing-song possible and made the gang feel so welcome. A special shout out to the dancers also!



Maynooth Lodge Session, with Riobárd in a Seání sandwich and The Howley sisters in fine form.

Kildare Comhaltas 50 years

This year we are celebrating 50 years of Kildare County Board having been formed in Lawlor's Hotel Naas in January 1967 and I am delighted to say that members who were present in 1967 are still involved to this day

and we are always glad to draw on their knowledge and experience. To mark this great occasion, we held a celebratory night in the Westgrove Hotel Clane on the 25th March 2017 which was a great occasion for all involved with traditional music in Kildare to come together in a social context and enjoy a tune or two.

Ceardlann Earraigh

The Ceardlann Earraigh event which takes place between Celbridge and Maynooth returns on 8th April to North Kildare. This annual event, which consists of both workshops and a grand concert afterwards, is a fantastic event and brings an amazing array of teaching and performing talent to Celbridge for the workshops and Maynooth's Glenroyal for the gala concert. The line-up of teachers and performers was again nothing short of world class, and this remains one of the jewels in the crown of Comhaltas sponsored events anywhere in the world. See <http://www.ceardlannearraigh.com> for more details of classes and for tickets for the concert on Saturday evening.



April and Easter

Our regular sessions are still running from 6pm on Sunday evenings regular Twitter / Facebook feeds for details of these impromptu, pop-up sessions. Again, all are welcome to our session upstairs in Brady's and our kids session in Maynooth GAA and whether branch members or not.

April sessions are planned as follows.

Adult Session, Brady's bar, Sunday 19:00 – 2nd April, 30th April, 14th May, 28th May

Junior Session, Maynooth GAA Club Sunday 18:00 – 26th March, 30th April

Go n-éirí an cheoil linn!

Lots more information on www.ccemhaighnuad.com and Facebook & Twitter (CCEMhaighNuad).

Slán go fóillín

Derek Carroll, PRO Craobh Mhaigh Nuad



THE ROYAL CANAL AMENITY GROUP (RCAG) GOODBYE TO THE "ROYAL"

The Group continues to receive many messages of support and concern following the decision of Sinn Féin to decommission the word "Royal" in the "Royal Canal". Sinn Féin announced this decision at a full meeting of Kildare County Council on the 29th January 2017 when a motion tabled by Councillor Teresa Murray for the public naming of the Royal Canal Bridges in the North Kildare area was being debated. The report appeared in the following issue of the "Liffey Champion".

BI-CENTENARY OF THE ROYAL CANAL

The "Royal" was officially completed in May 1817 at Clondra, County Longford. The event will be commemorated at a ceremony at Clondra on Saturday 27th May.

"WILL YOU WALK WITH THEM?"

The famine walk from Strokestown along the Royal Canal is being repeated this year. The walk commemorates the 1800+ people from the Mahon Estate in Strokestown, County Roscommon who were "herded" along the Royal Canal to Dublin to board emigration ships.

The walkers will arrive in Maynooth on Wednesday 31st May and "overnight" there before setting off on the last leg to Dublin. Maynooth Local History Group will provide a "Welcome" event that night. The RCAG hopes that Maynooth people will meet the Famine Walkers at either Jacksons Bridge (14th Lock) or Bond Bridge and walk in solidarity with them to Maynooth. Last year children from a Maynooth School walked with them as far as Pike Bridge. Let's make this a Community Event, like what the people in Enfield did.

WILL YOU JOIN RCAG ?

It's only €20.00. Please see rcag.ie. You don't have to attend any meetings or do any work. We need the revenue generated by increased membership to pay for "headaches" like annual insurance, annual auditors fees and the costs of basic promotion.

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

DEAR Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask for this special one (mention favour). Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart, where your Father sees it, then it will become your favour not mine. Say this prayer for three days, promise publication and favour will be granted no matter how impossible. **Never known to fail.**

Thanksgiving for favour received. C

POKER

ROULETTE



the ROOST



GRAB A GRAND

PRESENTS

BLACK JACK

CASINO NIGHT

GANGSTERS & MOLLS THEME

Friday 7th April 2017

TICKETS €10**ON SALE IN THE ROOST**

ALL PROCEEDS IN AID OF
PARISH OF MAYNOOTH PASTORAL CENTRE BUILD
DOORS 8PM

O'NEILL'S - IN THE HEART OF MAYNOOTH



O'Neill's
Bar & Steakhouse

Main Street, Maynooth, Co. Kildare
T. 01 6286255 E. info@oneillsbar.ie

O'Neill's Bar & Steakhouse is a family run traditional style bar in the heart of Maynooth.
We are renowned for our quality food, service and our warm welcome.
Food is served daily from 12pm, full A La Carte menu available from 5pm.
Live music every Thursday & Saturday night.

www.oneillsbar.ie

Mary Cowhey & Company
Solicitors
Suite 2/3 Manor Mills
Maynooth
County Kildare

Motor & Work-Related Accidents

**House Purchase/Sale
Wills, Probate
&
Administration of Estates
Family Law, Divorce, Separation**

Telephone: 6285711

Fax: 6285613

**E-mail: info@marycowhey.com
www.marycowhey.com**

LIAM DUFF
CRASH REPAIRS



Call (01) 628 7434
e-mail: info@liamduffautos.ie
web: liamduffautos.ie

VEHICLE RECOVERY	CRASH REPAIR	TYRE SERVICES
24 Hour Vehicle Recovery 087 257 9400 087 929 1719	Crash Repairs CSS Approved	Tyre Fitting Service Laser Wheel Alignment Puncture Repair

Liam Duff Crash Repairs, Gragadder, Kilcock, Co. Kildare



Chartered Building Surveyors



**Kelleher
& Associates**

House & Apartment Surveys

Snag Lists

Certificates of Compliance

BER Certificates

Planning Applications

Maynooth Based

Tel: 01 6856935

Mob: 087 2693319

Email: info@kelleherassociates.ie

Web: www.kelleherassociates.ie



**Kennels,
Grooming
And Day Care**

**Cooldrinagh Lane
Weston, Leixlip,
Co. Kildare**

Tel: 087 804 6168

email: topdogsgroom@yahoo.com

www.topdogsgroom.com

Healings by Gill
Reiki Master
Angel Healing Therapist



Gill Mooney
Phone: 0879606966
HealingsbyGill.com
HealingsbyGill@gmail.com
Maynooth, Co. Kildare

Reiki is a Japanese form of stress reduction which promotes a positive mind and healthy body.

