



# Maynooth Newsletter



Serving the people of Maynooth



February 2017

Local News

Issue No. 454

FREE

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## February Editorial

Congratulations to everyone behind the successful accreditation of the Purple Flag award to Maynooth. We are the first town in Kildare to receive this prestigious designation. The application was a joint initiative between the North Kildare Chamber and Kildare County Council. The purpose of achieving the purple flag is to increase tourism business to Maynooth. The award which recognises Maynooth as a 'must-visit' location will be beneficial as a marketing and promotional tool, placing the town amongst a small number of towns and cities to have achieved this standard. Maynooth will be marketed locally, nationally and internationally as a town of excellence with a rich mix of dining and cultural venues and a vast range of events and festivals.

A panel of experts assessed Maynooth between 5.00pm to 5.00am and advised that Maynooth offered a well-managed, diverse, entertaining and enjoyable evening and night out. Maynooth was deemed to offer the highest quality in shopping, dining, pubs and entertainment ensuring a visitor has all they need for a great evening out. The process involved a thorough assessment of the town's evening and night time offering under the theme areas of Wellbeing, Movement, Appeal, Place and Security Policy and is awarded to towns that offer a well-managed, diverse, entertaining and enjoyable evening and night out to residents and visitors to the town. The North Kildare Chamber is the leading business organisation for the promotion and development of economic and commercial activity in Kildare, representing close to 400 companies employing over 37,000 people in the county.

Hopefully the town will thrive in the evenings as a result of the Purple Flag and that we can cope with the extra traffic on the Straffan Road. The final shape of the re-aligned Straffan Road is now clear even though further works are planned for

adjoining areas into 2018. Unless I am meeting an unrepresentative sample of residents there is widespread dismay of the changes made and serious concerns about road safety. People have witnessed a number of strange vehicle movements including overtaking other vehicles in the cycle lane. All we can anticipate is that things will settle down and the changes will be effective, but I cannot help but to remember the fact that traffic coming down the relief road alongside Straffan Wood estate continue to slip left and use the entrance to Carton Court estate as a turning point to get into the Straffan Road traffic.

No doubt issues like these have brought and will continue to bring topical debate to the Maynooth Community Council meetings which is of course the public forum for discussing all the key concerns and indeed successes in the town. As mentioned before the community council is undergoing a review with the aim of ensuring that its structures and plans remain relevant to continue to support the local community. It is acknowledged that the services and supports that Maynooth Community Council provides such as the community office, the community space and the environmental management of Maynooth Harbour, supporting Maynooth Soccer Club as well as events such as the St. Patrick's Day parade, Maynooth Community Festival and Aonach Na Nollaig and of course this Monthly Maynooth Newsletter are critical to the local community. While the outcomes of the review process is still some time away there is a strong commitment among community council members that the provision of these services should remain as the core activities of Maynooth Community Council into the future.

Paul Croghan - Editor



## Break-in at Maynooth Educate Together NS

A third break-in in eight years for Maynooth Educate Together NS on the Celbridge Road has hastened the move to a policy change where the school will implement a "no cash policy". Extensive damage was caused to the Prefab temporary building during the break-in with fences damaged, external glass doors shattered and a number of internal doors burst open, a sight which distressed pupils coming to the school the following morning. The thieves also cut gate locks as well as the alarm, telephone and internet lines. The thieves made away with the school safe.

A spokesperson for the school told the Maynooth Newsletter that Gardai advised that the burglars were only interested in getting cash. The amount of cash in the safe was not worth the amount of uninsured damage that was caused in breaking into the school building which is owned by the Department for Education and Skills.

The School was waiting to participate in a pilot project to introduce on-line payments by families, but the lack of interest by other schools has delayed the introduction of the pilot scheme. The Board of Management had already advised families that from September 2017 an online payment system would be in place. The latest burglary has advanced those plans with the school planning to implement a "no cash policy" in the coming weeks.

Maynooth Educate Together NS is the newest primary school in the town. It first opened in September 2008 with just fourteen pupils and now have a roll with almost two hundred and fifty pupils. The school is part of the Educate Together network of just eighty school providing non-denominational, pupil centered education. The school accepts pupils on a first come first served basis and will have a new permanent school building in 2018.



Maynooth Educate Together National School on Celbridge Road

MAYNOOTH ST. PATRICK'S DAY FESTIVAL 17th MARCH 2017

FÉILE LÁ FHÉILE PHÁDRAIG MHAIGH NUAD 17Ú MÁRTA 2017

SEE APPLICATION FORM ON PAGE 3



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



  
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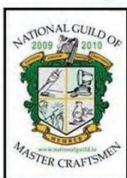
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 comfortable setting to ensure your stay is a pleasant and memorable one.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

## Great Food Served 7 Days



# Maynooth GAA to host 'Maynooth Oskars'



The press launch for 'Maynooth Oskars' was held on Monday 23rd January in the Morrison Room, Carton House Hotel, Maynooth. The press launch was attended by Pat Power (Chairman - Maynooth GAA), Martin O' Grady (PRO - Maynooth GAA), Kevin Rowe Events & Representative from Carton House Hotel.

Maynooth GAA are very pleased to be hosting 'Maynooth Oskars' on Sunday 30th April at the venue of our club sponsors Carton House Hotel, Maynooth, Co. Kildare. This event will see the showing of seven professionally produced films starring over 50 local members of the local community and local businesses, plus many, many more extras. The 'Maynooth Oskars' will be watched by over 400 on the night which will run in the same format as the Oscars. A red carpet, dress up event with awards for best actor, actress etc. With the assistance of Kevin Rowe Events, of 'Strictly' fame, this promises to be a night not to be missed.

The club is now looking for actors and actresses of all ages from right across the community and businesses in Maynooth to take part in this unique event. No acting experience is necessary! Full support in terms of scripts, acting support and filming will be provided by Kevin Rowe Events. If you wish to participate in this fantastic community event please contact [pro@maynoothgaa.com](mailto:pro@maynoothgaa.com) for more details. If your business would also like to get involved in supporting this event, please also contact [pro@maynoothgaa.com](mailto:pro@maynoothgaa.com).

By way of background, Maynooth GAA Club has seen accelerated growth and development in recent years. With over 1,250 members, the Club currently caters for over 70 teams in our football (ladies & men's), hurling and camogie codes as well as Handball and Scór. The Clubs underage section alone (up to under 18) currently facilitates the participation of over 600 children from our community in our games.

To ensure we continue to meet the ongoing expenditure associated with the operation of the Club, as well as enabling us to continue to develop our facilities to meet increased participation in our games, like most sporting organisations, we run an ongoing program of fundraising throughout the year. In line with our development plans for the Club, the funds raised by this event will be ring fenced exclusively for capital investment in expanding and enhancing our pitch facilities.

Thank you to our local businesses and members of the community for continued generous support for our club!

Martin O' Grady (PRO - Maynooth GAA)  
085 767 8768 - [pro@maynoothgaa.com](mailto:pro@maynoothgaa.com)



Photo L to R: Conor Mallaghan (Carton House) Paula Flood, Martin O'Grady, Pat Power & Paul Flood (Maynooth GAA Club)  
Photo courtesy of Gary Birmingham

## MAYNOOTH ST. PATRICK'S DAY FESTIVAL

### 17th MARCH 2017

## FÉILE LÁ FHÉILE PHÁDRAIG MHAIGH NUAD

### 17Ú MÁRTA 2017

~ Have Fun While Advertising Your Organisation ~

## Maynooth

# St Patrick's Day Parade

### Application Form 2017

This Year's Theme: Purple & Gold

To celebrate Maynooth being awarded Purple Flag Status & Tidy Towns Gold Medal Winners

Name of Business/Group: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Contact e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

- ♦ All vehicles entering **must have a float**, preferably a **live band** with **traditional, rock or pop music**.
- ♦ HGVs, lorries or cars **without a float will not be accepted**.

Do you wish to do a demo (2-3 mins) at Reviewing Stand?    Yes ☐    No ☐

**Entrance Fee** (Cheques should be made payable to Maynooth Community Council)

**Commercial Float ~ €50    Club/Organisation ~ €20**

**First Time Entry ~ €10    Bands ~ Free**

Please submit two paragraphs about your club/organisation or business with this application

The categories for which prizes will be awarded are as follows:

<p>1 Best Commercial Float    Trophy</p> <p>3 Best Band    Perpetual Cup</p> <p>5 Best Portrayal of Irish Culture (Dr Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin Perpetual Trophy)    Perpetual Trophy</p>	<p>2 Best Club Float    Trophy</p> <p>4 Best School Float    Trophy</p> <p>6 Best Portrayal of Environmental Awareness    Trophy</p>
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Applications with entry fee to be sent to Community Council Office  
Unit 5, Tesco Shopping Centre, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.  
By Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February or phone 01-6285922 (office hours)  
or Naoise Ó Cearúil – Mobile - 086-7280050



### Hi From An Nuadha Players

Well as you know by now, or maybe you don't, J.R Ewing is now the President of the not quite the United States of America. He had vowed to make America great again, especially the business men in his cabinet. Is this true or did I just make it up? The truth, the whole truth or the alternative truth. I would like to assure our reader that everything you get in the Newsletter is the naked truth. A team of lawyers troll through each article to make sure that what you and your loved ones are reading are the real facts.

If I was to tell you that Donald Trump busked on the Halfpenny Bridge in Dublin and one day a raven landed on his head with a note for the Donald. The note delivered news that his father had died and left him a large sum of money. He immediately packed up his glockenspiel and went back to Trumpton. As he was leaving, he said, one day he would return to the halfpenny bridge and make it great again. It's going to be wonderful and great, a really beautiful thing. Then he was gone.

Alois Hitler Jr was Adolph's half brother: which half, I was afraid to ask. He met Bridget Dowling at the Dublin Horse Show in 1909 and told her he was a very successful businessman. He was a waiter in the Shelbourne Hotel. They married and went to England where his brother Adolph was a house painter in Liverpool. Brendan Bracken was Churchill's minister of information during the war years. He became Admiral of the Fleet. He founded

the Financial Times, pink sheets and all. Some people thought he was Churchill's son. What Winston did not know was he was born in Tipperary, his father was a Fenian and a founder member of the GAA. Are these stories true? Well the Donald story is rubbish but the other stories are quite true, or are they? People believe what they want to believe. Man never landed on the moon – America blew up the twin towers – Elvis lived in Crumlin till his death in the 1980s – The Blessed Virgin appeared on a stick of rock in Knock.

Well back to An Nuadha Players who at this moment are preparing for their 2017 programme. We are having our AGM in Maynooth Football club at 8pm on the 17<sup>th</sup> Feb. This is your chance to get involved with the group, which has gone from strength to strength over the past few years. Good stuff coming up.

**Check us out :**  
[annuadhaplayers@gmail.com](mailto:annuadhaplayers@gmail.com)  
[www.facebook.com/annuadha](http://www.facebook.com/annuadha)  
 086-8068068

*Before I forget, who built the crazy paving outside the Glen Royal Hotel? I keep hitting the kerb. And the last word:  
 "Surely as cometh the winter, I know there are spring violets under the snow"  
 Mind the Trams - Terry Nealon*



**Drama News**  
**An Nuadha Players**  
**Community Theatre**

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# James Lawless TD

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Starter

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1 Cobra Beer OR Can of Soft Drink



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VEG, Pakora

Main

Tikkamassala OR Korma

Jalfrazi OR Madras (except prawns)

Bombay Aloo (side)

2 Pilau Rice

1 Plain Nan

2 Cobra Beer OR Can of Soft Drinks

## MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN NOTES



### WHEN IS A BUDGET NOT A BUDGET?

Kildare County Council approved its Budget 2017 at the end of last year. In countries with high levels of cycling, politicians and the public generally have a headline figure of how much is spent on cycling. So how much does Kildare County Council propose to spend on cycling in 2017? God only knows. Despite pages and pages of figures, there is no indication of where cycling is on the list of council priorities.

The Council also published its Capital Programme 2017-19. This is more informative but it is only indicative of spending and comes with a load of conditions. Out of a planned expenditure of €120 million on transport projects over three years, the Council proposes six cycle related projects costing €4.05 million. These include two projects for Maynooth - the Moyglare Road and the continuation of the North-South Corridor. Two further projects are the development of the greenway along the Royal Canal (east and west). This proposed expenditure is 3% of the total budget and equates to an expenditure of €6.05 per person per year. As government has set a target of 10% cycling by 2020, Maynooth Cycling Campaign holds the view that 10% of the transportation budget should be dedicated to cycling which would work out at €3 million per year or €13.15 per person. This level of expenditure is similar to that recommended by politicians in the UK. It is also in line with the UN Environment call on countries to invest at least 20% of their transport budgets in walking and cycling infrastructure to save lives, reverse pollution and reduce carbon emissions, which are rising at over 10% per year. Does this seem a lot? Well last year Utrecht announced that it proposed to spend €300 per person per year in 2017 and 2018. Now those are politicians who GET it.

### KILDARE CYCLE FORUM

Kildare County Council has announced that it proposes to re-establish the Kildare Cycle Forum. Although the term of this Council is more than half over, Maynooth Cycling Campaign welcomes the announcement but it is unclear at this stage when the Forum will actually meet.

### CYCLE RIGHT

Maynooth Cycling Campaign welcomes Minister Shane Ross' launch of Cycle Right – the National Cycle Training Standard – and congratulates Cycling Ireland and Celbridge's Barbara Connolly on their leading role in its development. We now hope that the government will follow up with the second essential element to achieve mass cycling to school – increased funding for the provision of high quality infrastructure. Being able to cycle is not the same as willing to cycle and unless the road environment is made safe for all ages the Minister's hope for support from parents and for more children to choose cycling will remain that – a hope. A more detailed response to Cycle Right is available on our website.

### MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

In the December meeting of the Maynooth Community Council, the views were expressed that the previous cycle tracks were satisfactory and the new one are too wide. Regarding the width, Irish standards on width are either in line with or less than the standards in the rest of the developed world. Regarding the quality of the previous cycle tracks, only someone who normally drives would consider them satisfactory. If they were really satisfactory, more than 3% of the people would cycle and congestion around Maynooth would be a lot less.

### ROADKILL

Anyone cycling outside Maynooth especially early in the morning will be well aware that dead animals are a common sight on our roads. The National Parks and Wildlife Service NPWS are now trying to quantify the extent of roadkill and would appreciate help from the general public. If you wish to assist, you can take part in a survey at the following address : <http://www.biology.ie/home.php?m=npws>.

*Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. Its aims are to promote cycling as a healthy leisure pursuit and as a safe, enjoyable and efficient mode of transport for everyone in the Maynooth area.*

*It is affiliated to Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cyclist Advocacy Network and through it to the European Cycling Federation*



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### THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

**Never known to fail.**

**Thanksgiving for favour received. P.M.C**

## Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee



Our morning club is in full swing now and we welcome back all those who were sick or who had accidents over Christmas. There are still a few confined to home or hospital so get well soon, Ellie, Una, Nórah and Stephany. Our next outing will be to the Post Primary School Musical on February 8<sup>th</sup>, which is always a very enjoyable event. Our Valentine's Tea-Dance will take place on February 19<sup>th</sup> at 3pm in our usual venue the GAA club, Moyglare Road. So polish up your dancing shoes and trip the light fantastic, the perfect answer to those "Winter blues".

The Tony Smith memorial walk will also take place on the day, so if you haven't got a sponsorship card and would like to support us, you can get a card from members of the Labour Party, who host this event every year, or from our committee. All walkers are welcome to join us for afternoon tea on your return, whatever your age.

We will hold our AGM on Tuesday March 7<sup>th</sup> at 8pm in the Geraldine Hall. This is an open meeting to which all are welcome. If you ever thought about joining our committee or finding out more about what we do, this would be a good time to start. At our next Tea-Dance we will celebrate St. Patrick on March 19<sup>th</sup>, so that gives you plenty of time to run up a little green number. I wonder if St. Patrick could dance ?

**Josephine Moore - Chairperson.**



# KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

*Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth*

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

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

## The Housing Assistance Payment

### Question

How does the Housing Assistance Payment work?

### Answer

The Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) is a form of social housing support for people with a long-term housing need. It is administered by local authorities and will eventually replace long-term Rent Supplement. You must be on the local authority's housing list (which means that you qualify for social housing support) to be eligible for HAP.

HAP is being introduced in phases. From March 2017 the final phase will bring it fully into operation in the last three local authority areas – all in Dublin.

Under the HAP scheme, you find your own private rented accommodation. Although the local authority administers HAP, you will not be a local authority tenant. The rental agreement will be between yourself and the landlord. This means that you will have certain rights and obligations, as will your landlord.

The rent must be within the HAP rent limits, which are based on your household size and the rental market in your area. Additional flexibility is provided where a household cannot find suitable accommodation within the HAP rent limits. The Homeless HAP Pilot in Dublin offers further flexibility for homeless people.

The local authority will pay your landlord directly and you will pay a *differential rent* to the local authority. This means that the amount of rent is based on your income and your ability to pay. If you are getting a social welfare payment at a post office, you must pay the local authority through the Household Budget Scheme.

If you take up a job or increase your working hours, you will still be eligible for HAP, provided that you meet the other conditions of the scheme.

People who are on the housing list and currently getting Rent Supplement will be transferred to HAP on a phased basis. If you are on the housing list, living in a HAP area and getting Rent Supplement, you can now apply for HAP.

Detailed booklets and other information about HAP are available on [housing.gov.ie](http://housing.gov.ie).

## The Minimum Wage

### Question

I heard that the minimum wage has increased to €9.25 an hour. My employer says that this only applies to adults and that, as I am under 18, he won't be increasing my hourly rate of pay. Is that right?

### Answer

No. Since 1 January 2017, the statutory minimum wage for an experienced adult has increased to €9.25 per hour. Under the National Minimum Wage Act 2000, there are also pro-rata increases for those aged under 18 and for trainees. The new rates are as follows:

Employee Type	Min hourly rate	% of min wage
Experienced adult worker*	€9.25	100%
Aged under 18	€6.48	70%
First year from date of first employment aged over 18	€7.40	80%
Second year from date of first employment aged over 18	€8.33	90%
Employee aged over 18, in structured training during work:		
In the 1 <sup>st</sup> one-third period	€6.94	75%
In the 2 <sup>nd</sup> one-third period	€7.40	80%
In the 3 <sup>rd</sup> one-third period	€8.33	90%

\*You can find a definition of an experienced adult worker in this list of [frequently asked questions on the national minimum wage](https://www.workplacelrelations.ie/en/Frequently_Asked_Questions/National_Minimum_Wage/). [https://www.workplacelrelations.ie/en/Frequently\\_Asked\\_Questions/National\\_Minimum\\_Wage/](https://www.workplacelrelations.ie/en/Frequently_Asked_Questions/National_Minimum_Wage/)

If your employer is not paying you the appropriate minimum wage, you can make a complaint to the Workplace Relations Commission (WRC) using the online complaint form available on [workplacelrelations.ie](http://workplacelrelations.ie). In the complaint form you have two options. You may either request an inspector from the WRC to investigate a claim that the national minimum wage is not being paid **or** you may refer a dispute to a WRC adjudicator. However, you can only refer a dispute if you have requested a statement from your employer outlining the calculation of the average hourly pay.

## Consumer Rights during Sales

### Question

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

### Answer

Your consumer rights during a sale are exactly the same as at any other time of the year. Your rights do not change just because you bought the item in a sale.

Goods should be of merchantable quality, fit for their intended purpose and as described. If they are not, you are entitled to a repair, a replacement or a refund.

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

Shop notices such as "No Refunds" or "No Exchanges" do not limit your rights, if you have a complaint about faulty items.

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

You should always keep your receipts as proof of purchase and the price paid. This does not necessarily have to be the shop receipt. You could show your credit or debit card statement if you used one or any other documentation that proves it was purchased.

For more information, visit the website of the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission at [consumerhelp.ie](http://consumerhelp.ie).

## Taxi Complaints

### Question

I'm unhappy with a recent experience I had when hiring a taxi. Where can I make a complaint?

### Answer

The National Transport Authority has overall responsibility for regulating taxis, hackneys and limousine drivers. It deals with complaints relating to the:

- Condition, roadworthiness and cleanliness of the vehicle
- Conduct, behaviour and identification of the driver
- Fares charged by the driver
- Hiring and booking of the vehicle
- Identification and the general appearance of the vehicle

The Authority's website, [transportforireland.ie](http://transportforireland.ie), provides information on the hiring of taxis, hackneys and limousines and about making a complaint. If you wish to make a complaint, you can make it online, download a complaint form or obtain a complaint form from the Authority's information line at 0761 064000. You need to submit a copy of any receipt obtained for the journey with the completed complaint form.

Once the complaint has been investigated, the Authority will decide whether to take further action. If it decides to take further action it can:

- Give advice to the driver or operator, or
- Issue a formal warning or
- Proceed with prosecution in court
- When making a complaint you should be prepared to give evidence in court, if necessary.

You can find out more at <https://www.transportforireland.ie/taxi/faqs/>.

# Maynooth Labour News

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

## North South Corridor Update

The Maynooth Municipal District (MD) Manager gave Councillors the following Update at our Monthly Meeting on 11 January:

- Straffan Road from Maxol to the Glenroyal to be completed the second week in February
- Phase 4 from the Glenroyal, across the bottom of the Harbour Field and down Leinster Street to the Roost is scheduled for this summer
- Phase 5 from the Roost to the Kilcock Road junction is scheduled for early 2018. There will be a foot bridge across the river at Manor Mills.
- Phase 6 from the Kilcock Road junction to Moyglare Hall is scheduled to begin June 2018 and finish September 2018. There will be a right turning lane up the Kilcock Road from Moyglare Road. Also the street lights will be upgraded.

The work is conditional on funding being forthcoming from the National Transport Authority (NTA). Kildare County Council and the Department of Education will fund Phase 6.

## Update on Maynooth Traffic Management Plan

The Draft will be presented to Councillors at our MD meeting on 8 February and it will then go on display for public comment.

## Time to issue Enforcement Proceedings on Meadowbrook Link/Straffan Road Junction Traffic Lights - Stagg

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has stated that it is high time for Kildare Co. Council to issue Enforcement Proceedings on the Developer of Hayfield Estate, Maynooth, for their failure to comply with planning conditions in relation to the provision of Traffic Lights at the junction of the Meadowbrook Link and Straffan Road in Maynooth.

Mr. Stagg stated that the planning permission granted to the developers specifically stated as a condition that they would have to bear the full cost of the design and construction of the following:

(A) Provision of Traffic Signals at Straffan Road/ Meadowbrook Link Junction.

(B) Upgrade of Traffic Signals at Lidl/Straffan Road Junction.

(C) Co-ordination by way of Scoot system to ensure new lights operate consistently with other junctions in the area.

(D) Provision of 2 Traffic related CCTV facilities.

Mr. Stagg further stated that Kildare Co. Council estimate the costs of these works at €250,000 to €300,000 and to date the developer has offered a contribution of a paltry €8,200. The wide gulf between both parties means that Kildare Co. Council must now commence Enforcement Proceedings against the developer for failure to abide by the conditions included in the planning permission granted to them.

In conclusion Mr. Stagg has contacted the Director of Services in Kildare Co. Council on this issue given the absolute need to make this junction safer for motorists and pedestrians and has indicated that it is now time to get hard with the developers by commencing enforcement proceedings.

Cllr McGinley's Submission on Planning Application Ref: 16/1153, Kelston Properties Ltd. At Carton Court/ Greenfield Drive/Maynooth Park, Maynooth

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

- 1.The land adjacent to Maynooth Park and Greenfield Drive floods every year. (See attached photo). It floods the back gardens of houses 54 and 55 Maynooth Park. Also, the land in the centre of the public Open Space, opposite House No.74 Carton Court, becomes a lake at heavy rain times. Construction of the new dwellings will add seriously to this flooding. It is therefore imperative that site attenuation of surface water be a condition of planning in order to counter destructive storm water charges.
- 2.That a 2m high block wall capped and rendered be erected between Greenfield Drive and the public open space and that the "Key Cycle & Pedestrian Connection" between Greenfield Drive and the public open space be REMOVED. This connection leads to the 25m wide green on Greenfield Drive, which makes no sense. Also, that the provision for a pedestrian and cycle access from the site to Greenfield Drive at house 61 Greenfield Drive be removed as residents are of the firm belief that such a connections lead to anti-social behaviour.
- 3.That the 2.2ha Public Open Space be handed over to Kildare County Council when it has been landscaped.
- 4.That the existing wall between Carton Court and the Public Open Space (From house numbers 16 to 74 Carton Court) be rebuilt, rendered and capped as it is unsafe, having already fallen three times since it was built initially.
- 5.That a 2m rendered and capped wall be built between the site and house numbers 57 to 74 Carton Court.
- 6.That the provision for pedestrian access to Carton Court from the site be removed. It is not wanted by the residents as they are of the firm belief that it will lead to anti-social behaviour.
- 7.That it be made a condition of Planning that the Distributor Road from Straffan Road to Griffin Rath/ Celbridge Road be fully completed and handed over to Kildare County Council before any dwellings are occupied.
- 8.That all spoil from the site be used to create a mound between the houses and the M4 in order to act as a noise barrier. Also, in addition to a 2.5m high noise barrier that a forest of evergreen trees be planted in the 91m Motorway Exclusion Zone to help reduce traffic noise and in order to prevent it from becoming an overgrown wilderness.

## Very Poor Take Up on Councils Shop Front Grant Scheme in Maynooth Municipal District (MD)

Each of the Five MD's in the county allocated €60,000 last year for Shop Front Improvements. Unfortunately, there was only €7,000 spent out of the €60,000 allocated for the Maynooth MD, whereas all of the other MD's spent their full allocation.

Another €60,000 has been allocated in the Maynooth MD budget this year and Cllr. McGinley encourages businesses to apply.

## Kildare County Council to Upgrade All Public/Street Lights in the County

As a follow on from Cllr. John McGinley's motions Kildare County Council has agreed to replace all of the 23,000 street /public lights in the county.

As the cost is significant it will take a good few years for the work to be completed. The new lights will be white LED's as they give a better light and are more efficient than the orange sodium lamps. Unlike the sodium lamps the LED does not fail but decreases output until it needs to be replaced after 15/20 years. Also the LED lamp requires only half the power consumption of a sodium lamp for the same (or higher) light output.

## Cllr. McGinley asks for Council Site at Bond Bridge to be tidied up

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 11 January:

"That the Council tidy up the site behind the Health Board houses at Bond Bridge as it is an eyesore at present."

John got the following reply:

*"The site has been examined. Arrangements are in place to have the litter removed."*

Cllr. McGinley stated that more than removing litter need to be done i.e removal of the shrub that is hanging over the wall onto the footpath and proper tree planting.

## Cllr. McGinley Calls on Iarnród Éireann to Provide Additional Parking spaces at Maynooth Train Station

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 11th January:

*"What progress has been made in getting Iarnród Éireann to provide the additional 38 parking spaces at Maynooth Train Station that they were granted Planning Permission for in 2011 and which was extended this year?"*

John got the following unsatisfactory and faulty reply from Council Officials:

*"The Planning permission is a live permission relating to the development of Maynooth Train Station and is essentially an extension of duration to a previous permission, extending the planning period to 22 September 2017. The applicant/developer has until this time to take up his permission or not if he so wishes. The development is to be carried out and completed in accordance with the terms of the "original" permission. Compliance with the terms of the planning permission will be monitored and any non-compliance may result in enforcement proceedings as and when appropriate."*

Cllr. McGinley pointed out that the Planning Permission has been extended to 6 July 2021 and not 2017 as stated in the reply. He further stated that the reply ignores the question in the motion and he asked the Director of Services to contact Iarnrod Eireann as the car park is at full capacity at present. The Director of Services agreed to do so.

## Step in the Right Direction as Saturday Morning Street Cleaning Extended to Maynooth, Celbridge and Leixlip

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has welcomed as a step in the right direction the decision by Kildare Co. Council to extend Street Cleaning in Maynooth, Celbridge and Leixlip to Saturday mornings as well as the current 5 day cleaning service.

Mr. Stagg stated that whilst ideally we needed 7 day street cleaning in Maynooth, Celbridge and Leixlip, the campaign led by Cllr. John McGinley, Cllr. Kevin Byrne and other Councillors, and The Tidy Town Associations in each Town had seen some movement from Council officials with the additional service now agreed at a cost of €77,000 annually.

