

With best wishes for a **Happy Christmas**
& **A Prosperous New Year** from



Maynooth Newsletter

Serving the people of Maynooth



Dec/Jan 16/17

Local News

Issue No. 453

FREE

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

Shop Till You Drop In Maynooth This Christmas and Keep Our Town Working

Shorter days, frosty mornings, Christmas preparations are once again well under way. The annual season of giving and receiving is upon us. This is the perfect opportunity to support our local shops in Maynooth. By doing so, people will be helping the local economy, ensuring the safety of local jobs and generating a "feel good" factor especially in the retail and hospitality sectors.

Shop 'til you drop' in Maynooth! There are plenty of boutiques, coffee shops, and gift shops to explore alongside the larger department stores. We are truly spoilt for choice and variety. Maynooth offers everything you need for the complete Christmas shopping experience on your own doorstep. You will be sure to find everything you are looking for here in Maynooth. So take the stress out of shopping and stay local this year, avoiding the cost of travel, expensive parking, overcrowded shopping centres and lengthy queues.

When your shopping is complete in Maynooth, please feel free to visit a wide selection of pubs and restaurants for a bite to eat or a beverage. With Maynooth night life thriving be sure to check out one of our many lively venues over the Christmas. In Maynooth we also have an excellent train, bus and taxi service to take you to your destination, be safe leave the car and use the services provided. The Christmas period is particularly vital, so I would urge everyone to eat, drink and shop locally this festive season to support local businesses.



New Year's Eve 1916 Flag Ceremony



The 1916 centenary commemorations will come to a close in Maynooth on New Year's Eve with a flag ceremony in the town square at 3pm. The ceremony will include the lowering of the 'Maynooth 15' flag which has been flying in Maynooth every day for the centenary year. A guard of honour will render honours and a bugler from Maynooth band will sound the last post. Fr Liam Rigney PP who blessed the flag on its commissioning, will say prayers in memory of the Maynooth 15.

Following the ceremony Maynooth scouts will have an alter fire in the square and, on behalf of the Maynooth 1916 centenary committee, mulled wine and hot chocolate will be served free as a 'thank you' to the people of Maynooth for their support throughout the year.

All are welcome.



Aonach

na

NOLLAG

Christmas Fair

Saturday 10th December - 12 - 5pm

Maynooth Education Campus

(Post Primary School)

**Arts and crafts, cakes and bakes,
music, song, dance and much more...**

*** Bring your letters to Santa ***

Raffle tickets for an array of prizes will be on sale

Come along for a family fun festive day out!

Enquiries to maynoothfest15@gmail.com

Organised by

Maynooth Community Council's Festival & Events Committee



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



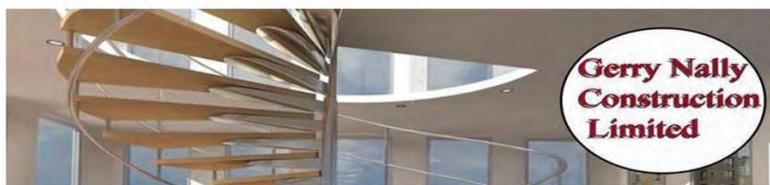
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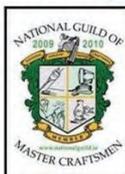
WITH A LOG FIRE CHRISTMAS CHEER & MOUTHWATERING CUISINE, WHAT MORE CAN YOU ASK FOR....
OH, AND THE BEST COCKTAILS YOU'VE EVER TASTED!

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Maud's Home & Office are looking for service-oriented individuals for our Home Service Professional roles. In this role you will have the opportunity to help our customers with their busy schedules by providing top-notch home cleaning customized to their liking. Those that succeed in this role enjoy working independently, helping people, and have an attention to detail. Contact 01-4011901- Website: www.housecleaning.ie

*To all KBC Customers,
we wish you a Merry
Christmas from all the
staff in the Maynooth Hub*

CHRISTMAS HOURS

FRIDAY DECEMBER 23RD	9AM - 5.30PM
SATURDAY DECEMBER 24TH	CLOSED
SUNDAY DECEMBER 25TH	CLOSED
MONDAY DECEMBER 26TH	CLOSED
TUESDAY DECEMBER 27TH	CLOSED
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 28TH	CLOSED
THURSDAY DECEMBER 29TH	9AM - 5.30PM
FRIDAY DECEMBER 30TH	9AM - 5.30PM
SATURDAY DECEMBER 31ST	9AM - 2PM
MONDAY JANUARY 2ND	CLOSED

WE WILL REOPEN FROM TUESDAY JANUARY 3RD BUSINESS AS USUAL

 **Drop into Manor Mills Shopping Centre, Maynooth**



01 513 1040



kbc.ie

Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee



Our Sale of Work was a huge success again this year. We made a clear profit of €10,359.95. Many thanks to all who supported us on the run up to the big day and all who came to help on the day of the sale. We are indebted to Johnny Nevin for the use of their hall this year at Maynooth Post Primary School. A big thank you to Caroline, Mark, Paul, Sean and Gerry for their tremendous work on our behalf.

Congratulations to all who won prizes on the day. Our Monster Hamper was won by John Kavanagh, Des Tierney won €200 and €100 was won by P. Clarke. In other draws Sheila Downey won the 32" TV and Margaret Loane won the Portable DVD player. Among other winners were Cliodhna Buckley, Margaret Nolan, Shelley O'Riordan, Patrick Behan, Jean Sweeney, John Flynn, Ita Sing, Paul Byrne and Philomena Clinton. Ticket sales for our Monster Draw were bigger than ever this year and I thank Supervalu and Manor Mills for making this happen. Thank you also to our sponsors, Frank Walsh, Gerard & Siobhan Mc Myler, Willie Kiernan, Thornton's recycling and Sean Donovan. A special word of thanks has to go to our young scouts who helped to prepare the hall, sold tickets on the day and then put the school back together again when it was all over. These are a group of wonderful young people who give of their time in the interest of our Senior Citizens. In a climate where our youth get such bad press their parents and scout leaders have reason to be proud. When you put it all together it is community spirit at its best.

Our next event is on Dec. 4th at 3pm when Casey's Supervalu Maynooth will once again host an afternoon of entertainment fine food and shopping for our Senior Citizens.

Our final event will be our Annual Dinner which will take place on Dec. 18th at 4pm in the Glenroyal Hotel. So Make sure you have your name in by Dec. 6th.

Finally may I express our deepest sympathy to the families of all our Senior Citizens who passed away this year, not least our oldest citizen Mary Holmes. Ar Deis De go raibh a Anam

Josephine Moore - Chairperson.



30-minute
full body
workout



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Training
and cardio



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coaching



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for women

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Friday night Music in Bar 9pm

Saturday night Music in Lounge 9pm

**Sunday
Evening
Session
6.00 - 8.30pm**



**Food
Served
All Day**

James Lawless TD

Kildare North Representative

My Maynooth Constituency Office is open
Every Monday from 9am to 4pm.
(Just off Doctors Lane, Maynooth)
No need for appointment
Just drop by

Tel: 016183587

Mob: 0868348869

Email: james@jameslawless.ie

Web: www.jameslawless.ie



A Merry Christmas
to all my Constituents



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“See our quality, taste
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Sat -8am - 6pm
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Mulcahy Family Butchers

Wish all our Customers a very Happy Christmas & a Prosperous New Year
Gerry, Tom, David & Caroline



Happy Christmas & Prosperous New Year To All
From The Executive & Members
of Maynooth Community Council

Merry
Christmas

St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band

Our annual mass for deceased members on 13th November was a lovely occasion and there was an extended round of applause from the congregation at the end of the mass which was greatly appreciated. Two other events in November at which we played were Tesco's Customer Evening on the 22nd and Santa's arrival to Manor Mills on 26th.



December is shaping up to be a really busy month with our Annual Concert in the Aula Maxima in Maynooth College on Sunday 4th at 7.30pm with a nominal admission fee of €5 for Adults with free admission for children and Senior Citizens.

On Saturday 10th we play at the opening of Aonach Na Nollag in the Post Primary School and we expect to be once again playing a part in the Church of Ireland Carol Service in the lead up to Christmas.

As had been the tradition for many, many years the Band will be playing Christmas music in various locations in the town on 22nd, 23rd and 24th so please watch out for us and if you have anything left after your Christmas shopping it couldn't go towards a better cause than Maynooth Band.

On Christmas morning the Band will be continuing a tradition that has survived for decades when they play some Christmas music outside the Church after 11.30 Mass. Hopefully the weather will be kinder than it was a few years ago when it was so cold that our instruments froze up.

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.

Finally we would like to extend a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year to all our friends and supporters in Maynooth.

Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

From 20/10/16 to 25/11/16 - information from Kildare County Council Website

App. Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	Application Date
161223	Kildare County Council	Laura Grashorn	32 Castlepark Avenue, Dunboyne Road, Maynooth	24/11/2016
161219	Kildare County Council	Andrew Morgan	Laraghbryan West, Kilcock Road, Maynooth	23/11/2016
161162	Kildare County Council	Laura Grashorn	23 Castlepark Avenue, Dunboyne Road, Maynooth	09/11/2016
161157	Kildare County Council	Kilcawley Building and Civil Engineering (Sligo) Ltd.	Block J, Maynooth Business Camp, Maynooth	08/11/2016
161153	Kildare County Council	Kelston Properties Ltd	Greenfield, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	07/11/2016
161144	Kildare County Council	Mycete Homes Ltd	Moyglare Hall, Mariavilla, Maynooth	04/11/2016
161126	Kildare County Council	Brid-Ann & Ciaran Reilly	Smithstown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	28/10/2016
161106	Kildare County Council	Padraig and Ger O'Leary,	114 Leinster Wood South, Carton Demesne, Maynooth	21/10/2016

Editorial

As the Italian poet, Cesare Pavese wrote, "We do not remember days we remember moments"; we will all have moments that will frame our memories of 2016. For me, one of the most concerning moments was when I attended the meeting about the campaign for more community policing in the town.

I was surprised to hear our very experienced public representatives tell the meeting that the decision on the allocation of Gardai is made by the Garda Commissioner, Ms. Noreen O'Sullivan and that she did not have the control over where Gardai were allocated because the policing policy is that local Garda management would not suffer reduced numbers in their divisions so that the clear under provision of Gardai in Kildare could be addressed.

I was always of the impression that the boss made the decisions but clearly not in An Garda Siochana. The only positive thing that I heard at that meeting was that the new Policing Authority might be able to force the Garda Commissioner to provide more Gardai in Kildare. Kildare has the lowest ratio of Gardai per population numbers so well done to the group who are keeping a focus on this issue. It looks as if this one has more time to run.

Meanwhile, there are other factors that should be considered when we are thinking about public safety. For me, I have a concern about the poor quality of public lighting in Maynooth, most especially in the residential estates. There are far too few public lights in many estates and in many cases their value is diminished by the proximity of large trees blocking the lighting.

My own opinion on this is that there is a need for a comprehensive review of public lighting in estates and an urgent need to supplement it where necessary. Again we are now paying large Property Tax bills and it is time that this money was spent on something that is badly needed. Good lighting deters crime and anti-social behaviour. Maynooth is a unique town where a high proportion of the population are transient so it is not easy to know the majority of people that you come into contact with. As Michael Conrad the American character actor who appeared frequently on television and was best known for his recurring role as the desk sergeant Phil Esterhaus on "Hill Street Blues" would say – Let's be careful out there.

While those of us able to celebrate the festive season are entitled to a time of year that is special for most of us, it is appropriate to think of those around us and elsewhere for which 2016 is a year that they would prefer to forget. I am thinking in particular for people who suffered tragedies especially when they arrive unexpectedly, as well as those who have lost a family member or are living with concerns for their own health or that of another member of their family. Also this is a time of the year to reach out to others such as your neighbours especially if they have lived close to you and you have not yet had any contact. Best Wishes to you all for the festive season and the year ahead.

Paul Croghan - Editor

MAYNOOTH NEWSLETTER INTERVIEW WITH JOHN KAVANAGH CHAIRMAN OF MAYNOOTH TIDY TOWNS

What Tidy Towns Volunteers do?

They generally do tidy ups- flower and bulb planting – litter picks, painting of bollards-fences-derelict buildings etc. Graffiti removal- grass cutting- anything that improves the look of our town – river cleans ups. Bird and Bat boxes etc.

When do they meet?

This is all done on a voluntary basis Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays meeting in the Courthouse Square, you will be notified by text or just turn up, you can come whenever suits- no roll call, some more younger Volunteers needed- grey hair not a necessity – but sense of humour is needed. Fully insured whilst on duty. For further information ring...087 3153189.

How do you raise your funding?

Our annual collection takes place each May at Supermarkets and Church gates Proceeds go to pay for hanging baskets, flower beds, insurance, equipment, petrol/machinery. Also we receive donations from various businesses which are used to purchase tools, gloves, Mutt Mitts (Dog bags), black bags, paint and timber and pay for the recycling of Green waste. Kildare County Council over the years have given us Grants towards projects e.g. Japanese Knotweed, Name stones, and Biodiversity. We have entered a number of competitions and won prize money which was spent on Big Belly Compactors and planters. As you walk around Maynooth you can see a number of flower beds that have been sponsored by various businesses and organisations are planted with Bee and Butterfly friendly plants. This project we hope will be taken up and extended in residential areas.

New category for 2017 National Tidy Towns Competition?

National Tidy Towns Competition 2017. We are in a new category this is because of increased population as per latest census (over 15,000).

It is our target to try and maintain our Gold Medal and this will need a concerted effort by Local Businesses, Kildare County Council, Litter wardens and of course the general public.

Is there much damage done?

It is soul destroying for our volunteers to see damage to our projects e.g. 3 barrel planters were stolen during the month of November. On occasions plants have been removed from planters or flower beds. Other damage done e.g. Graffiti around the town and wheelie bins and also flower planters, removed and thrown into the river. Signage taken from a number of our projects. We thank all from Maynooth University who help to clean up after their Colleagues social events (Christmas day party etc.), and hope more will follow their example.

Campaign for 7 day clean ups?

Thanks to all who contacted Kildare County Council or their Local Councillor in our campaign to get 7 day cleaning for Maynooth. We plan to meet with the some members of Maynooth Business Association, Local Councillors and other interested parties in December and to develop a Litter and environment strategy for Maynooth.

Projects for 2017?

We are always open to ideas/ suggestions for projects from the public.Ring us on 087 3153189. You can find us on Facebook or write to us care of Maynooth Community Council.

**NOBODY CAN DO EVERYTHING
BUT EVERYONE CAN DO SOMETHING**



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth

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

Information is also available online at www.citizensinformation.ie and from the Citizens Information Phone Service - 0761 07 4000 or Lo-call 1890777121

Christmas Bonus

Question

I'm getting a social welfare payment. Will I get a Christmas Bonus?

Answer

The Christmas Bonus is paid to people getting a long-term social welfare payment. Long-term social welfare payments include the following:

- State Pensions and Widow's/Widower's/Surviving Civil Partner's Pensions
- Invalidity Pension, Blind Pension, Disability Allowance, Carer's Allowance, Carer's Benefit, Domiciliary Care Allowance and guardian's payments
- Jobseeker's Transitional payment, One Parent Family Payment, Farm Assist, Deserted Wife's Benefit and Allowance
- Community Employment, Rural Social Scheme, Tús, Gateway, Back to Work Enterprise Allowance and Job Initiative
- Back to Education Allowance (BTEA), VTOS and Further Education and Training (FET) training allowance (people coming from jobseeker's payments must have been on their payment and/or BTEA or VTOS or FET training allowance for 15 months)

For Jobseeker's Allowance or Basic Supplementary Welfare Allowance, you must be getting the payment for 15 months to get a Christmas Bonus.

In 2016 the Christmas Bonus will be 85% of your normal weekly payment (including the Living Alone Increase, the Island Allowance and the Over-80 Increase). Fuel Allowance is not included when calculating the Christmas Bonus. The minimum Christmas Bonus payment is €20.

For Domiciliary Care Allowance (DCA), which is paid monthly, the bonus is 85% of the **weekly** payment. The DCA portion of the bonus is calculated independently of other payments. So, for example, if you are getting DCA for one child, 85% of the weekly payment is €60.70.

Holidays at Christmas

Question

I work full-time, Monday to Friday. What days off will I get at Christmas?

Answer

Christmas Day (25 December), St Stephen's Day (26 December) and New Year's Day (1 January) are public holidays every year.

In 2016 Christmas Day falls on a Sunday and St Stephen's Day falls on a Monday. New Year's Day 2017 falls on a Sunday.

Where a public holiday falls on a weekend, you do not have any automatic legal entitlement to have the **next** working day off work. This means that, for example, Tuesday 27 December 2016 is not a public holiday. Your employer can require you to attend work on that day. Your public holiday entitlement for Christmas Day will be one of the following:

- A paid day off within a month of the public holiday
- An additional day of annual leave
- An additional day's pay

Under the Organisation of Working Time Act 1997, you may ask your employer, at least 21 days before a public holiday, which of the alternatives will apply to you. Your employer should respond to you at least 14 days before the public holiday. In practice, many employers will give employees Tuesday 27 December and Monday 2 January off in lieu of Christmas Day and New Year's Day – but it is important to remember that this is not an automatic entitlement.

You can find out more about public holidays in the **Explanatory Booklet on Holidays and Public Holidays (pdf)** which is available from the Workplace Relations Commission website, workplacerelements.ie.

If you do not get your public holiday entitlement, you may make a complaint under the Organisation of Working Time Act within 6 months of the dispute or complaint occurring. You must use the online complaint form available on **workplacerelements.ie**.

Tenants with landlords living abroad

Question

Our landlady lives in Spain and we pay rent into her bank account. Is it true that we need to collect the tax she is liable for?

Answer

Yes, if you pay rent directly to a landlord (or landlady) who lives abroad, you must deduct tax from the rent and account for it to Revenue, whether by paying it to Revenue or by reducing your tax credits. You deduct the tax at the standard rate (20% at present) from the gross amount of rent that you pay. This deduction is not your tax relief – it is tax payable to Revenue from your landlady's income.

Say, for example, you pay gross monthly rent of €1,500 directly to your landlady. The amount of tax to deduct is 20% of €1,500, which is €300. Subtract this from the gross rent to get net monthly rent of €1,200. You pay this to your landlady. The amount due to Revenue is the €300 per month that you deducted.

(The situation is different for a tenant who pays rent through an agent to a landlord living abroad. In this situation, you do not deduct tax from the rent. The landlord's collection agent must account for it in an annual tax return.)

You must account to Revenue for the tax that you deduct from the gross rent. If you fail to deduct the tax and account for it, this will mean that you (not your landlady) will be liable for any tax that should have been deducted.

If you pay tax under PAYE, you can account for it by reducing your tax credits and Standard Rate Cut-Off Point. You can notify your local Revenue Office and ask them to arrange this. Alternatively, you can make a tax return on **Form 12 (pdf)** and pay the retained amount to Revenue.

If you pay tax under self-assessment, you should include the details of your rent with your annual return on **Form 11 (pdf)**. A notice of assessment will then issue to you, showing your reduced tax credits.

At the end of the year you must give your landlady a completed **Certificate of Income Tax Deducted - Form R185 (pdf)**.

Buying goods online

Question

I have ordered a few presents from a Belgian website. Can I return them if I'm not happy with them when they arrive?

Answer

Online purchases within the EU are covered by the EU Directive on Consumer Rights. Under this Directive you are entitled to a cooling-off period of 14 days. During the cooling-off period, you can cancel distance contracts such as online purchases without giving a reason and without incurring charges or penalties, other than possible charges incurred in returning the goods. The 14-day cooling-off period begins on the day that you receive the goods.

Upon cancellation, the distance seller is obliged to repay you within 14 days, including delivery costs. If you chose a more expensive type of delivery than the seller's cheapest standard delivery, you are only entitled to be refunded the

cost of the cheaper delivery type. The seller can withhold the repayment until the goods are returned or until you supply evidence that you have sent the goods back.

You must send the goods back within 14 days of informing the seller of the cancellation. You have to pay for the cost of returning them, unless the seller did not inform you before you ordered the goods that you would have to bear the cost.

The seller should have provided you with confirmation of the contract, as well as information on aftersales and guarantees, how to cancel the contract and a postal address for complaints. If the seller did not provide you with information on your right to cancel, the cooling-off period can be extended by 12 months.

Cancellation may not be accepted in certain cases, for example, if the goods were made especially for you.

Flu vaccination

Question

I have been told I need to get a flu vaccine. Can I get it for free?

Answer

Influenza, usually known as the flu, is highly infectious and anyone can get it. However some groups are at greater risk of complications if they get the flu. This includes people over the age of 65, pregnant women and people who have a chronic medical condition.

The flu vaccine can help protect you from getting the flu. The flu virus changes every year and this is why there is a new vaccine each year. Vaccination is strongly recommended if you:

- Are aged 65 and over
- Have a long-term medical condition such as diabetes, heart, kidney, liver, lung or neurological disease
- Have an impaired immune system due to disease or treatment
- Have a body mass index (BMI) over 40
- Are pregnant
- Live in a nursing home or other long-stay institution
- Are a carer or a healthcare worker
- Have regular contact with poultry, water fowl or pigs

You can get the vaccine from your GP (family doctor) or pharmacist. Children can get the vaccine from a GP. The vaccine itself is free of charge if you are in one of the recommended groups. However, doctors and pharmacists may charge a consultation fee when they give you the vaccine.

If you have a medical card or GP visit card you can get the vaccine without being charged a consultation fee.

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.
GH & TH**

Maynooth Labour News

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

Local Property Tax (LPT) Discretionary €645,389 Allocation to be Agreed for Maynooth Municipal District (MD)

Cllr. John McGinley has proposed that the following works be funded from the LPT Discretionary Fund of €645,389:

- Proper drainage and surfacing of the road behind house numbers 826 to 837 Old Greenfield, Maynooth. As I pointed out in my Motion to the MD meeting on 20 October this Back Lane is used by all of the residents for access to their houses. Most of these residents are Senior Citizens and the Back Lane is hazardous for them in its present state.
- Resurface the footpath from house 351 to 342 (down as far as the bollards), Old Greenfield, as it is in a very poor condition.
- The footpaths in other areas of Old Greenfield need re-surfacing
- Resurface the footpath from Beaufield to the Health Board houses on Newtown Road as it is a very poor condition. As you know this footpath is highly pedestrianised.
- Put double yellow lines in Silken Vale as per the email from the Residents' Association dated 8 November. Also, a single white line down the middle of the road to the blind corner on the way into the estate.
- Move the pedestrian lights from the existing position in Straffan Village to the Straffan Inn location as per my motion to the MD meeting on 9 November.
- Provide a bus shelter on the New Road (School Road), Straffan
- Include Maynooth as one of the two towns in MD for the Health Check Initiative/Public Realm Plan.
- Extension of the wall at the right hand side entrance to Greenfield Estate (Greenfield Shopping Centre) in order to help prevent anti-social behaviour at this location.

Update on Cllr. John McGinley's Motion Seeking Funding for Maynooth Ring Road

The Chief Executive of Kildare County Council, Peter Carey, has applied to the Government for €7m from the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund. This includes €20m for the Maynooth Eastern Ring Road from Dublin Road to the Straffan Road.

Cllr. McGinley Gets Safety Improvements at the Boys School, Maynooth

As a result of Cllr. John McGinley's motion to the Maynooth MD bollards have been erected on the footpath from the Boys School to the entrance to the Post Primary School. This will prevent motorists from parking on the footpath and improve safety for pedestrians.

Cllr. McGinley Seeks Access to the New Road for the Existing Houses Rear Garden Houses in Old Greenfield

Cllr. McGinley got the following reply to his motion:

The Planning permission is a live permission relating to a housing development at Old Greenfield, Maynooth, and is essentially an extension of duration to a previous permission, extending the planning period to 29 October 2018.

The applicant / developer has until this time to take up his permission. 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 has asked the Director of Planning to take an active interest to ensure that the houses have

access to the new road as Planners gave permission for the road and the houses. It is therefore Kildare County Council Planners responsibility to overcome this serious problem.

Cllr. McGinley Calls for Seven Day Street Cleaning for Maynooth.

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 20 October:

"That a seven day street cleaning service be provided by the council in Maynooth."

John got the following reply:

"A submission has forwarded to Finance Section to include an increase in funding to provide for an extra street sweeping services in Maynooth. This can be considered in the context of Budget 2017."

John made the point that Maynooth is unique being the only University town in Ireland and when students are included Maynooth has a population of 24,000. So, a five day street cleaning is not good enough for such a population. John also pointed out that Maynooth had a six day cleaning service up to 2012.

The Director of Services has advised Cllr. McGinley that there is an additional €4,000 allocated countywide in the Budget for street sweeping and that there are ongoing discussions between the Roads Section and the Environment Section on how much of this will be allocated for Maynooth.

Cllr McGinley Seeks Directional Signage for Public Car Park in Maynooth

Cllr. McGinley has made the following submission to the Council:

"Directional signage is badly needed for the public car park in Maynooth. It is especially needed for strangers to the town as they don't know that it exists and that is half empty most of the time."

This issue was discussed by the Director of Services in relation to Naas at the SPC meeting on 3 November."

Stagg Welcomes Re-Invitation of Tenders for Maynooth Education Campus

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has welcomed confirmation from the Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board that Tenders were invited from pre-qualified contractors for the Maynooth Education Campus Project on Friday October 28th.

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.

10 contractors who came through the pre-qualification process for contractors have been requested to submit tenders for the project.

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 first quarter of 2017.

Hands Off Free Travel - Stagg

Reacting to the Review compiled by the National Transport Authority and Iarnrod Eireann to examine possible solutions for the Financial Stability of Iarnrod Eireann, Labour Spokesperson on Older People Emmet Stagg has condemned the suggestion in the Review that the Free Travel Scheme should be reformed to save money.

Mr. Stagg stated that there is no doubt there is a serious funding crisis within Iarnrod Eireann, but Government Ministers Leo Vardakar T.D. and Shane Ross T.D.

should immediately move to dismiss any suggestion that the Free Travel Scheme will be reformed. They need to be clear that there will be no changes to the existing scheme and if that means stumping up an additional €6 Million per year to cover the actual cost of the scheme to Iarnrod Eireann, then so be it.

It is estimated that 4.6 Million passenger journeys in 2016 will avail of Free Travel on Rail Services and this in itself shows how popular the scheme is with Older People. It gives them the opportunity to see parts of the Country that they may not have seen before and gives them an opportunity to travel with friends for outings, an important social service in preventing isolation. Using commuter services also allows older people to get on with their daily routine. We want to encourage the use of Public Transport not put obstacles in the way of Older People stated Mr. Stagg.

In conclusion Emmet Stagg again called on Ministers Varadkar and Ross to explicitly state that there will be no changes to the Free Travel Scheme to remove the fears of Older People.

Stagg Calls on McEntee to Publish Proposals on National Positive Ageing Strategy.

Labour Spokesperson on Older People Emmet Stagg has called on the Minister of State at the Department of Health, Helen McEntee T.D., to publish their new implementation proposal for the National Positive Ageing Strategy.

Mr. Stagg stated 'We have a Blueprint for age related policy and service delivery in Ireland, the National Positive Ageing Strategy which was published in 2013. The Strategy offers a positive view of ageing and does not limit its remit to health issues, but rather looks at how to improve quality of life, promote independent living and deliver greater opportunities for older people. Disappointingly the specific Implementation of the National Positive Ageing Strategy was not included in the 'Programme for Partnership Government', stated Mr. Stagg.

'My colleague Joan Burton T.D., at my request, questioned Minister McEntee on the Strategy recently in the Dail and Minister McEntee responded as follows: *As the Deputy may be aware my Department is developing a new implementation proposal for the National Positive Ageing Strategy. This plan proposes mechanisms to facilitate the identification by NGO stakeholders of their policy priorities, along with regular on-going structured engagement between relevant State Agencies and stakeholders on the key issues so identified. The details of the above will be finalised shortly.'*

Concluding Labour Spokesperson on Older People Emmet Stagg stated that Groups advocating on behalf of Older people want to see how this implementation process will work and it was important that the proposals were published as soon as possible.

Cllr. McGinley Asks for The Square, Maynooth to be Repaired

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 9 November:

"When will the council replace the tarmacadam and the broken flags on the Square in Maynooth with proper flagstones?"

John was given the following reply:

"The municipal district office is in discussions with Gas Networks Ireland about the restoration of this section of the Square."

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

Allocation of New Gardaí perpetuates Garda Manning Shortfall in Kildare - Stagg

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has condemned the number of newly attested Gardaí assigned to the Kildare Division since the re-opening of the Garda Training College in Templemore in September 2014.

Mr. Stagg stated that since the re-opening of the College 534 recruits have been assigned to various Garda Divisions throughout the State. Of these 25 recruits, or 4.7% have been assigned to the Kildare Division. The population of Kildare makes up 4.7% of the State's population. So allocations to date of new recruits are having no impact on the fact that we have the worst ratio of Gardaí to population in the State, of 1:751.

If we are to reduce this unacceptable under manning of Garda Manpower in the Kildare Division, we have to be assigned greater numbers over and above our current percentage of the State's population. What we have here is an effective standstill situation. We may be getting a correct percentage of allocations by population now, but this ignores the historical position of under manning.

The Commissioner accepted that there was an imbalance of Garda to population when I raised this issue with her in April 2015. The Commissioner pointed out that the moratorium on recruitment was a major obstacle to deploying additional resources to the Kildare Division. We now have recruitment, yet the imbalance is not been redressed.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that he will raise this serious issue again with the Garda Commissioner as we now have the opportunity to correct this wrong as the Garda Force is expected to grow to 15,000 members. If the correction is not implemented now it never will be.

Craobh Mhaigh Nuad C.C.E. are delighted to have been invited to participate in many community events leading up to the festive season. By the time this issue goes to print we will have participated in Scór, the Scouts Christmas Fair and the Enable Ireland Fundraiser. We will also be involved in Aonach na Nollag, Gaelscoil Ui Fhiaich Christmas Fair, a visit to the TLC Nursing home to entertain the residents, and the Tidy Towns gold medal celebration night.



Craobh Mhaigh Nuad

Add to this a branch outing to see Robin Hood presented by An Nuada Players in the Aula Maxima, and our branch Christmas Party and session in O'Neills on 14th December and you get a picture of the diverse range of activities in which our members involve themselves.

The committee wish to take this opportunity to thank our members who support the branch and help to promote our traditional music song and dance by voluntarily attending these events, and the parents of junior members who encourage their practice, attendance at classes and of course accompany them on these occasions. Your contributions are very much appreciated.

We acknowledge the assistance of our friends from the Rita Doyle School of dance and members of Push for Porter who regularly support us in our endeavours. We look forward to continued cooperation and friendship and the growth of Craobh Mhaigh Nuad and it's community involvement.

The final class for the term will be on 7th December, and classes resume on Wednesday 11th January 2017. Nollag shona daoibh go léir.

Maynooth Town FC Lotto Results 2016

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W/End	Numbers	Jackpot	3 x €35 Winners
02-Oct-16	15,16,27,28	€2,800	Declan Fitz - Mags O'Sullivan - Mary Murray
09-Oct-16	2,6,10,16	€2,850	Patrick Gilligan - Louise Mac Nevin - TJ Byrne
16-Oct-16	4,15,20,28	€2,900	Leisa Garvey - Mark Nolan - Dani/Dara/Amy
23-Oct-16	1,11,16,25	€2,950	Ellis Duffy - David Earls - Patrick Dunne
30-Oct-16	13,21,26,27	€3,000	Tina Gannon - Declan Fitzgerald - Bronagh Donovan
06-Nov-16	3,5,9,10	€3,050	Jenifer Sutton - Siobhan & Les Kellett - James Keegan
13-Nov-16	4,5,14,17	€3,100	Bernie Mooney - David Leavey - David Wright
20-Nov-16	3,18,22,27	€3,150	CHA' - Sean Mc Gowan - Joe Walsh

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Christmas Family Event in Maynooth Community Library

Mr. Podzo Christmas Event

Saturday 17th December, 2.30pm

Boys & Girls, this Christmas climb aboard The Polar Express and join in a Frozen sleigh ride of fun with entertainer Mr Podzo, as he makes one final stop before heading off to help in the North Pole!

Join Mr Podzo as he brings his Winter Wonderland Family Show to Maynooth with some cracking Christmas Surprises, Magical Activities, Sing-Along Stories and as rumour has it, to welcome a very special visit from the man himself... (but Mum's the word!)

Christmas jumpers optional but early booking is essential, as places for this event, I'm told, will go like, The Polar Express, FAST TRACK!

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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.

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.

Frank O'Rourke T.D. Kildare North

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

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

Extra Bus Service for Maynooth and Celbridge says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has been informed by Dublin Bus that it will now operate a new Sunday service on their Route 67 commencing on Sunday 27th of November.

'Dublin Bus have informed me that it will now operate a new Sunday service on Route 67 commencing on Sunday 27th of November next. The new service commences at 8.15am and operates every 30 mins until 20.50 and then reverts back to an hourly service.'

'As a councillor and now as a TD, I have regular interactions with Dublin Bus, Bus Eireann, National Transport Authority and Irish Rail. I continue to raise the importance of a regular and reliable public transport service for commuters in North Kildare.' Stated Deputy O'Rourke.

'We are making progress, improved bus service for Kilcock is now in place, we have a Park and Ride for Bus commuters planned for Kilcock, improved rail services for those using the Kildare line with the opening of Phoenix Park tunnel and the Kilcock and Naas rail commuters now have a fairer fare structure, and I have received assurances from the NTA that it will seek tenders for the Naas to Blanchardstown service, serving Clane, Rathcoffey and Maynooth, in the first quarter of 2017.'

'I will continue to make further representations of behalf of our public transport users and I welcome this new service for Maynooth and Celbridge on Route 67.' Concluded Deputy O'Rourke

Increased investment for mental health services needed says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, says his party is pushing hard for a significant increase in funding for mental health services. Deputy O'Rourke made his comments after contributing in the Dáil debate on the future of mental health services, based on a private members motion submitted by his party.

"Our arrangement with Fine Gael commits to the full implementation of the 'A Vision for Change' policy. This is regarded as a best practice approach in mental health policy terms. It remains a key priority for us to have the vision for change policies adopted. There has been significant under investment in mental health services in recent years and this practice must change." said Deputy O'Rourke.

"The July 2016 estimate from the Department of Health outlines that the required resources to fully implement 'A Vision for Change' is €77.3m, or €35.4m over five years. The funding committed by the Government for 2017 is just €15m, so a significant increase in mental health spending is needed."

"Fianna Fáil has made clear that mental health spending can't be put on the backburner, so it's time for the Government to outline their plan for mental health services.

"Apart from improving the person, improving the mental health of the population of Ireland is an essential foundation for economic and social recovery. As I said in the Dail earlier this year, over 450,000 people in Ireland experience depression at any one time and people with a mental health disability are 9 times more likely to be outside the labour force. 1 in 7 adults in Ireland will have experienced a mental health difficulty in the last year and 9% of the population aged 15 or over has a mental health problem according to the Healthy Ireland survey."

"Currently the Government allocates funding to mental health on a year to year basis, we need to see a multi

annual budget for mental health. Such a funding model would assist in putting mental health on a more solid funding foundation. Not having such a plan is preventing long term planning and development from taking place. Having a multi-annual budget and plan so that our mental health services can be developed with certainty must be a priority for Government." concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Making progress on Broadband Coverage – further progress needed says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has said today that he is continuing to keep the pressure on Eir in connection with the timelines for the rollout of their fibre broadband technology, in particular the fibre to the home (FTTH) technology, to many parts of North Kildare. He was speaking following a meeting with Eir's senior executives in Leinster House recently.

'Eir's relatively new FTTH (Fibre To the Home) technology is designed for rural areas where bringing copper wires from cabinets proves more difficult.' Stated Deputy O'Rourke.

'I continue to make representations to Eir in relation to securing adequate Broadband coverage for areas such as; Newtown, Broadford, Timahoe, Eadestown and Kilteel. By the end of March next, over 2,500 additional rural Kildare premises will be connected to broadband by the Fibre to the home technology (FTTH). 400 rural premises in the Maynooth area, 370 in Kilcock, 480 in Donadea, 520 in Straffan and 470 in Carbury are examples of the planned rollout for this year in rural Kildare.'

"Kilcock for example currently has 2,400 homes and businesses that have access to broadband speeds of up to 100Mb/s, with further connections planned. In Maynooth, 4,500 homes and businesses have access to speeds of up to 100Mb/s and a further 400 homes and businesses have been earmarked for fibre to the home by June 2017. Today in Celbridge, over 7,400 homes and businesses have access to speeds of up to 100Mb/s. An additional 150 premises are due to be covered by Eir's fibre to the home rollout by June 2017.' Stated Deputy O'Rourke.

Details of Eir's fibre broadband rollout plans for individual areas can be seen in more detail at www.fiberrollout.ie.

Tenders to be sought for New Bus Route linking Naas, Clane, Rathcoffey, Maynooth and Blanchardstown says Deputy O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has been informed by the National Transport Authority (NTA) that it is hoped to seek tenders for the proposed new Bus Service linking Naas, Clane, Rathcoffey, Maynooth, Blanchardstown and Blanchardstown Hospital.

'In April of this year, the NTA confirmed to me, following my presentations, that they would consider this bus service. I am delighted now, following further representations, that the NTA will seek tenders for this new service early in 2017.'

'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.'

'Linking these towns, and their services, will provide an important service for the people in the North Kildare area, improve the commercial activity in the towns and

ensure that more services and educational opportunities are available for all.'

'Since getting elected, I have been campaigning for improved public transport services for commuters in North Kildare. We have made progress on the Bus Service for Kilcock commuters, plans are in place for a Park and Ride at Kilcock and additional services planned for Leixlip bus commuters, address the fare structure anomaly for Kilcock rail commuters and provide 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.

O'Rourke presses for Additional Park and Ride places for Maynooth

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has called on the Government to increase the resources to Irish Rail to provide additional park and ride places for Maynooth Bus and Rail commuters.