Reiki can Treat;	Benefits of Reiki;
Migraines	Dissolves energy blocks
Depression	Aids sleep
Anxiety	Relieves pain
Poor confidence	Accelerates self healing
Flu/Cold	Increases energy levels
Asthma	Reduces blood pressure
Grief	Clears the mind
And many more!	Improves focus
	Promotes energy balance

Maynooth Cabs

AIRPORT - CITY - LOCAL

maynoothcabs@gmail.com

www.maynoothcabs.com

01 6289999

Donatellos

Ristorante, Cicchetti and Wine Bar

Open from 5pm Daily



A La Carte, Early Bird &
Take Out Menus Available

Town Centre Mall, Main St, Maynooth, Co. Kildare

Ph: 01 6289660 | www.donatellos.info

Pilates Classes

Personal Training

Nutrition Coaching

New courses in Pilates catering to all levels.
Courses will be ongoing in Maynooth

I am currently taking on new clients interested in
personal training and nutrition coaching

Contact Carol @ carl.doran@yahoo.co.uk
Text 0877535296 or visit
www.holisticpilatesfitness.ie

MAYNOOTH STORAGE

Moyglare Maynooth

We offer the following Storage Options:

Indoor/Outdoor Parking	Containers to rent
Vehicles	Concrete yards to rent
Classic Cars	Warehouses
Small Caravans	24 Hour Security
Storage of Materials	Boat Storage
Furniture	Moving House Contents

Call John 087 2806385 for more information

Email: info@maynoothstorage.com

www.maynoothstorage.com



- Supply and Installation of Blinds
- Roller Vertical Venetian Roman Velux
- Home Consultations
- Professional service with Competitive Prices
- Over 14 years experience in Window Blinds

Phone: 01-6210100 or 0857338847

Email: gerardmaloneblinds@gmail.com

Website: www.gerardmaloneblinds.com

Follow me on Facebook.

MAYNOOTH'S GOT TALENT!

Maynooth Festival and
Events Committee present an
open call talent competition
in conjunction with our
Summer Festival.

Entries accepted from all ages, individuals and
groups.

If you have a talent we want to hear from you.

Check our Facebook page for details.

@MaynoothCCFestivalsandeventsCommittee

Maynooth Monthly Diary Planner

Community Library	Maynooth Multiple Births	Bridge Club
<p>Opening Times Mondays & Fridays 2pm to 5pm Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm to 8pm Wednesday 9.30am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm Sat 9.30am to 1pm</p>	<p>Maynooth Multiple Births playgroup (twins triplets or more) meets the last Thursday of the month in Leixlip library between 10 & 12 noon. This is a Great opportunity to meet parents just like you. For further details email: maynoothmultiplebirthclub@gmail.com</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 maynoothbridgeclub.com. 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. Crafts every Monday night at 8.00pm. 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) New Members Welcome Contact: MCC Office for more details</p>	<p>Arthritis Ireland Walking Group (Maynooth) Meeting Monday's 12 - 2pm in the Maynooth Community Space</p>
University of Third Age (U3A)	Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group	Irish Girl Guides
<p>Weekly meetings on Friday at 11am in Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth New Members Welcome</p>	<p>Every Thursday of School Term 10am-12pm Maynooth Community Space From the 26th Of April Every Wednesday of School Term Playball for children aged 2-3. 9:30am-12pm Maynooth Community Space Carton Park S.C</p>	<p>Meetings Tuesday evening in Maynooth. For further information contact Jackie on 0894298061 or visit the Irish Girl Guides website www.irishgirlguides.ie</p>
Maynooth Tidy Towns	ALZHEIMER CAFÉ LEIXLIP	Maynooth Community Church
<p>Volunteers required to help with this work. Contact Number 087 3153189 Meet every Saturday at 10.00am in the Square</p>	<p>Informal café atmosphere for people with Dementia & their partners family & friends. Free of charge. Venue Ryevale Nursing Home. Every second Wednesday of each month 7-9pm. Call 0894933533 Email: alzheimercafeleixlip@gmail.ie www.alzheimercafeleixlip.com</p>	<p>1st Floor Manor Mills (entrance next to Chill) Service times every Sunday morning from 10.30 am www.maynoothcc.org 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 are held on Wednesday 7pm to 9.30pm in Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road. Our classes are very good value, great fun and we promise you plenty of craic also !!. Bígí linn!!! Contact Sean at 086 2225540 or email craobhmaighnuad@gmail.com.</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. E-mail: sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie Website: www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie</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: office@maynoothcc.com. Phone: 01-6285922
(The content of the Monthly Planner Diary is published in good faith. All details should be checked with groups)

Catherine Murphy T.D. Social Democrats, Kildare North.

Constituency Office, ph. 01 6156625 - e-mail: catherine.murphy@oireachtas.ie

Rates Revaluation Has Potential to Cause Serious Damage to Local Main Streets

Social Democrats TD Catherine Murphy has said she has concerns that a revaluation of the rates paid by businesses will potentially have a significant detrimental impact on many of the local main streets and the businesses operating on them. In coming days people will start to see notice of revaluation of rates letters dropping in their doors.

Deputy Murphy said it is vital that people are made aware that there is a very limited time to avail of the limited appeals process available and she would encourage people to use the process where necessary. There are various options for assistance available from the valuations office including walk-in clinics and a lo-Call number 1890-531 431 or 01-8171033.

Catherine Murphy said that commercial rates represent a very significant proportion of the overheads incurred by businesses and the experience of other areas that have undergone dramatic rate changes is that there can be a very negative impact on the local main street when businesses see their overheads rising dramatically.

We know that many local businesses are barely ticking over and adding to the financial pressure on these businesses could be the straw that breaks the Camel's back for many. At a time when local main street businesses are struggling to compete with large multi-nationals and out of town centres this change could potentially have detrimental impacts on the local areas including an increase in vacant properties, a reduction in the choice of options for people to buy local and ultimately a loss of local jobs."

Deputy Murphy wants to particularly point out that there is a very limited time to avail of an appeals process if your business has been impacted by the revised valuations and the valuations office is currently conducting walk-in clinics for anyone seeking advice as well as the Lo-Call numbers and she

would strongly urge those potentially affected to speak to the valuations office and, where required, avail of the appeals process which closes on the 18th of April.