We now need stated Mr. Stagg to step up the campaign to have additional resources made available to Maynooth, Celbridge and Leixlip. Naas Town has a 7 day street cleaning service and it is unacceptable that Maynooth, Celbridge and Leixlip Towns are restricted to 5 and half day's. Just because Kildare Co. Council Headquarters are located in Naas is no reason to

*(Continued on page 9)*



# Maynooth Labour News (Cont.)

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discriminate against the North Kildare Towns.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg vowed to continue to work with his colleagues on Kildare Co. Council to work towards 7 day street cleaning and he complimented the Tidy Towns Associations in each of the Towns for their tremendous voluntary work over many years.

## **Policing Authority Chair Responds to Stagg on Kildare Garda Numbers**

The Chairperson of the Policing Authority, Josephine Feehily, has responded to representations by Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg, in relation to the serious under manning of Gardaí in the Kildare Division.

In correspondence to Ms. Feehily, Mr. Stagg pointed out that there was 1 garda for every 723 people in Kildare, that there had been a historical under manning of garda in Kildare, and to correct this imbalance would require an extra 100 Gardaí per year for the next 4 years. Mr. Stagg specifically raised the Policing Authority's remit which is to keep under review the arrangements for managing and deploying the resources available to the Garda Síochána so as to ensure the most beneficial, effective and efficient use of those resources.

In her response to Mr. Stagg, Ms. Feehily stated *'With regard to the under-manning you raise, the Garda Commissioner retains statutory responsibility for determining the manner in which the Garda Síochána are to be distributed and stationed throughout the State. However, you are correct in identifying the Authority's oversight function with regard to the arrangements in place within the Garda Síochána for managing and deploying the resources available. Oversight work on how the Garda Commissioner manages and deploys Garda resources is at an early stage. However, it is one we hope to progress in 2017 and we are currently awaiting a draft Workforce Plan from the Commissioner'*.

Ms. Feehily further stated *'On a related point, it may*

*interest you to know that during 2016 the Authority requested the Garda Inspectorate, on foot of a Ministerial request, to undertake a review of the manner in which policing resources are dispersed and deployed throughout the country with reference to the changing demographics and needs of Communities. This work will continue throughout 2017 and it is expected the resultant report will inform the Authority's ongoing discussion on policing performance and effect resource deployment as well as providing valuable information for the Garda Síochána to inform decision making that contributes to effective, visible and responsive policing'*.

Reacting to Ms. Feehily's response, Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg welcomed the fact that the Policing Authority's Oversight work on how the Garda Commissioner manages and deploys resources, whilst at an early stage, is one they hope to progress in 2017. He also welcomed the review by the Garda Inspectorate of the manner in which garda resources are dispersed and deployed throughout the country.

In conclusion Mr. Stagg stated that he would continue to campaign to end the unacceptable under manning of Garda Resources in the Kildare Division.

## **Stagg Raises Planning for North Kildare Gaelcholaiste with Minister**

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has raised the issue of planning for the opening of the North Kildare Gaelcholaiste in Maynooth with the Minister for Education.

Given that the North Kildare Gaelcholaiste is due to be up and running in 2019, Mr. Stagg stated that time was now of the essence in relation to securing accommodation for the Gaelcholaiste whether that would be in the mooted old Maynooth Post Primary School when the Maynooth Education Campus is opened or some other alternative accommodation.

The Minister advised Mr. Stagg that a Gaelcholáiste 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

Gaelcholáiste 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 Gaelcholáiste.

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has welcomed the commitment from the Minister that his Department will continue to work closely with the patrons in securing appropriate accommodation for the Gaelcholaiste but advised that he would continue to press the Minister to ensure that a decision on accommodation is made at an early date.

## **Tender's for Maynooth Education Campus Opened on December 20th**

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has been advised by the Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board that the Tenders for the Maynooth Education Campus were opened at the KWETB Head Office in Naas at 11 am on Tuesday December 20th.

Mr. Stagg was further advised that the apparently successful Tender is now being examined by the Design Team who expect to issue a Report to the Department of Education within a month. It will then be a matter for the Department to review the Tender Report and approve the successful tender and sanction the issue of a letter of intent to the successful contractor.

Mr. Stagg said the Maynooth Education Campus Project involves the construction of two new Post Primary Schools and a Shared Sports Facility at an estimated value of €30 Million and the envisaged construction period is 24 months.

In conclusion Mr. Stagg stated that we are nearly at the conclusion of the re-tendering process for the Maynooth Education Campus and expressed confidence that Construction would begin on site in the New Year.



## **St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band**

The Band are just getting their breath back after a very busy December and are in the throes of preparing for the St. Patrick's Day Parades in Maynooth and Kilcock. Manor Mills Shopping Centre have kindly agreed to sponsor the Band for the Maynooth Parade again this year and if we can squeeze 10 or 15 minutes between the two parades we hope to be a small part of the festivities in the Centre after the parade ends.

The Band held it's AGM in January and we have a new Hon. Secretary, Adrian Tiernan, who has served as Assistant Secretary for a number of years. We are also delighted to welcome some new young blood on to the Committee and it's heartening to see how committed they are to the future of the Band. Although some of the

personnel have changed the contact details are still the same sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie.

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 and old, who would like to play in the band, just contact the Secretary at the above address and he will give you 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.

## **A Fallen Tree in Carton**

Salt-crisp fingers cosset your tempered bark,  
a glissandi of snails itching in metronomes of day -

oriental spice and wardrobe redolence, narrates children,  
listening nearby - like chattering birds, another language  
is soon to ascend;

April plants every seed, light unzipped in caramel pockets of soil,  
the fallen, the rising, those content to stand and be immersed,  
the sinking footprints, and musky sighs on your medium-rare tint  
of brown-

earth, fire, water and the unseasoned giggles of life

*John Doyle*

## **MY LOVE, MY SWEETHEART, MY VALENTINE!**

I've never imagined that there can be this  
day.

A day that love will find its way.  
Out of my heart and into your soul.  
These feelings I have are beyond my control.  
All my life I have waited patiently.  
For a goddess like you, so beautiful, so  
lovely.  
Words can't express the way I feel.  
These feelings towards you are all for real.  
You are the reason why I go on.  
Eternity can't separate this special bond.  
This heart of mine is reserved for you.

Forever it is yours, this love is true.  
I'll be your first and you'll be my last.  
My world, my everything, till my time has past.  
I will always love you until the end of time.

## **THE MIRACLE PRAYER**

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

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



# Frank O'Rourke T.D. Kildare North

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

## Preferred Tender for Maynooth Community Schools selected says O'Rourke

A preferred tender has been identified and selected for the construction of the new Maynooth Community Schools according to Local TD, Frank O'Rourke after he met with the Educational and Training Board (ETB) during the week.

'In recent days, I met with the ETB to get an update on progress for the new community schools for Maynooth. I'm pleased to confirm that a preferred tender has been identified and selected,' stated Deputy O'Rourke 'A report is now been finalised which will be submitted to the Department of Education and Science for approval in the coming days. I have requested a meeting with the Minister for Education, Richard Bruton TD, to re-emphasise the importance of this project for Maynooth and honour the commitment he gave me and others who have worked so hard to get this project off the ground.' 'I will continue to engage and pursue the ETB and the Department until the contract is awarded and construction commences. We must ensure that the new community schools in Maynooth is built without delay,' stated Deputy O'Rourke who met with concerned parents in Maynooth last week as well to discuss the project. 'This is important for the whole community in Maynooth and surrounding area, as there are many primary schools in the Maynooth feeder area. I know the work that many teachers, both principals, the boards of managements, parents, public representatives and the community at large have put into this over the last number of years.' 'I, with others, will continue to work with all stakeholders until this much needed project for Maynooth and the surrounding area is completed.' Concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

## Naas to Maynooth Bus Services moves a step closer says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has welcomed the decision by the National Transport Authority (NTA) to seek tenders for the proposed new Bus Service linking Naas, Clane, Rathcoffey, Maynooth, Blanchardstown and Blanchardstown Hospital. 'I have over the last year or so campaigned hard for this bus service. Last year, the NTA confirmed to me, following my representations, that they would consider this bus service. I am delighted now, following further representations, that the NTA will seek tenders for this new service in the next two months.' Stated Deputy O'Rourke after making representations this week to the NTA to have the tenders sought as soon as possible 'Linking Naas, Clane, Rathcoffey, Maynooth and Blanchardstown has been one of the missing public transport services. Naas, Maynooth and Blanchardstown are all key employment towns, all three towns are key retail centres, Maynooth has a University and all three towns have hospitals. It will also open up these towns for the rent to room schemes for students studying in NUI Maynooth.' 'Since getting elected, I have campaigned for an improved public transport services for commuters in North Kildare. We have made progress. We have seen an improved Bus Service for Celbridge commuters on the 67 service and Kilcock commuters on Route 115, plans are in place for a Bus Park and Ride at Kilcock, additional services are planned for Leixlip bus commuters, we have addressed the fare structure anomaly for Kilcock and Naas rail commuters and opened up the Phoenix park tunnel for Naas rail commuters bring commuters into the heart of the city. We are also providing better public transport services for Clane and Prosperous commuters, in particular linking these towns to St Stephens Green and UCD.' 'As I outlined to the NTA, once we achieve a regular, reliable and inclusive public transport service, we will

attract more people to use it and thereby make it more efficient. I intend to keep making representations until we make further progress on public transport services,' concluded Deputy O'Rourke who urged rail commuters to make submissions to the NTA in relation to further improvements they feel should be made. Closing date for the submission is 18th of January.

## O'Rourke welcomes moves to have special needs classes in all schools.

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has welcomed his colleague's proposed amendment to legislation to ensure that schools can be mandated by the National Council for Special Education to have special classes to cater particularly for children with autism. 'My colleague, Deputy Thomas Byrne, will put forward amendments to the Education (Admission to Schools) Bill to ensure that schools can be mandated by the National Council for Special Education to have special classes to cater particularly for children with autism.' 'Since I entered public life, parent of children with special needs have been in regular contact with me seeking supports, particularly in the educational area.' 'I held a public meeting in January last to ensure that Special Needs Education would be captured in our policy framework and given priority. Our then Education Spokesperson, Charlie McConalogue TD attended. In Government in the past, we did give Special Needs Education priority and as the main opposition party, we must continue to campaign on behalf of those that need special education.' 'As I raised with the Minister for Education myself earlier this year, there is a severe shortage of school places available for children with autism spectrum disorders.' 'There is a shortage of ASD places for many children with autism and they are being denied their right to be educated in a mainstream secondary school, with less than half the number of places available at secondary school than at primary school level.' 'Earlier this year, the Minister for Education informed me that the number of special classes for students with ASD in Co. Kildare is 57, 11, only, of which are at post primary level, 41 at primary level and 5 are early intervention classes.' 'Special Needs Education is a priority for our party and for me particularly and I will continue to campaign on their behalf so that adequate resources are provided for children with special needs.' Concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

## Maynooth Ring Road required says Deputy O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has raised the requirement for a Maynooth Ring Road, at a meeting with Kildare Co Co and at a meeting with officials from the Department of Housing Planning Community and Local Government in recent days. 'The traffic trying to negotiate travelling through the town of Maynooth is reaching standstill points at many times during the day. The traffic challenge is being raised with me by local businesses and by residents in Maynooth on a constant basis and at my weekly clinics.' 'I am in Maynooth Town Centre at least 5 or 6 times each week and I see the problem at first hand. We are seeing residential units being developed on the old Dublin road, the Straffan Road and the Dunboyne road. All this is going to lead to further traffic disruptions.' Stated Deputy O'Rourke. 'Earlier this year, the Government sought proposals from local authorities, under the €200m Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund for projects like this to assist in the provision of further residential development.' 'We need to link the Straffan Road to the Dublin Road,

to provide a better link between the Dunboyne Road and Moyglare Road and a better link between the Moyglare Road with the Kilcock Road and a better link between Kilcock Road and the Rathcoffey Road.'

"Providing this type of Infrastructure will open up areas for further residential and commercial development around Maynooth and increase the capacity for the college to expand. It would also allow the town to function normally and enhance the public transport services." "We must learn from the mistakes of the past. We must provide adequate infrastructure in line with development rather than trying to retro fit the infrastructure subsequent to the development, as happened in the past.' 'Having a proper ring road around Maynooth would take a significant number of vehicles and enable further housing units to be developed to deal with the housing crisis. I continue to raise the requirement for this infrastructure with the Department and Kildare Co Co.'" concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

## Congratulations as Maynooth goes Purple – The Internationally Accredited Award For Excellence In The Night-Life Of A Town

Maynooth is celebrating being honoured with the Purple Flag, the internationally accredited award for excellence in the night-life of a town or city. Maynooth joins 22 other towns/cities in Ireland who have achieved Purple Flag status and is the first town in Ireland to have a University within the Purple Flag zone. Purple Flag status for Maynooth is estimated to be worth €3.1 million to the local economy in the next 3 years. The Chamber believes that an extra 10,000 visitors will visit Maynooth over the next 3 years and this will lead to increased revenue in Hotels, Bars and Restaurants. Local golf courses and leisure amenities coupled with visitor attractions such as Maynooth Castle will all benefit from this prestigious award. The award follows the completion of a rigorous 11 months of hard work and commitment by both the Chamber and Kildare County Council. Businesses and community groups worked tirelessly to receive this award. The Chamber organised a series of information meetings, workshops and site visits to ensure that every business in the town was aware of the importance of receiving this accreditation. The award which recognises Maynooth as a 'must-visit' location will be beneficial as a marketing and promotional tool, placing the town amongst a small number of towns and cities to have achieved this standard. Maynooth will now be marketed locally, nationally and internationally as a town of excellence with a rich mix of dining and cultural venues and a vast range of events and festivals. The application which involved a thorough assessment of the town's evening and night time offering under the theme areas of Wellbeing, Movement, Appeal, Place and Policy is awarded to towns that offer a well-managed, diverse, entertaining and enjoyable evening and night out to residents and visitors to the town. Towns that have been accredited with Purple Flag status have seen huge increases in footfall with figures confirmed of 6.4%. Occupancy in hotel rooms have seen increases with reports of revenue surges in bars and restaurants. A panel of experts assessed Maynooth between 5.00pm to 5.00am under headings including security, movement, place, and policy, and advised that Maynooth offered a well-managed, diverse, entertaining and enjoyable evening and night out. Maynooth was deemed to offer the highest quality in shopping, dining, pubs and entertainment ensuring a visitor has all they need for a great evening out. On the 8th of February, Maynooth will be officially

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# Frank O'Rourke T.D. Kildare North (Cont.)