'One of my first meetings when I got elected in February was in relation to public transport services. I was delighted that in April, the NTA put the provision of a bus service from Naas to Blanchardstown via Clane, Rathcoffey and Maynooth on its agenda which following my representations.'

'Progress has also been made in improving the Bus Service for Kilcock commuters and now we have made significant progress on providing a Park and Ride at Kilcock on the Old Galway Road. However, Maynooth needs more park and ride places and I believe that resources should be provided to increase the number of car parking places in Maynooth for public transport users.' Stated Deputy O'Rourke.

'Maynooth is served well by both Rail and Bus from a timetable perspective, but given the low cost of money, the Government should provide capital for extra park and ride places. I will be raising this matter in the Dáil.'

Street Sweeping For Towns In North Kildare

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has been informed by Kildare Co. Co. that street sweeping for towns in North Kildare is to be extended into weekends and will include Maynooth, Celbridge, Leixlip and Naas.

'In recent months, weekend street sweeping has been requested by tidy town committees, local businesses and community groups for towns of Maynooth, Celbridge, Leixlip and Naas.'

'Together with these groups, I made representations to Kildare Co. Co. and asked them to consider extending the street sweeping into the weekends.'

'Groups like the tidy towns and local businesses put in considerable efforts into keeping these towns clean and deserve great credit for their work. Putting in place a weekend street sweeping programme for these towns will provide assistance to these groups and give recognition to the valuable contribution they make to our community.'

'As I understand it, the environment and transport departments of Kildare Co Co are working together to agree how this programme can be best implemented, which I hope will commence in early 2017.' Concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

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**The Copy Date for the February Edition of the
Maynooth Newsletter is Tuesday 24th January**

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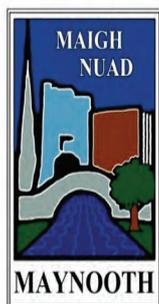
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Tidy Towns
Caring for our environment



We were presented with our National Tidy Towns Gold Medal and certificate by Michael Ring T.D. Minister of State for Regional Economic Development in Skerries at the Regional Awards Ceremony on 25th October, 2016. We were also presented with a National Pollinator Award at the same ceremony.

Maynooth Tidy Towns received an invitation from Kildare County Council to the County Awards in the IONTAS Building in Maynooth University on Tuesday 1st November 2016. A wonderful evening took place culminating with a certificate which was presented by the Mayor of Kildare Ivan Keatley to Tina Drury as our Local Hero. Well done Tina.

As in previous years Jim Doyle will be selling Christmas trees and wreaths at Buckley's House adjacent to the Garda Station. After Christmas please recycle your tree in Kildare County Council depot yard beside the Fire Station in Leinster St. Maynooth. Also remember to recycle your bottles and cans in Glenroyal shopping centre, Tesco and Aldi after Christmas.

The WEEE Ireland Collection of electrical goods and batteries will take place on 25th March 2017 in the Tesco Shopping Car Park.



On behalf of Maynooth Tidy Towns we wish Staff and readers of Maynooth Newsletter and all who supported us a very Happy Christmas and litter free New Year.

Richard Farrell
PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns
Mobile no.0873153189... Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter
Interview with John Kavanagh (Chairman) on page 6

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Drama News
An Nuadha Players
Community Theatre

Hi, to all our friends in Maynooth, by the time you read this you will be preparing for the Big Day. It is hard to believe that Jesus will be celebrating his 2016th Birthday. If he lived in Ireland, he would be eligible for the medical card, free travel and more than likely have a seat in Seanad Eireann. He would probably be homeless but for a chap who was born in a stable, I am sure he could handle the situation. He might be eligible to apply for one of the new homes being built by Lego. They're very versatile, you can turn them from a home into a soup kitchen or a hostel or a eurobuster at the drop of a hat. Smyth's Toys will supply the material / plans and every house built will get a free game of Monopoly to show where you could have lived, if you had saved up the 30 grand deposit instead of blowing it on food and clothes for your kids.



Martina Reilly
Best Play, Script and best Director

the ground running with her play "Breeding Lessons". Directed by Martina and starring (and I mean starring) Meadhb Fitzgibbon Moore and Tina O'Connor. A play that covers the stress of everyday life which at times can get out of control. It is also extremely funny. A play not to be missed when it comes round again.

So far, Martina's play has picked an Adjudicators Award – Best Script. Best Actress - Meadhb Fitzgibbon Moore . Best Director and Best Play Martina Reilly - Adjudicators Award – Design Team. 1st place – Ballina. 2nd – Manorhamilton 3rd - Goredbridge 3rd - Moate 3rd - Skerries.

Will not know until December how it all pans out. Insight Theatre Group are also on the circuit with "Love in a Glass Jar" Directed by Bill Elliffe. They so far came second in two festivals. Best Actress for Valerie Kennelly and best set design for Gayle Thompson.

This will be followed in December 8th/9th/10th/ 11th of our original Pantomime written for us by Martin Higgins "Robin Hood and his Occasionally Merry Man " Tickets Maynooth Book Shop or contact 086-8068068.

With all this activity, I think its safe say that Maynooth needs an Arts Centre/Theatre.

If you would like to submit a play to the group for possible production annuadhaplayers@gmail.com www.facebook.com/annuadha

Happy Christmas from all at An Nuadha Players
Terry Nealon



Meadhb Fitzgibbon Moore and Tina O'Connor
An Nuadha Players
Breeding Lessons



Meadhb Fitzgibbon Moore
Best Actress

Another original play from Rory Griffin called Blue Water was performed in the Castle and was picked up for the Galway Fringe Festival. My own play "Echoes from a Room" was presented to a full houses in May.

The All Ireland One Act Festival beckoned and Martina hit



Adjudicators Award
Design team - set





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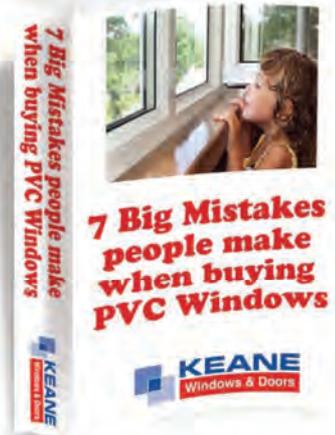
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Maynooth Newsletter

Copy date for the February edition of the Maynooth
Newsletter will be Tuesday 24th January 2017

**International bestselling author
Lorna Byrne
to host Christmas fundraiser in
Maynooth for children in desperate need.**



Photo by Elen
Kremer

Lorna Byrne, the international bestselling author who has written extensively about raising her family in Maynooth will host a special Christmas fundraiser at the Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth on Sunday 18th December 2016 from 2-5pm to raise funds for children in Ireland, Africa and Syria through the Lorna Byrne Children's Foundation.

Limited tickets are available from www.lornabyrne.com priced €10 - €25.

Christmas with Lorna will include a mulled wine reception followed by light lunch, live music including Tony Savino (a.k.a Barry Smith), Christmas demonstrations, a Grand Raffle and for children a visit from Santa with goodie bags, face painting & art corner.

All of the proceeds from **Christmas with Lorna** will go to the Lorna Byrne Children's Foundation chosen charities for 2016. The Lorna Byrne Children's Foundation supports a diverse range of organisations who are changing the lives of vulnerable children around the world for the better. Children who are suffering due to war, devastation, poverty or illness.

Speaking about helping children Lorna said "You only have to turn on the news to see how much children, both here in Ireland and right across the world, are suffering. The time for us to reach out and help children is now and I am hoping that as many people as possible can join me for what will be a gorgeous festive afternoon out for everyone, young and old".

All of the proceeds from Christmas with Lorna will go to the Lorna Byrne Children's Foundation chosen charities for 2016.

About the Lorna Byrne Children's Foundation

In Ireland and abroad there are millions of children who, due to war, devastation, poverty, or illness are in desperate need. The foundation's aim is to give a helping hand to a number of charities who are already working tirelessly to change the lives of these children for the better.

In 2016, the Lorna Byrne Children's Foundation will support:

1. APA (A Partnership with Africa) - www.apa.ie
2. Blue Box - www.bluebox.ie
3. Unicef Ireland's Syria Appeal - www.unicef.ie

All proceeds will be split equally between the three charities.

For more information and to purchase tickets please visit www.lornabyrne.com



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12.00pm - 5.00pm

Don't miss Santa arriving at 1.00pm

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ROYAL CANAL AMENITY GROUP CHRISTMAS RECOVERY WALK

The Royal Canal Amenity Group (RCAG) is holding a Christmas "Recovery Walk"

Assemble at Maynooth Harbour at 11.30 am on Tuesday 27th December. We will proceed via the Main Street to Carton Avenue, into Carton Estate and over to Pike Bridge for some "R & R" (Rest and Recreation) and then proceeding along the Canal to Maynooth Harbour.

IRISH CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

Ireland, like most countries, has a number of Christmas traditions that are all of its own. Many of these customs have their root in the time when the Gaelic culture and religion of the country were being suppressed and it is perhaps because of that they have survived into modern times.

THE CANDLE IN THE WINDOW



The placing of a lighted candle in the window of a house on Christmas eve is still practised today. It has a number of purposes but primarily it was a symbol of welcome to Mary and Joseph as they travelled looking for shelter.

The candle also indicated a safe place for priests to perform mass as, during Penal Times this was not allowed.

A further element of the tradition is that the candle should be lit by the youngest member of the household and only be extinguished by a girl bearing the name 'Mary'.

THE LADEN TABLE



After evening meal on Christmas eve the kitchen table was again set and on it was placed a loaf of bread filled with caraway seeds and raisins, a pitcher of milk and a large lit candle. The door to the house was left unlatched so that

Mary and Joseph, or any wandering traveller, could avail of the welcome.

THE WREN BOY PROCESSION



During Penal Times there was once a plot in a village against the local soldiers. They were surrounded and were about to be ambushed when a group of wrens pecked on their drums and awakened the soldiers. The plot failed and the wren became known as 'The Devil's bird'. On St. Stephens

day a procession takes place where a pole with a holly bush is carried from house to house and families dress up in old clothes and with blackened faces. In olden times an actual wren would be killed and placed on top of the pole.

This custom has to a large degree disappeared but the tradition of visiting from house to house on St. Stephens Day has survived and is very much part of Christmas.

DECORATIONS



The placing of a ring of Holly on doors originated in Ireland as Holly was one of the main plants that flourished at Christmas time and which gave the poor ample means with which to decorate their dwellings.

All decorations are traditionally taken down on Little Christmas (January 6th.) and it is considered to be bad luck to take them down beforehand.

TRADITIONAL GAELIC SALUTATION

The Gaelic greeting for 'Merry Christmas' is:

'Nollaig Shona Duit'

HAPPY CHRISTMAS!



Irish Christmas Traditions - An article provided by The Information about Ireland Site.

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Tractor Run For Cancer Stops In Maynooth

The Border Counties Vintage Tractor Grassmen set off from Castleblayney with the aim of travelling through all 32 counties in their vintage tractors. They're raising funds for Cancer Support Groups in Castleblaney, Carrickmacross, Ballybay and Marie Curie Cancer Care in Newry.

15 tractors, all over 50 years old, made the journey around Ireland. The drivers have put in a serious amount of work getting their tractors ready and deserve huge credit as this is a task never been undertaken before. They are driving 15 vintage tractors ranging from 1961 - 1964, 1,200 kms around the island of Ireland.





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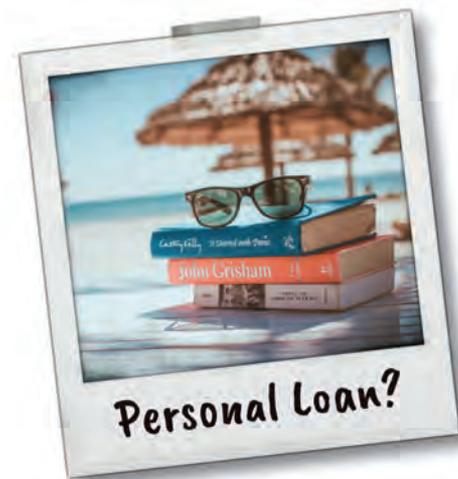
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Maynooth Monthly Diary Planner

Irish Girl Guides	Maynooth Multiple Births	Bridge Club
<p>Meetings Tuesday evening in Maynooth. For further information contact Jackie on 0894298061 or visit the Irish Girl Guides website www.irishgirlguides.ie</p>	<p>Maynooth Multiple Births playgroup (twins triplets or more) meets the last Thursday of the month in Leixlip library between 10 & 12 noon. This is a Great opportunity to meet parents just like you. For further details email: maynoothmultiplebirthclub@gmail.com</p>	<p>Open for new members. If you would like to play in a friendly club with purpose-built facilities in the centre of Maynooth, please see our website at maynoothbridgeclub.com. Contact Katherine Cooney 086 8205910</p>
I.C.A.	MAYNOOTH LOCAL HISTORY GROUP	Arthritis Ireland
<p>Monthly meetings take place every 1st Thursday of the month at 8.00pm in the I.C.A. Hall in the Harbour. Crafts every Monday night at 8.00pm. New members welcome</p>	<p>Maynooth Local History Group Meets Last Thursday of each Month in the Maynooth Community Council Office (Next to the Post Office) New Members Welcome Contact: MCC Office for more details</p>	<p>Arthritis Ireland Walking Group (Maynooth) Meeting Monday's 12 - 2pm in the Maynooth Community Space</p>
University of Third Age (U3A)	Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group	Maynooth Men's Sheds
<p>Weekly meetings on Friday at 11am in Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth New Members Welcome</p>	<p>Every Thursday from 10.00am to 12.00pm Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth</p>	<p>Weekly meetings take place every Wednesday at 11.am at the Garden Centre Dublin Road Maynooth. For further details contact John Fleming - 087 2041334</p>
Maynooth Tidy Towns	ALZHEIMER CAFÉ LEIXLIP	Maynooth Community Church
<p>Volunteers required to help with this work. Contact Number 087 3153189</p>	<p>Informal café atmosphere for people with Dementia & their partners family & friends. Free of charge. Venue Ryevale Nursing Home. Every second Wednesday of each month 7-9pm. Call 0894933533 Email: alzheimercafeleixlip@gmail.ie www.alzheimercafeleixlip.com</p>	<p>1st Floor Manor Mills (entrance next to Chill) Service times every Sunday morning from 10.30 am www.maynoothcc.org Everyone most welcome</p>
Maynooth Senior Citizens	Craobh Mhaigh Nuad C.C.E.	ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND
<p>Our morning club continues on Tuesday and Thursday and new members are always welcome. Perhaps you are new to the parish or new to the age bracket, why not come along you might enjoy it. You will find us in the Geraldine Hall on Leinster St, or contact Josephine on 087 9002296.</p>	<p>Classes are held on Wednesday 7pm to 9.30pm in Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road. Our classes are very good value, great fun and we promise you plenty of craic also !!. Bígí linn!!! Contact Sean at 086 2225540 or email craobhmaighnuad@gmail.com.</p>	<p>Rehearsals are held in the Band Hall on Pound Lane each Monday night (except Bank Holidays) from 7.45pm to 9.30pm and musicians living in Maynooth and the surrounding areas are most welcome. E-mail: sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie Website: www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie</p>

Diary entries are published free of charge for all Community Groups. E-mail details of your event before the copy date (2nd last Tuesday of each month) to be included in the next months edition. E-mail: office@maynoothcc.com. Phone: 01-6285922
(The content of the Monthly Planner Diary is published in good faith. All details should be checked with groups)

Difficult

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

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Super Difficult

				5			
8				6		2	
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Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Notes of MCC meeting held on Monday Nov 14th at Maynooth Community Space.

Chairman Tom McMullon expressed the sympathies of those present to council member Paddy Holmes and the Holmes family on the death of their mother Mary. At the time of her passing, Mrs Holmes was Maynooth's oldest citizen.

TIDY TOWNS ADDRESS ON THE GOLD MEDAL

Richard Farrell and Mattie Callaghan addressed the meeting on the recent Tidy Towns Gold Medal win. They also won a Pollinator award this year and Tina Drury won a Local Hero award. The medal will be brought to schools and any other organisation that wishes to have the Tidy Towns speak to their group on the win and current works being carried out. Richard noted the work carried out over the past 30 years and mentioned that Maynooth Tidy Towns Committee grew out of MCC. He mentioned some people that were pivotal in the inception of the group and thanked Bob Reilly, Sean Lyons, Mattie Callaghan and Fionan Hardiman among others. Tom McMullon praised the work of MTT and noted that they are now entering a new level of competition. He said that although the group is strong, extra help is always needed and welcomed. He expressed a wish to see a Kildare National winner in the near future. Mattie thanked all the volunteers and is looking forward to future work as there is still lots to be done. He informed the meeting that litter picking had ceased for the months of Oct and Nov to highlight to KCC that the town needs a 7-day cleaning service. Planters and flower beds have benefited since the litter picking stopped as litter was usually prioritised.

Conor Dempsey requested more community involvement in order for the group to further thrive and suggested that this should begin with our young people. He suggested bringing children out on MTT mornings and showing them how to plant bulbs and tend to flower beds and encouraging children against littering. They are after all the future of the town. The Chairman also noted that the schools have green flags but the ideals don't seem to extend from the school into the community. The address was ended with a round of applause for the Tidy Towns achievement.

STREET BEGGING

The subject of begging was raised again and questions were asked about what could be done. Is there a case for involving Social Welfare? Can KCC investigate? The Chairman suggested that it might be worthwhile to contact

Dun Laoghaire/ Rathdown County Council as to how they alleviated the problem in their area.

MCC – WELCOME PACK AND BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE WORKINGS OF MCC

Paul Croghan noted that there is a failure to inform new members of the Council about the workings and the mandate of the Council. A welcome pack needs to be compiled and distributed among members. This will be part of the upcoming review and facilitation. Paul gave a brief outline of the function of the Council. It is a Community Development organisation which has been in operation for almost 40 years. It has delivered initiatives such as the Citizens Advice Bureau, the summer festival, expanded the St Patrick's Day Parade, Twinning, Tidy Towns, and the provision of the Community Space which is used by many diverse groups and organisations. There was also the Canal Scheme which has since successfully amalgamated with the Community Employment scheme. The Council is there to recognise things missing in our town and to hopefully fill the gaps.

SEVEN-DAY STREET CLEANING SERVICE

Cllr Naoise Ó Cearúil informed the group that both he and John McGinley had submitted motions that a provision be made in budgetary planning for a 7-day service. The previous street cleaner had been reassigned and his replacement had resigned his post within 3 weeks which was adding to the delay in providing the service. Paul Croghan said that a town which has activities 7 days a week needs a 7-day a week cleaning service. KCC raises a lot of money through rates and suggested that a sizable portion of rates and Local Property Tax should be put back into the community. He also suggested that the outlying areas be considered as well as the town centre. Cllr Teresa Murray agreed with the 7-day cleaning proposal but also noted that businesses must shoulder some responsibility and keep the area around their own premises clean. Miriam O'Keeffe Ahern asked if any exit interviews were held to gain knowledge as to the high turnover of staff. Naoise Ó Cearúil clarified that there is not a high turnover of staff, and that the previous street cleaner had been in place for many years but his replacement had found the job tough on a personal level.

Anne Birchall asked if there was any financial input from Maynooth University towards the work of Tidy Towns and street cleaning in general. Richard Farrell said the Students Union had sponsored many different programmes including the flowers on the roundabout on the

Kilcock Road and the Mutt Mitts which are bag dispensers to aid dog owners to clean up after their pets. Niamh Halpenny (MSU rep) added that the SU sends out clean up teams after big student nights and that the University itself needs to have a greater input into the needs of the town. Richard agreed and added that the numbers of volunteers are not adequate for the population of the area. Padraig Ó Murchú said that a clean town should be a matter of civic pride for all residents and asked if a Litter Warden could be put in place with the power to fine offenders on the spot. It was agreed that a letter be sent to KCC Director of Services Joe Boland outlining concerns and requesting a solution. The attendees agreed.

QUESTIONS RAISED AT THE MEETING

Questions were raised and concerns expressed about the identity of MCC and MCC Ltd, about the accounting structure within MCC Ltd, its relationship with the Department of Social Protection and implications for fundraising. Anne Birchall expressed her support of the scheme but strongly felt these issues need to be addressed.

Apparent changes in recent weeks to the constitution was brought to the attention of the meeting. A sub-committee was established to investigate how this had come about.

Peter Garrad of Maynooth Scouts thanked Cllr Naoise Ó Cearúil for organising the tarmac for the Scout Den.

Cllr Teresa Murray was thanked for organising the public meeting with reference to policing in our town. Cllr Murray added that there would be a meeting of the Joint Policing Committee on December 5th at 7pm with registration from 6.30. The public can have their say at this meeting. Residents that cannot attend can make representation by email to cpnkag@gmail.com or fill out the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7D7CD28>. There are also petitions in local shops.

The Senior Citizens Sale of Work will take place in Maynooth Post Primary School on Nov 20th.

Aonach na Nollag (MCC's Christmas Fair) will take place in the Post Primary School from 12-5 on Dec 10th.

At the next meeting of MCC there will be a presentation by Dillon Grace, President of the Students Union and Michael Rafter, Director of Campus and Commercial Services with specific reference to the University Christmas Day event.

James Lawless T.D. Kildare North

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

Ring Road for Maynooth

I am in ongoing discussion with the Kildare and Meath County Councils, National University of Ireland Maynooth and the National Transport Authority with regard to the Maynooth ring road. All of these organisations have been made aware just how important this is to the town. Residents and business have regularly raised this matter with me. I will continue to work with all stakeholders to progress this project.

Street Cleaning in Maynooth

I have again raised the 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.

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 and that in January the service should commence subject to budget approval by the Maynooth Municipal District meeting.

Government Must Act on Lowering Car Insurance Costs

Kildare North TD James Lawless has condemned the Government's lack of action on tackling the anomaly whereby returning Irish emigrants are being forced out of the car insurance market due to extremely high quotations. In many cases they cannot find a company or broker who will insure them and often the figure can run into tens of thousands when they do find someone willing to take them on.

This is not the first time I have assisted a resident who has returned to Kildare, eager to start working at home again, only to be set back by soaring motor insurance

cost, all because he or she had been living out of the country and driving experience and no claims bonuses were not recognised during their time away.

It is imperative that the actions set out in a recently agreed Dáil motion on motor insurance, initiated by Fianna Fáil, are implemented without further delay.

The passing of our motion recently was the first step in a process, which will hopefully clamp down on soaring motor insurance premiums. The motion called for the introduction of practical measures such as; the re-establishment of the Motor Insurance Advisory Board on a time limited basis; greater disclosure around policy renewal notifications; action on the settlement of cases and dealing with false and exaggerated claims.

We are determined to ensure that consumers get a fair deal and the series of measures my party colleagues and I have proposed, would reduce these inflated premiums for hard working residents.

Additional Sunday Service for 67 Route

I am delighted to say Dublin Bus have confirmed additional Sunday services to me following meetings I had held with them during the Summer on 67 route. The new timetable will mean a 67 will arrive into Celbridge & Maynooth every 30 minutes on Sunday from the 27th of this month. I am looking forward to continue working with Dublin Bus and the NTA to improve services for the commuters in Celbridge and Maynooth.

NUIM

As part of my role as Fianna Fáil Science, Technology, and Innovation spokesperson I was delighted to pay a visit to NUIM to give a guest lecturer on STEM subjects and tour the site. I was very interested in seeing the MaynoothWorks incubator hub which is a testament to advanced technological work being carried out in Maynooth on a daily basis. I want to thank everyone involved for a warm welcome and fascinating insight into the workings of the college science department.

Maynooth Purple Flag Application

Was happy to lend my support to the Maynooth Purple Flag bid launch recently. As judging gets underway there are great efforts from North Kildare Chamber, Kildare County Council, Maynooth Tidy Towns, An Gardaí and all the businesses gone into this and best of luck to them. Kildare County Council has also confirmed that street cleaning should be extended on a

weekend basis from 2017 on. This is something I raised in a meeting with senior KCC management recently and it will be another plus for the town's appearance. The purple flag is awarded based on a town's nightlife in terms of eateries, entertainment, cleanliness, security and overall ambience.

Minister to Review Tús and Community Employment Schemes

The Minister for Social Protection Leo Varadkar TD has agreed to review the operation of the Tús and Community Employment schemes following issues raised around the schemes I brought up in the Dáil. Speaking on the Order of Business I explained to the Minister that I wish to raise an issue relating to community employment placements. Traditionally, employees would have gone onto a Tús scheme. From there they would have gone on to work with a local organisation, often a community or charitable organisation, and then they would have moved onto a community employment (CE) scheme at the same location.

This worked well for the individual and the organisations. It appears that since the advent of JobPath, operated by Turas Nua and Seetec, this path is blocked and individuals coming off the Tús scheme are placed in limbo for 12 months and are unable to return to a CE scheme.

We are losing willing and able workers, most of who would be contributing to Tidy Towns groups or local charities but are now left in uncertainty. This all stems from changes made to the scheme last August when it was outsourced to private providers

Following this the Minister has agreed to review the workings of both schemes.

Community Library

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

Maynooth Toastmasters

Congratulations are the order of the day for two very vibrant and progressive voluntary organisations in Maynooth.

Maynooth Tidy Towns for reaching the Gold Level Standard in the Tidy Towns Competition. Maynooth Toastmasters for completing 10 years of being a distinguished Toastmasters Club.

Both organisations while different in some respects, share core values of working for the greater good of the community, both started small and developed year by year. Possibly the most important common thread was having a vision, knowing that they were going to win. Being in the winning enclosure is a great feeling especially when you know that your efforts have contributed to making the difference for your committee members and the public.

Donal Bolger, President of Maynooth Toastmasters stated: "John Kavanagh, Chairman of Maynooth Tidy Towns we salute you and look forward to the future, it can't be far off till Maynooth wins the National Tidy Town Award and hopefully Maynooth Toastmasters can help you to win the New Pollinator Award in 2017. Both organisations are always looking for new members, it's fun, so come along and experience something different for 2017.

Check out Maynooth Toastmasters Facebook Page



Maynooth Golf Society

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Trim Results

1st	Joey Edwards	40pts
2nd	Mick Flynn	39pts
3rd	Gerry Mc Ternan	35pts
4th	John Saults	34ptsB9
5th	William Farrelly	34pts
6th	Eamon Murphy	33ptsB9
7th	Martin Shields	33pts
Visitors Prize	Alan Clarke	32pts
F9	Sean Farrelly	19pts
B9	Brendan Bean	19pts
Nearest Pin	Alan Clarke	
Over 50's	Tom Coffey	32pts
2's Club	Anthony Tyrell	

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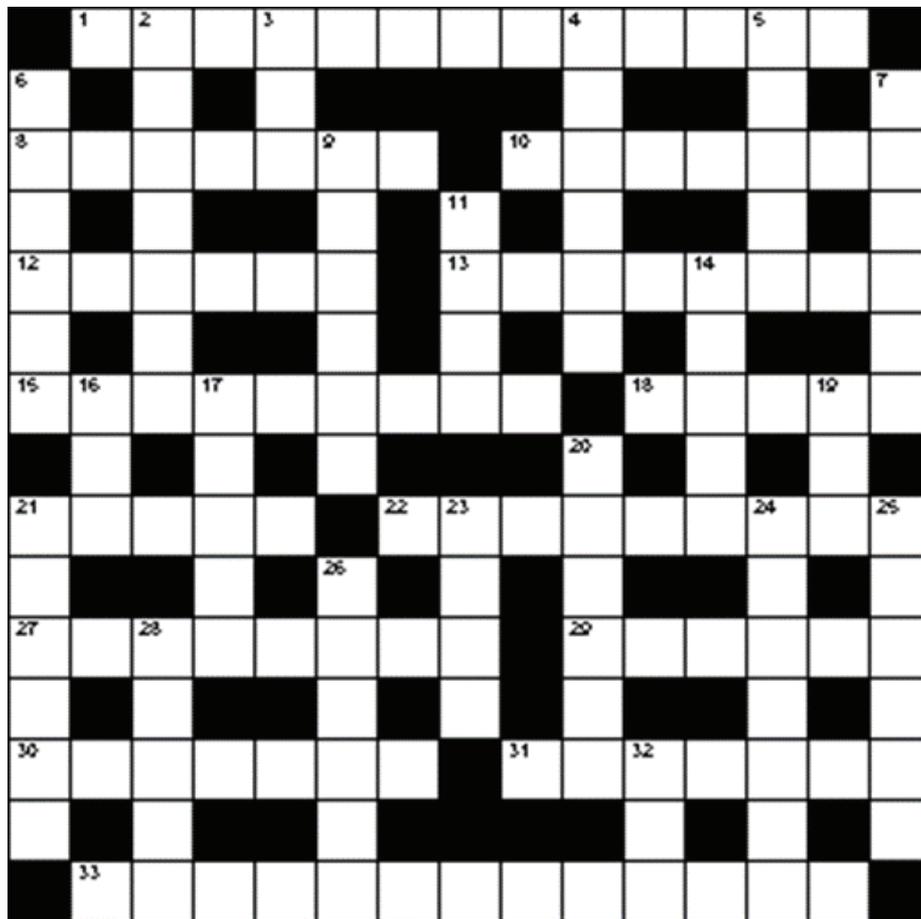
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Clues Across

1. Style of painting (13)
8. Member of a senate (7)
10. Medley (7)
12. Continent (6)
13. In good spirits (8)
15. Something that pollutes (9)
18. Bring about (5)
21. Refined iron (5)
22. Luxurious car (9)
27. Away from the shore (8)
29. Cosmetics (4-2)
30. Drape (7)
31. Companion of Aeneas (7)
33. Inhabitant of Pennsylvania (13)



Dec/Jan Crossword - No. 453

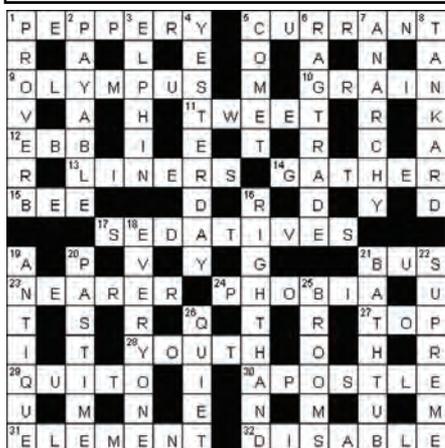


Clues Down

2. Dog of mixed breed (7)
3. Long-tailed rodent (3)
4. Speaks publicly (6)
5. Employees (5)
6. Dormant state (6)
7. Goalkeeper (6)
9. Salt of oleic acid (6)
11. Scrutinize (4)
14. Harvests (5)
16. Not in (3)
17. City in West Yorkshire (5)
19. Transgression (3)
20. Vast (6)
21. Caress (6)
23. Notion (4)
24. Sluggishness (7)
25. Uncover (6)
26. Mimics (6)
28. Physical power (5)
32. Female fowl (3)



Answers to Crossword No 452

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Tuesday 24th January 2017

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Address: _____

Phone: _____

Winner of Crossword
No. 452 November

**Ruth Mc Dermott &
Matthew Diamond**
Woodlands
Maynooth

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Writers Corner

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



Cuimhní na Nollag

Tháinig an Nollaig go luath sa bhaile. Bhíodh boladh choimhthíochach comhábhar mearóg na Nollag sa chistin san fhómhair. Bheadh flosc ar mo mháthair ag coiméad súil ghéar ar na potaí ar bheireadh le na mearóg is an chistin lán le ghall. Bheadh na mearóg sin le dul ar fud na tíre chuig gaolta is chairde. Corr uair d'fhág cuairteoir a bhí ag freastal ar an ospidéal le mearóg toisc go rabhamar lonnaithe díreach treasna ón ospidéal is go raibh cairde ag

glaoch isteach chugainn go rialta.

Bheadh uirthi bronntanais nollag na bpáistí a fhágáil le chairde sa bhaile mar le naonúr sa líon tí ní raibh áit ar bith ann chun iad a chur i bhfolach. Baileodh sí na bronntanais oíche nollag gan tuairim da laghad againn cén sochrú a bhí déanta aici le Daidí na Nollag.

Sula roghnaigh muid chrann na Nollag bheadh orainn an teach a mhaisiú. Amach linn go choill Daire Cholmchille trí mhíle ó thuaidh den Tulach Mhóir. Is ansin a bhailigh muid cuileann is eidhneán. Deirim leat go raibh an halla ar nós tír dhraíochtúil is an réalt timpeall an solas mar buach phóinte den iontas. Is sa seomra suite a rachach an chrann nollag is an mainséar. Nuair a raibh an tine lasta le meascán de mhóin, gual is adhmaid ba deas teolaí is sona an té a raibh sa seomra suite is ní riabh áit nós deise ar domhain.

Ábhar leitheoireacht is mó a chruinneoidh m'athair don Nollaig. Leabhair an Club Leabhair, Feasta, The Cork Hollybough agus An Timire. Bhí chuireadh faighte againn chuig chóisir na Nollag sa Ghairm Scoil gach bhliain. Feidhmeoidh m'athair mar fear an tí don cheilí ach is ag súil le teacht daidí na nollag is na bronntanais a

bhí ár n-aire dhírithé.

Seachtain na nollag chuig mo rang timpeall an baile ag canadh cearúl na nollag ar son Cumann Naomh Uinseann de Phóil. Is muid a chan na cearúl ag aifreann na nollag sa seipéal, feasta. Sula d'fhág éinne an teach Oíche Nollag, bhailigh an chlann le haghaidh an Choróin Mhuire. Las an té is óige sa chlann trí choinnle na Nollag, ceann amháin i ngach fuinneog a bhí dhírithé ar an mbóthar.

Lá Nollag bhí orainn buachaillí an luachair a bhailigh is na tinte a lasadh don lae. Tar éis an Aifreann bhí spórt is spraoi againn ag dul timpeall an ospidéal leis an fear mhór arís. Is i gcapaill is chairt a thainig sé ar an ocaíd seo. Is iad ritheadóirí na Tullaí Mhóra a d'eagraigh a chuairt don county home is an ospidéal. Bhain gach éinne taitneamh as an chuairt agus ar ndóigh bhí orainn na cearúil a chanadh do na seanóirí is na n-othair.

Bhí féasta ullmhaithe ag Mham nuair a shroicheadar an bhaile. Bhí a ghóthan de turcaí, bagún, prátaí is trataí le nithe ag gach éinne. Ansin, le searmanas, roinn sí an mhearóg is deise a rinne sí an bhliain sin, lena chlann féin.

Ba shaol difriúil é ag fás aníos in Éirinn sna seascaidí. Thar na blianta, rinneamar ár ndícheall nósanna is oidhreacht na nollag a choiméad beo lenár gclann féin.

Líonann mo chroí le háthas nuair a chuinnim ar aimsear na nollag sna laethanta a bhí san am atá thart. Is é breithe ár t-Slánaitheora sa stábla i mBeithil príomh chúis leis an bhféile is an ghrá a thóg sé leis dúinn. Níl orainn afách ach an ghrá is an meas sinn a chothú ionainn féin is é a roinnt lenár chomh dhuine. Chuige sin, tá draíocht faoi leith ag baint leis an Nollaig.

*Nollaig shona is gach rath don ath bhliain.
Colm Ó Cearúil.*



Community Policing for North Kildare Action Group Public Meeting 8th November Glenroyal Hotel

At their public meeting on November 8th the committee's chairperson Teresa Murray outlined the function of the Action Group, their liaison with An Garda Síochana and the group's objectives:

- (1) The reinstatement of Community policing.
- (2) Designated opening times for local Garda stations.

Presentations were made by

Josie Moore - **Elderly and Security.**

Dillon Grace President of MSU - **Students and Gardaí**

Patsai ui Chatain – **Text Alert**

Kevin Larkin – **Business and Gardaí**

Denis McCarthy – **Joint policing committee**

Speaking from the floor, Catherine Murphy TD, Frank O'Rourke TD, Bernard Durkan TD, Cllr Joe Neville, Cllr Reada Cronion and Emmett Stagg agreed that more Gardaí are needed and that public engagement with the Garda Authorities and the JPC is the way forward.

Issues raised by the general public included; more Garda presence, anti social behaviour, speeding, careless parking and Garda station opening hours.

Concluding the meeting Teresa Murray thanked people for their presentations and comments and said that the action group will be meeting with the Assistant Commissioner (Eastern Region) to discuss Garda presence in north Kildare. She also encouraged the public to attend the JPC meeting on Dec 5th in the Glenroyal Hotel.

Once a year the public is invited to a Joint Policing Committee meeting. This years meeting will be held on December 5th in the Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth.

Tríocha bliain ag siúl

Agus mé ag cur síos ar mo shaol mar shiúlaí (Samhain 2016) theip orm trácht ar na séasúir féin, an sioc is an sneachta, an ghile is an dorchadas, na duilleoga ag fás agus ag titim, a gcuid oibre déanta. Agus cé go bhfuil a dhraíocht féin ag an dorchadas bhíodh gliondar ar leith im' chroí gach céad lá Feabhra nuair a d'fhógraíodh Naomh Bríd tús an earraigh.

Theip orm freisin tagairt a dhéanamh don spéir agus don réaltra seo againne, Bealach na Bó Finne, a bhíodh go mórthaibhseach fiú i mbreacdhorchadas Maigh Nuad, lena réaltbhuíonta Óiríon, An Camchéachta, Cassiopeia, srl. Agus na plainéid! Cairde liom ar fad agus iad ag leanúint a gcúrsaí éagsúla ar a rogha luas. Fiú amháin Mearcair! Agus chonaic mé go minic é. Dúradh fadó nach bhfaca Galileo Mearcair riamh ach is cosúil nach raibh ansin ach clúmhillleadh, de bhrí nár éirigh sé go ró mhoch ar maidin. Chun seans a bheith agat Mearcair a fheiceáil ó Mhaigh Nuad ní foláir duit bheith i do shuí timpeall leath uair roimh éirí na gréine lá éicint i rith tréimhse gearr, cúpla seachtain, uair nó dhó sa bhliain. Is féidir é a fheiceáil sa tráthnóna freisin ach dár liomsa is é an mhaidin an t-am is fearr. Go n-éirí leat!