Maynooth Rent Pressures

Catherine Murphy raised concerns during a debate in the Dáil with Minister Coveney about Maynooth's exclusion from the latest list of rent pressure zones. If an area is included as a rent pressure zone it means rents cannot rise by more than 4% however this will not apply to Maynooth and there are serious concerns regarding the rental market in Maynooth with people terrified of unaffordable rent increases.

Deputy Murphy questioned the Minister as to why Maynooth had not been included in the list of rent pressure zones considering it had almost the same rental stats and costs as the other areas which were included. She said the fact that Maynooth was left out of the decisions by the Minister when designating rent pressure zones shows just how flawed the process is. She said figures released recently show that Maynooth has the same average rents and the exact same percentage increase on the average national rent as Leixlip and Celbridge yet Maynooth was excluded while Leixlip & Celbridge were not. The exclusion has meant that people in Maynooth have been subjected to rent increases above the 4% cap applied to other areas.

Catherine Murphy TD said the fact that a small anomaly in extra criteria laid down by the Residential Tenancies Board meant Maynooth was excluded was a serious error in judgement by the Minister and his Department and has had a detrimental impact on many families in Maynooth struggling under the weight of ever increasing rental prices.

She said she has repeatedly made the point that the commuter towns in Kildare face every bit as much pressure as Dublin city centre and the rents are comparable levels. The fact that the system is so unfit

for purpose that Maynooth was excluded as a pressure zone – which even in itself is insufficient to address the significant problem of rent affordability – shows the lack of understanding of the wider housing problems faced by commuter belt counties such as Kildare. The Social Democrats, the party which Catherine Murphy is Co-Leader of, had looked for a linking of rents to the Consumer Price Index which would have safe-guarded against such differences nationally.

Maynooth Post Primary Schools

Catherine Murphy TD recently asked the Minister for Education for an update on the status of a new education campus in Maynooth. She also asked if his officials have evaluated the tender report submitted for the campus and if so, when construction is likely to begin and what will be the proposed duration of construction works before completion of the campus.

In reply the Minister said that a comprehensive examination of the Tender Report for the Maynooth post-primary schools project has been completed by his Department's Professional and Technical staff. Currently, matters are in hand to complete the necessary Financial Robustness element of the tender process and to update the Cost Benefit Analysis Report with the tender figures for the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform.

According to the Minister a Letter of Intent to the preferred bidder can issue as soon as these requirements under Public Procurement Procedures have been met and assuming that no issues arise from them. Construction can begin when the preferred bidder meets the conditions of the Letter of Intent. The contract for the project will have a 24 month duration

Maths and Accounting Grinds

Do you need help in Project Maths or Accounting at Leaving Cert or Accounting Technician level - in your own home? (Also Junior Cert. Maths and Business Studies).

Check out past exam questions and model answers in your problem area! €25 per hour or €40 for 2 hours in a week.

First lesson/discussion free.
Phone Rory at
087 6751169

CABINET MAKER FITTED WARDROBES

**PROBLEMS WITH YOUR
WARDROBES / KITCHEN
WORKTOPS – DOORS CHANGED
SHELVING ...**

**General Wood Work
Wall Fixtures, Side Gates**



**For Fitting - Repairing
Call Val O'Flynn**

email: vofcabinetmaker@gmail.com

**Telephone: 01- 6275872
Mobile: 087- 6235078**

Donovan's Londis

**Trading Since 1888
Greenfield Shopping Centre
01-6517500**

**Mon-Sat 7.30am - 10.00pm
Sun 8.00am - 10.00pm**

**Breakfast Rolls, Paninis,
Sandwiches of your Choice.**

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

**Offering our Promotional Range
Flowers, Fruit & Veg., Groceries
& Gourmet Cheese.**

**Newsagents, Magazines & Lotto
ATM Machine & Phone Credit.**

**Off-Licence Stocking
a Wide Range of Wines**



**Neck, Back or
Shoulder Pain?
Training for a
sports event?**

**Call The Muscle Therapist on
086 079 0468**

**Produce this coupon and save
20% off your first visit ***

Expires 30/4/2017

**Terms and conditions apply
Standard cost of a treatment is €50*

Watkins Tile Centre Main Street Leixlip

***"We have you covered
for all your ceramic
wall & floor tiles"***

Opening Hours:

Monday to Friday

9.00 am - 5.30 pm

Saturday

9.00 am - 5.00 pm

Telephone: 01-6245560



DENIS DUNNE MOTORS



For all your motoring needs



**DENIS DUNNE
087 2454893**

Free Mini Valet with Every Service

**Bryanstown,
Maynooth,
Co. Kildare.**

**dunnemotors@eircom.net
www.denisdunnemotors.ie**

Credit / Laser cards accepted

ART CLASSES BY NINA PATTERSON STARTING APRIL 2107

ADULTS

**MAYNOOTH BEGINNER/ADVANCED
MORNINGS / EVENINGS**

CHILDREN

**MAYNOOTH / KILCOCK /ENFIELD
JOHNSTOWNBRIDGE 4-7 & 6-12 YRS**

ART PARTIES

**FOR BIRTHDAYS COMMUNIONS
CHRISTENINGS**

**ALL MATERIALS SUPPLIED
TEL: 087-2977797**

MAYNOOTH COMMUNION DRESSES



*Unit 9 M4 Interchange Park
Maynooth Road (Behind Base)*

*Just arrived 2017 Debs Dresses
Debs clearance Rail now on Sale*

New Buy Online Shop

Opening Hours:

Wed/ Thur 12.-5

Fri 12-7

Sat 10-5

Sun 12-5



www.maynoothcommuniondresses.ie

www.maynoothdresses.ie

Phone Antoinette 086 8260825/01-6293585

MULLIGAN'S GARDEN SHEDS KILCOCK 01-6287397 085 -7746144

**ALL TYPES OF TOP QUALITY
TIMBER GARDEN SHEDS
ALL TYPES OF HEAVY DUTY
TIMBER FENCING, DECKING &
KENNELS SUPPLIED & FITTED**



Hegartys Solicitors

Derroon House

(beside Citizens Information Centre)

Dublin Road, Maynooth

**Buying or Selling Property, Re-mortgaging, Wills,
Family Law, Debt Collection**

Tel: 01-6293246 Fax: 01-6293247

Also At: 29 Eaton Square Terenure Dublin 6

Email: info@hegartyssolicitors.ie

Website: www.hegartyssolicitors.ie



JIM'S SHOE REPAIR Tesco Shopping Centre

**LADIES & GENTS HEELS
WHILE U WAIT
SHOES STRETCHED
HEELS LOWERED
LEATHER SOLES STITCHED ON
KEY CUTTING
ALL KEYS
HOUSE AND VEHICLE
PHONE 086 8657142**



**The Copy Date for the May Edition of the
Maynooth Newsletter is Tuesday 18th April**

Maynooth Community Council Notes March '17

RESIGNATION

Secretary of MCC Susan Durack resigned her position citing the increased demands of the role while also trying to work full time. She was widely praised for her dedication to MCC by members present. It was suggested that an assistant secretary be elected in order to lessen the workload of the secretary and to keep Susan involved. A letter will be sent to Susan asking her to reconsider her decision.