(Continued from page 10)

awarded the Purple Flag status at an award ceremony. Chief Executive of the Chamber Allan Shine said, “The result was the outcome of months of dedication and hard work led by Jennifer Forster, Membership and Events Manager of the Chamber. Huge work went into this process which included workshops, a self-assessment, a comprehensive application submission and an independent adjudication. The Maynooth application was funded by both Kildare County Council and the Chamber. The town was particularly commended for its diversity of venues that could compete with larger urban areas, the strength of the partnership that worked on the project and support given from the Council”.

Similar to the Blue Flag for beaches, the Purple Flag Award aims to raise the standard and broaden the appeal of town and city centres in the evenings and at night. The scheme is managed by the Association of Town and City Management (ATCM) working alongside the Purple Flag Advisory Committee Purple Flag. Accredited towns and cities have proven that they are welcoming to everyone, offer safe ways for visitors to travel home after dark and provide a good mix of venues. Purple Flag towns and cities benefit from more visitors, lower crime and anti-social behaviour, and improved perceptions of centers.

Maynooth is the first town in Kildare to receive this prestigious award. It is part of a joint initiative between Kildare County Council and the Chamber to drive Kildare as a tourism destination which already exists. Kildare is home to 3 horse racing venues, Irish National Stud, Kildare Village, Newbridge Silverware and is the birthplace to both Arthur Guinness and Earnest Shackleton.

Jennifer Forster, Membership and Events Manager with the Chamber led the project, “We are delighted that Maynooth has been awarded the Purple Flag status in recognition of our dedicated efforts and investment in the enhancement of our night time economy. We are very proud to fly the Purple Flag, reflecting the strength of on-going partnerships and engagement with businesses, community groups and residents of the town. We look forward to promoting the Purple Flag, and will use it as a stepping stone in our continuing development of a vibrant and safe night time environment for businesses, residents and visitors alike.”

Sonya Kavanagh, Director of Economic Development with Kildare County Council said, “It is fantastic for the local community, and for Maynooth to be awarded this Purple Flag. Maynooth has worked very hard to create a safe and well-managed evening and night time environment, with a variety of social activities on offer for residents of all ages. The panel was particularly impressed with the town’s outstanding diversity of venues and the quality and commitment of the partnership”

“The work starts now with promoting the town. Internationally the evening and night time economies of towns and cities are becoming increasingly important. We are seeing a closer alignment of the retail and hospitality industries, and the lines between the traditional day and evening economies are blurring. If our towns and cities are to survive and thrive in the 21st century, they must meet the expectations of both visitors and our indigenous population. To achieve that goal our town centers must be professionally managed and promoted. The Chamber and Kildare County Council are committed to promote Maynooth locally, nationally and internationally” said Allan Shine.

## €30 Million Grant Scheme for Improved Sports Facilities and Equipment

Deputy Frank O'Rourke has welcomed the announcement today that €30m is being made available under the Sports Capital Programme in a bid to develop sports infrastructure around the country.

Making the announcement today, Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport, Shane Ross TD, and Minister of State for Tourism and Sport, Patrick O'Donovan TD, outlined that the Sports Capital Programme is the Government’s primary vehicle for supporting the development of sports facilities and the purchase of non-personal sports equipment.

The programme funds:

- Natural grass sports pitches, tracks and courts (including pitch drainage).
- Floodlighting.
- Artificial sports pitches, tracks, courts and multi-use games areas.
- Security fencing, ball stop netting and goal posts
- Hurling walls / handball alleys
- Building or refurbishment of dressing rooms, showers and toilets.
- Building or refurbishment of sports halls and gyms
- Non-personal equipment including lawn mowers and defibrillators. Anything set in the ground (such as goal posts) is not considered equipment.
- Any other capital projects that are clearly sporting in nature and that will increase participation in sport or improve performance.

Clubs who wish to register on the Department’s online system can do so now at [www.sportscapitalprogramme.ie](http://www.sportscapitalprogramme.ie). Once registered, all applications must be made on the same website. The system will be open for applications from the 23rd January.

## Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area From 25/11/16 to 27/1/17 - information from Kildare County Council Website

App. Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	Application Date
1742	Kildare County Council	Steven and Eithne Fox,	44 Castlebridge, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	19/01/2017
1730	Kildare County Council	David and Katie O'Connor	Cherrybrook, Clonfert South, Maynooth	18/01/2017
1716	Kildare County Council	Andrew Morgan,	Laraghbryan West, Kilcock Road, Maynooth	12/01/2017
161343	Kildare County Council	Patrick and Fiona Connolly,	65 Silken Vale, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	22/12/2016
161334	Kildare County Council	Charles Hinde	Unit 1 Block K, Maynooth Business Camp, Maynooth	21/12/2016
161310	Kildare County Council	Sean and Sybille O'Brien	1 Larkfield Mews, Big Lane, Maynooth	19/12/2016
161311	Kildare County Council	Joseph Daniel Conway	284 Old Greenfield Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	19/12/2016
161306	Kildare County Council	Antoinette Roche	19 Rockfield Park, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	16/12/2016
161307	Kildare County Council	Boldnote Developments Ltd	Carton Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	16/12/2016
161296	Kildare County Council	Daryl Skelly,	Newtownmacabe, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	14/12/2016
161284	Kildare County Council	David Kilbride and Anna English,	14 The Green, Moyglare Hall, Maynooth	12/12/2016
161285	Kildare County Council	Kevin O'Brien and Eva Gurn,	13 The Green, Moyglare Hall, Maynooth	12/12/2016
161267	Kildare County Council	Niall Reade,	1202 Old Greenfield, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	07/12/2016
161248	Kildare County Council	Gary and Niamh Foley,	76 Leinster Wood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth	01/12/2016
161235	Kildare County Council	Anna Flood,	Clonfert, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	28/11/2016



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**New Year's Eve 1916  
 Flag Closing Ceremony  
 in the Square Maynooth.**  
*Pictures courtesy of John Boyd*



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**Maynooth**  
Tidy Towns  
Caring for our environment

Thanks to Jim Doyle who supplied free of charge a lovely Christmas tree which was placed in the Courthouse Square and switched on by Mark Nugent @ 5pm on Sunday 11th December and also the Christmas street lights.

The following is from our press release issued after the Maynooth University Christmas event which took place on Monday 12th December "Maynooth Tidy Towns stated while our 3 Tier planters outside Carton Gates were upturned and bulbs and plants strewn on the pavement, thankfully no damage was done and were replanted. Thanks to KCC clean-up crew. We must commend the actions of Maynooth Students Union who again this year organised a small team to clean up the discarded bottles, cans, chip boxes and pizza boxes of their Students colleagues during the night and early morning in the Main Street and local estates".

A big thank you to P. Farrell who minded the Christmas tree in the Square on the night of 12th December, 2016.

Maynooth Tidy Towns thanked the patrons and staff of The Duke and Coachman for organising an in house Christmas Hamper raffle.

Maynooth Tidy Towns will be seeking a meeting with the Maynooth Students Union and University Authorities early in the New Year to discuss this event and other events planned for the remainder of the academic year.

On the 10th December Maynooth Tidy Towns and the 1916 Commemoration Committee planted 15 Oak trees in the Green. Thanks to Patsy Mooney of Mason Homes who donated the trees also Cam Dunne of Maynooth Solid Fuels for the supply and use of his digger.

Maynooth has been awarded a Purple Flag which will be presented on 8th February in the Glenroyal Hotel. Congratulations to all who worked so hard in achieving this award and particularly to Naoise who started the whole process at a previous Community Council meeting.

**IBAL RESULTS** although nothing to do with Maynooth Tidy Towns it is always good to see how other people judge the town. On Wednesday 11th January in the Glenroyal Hotel, John Kavanagh, Chairman of Maynooth Tidy Towns received the certificate on behalf of Maynooth from IBAL which was presented by Maynooth Municipal District Cathaoirleach Councillor Brendan Weld. This certificate from IBAL (Irish Businesses against Litter) reflected that Maynooth was clean to European norms.

Also present were Councillors Réada Croinin, Tim Durkin, Teresa Murray, Padraig McEvoy, Naoise Ó'Cearúil. Niall Morrissey Director of Services KCC, Tom McMullon Chairman of Maynooth Community Council, Mark Nolan of Maynooth Business Association, Mary Burke of the Glenroyal Hotel, also a number of Maynooth Tidy Towns committee members.

**POLLINATING WORKSHOPS** will take place on Wednesday 8th Feb at the Glenroyal Hotel at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

We had a clean-up on 31st December 2016 for lowering of 1916 Flag which was at 3pm in the Courthouse Square. Congratulations to all the 1916 Committee for all the events during 2016.

Christmas Trees recycling in the KCC Maynooth yard and shredded material will be used locally.

**We are taking part in a one day planting of 1 million Trees nationwide on Saturday 11th February.**

We hope to start back in early February with our usual planting, clean-ups and general maintenance.

*If you have an hour to spare come along and help us retain our Gold Medal for 2017. Further information on 0873153189 or see us on Facebook or contact us on Twitter.*

**Richard Farrell PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns**



## IBAL Results Maynooth 2nd 2016 Final

### Maynooth: 14th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Clean to European Norms.

**A fine result for Maynooth** - there were some sites which deserve special mention as they were considerably improved on previous IBAL litter surveys. The first of these was the Main Street which was very nicely presented and clear of litter. The Train Station was also noticeably cleaner than before, as was the Approach from the West. Maynooth Harbour was another top ranking site – it is a lovely amenity which was in very good condition. There were no seriously littered sites in Maynooth and four sites were moderately littered.

**Maynooth University: Grade A.** Maynooth University has scored very well – not only was it clear of litter throughout (a great feat with so many users of such a large campus) but the overall presentation was excellent e.g. paving, shrubbery, grass, car parking areas etc. Clearly it is a very well respected and cared for environment.

**Maynooth Train Station: Grade A.** Surveyor remarked that there have been considerable improvements at this train station. The interior was spotless and the exterior was very well presented.

**Maynooth Harbour: Grade A.** A wonderful natural amenity, with plenty of ducks and swans about. 'Maynooth Harbour' signage was in excellent condition and railings, waterway, pathway and general environment were in very good order. To tackle the dog fouling there were some 'Mutt Mitts' provided.

**Aldi: Grade B.** The car park surface, markings and signage were in good order and fresh in appearance. However, the site was let down by heavy levels of fast-food wrappers and cans and lower levels of sweet papers, plastic bottles and plastic bags – mostly in the shrubbery area.

**St. Mary's School: Grade A.** The entrance and immediate area surrounding it and the area visible from the road were clear of litter. It seemed to be well served by litter bins and signage relating to parking / bus lanes was in good order.

**Recycle Facility at Aldi: Grade B.** This was a moderately littered recycle facility. The overall appearance was somewhat untidy, with much of the litter in the surrounding shrubbery area.

**Main Street: Grade A.** Surveyor remarked that the Main Street was looking considerably better than many previous IBAL litter surveys. Not only was it clear of litter but the general presentation was very good e.g. paving, seat, bollards etc. Some new litter bins certainly contributed to the overall appearance and older ones had been cleaned up.

**Approach from West: Grade A.** This is another site in Maynooth where surveyor has remarked an improvement. An area near Kilcock had previously been in a poor state has since been cleaned up.

**Dunboyne Approach Road: Grade B.** This route didn't appear to be as well maintained as that from the West – there was a definite litter presence, mostly food related.

**Dublin – Maynooth Link Road: Grade B.** There was a variety of food related litter along this road, particularly on the left hand side between Dublin and Maynooth.





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# Maynooth Newsletter

Copy date for the March edition of the Maynooth  
Newsletter will be Tuesday 21st February 2017





**The HighKings**  
Appearing Thursday 23rd March



**Des Bishop**  
Appearing Friday 31st March



**Tickets on sale  
at Hotel Reception  
Dinner & Show  
Packages available  
Please contact us on  
01-6290909 or call in**



### **Valentine Menu** **€30.00pp**



#### **Starter:**

##### ***Soup for the soul...***

Soup of the day served with hot bread rolls or brown bread

##### ***You look smoking, babe!***

Smoked Chicken Caesar Salad, with mixed leaves, garlic croutons and crispy bacon, topped with a Caesar dressing

##### ***You put a spring in my step...***

Vegetarian Spring Rolls served with a sweet and sour dip

##### ***Cupid's Arrows***

Prawn Twisters served with a sweet Thai chilli dip

##### ***Red Hot Romance***

Hot Wings served with a blue cheese dip



#### **Main Course:**

##### ***Big Love***

(+ €5.00 Supplement)

10 Oz Steak served with chunky chips, sautéed mushroom and a choice of pepper sauce or garlic butter

##### ***We go together, like...***

Chicken Supreme stuffed with smoked salmon and served with creamy mash and an orange & white wine sauce

##### ***I'm BOINKers for you...***

Pork Medallions served with creamy mash, market fresh vegetables and a creamy wild mushroom sauce

##### ***The only fish in the sea for me...***

Cajun Fillet of Hake served with Lyonnaise potatoes and stir fried vegetables

##### ***You stir my soul...***

Vegetable Stir Fry served with noodles



#### **Dessert:**

##### ***Ménage a Trois***

A selection of romantic desserts to share

Served with Freshly Brewed Tea and Coffee

**Celebrate Valentines weekend with live music  
and a 4 course dinner in Saints Restaurant.  
Call 01-6106249 to make a reservation.**

# *Wedding Showcase*

## GLENROYAL HOTEL

### **Sunday 12th February** From 2-5pm



### **Des Bishop New Show in Maynooth** **'One Day You'll Understand'**



Des is old enough now to know that when his Mom used her favourite expression, "one day you will understand", that she was often correct. However, sometimes she was just hiding from having to explain the complexities of life.

What a great metaphor for the confusing world we live in; from Trump to Isis, Facebook feeds to conspiracy theories and the ever-confusing battle of the sexes. Through laughter, Des attempts to make sense of the world today and life in general. Des had a great new television show on Network 2 recently called 'This Is Ireland' which achieved superb reviews and ratings.

Des also features on the new show 'Dancing with the Stars Ireland' from 8th January with his professional dance partner Giulia Dotta. Starting off the competition, a very determined Des Bishop opted for a tango and managed to rake in a whopping 18 points from the judges.

The comedian's moves and slick attire had Judge Julian describing his performance as "hot, hot, hot", while Twitter had many singling him out as a highlight.

Taking to Twitter, Des poked fun at his facial expressions while dancing, sharing a still of his routine with the caption, "They really caught me at a moment on this one."