Gabriel Martin



Community Policing for North Kildare Action Group

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*To your enemy, forgiveness.
To an opponent, tolerance.
To a friend, your heart.
To a customer, service.
To all, charity.
To every child,
a good example.
To yourself, respect.*

Oren Arnold

MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN NOTES



Royal Canal Greenway

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is disappointed at the lack of conditions attached to the approval of the Part 8 Report for Royal Canal Greenway between Maynooth and Dublin. This was a lost opportunity of providing a good quality greenway as opposed to a mediocre one – one which will compare unfavourably with the Waterford Greenway now under construction. The area engineer reportedly gave an undertaking to councillors that he would fully address the concerns of Maynooth Cycling Campaign. He hasn't.

There were five pro-cycling submissions – one was an internal submission, one was from a prescribed body and three were from the general public. A number of secondary issues were raised but there were two primary issues which were common to all five submissions – surfacing and width.

In response to surfacing, the Kildare County Council's consultant is alleged to have come out against the use of a bituminous surface. It is noted that the Consultant is employed by the officials and future work is dependent on his relationship with the same officials but in an earlier report on surfacing options, the same consultant concluded:

It is recommended to provide a bituminous surface on the full length of the Galway to Dublin Greenway for reasons of quality, comfort, safety, reduced maintenance and better whole life costs.

The consultant also pointed out that a dust surface would not attract foreign visitors. Waterways Ireland claims to require a dust surface in rural areas for environmental and ecological reasons. However Waterways Ireland is happy to provide a bituminous surface for motorised traffic on some rural parts of the canal – it only develops environmental and ecological concerns where cyclists are involved.

The reasons for rejecting widening of the path are equally disingenuous. Maynooth Cycling Campaign accepts that it is not feasible to widen the greenway everywhere but it does not accept the starting point of Kildare County Council which is that it cannot be widened anywhere. Kildare County Council proposes a greenway 2.5m wide in parts - one to be shared with pedestrians. Conflicts between cyclists and pedestrians are common on such towpaths across the UK. The way to eliminate such conflicts is to follow international best practice (in so far as is feasible) such as from Germany, the Netherlands and Denmark where inter urban routes for cyclists are 4m wide.

We had also raised the following issues with councillors which we considered pertinent to any decision on the project

- Why a (50%) more expensive dust surface should be preferred rather than a cheaper and maintenance-free blacktopped surface?
- Who pays for the additional maintenance?
- Why was there no cost benefit analysis of the scheme on the Royal Canal?

None of these points were addressed in the Part 8 report.

Kildare County Council has been 'promoting' cycling for nearly twenty years and over most of that time the level of cycling has declined. A recent report into the outcome for cycling of the Smarter Travel Towns by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport found that the level of cycling increased by 0.2% per year. With the proposed low quality greenway, the level of cycling in Kildare is unlikely to increase.

A more comprehensive report on the proposals for Royal Canal is available on our website.

EPA Consultation on Air Pollution Monitoring

The EPA recently released a report on the Ireland's Environment: An Assessment 2016 which estimates that there are 1200 premature deaths annually resulting from air pollution and follows the UK government losing a case in the courts over its failure to tackle air pollution. While the concern is mainly in relation to Irish cities, the EPA proposes to introduce a national air pollution monitoring programme which includes Celbridge, Leixlip, Naas and Newbridge. Maynooth Cycling Campaign has proposed that monitoring should also include Maynooth because of the high levels of traffic congestion here.

Netflix - Bikes vs Cars

One of the films currently on offer to Netflix subscribers is Bikes vs Cars. This is a documentary film about the struggle to provide cycle facilities in the Americas and while the situation in North and South America is different from that in Europe, there are many similarities. Well worth a watch!

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. Further information on meetings and activities is available on our website. We are affiliated to Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cyclist Advocacy Network and through it to the European Cycling Federation.

Life Coaching One to One

If you answer yes to any of the following questions Coaching can really help you

- Are you at a crossroads in your life and need help identifying the direction you need to take?
- Need help facing your inner fears, building your confidence, eliminating stress and reaching goals?
- Are you facing examinations but feel that stress and anxiety may impact you from reaching success?
- Changing career, need help creating your CV or improving your interview skills?
- Are you facing retirement and ready to explore your options for this next chapter in life?

Explore meditation techniques which will help bring calm and overall wellness into your life?

Let me help you become the very best you can be in a safe non-judgemental environment.

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Christmas Jokes

What does Santa suffer from if he gets stuck in a chimney?

Claustrophobia!

Why did Santa's helper see the doctor?

Because he had a low elf-esteem!

What kind of motorbike does Santa ride?

Holly Davidson

What do you call a cat in the desert?

Sandy Claws!

Who delivers presents to cats?

Santa Paws!

What do you get if you cross Santa with a duck?

A Christmas Quacker!

Why does Santa go down the chimney on Christmas Eve?

Because it 'soots' him!



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Age: 3-5: Ellen Dempsey
Meadowbrook Court
Maynooth

Age: 6-7: Laura Killian
Ballygoran
Maynooth

Age: 8 &
Over: Bláthnaid Brennan
Loughnamona Crescent
Leixlip

Prizes for Colouring Competition can be collected at:

Maynooth Community Council Office, Unit 5, Tesco Shopping Centre.
Entries must arrive before Tuesday : 24 January 2017



A Winter Garden

With the arrival of December, colder winter weather becomes the new norm, marking the start of a prolonged period of calm and quiet in the garden. Often ground conditions limit the opportunities to do any gardening but the occasional clear bright dry day offers some chance to doing some important garden chores where necessary.

Clear lawn areas of any fallen leaves before they block out light and moisture to the grass and use to spread around the base of trees or shrubs. Lawns can look a little off, a light clip on top and along edges will make a big difference. Now is an ideal time to plant new bare root hedging and trees (but avoid any planting when the ground is very wet). Protect the newly planted trees, hedges and shrubs from cold winds and frosts. Thick dry mulches will protect the roots from cold and branches can be covered with fleece but for older plants wait until the ground freezes before adding the mulch as this will prevent rodents from nesting in the soil. Winter storms and winds are very strong and can easily damage young trees, so check all tree ties and stakes to ensure trees are firmly secured in the ground. Prune any overhanging branches from trees or shrubs.

While bedding plants for spring colour should have been planted by now, wallflowers and pansies can still be planted, especially if they are available in pots. Perennial flowers can be divided in the ground. It is not too late to lift dahlias, begonias and gladiolus in cold localities to prevent damage, or cover them with soil in milder areas. Tulip bulbs, can be planted right up to Christmas and will flower well in the following spring. Add some fertiliser to encourage bulb root development. Watch out for pale blotches and fuzzy grey mould on leaves of winter flowering pansies, this is called downy mildew. Remove infected leaves as soon as possible and dispose of them. Give your roses a final check for mildew and if infected, spray them immediately. Tuck 1 - 2 slug pellets around your more precious plants, as slugs and snails are busy for most of the winter.

For additional splash of winter colour plant (in groups or containers) cyclamens, winter pansies, ornamental grasses. Spruce up the planted borders with a fresh topdressing of bark mulch



Tips on the Care of The Poinsetta Plant

Place it near a sunny window. South, east or west facing windows are preferable to a north facing window. Poinsettias are tropicals and will appreciate as much direct sunlight as you can provide.

Heat - To keep the poinsettia in bloom as long as possible, maintain a temperature of 65 - 75 degrees F. during the day.

Dropping the temperature to about 60 degrees F. at night will not hurt the plant. However, cold drafts or allowing the leaves to touch a cold window can injure the leaves and cause premature leaf drop. If you've ever seen a gangly poinsettia in bloom, with only a couple of sad looking leaves hanging on, it was probably exposed to temperatures that were too cool or extreme shifts in temperature.

Water - Water the plant whenever the surface feels dry to the touch. Water until it drains out the bottom, but don't let the plant sit in water.

Christmas Ideas from the Garden

Decorative Candle Display: Collect pine cones and add a couple of drops of essential oils onto them, hang them from the Christmas tree using ribbon or simply lay them around a candle.



Christmas Pot Pourri: Use dried garden herbs and cupboard ingredients. Mix juniper sprigs, dried rosebuds, bay leaves, rosemary sprigs, cinnamon chips, cloves, and assorted pine cones together until it smells great and looks interesting. You can also add essential oils for extra scent to help retain the aroma.

Cooking with Christmas Leftovers



Turkey Satay Vegetables Noodles

Ingredients:

275g/10oz of fine egg noodles
1 tblsp of sunflower oil
1 large red pepper, halved, seeded and thinly sliced
225g/8oz of fine green beans, trimmed and halved
175g/6oz of baby corn, halved lengthways
2 garlic cloves, crushed
400g/14oz can of coconut milk
350g/12oz leftover turkey meat, cut into bite-sized pieces
100g/4oz of crunchy peanut butter
2 tblsp of dark soy sauce
2 tblsp of sweet chilli sauce
1 tsp of muscovado sugar
Juice of ½ lime
50g/2oz of cashew nuts, toasted and finely chopped
Handful of fresh coriander to garnish



Method:

Place the fine egg noodles in a pan of boiling water and cook for 3 to 4 minutes, until tender or according to the packet instructions.

Heat a wok until very hot. Add the oil and swirl it around the edges, then tip in the red pepper, green beans, baby corn and garlic and stir-fry for 3 to 4 minutes, until the vegetables are tender, sprinkling over one tablespoon of water if the mixture is getting too dry.

Drain the noodles and add to the wok with the coconut milk, turkey, peanut butter, soy sauce, chilli sauce, sugar and lime juice. Stir-fry for another 2 to 3 minutes, until all the ingredients are piping hot.

To serve, divide among warm serving bowls and scatter over the cashew nuts and coriander.

Christmas Cake Trifle

Ingredients:

1 small mango
1 small pineapple
½ pomegranate
100ml dark rum
4 tblsp flaked almonds
½ tblsp granulated sugar
1 splash of golden rum
250g Christmas cake or pudding
250ml thick custard
120g cherry jam
2 clementines
230ml double cream
15g dark chocolate (70%)

Method:

Prepare the mango and pineapple, roughly chopping all the flesh. Place in a bowl along with the pomegranate seeds. Mix in 20ml of the dark rum and set aside.

Heat a pan over a medium heat, add the almonds and sugar and cook for 2 to 3 minutes or until golden brown. Add the golden rum and cook for a few minutes. Transfer to a bowl and leave to cool.

Roughly chop the Christmas cake or pudding, then place in a 1.5-litre glass bowl and press firmly into the base. Drizzle over the remaining 80ml dark rum then pour over the custard. Cover the bowl with cling film and refrigerate for at least 3 hours so the custard can set a little.

Remove the trifle from the fridge and spoon the cherry jam over the custard. Finely grate the clementine zest and put aside, then break up into segments. Add the chopped fruit to the trifle, then layer over the clementine segments. Whip the cream to soft peaks, then use it to top the trifle. Decorate with the toasted almonds, scatter over the reserved clementine zest, then shave over the chocolate and serve.

This is a great way to use leftover cake or pudding. The amounts here are just a guide - adjust it according to how much leftover cake you have and whatever fruits you have to hand.



Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year



FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON DVD CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS



It's that time of year when the lights are twinkling in shop windows and decorations are being pulled down from the attic. Freezing temperatures, Mulled wine, mince pies, Christmas markets and carol singing is the order of the day. The countdown to Christmas 2016 is well and truly underway!

As Christmas draws ever nearer, there's the small matter of some shopping to attend to. Festive shopping is the most important part of our pre-Christmas experience. However, battling fellow shoppers to stock up on presents, food and decorations can cause undue stress during this busy period. Wading through crowded city centre streets and shops with presents bought in a panic is never a pleasant experience.

DVDs are always an excellent choice on the gift front. With this in mind, I have compiled a list of the best DVDs and pricing on offer this festive season. Hopefully, this will take some of the stress factor out of your festive spending!

Blockbuster Film DVD/ Collections

For the Blockbuster fans in your life, there is no shortage of action and fun in these spectacular movie highlights of 2016:

Independence Day: Resurgence (dir. Roland Emmerich) Golden Discs: (€15)

Star Trek Beyond (dir. Justin Linn) Golden Discs: (€13)

Ghostbusters 2016 (dir. Paul Feig) Golden Discs: (€16)

X-Men Apocalypse (dir. Bryan Singer) Golden Discs: (€15)

Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice (dir. Zach Snyder) Golden Discs: (€10)

The following Boxsets are also worth checking out:

Batman Anthology 1989-1997 Golden Discs (€18) Heaton: (€10)

The Bourne Collection Golden Discs: (€16) Heaton: (€10)

Mission Impossible (5 movie collection) Golden Discs: (€25)

Tom Hanks Collection Golden Discs: (€14)

Cohen Brothers Collection Golden Discs: (€16)

Golden Oldies

For fans of the golden age of Hollywood there is plenty of variety and great value on offer. You can purchase Bette Davis, Humphrey Bogart, Tracy & Hepburn, Elizabeth Taylor and Fred Astaire film Collections in Boxsets format for as little as €13 each. Other options available include:

The Chaplin Collection

Golden Discs: (€60)

Hitchcock Collection

Golden Discs: (€14)

Billy Wilder Collection

Golden Discs: (€13)

Audrey Hepburn Collection

Golden Discs (€2)

Shirley Temple Collection

Golden Discs: (€8)

TV Boxsets

Boxsets of series made for TV are always a great gift idea and stocking-filler at Christmas.

There have been some exceptional and very successful TV series produced in recent years. The following Boxsets are certainly worth investing in:

The Rebellion (Mini Series)

Golden Discs: (€16)

The Fall (Series 1,2,3)

Golden Discs: €30

Love Hate (Collector's edition)

Golden Discs: (€25)

Game of Thrones (Complete Series)

Golden Discs: (€100)

Game of Thrones (Season 6)

Golden Discs: (€40)

Game of Thrones (Season 5)

Golden Discs: (€35)

Peaky Blinders (Series 1,2,3)

Golden Discs: (€40)

Peaky Blinders (Series 3)

Golden Discs: (€16)

Sherlock (Series 1,2,3)

Golden Discs: €30

Poldark (Season 1 & 2)

Golden Discs: (€40)

Poldark (Series 2)

Golden Discs (€25)

Poldark (1975 TV Series)

Golden Discs: (€22)

The Night Manager (Mini-Series)

Golden Discs: (€20)

Downton Abbey (Limited

Deluxe Collection edit.)

Golden Discs: (€100)

Outlander (Series 1)

Golden Discs (€20)

Outlander (Series 2)

Golden Discs (€26)

Outlander (Series 1,2)

Golden Discs (€55)

The Sopranos

Golden Discs: €65

Gotham (Series 1,2)

Golden Discs (€35)

Children's DVDs

There are some really great offers and inexpensive festive DVDs and boxsets for the younger members of your family. You can avail of 2 for €12 or 2 for €10 special offers in the children's section of stores. Certain DVDs are also reduced if you purchase something with it.

Disney DVDs

Golden Discs: (3 for €25)

Willie Wonka & The Chocolate

Factory (1971) Golden Discs:

(€6)

BFG Golden Discs: (€15)

Secret Life of Pets

Golden Discs: €13

Mathilda (Special Edit.)

Golden Discs: (€6)

Muppets Christmas : Letter to Santa/

Muppets Christmas Carol/ Elf

- Golden Discs: (2 for €12)

Wizard of Oz

Golden Discs: (€7)

Annie & Oliver Boxset

Golden Discs: (€8)

Annie/Oliver/Mathilda/

Madeline Boxset

Golden Discs: (€12)

Comedy DVDs/Boxsets

Comedy boxsets are always plentiful at this time of year and specifically targeted for the Christmas market. They make the ideal Christmas present for a fun-filled festive season.

Mrs Brown's Boys: Cracking

Big Box Golden Discs (€22)

Mrs Brown's Boys: Christmas

Cracker'd Golden Discs (€20)

Dad's Army (Complete TV

Series) Golden Discs (€30)

Only Fools & Horses

(Collector's Edit.) Golden Discs

(€60)

Best of Morecambe & Wise

Golden Discs (€7 or 2 for €12)

Bridget Jones (1&2)

Golden Discs (€11)

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!!



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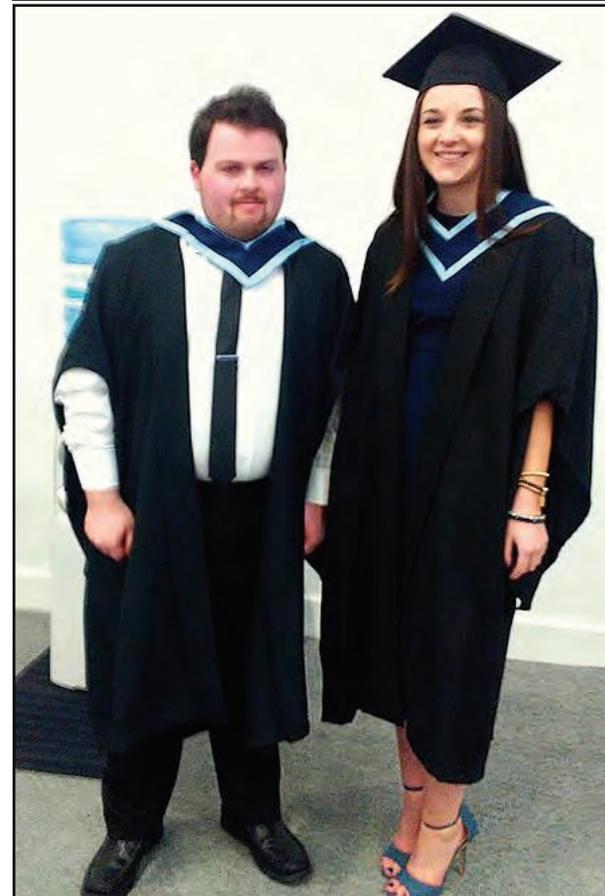
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MON/FRI - 10AM - 6PM

SAT - 10AM - 5.30PM



Moulin Rouge Boutique, Dunboyne Rd., Maynooth opened November 1976 is celebrating 40 years in business, we wish to thank most sincerely all our customers for their loyalty and support over the years



Congratulations to Sean Durack BA (Hons) Film and Teighlor Corcoran BA in Social Studies who recently graduated from Dublin Business School.



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Sunday Services @ 10.30am
 Everyone Welcome!

Advent Service of Longing
 Sun 27th November at 7.00pm

Ecumenical Carol Service
 Sun 11th Dec at 8.00pm in Manor Mills

**Christmas Concert in aid
 of Syrian Refugees**
 Sun 18th Dec at 7.00pm in Manor Mills

Christmas Morning Celebration
 Sun 25th Dec at 10.30pm in Manor Mills
 (begins with breakfast at 10.00am.)

'For to us a child is born, to us a son is given.' Isa 9:6



Frank O'Rourke TD

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/Frank O'Rourke



Dáil
 Éireann



Happy Christmas to
 all my Constituents



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





Maynooth Newsletter



Serving the people of Maynooth



February 2017 Local News Issue No. 454 FREE

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

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



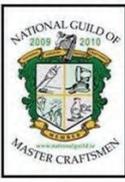
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Maynooth GAA to host 'Maynooth Oskars'



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 for more details. If your business would also like to get involved in supporting this event, please also contact 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



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) 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>
--	--

Applications with entry fee to be sent to Community Council Office

Unit 5, Tesco Shopping Centre, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.

By Monday 27th 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 17th 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 :
annuadhplayers@gmail.com
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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1 Cobra Beer OR Can of Soft Drink



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VEG, Pakora

Main

Tikkamassala OR Korma

Jalfrizi 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 €20 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 8th, which is always a very enjoyable event. Our Valentine's Tea-Dance will take place on February 19th 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 7th 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 19th, 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 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.

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 st one-third period	€6.94	75%
In the 2 nd one-third period	€7.40	80%
In the 3 rd 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.workplacerelations.ie/en/Frequently_Asked_Questions/National_Minimum_Wage/). https://www.workplacerelations.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 workplacerelations.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.

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, 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 jmginley@eircom.net - Web: www.labour.ie/johnmginley/

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 €7,000 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

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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

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

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

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. 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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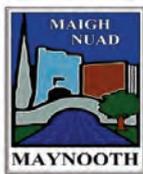
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Maynooth

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, Pdraig 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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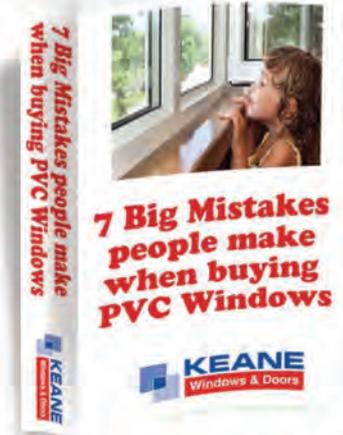
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Maynooth Newsletter

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



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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

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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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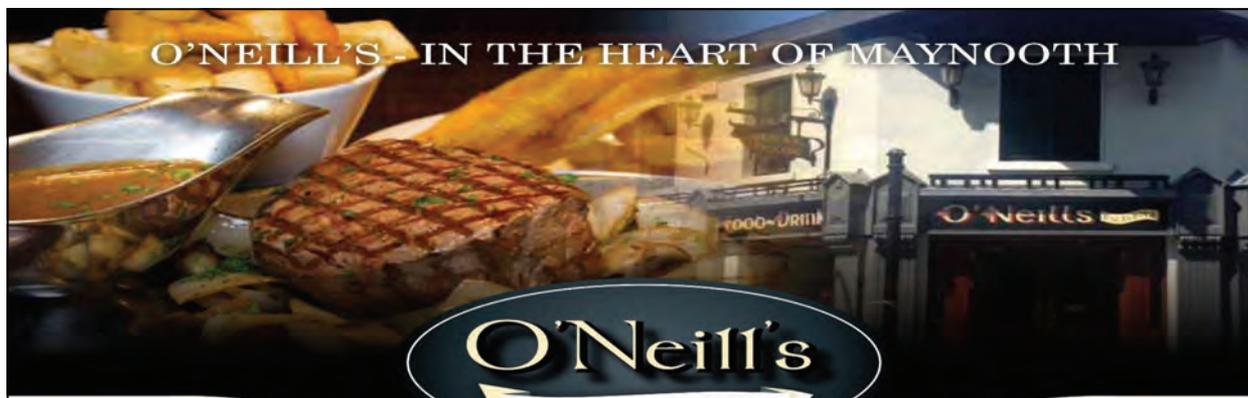
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Butterfly Conservation Ireland



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 entrancing 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



Maynooth Monthly Diary Planner

Irish Girl Guides	Maynooth Multiple Births	Bridge Club
<p>Meetings Tuesday evening in Maynooth. For further information contact Jackie on 0894298061 or visit the Irish Girl Guides website www.irishgirlguides.ie</p>	<p>Maynooth Multiple Births playgroup (twins triplets or more) meets the last Thursday of the month in Leixlip library between 10 & 12 noon. This is a Great opportunity to meet parents just like you. For further details email: maynoothmultiplebirthclub@gmail.com</p>	<p>Open for new members. If you would like to play in a friendly club with purpose-built facilities in the centre of Maynooth, please see our website at maynoothbridgeclub.com. Contact Katherine Cooney 086 8205910</p>
I.C.A.	MAYNOOTH LOCAL HISTORY GROUP	Arthritis Ireland
<p>Monthly meetings take place every 1st Thursday of the month at 8.00pm in the I.C.A. Hall in the Harbour. Crafts every Monday night at 8.00pm. New members welcome</p>	<p>Maynooth Local History Group Meets Last Thursday of each Month in the Maynooth Community Council Office (Next to the Post Office) New Members Welcome Contact: MCC Office for more details</p>	<p>Arthritis Ireland Walking Group (Maynooth) Meeting Monday's 12 - 2pm in the Maynooth Community Space</p>
University of Third Age (U3A)	Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group	Maynooth Men's Sheds
<p>Weekly meetings on Friday at 11am in Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth New Members Welcome</p>	<p>Every Thursday from 10.00am to 12.00pm Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth</p>	<p>Weekly meetings take place every Wednesday at 11.am at the Garden Centre Dublin Road Maynooth. For further details contact John Fleming - 087 2041334</p>
Community Library	ALZHEIMER CAFÉ LEIXLIP	Maynooth Community Church
<p>Opening Times Mondays & Fridays 2pm to 5pm Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm to 8pm Wednesday 9.30am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm Sat 9.30am to 1pm</p>	<p>Informal café atmosphere for people with Dementia & their partners family & friends. Free of charge. Venue Ryevale Nursing Home. Every second Wednesday of each month 7-9pm. Call 0894933533 Email: alzheimercafeleixlip@gmail.ie www.alzheimercafeleixlip.com</p>	<p>1st Floor Manor Mills (entrance next to Chill) Service times every Sunday morning from 10.30 am www.maynoothcc.org Everyone most welcome</p>
Maynooth Senior Citizens	Craobh Mhaigh Nuad C.C.E.	ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND
<p>Our morning club continues on Tuesday and Thursday and new members are always welcome. Perhaps you are new to the parish or new to the age bracket, why not come along you might enjoy it. You will find us in the Geraldine Hall on Leinster St, or contact Josephine on 087 9002296.</p>	<p>Classes are held on Wednesday 7pm to 9.30pm in Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road. Our classes are very good value, great fun and we promise you plenty of craic also !! Bígí linn!!! Contact Sean at 086 2225540 or email craobhmaighnuad@gmail.com.</p>	<p>Rehearsals are held in the Band Hall on Pound Lane each Monday night (except Bank Holidays) from 7.45pm to 9.30pm and musicians living in Maynooth and the surrounding areas are most welcome. E-mail: sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie Website: www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie</p>

Diary entries are published free of charge for all Community Groups. E-mail details of your event before the copy date (2nd last Tuesday of each month) to be included in the next months edition. E-mail: office@maynoothcc.com. Phone: 01-6285922
(The content of the Monthly Planner Diary is published in good faith. All details should be checked with groups)

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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

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

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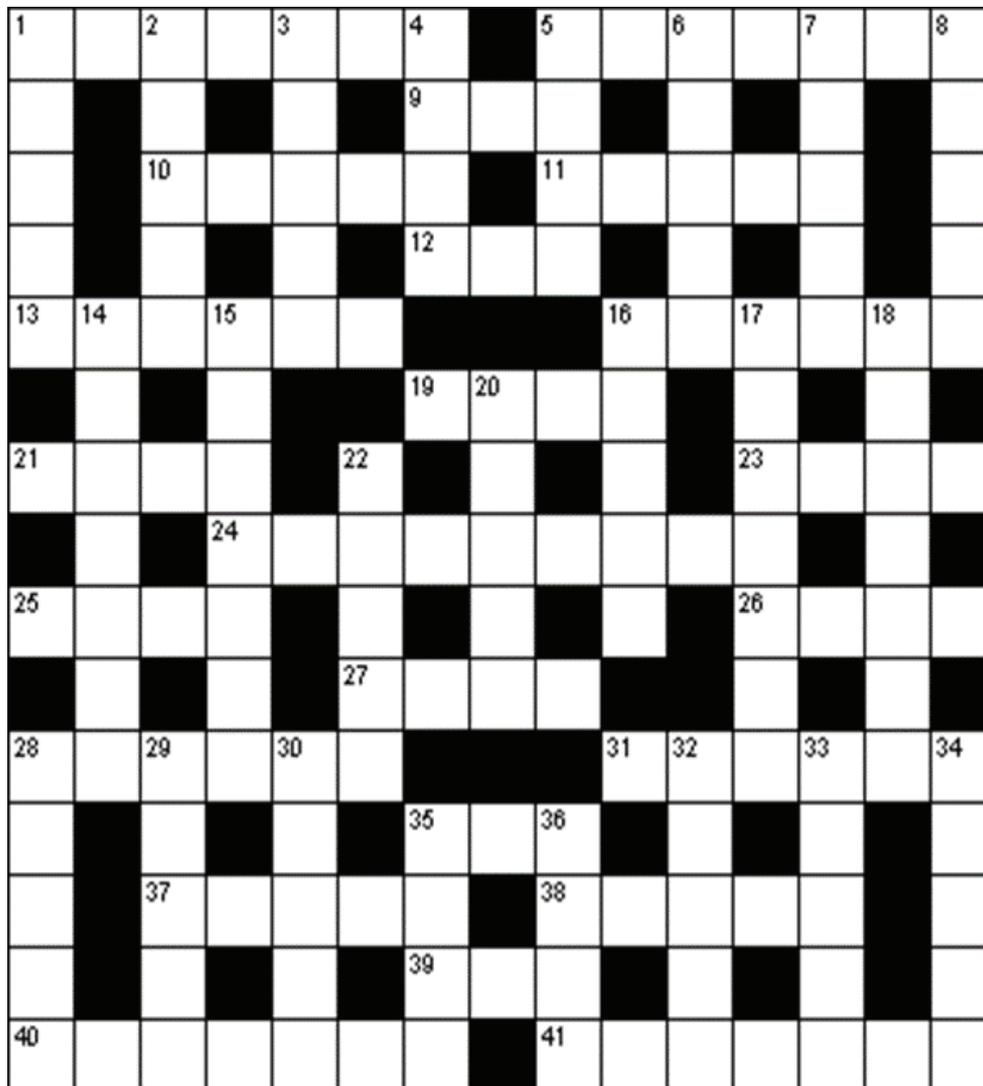
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Clues Across

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.

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

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. Reada 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.

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.

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

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'Neills in December. A great night was had by all and she thanked O'Neills 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'Cearuil 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	
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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.

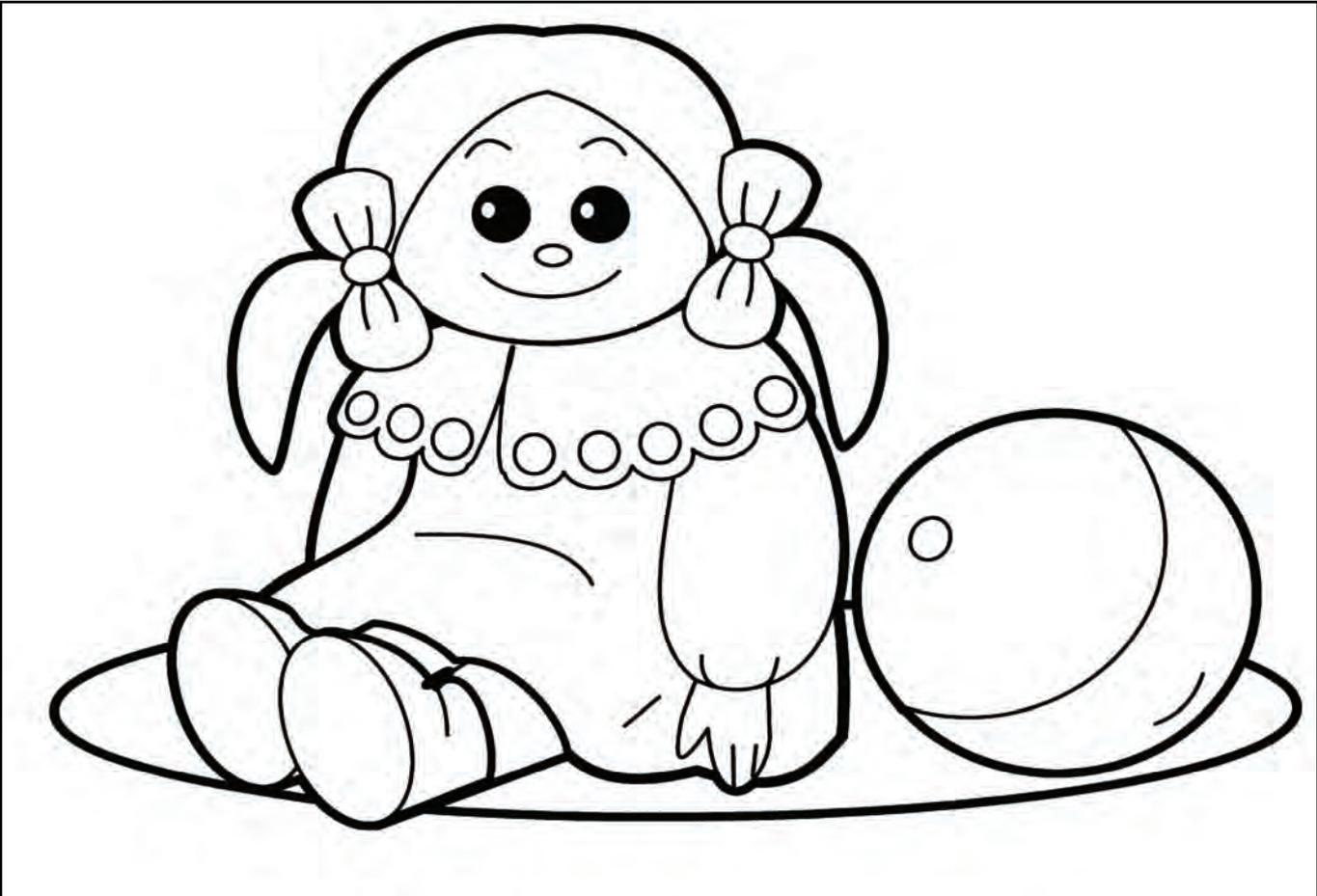
Package:

- 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

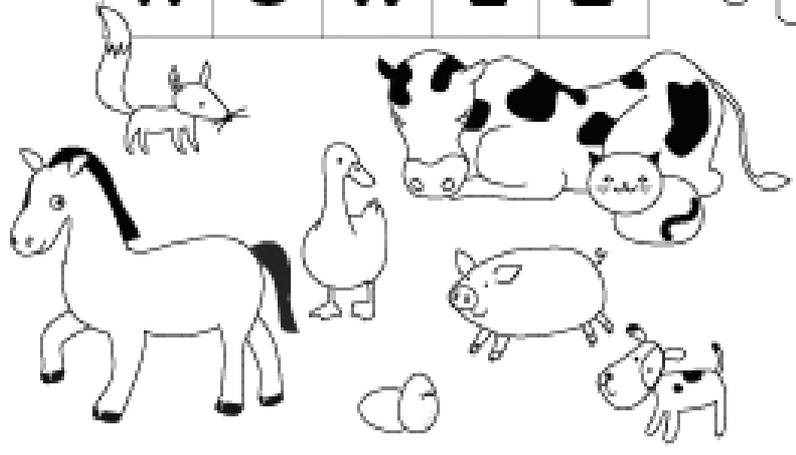
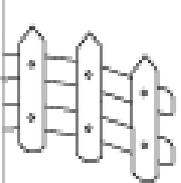
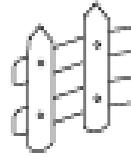
Prize of a Free Family Meal for Colouring Competition can be collected at:
 Maynooth Community Council Office, Unit 5, Tesco Shopping Centre.

Entries must arrive before:
 Tuesday 21 February 2017

Junior Puzzle Corner

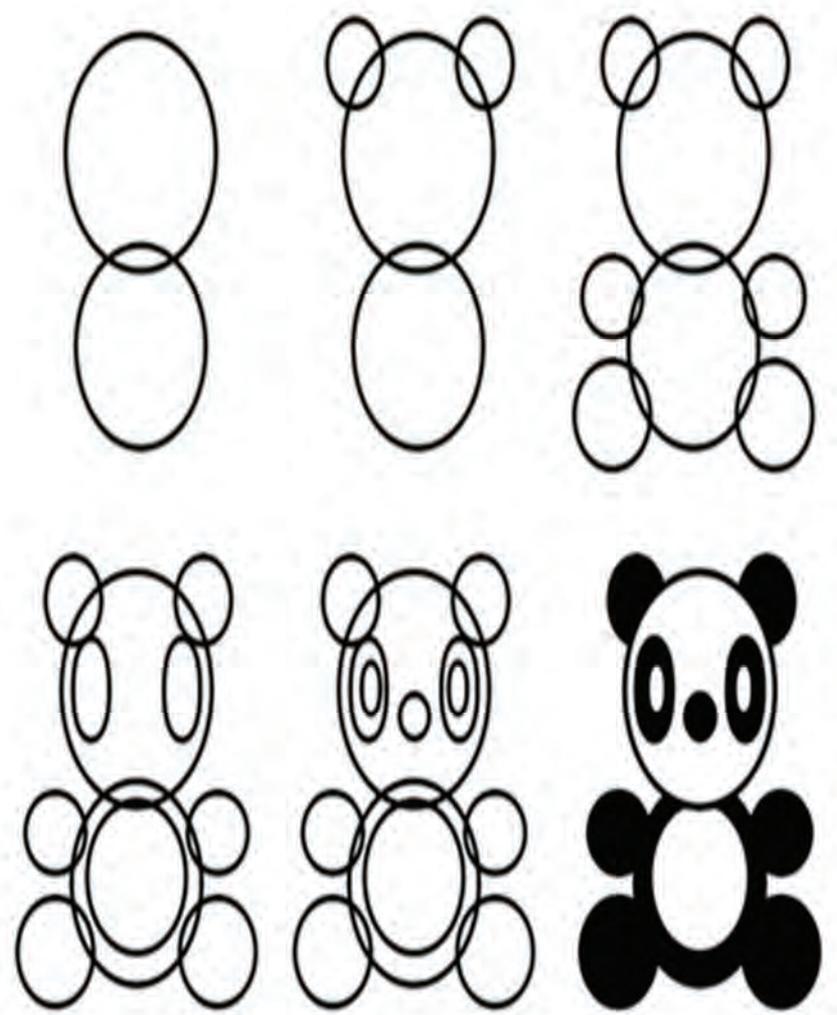
SEE WHO YOU CAN FIND IN THE FARM?

F	C	A	T	H
D	O	G	E	O
U	W	X	G	R
C	P	I	G	S
K	O	W	L	E



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!