FUNDS HELD IN TRUST

Following the dissolution of the Youth Cafe, a proposal was put to the meeting to forward the funds held in trust by MCC to the No Name Club. The proposal is being held over until next month's meeting to allow the membership of the No Name Club to make a presentation outlining how the money will be used to benefit the youth of Maynooth.

AGM

In order to allow the Treasurer to present the annual accounts and to allow for the review of MCC to take place, the AGM has been postponed until September.

ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

The Parade on St Patrick's Day

is scheduled to begin at 11 am and road closures would be in place from 10.30 to 12.30. The prize giving ceremony is set to take place in Manor Mills after the Parade.

MAYNOOTH SAFETY GROUP

Teresa Murray informed the meeting that Garda Aidan McGuane would be the new Community Garda stationed at Maynooth. The guaranteed opening times for local Garda Stations in order to facilitate the signing of forms, passport or license applications etc have been listed as....

Maynooth Station
Mondays from 1-4
Kilcock Station
from Tuesdays from 1-4
Celbridge Station
Wednesdays from 1-4

MAYNOOTH TIDY TOWNS

Richard Farrell informed the meeting that the WEEE Ireland collection day for unwanted items with either a plug or a battery would be Saturday March 25th between 10-4 at Tesco car park. On March 28th at 7.30 in the Glenroyal Hotel there would be an Information Evening on recycling, biodiversity and tree pruning.

PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

Due to the large number of participants, the group now meet every Wednesday and Thursday from 9.30-12.30 at Maynooth Community Space.

MEC PTA

Una Phillips informed the group that the 10k would take place on May 14th and details of road closures would be available at the April Council meeting.

SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE

Josie Moore thanked all those that helped or donated during their annual collection weekend. Preparations were well underway for their St Patrick's Weekend Tea Dance which would have a green theme. The Club meets every Tuesday and Thursday and the next event would be the Easter Party with the usual Easter Bonnet parade.

ICA

The local guild meet for crafts on Monday evenings and tin whistle classes are ongoing. The dignity bags that they were preparing were distributed to the homeless. The AGM would take place on the last Thursday in March

Editorial

With much coverage elsewhere in this publication of the 2017 St. Patrick's Day parade in Maynooth there is little for me to add other than to say a big thanks to everyone that took part this year.

As "Master of Ceremonies" on the day, I had one of the best views from the reviewing stand in Main Street of all the groups that took part and despite my onerous duties announcing the details of each float, I have to say that it was clear to me that most participants embraced the "Purple and Gold" theme to celebrate Maynooth winning the "Purple flag" and to mark the success of Maynooth Tidy Towns winning a gold medal in the National Tidy Towns Competition.

The poor weather probably reduced the number of people who came out to view the parade but it held dry for the duration of the parade so at least the participants did not have to deal with rain. Like all good events the seamless efforts of the small organising group and volunteers meant that virtually everything went to plan.

April is "National Spring Clean" month where everyone is encouraged to get out and give the area that they live in the first new year clean up. While Maynooth Tidy Towns has generally led a

number of events each year in the town, the concept of the "National Spring Clean" is to get others involved. So if there is something annoying you that needs to be cleaned why not take the initiative yourself or with a few friends. My own pet hate are those fly posters put on the poles in the town that are not removed when the event being advertised is over. I will be out to remove them.

With the brighter evenings after the clock change last month there is ample light to get out and appreciate your town. There is still much resistance to the re-alignment of the Straffan Road which is now very narrow in spots and the turning right lines in some cases are not wide enough for vehicles using them.

But with improved cycle facilities there, you have no excuse for not getting out your bike. There is still no start on the cycle/walking route along the Royal Canal bank between Maynooth and Kilcock at the Maynooth end.

However, if it is anything like the work already completed nearer to Kilcock, I might buy a bike myself. The enhancements in Kilcock are very attractive and give a whole new feel to that town.

**Paul Croghan
Editor**



MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN NOTES

200th Anniversary of the Bicycle

The year 2017 marks the 200th anniversary of the invention by Baron Karl von Drais of what is generally regarded as the first bicycle - the Laufmaschine ("Running machine"). It was also known as a velocipede or draisienne (in French) or as a hobby or dandy horse (in English).

Karl von Drais was born on April 29, 1785 in Karlsruhe, capital of Baden, Germany. His father was Baron von Drais and although the family was not rich, it was highly influential, his godfather being the Grand Duke of Baden. He went to school in Karlsruhe where he studied forestry and later enrolled at the University of Heidelberg where he studied Mathematics, Physics and Architecture. In 1811, he went to Mannheim in order to concentrate on inventions. At that time, Europe was suffering from a series of poor harvests, a situation which was worsened by an Indonesian volcanic eruption in 1815. As a result ash in the atmosphere affected the climate across the entire world and Europe saw snow all summer long. The starvation and death of horses following the crop failure encouraged von Drais to focus on a replacement means of transport.

On his first reported ride from Mannheim on June 12, 1817, he covered about 10 km in less than an hour. The Laufmaschine had no pedals and was powered by the feet with the rider balancing the machine to keep upright. Constructed almost entirely of wood, it weighed 22 kg, had brass bushings within the wheel bearings, iron shod wheels and a rear-wheel brake. He patented his design in 1818 and it was the first commercially successful two-wheeled, steerable, human-propelled machine. It was initially manufactured in Germany and France and several thousand copies were built and used, primarily in Europe and in North America.

It soon became apparent that roads were so rutted by carriages that it was difficult to balance the Laufmaschine so riders took to the footpaths which gave rise to an outcry from pedestrians (some things never change!). Consequently, authorities in Germany, Great Britain, the United States, and even Calcutta banned their use which

caused their popularity to fade. Due to later political upheaval in Germany, von Drais lost all his money and died in poverty in 1851. Nevertheless, the Laufmaschine deserves to be celebrated this year on the 200th anniversary of its invention as it was the forerunner of the modern day bicycle which has given great pleasure to countless people.