About Des Bishop: As a native New Yorker, Des Bishop moved from Queens to Ireland in his mid-teens in 1990. He has since carved out a highly successful career in stand-up comedy in Ireland as well as having had several acclaimed television series on RTE: The Des Bishop Work Experience (2004), Joy in the Hood (2006) and the award winning comedy documentary series In the Name of the Fada (2008). In 2011, RTE broadcast critically acclaimed documentary made with his terminally ill father, "My Dad Was Nearly James Bond".

**See Des Bishop live at The Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth on Thursday 23 March 2017 tickets at hotel and Ticketstop.ie**



## Job Shadow Day 2016

## Job Shadow Initiative Awards Evening

St John Of Gods Employment Support Service in North Kildare area recently held an awards evening for 31 people who participated in Job Shadow Day 2016 on the 19th of December in the Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth for the annual initiative by IASE The Irish Association of Supported Employment.

Job shadow Day in Maynooth, Celbridge, Kilcock and Leixlip area on the 27th of April 2016 was a huge success which brought people with disabilities and local employers together for one day to promote equal employment opportunities. The participants involved explored the world of work by “shadowing” someone in the workplace as they went about their normal working routine.

Local companies such as Colourtrend, Rye River Brewery and Divine Word Missionaries employed four people as a result of the Job Shadow day. A big thanks goes out to the employers involved in the Maynooth area, Elite Bakery, Maynooth Library, Maynooth Bookshop, Brady's Pub, Heaton's Sports, Maynooth University Catering Department, Player 1 Game and Elvery Sports at Manor Mills Shopping Centre, Hair Salon 91, An Siopa Milsean, Kairos Communications, Divine Word Missionaries, Eurogiant and Mc Mahon's Pub. Employers in Celbridge were Castletown House, The Department Of Agriculture Food and Marine, Elle No 5 Beauty Salon, Nally's Supervalu, Colourtrend, Rye River Brewing Company, Base Entertainment Centre and Celbridge Community Guards. Employers were also in Leixlip at Portways Trailers Ltd, in Kilcock at Musgraves and in Naas Sports Centre at Little Kickers.

*It was a wonderful night and a great celebration and achievement for everyone who took part in Job Shadow Day 2016.*

*(Photos by John Boyd)*



*Front Row from left: Paula Green (Job Coach), Claire Savage, Sean O'Reilly, Ella-Jane Moore, Angela Brennan, Noel Maher and Louise MacNevin (Supervisor-employment support Kildare Services St John of Gods)  
2nd Row from left: Aaron Neil, Martin Gorman, Neil Coffey, Robert Larkin, Conor Begley, Bert Coster. Back row from left: John Ryan, David Cahill, Emma Kilcullen, Mary Delaney (Job coach), Brian Malone.*



*L-R Paula Green, Louise MacNevin and Mary Delaney*



## Maynooth Toastmasters

Being in charge of education at Maynooth Toastmasters is challenging as it's important to ensure that all members are given the opportunity to develop speaking expertise and take leadership roles allowing them to develop core skills helpful in everyday life.

The meeting Program is structured to appeal to all members irrespective of how far they have travelled in their Communication Journey. Being a highly Successful Club it's important to realise that the core strength are it's members, therefore it's important to ask how they view the club.

Philip said the strength of the club is reflected in the wide range of people who are members, representing Accountancy, Business, Information Technology, Ecology, Engineering, people who work in Public Service, students and retired, all contribute.

Jonny said that when you join, it becomes apparent very quickly that there is a great energy shown towards the new members to succeed, being assigned a mentor who helps a new member in the early stages of their Communication Journey is great.

Catherine said Toastmasters is full of really nice positive people, we all have the same aim and that's to be confident and more skilled at public speaking . I got a great response when I did my first speech in the supportive atmosphere of Maynooth Toastmasters .

Philip, Jonny and Catherine joined in 2016 and are already seeing the benefits....you can too, come along to the Glenroyal Hotel on the 2nd/ 4th Monday of each month.

**Peter Cuthbert**  
**Vice President Education**  
**Maynooth Toastmasters**



*Follow us on our Facebook Page, for up to date information re meetings.*



## Valentine's Day Fun Facts

Worldwide, over 50 million roses are given for Valentine's Day each year.

- The red rose was the flower of Venus, the Roman goddess of love.
- On Valentine's Day, many people buy flowers. Different coloured roses have different meanings. Red means love, yellow means friendship and pink means friendship or sweetheart. Red carnations means admiration, white means pure love, red chrysanthemums mean love, forget-me-nots mean true love and primrose means young love.
- In the Middle Ages, young men and women drew names from a bowl to see who their valentines would be. They would wear these names on their sleeves for one week. To wear your heart on your sleeve now means that it is easy for other people to know how you are feeling.
- If an individual thinks of five or six names considered to be suitable marriage partners and twists the stem of an apple while the names are being recited, then it is believed the eventual spouse will be the one whose name was recited at the moment the stem broke.
- Richard Cadbury invented the first Valentines Day candy box in the late 1800s.
- In olden times some people used to believe that if a woman saw a robin flying overhead on the Valentine's Day; it meant she would marry a sailor. If she saw a sparrow, she would marry a poor man and be very happy. If she saw a goldfinch, she would marry a millionaire.
- If you see a squirrel on Valentine's Day, you will marry a cheapskate who will hoard all your money.







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# Butterfly Conservation Ireland



Waterways Ireland manage some key waterways in Ireland including the Royal Canal, Grand Canal and River Barrow. The banks are earmarked for Greenways to encourage access by walkers and cyclists. Several sections of canal and riverbank contain very high quality habitat for plants, insects and birds, all natural features that greatly enhance the pleasure of nature lovers, ramblers and even the casual observer.



The canal banks have long attracted the attention of people in search of beauty and relaxation. That most spiritual of Irish poets, Patrick Kavanagh, devoted two poems that celebrate the glories of the Grand Canal in Dublin. In *Lines Written on a Seat on the Grand Canal, Dublin* the poet makes a plea to be commemorated by placing a seat there in his honour, a wish later fulfilled. Typically for a poet who celebrated the apparently small by magnifying its importance, he compares the water rushing from the lock to the Niagara Falls. He saw the canal as a source of poetic inspiration, a place that stimulates the imagination of the poet so that prose is replaced with poetry.

Kavanagh's poem *Canal Bank Walk* was written following hospitalisation. Kavanagh found the canal a place where he felt restored in mind, body and soul. Again he saw the banal, commonplace natural features as of profound importance; in this poem he sees them as symbols of God's presence; the nesting birds, by procreating, are fulfilling God's purpose. His faith is restored to him by the delirium of being in nature's enthralling presence and his closing lines show his desire for appreciation of what cannot be understood; he makes a plea for a simple faith:

"For this soul needs to be honoured with a new dress woven/From green and blue things and arguments that cannot be proven."

How ironic is it that Waterways Ireland, a body charged with encouraging people to enjoy the beauty of our inland waterways should damage the values it seeks to portray?

A foretaste of what is coming to Maynooth can be seen in Kilcock. The new 'Greenway' at Kilcock consists of a tarmacadam path that is wide enough to accommodate a truck. It is obvious that the objective here was to install the widest track possible. Where this ends it is followed by a same width path consisting of limestone quarry dust, compacted to form a solid surface. Furthermore, some natural waterside vegetation, such as Flag Iris, has been removed and is replaced by a freshly re-seeded lawn, which appears to consist of Red Fescue grass monoculture. Waterways Ireland intends to extend this 'Greenway' through Maynooth and throughout the full extent of the Royal Canal.



The width of the path from the 15th lock to Allen Bridge, Kilcock is unnecessary and the reseeding is certainly an offence against the natural values of the area. The canal bank has been "suburbanised." Anyone seeking inspiration while walking along this stretch of the canal might be unable to think of little other than the ESB bill or mortgage. I can also see the width of the track encouraging 'boy racers'



In biodiversity terms, the value of this stretch of waterway has certainly been negatively affected by removal of habitat and by the unnecessary replacement of vegetation. Some stretches of the canal banks contain excellent semi-natural grassland which is breeding habitat for some highly restricted species, such as the Dingy Skipper and Comma butterfly. No fewer than twenty-one of our butterfly species are found along our canal banks. Changes to these areas can easily destroy the habitat, and Butterfly Conservation Ireland urges that the work, which in many areas is necessary, be carried out sensitively. In some areas there is simply no need for hard surfaces and no justification for habitat removal. The aim should be to keep any intervention to a minimum; much narrower paths can be installed than the one westward from the 15th Lock to Allen Bridge. The natural vegetation should be allowed to recover following any work. Where hard marl surfaces (good for wild flowers and a solid surface) exist, such as at Posseckstown, east of Enfield, no path is needed.

Between Maynooth and Confey, some wonderful flower rich grassland exists, humming with bees and thronging with butterflies. A wonderfully diverse area, it holds a stunning array of native flowers, such as Cowslips, Primrose, Marjoram, Meadowsweet, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil, Tufted Vetch, a gorgeous bluish-purple flower in bloom throughout the summer, the rather stunning Goat's Beard, remarkable for its bearded seeds. These must not be lost. If they are, we are all the poorer, and the enchantment of these sunny flowery banks bestow is lost for ever.

**Please let Waterways Ireland know of your support for our waterways; people power must be employed to defend our richest wild areas.**

**Author & Photos courtesy of Jesmond Harding**

<http://www.butterflyconservation.ie>

Email: [conservation.butterfly@gmail.com](mailto:conservation.butterfly@gmail.com)





# Maynooth Monthly Diary Planner

Irish Girl Guides	Maynooth Multiple Births	Bridge Club
Meetings Tuesday evening in Maynooth. For further information contact Jackie on 0894298061 or visit the Irish Girl Guides website <a href="http://www.irishgirlguides.ie">www.irishgirlguides.ie</a>	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: <a href="mailto:maynoothmultiplebirthclub@gmail.com">maynoothmultiplebirthclub@gmail.com</a>	Open for new members. If you would like to play in a friendly club with purpose-built facilities in the centre of Maynooth, please see our website at <a href="http://maynoothbridgeclub.com">maynoothbridgeclub.com</a> . Contact Katherine Cooney 086 8205910
I.C.A.	MAYNOOTH LOCAL HISTORY GROUP	Arthritis Ireland
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	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	Arthritis Ireland Walking Group (Maynooth) Meeting Monday's 12 - 2pm in the Maynooth Community Space
University of Third Age (U3A)	Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group	Maynooth Men's Sheds
Weekly meetings on Friday at 11am in Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth New Members Welcome	Every Thursday from 10.00am to 12.00pm Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth	Weekly meetings take place every Wednesday at 11.am at the Garden Centre Dublin Road Maynooth. For further details contact John Fleming - 087 2041334
Community Library	ALZHEIMER CAFÉ LEIXLIP	Maynooth Community Church
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	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: <a href="mailto:alzheimercafeleixlip@gmail.ie">alzheimercafeleixlip@gmail.ie</a> <a href="http://www.alzheimercafeleixlip.com">www.alzheimercafeleixlip.com</a>	1st Floor Manor Mills (entrance next to Chill) Service times every Sunday morning from 10.30 am <a href="http://www.maynoothcc.org">www.maynoothcc.org</a> Everyone most welcome
Maynooth Senior Citizens	Craobh Mhaigh Nuad C.C.E.	ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND
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.	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 <a href="mailto:craobhmaighnuad@gmail.com">craobhmaighnuad@gmail.com</a> .	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: <a href="mailto:sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie">sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie</a> Website: <a href="http://www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie">www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie</a>

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](mailto: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)



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**The Copy Date for the March Edition of the  
Maynooth Newsletter is Tuesday 21st February**



# James Lawless T.D. Kildare North

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

## Street Cleaning in Maynooth

I can confirm a six day street cleaning service will commence in Maynooth. This additional cleaning day will take place on Saturdays. I had raised this issue of additional street cleaning for Maynooth town following meetings with Kildare County Council County Manager Peter Carey and Director of Services Niall Morrissey on the matter. The issue of litter in the streets, particularly over the weekends in Maynooth has become topical recently. With the college at full capacity street cleaning services needed to be increased. I have had many locals come into my Maynooth office off the Main Street raising this very valid concern.

At my meeting with senior council officials I explained the urgent need for this service to be provided. Following this the Director of Services confirmed to me that it was being seriously considered for 2017 subject to budget approval. I am delighted to say this is now confirmed.

We have seen Maynooth have continued success in the Tidy Towns Competition and this cleaning service will only aid and compliment the excellent work they carry out. I am delighted there is an agreement and understanding from the council.

## Clamping Law Remains Unenforced Due to Lack of Resources

I have urged the Government to adequately resource the National Transport Authority so that it can uphold the law in relation to vehicle clamping.

The Vehicle Clamping Act was passed into law almost two years ago but it is still yet to be implemented and enforced. The Act was intended to curb the predatory practices of "cowboy clamping" which saw people stung for excessive fees after minor parking infringements.

Following ongoing public pressure the Vehicle Clamping Act was finally passed in the Oireachtas and signed into law by the President on the 6th May, 2015. Yet, despite the enactment of that legislation, the reality is that the clampers continue to operate with impunity. Charging excessive release fees, dismissing appeals and acting in a predatory manner is not only hurting motorists but crippling our struggling town centres as they attempt to re-ignite trade this Christmas and recover from the recession.

Last month I queried how these practices could be still continuing, and was shocked to discover that despite the legislation being enacted, it has not yet come into force. This is namely because the NTA do not have the resources to implement it. It's simply ridiculous that the Government has failed to provide the necessary resources for legislation which the Oireachtas has passed into law.

I raised this issue directly with An Taoiseach Enda Kenny today in the Dáil. I expressed my concern that the NTA are looking to over-complicate it by devising detailed regulations, above and beyond what is needed to sort out this problem once and for all. The Government needs to ensure the NTA is adequately resourced so that this legislation can be enforced as originally intended.

## Maynooth Purple Flag Award Win

It is a great honour for the town to win the Purple Flag Award. I was happy to lend my support to the Maynooth Purple Flag bid launch recently. The purple flag is awarded based on a town's nightlife in terms of eateries, entertainment, cleanliness, security and overall ambience.

Credit must go to North Kildare Chamber of Commerce, Kildare County Council and all the local businesses and community groups for the fantastic effort put into this bid. Based in Maynooth with my constituency office I am acutely aware of how hard businesses and local community groups worked for this award. All stakeholders can be very proud of their efforts on what is a great day for Maynooth.

It is my understanding up to 10,000 extra visitors will come to Maynooth following this award. This is only welcome news for the town as restaurants, hotels, and other businesses experience increased demand. I am keen to continue work with the Chamber, the Council, and local businesses to help promote Maynooth for all.