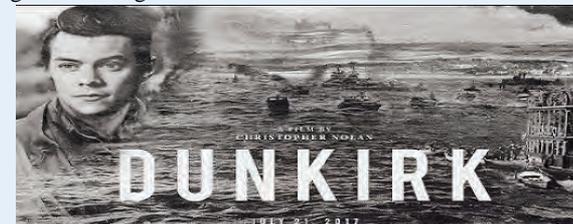
PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: SALAZAR'S REVENGE

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

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Kildare Street, Dublin 2.**

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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





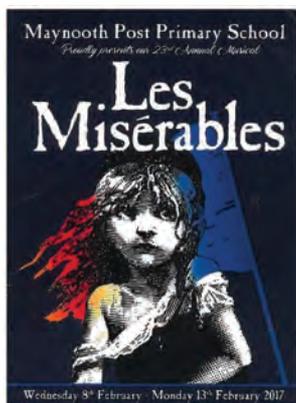
Maynooth newsletter

Serving the people of Maynooth



March 2017 Local News Issue No. 455 FREE

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



Maynooth Post Primary School proudly presented *Les Misérables* 23rd Annual Musical

It was with great anticipation and excitement that we in Maynooth looked forward to this year's Maynooth Post Primary's production of *Les Misérables*. It did not disappoint.

Set in post-revolutionary France, *Les Misérables* tells the story of Valjean, known as Prisoner 24601, who is released from prison and breaks parole to create a new life for himself while evading the grip of the persistent Inspector Javert.

The wealth of talent displayed by the transition year students of 2017 was very apparent throughout the performance. The whole production was a tribute and testament to the talent, energy, enthusiasm and commitment of all involved.

The leading roles were beautifully realised. There was the haunting rendition of "Bring him home" by Fionn O'Dwyer in the lead role as Valjean. It was a truly emotional experience for the audience. Seamus Milner's beautiful baritone voice gave credence to the relentless and unbending character of Javert. Colm Tracey confidently portrayed the Bishop through his wonderfully sounding baritone voice. Brendan Nolan as Marius performed with accomplishment displaying revolutionary and romantic aspects of the character with flair. Tom Fagan as Enjolras made for a persuasive student leader with his rendition of "Do you hear the people sing". Eoin Richardson as Gavroche was a delight and convincing in representing right, unity and sacrifice. He elicited an emotional response from the audience.

The female roles were superb all round. Ash Doherty Madrigal revealed the depth of her character Fantine with a pure and lyrical voice. Abbie Doyle's voice was beautifully sweet and assured which suited the role of the genteel Cosette. Elena Giardini performance as Eponine was excellent in particular her solo piece "On my own". Both voices gave each character individuality and at the same time complemented each other when they sang together.

Light comic relief was there as well in the wonderful performances of Ciara Fitzpatrick as Madam Thenardier and Donal Wade as Thenardier. They were funny, energetic and colourful. Their delivery of "Master of the House" was performed with merriment and joy.

The musical offered the opportunity for all students to be involved through the

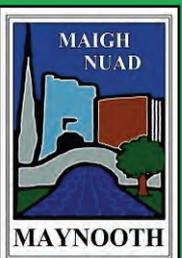
Factory Workers, Thenardier's Gang, the ABC Society, Townspeople, Army Officers and Students, the Red, White and Blue Choruses which they all carried out with great aplomb. Not forgetting the dedicated work of the construction crew, art and production teams without whom the show could not go on. The set design was second to none. Scene changes were superbly handled and the building of the barricade made for compelling viewing in itself. The front of house team was excellent in selling tickets, providing programmes and ice-cream. Everything was delivered to our laps.

A special word of thanks must go to the teachers who produced, directed and choreographed the show and who give their time and commitment to bring out the talents of all the transition year students involved - Mary Murphy (Producer), Aisling Dunne (Director), Grainne O'Rourke (Choreographer) and Mark Leamy (Stage Construction) and who were supported by their colleagues. Pulling it all together in six weeks was an achievement in itself. To quote the principal Johnny Nevin in his address to the students "this is an experience that will stand to you for the rest of your lives", I think that the audience experience can be included in that sentiment as well. We heard it said several times as we exited the hall.

"It is as good a performance as one would see in the West End". Awe inspiring and magnificent. Well done to all.



We in the community are mindful of the sadness experienced in the school on passing of Alice Flanagan and Darragh Nolan during this time. We extend our sympathies to their families and friends.



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APPLICATION FORM ON PAGE 28



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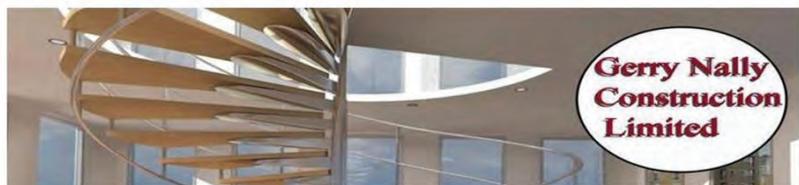
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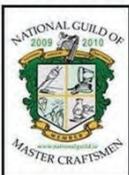
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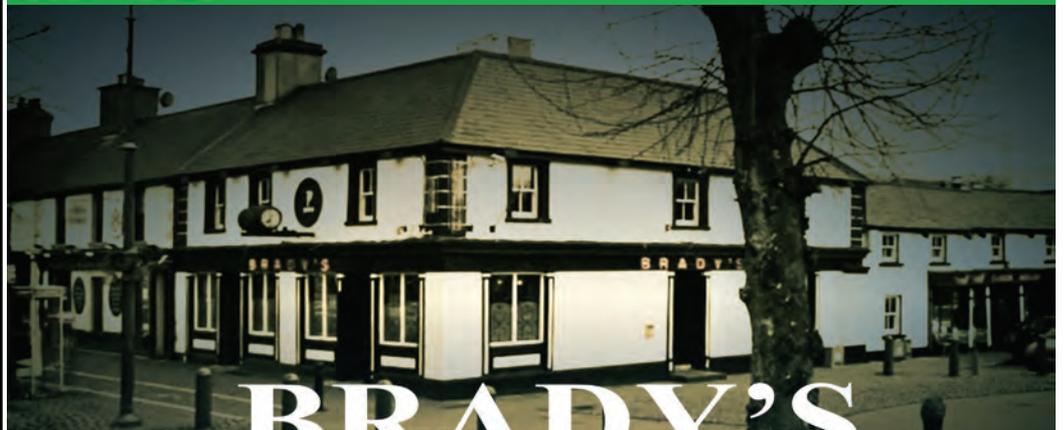
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FIANNA FÁIL
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

Editorial

The decision of the “Maynooth Youth Café” committee last month to dissolve the group was the end of another option for young people in the town to have a safe social outlet and follows on from a similar decision by the “Teen Space” Group which also closed down. In addition efforts by a third group supported by Foroige to get a club up and running in Maynooth has not happened. The Maynooth Youth Café committee has passed their remaining funds to Maynooth Community Council Ltd to be used for future youth initiatives. Maynooth Community Council Ltd has been very supportive of the work of youth groups in the town by providing a place for them to meet in the Maynooth Community Space centre and such support will be available to other youth initiatives.

Maynooth has a large population of young people and there are many organisations providing outlets with a range of activities so there are plenty of choices available to young people. Nonetheless, Maynooth Youth Café and Teen Space groups did offer alternatives. My own opinion is that Maynooth Community Council Ltd should look at carrying out a survey of young people to see if there are other choices that should be available for our young people. Also I believe that we should consider employing a dedicated youth worker in the town. Failure to support any of our young people should not be an option.

At the other end of the life cycle I see that the Maynooth Men’s Shed Group are also looking for support to find a new home.

Again Maynooth Community Council Ltd supported this group when they were setting up. However, the membership numbers grew rapidly and they needed a place to work on their range of projects. I have great regard for this group as they have become a resource for many other groups in the town. I would encourage anybody who can make a shed available to this group to come forward and make the offer. You would not just be supporting the Men’s Shed Group but your entire community.

Other people that are on our minds are the staff of HP whose jobs will be lost over the next year and indeed the many other jobs who are dependent on the HP operations affected by the recent decision to cease production in the Leixlip plant. Decisions like this are never welcome but people affected will have the full support of their local community. Maynooth Community Council Ltd will provide any support that we can to assist people affected to get over this setback.

On a positive note the news that Maynooth will have six day a week street cleaning from Kildare County Council is very welcome. I am not sure who to thank but I think that the people who should be thanked are the householders in the town who have paid their Property Tax as these funds should provide almost two million euro to Kildare County Council this year. We need to ensure that our Property Taxes are spent locally to enhance our local environment and increase the services provided by Kildare County Council.

Paul Croghan
Editor

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Maynooth A Town In Transition

Long live change seems to be the anthem in Maynooth, onwards and upwards, proclaim progress and innovation. Certainly there seems to be a growing confidence in Maynooth and its environs. The traffic jams are getting more frequent and longer on the inadequate road systems through and surrounding Maynooth. Parking still remains a significant issue especially for rail commuters. I must say that Pay Parking in the town has helped. New houses are being constructed again in various locations, giving prospective buyers choice. Maynooth has gained its Purple Flag, a sign of excellence.

Many of those reading this article will know me from Maynooth Toastmasters whose aim is to foster communication skills at our bi-monthly meetings on the 2nd / 4th Monday at the Glenroyal Hotel. Another core expertise is Ecology and how it impacts on the environs of an area. It's fair to say that the environment of Maynooth is facing challenges some good and some bad.

Having worked for a lifetime in tree preservation on development sites it pains one to see the needless damage which is taking place to mature trees especially when criteria for preservation per recognised standards are readily available.

One heartening piece of news at the recent Heritage Seminar held by Maynooth Tidy Towns was to be told that there is a land corridor held along the Historic Lime Walk, if this is the case why not implement a replacement planting of Lime trees for the centuries to come rather than wait till the existing trees begin to decline?

As the pace of development quickens up and more green areas with historic hedgerows and mature trees disappear, one can ask will any compensatory habit be provided? Or at the very least might one hope that the importance of replacing with native species will be required as so ably outlined in recent free publications from National Biodiversity Data Centre County Waterford.

Peter W Cuthbert BSc Agr (Hort)

Maynooth Flower and Garden Club

March is usually the month when we think of getting back to work in the garden and with this in mind The Maynooth Flower and Garden Club have organised a very special event on March 21st at 8pm in Glenroyal Hotel when one of Irelands best Gardeners and Landscape Designers is giving an illustrated talk.

Angela Jupe will talk of "Gardens that have inspired me and plants I love".

Admission only €5 and refreshments served.

Everyone welcome!



Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee



We had a most enjoyable Valentine's Tea-Dance on Feb 19th. Our competition to find the most romantic couple was won by Pat Bruton and Norah Halpin. Congratulations to them and indeed to all the couples who entered into the spirit of the occasion. It was great to see Ellie Leavy and Una Murphy back with us after their stay in hospital and congratulations to Ellie who celebrated her 91st birthday on Feb. 24th. Many thanks to all those young talented people who gave us a wonderful night at the Post Primary School Musical. Well done to all concerned, you just get better with every passing year. Thank you to all who turned out for the Tony Smith Memorial walk. This event is run by the Labour Party each year and we thank them and the Smith family for their continued support. The weather also played its part with the rain remaining up in the clouds... like the rest of us.

Our AGM will take place on Tuesday March 7th at 8pm in the Geraldine Hall. This is an open meeting to which all are welcome. Our annual collection will take place on March 11th and 12th and we thank Fr. Liam for facilitating our collectors in the Church grounds. Our next Tea-Dance will be on Sun. March 19th when we will celebrate St. Patrick with all things green. In the meantime I hope everyone is designing their Easter Bonnets in preparation for April 23rd, but more about that anon.

Josephine Moore.
Chairperson.

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Maynooth Youth Cafe Windup

The Maynooth Youth Café committee has agreed to windup after operating in the community continuously since 2010. Over these years the Youth Café served different age groups with fun evenings of chat, games, karaoke, and generally chilling. The funds from the Youth Café are being held in trust by the Maynooth Community Council for use by a future youth group in Maynooth.

The committee would like to express thanks :

- * For all the support over the years from Kildare Youth Services especially Maura Littlewood & Deidre Gleeson for their commitment, advice & training.
- * To all past & present committee members who have worked tirelessly and Teresa Murray who has been a great support to the committee.

Finally I would like to say thank you to our current committee for all their hard work & commitment over the years.

Nick Byrne Ex Chairman - Maynooth Youth Cafe



St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band

February is usually a “waiting” month for the Band looking forward to taking part in a number of St. Patrick's Day Parades which we will report on in next month's Newsletter.

The Junior Band is making good progress and we are delighted to report that they participated in a Regional Wind Festival in Ballymore Eustace at the end of February while the Senior Band are busy rehearsing for the National Band Championships in Navan on 8th April and the South of Ireland Band Championships in Clonakilty on 1st July. In addition to those events we hope to be involved in the Maynooth Festival as well as doing some outdoor recitals in the town during the Summer months.

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.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth

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

Information is also available online at www.citizensinformation.ie and from the Citizens Information Phone Service - 0761 07 4000 or Lo-call 1890777121

Carers and free travel

Question

I care full-time for a relative with a disability and I have applied for Carer's Allowance. Although I am not yet aged 66 would I be entitled to a free travel pass, if I qualify for this allowance?

Answer

Everyone aged 66 and over living permanently in the State is entitled to the Free Travel Scheme. If you are under age 66 and registered for a Public Services Card, you will be awarded free travel with your Carer's Allowance. You will be issued with a new Public Services Card which will also be your Free Travel Card. The card will have "F-T" printed in a yellow octagon in the top left-hand corner.

If you have not yet registered for the Public Services Card, you will be asked to register before your Free Travel Card issues to you.

The Public Services Card allows people to access a range of government services and payments and it will eventually replace the Free Travel Pass. In order to keep your entitlement to Free Travel, you must register for the Public Services Card when requested to do so by the Department of Social Protection. Your entitlement to Free Travel will be disallowed or withdrawn if you don't register.

You must show your Public Services Card to the travel operator when you are travelling on public transport. (In some cases you may be asked to scan your Public Services Card. However, not all transport operators have this facility.)

Note that people under 66 getting PRSI-based Carer's Benefit are not entitled to a Free Travel Card.

If you are living with the person you care for, you may also be entitled to the Household Benefits Package, which includes an electricity or gas allowance as well as a free TV licence. Only one person in a household can qualify for the package at any time.

Family Income Supplement and student grants

Question

My wife and I are applying for the Family Income Supplement (FIS) for our family of two children. We are unsure about what income is included in the means test for this payment. For example, will my wife's student grant be included?

Answer

Family Income Supplement (FIS) is a weekly tax-free payment for families, including one-parent families, at work on low pay. The combined income of a couple (married, in a civil partnership or cohabiting) is taken into account when your means are assessed for FIS. Income from any source, including a student grant, is assessed in the means test. However, the following payments are not counted as family income:

- Child Benefit or any income your children may have
- Guardian's payments

- Supplementary Welfare Allowance
- Domiciliary Care Allowance
- Foster Child Allowance
- Rent Allowance for tenants affected by the de-control of rents
- Income from a charitable organisation
- Income from providing accommodation to students studying Irish in Gaeltacht areas

Capital is not assessed. This includes property you own, bank accounts and cars. However, bank accounts may be checked for other income sources and income derived from the use of a car that you own may be assessed (for example as a taxi). The main items counted as income are a couple's assessable earnings, any extra earned in employment (such as pay for overtime, bonuses, allowances or commission), income from self-employment, occupational pensions, social welfare payments (apart from those listed above), income from carer's payments or rental income from the letting of property or land.

Importing a car into Ireland

Question

What are the rules about buying a car in the UK and bringing it back to Ireland?

Answer

In general, all vehicles brought into Ireland are subject to Vehicle Registration Tax (VRT) and must be registered. If you have imported a vehicle, you must pay VRT and receive the vehicle's registration certificate showing that you have paid VRT.

If you live abroad and are moving to live in Ireland, you may be eligible for a VRT exemption. Even if you are not required to pay VRT, you must still register your vehicle when you move to Ireland. In certain cases, foreign-registered vehicles may be imported into Ireland temporarily by a non-resident without the requirement to pay VRT or register the vehicle.

You register the car and pay the VRT at a National Car Testing Service (NCTS) centre. You can get an estimate of the VRT due from the Revenue Vehicle Registration Online Enquiry System.

When you register and pay the VRT, a registration number will be assigned to your car. You can obtain vehicle registration plates from the NCTS centre or from any motor factor.

If you are importing a new car from another EU state, you have to pay VAT (Value Added Tax), usually when registering the car. If you are importing a new or second-hand car from outside the EU, VAT (and customs duty) is payable.

If your vehicle is 4 years old or more, it will have to go through the National Car Test (NCT) immediately.

Further information is available in the Revenue guide to VRT and on revenue.ie.

Domestic violence

Question

My partner has been violent towards me and my children. What can I do to stop this and protect my family?

Answer

If you are concerned about violence in your home, you can contact the Gardaí, who are specially trained to deal with these situations and can offer advice and information. Under the Domestic Violence Act 1996, where there is an order in place, Gardaí have the power to arrest and prosecute a violent family member. There are two main kinds of protection available – a safety order and a barring order.

A safety order is an order of the court which prohibits the violent person with whom you are living from further violence or threats of violence. It does not oblige the person to leave the family home. You can also get a safety order against a person with whom you have had a child, even if you are no longer living with or have never lived with the person. It prohibits them from watching or being near your home. A safety order can last up to 5 years.

A barring order is an order which requires the person to leave the family home. If you are not married or in a civil partnership, you can get a barring order against a violent partner if you have been living together in an intimate and committed relationship for 6 out of the previous 9 months and if your partner does not own most or all of the house you are living in. A barring order can last up to 3 years.

Both types of order can be renewed by applying for a further order before the previous one has expired.

Others living together can also apply for protection. For example, a parent can apply for protection against domestic violence by their own child, if the child is over 18.

To get a barring order or a safety order, you must apply to the District Court. While you are waiting for the court to hear your application, the court can give you an immediate order, called a protection order. The protection order has the same effect as a safety order. In exceptional circumstances the court can grant an interim barring order. This is an immediate order, requiring the violent person to leave the family home.

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

Maynooth Labour News

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

Update on the Taking in Charge of Meadowbrook and Castle Dawson

Cllr. John McGinley got the following reply from Kildare County Council on 16 February:

"We are going to push ahead with the Meadowbrook Estate. The next stage is to forward any available documentation to IW and formally request their approval. We probably have no As Constructed Drawings etc. from the developer but we will have to double check the old files to confirm that this is the case. We are still awaiting wayleaves etc. for the pump station that serves Castledawson and the adjacent Newtown Hall and will contact the developer about this again."

Cllr. John McGinley responded saying that this issue has dragged on for far too long and that the Council need to bring it to a conclusion without any further delay.

Update on Meadowbrook Link Road/Straffan Road Junction

The Director of Services has advised Cllr. McGinley that the developer of Hayfield now wants to install the traffic lights at the junction himself.

The Council have asked for full details on what he proposes to do to ensure it is up to specification.

Cllr. McGinley Calls for a new Footpath on the Northern side of Newtown Road, Maynooth

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 8 March:

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

Cllr. McGinley Calls for Full Re-instatement of Carton Avenue

As residents will be aware the footpath and green area on Carton Avenue was dug up recently by a building contractor who was laying pipes. Cllr. John McGinley has asked the Council to make sure that full re-instatement of the Avenue is carried out.

Cllr. McGinley has asked the Council to provide a Full Yellow Box at the Exit from Parklands/ Castlebridge

John has written as follows to the Roads Section of the Council:

"A yellow box needs to be painted on the full width of the road at the Parklands/Straffan Road junction in order to allow traffic to turn right from Parklands. Since the pedestrian lights were put in here cars on Straffan Road are driving up to the lights and preventing cars from turning right from Parklands. This in turn prevents cars from turning left from Parklands as the exit has been made much narrower."

John has also asked for a yellow box at the Silken Vale exit.

Cllr. McGinley Calls for a Proper Pedestrian Crossing near the Gaelscoil Entrance on the Celbridge Road, Maynooth

As a result of numerous representations from parents Cllr. McGinley has again asked the Council to consider providing a proper pedestrian crossing near the Gael Scoil on the Celbridge. It would also of course facilitate the Educate Together schoolchildren.

Residents' Associations Should now apply for Grants from Kildare Council

The Closing date for Residents' Association to apply for Grants from the Council for maintaining their open spaces is 14 March. Application Forms are available on

the Council website: www.kildarecoco.ie or by e-mailing grants@kildarecoco.ie

Tender Report for Maynooth Education Campus with Department - Stagg

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has been advised that the Tender Report for the Maynooth Education Campus is now with the Department of Education and Skills.

The Tender Report stated Mr. Stagg recommends the Preferred Contractor to carry out the construction of the Maynooth Education Campus. The Department's Professional and Technical Staff are currently carrying out their analysis of the Report. It is important that this analysis is carried out expeditiously to enable approval of the Tender to issue to the Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board so they can then issue a Letter of Intent to the Preferred 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 cost of €30 Million and the envisaged construction period is 24 months.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet 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 near future.

Rent Position in Maynooth should be Reviewed in Next Quarter - Stagg

Following the release of Information from the Housing Agency about the exclusion of Maynooth from Rent Caps by Minister Coveney on Thursday 26th January, Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that the Rental position in Maynooth should be reviewed following the next quarter.

Mr. Stagg stated that Maynooth qualified as a Rent Pressure Zone as the average rent is above the national average, but did not qualify as annual rent inflation for four out of the last six quarters was not 7% or more.

The Rent Zone Report from the Residential Tenancies Board, based on their findings, led to the exclusion of Maynooth.

Mr. Stagg stated that he remained unhappy with the exclusion of Maynooth and other Towns in North Kildare from Rent Cap's and stated that the data used by the Residential Tenancies Board to arrive at their decision needs to be looked at again and a review of the position in Maynooth should follow when the first quarter of 2017 has passed.

Stagg Blasts Harris' Indifference towards Women on Gynaecological Waiting List at Coombe

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has blasted the response he has received from the Minister for Health Simon Harris T.D., in relation to the 1 year waiting time for women to receive outpatient gynaecological appointments at the Coombe Hospital, describing Minister Harris as indifferent to the plight of those on the waiting list.

Mr. Stagg stated that he had been contacted by a number of constituents in relation to the delays being encountered. Waiting for up to a year for routine appointments that can potentially detect cancer is a disgrace. In many instances women are often left waiting in pain but it is also the case that benign conditions may actually represent undiagnosed cancers.

The Minister responding to Mr. Stagg stated that he had granted approval to the National Treatment Purchase Fund to dedicate €5 Million to a daycase waiting list initiative with the aim of ensuring that no patient will be

waiting more than 18 months for a day case procedure, including those on the gynaecology waiting list, by 30th June, 2017.

Criticising Minister Harris, Mr. Stagg stated that given the importance of detecting cancers as early as possible it was simply not acceptable that gynaecological appointment waiting lists of up to a year at the Coombe were not going to be tackled by the Minister. He stated that it was a dis-service to women.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that he would raise this issue further with the Minister as the Minister's response was simply not acceptable.

Further 10 Additional Gardai Assigned to Kildare Division

The Executive Director of Human Resources in Garda Headquarters has advised Emmet Stagg that a further 10 Probationer Gardai have been assigned to the Kildare Division in February.

This stated Mr. Stagg brings the total number of Gardai assigned to the Kildare Division from new recruits since April 2015 to 35. In addition to this the Kildare Division received 4 transfers at Garda Rank. The total number of Gardai in the Kildare Division now stands at 327.

The Executive Director was responding to Mr. Stagg on behalf of the Garda Commissioner Noirin O'Sullivan following correspondence issued by Mr. Stagg to the Commissioner about the serious under manning of Gardai in the Division.

With this additional allocation there is now 1 garda for every 643 people in Kildare. This is an improvement in the ratio of 1 garda for every 697 people at 31st December, 2014, but Mr. Stagg stated that we had to keep pressing for further major allocations of Gardai to the Kildare Division to improve the policing service in the County.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that he would continue the campaign to end the under manning of Garda Resources in the Kildare Division.

Stagg Call's on Ross to Include Electrification of Maynooth and Kildare Rail Lines in New Capital Plan

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has called on the Minister for Transport Shane Ross T.D. to include the Electrification of both the Maynooth Rail Line and Kildare Rail Line in the New Capital Plan which will be drawn up in the first half of 2017.

Mr. Stagg stated that both projects which are included in the DART Expansion Programme are recommended in the National Transport Authority's Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016-2035, and the Maynooth Rail Line Electrification is included in the National Transport Integrated Implementation Plan 2013-2018. The Electrification of the Rail Lines would also involve the removal of level crossings and re-signalling and would provide fast high-frequency electrified services to Maynooth and Hazelhatch in Celbridge.

Given that Minister Ross has stated that the Review of the Capital Plan is about to commence Mr. Stagg stated that he would press Minister Ross to include the Maynooth and Kildare Lines Electrification in the New Plan given the enhancement it would provide to commuters in North Kildare.

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.,
Never known to fail. EB

James Lawless T.D. Kildare North

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

Staff at HP Must be Provided with Adequate Supports Following Job Losses

I met with staff of HP in recent weeks following the announcement 500 jobs are to go in the next 12 months. This is extremely disappointing news and I have offered my assistance to those hit hardest by these job losses. Following a visit to the site I spoke directly with the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise, and Trade to make sure she provides support for staff over the next year. I have also called on the Minister to actively commence seeking a new tenant for the Lexlip Plant. The following are some of the points I raised in the Dáil on the day of the job losses;

I come to the Chamber today directly from Leixlip where I was at Hewlett Packard for most of the morning talking to workers, talking to staff and talking to the various management who were available on site. I was disappointed to note, I was the only Oireachtas Member on site. There were no Government representatives present. There is a scrum to get into job announcements and I was disappointed to see the same approach is not taken to job cuts.

As the Minister should be aware, this is a devastating blow to Kildare, to the local economy of north Kildare and to the areas of Leixlip, Maynooth, Celbridge, Naas and the wider hinterland. This is one of the key employers in north Kildare along with Intel, Pfizer, Kerry Foods and others and 500 job losses is a huge hammer blow to those workers and their families and to the wider local economy. As the House will be aware, for every ten jobs generated by FDI another seven are generated as a spin-off. No doubt the local economy will begin to suffer as well. Everything that can be done has to be done to support those workers to begin that process of retraining and re-skilling, if that is required, to support them and put the facilities of the State at their disposal. I would be interested in knowing what package is on the table in terms of supports for those workers, everything from social protection through to retraining through such support services.

The writing was on the wall for this one for some time. The restructuring - it was at HP at global level - was announced in November 2015 of HP Inc. and HP Enterprise. It was well understood globally that 3,000 to 4,000 jobs would be cut. If that was not enough of a signal, the CEO of Hewlett Packard globally, Ms Meg Whitman, speaking at the Davos forum last month, made an announcement, which made world headlines but, perhaps, not the Minister's attention, that jobs and humans would be put out of business by robots and automation. Advanced manufacturing is heading in this direction. That was a fairly strong signal and I would have thought the Department and the Minister would have engaged, even at that late stage, given the amount of signals that had been given, given the presence of HP in Ireland and given its critical importance not only to the local Kildare economy and those workers but to the wider national economy and our economic model.

I want to ask the Minister what engagement she had with HP management. Did the Minister meet them in Ireland? Did she meet them elsewhere, for example, in the United States? If not, why? What contacts had the Minister or her office this week, this month and over the past 12 months, in light of the announcement of November 2015? Given HP's significant footprint in Ireland, did the Minister take immediate steps to engage with the company? If so, could the Minister elaborate on those? What steps are now being taken, in terms of mitigation?

There are no specifics about the support package. There is no commitment to a support package and I do not know what is available in terms of social protection, training and retraining. We need contact points and dedicated personnel assigned to that. There is no mitigation plan in place. HP Inc. is unfortunate to be the receiver of bad news today. The Minister has mentioned other factors, such as President Trump and Brexit, which do not affect HP Inc. but they might affect other firms. What mitigation or crisis management plan is in place for the future? We had the issue with Intel a year ago, the announcement about HP Inc. today and it might be some other company this year or next year. Is any kind of plan being put together? We need this fast.

I hate to say this but the last time the Minister visited County Kildare she invited members of the council to a photograph opportunity. The time for photograph opportunities is gone. It is time for action.

One Million Trees in a Day

Huge congrats go to Maynooth Tidy Towns for their work on the national 'One Million Trees in a Day' participation. Up to 250 native Woodland Whips and 250 Native Hedgerow Whips were planted in Maynooth on the day. This is another shining example of the excellent work carried out by Maynooth Tidy Towns and they are to be commended on their efforts.

Staff shortages ensuring disability complaints not being dealt with says Lawless

Local T.D. James Lawless has said that unless there is an urgent intervention by the Minister for Disability, with additional resources, complaints relating to Assessment

of Needs applications will continue to be put on the long finger.

The HSE informed Fianna Fáil that there are 445 complaints currently outstanding as of February 2nd.

"This is a shocking number of complaints, and is being made worse as a result of only one HSE staff member working on dealing with these complaints.

"If no new complaints are made, based on the HSE's average of 14 complaint investigations being completed per week, it will be over 30 weeks before the back log is cleared.

"That's simply not going to happen. More and more applications are rightly being made for an Assessment of Need, and this will result in increased complaints.

An Assessment of Needs is a formal assessment of a child's needs associated with having a disability. Any child born after June 1st 2002 is eligible for an assessment under the Disability Act 2005.

"The act ensures that not only must an assessment be carried out, and a report is drawn up, but that the parents have a right to complain if they are unhappy with any part of the process.

"Delays in investigating complaints are slowing down the potential delivery of services to children with disabilities. This is a completely unacceptable situation. The response from the HSE doesn't fill me with much confidence to be frank.

"Hoping to increase the staffing levels is not something parents of children with disabilities want to hear. Minister McGrath must, if not able to secure staff externally, allocate staff from other sections of the HSE, and provide funding for the complaints process to be sped up," summarised Deputy Lawless.

KBC Jobs Secure in Naas & Maynooth says Lawless

Kildare North T.D. James Lawless has welcomed the decision by KBC Bank to commit to providing banking services in the Irish market into the future.

Speaking on the decision Deputy Lawless said "Not only does the news come as a relief to around 1,000 employees of KBC Bank, it is also very positive news for Irish consumers. In particular this is welcome news for the staff and customers of both the Naas and Maynooth branches.

"The Irish banking market could have ill afforded the loss of another market player. KBC Bank provides vital competition to the pillar banks of AIB and Bank of Ireland, and also to Ulster Bank and Permanent TSB. Hopefully KBC's renewed commitment to Ireland will actually help to stiffen competition in the marketplace for the benefit of consumers.

"The CEO's commitment to continue to invest in Ireland is especially welcome. KBC's recent financial reports suggest that their Irish operation is significantly profitable, and that they continue to increase their number of customers. The announcement of mortgage rate cuts by KBC last October, means the bank is well placed to benefit from the increasing number of mortgage applications in Ireland and the bank's commitment to SMEs is welcome news.

"I note that the bank's CEO has confirmed that the bank has some customers affected by the tracker mortgage scandal. KBC needs to ensure that all customers who were wrongly denied a tracker mortgage rate or who were put on the wrong rate are looked after as a priority. My party colleagues and I will be revisiting this issue very shortly to see what progress has been made by KBC and all the other banks".

Maynooth Purple Flag Launched

I was delighted to attend the Purple Flag Launch in the Glenroyal last Thursday 16th February. The award highlights Maynooths thriving nightlife, restaurants, cafes, and shops. Well done to the Chamber of Commerce, Kildare County Council, Maynooth Tidy Towns, and all other stakeholders involved. I look forward to working with them on future projects in Maynooth.

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

Never known to fail.

Thanksgiving for favour received. RD

Frank O'Rourke T.D. Kildare North

Contact Details: Dail Office: 01 6183109 - Mobile: 087 255257 - e-mail: frank.orourke@oireachtas.ie -  /Frank O'Rourke

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

Taskforce needed to deal with HP job losses - O'Rourke

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North Frank O'Rourke has said the loss of 500 jobs at HP in Leixlip comes as a major blow to the local community.

Deputy O'Rourke further added that the Government needs to put in place a multi-agency taskforce in order to assist workers in finding alternative employment as quickly as possible.

"Today's news is a devastating blow for workers, their families and the wider community in Leixlip. HP is an iconic employer in Kildare and has been operating in the county since 1995. The company employs thousands of workers and it has played a major role in supporting the local economy down through the years. These job losses are worrying and demonstrate the fragility of our economic recovery," said Deputy O'Rourke.

"The Government needs to put in place a multi-agency taskforce to assist workers in finding alternative employment. The Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation Mary Mitchell O'Connor needs to step up to the mark and ensure the IDA, Enterprise Ireland and other key agencies work together to secure alternative employment for the workers affected by this announcement.

"Minister Mitchell O'Connor also needs to explore the possibility of securing funding from the European Union to help limit the impact of these job losses. The Government can make an application for emergency funding to help retrain workers who lose their job due to the negative effects of globalisation. A similar approach was taken in Limerick in 2009 when Dell announced substantial job losses.

"Many of the workers affected by these job losses are highly skilled and need to be assisted in finding employment in expanding companies. If workers feel that they need to upskill then they should be given the opportunity to do so. Some of the workers have been employed at HP for many years and may be entitled to generous redundancy packages. Enterprise Ireland should assist these workers if any of them decide to setup their own businesses.

"These job losses are a major blow to Kildare, but the damage can be limited if the Government is pro-active," concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

O'Rourke demands answers over dental delays - Patients trapped on waiting lists for over 4 years -

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North Frank O'Rourke has called on the Health Minister to explain what measures will be taken to alleviate unacceptably long waiting lists for orthodontic treatment in Kildare.

Deputy O'Rourke raised the matter in the Dáil yesterday after securing a Dáil debate on the issue. The Kildare TD highlighted that some patients have been waiting for over four years to receive orthodontic treatment.

"The waiting lists for orthodontic treatment are growing out of control. There are people who were seen by a consultant back in 2013 who are still

waiting for their treatment. This is despite the fact that their consultant has indicated that they urgently need treatment to correct problems which are causing them serious pain," said Deputy O'Rourke.

He raised this matter with the Government in the Dáil and asked just what exactly is being done to address the waiting list crisis. People's lives have been put on hold while they wait for orthodontic treatment. These people are afraid to make travel arrangements in fear that they will be offered an appointment at short notice and ultimately end up being put to the back of the waiting list. The medical conditions of a number of people have also deteriorated while they await treatment. The delays are simply unacceptable.

"There seems to be a lack of joined up thinking when it comes to addressing the waiting list crisis. For example, an orthodontic consultant resigned from his post nearly three years ago but the HSE are yet to appoint a replacement. This is at a time when the HSE should arguably be appointing more orthodontic specialists to help clear the growing waiting lists".

"The reply I received in the Dáil from Deputy Marcella Corcoran Kennedy on behalf of the Health Minister does not inspire confidence. The Government cannot give any definite timeline or commitments as to when these waiting lists will be cleared. This just isn't good enough," said Deputy O'Rourke.

O'Rourke welcomes Dawn Farm Foods contract with Subway – as he again calls for a Food Hub Designation

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has welcomed the announcement by Dawn Farm Foods that it has secured a contract to supply its food products to Subway, and has again called on the Government to designate Naas and surrounding area of North Kildare a Food Hub.

"In 2010, Dawn Farm Foods secured a €700m contract with Subway. This is effectively, as I understand it, a renewal or extension of that contract. However, the success of Dawn Farm Foods in securing this contract reflects the success of the company in these challenging and changing economic times."

"This is great news for the company, its management, the employees and the wider area of North Kildare. It will give the industry here a vote of confidence in the midst of much international uncertainty."

"Since getting elected, I have campaigned for the area of North Kildare to be designated as a Food Hub. Naas and surrounding areas are home to many Food related companies, which have strong brands. Examples include, Kerry Food, Dawn Farm Food, and Queally Group, who has secured this contract, Tara Vale Foods, Green Isle, Brady Farm Food located in Timahoe, and Ballymooney Foods located in Clane." Stated Deputy O'Rourke.

"I have seen at first hand the investment that these companies have made, and continue to make, in terms of product development, technology, human resources and infrastructure and I know from talking to people in this sector, they see a value to the area being

designated as a Food Sector hub."

"This announcement by Dawn Farm Foods, is very welcome and shows how strong the company is. I understand that it secured the contract with Subway against strong competition from the UK, Italy and Germany. Dawn Farm Foods will be the chosen partner supplier for Subway until 2024."

"The agri-food sector is Ireland's largest indigenous industry which employs over 175,000 people with a yearly turnover of €1bn highlighting its importance to the economy." concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

FF Bill will enable Irish companies to compete for State tenders

- State spends €12 Billion each year on goods, services and works -

Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on Financial Services, eGovernment and Procurement Frank O'Rourke TD says a new Bill put forward by his party will reform the manner in which State tenders are awarded. The 'Public Services and Procurement (Social Value) Bill 2017' will be debated in the Dáil this evening. The Bill aims to increase competition in the public procurement tendering process by enhancing the ability for Small and Medium Sized Businesses to compete for State tenders.

Deputy O'Rourke explained, "SME's play a vital role in our economy. They act as the engine of economic growth and employ some 900,000 people right across Ireland. However in recent years many SME's have found it more difficult to effectively compete for State tenders due to significant administrative and legal barriers. The Bill we have brought forward aims to tackle this problem.

"The Bill will introduce a specific social value clause in our procurement guidelines. This clause will require any State body, local authority or Department issuing a tender to take into account the impact of awarding a contract on the local and national economy. Other European countries such as Denmark, France, Austria and Belgium have already introduced such a social value clause. It's time for Ireland to follow suit.