National Mitigation Plan

It has been revealed that Ireland is one of only two EU member states that has failed to meet EU emissions and renewable energy targets after the government conceded that it was set to fall well short of required progress. A 2014 report by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform estimated that missing greenhouse gas emissions targets could cost Ireland €90 million while missing the 2020 renewable energy could cost between €140 million and €600 million.

The Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment is currently consulting the public on its draft National Mitigation Plan which contains measures aimed at addressing these failures. However, despite looming EU fines lip service is paid to the need to increase cycling and other sustainable modes of transport.

Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023

Kildare County Council has released its new Development Plan on 1st March. From first glances, it looks very much like a curate's egg - partly good and partly bad. While the chapter on Movement and Transport refers to 'sustainability' and 'promoting walking and cycling', what stands out are nearly two and a half pages of roads identified for improvements and priority road and bridge projects whereas the only cycling/walking schemes are projects that have been on the books for a number of years. Put beside Kildare's Capital Programme, it suggests a continuing token commitment to cycling.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. Further information on meetings and activities is available on our website.

We are affiliated to Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cyclist Advocacy Network and through it to the European Cycling Federation.

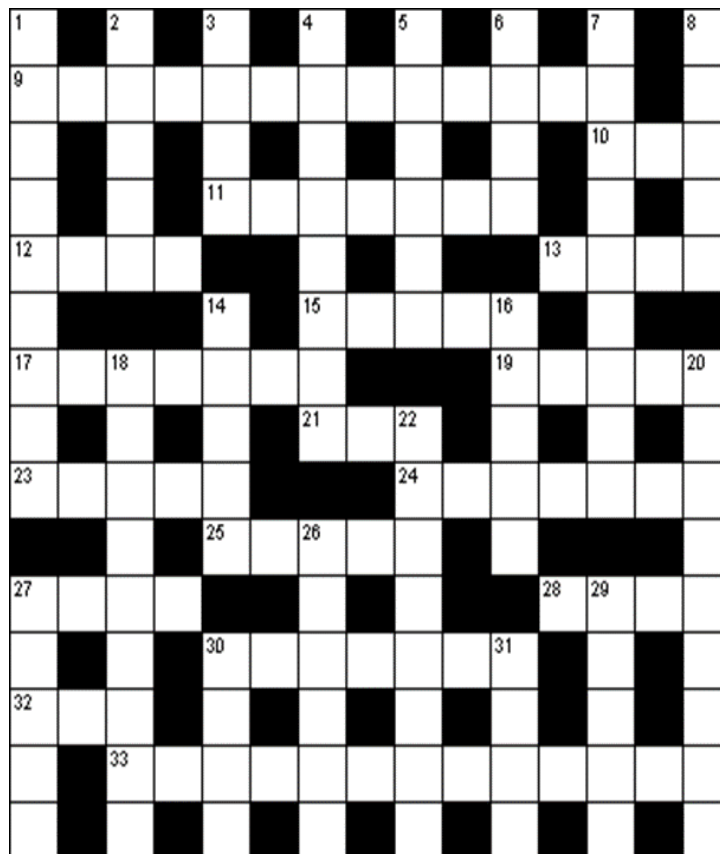


Clues Across

9. Mobile telephone (8,5)
 10. Floor covering (3)
 11. Methods (7)
 12. So be it (4)
 13. Comply (4)
 15. Marine growth (5)
 17. Underwriter (7)
 19. Follow orders (5)
 21. And so on (3)
 23. Pierces with horns (5)
 24. Rolled oats (7)
 25. The devil (5)
 27. Drink greedily (4)
 28. Skills (4)
 30. Link (7)
 32. Illustrative craft (3)
 33. Amount a tablespoon can hold (13)



April Crossword - No. 456



Clues Down

1. Uttering screams (9)
 2. Blaze (5)
 3. Insects (4)
 4. Slaughter (8)
 5. Become visible (6)
 6. Seed containers (4)
 7. Musical note (9)
 8. Containing fat (5)
 14. Apparel (5)
 16. Bingo (5)
 18. Table napkin (9)
 20. Persuasive argument (5,4)
 22. Scorn (8)
 26. Underground passage (6)
 27. Sealed with a loving kiss (5)
 29. Summits of buildings (5)
 30. Republic in the Caribbean (4)
 31. Hoot (4)



Answers to Crossword No 455

Special Prize
Book Voucher

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

The Maynooth Bookshop
 68 Main Street,
 Maynooth

Entries in before:
Tuesday 18th April 2017

Name: _____

Address: _____

 _____Phone: _____
 _____Winner of Crossword
No. 455 February

S. Thompson
 27 Parson's Hall
 Maynooth

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

Collect prize from
 The Maynooth Bookshop
 68 Main Street, Maynooth

Maynooth Bookshop
 68 Main Street
 Maynooth

Books
Stationery
School Books
New & Second-Hand

Telephone: 01 6286702

Fax: 01 6291080

E-mail maynoothbookshop@eircom.net

Kiernan Sound Services
 Maynooth
 Co. Kildare

Musical, Sporting, General
 We Supply and Operate Equipment for Music Shows

Hire: Powered Mixers, Speakers, Mics, Stands Radio Microphones

Battery powered outdoor equipment
Motorola Walkie Talkies
Megaphones

Phone: 01 6016834 Mobile: +353 87 2320642
 email: kiernansound@kiernansound.com
 www.kiernansound.com

(Please ring mobile before picking up hire equipment)

NEWS - 4 - U

Glenroyal Shopping Centre
Phone: 01-6290994

Large selection of Newspapers
 Magazines, Stationery, Greeting Cards &
 Paperback Novels
 Selection of Kids Toys & Cuddly Toys

Agents for the National Lottery
 Payzone Agents for all Bills
 & Leap Card supply & Top-ups
 Agent for AES Bin Tags & Card Top-ups