## Sports Capital Grant Applications Open

The Sports Capital Grant is now open and available for organisations to submit their applications. The closing date for application is 24th February.

It is a comprehensive application and those interested should register at <https://www.sportscapitalprogramme.ie/>. There is a short window to apply, closing on the 24th February. I have

worked with many different clubs during my time as a public representative and am always happy to assist. As always my constituency office is open in Maynooth and would be delighted to meet any clubs to offer advice or assistance with their application.

## Lack of Home Help Hours in Kildare will Aggravate Existing Crises in Health System

The announcement in the HSE's Service Plan for 2017 that no additional home help hours are to be provided will put severe pressure on families, and will continue the chronic overcrowding in hospitals.

The HSE Service Plan has ignored the crying need for additional home help hours across the country, and will ensure that thousands of older people will be left without the support they need.

The plan also ignores the Programme for Government commitment to increase the number of home help hours. Indeed, the 2016 Fine Gael manifesto pledged an additional 2.2 million home help hours over the next five years, so really we should have been seeing in the region of 400,000 being announced for 2017 if they were keeping to their own commitments.

The upshot of this decision is that further pressure will be put on the already stretched nursing home system as older people will not have the supports they need to stay in their homes. Health professionals all say that outcomes are better for older people if they are able to remain in their own homes, supported by home helps, and their families.

In addition to adding pressure to the nursing home system, a lack of home help hours will ensure that older people with chronic conditions will remain in the hospital system long after they are deemed able to go home. The funding for the Fair Deal scheme has not been increased either, although the plan still estimates that more people will get it. Presumably this is to be achieved by the projected one month reduction in the average length of stay i.e. people dying sooner.

The HSE has failed to think strategically with their Service Plan for 2017. I am disappointed by Minister Harris' failure to direct the HSE to invest more in this important area of Social Care despite a vastly increased overall budget.

## Maths and Accounting Grinds

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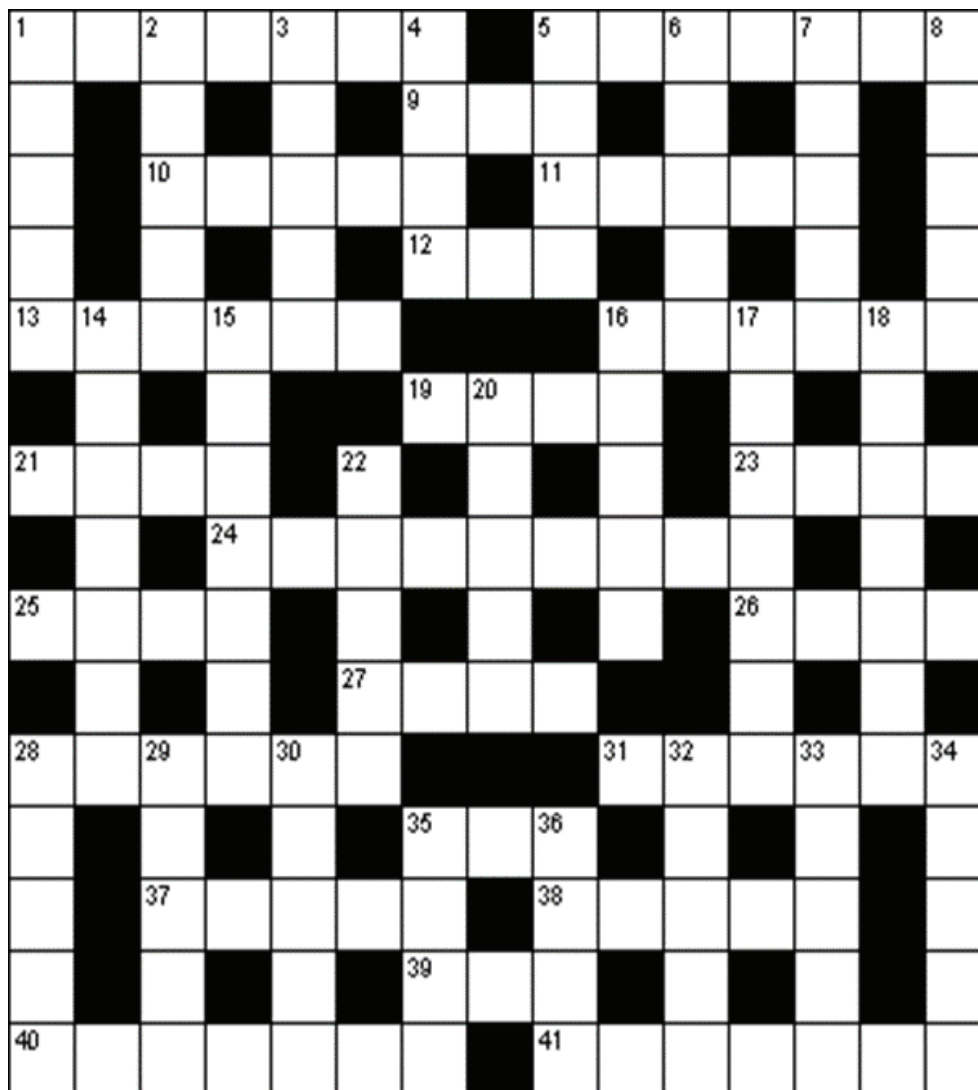


## Clues Across

## February Crossword - No. 454

## Clues Down

- 1 Shirker (7)  
 5. Lacking a top (7)  
 9. Very cold (3)  
 10. Nut of an oak (5)  
 11. White-and-black bear-like mammal (5)  
 12. Colouring material (3)  
 13. Rework (6)  
 16. Put an end to (6)  
 19. Wagon (4)  
 21. Intersects (4)  
 23. Category (4)  
 24. Cacao sweetmeat (9)  
 25. Boy or man (4)  
 26. Spool (4)  
 27. At that time (4)  
 28. Stops (6)  
 31. Perfumes (6)  
 35. Which person (3)  
 37. Person used as one's excuse (5)  
 38. Short letters (5)  
 39. Fabled bird (3)  
 40. Rose shaped ornament (7)  
 41. Plug to keep out noise (7)



1. More secure (5)  
 2. Embarrass (5)  
 3. Is aware of (5)  
 4. Outer covering (4)  
 5. Class (4)  
 6. Overwhelming fear (5)  
 7. Strictly accurate (5)  
 8. Hush (5)  
 14. Send to school (7)  
 15. Gathering of pus in body tissue (7)  
 16. Pilfer (5)  
 17. Notice (7)  
 18. Make right (7)  
 20. Residence (5)  
 22. Harbour towns (5)  
 28. Lid (5)  
 29. Gather (5)  
 30. Be (5)  
 32. Provide food (5)  
 33. Pertaining to the nose (5)  
 34. Moved back and forth (5)  
 35. Metal filament (4)  
 36. A single time (4)



### Answers to Crossword No 453



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# Maynooth Community Council December Notes

*Notes from the meeting of MCC held on Dec 12th*

## CO-OPTION

Don Foley was co-opted onto the Council proposed by Paul Daly and seconded by Paul Croghan.

## INVESTIGATIVE SUB COMMITTEE

Miriam O'Keeffe reported that some information was outstanding and upon receipt of same, the sub committee would deliver their findings.

## CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was read from Joe Boland, Director of Services at KCC, stating that a 7 day cleaning service for Maynooth was not attainable at this time. This was due to a matter of resources and not an unwillingness from the Council. There would however be an improvement to the cleaning service.

Rebecca Doolin sent apologies to the meeting on behalf of Michael Rafter and herself with reference to the University Christmas Day celebrations taking place that night. The letter stated that measures were in place to minimise disruption to the town and to ensure the safety of all concerned.

## EVENTS

Chairman Tom McMullon congratulated the organisers of Aonach na Nollag on a successful event. He said that the low turnout was unfortunate but following the huge success of last years Aonach, a lot more groups held fairs this year. Anne Birchall also thanked the team and mentioned the input from the Transition Year students in particular. Thanks were also expressed to Jim Doyle for the Xmas trees, Johnny Hanlon and Ms Clarke and the TY choir, Johnny Dowling for stepping into the famous red suit at short notice, and to the MCC Office staff for assistance above and beyond expectations.

## TIDY TOWNS

2016 was deemed to be a great success according to Mattie Callaghan, and he said that with the ongoing increase in population the group were particularly glad to win the Gold medal. He thanked all sponsors of

Maynooth Tidy Towns and Jim Doyle for providing the Xmas tree for the Square which was an added bonus to the towns decorations. Thanks were also expressed to P Mooney for sponsoring the 15 oak trees planted as part of the 1916 commemorations. There was one tree planted in memory of each of the Maynooth 15 that marched to Dublin to take part in the Rising. Thanks were expressed to Cam Dunne of Maynooth Solid Fuels for providing machinery for the planting.

The Business Association were thanked for the lights which adorned the town this year, and the meeting was informed that from 2017 there would be a 'stand alone' Maynooth Lights Committee which would be fundraising throughout the year.

Thanks were expressed to Ted Robinson and staff of The Glenroyal Hotel, the Rita Doyle School of Dancing, and Maynooth Comhaltas branch for their input into the volunteer appreciation night.

## MAYNOOTH SCOUTS

Peter Garrad told the attendees that the Scouts were going to be on a break for Xmas following their successful Xmas fair. He also mentioned that there would be an overnight event in the den on Dec 17th.

## SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE

Josie Moore reported on the wonderful Sale of Work event again this year. She mentioned the co-operation of the Post Primary School and the Scouts, and thanked both for all their help. The Xmas dinner would be in The Glenroyal Hotel on Dec 18th and she thanked them for their ongoing support. The shopping day and entertainment at Supervalu was enjoyed by all present and Josie thanked the management and staff for their support. Josie also informed the meeting of the Community award presented to the Senior Citizens Committee by the Oasis of Grace Church and congratulated Maynooth Tidy Towns on their award on the same night.

## MAYNOOTH SAFETY GROUP

Teresa Murray updated the meeting on the ongoing campaign for more Gardai and increased opening hours for the local station. She said that over 3000 people had signed the petition and she thanked all concerned. Meetings were organised for the near future with the Assistant Commissioner and Chief Superintendent in regard to the 3 extra Community Gardai for Kildare and she hoped that one would be earmarked for Maynooth.

## AOB

Many opinions were shared about the current road works on the Straffan Road. Paul Croghan said that the road was now too narrow, the cycle paths too wide and the kerbs too low.

Sarah O'Keeffe said that the plans seemed to have been drawn up without regard to the residents of the town. Readha Cronin said that until the work is finished and the system up and running, people cannot say that it doesn't work. She added that it is irresponsible of cyclist to say that they will not use the cycle paths provided. The new layout is to encourage pedestrians and cyclists and to reduce the speed of road users. She also clarified that it was NTA funds and not KCC funds that were used for the project. Anne Birchall suggested that a risk assessment be sought upon completion of the work.

Teresa Murray asked that the layout be given a chance and said that it would be safer for all concerned when finished.

Sean Tracey raised the issue of night driving and said that currently there were no reflectors to make kerbs visible.

Sarah O'Keeffe said that a major problem with planning is the lack of access to information about what is happening in the area. She suggested the reinstating of the Planning and Development Committee of MCC. The Chairman said that this could be included for investigation in the upcoming review process. Secretary Susan Durack said the review process would begin in January and the terms of reference would be addressed at the next meeting.

# Maynooth Community Council January Notes

*Notes from the meeting of MCC held on Jan 9th*

## CO-OPTIONS

Donna Clinch representing the Parent and Toddler Group. Proposed by Naoise O'Cearuil, seconded by Peter Garrad.

Una Phillips representing MEC PTA. Proposed by Paul Daly, seconded by Teresa Murray

## CORRESPONDENCE

A letter has been sent from MCC to the relevant Maynooth University personnel and the local Sergeant asking for a meeting with reference to the University Xmas day celebrations.

A letter was received from Kildare PPN with reference to the introduction of a 30 kph speed limit in local estates. MCC will reply encouraging and endorsing all estates that apply. Mary Murphy suggested that all estates be included regardless of whether they send in a specific application. The Chairman agreed and said that Jake's Law should apply to all estates.

## TIDY TOWNS

Richard Farrell congratulated the Committee promoting the Purple Flag Initiative on receiving the Purple Flag for Maynooth. He also commended Naoise O'Cearuil on starting the ball rolling a number of years ago.

The results of the recent IBAL League were announced and Maynooth was judged to be 'clean to European norms'. Maynooth ranked 14th out of 40 towns and cities inspected, a slight drop from our 8th place last year. The inspection took place on Oct 10th. Richard said the group were pleased with the result as the inspection took

place during their self imposed break from litter picking. The report said that there were no seriously littered sites and commended the improvement on Main St, The Harbour and the train station. Kildare Town was congratulated on winning the IBAL League.

On Jan 25th and Feb 8th at 7.30 there will be pollinating workshops in the Glenroyal Hotel.

Richard reminded everyone that their Xmas trees can be dropped to the Council Yard for recycling. Trees are mulched and the mulch is used locally on flower and shrub beds.

Richard thanked the KCC clean up crew for replanting and replacing their 3 tier planters which were upturned during the University Xmas day celebrations. He also commended the clean up team from the Students Union and added that they would be seeking a meeting with University personnel regarding future events.

## MAYNOOTH SCOUTS

Peter Garrad reported on the Scouts presenting the Peace Light at Maynooth Churches on Xmas Eve. He commended the addition of the live crib to the church service. The Venture scouts, Beavers and Cubs are back after the Xmas break and other scouts would be back during the last week of January.

Johnny Dowling reported on the Scouts involvement during the lowering of the 1916 flag on Dec 31st. This was the last official function of the committee and he said that the amount of work done by such a small committee was fantastic. He hoped the committee would continue to have an Easter event in the years to come.

## SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE

Josie Moore informed the meeting of their successful Xmas dinner in the Glenroyal Hotel and said they had 157 attendees, all of whom had a great day. She thanked Ted Robinson and the hotel staff for their attention on the day.

The Club reopened during the first week of January and the next event on their busy calendar would be their Valentines Party in February. The sponsored walk will take place on the same day and Josie thanked the Labour Party for their ongoing involvement with the walk. The walk was postponed from October due to busy schedules.