"The State currently spends approximately €12 Billion each year on procuring goods, services and works. Ireland ranks high in comparison to other European countries regarding the proportion of public goods and services procured outside of the State. The objective of our Bill is to achieve a level playing field. "Irish companies deserve an opportunity to access State tenders, but all too often the large multinational companies undercut their bid. Accordingly most of the money ends up outside the State. Introducing a social value clause will address this problem by forcing the State to take into account the knock on social benefits of awarding a tender to an Irish SME," concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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Comhaltas Craobh Mhaigh Nuad



2017 looks like being another tuneful year for the branch, which continues to go from strength to strength. We had our much loved class session on 25th January. This was followed up by our Sunday sesúin, which has now switched to the Maynooth GAA club on the last Sunday of the month at 6 o'clock.

The adult slow session is growing strongly and takes place every other Sunday at 7 upstairs in Brady's – There was a session on 19th Feb – next ones are 5th March & 19th March.

Keep an eye on the Tweet machine or Facebook for updates & spontaneous updates though.

Further west, everyone in CCE Mhaigh Nuad, was delighted to see our fiddle teacher Jason McGuinness take first prize in the Fiddler of Dooney competition in Sligo. Jason joins such fiddling superstars as Matt Cranitch, Cathal Hayden, Liz Kane, Paddy Glacken, Bird Harper and Antoin MacGabhann, who are all ex winners. We're very lucky to have Jason teaching fiddle Shligo Shtyle in the branch!

On 22nd January, Leixlip Comhaltas hosted a number of branches from Kildare in a County Session. A great night was had by all & the kids got to mingle and swap tunes with other kids from around the County. Go raibh maith agaibh Léim an Bhradáin, hope to repeat the event soon.

Maynooth G.A.A participated in Scór on November 25th which was held in Allenwood, and a number of the junior members of the branch contributed to the event.



With 'Here is the fiddler of Dooney!'
And dance like a wave of the sea.



Well done to Paddy, Tom, Caoimhe, Kirsten and Keelin, who picked up first prize in the U12 division, but were pipped by Borris Kilcotton Laois at the Leinsters. Great show also from Rita Doyle and her School of Dance also – the indefatigable Rita is at the heart of cultural endeavour at Maynooth GAA. Crom Abú!

The branch had their annual slot at the Tidy Towns Presentation Night again at the Glenroyal Hotel. This night was enjoyed by all concerned, and the branch will be forever grateful to the sterling work done by the Tidy Towns organisation around the time of the Leinster Fleadh in 2014, so we're delighted to be invited to contribute.

The run in to St. Patrick's Day will be super-busy for the branch, and the day itself is likely to be hectic as usual, with a performance on our float from 11:00am.



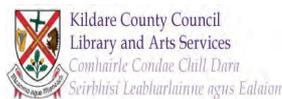
Because all work and no play would be a million miles from Kildare Comhaltas philosophy we're taking the opportunity to celebrate 50 years of Kildare County Board. Kildare County Board was formed in Lawlor's Hotel Naas in January 1967 and I am delighted to say that members who were present in 1967 are still involved to this day and we are always glad to draw on their knowledge and experience. To mark this great occasion, we will be having a celebratory night in the Westgrove Hotel Clane on the 25th March 2017. There are still a number of tickets left - if you'd like to join the remainder of the contingent from Maynooth – drop us a line on Facebook. Keep an eye out on Social Media for news of branch events and session. Slán go foilín!

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Committee Craobh Mhaigh Nuad CCE

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Maynooth Citizens Information Board Session on 'Social Welfare Entitlements'

Thursday 30th March, 10am – 12pm

The Information Morning will focus on 'Social Welfare Entitlements'.

Part One:

Social Welfare payments and returning to education: What are my options? Can I keep my payment? What about my secondary payments?

Part Two:

Social Welfare payments and returning to work: What are my options if I am on low pay? What if I can only find part time work? Can I retain any level of payments? What about my secondary payments? Can I start my own business, can I get any help?

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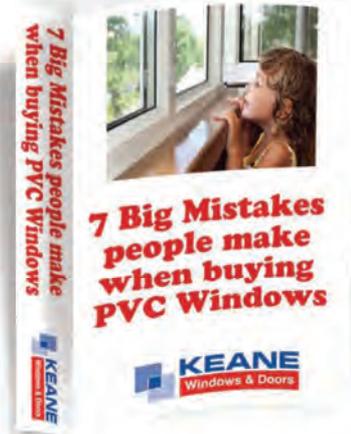
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Maynooth Newsletter

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

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An Nuadha Players

March 2017 about to come in like a lion. Who knows, it might arrive like a summer's day with a cool breeze or enter with four feet of snow. The joys of climate change.

I am writing this on Monday 20th Feb. Stretched out in front of me is the Sunday paper and on the radio, I hear that something happened in Sweden Saturday night. I am sure that many things happened in Sweden Saturday night.

The main thing is everything is good on our little island. The main topic between the chattering classes is: will Enda still be our leader on Paddy's day and if so should he wear green braces and die his hair yellow like Donald as he presents the bowl of shamrock to a sham president.

As all the coverage is about Enda this must mean that the housing crisis is over and thousands of houses are being built as we speak. The drug gangs must have decided to help the people of the inner city by giving scholarships to young students to allow them to go to College. Vulture capitalists and the Banks must have decided that Irish people are too nice and cuddly to be evicting them.

Theresa May must have decided that Brexit is just not worth the agro and anyway people in the UK know they are the greatest nation on earth.

I have an uncontrollable urge to pick up my ukulele and play the

coke song I'd like to teach the world to sing.

The man upstairs is complaining about the noise. I apologise.

He says he is busy being evicted. What a downer!

An Nuadha had its AGM for 2017 with a good turn out. The new Committee was elected and Catriona Higgins is our new Chairperson and we wish her the best of luck. An Nuadha had an exceptional 2016. Blue Wine by Rory Griffin made it to the Galway Festival. Martina Reilly's *Conquered Not We Were*, remembering the 15 men who walked from Maynooth and into History, a great success. Martina followed through with *Breathing Lessons* and took her great play on to the One Act Festival and raised the profile of the group with wins in best script and a best actress award. *Echoes From a Room* ran for a week in Maynooth with full houses. We then finished the year with *Robin Hood* our annual Panto, All original works from members of An Nuadha.

I would like to thank Maynooth Town Soccer Club and the Maynooth Community Space to allow us to rehearse our productions, and the Presentation School and the College to allow us to perform them.

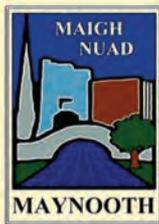
Do something different for 2017, come, and join us.

Check An Nuadha on Facebook or contact 086-8068068

Mind yourselves.
Terry Nealon



Drama News
An Nuadha Players
Community Theatre



Maynooth

Tidy Towns
Caring for our environment

Maynooth Tidy Towns have commenced work on their 2017 campaign to keep the Gold Medal. Volunteers started back with a clean up on Saturday 4th February.

The second bio-diversity workshop was held on Wednesday 8th February in the Glenroyal Hotel, we thank all who attended and hope it was informative and beneficial. Our thanks to Deborah Darcy and Mary Jennings who gave a huge effort on both evenings. The development of a bio-diversity plan was discussed at our tidy towns committee meeting on Wednesday 15th February 2017

following which it was decided to hold an information night on 28th March in the Glenroyal Hotel at 7.30pm. This meeting is open to all Residents and Resident Associations in Maynooth. Items covered will include: Planting for Pollinators, Tree Pruning Demonstration and Composting. And More! Hope to see you there.

We took part in a campaign to plant one million trees nationally on Saturday 11th February. Our trees were planted in the Green with more to be planted in other locations on Saturday 18th February.

The official handover and hoisting of the Purple Flag took place on Thursday 16th February in the Glenroyal Hotel, congratulations to all concerned.



WEEE Ireland will be in Maynooth on Saturday 25th March from 10am to 4pm in the Tesco Carpark for recycling of any item with a plug or battery.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the St. Patrick`s Day Parade.

Many thanks to Rory O`Connor of Maynooth Community Council Office who over the years has taken photos for Maynooth Tidy Towns, we wish him well in his career change.

Anyone who wishes to help Maynooth Tidy Towns, we meet in the Courthouse Square every Saturday at 10 am.

Sunday morning clean ups will commence shortly.

You can contact us on 087 3153189 or see us on Facebook or Twitter.

Richard Farrell - PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns



Maynooth
Tidy Towns
Caring for our environment



Maynooth Tidy Towns invites all Residents and Resident Associations in Maynooth to an Information Evening On Tuesday 28th March 2017 at 7.30pm in the Glenroyal Hotel

Items covered will include:

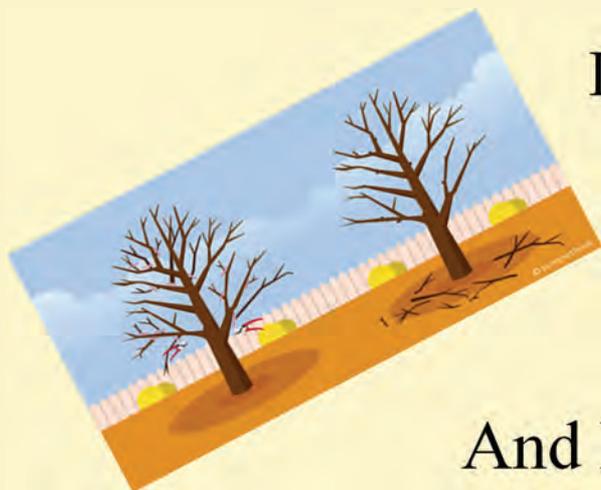
Planting for Pollinators

Tree Pruning

Demonstration

Composting

And More! Hope to see you there.

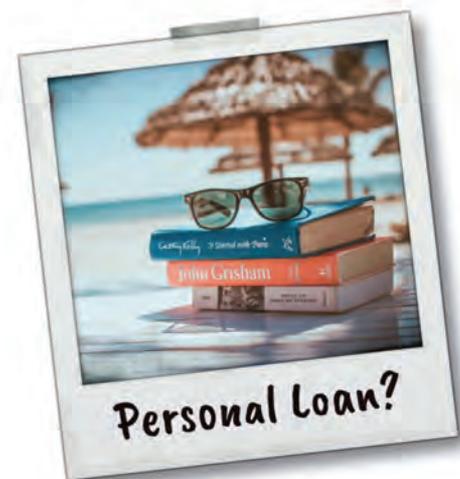




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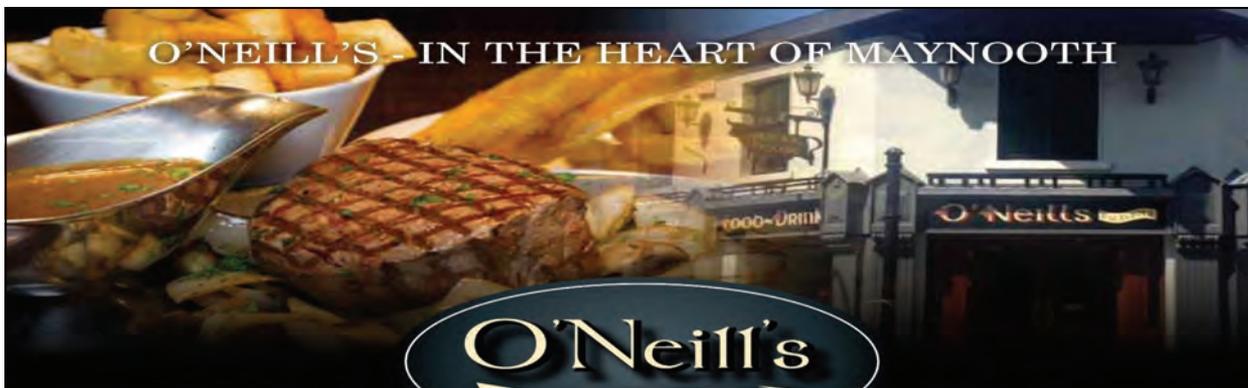
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Au Revoir Rory

Maynooth Community Council office & the Maynooth Newsletter said goodbye to a long serving member of staff with the departure of Rory O'Connor in February. Rory was well known throughout the Town and to many groups as the photographer for the Newsletter over the last number of years.

Covering many Community events such as the St Patrick's Day Parade, the Summer Festivals and many others. Rory's helpful nature and sense of humour will be sadly missed. All at Maynooth Community Council and the Maynooth Newsletter would like to thank Rory for all his hard work and wish him all the best in his new career.



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TIPS FOR CLEANING MICROWAVE

Put a cup of water and slices of lemon in a bowl and heat in microwave for 3 minutes. Do not open microwave door but let the steam soften the stains approximately 3 minutes then wipe clean with some kitchen paper or a clean cloth.



Half fill a bowl with water add 2 tablespoons of vinegar drop a toothpick into the bowl to keep the water from boiling over. Put the bowl in the microwave and turn on for 3 minutes. When done leave door closed for 2 -3 minutes to let steam continue to work. Take care removing bowl as it will be very hot. Use some kitchen towel to wipe your microwave clean.

Put 2 tablespoons of baking soda in a microwave safe bowl and add a cup of water. Put bowl in microwave for 3 minutes. The baking soda will kill the smells and the water will steam clean the spots and stains. Give it a good wipe down afterward. Hey presto!

TIPS FOR CLEANING IRONS



To clean dirt off the plate of your iron put some salt on a paper towel or a cotton towel and run the iron over it while it is on the highest setting with steam turned off.



If plastic gets stuck on the sole plate of your iron, sprinkle some salt on a piece of aluminium foil and iron it. This should help loosen the plastic from the plate.

If you need to remove something waxy place newspaper or brown paper over the stain, turn iron to the hottest setting and iron over the stain.



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Maynooth Monthly Diary Planner

Community Library	Maynooth Multiple Births	Bridge Club
<p>Opening Times Mondays & Fridays 2pm to 5pm Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm to 8pm Wednesday 9.30am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm Sat 9.30am to 1pm</p>	<p>Maynooth Multiple Births playgroup (twins triplets or more) meets the last Thursday of the month in Leixlip library between 10 & 12 noon. This is a Great opportunity to meet parents just like you. For further details email: maynoothmultiplebirthclub@gmail.com</p>	<p>Open for new members. If you would like to play in a friendly club with purpose-built facilities in the centre of Maynooth, please see our website at maynoothbridgeclub.com. Contact Katherine Cooney 086 8205910</p>
I.C.A.	MAYNOOTH LOCAL HISTORY GROUP	Arthritis Ireland
<p>Monthly meetings take place every 1st Thursday of the month at 8.00pm in the I.C.A. Hall in the Harbour. Crafts every Monday night at 8.00pm. New members welcome</p>	<p>Maynooth Local History Group Meets Last Thursday of each Month in the Maynooth Community Council Office (Next to the Post Office) New Members Welcome Contact: MCC Office for more details</p>	<p>Arthritis Ireland Walking Group (Maynooth) Meeting Monday's 12 - 2pm in the Maynooth Community Space</p>
University of Third Age (U3A)	Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group	Maynooth Men's Sheds
<p>Weekly meetings on Friday at 11am in Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth New Members Welcome</p>	<p>Every Thursday from 10.00am to 12.00pm Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth</p>	<p>Weekly meetings take place every Wednesday at 11.am at the Garden Centre Dublin Road Maynooth. For further details contact John Fleming - 087 2041334</p>
Maynooth Tidy Towns	ALZHEIMER CAFÉ LEIXLIP	Maynooth Community Church
<p>Volunteers required to help with this work. Contact Number 087 3153189 Meet every Saturday at 10.00am in the Square</p>	<p>Informal café atmosphere for people with Dementia & their partners family & friends. Free of charge. Venue Ryevale Nursing Home. Every second Wednesday of each month 7-9pm. Call 0894933533 Email: alzheimercafeleixlip@gmail.ie www.alzheimercafeleixlip.com</p>	<p>1st Floor Manor Mills (entrance next to Chill) Service times every Sunday morning from 10.30 am www.maynoothcc.org Everyone most welcome</p>
Maynooth Senior Citizens	Craobh Mhaigh Nuad C.C.E.	ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND
<p>Our morning club continues on Tuesday and Thursday and new members are always welcome. Perhaps you are new to the parish or new to the age bracket, why not come along you might enjoy it. You will find us in the Geraldine Hall on Leinster St, or contact Josephine on 087 9002296.</p>	<p>Classes are held on Wednesday 7pm to 9.30pm in Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road. Our classes are very good value, great fun and we promise you plenty of craic also !!. Bí gí linn!!! Contact Sean at 086 2225540 or email craobhmaighnuad@gmail.com.</p>	<p>Rehearsals are held in the Band Hall on Pound Lane each Monday night (except Bank Holidays) from 7.45pm to 9.30pm and musicians living in Maynooth and the surrounding areas are most welcome. E-mail: sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie Website: www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie</p>

Diary entries are published free of charge for all Community Groups. E-mail details of your event before the copy date (2nd last Tuesday of each month) to be included in the next months edition. E-mail: office@maynoothcc.com. Phone: 01-6285922
(The content of the Monthly Planner Diary is published in good faith. All details should be checked with groups)

MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN NOTES



How much does Ireland spend on Cycling?

Maynooth Cycling Campaign and Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cycle Advocacy Network are looking for 10% of the transport budget to be allocated to cycling which is in line with the government targets for cycling. So how much does the Irish government currently spend on cycling.? In 2014, in response to a Dáil question from Deputy Catherine Murphy, the Minister for Transport reported that a total of €1.1 Million was allocated by his Department and gave a breakdown of the allocation to individual local authorities. However, this was only the direct budget allocation from the Department.

The National Transport Authority also provided funding of €8.2 Million to local authorities in the Greater Dublin Area and in May the government announced a Stimulus Programme which included funding of €10 million for greenway developments. Then, in November, a supplementary budget was passed which included a further allocation of funding for greenways. Overall it is estimated that funding of €1.2 million was directly and indirectly provided for cycling by central government. With a population of 4.66 million, this equates to an expenditure of €4.55 per person for 2014. How do we compare internationally? Well pretty badly - the Netherlands spends approximately €30 per person and in several other countries politicians have committed to spending multiples of this.

Butterfly Conservation Ireland

In an article in last month's Maynooth Newsletter, Jesmond Harding of Butterfly Conservation Ireland referred to the greenway "... being wide enough to facilitate a truck" and "the width of the path from the 15th lock to Allen Bridge being unnecessary". While we disagree with a number of his comments and want to see a wider greenway than was approved by Kildare County Council under the Part 8 Public Consultation, we are equally appalled at the unnecessary width of much of what has been constructed to date.

However, what appears to have been forgotten by many is that the canal towpath as well as being important from the point of view of biodiversity, is an important part of the National Cycle Network which was devised to encourage everyday as well as recreational cycling. A poor quality cycling environment suppresses the demand for cycling and results in the increased use of cars and increased greenhouse gases. The emotive use of the term 'Boy Racers' is also objectionable as in this instance it is being applied to cyclists but what is not generally known is that the design speed for rural cycle facilities is 30 kph. Pedestrians are unhappy with cyclists travelling at high speeds in close proximity to them so inadequate space leads to conflict between the two groups.

It is indisputable that the development of a greenway will impact negatively on biodiversity but the same development will impact positively with regards to environment and climate change. The abject failure of successive governments to treat climate change seriously was reflected in recent findings by the Environmental Protection Agency that Ireland's greenhouse gas emissions, which fell during the recession, are rising again with emissions from the transport sector increasing by 4.2%

in 2015. Unless Irish dependency on the private car is reduced and greater use of bicycles will contribute to this, the impact of climate change will negatively affect not just the biodiversity of the towpaths but the entire country. We will all be poorer for that.

Kildare Cycle Forum

The Cycle Forum was discussed at the February meeting of the Transportation Strategic Policy Committee (SPC). However, reports suggest that little progress was made. Apparently, Cllr. Darren Scully, chair of the SPC, proposed that a representative of the Society of the Irish Motor Trade (SIMI) should be on the Cycle Forum. It is not known if this was a joke or not. It is suggested that a political representative be selected by each of the five Municipal Districts. Maynooth Cycling Campaign is opposed to this as we want a representative from all of the political groupings so that all have an input into Forum business.

Naas Cycle Schemes

In February, there was a meeting of Naas town centre traders who complained about proposals to remove car parking spaces to provide space for cycling. Cycle tracks were blamed for small shops closing their doors even though there are currently no cycle tracks anywhere near the centre. The same Cllr. Darren Scully proposed that the development of all cycle routes be postponed. Maynooth Cycling Campaign strongly opposed this proposal and urged support for a cross-party coalition of Fianna Fail, Fine Gael and Sinn Fein councillors who wanted the cycle schemes to progress without delay.

It is normal experience across Europe that the provision of cycle facilities creates a backlash or 'bikelash' especially where it involves the removal of car parking. If there wasn't a backlash, it would indicate that the scheme is not ambitious enough. For politicians with the vision of a healthy and active community, it is worth pointing out that practically no cycle schemes have been removed after they have been introduced.

Maynooth Community Council

At last month's meeting, Cllr. Reada Cronin is reported as saying that "...until the work is finished ...people cannot say that it doesn't work." While that statement is true, people are entitled to express the likelihood of a scheme working or not. A number of our group have experience of cycle facilities at home and abroad and are very familiar with the quality of infrastructure that attracts mass cycling and the quality which does not. We do not know why some cyclists said that they would not use cycle paths provided. The main reason for not using a cycle path is because cyclists consider it safer to be on the road. Regardless of the reason, Maynooth Cycling Campaign supports their right not to do so and there is no legal obligation for cyclists to use cycle paths under the Road Traffic (Traffic and Parking) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2012 (S.I. 332 of 2012).

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

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

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

Maynooth Community Council Notes

Notes for the meeting of MCC held on Monday February 13th CO-OPTION

Conor O'Dwyer representing Maynooth Safety Group. Proposed by Mary Murphy. Seconded by Naoise O'Cearuil

AMENDMENT TO LAST MONTHS NOTES

In answer to Don Foley's questions re a sub-committee, Miriam O'Keeffe Ahern answered that the need had come from the membership present.

MATTERS ARISING

John McGinley addressed an item mentioned in last months notes and a subsequent article in The Liffey Champion. He said that a number of incorrect statements had been made and wished to correct the situation. He said that the conditions of sale of land to Maynooth Community Church included that the facilities would be available to the general public. Rev Keith McCrory of Maynooth Community Church had outlined in the plans that the facilities would include a 240 seater auditorium, 3 large meeting rooms, a youth room and a cafe with a kitchen. It was also stated that these facilities would be available to the community for the majority of the week, other than when the church would need them for themselves.

Sean Tracey asked Keith McCrory to clarify that this development was not a Community Centre. Keith confirmed that was the case. He added that the facilities would be available in the same way as the Geraldine Hall or the old parish hall, but was conscious of not promising more than could be delivered.

Keith McCrory said that he hoped to build as outlined in the concept drawings, which were currently at the final stages of consultation with the architects. He hoped that the land was not sold to Maynooth Community Church on the promise of what was wished for in the concept drawings. With costs soaring, he hoped the finished building would be as originally planned but could not guarantee to deliver as outlined. He said that this development was first and foremost a church facility and hoped that the facilities could also be of service to the local community.

Angie Tracey thanked Keith for the clarification and said that the idea that the Church Centre was a Community Centre could now finally be put to bed. MCCP would continue to lobby for a dedicated Community Centre.

The TESCO planning permission was also raised and the following clarification was offered. Permission was granted on 3/1/07 for the TESCO development. As a result of pressure from John McGinley, KCC made it a condition of planning that MCC be given 485 sq m for community use. Construction did not take place due to the recession. An extension of planning was granted on 6/1/12 and this permission expires on 5/8/17. It is essential that MCC ensures that the Community aspect is retained at that stage.

Paul Croghan said that MCC would keep an eye on the expiration date and would make representation at that stage. He hoped that upon completion of any further development that MCC would move to the new premises.

ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

It was mentioned that a representative from Maynooth's twin town Canet would attend this years Parade. Naoise O'Cearuil, Chairman of the Parade Committee said the theme would be 'Purple and Gold' in reference to the Gold medal won by Tidy Towns and the recent awarding of the Purple Flag to Maynooth. He also called for volunteers to help with the stewarding of the event.

ST PATRICK FOUNDATION

Keith McCrory said that due to the large event held last year which cost a lot of money, there were insufficient funds to hold an event this year. They had not received funding from KCC and felt let down by the 12 month application process for grants.

ICA

The local guild are currently preparing 'Dignity Bags' for the homeless in Dublin. These contain basic toiletry items. Tin whistle classes continue on Wednesday evenings and craft evenings happen every Monday. They will be collecting on March 24th as part of National Daffodil Day. Bowling has commenced on Tuesdays at 11am. New members welcome.

SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE

Josie Moore congratulated Maynooth Post Primary School on their recent production of Les Miserables. She said that the senior citizens that attended had a wonderful night. The Senior Citizens club continues every Tuesday and Thursday in the Geraldine Hall. St Patrick's weekend would see their Tea Dance with a green theme. Their annual collection will take place on the weekend of March 11/12.

TIDY TOWNS

Richard Farrell advised the meeting that MTT have commenced work on their 2017

campaign to keep the Gold medal. Volunteers started back with a clean up on Feb 4th. This was followed by the second bio-diversity workshop on Feb 8th in the Glenroyal Hotel, and he thanked all who attended and hoped that it was informative and beneficial. The group took part in a campaign to plant one million trees nationally on Feb 11th. The trees were planted in The Green with more to be planted on Feb 18th. He expressed congratulations and best wishes to all concerned for the hoisting of the Purple Flag on Feb 16th. Anyone wishing to help the group are advised that MTT meet every Saturday at 10am in the Square. Sunday clean ups will commence shortly.

MAYNOOTH SAFETY GROUP

Teresa Murray informed those present that a successful meeting had taken place with Chief Superintendent Roche and Superintendent Wall. They commended Maynooth Safety Group on their recent campaign which gathered over 4000 signatures. Teresa thanked everyone that had signed and said that all information had been passed on to the relevant authorities. The allocation of the Community Gardai is being devised by the Sergeant in Naas. The definite opening times for local Garda stations will be posted in the coming weeks. These times will guarantee a Garda will be present to sign forms and perform other clerical duties. Teresa hoped to have more details of these events at the March meeting.

PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

Donna Clinch informed the meeting that the group meet every Thursday in Maynooth Community Space from 9.30 - 12pm. They currently have 40 parents and toddlers and the numbers are growing to such an extent that they are outgrowing the current location. The group caters for children up to 3 years of age. There is nominal fee of €4 to cover refreshments. They also provide occasional information mornings with guest speakers including District Nurses and nutritionists.

CCE CRAOBH MHAIGH NUAD

The group are currently preparing for the Fleadh and the Parade. Classes continue on Wednesdays and adult sessions take place on the second Sunday of each month upstairs in Brady's pub. All are welcome.

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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.,

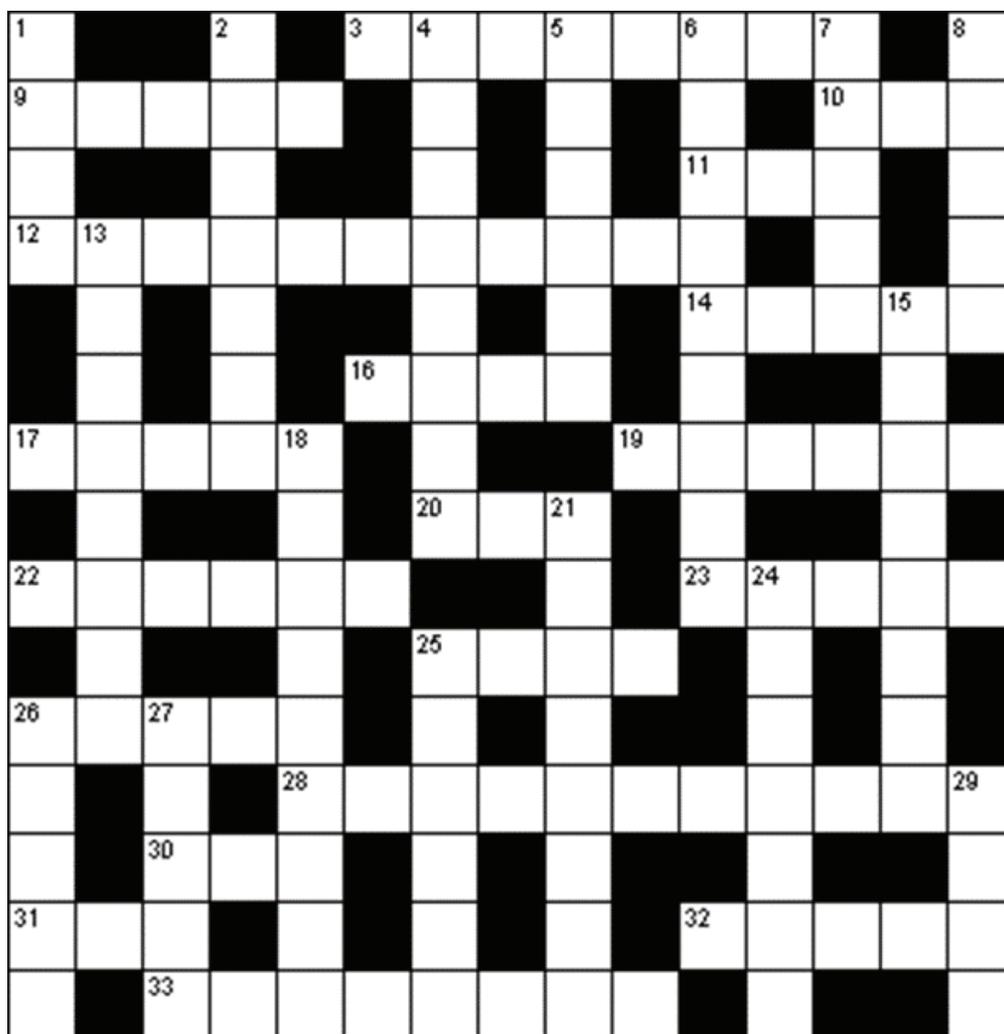
Never known to fail. Rose

Clues Across

3. Statue support (8)
9. Snake (5)
10. Even (poet.) (3)
11. Admiration (3)
12. Republic in central Europe (11)
14. Coyly (5)
16. Drill a hole (4)
17. Flat paving stones (5)
19. Halogen element (6)
20. Total (3)
22. Thing that attracts (6)
23. Misplaces (5)
25. Small children (4)
26. Suit (5)
28. Large self-service retail store (11)
30. Powdery residue (3)
31. Colourful form of the common carp (3)
32. Covered with scales (5)
33. Made known (8)



March Crossword - No. 455



Clues Down

1. Cushions (4)
2. Necking (7)
4. Immense (8)
5. Breathe out (6)
6. Poisonous mushroom (9)
7. Wary (5)
8. Unite (5)
13. Skilfully built (4-4)
15. Underwear (8)
18. Sweetmeat store (5,4)
21. Furnish with a motor (8)
24. Flightless bird (7)
25. Top hat (6)
26. Penniless (5)
27. Natural talent (5)
29. Playthings (4)



Answers to Crossword No 454



Special Prize

Book Voucher

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

The Maynooth Bookshop
68 Main Street,
Maynooth

Entries in before: Tuesday 21st March 2017

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Winner of Crossword No. 454 February

Rosaleen Flanagan
Greenfield
Maynooth

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

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68 Main Street, Maynooth

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Michael & Louise

Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

From 12/1/17 to 23/2/17 - information from Kildare County Council Website

App. Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	Application Date
17175	Kildare County Council	Maynooth GAA Club,	Maynooth GAA Sports Club, Moyglare Road, Maynooth	21/02/2017
17160	Kildare County Council	Eoin Murray,	33 Newtown Court, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	17/02/2017
17158	Kildare County Council	Maynooth University,	North Campus of the National University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	16/02/2017
1783	Kildare County Council	Maynooth University, National University of Ireland	National University of Ireland Maynooth, Co. Kildare	27/01/2017
1771	Kildare County Council	Kilcawley Building and Civil Engineering (Sligo) Ltd.,	Block J, Maynooth Business Camp, Maynooth	26/01/2017
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

Difficult

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

Sudoku Challenge

March 2017

Entries must arrive before:
21st March



Super Difficult

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

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

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

Collect prize from Newsletter Office

Congratulations to February Winner:

Eileen Darcy 23 Castlepark Drive Maynooth

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____



MAYNOOTH ST. PATRICK'S DAY FESTIVAL
17TH MARCH 2017
FÉILE LÁ FHÉILE PHÁDRAIG MHAIGH NUAD
17Ú MÁRTA 2017



This year's St Patrick's Day Parade will start from Greenfield Shopping Centre at 11am. The Parade will follow its traditional route down the Straffan Road turning right at Main Street to Tesco's Shopping Centre. There will be a Family Fun Day in Manor Mills Shopping Centre after the Parade, the award giving ceremony will take place here as well.

The Organising Committee have asked for volunteer Stewards to assist on the day. Anyone interested in helping out should send contact details by e-mail to the Maynooth Community Council office at office@maynoothcc.com or call Naoise Ó Cearúil on (086) 728 0050.



Above photos of the large crowd at last year's Parade. Anyone planning to watch this year's Parade is advised to get there early.

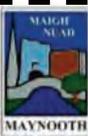
Men's Shed Dilemma

Men's Shed was introduced to Maynooth in September 2012. Since then we've had to relocate four times to temporary premises. Our most recent location at the Bungalow, Maynooth Garden Centre is now required by the landlord. We are truly grateful to Vincent Flood for facilitating us for the past 2 1/2 years.

However, today we are in urgent need of a new premises to enable us to meet and continue to provide and construct items requested by local community groups.

Since setting up we have been engaged in several projects including the following:

- **Cerebral Palsy, Motor Neuron and Wheel Chair Association:** Constructing Boccia Ramps to enable members to participate in sport (Bowls)
- **Maynooth Community Council:** Producing a Tourist Brochure for the town
- **Maynooth Tidy Towns:** Building bird and bat boxes to assist Tidy Towns Committee in their efforts to enhance our environment.
- **An Nuadha Players:** Constructing replica rifles for their re-enactment of the march of the Maynooth 15 to Dublin in 1916
- **Irish Countrywomen's Association:** Refurbish damaged benches



~ 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:

1	Best Commercial Float	Trophy	2	Best Club Float	Trophy
3	Best Band	Perpetual Cup	4	Best School Float	Trophy
5	Best Portrayal of Irish Culture (Dr Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin Perpetual Trophy)	Perpetual Trophy	6	Best Portrayal of Environmental Awareness	Trophy

Applications with entry fee to be sent to Community Council Office

Unit 5, Tesco Shopping Centre, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.

or Naoise Ó Cearúil – Mobile - 086-7280050

- **GAA Maynooth:** Refurbishing of gate-keepers hut for weather protection
- **Kilcock/Maynooth Lions Club:** Construction and erection of signage boards for their many fundraising events.
- **Parish Pastoral Council:** Provision and construction of a stable for a live crib at St Mary's Church on Christmas Eve, in conjunction with Maynooth Scouts.

The principle reason for the formation of Men's Shed is to enhance the social health and welfare of our members. The loss of these premises will have a huge negative effect on the 20 or so men who currently attend on a weekly basis. As one shedder put it, "it will be a shame to lose this facility where we can fraternize with one another". The group consists of men who are retired, some living alone, some widowed and really needing and appreciating the companionship of each other.

We appeal to you all as a community, and, in particular, property owners, industrialists, public representatives and private citizens, to please look at premises you have control of, or premises you are aware of, that might be obtained for Maynooth Men's Shed. We would gladly look at premises that we could renovate, to accommodate our needs.

Please contact: John Fleming at 087 2041334 email johnpfleming44@gmail.com
 or Barry Williams at 089 4980988 email jmarbar@aol.com



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



Name: _____
 Age: _____
 Address: _____

 Phone No: _____

Last Month's Winner:

**Leah Senna Connolly
 1 The Rise,
 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 March 2017

Junior Puzzle Corner



Word Search

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

See how many of these newspaper related words you can find in the puzzle.
 The words can be forward, backward or diagonal.

- | | | | |
|------------|-------------|-----------|----------------|
| 1. HOLIDAY | 5. GREEN | 9. CLOVER | 13. LEPRECHAUN |
| 2. SAINT | 6. SHAMROCK | 10. LUCK | 14. RAINBOW |
| 3. PATRICK | 7. FOUR | 11. POT | 15. MARCH |
| 4. IRISH | 8. LEAF | 12. GOLD | 16. SEVENTEEN |

St. Patrick's Day Dot-To-Dot

Directions: Starting with number 1, join all the dots in the right order to reveal a picture. Can you guess what it is before you finish?





St Patrick's Day Recipes



Multi-Seed Guinness Brown Bread

Ingredients:

50g plain flour
350g wholemeal flour
75g porridge (rolled) oats
50g pinhead oatmeal
2tsp bicarbonate of soda
1 large egg
100ml Guinness
400ml buttermilk
2tbsp treacle (optional)
3 tbsp mixed seeds (e.g. pumpkin, sesame, poppy, sunflower)
Butter for greasing
Pinch of salt



Method:

Preheat the oven to 160°C/325°F/Gas Mark 3. Grease a 900g (9 x 5 x 3 inch) loaf tin. Place the flours, oats and salt in a large bowl. Sift in the bicarbonate of soda and stir together. Beat the egg in a separate bowl, add to the dry mixture and stir again. Add the Guinness, buttermilk and treacle (if using) and mix to a sloppy consistency. Finally, stir in two tablespoons of the seed mixture. Pour into the prepared tin and spoon the top with a wet spoon. Sprinkle the remaining seeds over the surface and bake for 1 hour. Turn the loaf out, then pop it back inside the tin upside down and bake for a further 15-20 minutes. Transfer to a wire rack to cool.

Bread & Butter Pudding

Ingredients:



8 slices of white bread
50g butter (more if required)
50g sultanas
Ground nutmeg or cinnamon
2 eggs
450ml of full-fat milk
50g granulated sugar

Method:

Remove the crusts from the bread. Butter each slice on one side only and cut into triangles. Use some of the butter to grease an oven-proof dish. Cover the base of the dish with one layer of bread triangles keeping the buttered side down. Sprinkle some of the sultanas on the bread with a little nutmeg or cinnamon. Repeat with another layer of bread, sultanas and spice, finishing with a layer of bread with the buttered side up. Beat the eggs with the milk and sugar and pour over the bread layers. Let it sit for half an hour so that the bread soaks up the liquid. Bake at 180°C/350°F/Gas 4 for about half an hour or until golden and puffy. Eat on its own straight from the oven.