Opening Times: Mon - Fri: 7am - 8pm
 Sat: 7am - 8pm
 Sun: 7am - 6.30pm



Newspapers & Magazines to order - Just Ask
Michael & Louise

Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

From 23/2/17 to 23/3/17 - information from Kildare County Council Website

App. Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	Application Date
17312	Kildare County Council	Wilhelm and Annetrud Franke,	The Maws Farm, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	23/03/2017
17299	Kildare County Council	Mary Murray,	Lotus Lodge, Ladychapel, Maynooth	20/03/2017
17283	Kildare County Council	Sean & Mary Tuohy	Kiddies Choice Creche, 38 Maynooth Road, Celbridge	15/03/2017
17286	Kildare County Council	Kilcawley Building & Civil Engineering Ltd.,	Unit J2, Maynooth Business Campus, Maynooth	15/03/2017
17287	Kildare County Council	William Coughlan,	Courthouse Square, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	15/03/2017
17267	Kildare County Council	Damien & Lorraine Gavin	Old Railpark, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	13/03/2017
17234	Kildare County Council	Mary Cullen and Deirdre Cullen and Eamon Mag Uidhir,	Main Street and Back Lane, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	06/03/2017
17210	Kildare County Council	Paul Leyden	Ballygoran View Road, Maynooth	27/02/2017
17203	Kildare County Council	Tim Bracken	Laragh Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	24/02/2017

Difficult

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

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

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

Collect prize from Newsletter Office

Sudoku Challenge

April 2017

Entries must arrive before:
18th April



**Congratulations to
March Winner:**

**Danny Houlihan
Cowanstown
Maynooth**

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

Super Difficult

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____





The Orient Restaurant
 Main Street, Maynooth
 Tel: 01-628 5888/5999

*Happy Easter to everyone!
 We wish you peace,
 good health and prosperity.*

*Enjoy 20% Off on Bookings
 Available from 14th to 17th April*

*(Vegetarian Food Served)
 Discount applies for table bookings only
 Terms & Conditions Apply*



NEWS!!

Facebook Ordering is available
 on our Facebook page now
 @TheOrientMaynooth

10% off

When ordering on
 Facebook

(offer expires 20 April 2017)



Maynooth 10k and 5k 2017



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

The seventh annual Maynooth 10k and 5k was formally launched at Carton House recently. The event will take place on Sunday 14th May at 10.30am.

The fast, flat and very scenic route through St. Patrick's College and Carton House Hotel is very popular with runners of all abilities. Among the running community, the Maynooth 10K is considered one of the best organised running events and this reflects well on our town. The family friendly 5k option attracts a lot of children as well as walkers and joggers.

The funds raised pay for the development and upkeep of the new multi-purpose playing fields, walking track and ancillary facilities sited at Mariaville on the Moyglare Road. The facilities are now open and in regular use by the GAA, local schools and community.

Enter on-line through www.maynooth10k.ie or in Maynooth Education Campus from 2pm to 4pm on Saturday May 13th and from 8am to 10am on Sunday May 14th. Entry fees are €20 for an individual or €40 for a family 2 adults and one or more children.

After the race, refreshments will be served at the school and will be followed by the prize-giving ceremony with excellent Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd, Ladies and Men in the 10K and 5K plus some spot prizes on the day.

The committee would like to thank St Patrick's College and Carton House for the use of their grounds, all our sponsors and volunteers without whom this event would not be possible.



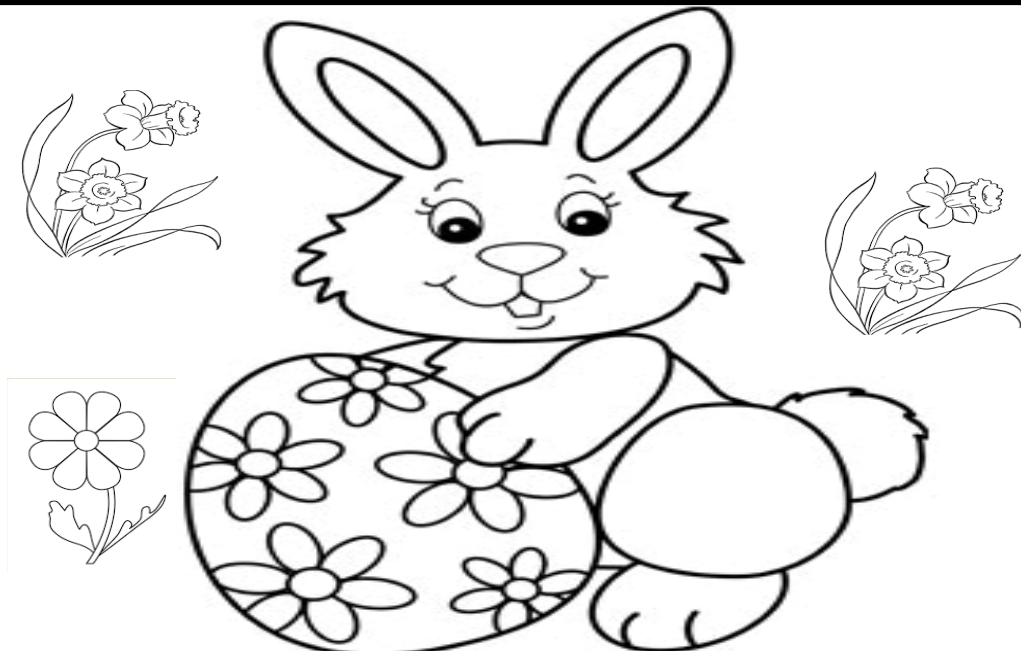
*Pictured at the launch of the Maynooth 10k + 5k 2017 in Carton House.
 L to R Teresa Murray vice-chairperson Maynooth 10k committee, Siobhán McCauley Principal, Maynooth Community College, Johnny Nevin, Principal, Maynooth Post Primary, Monica O'Byrne Director of Sales & Marketing Carton House.*



**McDonald's Maynooth Proud Sponsor of the Colouring Competition
Competition Open to Children 3-6 years**



Happy Easter



Name: _____

Age: _____

Address: _____

Phone No: _____

Last Month's Winner:

**Sophie Corcoran
110 Village Green
Kilcock
Co Kildare**

**Prize of a Free Family Meal for
Colouring Competition can be
collected at:
Maynooth Community Council
Office, Unit 5, Tesco Shopping
Centre.**