## MAYNOOTH SAFETY GROUP

Teresa Murray informed the group that the meeting with Garda chiefs regarding Community Policing was postponed until late January. With 3 Community Gardai confirmed for Kildare, it is hoped that one will be assigned to Maynooth. Supt. Wall is expected to correspond with the Safety Group with definite days and times when the local station will be open for the signing of forms. Murray thanked the people that have been collecting and collating the petition forms.

## ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

A meeting of the organising committee was due to take place on Jan 16th when they would discuss sponsorship, invitations and the theme for the event.

(Continued on page 27)



# Maynooth Community Council January Notes (Cont)

(Continued from page 26)

## ICA

The local guild would be returning from their Xmas break on Jan 12th. Crafts would resume on Mondays and Tin whistle classes on Wednesdays.

## CCE CRAOBH MHAIGH NUAD

Angie Tracey reported on the branch Xmas party held in O'Neill's in December. A great night was had by all and she thanked O'Neill's management and staff for their assistance and Danny Carthy for Santas appearance.

Classes returned on Wed 11th of January in preparation for their next big events which would be the Parade and the Fleadh in April. She said new members are always welcome but suggested that beginners should not join mid term. She congratulated the Aonach organisers and the Purple Flag Committee on their recent successes.

The Chairman added that KCC should now do everything they could to ensure that we keep the Purple Flag as reviews are carried out annually. Naoise O'Cearuill congratulated Martin McMahon, Ted Robinson, Ronan Twohig and all concerned with gaining the flag for Maynooth. It will be of benefit to the town as a whole and added that KCC will do all they can to help keep the flag. Teresa Murray said that with the flag in Maynooth, the Community Garda is even more imperative to ensure law and order is observed and that would aid in keeping the flag.

## MAYNOOTH SUMMER FESTIVAL

Anne Birchall said that with the amount of work involved, the organising would start earlier this year.

This has also been prompted by emails expressing interest already. She added that volunteers would be needed in greater numbers this year. The date has been set for the festival and will take place over the weekend of July 1st/2nd. This event can also be used to nurture the Purple Flag initiative. Richard Farrell agreed and added that any event held in the town needs to be supported and used to further the Purple Flag initiative.

Sarah O'Keeffe suggested that local teenagers energy and enthusiasm be encouraged where festivals and events are concerned. Their positive contribution to the Aonach was noted.

## INVESTIGATIVE SUB COMMITTEE

Cllr Reada Cronin said that the sub committee had received a lot of information in the preceding 48/72 hours and more time was needed to examine same. Their report would be presented at the next meeting. Don Foley questioned the need for an investigation as the Constitution lodged with the CRO had not been altered since 2001 save for Directors names. Angie Tracey noted that the registered Constitution was not the same as the one sent to Council members and Anne Birchall added that they were not looking into legalities but merely an apparent unauthorised amendment.

## AOB

Questions were raised about the proposed public usage of the new Maynooth Community Church Centre. Sean Tracey, Chairman of Maynooth Community Centre Partnership said that their group had held meetings with Rev Keith McCrory of

Maynooth Community Church and stated categorically that the new building would not be a Community Centre. There would be limited availability to the general public. The Community Church building would be privately owned and limited access is not suitable to the needs of the town.

What is needed is a Centre owned by and run by the people of Maynooth for the people of Maynooth. Peter Garrad clarified that the Scout den should not be deemed a Community Centre either. Johnny Dowling added that the official name of the building is now the Geraldine Scout Hall. Teresa Murray said that the Community Centre issue is a local one and needs analysis. 'We know what we want and need and we will work towards those goals' she added.

An issue was raised about the opening and closing times of the new security gates at the Moyglare Road entrance to the University. Vehicular restrictions are somewhat understandable but the pedestrian access should not be restricted. Students have been seen climbing the gates upon finding it locked which raises a new Health and Safety issue.

## MCC REVIEW PROCESS

A meeting was organised between MCC Executive and the facilitators for the upcoming review. Items up for discussion include Communication, Governance, Constitutions, Finances, Sub Committees and Affiliates, Charitable Status and the recording of information.

### Difficult

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

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 February 2017

Entries must arrive before:  
21st February



**Congratulations to  
December /Jan Winner:**

**Michelle Tully  
Newtown Hall  
Maynooth**

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

### Super Difficult

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

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

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

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



## Writers Corner

**If you would like to see your story or poem published email us  
and share your talent on the Writers Corner**



## Maynooth 1916 Centenary Committee say 'Thank You Maynooth'

Maynooth 1916 Centenary Committee held their final event in mid-January to say 'Thank You' to the Community groups, Businesses and people of Maynooth for their support & generosity through out the Centenary year. The event held in the Glenroyal Hotel was an opportunity to reflect on the many successful events held locally to honour the Maynooth 15.

(Photos by John Boyd)



L/R: James Durney (Historian in Residence KCC) & Paul Clarke (1916 Centenary Committee)



L/R: James Durney (Historian in Residence KCC) & Cllr. Reada Cronin



L/R: Francesca Sheridan and Declan Gaffney



L/R: Pauline Dunne and Keith McTeag

## Irish Rugby Team Training in Carton House for the Upcoming Six Nations



Jamie Heaslip being helped by Keith Earls in training.

### Upcoming Irish Rugby Team's Fixtures for the Six Nations 2017

Saturday 4th February 2017:  
Scotland v Ireland, Murrayfield Stadium, Edinburgh 2:25pm  
Saturday 11th February 2017:  
Italy v Ireland, Stadio Olimpico, Rome 2:25pm (GMT)  
Saturday 25th February 2017:  
Ireland v France, Aviva Stadium, Dublin 4:50pm  
Friday 10th March 2017:  
Wales v Ireland, Principality Stadium, Cardiff 8:05pm  
Saturday 18th March 2017:  
Ireland v England, Aviva Stadium, Dublin 5:00pm

We wish them well in all their games and hope a grand slam is on the cards.

## Job Advertisement Health & Safety Officer

SAP Landscapes has been landscaping and maintaining Irish landscapes for 40 years. Our current customer list includes the most prestigious Business Parks, Pharmaceutical Grounds, Educational Institutes, Local Authorities, Hotels as well as Private Gardens. We offer a comprehensive construction service covering all aspects of landscape installation through our close working relationship with main contractors, landscape architects and specifiers. We have an unparalleled award winning history, winning awards across many categories consistently since 1998.

Due to a growth in our business we are recruiting for the position of Health & Safety Officer based in our head office in Maynooth. This role is in the Health & Safety Department of SAP Landscapes. The function of the department within the business is to ensure SAP Landscapes are adhering to Health & Safety Legislation and that the Health & Safety of all staff is the primary focus of the company. As a Health & Safety Officer you have the opportunity to develop your knowledge & experience in a fast paced Health & Safety environment whereby Health & Safety is imperative in the company.

### Responsibilities:

- Prepare & Review risk assessments and method statements on an ongoing basis.
- Review & Amend Safety Statement on an annual basis.
- Liaise with Safety Representatives regularly to ensure they are kept abreast with H&S regulations & legislation. Manage & Conduct meets as required.
- Conduct site audits & inspections to ensure H&S guidelines & procedures are being adhered to. Liaise with the HR Department in relation to investigations.
- Generate monthly reports in relation to accident statistics, lost time, audit reports, machinery reports etc.
- Report & Record any incidents & accidents. Deliver statistics on monthly incidents & accidents. Report accidents to HSE if necessary. Liaise with the company doctor in relation to employee information.
- Conduct vehicle audits to ensure vehicles are up to a high safety standard. Ensure employees have the necessary safety equipment on board their vehicles.
- Complete safety plans for new jobs & projects.
- Organise & Prioritise training courses for employees including induction training, manual handling training etc.
- Conduct & Present training in a timely & efficient manner. Maintain the training matrix to identify employees training needs & requirements.

- Chair & conduct monthly H&S meetings with Supervisors & Management to discuss relevant & current issues.
- Manage company insurance claims in relation to personal injury claims & property damage.
- Transmit staff communications on tool box talks, and ensures employees receive & understand these communications.
- Ensure fire drills are regularly carried out & that the company is equipped in relation to Fire Safety.
- Ensure information is collated for internal & external audits.
- Conduct Pregnancy Risk Assessments.
- Breathalyse employees on a random basis to ensure employees are complying with the companies Alcohol & Drugs Policy.
- Manage the Taco Graph process in conjunction with management team. Ensure driving is being recorded and can be produced for audit purposes.
- Attend external training courses in order to develop and improve the ways of working in the H&S Department. Prioritise courses in accordance to the relevance of business needs and get approval from Managing Director.

### Desired Experience & Skills

- Minimum 2 years Health & Safety experience.
- Experience in a similar industry would be an advantage.
- A degree in a Health & Safety discipline essential.
- Full clean driving licence essential as field site visits will be required.
- Training experience is essential for this role.
- Excellent communication & presentation skills as conducting training is a major part of this role.
- Strong interpersonal skills to deal with colleagues on a regular basis.
- Ability to organise & prioritise workloads to ensure H&S standards are adhered to.
- Good attention to detail.
- Strong IT skills in relation to using Word, Excel, PowerPoint and other office software systems.
- Ensure work is of a high standard that is expected in SAP Landscapes.

### Package:

- Flexible / Part Time hours is a possibility
- Salary €30k - €35k pro rata DOE
- Pension Facility
- Workplace Incentives







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



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

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

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

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

## Last Month's Winners:

Age: 3-5 Ruth Walsh  
1 Castlepark Ave.,  
Dunboyne Road, Maynooth.

Age: 6-7 Jasmine Wade  
113 Griffin Rath Hall  
Maynooth

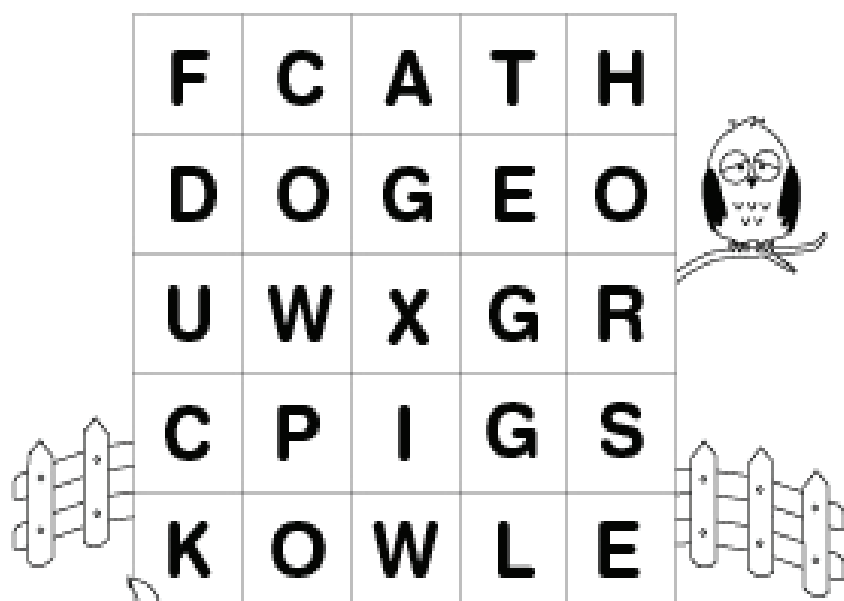
Age: 8 & over Lauren Nolan-Usher  
6 The Crescent  
Moyglare Hall  
Maynooth

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 21 February 2017

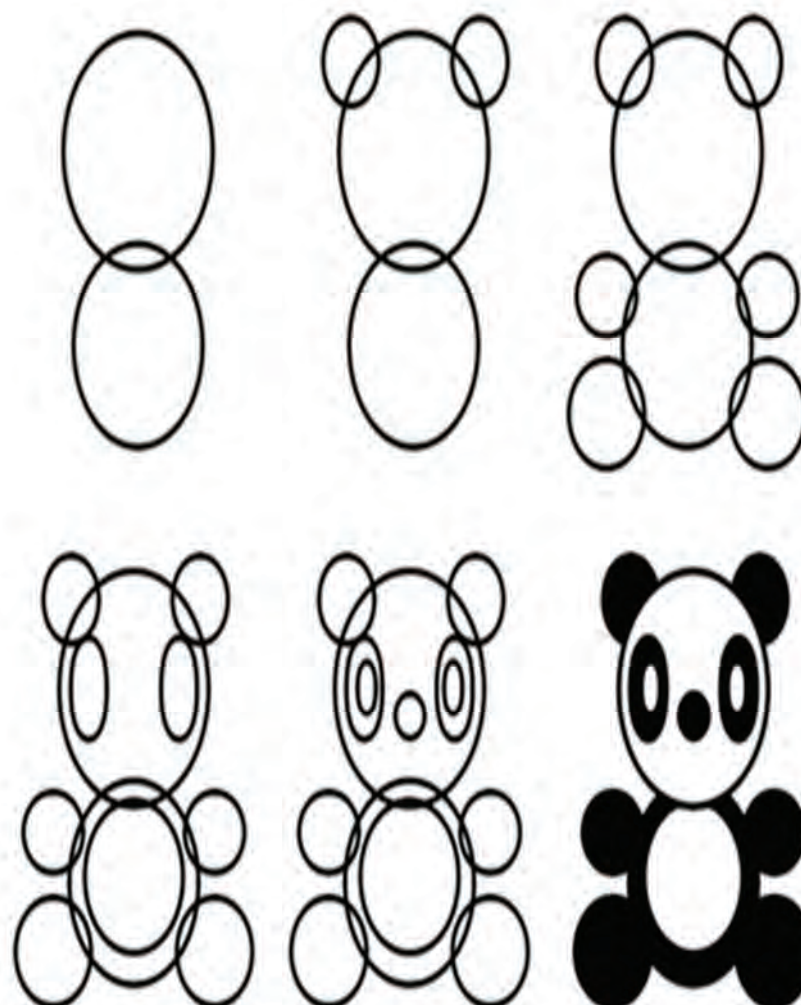
## Junior Puzzle Corner

### SEE WHO YOU CAN FIND IN THE FARM?



CAT DOG FOX DUCK PIG EGG HORSE OWL COW

### HOW TO DRAW A PANDA STEP BY STEP





# February Gardening



February already, wonder what the weather will bring this month!! It can prove a busy time of the year for gardeners and all of a sudden there are a thousand and one things that can be done now, such as early sowings of flower and vegetable varieties being started so as to give them a head start. It can also be a good time to start preparations for sowing new lawns. Even though it may still be cold, damp and miserable outdoors, an occasional dose of sunshine could certainly put the gardening bug into you. With a little luck, Mother Nature will send a few blossoms your way this month. We are now at a time when we can no longer put off those garden projects, waiting for a nice day..... Don't be caught off guard though, winter is far from being over! If exceptionally cold weather is forecast, provide protection for early flowering or tender plants by covering them with some type of cloth material. Remove the covering as soon as the weather moderates again.