Irish Oaty Apple Crumble

Ingredients:

For the Crumble:

150g plain flour
150g jumbo oat flakes
175g light brown sugar
200g cold butter, cut into pieces
Single cream, to serve

For the Filling:

600g apples, cut into chunks
1 tbsp plain flour
60g brown sugar
Juice of ½ lemon



Method:

Preheat the oven to 190°C/375°F/Gas Mark 5. Place the flour, oat flakes, brown sugar and butter into a large bowl. Using your fingertips, rub all the ingredients together until it resembles chunky breadcrumbs. In a large baking tin, toss the apples with the flour, sugar and lemon juice until combined. Add the crumble mix on top of the filling and spread over the top until everything is evenly covered. Bake in the oven for 35 - 40 minutes or until crumble topping is golden brown and the fruit is soft and bubbling beneath. Serve in generous portions with a drizzle of fresh cream.

You can vary the ingredients for the crumble mix itself by using wholemeal flour and nuts.



March Gardening



Now that there is a stretch in the evenings there is a little more time in the day to get into the garden. Here are some 'March Gardening Tips' to guide you on what needs doing in the garden!



In case there wasn't an opportune time in February to mow your lawn, March might look to be a better bet. The lawn may be looking a little tatty after the worst of the weather has passed and may be littered with fallen twigs and the last of last year's leaves. On a dry day start by picking up the larger debris by hand and then run the mower over the lawn on a high setting. Edges of the lawn on pathways and borders may also need a trim and you'll

be amazed at how this improves the entire appearance of your garden. Use edging shears to cut any tufty edges around beds, borders, paths or patios. When mowing at this time of year the ground may be very soft and the grass can be very uneven and tufty. Therefore, adjust your mower to a high setting and just cut the top of the grass. Cutting too low can cause the grass to be ripped out of the ground leaving you with bare patches. Sometimes it just takes a few fallen leaves to accumulate on the lawn to smother the grass eventually killing it off, leaving a bare patch visible. Once you've managed to run the mower over the lawn and tidy up any debris it is the perfect time to tackle this problem. Use a rake to 'fluff-up' the surface of the bare patch to give a tilth in which to sow your seed. Then throw on a generous handful of good quality lawn seed and rake it into the soil. Finally, give your seed a can-full of water and cover with fleece or polythene to accelerate germination (and also to reduce the amount that will be eaten by birds).

Roses need plenty of feed to give maximum display through the summer and applying a good layer of mulch to your rose beds is a great way of giving them all the nutrients they'll need. You can either put a layer of mulch over the entire bed or just apply a smaller amount around the base of each rose. Once you have applied your mulch, give your roses a generous helping of water so they can start absorbing some of the nutrients straight away.

As soon as the flowers on your daffodils start to look past their best, pull them off by hand. The energy the plant saves by not having to 'die-back' and produce a seed head will be put to good use in the bulb, giving you a bigger display next year.



Boost shrubs and perennials in containers by top dressing, gently scrape off the top 2-4cm of old compost, replace with fresh potting compost with and an added sprinkle of slow release fertiliser to enhance growth throughout the summer.

Keep an eye on containers especially ones close to the house with spring bedding – "unbelievably" they often dry out at this time of the year as the walls and roof overhang shelter the pots from the rain and although the plants may not actually die, they'll end up looking tatty and not flower as well. Top dress with garden compost, spent mushroom compost or rotted farm yard manure to help improve the soil quality and structure while helping lock in moisture. Shrubs like mop-headed Hydrangea, Buddleia davidii and Perovskia need to be pruned back to encourage the growth of new flowering stems. Check over variegated shrubs and remove stems that are no longer variegated, tidy and trim hedges.

There is still time to prepare a plot to grow veg this year. Fork or rake over existing beds, breaking up large clods of earth. Cover new seedlings with fleece if a frost is due. Start your daily slug patrols and lay beer traps. Don't let new-season weeds take over – get on top of them with weekly hoeing.



Indoors: lettuce, aubergine, peppers, cucumbers, celery, celeriac, sweet corn, basil, leeks, summer cabbage, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, parsley, courgette, French beans.

Sow outdoors or under cover: broad beans, red cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, spinach, kale, Brussels sprouts, onions, leeks, turnip, peas, radishes, early lettuce, asparagus. Plant your first early seed potatoes, as soon as weather conditions allow.



House plants will react to longer days and brighter light at this time by putting out new growth. The end of this month is a good time to pinch them back to generate new growth and to thicken them. You can then begin fertilizing again with a dilute solution of soluble house plant food. Turn your houseplants a quarter turn each week to make sure all sides of the plant receive adequate

light, and to keep the shape of the plant balanced. Mist or spray your houseplants to clean away the winters dust, prevent Spider Mites and add a little humidity.



Gardening is medicine that does not need a prescription and has no limit on dosage





FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

OSCARS 2017



Film mogul Louis B Mayer famously stated there were 'more stars in MGM than in the heavens'. Well the City of Angels, Los Angeles, played host to several award parties and stars in the lead up to the 89th Oscars recently. Of particular interest to people this side of the pond was the **Oscar Wilde Awards** – an annual event which showcases and honours Irish talent in the entertainment industry.

Irish Oscar nominee Ruth Negga was the toast of the evening at the glittering Wilde evening. Her role in the interracial drama **Loving** has earned the young actress much praise and a raft of nominations. Also in attendance was the stunning Irish ex-model Caitriona Balfe.

Caitriona, who hails from Monaghan originally, has starred as the leading character Claire Fraser in the hugely successful series **Outlander** since 2014. US-Ireland Alliance founder Trina Vargo stated '*It's been a great year for Irish actresses and we're delighted to honour one who is receiving well-deserved recognition for her success in Outlander*'



The first Oscars ceremony in 1929 took place in front of a group of 270 industry members. Nearly 90 years on, the show has an estimated audience of 70 million+ in 200 countries worldwide. It is the most important event in the film world calendar.

The Hollywood glitterati put on their glad rags and strut their stuff on the red carpet for the annual show business lovey-fest that is the Oscars. Amongst the display of peacock feathers, long-winded speeches and general star egos on show, the race to win an Oscar does actually matter. The iconic 13.5 inches tall gold statuette can make or break a film or career. It can mean the difference between the films that get financed or don't and the pay scale an artist can attain.



So bearing in mind the potential for surprises, shocks, long speeches etc., here are some of my predictions for Oscar Night 2017....

Best Picture

Arrival
Fences
Hacksaw Ridge
Hell or High Water
Hidden Figures
La La Land
Lion
Manchester by the Sea
Moonlight



The Favourite/ Should Win : La La Land

There is a strong line up of small-budget films in the running for Oscar this year. With its 14 Oscar nominations, the romantic musical **La La Land** looks like the film everyone else must beat. It has been the horse to back for months now, scooping up several awards including a slew of trophies at the recent Golden Globes and BAFTAs. **La La Land** is tied with both **Titanic** and **All About Eve** as the film with the most nominations in Oscar history. However, the film has suffered a backlash against its popularity in recent weeks. Will this affect its chances of Oscar glory?



La La Land is a love-letter to the Golden Age of Hollywood musicals and ticks all the right boxes. Its nostalgic charm will surely appeal to older Oscar voters and is a shoo-in for the Best Picture Oscar.

Competition in this category will come from the excellent **Moonlight** and **Hidden Fences**. In a Trump universe, the complex political messages these films deliver could provide an upset and pip **La La Land** at the post.

Best Director

Denis Villeneuve, *Arrival*
 Mel Gibson, *Hacksaw Ridge*
 Damien Chazelle, *La La Land*
 Kenneth Lonergan, *Manchester By the Sea*
 Barry Jenkins, *Moonlight*



The Favourite: Damien Chazelle
Should Win: Damien Chazelle

La La Land director Damien Chazelle has already picked up Best Director Gongs at the Golden Globes, Directors' Guild Awards and BAFTAs. So it's probably a foregone conclusion that he will take home the Oscar in this category. His modern musical love story has breathed glorious new life into an old genre for the present generation of cinema goers. If Chazelle steps up to the podium, he will be the youngest Best Director winner in Oscar history.

Best Actor

Casey Affleck
 Andrew Garfield
 Ryan Gosling
 Viggo Mortensen
 Denzel Washington



The Favourite: Casey Affleck
Should Win: Casey Affleck

The Best Actor Award is essentially a two-horse race between Affleck and Washington. Casey Affleck was the frontrunner to take the Best Actor Oscar until Washington stopped him in his tracks with the Screen Actors Guild Award in January. Affleck gives a devastating career-defining performance as a handyman raising his nephew in the powerful **Manchester by the Sea**.



Washington is still a force to be reckoned with though as he both directs and stars in **Fences**. He plays a working-class man struggling to raise his family in 1950s America. The veteran black actor is very well respected and liked in Hollywood, and this could swing votes away from Affleck's less showy and downbeat performance

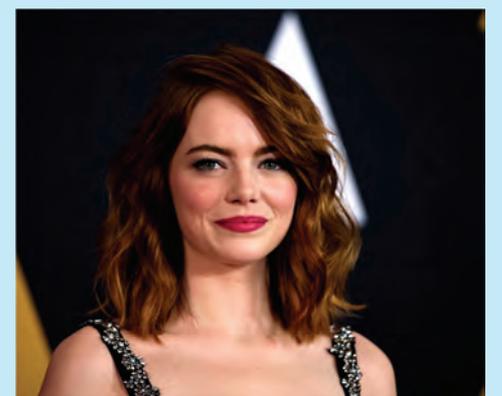
Best Actress

Isabelle Huppert
 Ruth Negga
 Natalie Portman
 Emma Stone
 Meryl Streep



The Favourite: Emma Stone
Should Win: Emma Stone

Irish hopes of Oscar glory are with our own Ruth Negga. Her moving performance in **Loving** is worthy of recognition but all eyes will be on Emma Stone. The American actress effortlessly sang and danced her way through **La La Land**. Her dazzling performance as the aspiring actress Mia made us laugh and cry. Stone is the heart of director Chazelle's bitter-sweet romance. French actress Isabelle Huppert's riveting performance as a rape survivor is Stone's only possible competition for the big prize. However with several awards under her belt already, it's hard not to envisage Stone dancing to Oscar success.



Best Supporting Actor and Actress

The Favourites/Should Win:

Mahershala Ali, *Moonlight*

Viola Davis, *Fences*

Best Original Song



The Favourite/Should Win: City of Stars, La La Land



Frank O'Rourke TD

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

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Due to a growth in our business we are recruiting for the position of Part Time Administrator based in our head office in Maynooth. This role is in the Maintenance Department of SAP Landscapes. This role will initially be 20 – 30 hours per week, with the view to extending this to a full time post within the next 12 – 18 months.

Responsibilities:

- Carry out administrative duties such as filing, typing, copying, scanning etc.
- Processing time sheets and invoices.
- Maintaining maintenance management system E-forms and Tablets.
- Provide information to internal colleagues or external enquirers.
- Handling sensitive information in a confidential manner.
- Replying to email, telephone or face to face enquiries.
- Develop and update administrative systems to make them more efficient.
- Ensuring First Aid boxes & Fire Extinguishers are maintained in line with H&S regulations.
- Answering incoming calls / forwarding on email queries, taking messages & directing calls / emails to the relevant departments.
- Other ad hoc admin duties.

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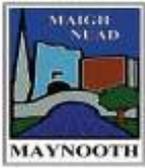
Celbridge

Sat 25th March, 10am – 4pm

Tesco Car Park



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Maynooth Newsletter



Serving the people of Maynooth



April 2017 Local News Issue No. 456 FREE

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



Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Parade 2017



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Go raibh míle maith agaibh!!

(Photo Gallery on pages 15 & 16 inside)



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



Winner of the Best Commercial Float Michael Noone Motors



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



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



Best School award being presented to Maynooth Educate Together School

Community Policing for North Kildare Action Group

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

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

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





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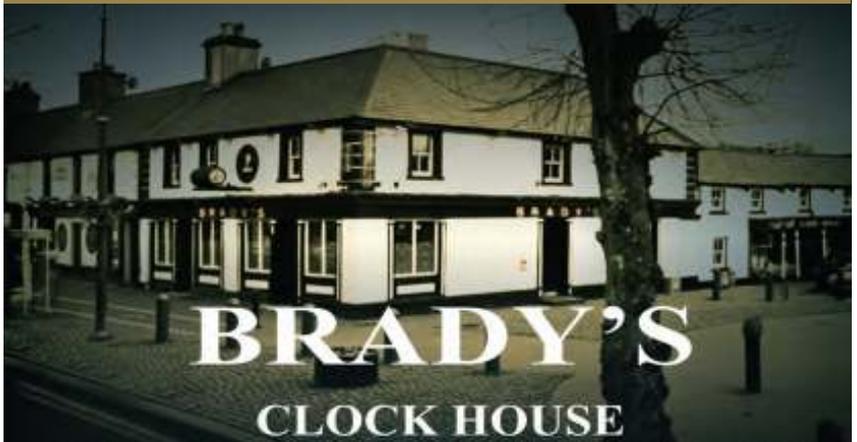


Contact Gerry at 086 2499407
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**No need for appointment
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Tel:01-6183587**

Mob: 0868348869

Email:james@jameslawless.ie

Web: www.jameslawless.ie



FIANNA Fáil
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY



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



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



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

Eve Larine Hub Community Garden



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

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

The project is to be completed in three phases

Phase 1: To be completed by March 2017

Phase 2: To be completed by September 2017

Phase 3: To be completed by Spring 2018



The team working on the project learned various skills

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



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Cúrsa A: 05/06/17 - 16/06/17

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Cúrsa F: 03/07/17 - 14/07/17

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KILDARE TRAVEL AGENT WINS TOP AWARD



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

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

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

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

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

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

Maynooth Golf Society

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

Owen Byrne Shield

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

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

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

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

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

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

Thanksgiving for favour received. K

EARTH BABY FAIR 2017

Maynooth: Sunday 9th April

Glenroyal Hotel

10am - 4pm



Featuring:

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

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

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

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

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



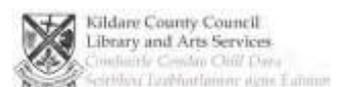
Easter is the only time of year when it is acceptable to keep all your eggs in one basket.

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

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

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

For further information contact :
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KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth

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

Information is also available online at www.citizensinformation.ie and from the Citizens Information Phone Service - 0761 07 4000 or Lo-call 1890777121

Part-time work and PRSI

Question

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

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

Answer

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

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

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

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

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

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

Jury service

Question

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

Answer

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Preparing for retirement

Question

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

Answer

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CAO late application

Question

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

Answer

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Never known to fail.

Thanksgiving for favour received. Jacko

Maynooth Labour News

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

Update on Maynooth Traffic Management Plan

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

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

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

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

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

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

John was given the following reply by the Area Engineer:

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

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

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

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

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

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

John was given the following reply by the Area Engineer:

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

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

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

Cllr. McGinley was given the following information by

the Area Engineer:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Stagg Presses Minister on North Kildare Gaelcholaiste

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

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

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

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

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

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

Stagg Blasts Coveney's Refusal to Review Rent Zone Exclusions

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

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

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

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

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

The Further Information stated:

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

James Lawless T.D. Kildare North

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

St Patrick's Day Parade & Festivities

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

Rates Revaluations in Maynooth

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

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

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

Ce & Tús Schemes Need Revival

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

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

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

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

Vera Twomey & the HSE

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

Fairness Needed for Mortgage Holders in Arrears

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

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

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

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

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

Traffic Management Survey in Maynooth

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

Lawless Voted Vice Chair of Joint Oireachtas Committee

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

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

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

North Kildare Civic Amenity Site Secured

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

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

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



Frank O'Rourke T.D. Kildare North

Contact Details: Dail Office: 01 6183109 - Mobile: 087 2555257 - e-mail: frank.orourke@oireachtas.ie -  /Frank O'Rourke
Clinics: Monday in the Glenroyal Hotel - Constituency Office: Main Street Celbridge.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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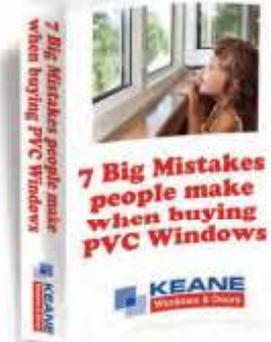
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Maynooth Newsletter

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



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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

We look forward to seeing you all there.

Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

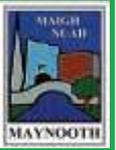
Josephine Moore.
Chairperson.



Kildare
County Council

Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Parade 2017 Photo Gallery

Photos by John Boyd





Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Parade 2017 Photo Gallery

Photos by John Boyd



Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Best Shop Fronts

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



Congratulations to Everyone who participated in the 2017 Maynooth Parade!



St. Patrick's Day Parade

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



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

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

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

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



St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Comhaltas Craobh Mhaigh Nuad

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



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

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

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

Maynooth GAA Club

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

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

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



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

Maynooth Lodge

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



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

Kildare Comhaltas 50 years

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

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

Ceardlann Earraigh

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



April and Easter

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

April sessions are planned as follows.

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

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

Go n-éirí an cheoil linn!

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

Slán go fóillín

Derek Carroll, PRO Craobh Mhaigh Nuad



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

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

BI-CENTENARY OF THE ROYAL CANAL

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

"WILL YOU WALK WITH THEM?"

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

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

WILL YOU JOIN RCAG ?

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

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

Thanksgiving for favour received. C

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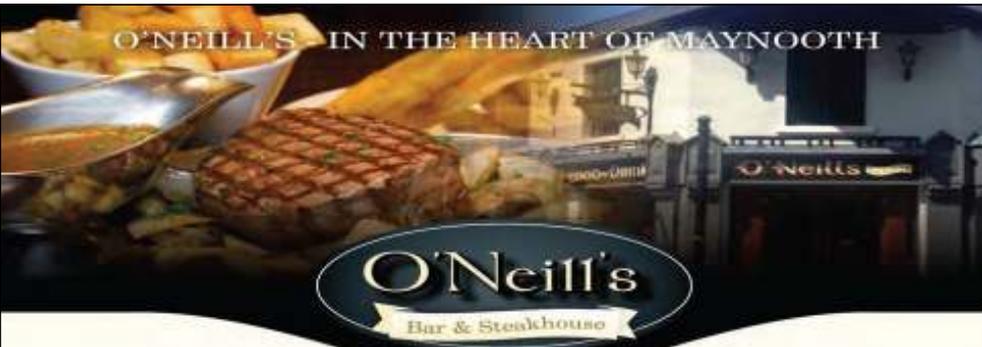
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@MaynoothCCFestivalsandeventsCommittee

Maynooth Monthly Diary Planner

Community Library	Maynooth Multiple Births	Bridge Club
<p>Opening Times Mondays & Fridays 2pm to 5pm Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm to 8pm Wednesday 9.30am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm Sat 9.30am to 1pm</p>	<p>Maynooth Multiple Births playgroup (twins triplets or more) meets the last Thursday of the month in Leixlip library between 10 & 12 noon. This is a Great opportunity to meet parents just like you. For further details email: maynoothmultiplebirthclub@gmail.com</p>	<p>Open for new members. If you would like to play in a friendly club with purpose-built facilities in the centre of Maynooth, please see our website at maynoothbridgeclub.com. Contact Katherine Cooney 086 8205910</p>
I.C.A.	MAYNOOTH LOCAL HISTORY GROUP	Arthritis Ireland
<p>Monthly meetings take place every 1st Thursday of the month at 8.00pm in the I.C.A. Hall in the Harbour. Crafts every Monday night at 8.00pm. New members welcome</p>	<p>Maynooth Local History Group Meets Last Thursday of each Month in the Maynooth Community Council Office (Next to the Post Office) New Members Welcome Contact: MCC Office for more details</p>	<p>Arthritis Ireland Walking Group (Maynooth) Meeting Monday's 12 - 2pm in the Maynooth Community Space</p>
University of Third Age (U3A)	Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group	Irish Girl Guides
<p>Weekly meetings on Friday at 11am in Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth New Members Welcome</p>	<p>Every Thursday of School Term 10am-12pm Maynooth Community Space From the 26th Of April Every Wednesday of School Term Playball for children aged 2-3. 9:30am-12pm Maynooth Community Space Carton Park S.C</p>	<p>Meetings Tuesday evening in Maynooth. For further information contact Jackie on 0894298061 or visit the Irish Girl Guides website www.irishgirlguides.ie</p>
Maynooth Tidy Towns	ALZHEIMER CAFÉ LEIXLIP	Maynooth Community Church
<p>Volunteers required to help with this work. Contact Number 087 3153189 Meet every Saturday at 10.00am in the Square</p>	<p>Informal café atmosphere for people with Dementia & their partners family & friends. Free of charge. Venue Ryevale Nursing Home. Every second Wednesday of each month 7-9pm. Call 0894933533 Email:alzheimercafeleixlip@gmail.com www.alzheimercafeleixlip.com</p>	<p>1st Floor Manor Mills (entrance next to Chill) Service times every Sunday morning from 10.30 am www.maynoothcc.org Everyone most welcome</p>
Maynooth Senior Citizens	Craobh Mhaigh Nuad C.C.E.	ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND
<p>Our morning club continues on Tuesday and Thursday and new members are always welcome. Perhaps you are new to the parish or new to the age bracket, why not come along you might enjoy it. You will find us in the Geraldine Hall on Leinster St, or contact Josephine on 087 9002296.</p>	<p>Classes are held on Wednesday 7pm to 9.30pm in Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road. Our classes are very good value, great fun and we promise you plenty of craic also !!. Bigí linn!!! Contact Sean at 086 2225540 or email craobhmaighnuad@gmail.com.</p>	<p>Rehearsals are held in the Band Hall on Pound Lane each Monday night (except Bank Holidays) from 7.45pm to 9.30pm and musicians living in Maynooth and the surrounding areas are most welcome. E-mail: sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie Website: www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie</p>

Diary entries are published free of charge for all Community Groups. E-mail details of your event before the copy date (2nd last Tuesday of each month) to be included in the next months edition. E-mail: office@maynoothcc.com. Phone: 01-6285922
(The content of the Monthly Planner Diary is published in good faith. All details should be checked with groups)

Catherine Murphy T.D. Social Democrats, Kildare North.
Constituency Office, ph. 01 6156625 - e-mail: catherine.murphy@oireachtas.ie

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Maynooth Rent Pressures

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

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

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

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

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

Maynooth Post Primary Schools

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

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

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

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

Maynooth Community Council Notes March '17

RESIGNATION

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

FUNDS HELD IN TRUST

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

AGM

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

ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

The Parade on St Patrick's Day

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

MAYNOOTH SAFETY GROUP

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

Maynooth Station

Mondays from 1-4

Kilcock Station

from Tuesdays from 1-4

Celbridge Station

Wednesdays from 1-4

MAYNOOTH TIDY TOWNS

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

PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

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

MEC PTA

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

SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE

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

ICA

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

Editorial

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Paul Croghan
Editor

MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN NOTES



200th Anniversary of the Bicycle

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

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

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

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

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

National Mitigation Plan

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

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

Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023

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

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

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

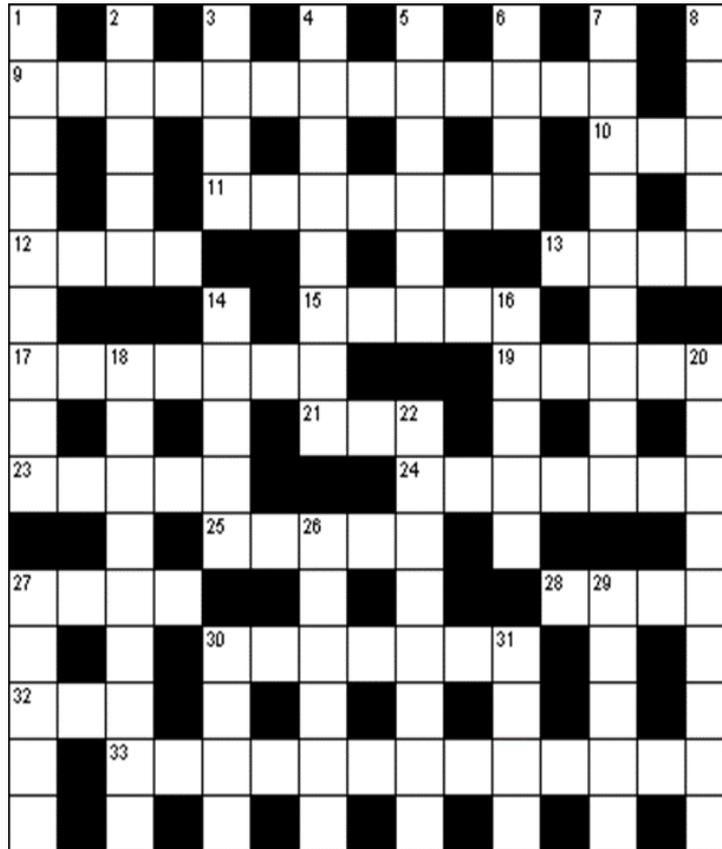


Clues Across

April Crossword - No. 456

Clues Down

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



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



Answers to Crossword No 455



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

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Entries in before:
Tuesday 18th April 2017

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Winner of Crossword No. 455 February

S. Thompson
 27 Parson's Hall
 Maynooth

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

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Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

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

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

Difficult

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

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

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

Collect prize from Newsletter Office

Sudoku Challenge

April 2017

Entries must arrive before:
18th April



**Congratulations to
March Winner:**

**Danny Houlihan
Cowanstown
Maynooth**

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

Super Difficult

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____



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 good health and prosperity.*

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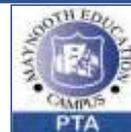
10% off

When ordering on
 Facebook

(offer expires 20 April 2017)



Maynooth 10k and 5k 2017



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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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



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



Happy Easter



Name: _____
 Age: _____
 Address: _____

 Phone No: _____

Last Month's Winner:

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

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

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

Junior Puzzle Corner

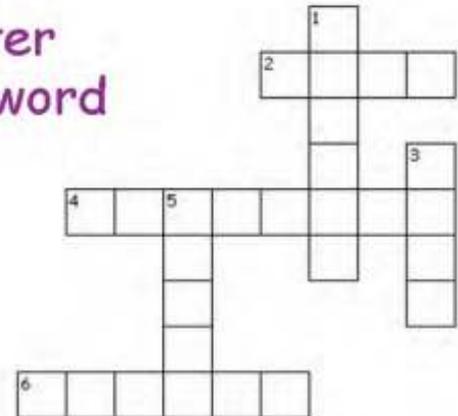
WORD SEARCH

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

Find the following hidden words:

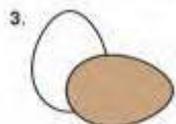
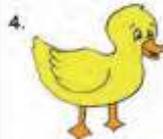
**ELEPHANT- SNAKE - RABBIT
 BUTTERFLY- HYENA- EEL- TOAD - WHALE**

**Easter
 Crossword**



Across

Down



Easter Recipes



Starter

Prawn Cocktail

Ingredients:

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

For the sauce:

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

Method:

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



Main Course

Minted Leg of Spring Lamb

Serves 4 - 6

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

Ingredients:

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

Method:

Place the olive oil, vinegar, sugar and mint in a bowl and stir to combine. Set aside.
Place the lamb on an oven-proof dish and score the fat with a sharp knife.
Pour over the mint mixture and rub into the meat. Cover and refrigerate for 1-2 hours to marinate.
Preheat the oven to 200°C and roast the lamb for approximately 120 mins.
To Serve: Rest the meat for at least 20 minutes before carving.



Dessert

Crunchy chocolate nests recipe

Ingredients:

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

Method:

Place the chocolate in a heatproof bowl and sit the bowl over a saucepan of gently simmering water, stirring occasionally, until melted. Once melted, remove from the heat and stir in the finely crushed cornflakes, stirring well until you have an even mixture.
Grease the insides of egg poaching cups with oil and line with cling film.
Press the mixture into the base of the cups, leaving a hole in the center; this will form the nest part. Chill the cups until the nests are set.
Turn out from the moulds once set and fill the middles with the mini eggs before serving.



April Gardening



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



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

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



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

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



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



April showers bring May flowers



FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

ENTERTAINMENT NEWS



IFTA NIGHT

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



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



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



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

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

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



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



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

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



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



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

Easter Film Quiz

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

*(Answers in next edition of Newsletter)

HAPPY EASTER!





Frank O'Rourke TD

KILDARE NORTH

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

 01 618 3109

Main Street, Celbridge, Co Kildare.

 01 630 3736  087 255 5257

 frank.orourke@oireachtas.ie

 www.frankorourke.ie

 /Frank O'Rourke



Dáil

Éireann



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



Maynooth Summer Festival 2017
PRESENTS
EASTER EGG HUNT
EASTER MONDAY
17th April 1pm
CARTON AVENUE

€5 per child
Easter Games & Treats
All proceeds go towards
The Maynooth Summer Festival



Maynooth University Business Society Ball

Photos by John Boyd



Maynooth Newsletter



Serving the people of Maynooth



May 2017 Local News Issue No. 457 FREE

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

Maynooth Castle Keep Art Group Annual Art Exhibition enjoys a weekend of celebration!

Maynooth Castle Keep Art Group celebrated the opening of its 19th Annual Exhibition on Friday 21 April in the Maynooth Education Campus.

Dr. Bríd Connolly of Maynooth Adult Education Department opened the exhibition and gave a wonderful summation of the works on display from each artist. She acknowledged the number of years the group has been in existence and noted the support of Mr. Thomas Ashe, Patron of the Art Group and the Maynooth Education Campus down through the years.

Sixty five paintings were on display and ranged in a variety of media and subject matter. Local scenes included *The Duke's Harbour* by Emma Boyce. Other landscapes included *Storm over Lahinch* by Paul Byrne and *Going Home, Achill Island* by Pete McCluskey. Floral subjects included *Des Fleurs* by Geraldine Murray and *Geranium* by Roberta Hines. Nature's birds and animals were observed by Holly Delaney with her colourful *Rook, Swan* and *Blackbird* studies; Thomas Manning's *Buck and Boar*; Anne McCluskey's *Harry Hedgehog* and Brenda Smyth's horse portrait *Whiskey* also attracted attention.

The exhibition continued on Saturday and Sunday and received a significant number of visitors during the day. The members were delighted



Dr. Bríd Connolly opening the Annual Art Exhibition.



L to R: Trish Nyland, Eithne Bean, Melanie Oliver, Elaine Bean & Mary Dros at the Art Exhibition

to chat with people about the works on display. Congratulations to Martina McGuinness who was the winner of the free draw for a watercolour painting which was kindly donated by Roberta Hines.

We express our thanks to Kildare and Wicklow Education Training Board, to Johnny Nevin and Siobhan McCauley principals of Maynooth Education Campus, to our patron Mr. Thomas Ashe whose support is testament to our 19 years in existence.

A special word of thanks to Dr. Bríd Smyth for opening the exhibition and for her heartfelt and eloquent opening speech. Finally we would like to thank all who came to the exhibition over the weekend and for the loyal support that people continue to give to this annual event. Photocopying of our exhibition catalogue was sponsored by Inkjet World, Maynooth.



L to R: Regina Richardson & Nicola Kelly enjoying the Exhibition.

Photos by John Boyd

Maynooth Community Council Festival and Events Committee Easter Egg Hunt

A huge thanks to all the families who came out to support our Easter Fundraiser. It was a great success and funds raised will help to provide family fun at our Summer Festival. We can only put on events like this through the generosity of the local business who support us and we hope everyone who attended had fun and left with smiles and a few treats. Sponsors of the Easter Egg Hunt were: An Siopa Milsean, L'Art Du Chocolate, SuperValu Maynooth & Tesco Maynooth.

Thanks again everyone.



BANK HOLIDAYS JUST GOT BUBBLY! BOTTOMLESS PROSECCO



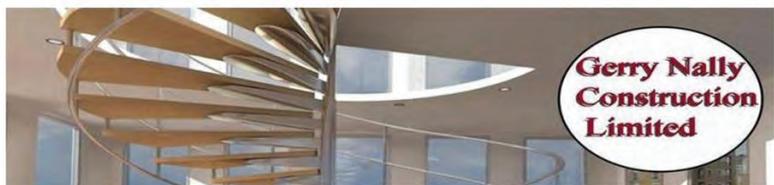
Oak Alley

In association with

WINE LAB 

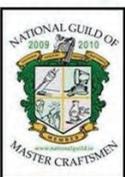
Bank Holiday Sunday 4th June 3pm to 6.30pm | Tickets €16pp Ticketed event, Limited availability

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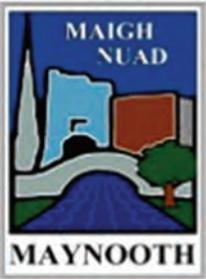
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 Call **01 513 1040**  **maynoothub@kbc.ie**

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Maynooth
Tidy Towns
Caring for our environment

*Annual Collection
Will take place in
Various Locations in
Maynooth*

**From: Thursday 18th May 2017
To: Sunday 21st May 2017**



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~~~~~

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~~~~~

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~~~~~

Saturday night Music in Lounge 9pm

**Sunday
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Session
6.00 - 8.30pm**



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Maynooth Golf Society

Eddie Kavanagh Cup
Sponsored by Ollie Bright
St. Margarets Golf Club 08.04.2017

1st	Jody Connolly	42pts
2nd	Anthony Tyrell	41pts
3rd	Martin Devaney	38pts
4th	Derek Murray	37pts
5th	Tommy Campbell	36pts
F9	Pat Connolly	17pts
B9	Niall Murphy	21pts
Over 50	Gerry Mc Ternan	32pts
NP	William Farrelly	
2s Club	Tommy Campbell, Derek Murray	

Maynooth Golf Society's most recent outing was to St. Margaret's Golf Club near Dublin Airport. It was the Eddie Kavanagh cup which was sponsored by our Captain this year "Ollie Bright". We had 31 players out on the day and we had probably the best weather of the year so far. The course was in great condition and Jody Connolly was the winner with a great score of 42pts.

Our next outing is to Portarlinton Golf Club on the 6th May.

MAYNOOTH'S GOT TALENT!

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

Entries accepted from all ages, individuals and
groups.

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

Check our Facebook page for details.

@MaynoothCCFestivalsandeventsCommittee

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth

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

Information is also available online at www.citizensinformation.ie and from the Citizens Information Phone Service - 0761 07 4000 or Lo-call 1890777121

Farm Assist means test

Question

How is income from different sources assessed for Farm Assist? I do some contracting as well as farming and my spouse works part-time. We have two children.

Answer

The means test for Farm Assist takes into account virtually every type of income you may have but it assesses different income in different ways.

Your income from farming and other self-employment (like contracting) is assessed as the gross income that you or your spouse may be expected to receive, less any expenses you incur to earn that income. From 8 March 2017, €254 of the income each year is disregarded for each of your two children (it would be €381 for a third or subsequent child). 70% of the balance is assessed (it was 100% up to March 2017).

Payments under rural environmental schemes such as GLAS and SAC are assessed separately from other farm income. €2,540 is deducted from the total amount of all these payments each year and 50% of the remainder is disregarded. Expenses incurred in complying with these environmental measures are then deducted and the balance is assessed as means. Income from an occupational pension or leasing of land or milk quotas is assessed in full. Capital (including any property that you do not live in) is assessed using the formula applied to means-tested social welfare payments.

If you have an off-farm job, €20 per day (up to a maximum of €60 per week) is deducted from your assessable weekly earnings and then 60% of the remainder is assessed as weekly means. Your spouse's income from employment is assessed in the same way. If you have seasonal work, you are assessed on your earnings only during the period you are actually working.

When you apply for Farm Assist, a social welfare inspector will visit you and ask to see various documents. The inspector will then assess the costs incurred in running the farm. You are entitled to receive a copy of this farm income calculation. You can get detailed information on how farm income is assessed at welfare.ie.

Prescription charges

Question

I have a medical card but I seem to be paying more than the monthly cap for prescription charges for my family. Why would this happen and how can I get a refund?

Answer

If you have a medical card, there is a charge for each prescription item you receive. The prescription charge is €2.50, up to a maximum of €25 per month per person or family. For medical card holders over the age of 70 there is a reduced prescription charge, from 1 March 2017, of €2 per item up to a maximum of €20 per month.

Usually your pharmacy keeps records of how much you have paid in prescription charges and makes sure that you do not pay more than the limit each month. However, you may use different pharmacies

in the same month, or your family members may not be set up as a family group, and you may end up paying more than the maximum.

If this happens, the Health Service Executive (HSE) will issue a refund without the need for you to apply for it. This is done on the basis of the information received from pharmacies. Refunds are issued every six months for amounts over €10. Amounts that are less than €10 are carried over to the next refund date.

You can set up your family as a family group on medicalcard.ie and print off a family certificate to give to your pharmacist. This will show all of the members of your family so that your pharmacy will not collect charges above the monthly limit. Your family is defined as you, your spouse or partner, any children under 16 years of age and any children between 16 and 21 years of age who are in full-time education.

If you do not have access to the internet you can ask your Local Health Office to help with setting up a family group. You can also call the HSE on 1890 252 919 or ask your local pharmacist who may be able to help you.

Bringing a dog into Ireland

Question

I am moving back to Ireland after living in Greece for some years. Am I allowed to bring my dog with me?

Answer

There are strict controls about importing pets into Ireland to ensure that diseases such as rabies are not introduced. The EU system of passports for pets allows cats, dogs and ferrets to travel between EU member states.

You may bring your dog with you if you are moving to Ireland or coming on holiday (or any other movement that is not commercial and doesn't involve the sale or change of ownership of the pet). Your dog must have an EU Pet Passport. This is available from private veterinary practices.