**Entries must arrive before:
Tuesday 18 April 2017**

Junior Puzzle Corner

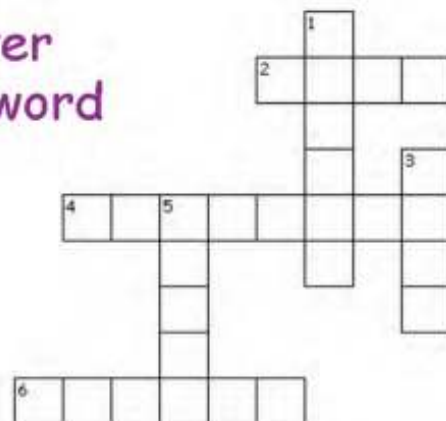
WORD SEARCH

I	G	Q	A	H	T	I	Z	J	C	O	R	L	O	S	Z
N	Z	B	S	E	Q	E	I	B	Y	E	S	F	Z	D	C
M	S	I	V	R	C	N	G	I	E	R	S	F	S	K	X
G	K	Q	U	I	P	G	O	P	H	B	M	A	I	O	I
P	E	U	T	S	E	T	I	J	E	C	B	A	D	F	O
N	N	V	E	K	N	E	S	A	F	W	P	A	Y	N	E
A	I	O	H	E	E	E	E	O	M	C	O	C	P	G	T
D	G	E	E	T	R	L	G	S	R	T	D	M	E	S	T
A	E	R	N	N	A	N	R	M	N	E	S	R	Y	K	R
L	B	P	A	H	Y	E	N	A	F	A	I	N	J	T	N
L	E	E	W	X	C	T	H	G	B	T	K	O	I	R	H
R	H	G	P	R	G	P	E	B	Z	B	C	E	N	X	O
Y	B	U	T	T	E	R	F	L	Y	R	I	S	P	S	N
J	S	E	T	L	E	T	S	O	K	O	C	T	K	S	V
I	E	E	E	M	I	D	N	P	L	R	O	F	S	N	O
L	N	H	H	S	J	N	E	E	T	R	R	Z	A	N	M

Find the following hidden words:

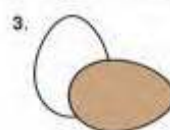
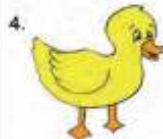
**ELEPHANT- SNAKE - RABBIT
BUTTERFLY- HYENA- EEL- TOAD - WHALE**

Easter Crossword



Across

Down



Easter Recipes

Starter

Prawn Cocktail

Ingredients:

Cooked prawns (about 50 - 100g per person)
Iceberg lettuce, finely shredded - ½ head

For the sauce:

4 tblsp mayonnaise
2 tblsp tomato ketchup
2 heaped tblsp whipped cream
1 tsp brandy
1 tsp Worcestershire sauce
Drizzle of Tabasco sauce
Squeeze lemon juice
1 tblsp of chopped coriander

Method:

For the prawns you can use any good quality frozen cooked prawns or fresh prawns.
Using a large bowl make the Marie Rose sauce by adding the mayonnaise, ketchup, Worcestershire sauce, chopped coriander, brandy, drizzle of tabasco sauce, and cream mix well together and rest in the fridge.
Once completely chilled add the cooked prawns and mix together.
Using martini glasses arrange the shredded lettuce around the bottom of the glass and sprinkle with a little lemon juice.
Finish by placing a large spoon of the cocktail mix on top.



Main Course

Minted Leg of Spring Lamb

Serves 4 - 6

Young Spring Lamb is sweet and succulent and needs no embellishments apart from a dusting of salt and pepper and a little fresh mint sauce

Ingredients:

60ml olive
80ml sherry vinegar
2 tblsp brown sugar
1 bunch mint leaves, picked and chopped
1.5kg lamb leg
Sea salt and freshly cracked black pepper

Method:

Place the olive oil, vinegar, sugar and mint in a bowl and stir to combine. Set aside.

Place the lamb on an oven-proof dish and score the fat with a sharp knife.

Pour over the mint mixture and rub into the meat. Cover and refrigerate for 1-2 hours to marinate.

Preheat the oven to 200°C and roast the lamb for approximately 120 mins.

To Serve: Rest the meat for at least 20 minutes before carving.



Dessert

Crunchy chocolate nests recipe

Ingredients:

A little oil, for greasing
300g cornflakes, crushed finely
200g good quality dark chocolate, roughly chopped
100g mini eggs

Method:

Place the chocolate in a heatproof bowl and sit the bowl over a saucepan of gently simmering water, stirring occasionally, until melted. Once melted, remove from the heat and stir in the finely crushed cornflakes, stirring well until you have an even mixture.

Grease the insides of egg poaching cups with oil and line with cling film.

Press the mixture into the base of the cups, leaving a hole in the center; this will form the nest part. Chill the cups until the nests are set.

Turn out from the moulds once set and fill the middles with the mini eggs before serving.



April Gardening



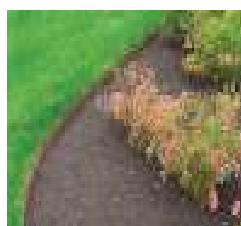
At long last, spring has arrived! (or has it?) As you look out upon your garden, does the nagging question of "where do I even begin" sound familiar? There is so much to do in every corner of the garden this month that it is difficult to know where to start.



There still is time to plant trees and shrubs. However, by the middle of this month it will be a little late to transplant large trees or shrubs, so do them now. The months of March, April and May are ideal for pruning evergreens. If you have a Juniper, Cypress or other conifers that need shearing or pruning, this is a good time to accomplish this task. Remove all dead, diseased, and undesirable wood. Prune your Forsythia after it finishes flowering. Broadleaf and coniferous

evergreens benefit most from lightly spreading a high nitrogen fertilizer around their bases.

Flowered shoots of hydrangeas and winter jasmine can now be pruned back. Evergreen and deciduous shrubs can be pruned back to encourage new growth and ensure optimum health for the upcoming year. Prune rose bushes without delay, if not done, as it is already almost too late. Spray roses against rose blackspot disease if they are not resistant varieties. Perennials and ornamental grasses should be cut back to make way for new growth. Pot on any cuttings of trees and shrubs taken last summer and autumn if they are showing new growth. Check young trees and shrubs planted in the last 12 months for water shortage, especially in dry spells.



Regular mowing of the lawn should be well underway by now. Most lawns would benefit from feeding to boost new grass growth. Use lawn moss killer if there is heavy moss growth. Patchy areas or areas affected by moss growth can be over-sown to increase the growth of grass. Sow lawn seed by scattering it when rain is due to wash it down to soil level. Trim lawn edges where they meet paths and borders to give a neat and tidy result. A poor lawn can be rejuvenated in a matter of weeks. Remove weeds in borders before they make much new growth and tidy flower beds and borders that have not already been done.