Mid to late February is the time to fertilize shrubs and evergreens.

Use an acid type Rhododendron fertilizer to feed evergreens, conifers, broad leaf evergreens, Rhododendrons, Azaleas and Camellias. Use an all-purpose fertilizer to feed Roses and other deciduous trees and shrubs. If you use granular type fertilizers, be sure to water it in thoroughly.

Prune your summer flowering shrubs now but be aware that spring bloomers have already produced their buds last fall, and pruning them now will result in the loss of flowers. Pruning should be done to improve the shape of the plant, as well as to open up the center of the plant to good air circulation and sun exposure. Always start your pruning by removing all dead, decayed or broken branches. The methods of pruning roses vary, depending on the type of rose. Climbing roses should be thinned out to get rid of last years tangled growth. It's a good time to stroll around and trim back any branches that were damaged by the ravages of winter.



Your lawn might be looking quite untidy as grass kept growing with the mild weather but the ground may be too sodden to get out there and mow it. Leaves and general debris should not be allowed to accumulate on the surface of the lawn during the winter as it can smother or weaken the grass causing it to go yellow. If the lawn is mossy, you could spread sulphate of iron on a non-windy dry day. Have the mower overhauled or serviced before the mowing season. Plan to mow when the weather picks up.

You can prune some fruit trees now (pear and apple) while they are dormant. However, leave plum and cherry trees until the summer. Prune your raspberries now if you haven't done them yet. Autumn varieties can be done as late as February. Only prune back the stems that have fruited (not the new stems that haven't fruited yet). Raspberries are an easy fruit to grow – as long as they have some shelter and supports. You can plant them up to March, adding some matured farmyard manure if you have some to give them a good start.



Rhubarb is a firm favourite in Ireland and although it needs a little tender loving care, it's an easy fruit to grow and harvest. You can plant it in early spring (preferably in well drained soil) leaving about three feet between plants and ensuring the crown bud is about 2 inches below the top soil. If you already have rhubarb, now is the time to provide them with composted manure if you haven't done so already. Seed potatoes for early

varieties can be put into a warm place to start them off, this can mean you're harvesting the rewards three weeks earlier than normal. Dig over your vegetable ground if it isn't frozen and if you've been planning on creating some raised beds, you can prepare them now.

Wild birds need a constant supply of fresh seed, even through the winter months, which may invite different types of birds to your feeders than the ones you admire in the spring and summer. Feeding them high energy feed that's high in fat and protein is especially important during the winter months! Caring for and feeding wild birds throughout the winter months helps them survive and provides you with the opportunity to enjoy them all year long.



*Don't wait for someone to bring you flowers.*

*Plant your own garden and decorate your own soul.*

## Winter Warmers

### Winter Warmer Flu Fighting Soup

#### Ingredients:

1 onion, diced  
2 carrots, peeled and diced  
1 sweet potato  
75g red lentils  
½ ltr vegetable stock, salt free  
2 garlic cloves, crushed  
1 tbsp rapeseed oil  
400g chopped tomatoes (tinned is perfect for soup)  
2 sprigs thyme  
30g tomato puree  
Fresh ground black pepper  
1 lime zest



#### Method:

Soak the lentils in cold water for about 20 minutes. Grate the sweet potato. Heat the rapeseed oil in a pot and add the lentils, garlic, onion and carrots to sweat for 2-3 minutes with the fresh thyme. Add pinch of nutmeg. Add the chopped tomato and tomato puree followed by warm vegetable stock. Now add the grated sweet potato. Stir occasionally and add some pepper. Reduce the heat and simmer for 20 minutes. Add the soup to a blender, blitz the soup, return to the heat and then reboil for 4-5 minutes. Just before you serve add some more fresh ground pepper, lime zest and squeeze of juice.

### Beef and Guinness Pie

#### Ingredients:

1-2 tbsp of rapeseed oil  
1kg shoulder of beef, cut into 1 inch chunks  
1 onion, chopped  
2 carrots, roughly chopped  
2 celery sticks, roughly chopped  
2 cloves garlic, finely sliced  
150ml beef stock  
500ml of Guinness  
Sea salt and ground black pepper  
1 bay leaf  
30g of plain flour  
2 sheets of ready to roll puff pastry  
A little butter to grease the baking dish  
1 egg to brush



#### Method:

Preheat the oven to 200°C/400°F/Gas Mark 6. Heat the oil in a large pot and brown the meat in two batches. Remove and set aside on a plate. Add another drop of oil if you need it and then fry off the onion, carrots and celery. Add the meat back into the pot along with the garlic. Pour in the stock, Guinness, one bay leaf and season to taste. Simmer gently for about 1 ½ hours until the liquid has reduced. If the sauce isn't thick enough strain the juices into a bowl and then transfer to a small pot. Mix a little of the sauce with the flour over heat until you have a smooth paste, then whisk through the rest of the liquid. Simmer gently until you have a thickened sauce, then tip back over the meat, before filling the pie. Grease a baking tray with butter and lay one sheet of puff pastry in. Fill with the beef and Guinness mix and top with a second layer of puff pastry. Pinch the two sheets of puff pastry together so they are sealed. Cut one or two holes in the pastry lid to allow steam escape and then brush all over with egg. Place the pie into the oven and bake for 25-30 minutes, until the pastry has risen and has a crisp golden colour.

### Traditional Pot Roast of Housekeepers Cut with Winter Vegetables

#### Ingredients:

1 tbsp extra virgin olive oil or rapeseed oil  
2kg housekeepers' cut  
4 small whole onions or shallots, peeled  
500g carrots, peeled and cut into large chunks  
500g parsnips, peeled and cut into large chunks  
2 heads of garlic  
A few sprigs each of parsley and thyme  
250ml beef or chicken stock  
Sea salt and black pepper



#### Method:

Preheat the oven to 150°C/Fan 130°C/Gas Mark 2. Heat the oil in a heavy casserole dish and brown the meat on all sides. Add the vegetables, garlic, herbs and stock. Season and cover with foil and a tight-fitting lid. Place in the oven and cook for 2½ - 3 hours or until tender. Slice the meat and serve with the vegetables and cooking juices. Serve with mash potato or rice.



# FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

## MOVIE PREVIEW OF 2017



What will 2017 bring in terms of cinematic gems? Amongst the raft of expected sequels, remakes, blockbusters, there are some interesting films to look forward to. So, get your popcorn at the ready and sample some of the movie highlights to suit all tastes in this new film-going year

### LA LA LAND

Director: *Damien Lazelle*

Starring: *Emma Stone, Ryan Gosling*

Already laden down with Golden Globe wins and tipped for Oscar glory with 14 nominations, the romantic and stylish **La La Land** is the perfect remedy to those post-Christmas blues. The *feel-good* movie of the year, it evokes the golden age of Hollywood musicals with nods to classics like **Singin' in the Rain** and **An American in Paris**. An all-singing, all-dancing Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone will have you tapping your toes and thrilling to a charming, heart-warming musical romance. In a Trump universe, maybe some escapist fluff is just what the doctor ordered.



### T2 TRAINSPOTTING

Director: *Danny Boyle*

Starring *Ewan McGregor, Jonny Lee Miller*

A sequel to 1996's shocking cult classic **Trainspotting**, Danny Boyle's **T2 Trainspotting** revisits his various iconic characters 20 years on. It explores the passing of time and the regrets and anxieties of these characters in middle-age. Boyle has reassembled the same starry cast from the original film. Scottish veterans Ewan McGregor, Ewen Bremner, Johnny Lee Miller and Robert Carlyle once more engage in their 'trainspotting' activities. Sequels are usually a mixed bag. It remains to be seen whether this new film can hold its own against its renowned predecessor.

### LOVING

Director: *Jeff Nichols*

Starring: *Ruth Negga, Joel Edgerton*

Directed and written by Jeff Nichols, the understated **Loving** depicts the true-life story of Richard and Mildred Loving, an interracial couple who are sentenced to prison in 1950s Virginia for getting married. There is Irish interest here as Ruth Negga (of **Love Hate** fame) has received an Oscar Nomination. She has garnered praise for her stunning portrayal of an African-American woman, who's history-making case helped end Virginian laws prohibiting interracial marriage. The young actress has had previous nominations (Golden Globes) for her performance and will be up against the likes of Meryl Streep and Emma Stone at the Academy Awards ceremony in February.



### FIFTY SHADES DARKER

Director: *James Foley*

Starring *Dakota Johnson, Jamie Dornan, Kim Basinger*

**Fifty Shades Darker** is the follow up to 2015's overhyped and lacklustre **Fifty Shades of Grey**. After rumoured disagreements between the original director, Sam Taylor-Johnson and the author EL. James, the former pulled out of the sequel. Enter James Foley (**Glengarry Glen Ross**, **House of Cards**) who has promised viewers a very different look and feel to the glossy but cold first film. James' husband Niall Leonard has also been called in to tighten up the film's script.

Dakota Johnson and Jamie Dornan reprise their respective roles as the naive Anastasia Steele and her kink-loving billionaire lover, Christian Grey. Will we get more fluid camera-work, emotional engagement, and chemistry between the leads this time around? Foley has hinted at thriller elements amongst the romance. And certainly, the introduction of Kim Basinger, Eric Johnson and Bella Heathcote promises to add colour and liven up proceedings.



### MOONLIGHT

Director *Barry Jenkins*

Starring: *Trevante Rhodes, Naomie Harris*

The Golden Globe winner, **Moonlight** depicts the deeply personal journey of a young black man from childhood to adulthood, struggling to find his place in the world while growing up in the rough Miami projects. This coming-of-age, character-driven piece touches on themes of sexuality, identity, love, and friendship. A moving and emotionally charged film, it boasts outstanding performances from an ensemble cast. It may well be the best picture of 2017.

### BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Director: *Bill Condon*

Starring: *Emma Watson, Dan Stevens*

**Beauty and the Beast** is the upcoming live-action screen version of the Disney animated film of 25 years ago. A romantic musical fantasy, it is an adaptation of a classic fairy tale. The heroine Belle is taken prisoner by an intimidating Beast in his enchanted castle but learns to look beyond his fierce appearance. The original animated film spawned a Broadway musical in the 90s. Bill Condon has brought back original composer Alan Menkon to reinvigorate old favourites and introduce 3 new songs. Bill Condon has promised dark elements amongst the princess stuff and romantic ballads. A magical film for ages from 8 to 80!



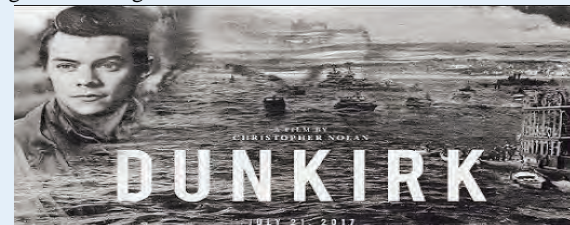
### PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: SALAZAR'S REVENGE

Director: *Joachim Ronning and Espen Sandberg*

Starring: *Jonny Depp, Javier Bardem, Orlando Bloom*

Johnny Depp returns to the big screen in the summer months as the iconic, swashbuckling anti-hero Jack Sparrow in the all-new **Pirates of the Caribbean: Salazar's Revenge**. What was once original and inventive, The Pirate franchise has gradually become a little tired and formulaic. Depp's star power has been waning in recent times too. Has he still got the pulling power and magnetism of the earlier films?

Producer Jerry Bruckheimer has promised that the latest outing in the **Pirates** franchise harkens back to the spirit and days of **The Curse of the Black Pearl** as well as regulars, Depp and Geoffrey Rush, **Pirates 5** will bring back Orlando Bloom as Will Turner. The trump card, though, may well be Javier Bardem's vengeful and ghoulish villain, Captain Salazar. With an Oscar-winning villain and the promise of spectacular set-pieces this could just be the **Pirates** film to recapture the magic of the original film.



### DUNKIRK

Director: *Christopher Nolan*

Starring: *Tom Hardy, Mark Rylance, Kenneth Branagh*

Written, co-produced, and directed by Christopher Nolan, **Dunkirk** will hit Irish cinemas in the summer. It is Christopher Nolan's (**Batman**) eagerly anticipated WW2 Film about the extraordinary mass evacuation of allied soldiers from the beaches of Dunkirk in 1940. Nolan promises to bring an epic sweep to proceedings and the film boasts an outstanding cast of British acting pedigree from Tom Hardy to Mark Rylance and Kenneth Branagh. It also marks the acting debut of a certain Harry Styles of **One Direction** fame.



### BLADE RUNNER 2049

Director: *Denis Villeneuve*

Starring: *Ryan Gosling, Harrison Ford*

French-Canadian director Denis Villeneuve takes up the baton for this long-awaited sequel to the 1982 cult sci-fi classic, **Blade Runner**. With its haunting central mystery and pulp-noir visuals, Ridley Scott's original film is a giant of the sci-fi fantasy genre. Set 30 years after the first film it stars man of the moment, Ryan Gosling as a LA police officer on a quest to discover the fate of Harrison Ford's former police officer and blade runner, Rick Deckard. Will it be finally revealed if Ford's character is a 'replicant' or not? The dynamic pairing of Gosling and Ford should make for commanding viewing.

### THE SNOWMAN

Director: *Tomas Alfredson*

The winter months will witness some Nordic intrigue on the big screen. Irish actor Michael Fassbender stars as maverick Norwegian detective Harry Hole in a screen version of one of Jo Nesbo's best-selling crime novels. The classy Rebecca Ferguson provides Scandinavian allure and support to Fassbender. Tomas Alfredson (Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy) directs a tale involving the hunt for Norway's first serial killer. It begins with the disappearance of a woman, and the subsequent discovery of her scarf wrapped around a sinister snowman. If successful, it could open the way for more Fassbender sleuthing in snowy landscapes.





# 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**



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

## Postgraduate Open Evening 21st February 2017

- Talk to Departments about postgraduate options
- Attend postgraduate information sessions
- Talk to SUSI about postgraduate grants
- Launch of masters scholarships 2017
- Find out about research scholarships

**Time:** 4pm - 8pm

**Location:** Pugin and Renehan Halls

**Register to attend:** [www.maynoothuniversity.ie/postgrad](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/postgrad)



**Maynooth  
University**  
National University  
of Ireland Maynooth