The Passport certifies that the pet is travelling from an eligible country, is identified by an implanted microchip and has been vaccinated against rabies at least 21 days before travel.

Dogs coming from countries other than the UK, Finland or Malta must be treated against tapeworm between 24 and 120 hours before travel. The time and date of treatment are entered on the passport. Treatment for ticks is not compulsory but it is advisable to get it at the same time as the tapeworm treatment.

The operator of the airline or ferry company is legally obliged to send notice of the arrival of the animal to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine by email at least 24 hours before the journey to petmove@agriculture.gov.ie.

Further information is available from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (agriculture.gov.ie/pets) and from the Citizens Information Centre below.

Public petitions

Question

There is an important issue that I feel isn't being considered by the Oireachtas but should be. I've heard that it is possible to make a petition directly to a parliamentary petitions committee. How does this work?

Answer

The Joint Committee on Public Petitions considers petitions from members of the public on matters in which the Houses of the Oireachtas have the power to act. Anyone except for members of the Oireachtas can submit a petition.

To make a petition, you fill out a form which is available on the Oireachtas website oireachtas.ie. The form can be submitted by post, by email or online and only one signature is required. The committee secretariat can assist you in completing the form and can also give advice on the type of petitions which can be accepted.

You should be able to show that you have already taken steps to resolve the issue, for example, through raising it with the Ombudsman or directly with the relevant government department.

The Joint Committee will not consider a complaint which has been the subject of a decision by an Ombudsman, a regulatory public body or a body set up for the purpose of redress.

If the petition is accepted, the Committee may respond to it in a number of ways. It may:

- Refer the petition to another appropriate committee, Ombudsman, regulatory public body or redress body
- Report to the Dáil and Seanad with recommendations
- Request the petitioner to attend a meeting and address the committee

The parliamentary petitions system is a way that you can take your concerns directly to Parliament and seek to influence the parliamentary agenda. Further information on the Joint Committee on Public Petitions is available on oireachtas.ie or from the Citizens Information Centre below.

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

Never known to fail. MG

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Never known to fail. MF

Maynooth Labour News

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

Draft Maynooth Traffic Management Plan

The Draft of the Plan was not ready for discussion at the MD meeting on 5 April. It is scheduled for discussion at the next MD meeting on 10 May.

Update on the Provision of Traffic Lights at the Straffan Road/Meadowbrook Link Road Junction

The Roads Engineer of the Council gave the following update to Cllr. John McGinley on 18 April:

“The design of the signal works at this junction have now been substantially agreed between KCC Roads Section and the Engineers for the Developer. However, the Engineers for the Developer have raised an issue on offset of levies that I have to discuss with the Senior Engineer and the Director of Services.”

Update on Cllr. McGinley’s Proposal for the Provision of a Footpath on the Northern side of Newtown Road, Maynooth

Cllr. McGinley was advised as follows at the MD meeting on 5 April:

“The District Manager and the Municipal District Engineer have examined this proposal and have decided not to proceed with the project. There is not adequate space to install a footpath on the existing road and there is no justification to Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) lands for a new footpath. The pedestrian crossing connection between the existing footpath and the footpath on the opposite side of the road is deemed adequate.”

Funding Secured for the Ring Road from Straffan Road to Blacklion on the Dublin Road, Maynooth.

As residents will be aware Cllr. John McGinley has been pressing Kildare County Council to Seek Government Funding for the Completion of the ring road from Straffan Road to Blacklion on the Dublin Road for some time now.

When the Minister announced last September that he was making €200 million available to Councils for the construction of infrastructure to enable new houses to be built, Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 14 September:

“That Kildare County Council look for Infrastructural Funding from the Government for the ring road from Blacklion to the Celbridge Road and from the Celbridge Road to the Straffan Road, Maynooth, in order to allow the development of sites at Dunboyne Road and Old Greenfield “(Dublin City Council has already sought €80m for such Infrastructural Funding).

The Council made an application for the funding and it was successful. €14.5m is now available for the construction of the much needed ring road. The Director of Services told Cllr. McGinley that he expected construction to begin in 18 months time. He said that 18 months is needed for design, planning and consultation with landowners, Iarnrod Eireann and Waterways Ireland.

Maynooth Playground to Get Re-furbished

The Council’s Parks Department have confirmed to Cllr. John McGinley that €30,000 has been allocated for replacing the Wetpour on the ground of the Children’s Playground and for cleaning the towers.

Cllr. McGinley Calls for the Repair of the Straffan Road Between the Traffic Lights at The Glenroyal.

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 10 May:

“That repairs be carried out on the Straffan Road to the trench between the traffic lights at the Glenroyal Junction.”

KWETB Examining Accommodation Options for North Kildare Gaelcholaiste - Stagg

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has again raised with the Minister for Education the issue of the securing of accommodation for the North Kildare Gaelcholaiste in Maynooth, which is due to open in 2019.

The Minister advised Mr. Stagg that Maynooth Community College opened in 2014 with an Irish-medium Aonad and it was stated that should the Aonad demonstrate sufficient viability after four years from its date of establishment, a Gaelcholáiste would be established, in a partnership patronage model between Kildare and Wicklow ETB and An Foras Pátrúnachta.

The Minister further advised Mr. Stagg that in the interim, 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 and Wicklow Education and Training Board is currently examining the options for accommodation for the Gaelcholáiste which will involve consideration of the timing and availability of appropriate infrastructure in the Maynooth area.

Welcoming the response from the Minister that the Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board were finally examining the options for accommodation of the North Kildare Gaelcholaiste, Kildare North Labour Party Representative Emmet Stagg stated that he would continue to press the Minister on this issue to ensure that the Gaelcholaiste opens on time in 2019.

Maynooth Education Campus On Final Furlong

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has been in further contact with the Minister for Education in relation to getting the Maynooth Education Campus to construction stage.

The Minister has advised Mr. Stagg that the successful contractor responded to the Letter of Intent issued by the Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board on 21st March last.

The Letter of Intent is the final step before the award of the Contract and requires the successful contractor to confirm tax clearance details, details of Professional Indemnity Insurance, Public Liability Insurance, Employers Liability Insurance and a Health and Safety Declaration.

The Design Team for the project are now examining the response and the Minister further advised Mr. Stagg that assuming the contractor has complied with the requirements of the Letter of Intent, it is envisaged that construction will commence on site shortly.

Welcoming this further progress Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that we are now on the final furlong in relation to getting the Maynooth Education Campus construction commenced and he looked forward to the KWETB being in a position to issue a Letter of Acceptance to the successful contractor in the near future.

Maynooth, Clane and Kilcock Finally Included as Rent Pressure Zones

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has welcomed the decision by the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government to designate the Towns of Maynooth, Clane and Kilcock as Rent Pressure Zones.

In fact Mr. Stagg stated that the whole of the Maynooth Local Electoral Area is included in the designation. Welcoming the move which will give Rent Certainty over the next three years and restrict rent increases to 4% per annum, Mr. Stagg stated that the designation came about today from findings of the Residential Tenancies Board Quarter 4 2016 Rent Review.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that he was disappointed when Maynooth, Clane and Kilcock were excluded from the designation last January, but was pleased that this anomaly had now been corrected.

Stagg Presses Harris on New Endoscopy Unit for Naas General Hospital

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has again raised the provision of capital funding for the new Endoscopy Unit at Naas General Hospital with the Minister for Health in view of the fact that 8% of all persons awaiting an Endoscopy in the State are on the waiting list at Naas which numbered 1,380 patients as of 28th February, 2017.

The Minister advised Mr. Stagg that €5 Million was dedicated to a waiting list initiative in December last with the aim of ensuring no patient would be waiting more than 18 months for a daycase procedure by 30th June, 2017. The Minister further advised Mr. Stagg that a separate Waiting List Action Plan aims to reduce the number of patients waiting more than 15 months by the end of October, 2017, with €10 Million in funding.

Specifically in relation to Naas the Minister stated that the Department of Health is working with the HSE and the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform to conduct a mid-term review of the capital programme.

While the review will consider capacity requirements over the next decade or so, it will also have a short-term focus and determine how capital investment over the coming years can be best targeted, given the current pressures being experienced within our hospital services. Funding for the Endoscopy development in Naas will be considered in this context.

Commenting on the Ministers response Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that the numbers on the waiting list at Naas for an Endoscopy were scandalous when compared with other comparable hospitals in Mullingar, Portlaoise and Tullamore, and nothing short of a new state of the art Endoscopy Unit is acceptable for Naas General Hospital and he vowed to continue to press the Minister for Capital Funding.

James Lawless T.D. Kildare North

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

Traders Meeting Held in the Glenroyal

Deputy James Lawless has hosted a traders meeting in Maynooth following increases in rates as set out by the Valuations Office. The meeting was addressed by James Lawless TD, Declan Lavelle of the Valuations Office and chaired by Declan Kennedy of the Maynooth Business Association.

Speaking after the meeting Deputy Lawless said "It was extremely important I organised this meeting to allow traders the opportunity to speak directly with the Valuations Office. In some cases businesses have seen their rates rise by 300%. This is clearly unmanageable for many businesses who I represent in Maynooth, Leixlip, and Celbridge." When this matter first broke I hosted 30 traders in my office to discuss their immediate concerns. Following on from this I decided to invite Declan Lavelle to Maynooth to engage with them.

"The recent meeting consisted of Lavelle explaining the rationale behind how the valuations office came to these decisions and most importantly, how to appeal. I would urge businesses who feel their valuation is off to appeal before the April 18th deadline. I also want to thank the contribution of Declan Kennedy of the Maynooth Business Association for hosting the meeting" concluded Deputy Lawless.

Irish Science Teachers Association conference held in Maynooth

Local TD and Fianna Fáil Science spokesperson James Lawless spoke at the opening of the annual Irish Science Teachers Association (ISTA) conference in Maynooth this past week. The annual meeting of Irish Science Teachers took place in the Glenroyal Hotel. The theme of the conference was 'effective science communication'.

Speaking after the conference Deputy Lawless said "It is vitally important we support our teachers and in particular sciences teachers and those who focus on STEM subjects. We have evidence to support the fact that there is a growing need for graduates educated to the highest level in this area. The only way they gain that knowledge is from the excellent teachers providing them with this material. I was delighted to attend tonight's conference to lend my support and let the organisation know Fianna Fáil will also support them".

New Road Funding for Maynooth

Local Fianna Fáil TD James Lawless has welcomed the announcement of €14.5 million for part of the Maynooth ring road. Deputy Lawless, who had raised these issues consistently with Transport Minister Shane Ross and Planning Minister Simon Coveney, he said Maynooth will also now see progress on the Ring Road, that part from the Leixlip Road behind Parklands back onto the Celbridge Road. Maynooth badly needs its Ring Road too and this is very welcome for the town to see it move forward, in part at least. I have met Cairn homes separately to discuss the other section from the "old Dunboyne" road to the Moyglare road and that is progressing also.

Ce & Tús Schemes Need Revival

In the Dáil recently I raised the matter of community employment schemes and the urgent need for revival of these schemes. Community employment schemes

place a willing worker with a local, usually not-for-profit organisation. The individual gets to contribute productively in their local community and the host organisation gets a willing pair of extra hands.

Many Tidy Towns groups, sports clubs and centres are examples of this. However Minister Varadkar changed the rules last summer to make it more difficult to access these schemes - for what I believe are ideological reasons, as he sees them as only a means to an end - his view that everyone should be shoe horned into commercial activity. This is neither realistic nor desirable in many cases. I believe community activity is a worthwhile goal in itself and often a good match for the people seeking it.

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

Fianna Fáil secures restoration of postgraduate grants Announces Lawless

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North James Lawless has welcomed the restoration of postgraduate grants and says his party will fight for increased investment in education in Budget 2018.

Deputy Lawless made the comments after SUSI re-opened its application process for third level grants. Fianna Fáil insisted on the restoration of postgraduate grants as part of the Confidence and Supply Arrangement to facilitate a minority Government.

Deputy Cowen said, "The previous Fine Gael - Labour Government abolished almost all postgraduate grants when Budget 2012 was unveiled. The removal of the postgraduate grant was a cruel cutback which only made a miniscule saving for the State. It had a profoundly negative effect on third level education and made it virtually impossible for mature students on low incomes, or those with young children, to return to third level-education."

Fianna Fáil was vocal in its opposition to the removal of postgraduate grants. This criticism has proven well-based as there has been a reduction of 5% in overall new postgraduate entrants since 2013. The removal of grants for postgraduate education was inconsistent with the Government's stated policy of building a high skilled 'smart' economy. This is why we made the restoration of postgraduate grants a key demand in the Confidence and Supply Arrangement to facilitate a minority Government.

"It's encouraging to see the restoration of postgraduate grants. This is the beginning of the process of undoing the damaging third level cutbacks introduced by the previous Fine Gael led Government. The Government needs to continue investing in third level education to ensure Ireland remains competitive on the global stage. Fianna Fáil will be pushing for increased investment in postgraduate grants in Budget 2018" concluded Deputy Lawless.

On 10th Anniversary of UNCRPD Signing Government Must Act

Kildare North TD James Lawless has called on the Government to ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Deputy Lawless was commenting as the 10th anniversary of Ireland

signing the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2007 took place this month.

Deputy Lawless said "It is now 10 years since Ireland signed up to the UN Convention, yet it is still to be formally ratified by the Oireachtas. The Programme for Government makes an explicit commit to facilitate the ratification of the Convention by the Oireachtas."

"In an effort to keep this commitment, Minister McGrath published what can best be described as half a bill, the Disability (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2016. This piece of legislation, which the Government has by its own admission described as insufficient, is simply not comprehensive enough to allow the Oireachtas ratify the UN Convention."

"Across the disability sector, there was significant disappointment that the bill comprehensive enough from the start. Waiting till the Committee Stage to add in entire sections is not an appropriate way to pass national legislation."

"As we head for the Easter break there is still no sign of the outstanding sections being published. This is hardly the best way to honour the ratification of this important United Nations Convention or to mark the tenth anniversary of Ireland signing it."

"The ongoing delays are not acceptable and I hope that the recurrent crises in the justice sector are not diverting attention from this crucial legislation. Fianna Fáil has previously committed to transferring disability policy to an enhanced department of Social Protection. The delays in the passage of this bill make such a change more imperative than ever."

"We need to ensure that people with disabilities are given equality of opportunity so they can participate in society to the best of their abilities. The current half measures and delays coming from the Minister will not help deliver that type of society."

"I had the pleasure of meeting a most amazing, passionate and articulate young woman, Niamh Herbert from Sallins, who attended the House with me to request Members of the House to advance the passing of this Bill as expeditiously as possible and, indeed, to ratify the convention. Niamh is a student in Trinity College Dublin and she represents herself, the students' union in the college and a group called Disability and I."

"The Government ought to act now to give the dignity and pride of seeing this convention ratified for those who have campaigned for so long to see it passed" concluded Deputy Lawless.

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

Never known to fail. M.C.

Frank O'Rourke T.D. Kildare North

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

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

O'Rourke - Maynooth Ring Road welcomed – but only a first step

Kildare North Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has welcomed the announcement today by Minister for Housing Simon Coveney TD, that €14m will be provided for the construction of the Maynooth Ring Road linking the Leixlip Road to the Celbridge road.

“Since I got elected, I have made repeated representations to secure funding for the construction a number of ring roads, including the construction of the Maynooth Ring Road. Funding of €14m, will now be provided to enable the construction of a section of the Maynooth Ring Road linking the old Dublin Road to the Celbridge Road.” said Deputy O'Rourke, who went on to say that he will continue to work to ensure that funding will be provided to enable the linking of the Dunboyne Road with the Moyglare Road.

“The funding announced today is secured from the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund (LIHAF) and I proposed this approach in my Dáil contribution last year. It is vitally important that we provide infrastructure at least in line with development rather than playing catch up after housing units have been developed.”

“I met with Kildare County Council last year and requested that a comprehensive proposal be put to the Department of Housing to secure funding for North Kildare Towns, from this €200m Infrastructural fund, to fund ring roads and other projects. I also met with the Department officials to press the need for this investment”

“As I said in the Dáil last year, to the Department Officials and in a press statement last year, the traffic trying to negotiate its way through the town of Maynooth is reaching standstill 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.”

“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 congestion.” said Deputy O'Rourke, who has tabled a question to the Minister for Education in relation to the policies his department is pursuing to cater for increased demand for school places in North Kildare, another key requirement in areas that are increasing in size.

“We must learn from the mistakes of the past. We must provide adequate infrastructure in line with development, rather than trying to retrofit the infrastructure subsequent to the development, as happened in the past” continued Deputy O'Rourke who has raised the requirement for funding for the completion of the Ring Road in Clane linking Capdoo with the Kilcock Road.

“Having a proper ring road around Maynooth will reduce the number of vehicles travelling through the town and allow the town to breathe. I continue to raise the requirement for infrastructure of this nature with the Department and Kildare County Council, for other projects in Maynooth and surrounding towns.” concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

O'Rourke raises need to reform Tús and Community Employment Schemes - Varadkar admits State 'needs to do better'

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North has called on the Government to urgently address shortcomings with Community Employment Schemes, and in particular the Tús scheme. Deputy O'Rourke made the comments after raising the issue in the Dáil with Minister for Social Protection Leo Varadkar.

The Tús initiative is a community work placement

scheme which provides working opportunities for unemployed people.

Deputy O'Rourke said, “The Tús initiative is an important scheme which allows unemployed people to get work experience in a community based setting. The aim of the scheme is to ease people back into employment. Participants in the scheme are assigned to community and voluntary organisations in both urban and rural areas. They carry out a wide range of tasks ranging from maintenance and upkeep works to childcare and caring for older people.”

“People who participate in Tús schemes generally speak highly of their work placement, as do the community and voluntary organisations that they are assigned to. However outstanding problems have emerged with the scheme in recent times. Currently a person is only allowed participate on the scheme for a period of one year before they are asked to move to a different scheme. This has given rise to a shortage of people participating in the scheme. In turn this has led to a situation where there is a lack of continuity of work under the scheme.

“For example, if a participant is working on a long-term project then there is a high chance that they will have to vacate the scheme within a year before they complete their project. Meanwhile the lack of participants in the scheme means that a community or voluntary organisation might have to wait months before they are assigned another person under the scheme. The end result is that the long-term project usually ends up being mothballed.”

“The current situation is unsatisfactory for many participants in the scheme as they feel they are being pushed out of the scheme too quickly, often before they have had a chance to gain the skills they need to secure permanent employment. The community and voluntary organisations are also being put off the scheme due to the lack of continuity of placements. This is a problem which needs to be addressed. One option available to the Government is to lift the mandatory restriction in place which prevents people from participating in the scheme for more than one year.”

“I raised this matter in the Dáil with Minister Varadkar and he admitted that there are problems with the scheme which need to be addressed. He has given me an assurance that he will take on board my concerns and this is something which I will continue to monitor in the weeks ahead.”

Full time Youth Officer will assist in delivering services for Kildare Youths says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD has welcomed the announcement by the Minister for Children, Dr. Katherine Zappone TD, that her Department has given approval to Kildare Wicklow Education and Training Board (KWETB) to appoint a full time youth officer for County Kildare.

“Up to now, County Kildare was one of the few counties that did not have a dedicated Youth Officer. Currently, we share one with County Wicklow. Given the rise in our population in Kildare and the fact that we have a higher proportion of young people aged 17 and under than the average having a dedicated Youth Officer, in my view, is essential to assist in developing services for our young people.” stated Deputy O'Rourke.

“In 2016, over €500,000 was allocated for the projects and services under Kildare Youth Services. The Department of Children provides funding to Kildare Youth Services, under the Special Projects for Youth Scheme, for six Kildare youth projects; in Athy, Naas, Leixlip, Newbridge, the Curragh, Kildare town and a Youth Information Centre in Naas.”

“Funding from the Department is used for programmes that target disadvantaged young people and to assist national youth organisations in their work to support local voluntary youth services.”

“Given the high proportion of young people in Kildare, we must ensure that we highlight the need for increased resources for our Youth Service in Kildare.” concluded Deputy O'Rourke who urged Kildare Wicklow Education and Training Board to fill this post as soon as possible and assist the youth organisations throughout the county.

O'Rourke - Construction of New Maynooth Community College to commence shortly

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke has been informed by the Minister for Education, Richard Bruton TD, that Construction is due to begin shortly on the new Maynooth Education Campus, following a Parliamentary Question tabled by Deputy O'Rourke in recent weeks.

“The Minister for Education informed me that the contractor responded to the Letter of Intent on the 21st March last. The response is currently being examined by the Education and Training Board's Design Team.” stated Deputy O'Rourke.

“The Minister has stated that assuming that the contractor has complied with the requirements of the Letter of Intent, it is envisaged that construction of the new school will commence on site shortly.”

“This is the final step before the formal award of the Contract and I want to compliment all those involved, from the Board of Management, Principal and parents who have fought hard to secure this project for Maynooth and surrounding areas.” concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

DÁIL QUESTION addressed to the Minister for Education and Skills (Deputy Richard Bruton)

by Deputy Frank O'Rourke for WRITTEN ANSWER on 04/04/2017

To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the status of a letter of intent; if it's been issued to the preferred bidder for the contracts for tender in respect of a school (details supplied); when construction is scheduled to begin; the anticipated completion date; and if he will make a statement on the matter. (Details Supplied) New Community School, Maynooth, Co Kildare

REPLY

I am pleased to inform the Deputy that the contractor responded to the Letter of Intent on the 21st March last. The response is currently being examined by the ETB's Design Team.

Assuming that the contractor has complied with the requirements of the Letter of Intent, it is envisaged that construction will commence on site shortly.

Rent Pressure Zones

Kildare North Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has welcomed the signing of an order, by the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government, Simon Coveney TD, to designate Maynooth as a rent pressure zone.

“When the rent pressure zones were announced last year, I highlighted the need for Maynooth and local areas to be added to the list of rent pressure zones.

Continued on Page 11

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

Continued from Page 10

The Minister's order takes effect from 30 March 2017 and I am delighted that Maynooth, Clane and Kilcock have now been added to the list, following a quarterly report from the Residential Tenancies Board" said Deputy O'Rourke

"Kildare towns already included in the rent pressure zones include, Naas, Sallins, Celbridge, Leixlip, Kildare, Rathangan and Newbridge."

"The inclusion of Maynooth, and extending also to Clane and Kilcock, in the rent pressure zones means that rent cannot rise by more than 4 percent a year."

"Nationally, rents rose by almost 8 percent in the last quarter of 2016, compared to the previous year and the national average rent of €986 per month is almost the same as it was at the peak in 2006/7 period."

"I know from my weekly clinics the pressure tenants are under when rents rise and we must ensure that political

pressure is maintained to secure sustainable and affordable rents," concluded Deputy O'Rourke

Extra Bus Service for Maynooth and Celbridge says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, is set to meet with senior executives from Dublin Bus shortly to press for increased Bus service for Celbridge, Leixlip and Maynooth.

"Over the last year or so, we have made improvements to the Bus Service provided by Dublin Bus to the towns of Maynooth, Celbridge and Leixlip."

"A new Sunday service on Route 67 commenced on Sunday 27th of November last at 8.15am. Dublin Bus now operate a service every 30 minutes on a Sunday until 20.50."

"However, we need an improved service for Gleneaston in Leixlip and extra capacity all round in the morning. I intend to press for improved services when I met with the CEO of Dublin Bus, while acknowledging the

progress we are making todate."

'As a councillor and now as a TD, I have regular interactions with Dublin Bus, Bus Eireann, National Transport Authority and Irish Rail. I continue to raise the importance of a regular and reliable public transport service for commuters in North Kildare.' Stated Deputy O'Rourke

"We are making progress, improved bus service for Kilcock is now in place, I am hopeful that we will have a Park and Ride for Kilcock Bus commuters. We have improved rail services for those using the Kildare line with the opening of Phoenix Park tunnel and the Kilcock and Naas rail commuters now have a fairer fare structure. I have received assurances from the NTA that they will shortly seek tenders for the Naas to Blanchardstown service, serving Clane, Rathcoffey and Maynooth, in the first quarter of 2017."

"At my meeting with Dublin Bus, I will make further representations of behalf of our public transport users." Concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

MAYNOOTH FILM FOR ALL: FILM CLUB 2016 | 2017

Iontas Theatre | Maynooth University

What happened?

A Date For Mad Mary is THE WINNER of our audience choice slot on **Wednesday 03 May!**

Directed by Darren Thornton and starring Seana Kerslake and Tara Lee 'Mad Mary' follows 'Mad' Mary McArdle on her return to Drogheda after a short spell in prison - for something she'd rather forget. Back home, everything and everyone has changed. Her

best friend, Charlene, is about to get married and Mary is to be her maid of honour. When Charlene refuses Mary a 'plus one' on the grounds that she probably couldn't find a date, Mary becomes determined to prove her wrong. 'A date for Mad Mary' is a tough and tender story about friendship, first love, and letting go of the glory days



BIG THANK YOU! to everyone who voted!

"Darren and Colin Thornton have done a really nice job adapting Yasmine Akram's play 10 Dates for Mad Mary, giving it a strong sense of place and time, and creating full, rich, rounded and almost exclusively female characters" *****

Aine O'Connor Sunday Independent

"A Date for Mad Mary is an exquisitely written, delicately made and superbly acted gem that will only get better with age and reflection" ***** Laura Delaney RTE

"Mad Mary is a delight, especially for its rounded supporting characters, its skewering use of language, and the pinpoint accuracy of its observations of life in this specific time and place" Jessica Kiang VARIETY

Admission: €6.00, *€4.00 concessions.

FREE admission for students | Tickets on sale from 7.15pm.

(*Over 65's, unwaged, Maynooth University staff & employees)

CONTACT:

Brenda T: 045 448328 E: bbrady@kildarecoco.ie with any queries / questions OR if you need more detailed directions to the venue.

Kildare County Council Library & Arts Service | MEDIA STUDIES at Maynooth University

Editorial

In the closing days of March there were two announcements made by the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government that will have significant impacts on the future of housing developments in Maynooth.

On March 28th there was very welcome news that the Government had included the "Maynooth Eastern Relief Road and bridge" as one of the projects approved under the "Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund" allocating €4.5m to the project. The allocation of this funding directly from Government is expected to provide access to land to deliver an additional eight hundred houses by 2021 and ultimately an additional seventeen hundred housing units in Maynooth.

The success by Kildare County Council in making the application for the funding for this project is a new departure in terms of how major road infrastructure is funded in Maynooth as the majority of local roads are usually paid for by charging development levies which get passed onto the person buying the house so increasing the price subject of course to market conditions that allow the builder to get the price for the house. At present there are open sites elsewhere in the town that will yield another seven hundred houses and the new roads in these areas will be funded by levies.

The second announcement made by the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government on March 29th was the inclusion of Maynooth in the areas covered by the maximum rents increase of 4% regulation. The areas covered by this rent increase cap are towns and city areas where there is evidence

determined by the "Residential Tenancies Board" that there is pressure for higher rent increases. Maynooth has a large stock of rented housing somewhat driven by the presence of Maynooth University, but also by the proximity and accessibility of Maynooth to Dublin City.

The impact on the supply of rented properties available in Maynooth by the rent increase cap is still too early to assess. Many of the rented properties in Maynooth are owned by professional property rental businesses who are in the market for the long-term but no doubt there will be some people who will get out of the market because of this change so some houses may be available to buy in the more mature older areas of the town.

Of course aside from new housing developments there are planning applications currently with Kildare County Council to replace two of Maynooth's primary schools. Maynooth Educate Together NS, a co-educational school is to get a new permanent building with expanded capacity on their site at Railpark on the Celbridge Road.

St. Mary's Boys School is to get a replacement school building on the Moyglare Road. Both new school buildings will greatly improve the educational space for primary school pupils in Maynooth. It is great that new schools are being built so that there is a greater chance that there will be primary school places for families that will occupy all this additional housing in the town.

Paul Croghan
Editor

WING TSUN - IEWTO

Ladies & Gents

Self – Defence Class

Beginners Welcome

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



Class Times

Wednesday 8pm - 10pm

Sunday 10am - 12pm

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Phone: 087 9695475

E-Mail: berrysmith265@gmail.com

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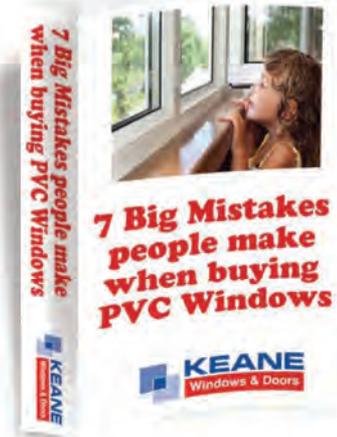
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for appointment

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Maynooth

(opposite the girl's school)

Maynooth Newsletter

Copy date for the June edition of the Maynooth
Newsletter will be Tuesday 23rd May 2017

1 S T & 2 N D J U L Y 2 0 1 7



Fun For All The Family

This Year Maynooth Festival and Events team are working on 2 days and nights of fun for all ages. An eclectic mix of Music, Performing Arts, Children's Activities, Food, Crafts, Colour, Art and History will provide a full program of events for the first weekend in July.

KEEPING COSTS LOW

Our main aim is to keep the costs of the events low to the public and encourage people to take part in the events organised and turn out in numbers to enjoy



the festival and what our beautiful town has to offer.

The team working on the festival are currently fundraising and rely on the

generosity of local businesses and members of our community.

If any person or any business wants to support or sponsor an event we would be more than happy to talk to them about how they can help to

bring yet another successful summer festival to the town, not to mention smiles to the faces of those who come out in July to enjoy the fun.



Maynooth's Got Talent!

Have you? If you have a talent whatever that may be enter our festival talent competition.

Details are on our Maynooth's Got Talent Facebook page
@maynoothsgottalent

Volunteer Support

*If you want to get in on the action and lend the Festival and Events Committee a hand during the festival weekend please get in touch via Facebook or to our email address
maynoothfest15@gmail.com*

Skills Skills Skills

We are looking for help in a few areas for anyone who would like to add another item to their CV. If you have experience in Social Media or Photography Facebook message us or email us maynoothfest15@gmail.com

Events Planned

*Performing Arts
Silverarm Sessions; Live Music
Food Fair
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Maynooth Town FC Lotto Results 2017

www.maynoothtownfc.com - Join Us On Facebook

W/End	Numbers	Jackpot	3 x €35 Winners
05-Feb-17	6,7,9,26	€1,200	Declan Fitz - Dara Mc Hale - Mary Cullen
12-Feb-17	1,3,4,9	€1,250	Gillian Ledwith - Maeve Byrne - Mark & Lisa Thompson
19-Feb-17	1,16,17,27	€1,300	Dan Casey Snr - Fiona Flanagan - 'Cha'
26-Feb-17	6,8,10,13	€1,350	Sheila Ganley - David Leavey - Leslie Kellett
05-Mar-17	6,13,15,24	€1,400	Ann Monaghan - Packie Carroll - Margaret Gannon
12-Mar-17	10,18,23,25	€1,450	Yvonne Crotty - Kevin Donovan - Ciaran Flanagan
19-Mar-17			No Draw
26-Mar-17	3,9,11,25	€1,500	Deirdre Shelly - Marie Gleeson - Marie Miles
02-Apr-17	4,8,14,21	€1,550	John Saults - Michael Murphy - Ger O'Sullivan
09-Apr-17	5,21,27,28	€1,600	Ella Murphy - Gillian Ledwith - Aisling & Liam
16-Apr-17		€1,650	No Draw



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Bumblebees play a vitally important role which we shouldn't take for granted. They pollinate many crops that provide us with food to eat and the colourful flowers in our landscape.

Wildflower-rich grasslands are the most important habitat for bumblebees as they provide plants throughout the summer and contain many nectar and pollen-rich plant species, which are favoured by bumblebees.

This meadow will be cut in autumn and all grass cuttings will be removed to lower fertility levels in the soil, which will in turn, encourage the growth of wildflowers.





Maynooth

 Caring for our environment

Thanks to all who recycled electrical goods and batteries on Saturday 25th March in the Tesco Car Park and the amount collected was 23244 Kg.

A big thank you to the Maynooth Tidy Towns volunteers who helped on the day.



On the Tuesday 28th March an Information Evening for all residents was held in the Glenroyal Hotel by Maynooth Tidy Towns highlighting their work to date. A very informative presentation on Pollination and endangered Bees was given by Mary

Jennings. Mary also spoke about the need for residents to plant bee-friendly flowers and shrubs.

David Duff of Thorntons Recycling spoke about the need for proper recycling and the process that takes place in Thorntons in relation to Brown, Green and Black bins. One interesting statistic that was that in Ireland 28% of product is contaminated and cannot be recycled. We should try and ensure that our recycled products are cleaned before

putting in the recycle Bin. Sean Cushen gave useful information on the reasons and need to compost. Sean Lyons gave a demonstration on how to prune trees properly.



Maynooth Tidy Towns thank all our speakers for their presentation on

the night.

We had a Tidy Towns planning meeting Wednesday 5th April to discuss this year's application and in relation to tidiness on estates. We would ask if all residents and residents associations could consider adopting a space to keep tidy near their estate. Also that resident associations would keep Maynooth Tidy Towns informed any new features on their estates.



Maynooth Tidy Towns had their annual spring clean-up on Saturday 22nd April meeting at the Courthouse Square @ 10am.

Good luck to the organisers and participants in the Annual Maynooth 10K/5K which takes place on 14th May @ 10.30am.

Maynooth Tidy Towns annual collection will take place from Thursday 18th May to Sunday 21st May. Please give generously.

At this time our National Tidy Towns application is due for submission.

Maynooth Tidy Towns has resumed their Wednesday Evenings @ 7pm, Saturday mornings @ 10am and Sunday mornings @ 7.45am meeting at the Courthouse Square.

We need your help to hold the GOLD MEDAL which we won last year.

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



Work Matters at the Library Support for Business & Employment

Maynooth Community Library provide support to agencies, small business, entrepreneurs, students and job seekers. As a core service we provide the following;

- Meeting Space [pre-booking essential]
- Free Wifi and access to PCs
- Free access to VisionNet and Mintel online resources
- Access to our library catalogue at www.kildare.ie/library
- Books, periodicals and business newspapers (including the Financial Times and the Economist)
- Elearning: Free online continuing education courses
- Elanguage: Free online language courses

Upcoming Workshops for Business and Career Support

Decision Making Tools Workshop Presented by Deirdre O'Shea & Gustavo Bernstein (Life and Business Coaching and Training)
Tuesday 2nd May, 7pm

This workshop will focus on 6 key decision making tools that enable more effective decision making. Assist participants to consider their decision making style – what helps and hinders you in making decisions. How to deal with uncertainty and other obstacles. **Booking Required.**

Effective Communication Workshop Presented by Deirdre O'Shea & Gustavo Bernstein (Life and Business Coaching and Training)
Friday 2nd June, 11am

This workshop will focus on core elements to crucial conversations. Strategies that can enhance your communication skills. Becoming aware of helpful and unhelpful assumptions we make in conversations. The art of influencing others. **Booking Required.**

All of our events are free of charge and open to everyone

For further information contact: www.kildare.ie/library - e-mail: maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie - Ph: 01 6285530
[facebook.com/KildareCountyLibraryService](https://www.facebook.com/KildareCountyLibraryService) - twitter.com/kildarelibrary



Comhaltas Craobh Mhaigh Nuad



After a hectic March, with the St. Patrick's festival dominating the program for the previous weeks. April's classes were a little disrupted with the Easter holidays, but once they've finished we've a busy couple of weeks pulling together our Fleadh competitors' programs building toward this year's county fleadh to be held in Clane. We are also hosting a Table Quiz to raise further funds for our Instrument Bank on 19th May – all are welcome for what should be a great night.

Kildare Comhaltas 50 years

This year we celebrated 50 years of Kildare County Board having been formed in Lawlor's Hotel Naas in January 1967 and a fantastic night was organised in the Westgrove Hotel Clane on the 25th March 2017 which was a great occasion for all involved with traditional music in Kildare to come together in a social context and enjoy a tune or two. A mighty session it was in Clane that night, with all Kildare's branches well represented.



SCT Exams

There's more to Irish traditional music than just playing tunes and having an absolute blast. The SCT (Scrúdu Ceol Tíre) programme is a graded series of exams designed to take you as a musician from basic proficiency in tune-playing through to a mastery of the tradition. Comhaltas and the Royal Irish Academy of Music (RIAM) established the Traditional Irish Music Examination as a joint project to meet the goal of offering formal recognition to traditional musicians while at the same time strengthening the tradition itself through more intensive study.

The SCT programme includes 12 levels of competence, and the exam season is in progress now from March to June:

- Elementary (3 Levels)
- Grade (8 Levels)
- Advanced Performance Certificate

Along the way our students learn about music theory, improve their ear and research the history of musical pieces, styles and players, so we're supportive of anyone who wants to progress along this route. Oh, and play tunes, of course!

The Kildare County Fleadh

Since the founding of Comhaltas in 1951, traditional musicians have achieved recognition through our Fleadh Cheoil competitions at county, provincial, and All-Ireland levels. Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann is the most important event in the traditional music calendar. For many, it is the culmination of months of hard work and practice as they compete against fellow musicians, singers and dancers to achieve the recognition of being an All-Ireland champion. The County Fleadh is the first stepping stone along this journey followed by the provincial competitions, then culminating in the Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann to be held once again in Ennis. This year Clane is the destination for Fleadh Chill Dara, which is being held in the slightly later slot of 17th – 21st May, so there should be nice weather and sessions in the streets and pubs of Claonadh – can't wait!

Cear dlann Earraigh

The Cear dlann Earraigh event which takes place between Celbridge and Maynooth returned this year on 8th April to North Kildare. The lessons and the subsequent gala concert were a great success and once again, there was a great array of talent assembled and this remains one of the jewels in the crown of Comhaltas sponsored events anywhere in the world. Looking forward to next year already!

The Gala Concert in the Glenroyal Hotel in Maynooth on the Saturday evening of the Cear dlann event.