Flower seeds sown earlier will need pricking out and growing on, including liquid feeding, to make good-sized plants for planting out in May. Seeds of hardy flowers can be sown now. Spring bulbs can be lifted and moved as flowering fades or at any time afterwards. Gladiolus and dahlias can be planted directly outdoors from the middle of the month, or towards the end of the month in colder localities. As the weather warms up, slugs and snails become active on warm damp nights and they can cause severe damage as new foliage comes through the soil and especially on small new plants. There is still time to start off begonias and cannas indoors.



It's time to sow most kinds of vegetables during good weather with the soil in good condition, taking advantage of any good spell of weather. Onion sets and shallots can be put in too, if not already done. Potatoes can be planted at any time, and it is already a bit late for the first early varieties. Spray apple and pear trees against scab disease if the trees are not resistant varieties, which most kinds are not. Sweet corn and runner bean seeds can be sown in the greenhouse or indoor window sill for planting out later.



April showers bring May flowers



FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

ENTERTAINMENT NEWS



IFTA NIGHT

Nominations for the **IFTA (Irish Film and TV Awards)** were announced recently. The countdown is on for the film industry's equivalent to the Oscars and the glitziest night in the Irish entertainment calendar. **The Irish Film and TV Awards** acknowledge and reward Irish achievement in the arena of film and TV work. After the recent best-picture fiasco at the Hollywood Oscars, the upcoming **IFTA** promises to be a more sedate affair!



The Best Film Nominees this year include Darren Thornton's touching **A Date for Mad Mary**; Richie Smyth's exciting debut feature **The Siege of Jadotville** (which chronicles the heroic, shamefully forgotten efforts of Irish soldiers in the Congo of the 1960s); **The Secret Scripture** is Jim Sheridan's adaptation of Costa-winning Sebastian Barry's novel about a 100-year old woman reflecting on her long life. Surprisingly, the film itself has come in for some scathing reviews by critics.



Best Actor nominations include Jamie Dornan (**Fifty Shades of Grey/The Fall**) for his impressive role as the real-life Pat Quinlan in **Siege of Jadotville**; Kerryman Michael Fassbender gets a nod for his heartfelt performance in the tearjerker **The Light Between Oceans**; Of timely interest, Colm Meaney is nominated for his personable performance as the late Martin McGuinness. **The Journey** depicts the unlikely relationship between the former IRA leader and die-hard Unionist Ian Paisley (Timothy Spall); Theatre actor Mark O'Halloran gives a tour-de-force performance as a man struggling with memory in **History's Future**.



Best Actress in a leading role includes some strong contenders. Oscar nominee Ruth Negga receives her first of two nominations for her performance in the excellent **Loving**; Caoilfhionn Dunne is shortlisted for the dark drama **In View**; Seana Kerslake gets her first nomination for her role in **A Date for Mad Mary**.

The Supporting Actor nominees include the cream of Irish talent; Colin Farrell, Brendan Gleeson, Ciaran Hinds, Jason O'Mara, Susan Lynch and Fiona Shaw will all battle it out for prizes on the night.

The veteran Irish actor Michael Gambon is being honoured with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his superb contribution to film and TV work over the years. Who can forget his amazing lead role in Dennis Potter's cult classic **The Singing Detective** back in the 90s?



The IFTAs is a night to celebrate not just Irish contributions to the world of cinema but also the important area of TV work. Irish excellence in drama is reflected in the nominations for the third and final season of the Northern Ireland drama **The Fall**. The cat and mouse game between serial killer Paul Spector (Jamie Dornan) and DSI Stella Gibson (Gillian Anderson) comes to a shocking conclusion. The hugely popular epic fantasy series **Game of Thrones** (now in its sixth season) also gets a nod in the Best Drama category. As does the historical action series, **Vikings**.



These home-produced series have attracted international recognition for their compelling scripts, outstanding production values, and acting talent. Proving that Irish artists can indeed compare and compete with the very best in the entertainment sphere. Nominees for Best Director Drama include Anthony Byrne for **Ripper Street** and Ciaran Donnelly for **Vikings**.

The nominations across all drama acting categories demonstrates how Irish actors are, once again, a force to be reckoned with both at home and on the international stage. There is fierce competition in the Actor in a Leading Role category; Some of the actors battling it out include Cillian Murphy for his powerful work in **Peaky Blinders**; Aidan Turner in the second series of **Poldark**; James Nesbitt for **The Secret**; and Tom Vaughan-Lawlor (of **Love/Hate** fame) for **Trial of the Century**.



The Leading Actress Drama Category is no less impressive. Golden Globe nominee Caitriona Balfe has clocked up a second **IFTA** nomination for her superb turn as Claire Fraser in the Scottish historical drama-romance, **Outlander**. The Monaghan native has garnered praise and several nominations for her performance as the time-travelling Nurse. **Outlander** is produced primarily for the American market but has been shown on Irish TV. It is also available on Netflix and well worth watching.



Amy Huberman and Anne-Marie Duff are also in the running for **Striking Out** and **Murder** respectively. This is surely Ruth Negga's year. She has bagged a second **IFTA** nomination for her performance in the cult American TV show, **The Preacher**.

Easter Film Quiz

- 1) In which Easter film did John Wayne famously appear?
- 2) Who directed 'The Passion of Christ'?
- 3) Which actor played the role of 'Ben Hur'?
- 4) Who played the male lead in the film 'Easter Parade'?
- 5) Who played the female lead in the film 'Easter Parade'?
- 6) Which English actor played the title role in 'Jesus of Nazareth'?
- 7) Bugs Bunny's carrot-chomping pose was based on which actor in which classic film?
- 8) Name four actors who have played Jesus Christ on screen.
- 9) Which famous American actress voiced Jessica in 'Who Framed Roger Rabbit'?
- 10) Which actress played the 'bunny-boiler' in 'Fatal Attraction'?

*(Answers in next edition of Newsletter)

HAPPY EASTER!





Frank O'Rourke TD

KILDARE NORTH

Dáil Éireann, Leinster House,
Kildare Street, Dublin 2.



01 618 3109

Main Street, Celbridge, Co Kildare.



01 630 3736



087 255 5257



frank.orourke@oireachtas.ie



www.frankorourke.ie



/Frank O'Rourke



Dáil
Éireann



FIANNA FÁIL
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

Advice Clinic held in Maynooth every Monday at 3pm, in Glenroyal Hotel