April and Easter

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

Adult Session, Brady's bar, Sunday 19:00 – 7th May, 21st May
Junior Session, Maynooth GAA Club Sunday 18:00 - 30th April
Table Quiz, O'Neill's Bar, Maynooth Friday 19th May.

Go n-éirí an cheoil linn!

Lots more information on www.ccmhaighnuad.com and Facebook & Twitter (CCMhaighNuad).

Slán go fóillín Derek Carroll, PRO Craobh Mhaigh Nuad

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Annual Community Award 2017 to Maynooth ICA Guild

"The Spirit of St Patrick Award is an annual community award scheme sponsored by the Saint Patrick Foundation. The Maynooth Award has been running for eight years now and honours those who have contributed to the building of healthy and inclusive community in our local area. Having come very close in the nominations last year, Saint Patrick Foundation was delighted to announce that this year's winners - in recognition of many years of help and service to women in our area - were the Maynooth ICA Guild."

The Award was presented on the night by Dr Keith McCrory, the Chairman of the St Patrick Foundation.



Left to Right: Catherine O'Reilly, Dr Keith McCrory, Mary Dunne, Norah McDermott (President Maynooth Guild) Mary MacNamara (National Treasurer ICA)



Mary Dunne, Norah McDermott (President Maynooth Guild)



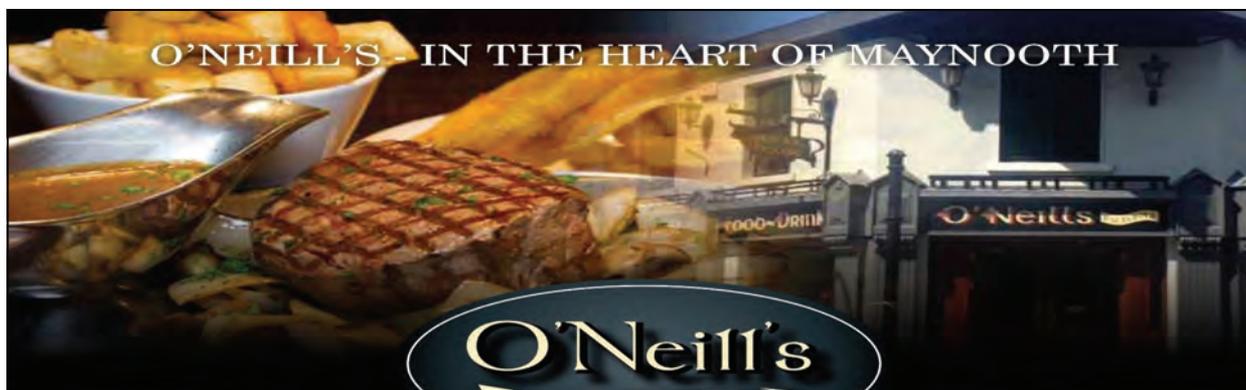
Left to Right: Elis O'Malley, Mary MacNamara (National Treasurer ICA), Mary Dunne, Norah McDermott (President Maynooth Guild) & Catherine O'Reilly.

Maynooth Guild ICA have weekly craft nights with over 30 participants on any night. Annually they provide tea/coffee and homemade cakes, strawberries and cream during the Community Festival, members attend craft weekends/weeks for crafts in An Grianán, they participate at Federation (County) and Nationally in ICA competitions and regularly win.



This is a selection of crafts made by members at Handcraft week recently in An Grianán (ICA College)

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Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee



Our Easter Tea-Dance, which we held on April 23rd, was a huge success and a most enjoyable event with about seventy in attendance. The spectacular display of Easter Bonnets earned everyone a prize with Lima Higgins being the overall winner. Of course the whole day was enhanced by the excellent music from our own Brian Mc Dermott. Many thanks to Martin and all his colleagues in the GAA club for this facility. Our next Tea-Dance will take place on Sunday May 21st when we will celebrate "Bealtaine". This Celtic Festival heralds the beginning of Summer and the name derives from the old Irish words "Bel Taine" meaning "Bright Fire".

It is steeped in tradition and folklore some of which have pagan origins. As the name of the festival suggests, bonfires played an important part in the activities and were often lit on local landmarks such as the hill of "Uisneach" in Westmeath. In the ancient Celtic calendar "Bealtaine" was a cross quarter day which was half way between the Spring Equinox and the Summer Solstice. The festival was marked with the lighting of these fires and the movement of animals to summer pastures.

In more recent times the "Bealtaine Festival" encourages us to exploit our artistic side, which is why we have all manner of art displayed on the day. So out with the needles, paint brushes, cameras, etc. and we will light our own fires, so to speak.

Many thanks to Maynooth Golf Society for their generous donation of €1,000 again this year. They remember Trevor Cassidy with this tournament each year and they also remember our Senior Citizens.

Our club mornings continue every Tuesday and Thursday in the Geraldine hall. In the past we included arts and crafts as well as bingo and with all the space we have now we are considering restoring these activities. So if bingo isn't your "bag" why not come along and tell us what is, we would love to hear from you.

Finally, April saw the passing of a vibrant icon of fashion, a friend and a shoulder to lean on. She was all these things to those who knew Mary Mc Ternan. Despite her own battle she always had time to listen to others and was renowned for her advice which she imparted with good humour. Our sincere sympathy to Gerry and all the Mc.Ternan and Barry families on their very sad loss.

Ar Dheis De go raibh a Anam.
Josephine Moore, Chairperson.



Senior Citizens Easter Parade



*Lima Higgins Overall
Winner Of The Easter
Bonnnet Competition*

Maynooth Monthly Diary Planner

Community Library	Maynooth Multiple Births	Bridge Club
<p>Opening Times Mondays & Fridays 2pm to 5pm Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm to 8pm Wednesday 9.30am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm Sat 9.30am to 1pm</p>	<p>Maynooth Multiple Births playgroup (twins triplets or more) meets the last Thursday of the month in Leixlip library between 10 & 12 noon. This is a Great opportunity to meet parents just like you. For further details email: maynoothmultiplebirthclub@gmail.com</p>	<p>Open for new members. If you would like to play in a friendly club with purpose-built facilities in the centre of Maynooth, please see our website at maynoothbridgeclub.com. Contact Katherine Cooney 086 8205910</p>
I.C.A.	MAYNOOTH LOCAL HISTORY GROUP	Arthritis Ireland
<p>Monthly meetings take place every 1st Thursday of the month at 8.00pm in the I.C.A. Hall in the Harbour. Crafts every Monday night at 8.00pm. New members welcome</p>	<p>Maynooth Local History Group Meets Last Thursday of each Month in the Maynooth Community Council Office (Next to the Post Office) New Members Welcome Contact: MCC Office for more details</p>	<p>Arthritis Ireland Walking Group (Maynooth) Meeting Monday's 12 - 2pm in the Maynooth Community Space</p>
University of Third Age (U3A)	Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group	Irish Girl Guides
<p>Weekly meetings on Friday at 11am in Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth New Members Welcome</p>	<p>Every Thursday of School Term 10am-12pm Maynooth Community Space From the 26th Of April Every Wednesday of School Term Playball for children aged 2-3. 9:30am-12pm Maynooth Community Space Carton Park S.C</p>	<p>Meetings Tuesday evening in Maynooth. For further information contact Jackie on 0894298061 or visit the Irish Girl Guides website www.irishgirlguides.ie</p>
Maynooth Tidy Towns	ALZHEIMER CAFÉ LEIXLIP	Maynooth Community Church
<p>Volunteers required to help with this work. Contact Number 087 3153189 Meet every Saturday at 10.00am in the Square</p>	<p>Informal café atmosphere for people with Dementia & their partners family & friends. Free of charge. Venue Ryevale Nursing Home. Every second Wednesday of each month 7-9pm. Call 0894933533 Email: alzheimercafeleixlip@gmail.ie www.alzheimercafeleixlip.com</p>	<p>1st Floor Manor Mills (entrance next to Chill) Service times every Sunday morning from 10.30 am www.maynoothcc.org Everyone most welcome</p>
Maynooth Senior Citizens	Craobh Mhaigh Nuad C.C.E.	ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND
<p>Our morning club continues on Tuesday and Thursday and new members are always welcome. Perhaps you are new to the parish or new to the age bracket, why not come along you might enjoy it. You will find us in the Geraldine Hall on Leinster St, or contact Josephine on 087 9002296.</p>	<p>Classes are held on Wednesday 7pm to 9.30pm in Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road. Our classes are very good value, great fun and we promise you plenty of craic also !!. Bigí linn!!! Contact Sean at 086 2225540 or email craobhmaighnuad@gmail.com.</p>	<p>Rehearsals are held in the Band Hall on Pound Lane each Monday night (except Bank Holidays) from 7.45pm to 9.30pm and musicians living in Maynooth and the surrounding areas are most welcome. E-mail: sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie Website: www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie</p>

Diary entries are published free of charge for all Community Groups. E-mail details of your event before the copy date (2nd last Tuesday of each month) to be included in the next months edition. E-mail: office@maynoothcc.com. Phone: 01-6285922
(The content of the Monthly Planner Diary is published in good faith. All details should be checked with groups)



MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN NOTES

200

Compulsory Hi Viz for Cyclists and Pedestrians

At the recent annual conference of the Association of Garda Sergeants and Inspectors, there was debate on a motion for high visibility clothing to be made compulsory for pedestrians and cyclists. Although the actual vote did not include pedestrians (as it was considered unenforceable), the motion gave rise to a frenzy of discussion in the media about cyclists and hi viz. As vulnerable road users, many cyclists choose to wear Hi-Viz but Hi-Viz has no magical powers to protect and was found in the UK courts to contribute to a fatality in low sun conditions. Furthermore, in countries with the greatest number of cyclists, responsibility for safety is placed on those who pose the greatest risk ie on people who drive rather than on people who cycle.

Minimum Passing Distance Law

Of greater importance to cyclists is the Minimum Passing Distance Law proposed by Ciaran Cannon and Regina Doherty. The law proposes a 1.5m minimum passing distance for vehicles travelling at speeds greater than 50kph and 1m for speeds of 50kph or less. It is similar to legislation in several other countries including France, Belgium, Portugal and Australia, as well as several US states and provinces in Canada. Here in Kildare we are acutely aware of the effects of the risks of cycling with the death of Tonya McEvoy at Rathcoffey in February while on a club run. Although the two TDs are members of the government party, the law is being introduced as a private members bill so we would urge all North Kildare TDs to support it and hopefully it will be passed by the Dáil before the summer recess.

The Barrow Motorway

Last night I dreamt of a motorway beside the Barrow greenway..... and it's wasn't a nightmare. Just imagine it - two lanes of traffic in one direction, two lanes of traffic in the opposite direction, a central reservation and two verges one on either side. Right, now imagine it again, this time without any traffic and with no traffic lanes. Then imagine it without a central reservation and with a verge on only one side. Finally imagine the motorway with the remaining verge reduced in width. Wouldn't that be an amazing sight from Kildare all the way to St. Mullins?

It is important that it is a motorway verge. There are grass verges on many roads and in many housing estates but those are ordinary verges. They are only about 1m wide and the grass is (generally) cut by the householder. No for the Barrow we are talking about a motorway verge and what is special about them? Well for starters they are a lot wider and the grass isn't normally cut

except close to the road. Secondly, people don't stop and spend time on motorway verges so they are not disturbed by human beings. When motorways were first planned in the UK in the 1950s, it was all about transport and moving people and goods. Road engineers were not concerned with the environment or biodiversity so nobody foresaw that motorway verges would become important linear pathways across the countryside for flora and fauna. Admittedly, motorways are not so good for animals which travel at ground level but the 'motorway' along the Barrow wouldn't have that problem as animals would only have to deal with people on bikes or walkers and not thundering HGVs and cars.

Why did Waterways Ireland not think of this when they were planning their Blueway? Well one reason is that they do not own the adjoining land and therein lies the problem. Waterways Ireland does not have funds to purchase adjoining lands for a project which in itself may or may not get planning permission. We don't do long term planning in Ireland as the housing crisis and water quality problems attest so the idea of purchasing or investing in something intangible like biodiversity is alien to us. The government launched its public consultation on the National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017- 2021 earlier this year. I doubt though that they will be recommending a motorway along the Barrow (even without the bad bits) but what's the harm in dreaming?

Politicians and Cycling

While announcements of the setting up of the Kildare Cycle Forum have again proved to be premature, there was better news in the Dáil where the All Party Cycling group was set up as a non-party forum for TD's and senators with an interest in cycling. Maynooth Cycling Campaign wishes it well and hopes that it will prove to be as successful as the All Party Parliamentary Cycling Group at Westminster. Hopefully too some of the TDs for North Kildare will consider joining!

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

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

New ASD preschool to open in The Mill Celbridge September 2017

Clever Clogs is a preschool for kids with an ASD diagnosis aged from 3-6 years. It opens in The Mill in Celbridge in September 2017 and is now inviting parents to register their children as soon as possible as demand is high. There will be one class from 9am-1pm and when that class is full another from 1.10pm -5.10pm. This school is funded by Home Tuition Grant from the Department of Education.

Clever Clogs ASD Preschool has been established by Joan Mitchell who is a Special Needs Teacher who has over ten years' experience with kids with additional needs. She is fully registered with the Teaching Council, is Garda vetted. She has a MA in Writing and Literacy and is studying (part time) for her MA in Special Needs. Joan has taught non-verbal, ADHD, Autism and Aspergers children. She has seen huge success working with a visual learning techniques pioneered by University of Queensland and has made huge progress with non-verbal children on a 1:1 basis.

On a personal level Joan Mitchell has experienced how critical it is to have the right start in life for a special needs child and this has created a passion in

her to champion kids with special needs. She lives in Celbridge with her husband and two children.

There is an Occupational Therapist involved to set up 'movement breaks' to aid learning and also to help with any sensory issues the children will have. Each child will have their own IEP (Individual Education Plan) which will maximise their strengths, while also focusing on areas where they need more help – social skills, understanding non-verbal cues, sharing, transitioning from one activity to another, using a visual schedule.

Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in Clever Clogs on an ongoing basis and are viewed as partners in their child's learning.

We put the child at the centre of learning, at the centre of fitting in and at the centre of having fun. We value differences and are wholly accepting of all individuals and will go above and beyond to let your child's true self shine, while developing their self-esteem and self-confidence.

✉ celverclogs2017@gmail.com

☎ 085-7486297 Joan Mitchell

📱 On Facebook search Clever Clogs ASD preschool

Title -The Grey Knight Author - Patrick Devaney



There is one definitive test which confirms me in my opinion of any book I begin to read and the Grey Knight scores an A++ in this regard. It is how quickly I complete the reading. That I do not start another while this one is unfinished and the newspaper article is left unread until I get to the end.

There is a quality about this novel which whisks the reader along from one chapter to the next to find out what happens and how does the whole story tie together in the end. It must be the many characters and "substories" which constitute the novel that make it such a gripping read. Be prepared to be shocked by the ending which is set in that now happily distant summer when emaciated bodies of young men were, one by one, carried out of the horror that was Long Kesh.

Michael O'Donnell

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**The Copy Date for the June Edition of the
Maynooth Newsletter is Tuesday 23rd May**

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

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

Maynooth included in Rent Pressure Zones.

On 30th March 2017, Maynooth was finally added to the list of Rent Pressure Zones across the Country. Catherine Murphy TD welcomes the inclusion of Maynooth electoral area within the control measure and had been urging the Minister to reassess the original exclusion of Maynooth since the inclusion of 29 other Local Electoral Areas in January 2017. Now in these specific local electoral areas, called Rent Pressure Zones ("RPZ"), rents will only be able to rise up to a maximum of 4% per annum, protecting tenancies in Maynooth where some 20% increases had been reported.

In December 2016, Minister Simon Coveney, the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government, introduced Rent Pressure Zones for Dublin and Cork cities. In December 2016 during a debate in the Dáil, The Social Democrats' TD Catherine Murphy said commuter towns in Counties Kildare and Wicklow must be included in any rent control solution. Ms. Murphy had said areas including Leixlip, Celbridge and Maynooth in Kildare and Bray and Greystones in Wicklow are on a par with Dublin City and County rents. She said: "I would hope that Minister Coveney has taken a thorough review of the rental markets across the country and will therefore recognise the need to implement more nuanced measures than simply targeting two big cities. Those measures must tackle the problem of exorbitant rental prices in the areas which are most affected."

Further referrals to the Housing agencies for assessment of areas where rents were increasing at double digit numbers in some cases, were made. The analysis of rental data collated by the Residential Tenancies Board (RTB) was used and further Local Electoral Areas (LEA's) were identified as Rent Pressure Zones with effect from Friday, 27 January 2017. The addition of the 12 LEA's meant that approximately 55% of the population in rental accommodation are now renting within a Rent Pressure Zone.

Maynooth had still not been included in that list. Maynooth was now the only University town in Ireland that is not covered by the 4% rent caps. In Kildare, the following electoral districts had been included; Celbridge, Leixlip, Naas, Kildare & Newbridge. Maynooth had been excluded from that latest tranche of areas designated as rent pressure zones as the rent inflation was not assessed as being above 7% rise in rental prices in four consecutive quarters out of the last six quarters. Under assessment of the data utilised by the RTB, Catherine Murphy had highlighted Maynooth had lost out on inclusion by a mere 1% in the January cohort. Initially there were 29 areas designated as a rent pressure zone in January 2017.

Kildare North Social Democrat TD, Catherine Murphy had raised this again with the Minister stating "The fact that a small anomaly in extra criteria laid down by the Residential Tenancies Board meant Maynooth was excluded was a serious error in judgement by the Minister and his Department and has had a detrimental impact on many families in Maynooth struggling under the weight of ever increasing rental prices."

The following questions were laid down to question the data used by the RTB

149. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government his plans to publish all reports and related documentation received by him from the Residential Tenancies Board and the Housing Agency relating to the extension of rent pressure zones; and if he will make a statement on the matter. [5082/17]
153. To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government the cost of all contracted work in the analysis of data or any other work associated with the designation of rent pressure zones; and if he will make a statement on the matter. [5110/17]

Simon Coveney (Cork South Central, Fine Gael) I propose to take Questions Nos. 149 and 153 together.

The Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016 amends the Residential Tenancies Act 2004 to provide that the Housing Agency, in consultation with housing authorities, may make a proposal to the Minister that an area should be considered as a Rent Pressure Zone. Following receipt of such a proposal, the Minister requests the Director of the Residential Tenancies Board (RTB) to conduct an assessment of the area to establish whether or not it meets the criteria for designation and to report to the Minister on whether the area should be designated as a Rent Pressure Zone. The reports received from the RTB and the Housing Agency in relation to the designation of further rent pressure zones are available on the websites of the Residential Tenancies Board (RTB) and the Housing Agency.

The cost to the Housing Agency and to the RTB of performing their functions under the Act is a matter for the agencies involved and my Department does not collate such information. The Clerk of the Dáil has requested that arrangements be put in place to facilitate the provision of information by State Bodies to members of the Oireachtas. Following the issue of Circular LG (P) 05/16 on 20 September 2016 from my Department, the RTB and the Housing Agency have set up dedicated email addresses for this purpose at OireachtasMembersQueries@rtb.ie and publicreps@housingagency.ie, respectively.

On 23rd February 2017, Catherine again raised the issue in the Dáil,

"The new arrangements are having the effect I would have predicted. The process used to select specific areas is flawed. My party argued that rent increases should be linked to the consumer price index. Under section 139 of the Residential Tenancies Act 2004, landlords are supposed to give notification of rent increases. There is no evidence that this is being universally done. In fact, a reply I received from the RTB suggested that updates are not provided in many cases.

As Maynooth is a university town, large cohorts of renters come on stream in particular cycles. The Maynooth electoral area is quite large and has a significant rural hinterland and this has an impact on the profile of the town for these purposes. I am sure this is also the case in other areas.

I do not think Maynooth is the same as some of the other towns because it is a university town. As it is the only town with a university in it, a one-size-fits-all approach should not apply."

Catherine Murphy maintained that there must be new thinking about the issue stating that it made perfect sense to link rents to the CPI rather than encouraging rent increases at a time when we have zero inflation. The two main factors driving the cost of living are rents or mortgages and child care. They are also driving demands for wage increases. Criteria for inclusion as a Rent Pressure Zone. To qualify as a Rent Pressure Zone, the average rent of an area must be above the national rent of €973 and have demonstrated high levels of rent inflation in accordance with the legislation.

The criteria for designating an area as a Rent Pressure Zone are:

The annual rate of rent inflation in the area must have been 7% or more in four of the last six quarters, and the average rent for tenancies registered with the RTB in the previous quarter must be above the average national rent in the quarter (the National Standard Rent in the RTB's Rent Index Report). This was €973 in the last published quarter of the Rent Index, Q3 2016. Not all rental properties in Rent Pressure Zones are covered by the 4% annual rental restriction. Properties that have not been let at any time in the previous two years, and properties which have been substantially refurbished, can be exempted from the measure. However, the pre-existing requirement that the rent set for a

property must be in line with local market rents for similar properties in the area still applies.

A 'substantial refurbishment' must be a significant change to the dwelling resulting in increased market value of the tenancy. This would involve significant alterations or improvements which add to the letting value of the property; repainting or replacement of white goods would not be sufficient.

Where does this come from & What does it mean for families in Maynooth?

Rent Predictability Measures are provisions enacted under the Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016 (the "2016 Act") that are intended to moderate the rise in rents in the parts of the country where rents are highest and rising, and in areas where households have the greatest difficulty finding accommodation they can afford.

Rent can be reviewed every 24 months.

A 90 day notice must be issued to the tenant in respect of a rent increase for an existing tenancy. Under the new rent pressure zone review rules the rent would not be open to a 4% per annum increase retrospectively. Going forward the landlord may increase rental prices by 4% per annum. Any tenancies currently in existence that have also not been reviewed in the last 2 year period are subject to a formula devised by the Residential Tenancies Board. It will not be a 4% increase for each retrospective year, there is room for slightly more than 4% depending on how the calculations work out once the formula is used.

If a rent has not been increased in the 24 month period the landlord will use the 24 month calculation and this is where it will allow for slightly more than 4% so for most tenants who have not had an increase in their tenancy in the last 2 years this is the calculation being used by the landlord. Going forward as the rent would be reviewable 12 monthly; the calculation will be devised using 12 months. This can be quite difficult for a tenant or landlord to grasp as it is certainly not straight forward in its explanation. There is however a calculator available in the RTB website to aid with the calculations.

Where can I get more help and assistance?

Threshold Tenancy Protection Service
1800 454 454 tps@threshold.ie www.threshold.ie
<http://www.threshold.ie/advice/dealing-with-problems-during-your-tenancy/how-to-deal-with-rent-increases/Residential-Tenancies-Board>
Phone the RTB: 9:00am to 5:00pm Monday to Friday - 01-702 8100 or 0818 30 30 37. There is a full description of the impact of the change in all circumstances and a calculator to assess what the increase might be in your specific case. <https://www.rtb.ie/rent-pressure-zones/rent-pressure-zones>

Catherine Murphy TD asked the Minister for Education & Skills for an update on the new Maynooth Schools

Further to the anticipated progress on the construction of the new Maynooth Education Campus. Catherine Murphy, Social Democrat TD for Kildare North has sent a further enquiry to the Minister for Education and Skills as follows;

To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the status of a new education campus in Maynooth; if he or his officials have evaluated the tender report; if a builder has been awarded the contract; if any announcement is due in respect of the commencement of construction works; if there are any anticipated delays to the commencement of works; if any alternative tenderee is to be appointed should delays be anticipated; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

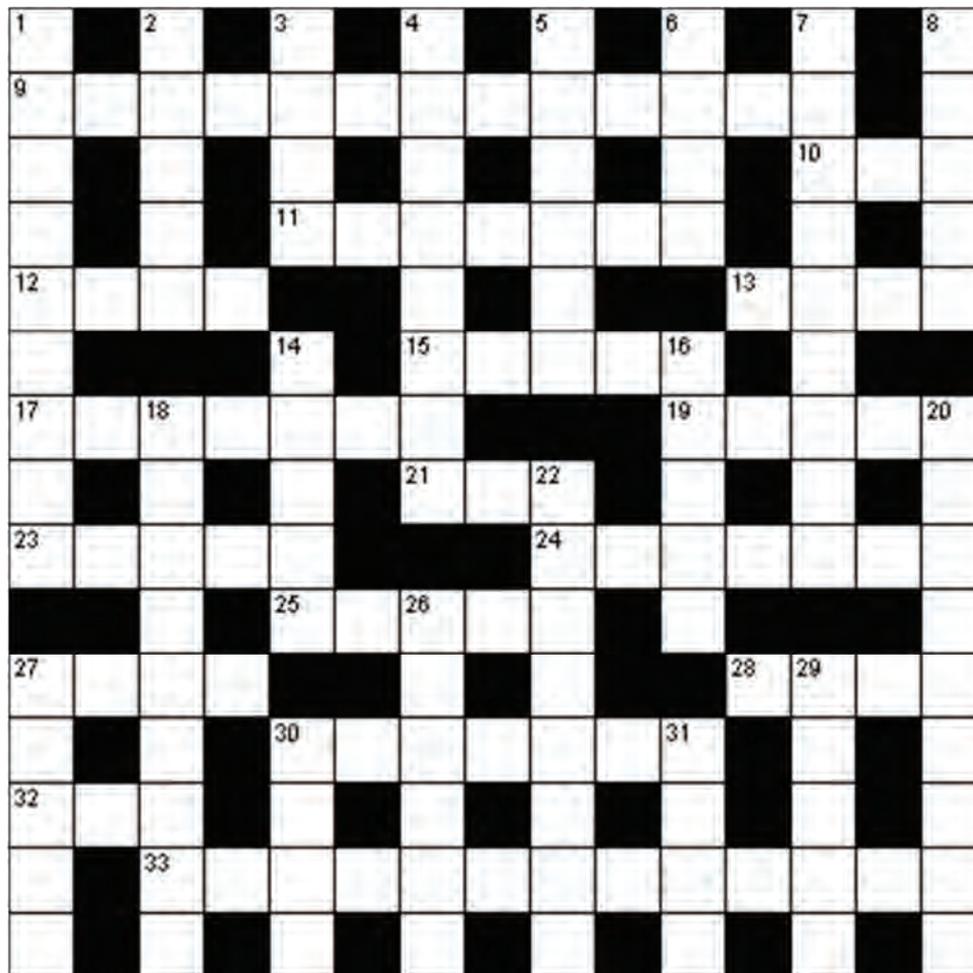
The Ministers in his last update said a Letter of Intent was issued. The intent letter is the final step before the award of the Contract. It has been a number of weeks since an announcement was expected, so I look forward to the update from the Minister.

Clues Across

9. Remove from government ownership (13)
10. Partially opened flower (3)
11. Open air fire (7)
12. Search (4)
13. Family (4)
15. Relaxes (5)
17. Sandy shores (7)
19. Tiny branches (5)
21. Bashful (3)
23. Arm joint (5)
24. Place in order (7)
25. Weapon (5)
27. Small mountain (4)
28. Duct for smoke (4)
30. Envious (7)
32. Round bread roll (3)
33. Close mental application (13)



May Crossword - No. 457



Clues Down

1. Prudent (9)
2. Pixie (5)
3. Stump (4)
4. Wife of a count (8)
5. Wirelasses (6)
6. Queue (4)
7. Armed resistance (9)
8. Broaden (5)
14. Melts (5)
16. Tale (5)
18. Vehicle for injured people (9)
20. Bony structures (9)
22. IOW town (8)
26. Rubber (6)
27. Acquired pattern of behaviour (5)
29. Enraged (5)
30. Bring bad luck (4)
31. Saturate (4)



Answers to Crossword No 456



Special Prize Book Voucher

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

The Maynooth Bookshop
68 Main Street,
Maynooth

Entries in before: Tuesday 23rd May 2017

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Winner of Crossword No. 456 April

Martin Doyle
26 Rail Park
Maynooth

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

Collect prize from
The Maynooth Bookshop
68 Main Street, Maynooth

Maynooth Bookshop
68 Main Street
Maynooth

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Newspapers & Magazines to order - Just Ask
Michael & Louise

Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

From 23/3/17 to 23/4/17 - information from Kildare County Council Website

App. Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	Application Date
17398	Kildare County Council	Mary Murray	Lotus Lodge, Ladychapel, Maynooth	12/04/2017
17394	Kildare County Council	Kieran O'Malley	No 1, "The Green", Pound Lane, Maynooth	11/04/2017
17385	Kildare County Council	Lidl Ireland GmbH	Maynooth Road, Celbridge, Co.Kildare	10/04/2017
17383	Kildare County Council	The Minnister for Education & Skills	Maynooth Educate Together, RailPark, Celbridge Road, Maynooth	10/04/2017
17379	Kildare County Council	Todd Architects on behalf St. Marys Boys National School	Moyglare Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	07/04/2017
17380	Kildare County Council	Minbay Limited	Silken Gardens, Dublin Road, Maynooth	07/04/2017
17358	Kildare County Council	Briargate Developments Maynooth,	Carton Wood, Dublin Road, Maynooth	04/04/2017
17361	Kildare County Council	Kilcawley Building & Civil Engineering Ltd.,	Unit J2, Maynooth Business, Straffan Road, Maynooth	04/04/2017
17352	Kildare County Council	Adrian and Alexandru T/A Moldovan Estates,	Bistro 53 Restaurant, Main Street and Pound , Maynooth	03/04/2017
17323	Kildare County Council	Derrinstown Stud Ltd	Ballygoran Park Stud, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	27/03/2017
17312	Kildare County Council	Wilhelm and Annetrud Franke,	The Maws Farm, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	23/03/2017

Difficult

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

Sudoku Challenge

May 2017

Entries must arrive before:
23rd May



Super Difficult

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

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

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

Collect prize from Newsletter Office

Congratulations to
April Winner:

Michelle Tully
Newtown Hall
Maynooth

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Maynooth

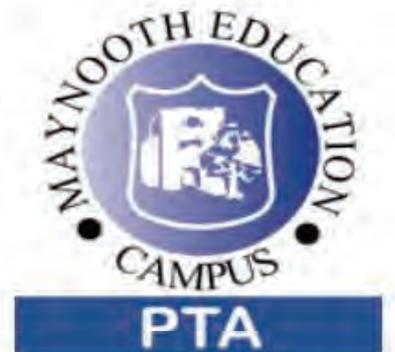
Online Entry & Timing
by Pop Up Races



10k



+5k



FAMILY RUN

SUNDAY

14th MAY @ 10.30am

- Entry €20 or €40 for a family.
- Entries on-line or during Registration at the school on Saturday 2-4pm and Sunday 8-10am.

- Top Prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd Men & Ladies in each race.
- Prize-giving and Post-race Refreshments at the school.

www.maynooth10k.ie



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



Name: _____
 Age: _____
 Address: _____

 Phone No: _____

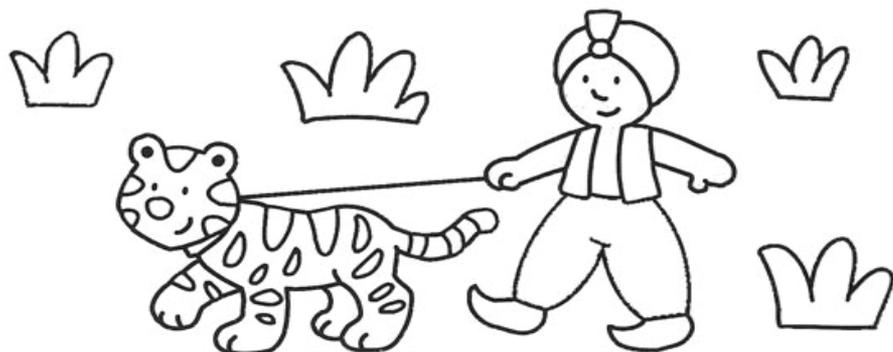
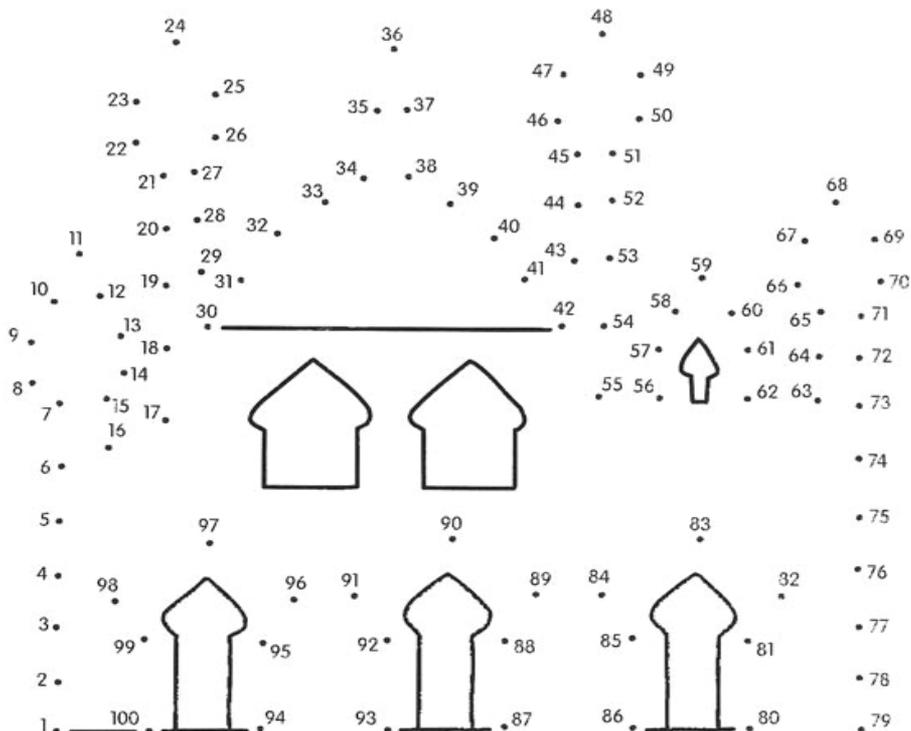
Last Month's Winner:

Saoirse Garvey
52C Maynooth Park
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 23rd May 2017

Junior Puzzle Corner

Join the dots then Colour



- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| A Fruit of the Oak tree (5) | I Ice hut (5) |
| B Something to read (4) | I Writing Fluid (3) |
| B Insect (3) | J Type of Music (4) |
| C Taxi (3) | J Fruit Drink (5) |
| C Desert Animal (5) | K Tap on a door (5) |
| D Sand Hills (5) | L Jump (4) |
| E The Night before (3) | S Unhappy (3) |
| G Type of Antelope (7) | S Brief periods of rain (7) |
| G Precious stones (4) | S Snow runner (3) |

Solutions
 Acorn, book, Bug, Cab, Camel, Dunes, Eye, Gazelle, Gems
 Igloo, Ink, Jazz, Juice, Knock, Leap, Sad, Showers, Ski



May Gardening

Summer is on its way!

As bulbs fade and herbaceous borders grow in leaps and bounds, it is now clear that summer is fast approaching. Sowing and planting out bedding can now begin.



Prune spring shrubs as they go out of flower, such as forsythia, flowering currant, kerria and spring spirea, but only if necessary, if the plants are getting too big for the position in which they are growing, or if they are becoming misshapen. The pruning should remove the older shoots of shrubs and allow new wood to take their place. Water young trees and hedging if there is a dry spell. Continue to spray roses against blackspot disease, especially after wet weather. Water recently planted

trees and shrubs in dry spells to encourage rooting out in to the surrounding soil.

Dahlias and corms of gladiolus can be planted out where they are to flower. Containers and baskets of summer bedding flowers, such as petunias and verbenas, can be planted up now. With increasing temperatures, slugs and snails can very quickly cause severe damage to susceptible plants like hostas and ligularias. Dahlias can be attacked by slugs as they come through the soil and sometimes this is difficult to spot. Bedding plants should be grown on strongly to get good size, spacing the plants well to give them room to grow before planting out. There is still time to sow hardy annual flowers for a spot of colour later on. Bedding tulips and other bulbs can be lifted and moved to a place where they will be allowed to flower again in future years.



As the weather warms during this period and daylight is more intense, lawns respond with strong growth and regular mowing is necessary. If a lawn is growing well, it will not need feeding for a while but as soon as its growth slows or the colour begins to fade, it should get some lawn fertilizer or high-nitrogen fertilizer. Take care of the edging now around the margins of flower beds or borders, or where a lawn meets a driveway or wall, before the grass gets long.

Apple and pear trees often get apple or pear scab disease and check for greenflies in large numbers. Sowing of vegetables can continue if the ground is dry enough, especially french beans, summer turnips, carrots, peas and salad crops. Repeat sowings of those sown early, such as lettuce, radish and peas, can be made. Thin out vegetable seedlings that have reached suitable size. Sow cabbage and cauliflower for autumn and winter. Sweet corn and runner beans can be sown directly outdoors but, with outdoor sowing of these tender crops, a lot depends on the summer weather for success.



In May your indoor plants are in need of some extra care! The temperatures shoot up a notch this month so you can give them a little more water. Add some soluble plant food to the watering can once a week when watering. Your plants will benefit from a bit of housekeeping. As you water, you can also gently

wipe the dust off the leaves, remove dead leaves and spent blooms and pinch back leggy-looking stems to help them branch out.

The love of gardening

is a seed once sown that never dies



Drama Free Healthy Recipes for all the Family

Quick chicken stir-fry

This is an excellent stir-fry that could be on the table in less than half an hour making it a perfect mid-week meal for all the family. An even speedier version is to use a bag of frozen mixed stir-fry veg!

Ingredients:

Finely grated rind and juice of 2 oranges or 100ml (3½ floz) pure unsweetened orange juice
1 tsp light brown sugar
2 tblsp light soy sauce
2 tsp garlic paste or 2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
1 tblsp vegetable oil
2 x 100g (4oz) skinless chicken fillets, diced
1 red chilli, finely sliced into rings, optional
2 spring onions, finely sliced
1 small head of broccoli, cut into florets
2 handfuls of bean sprouts (optional)



Method:

Mix together the orange rind, if using, and juice in a small bowl with the brown sugar, soy sauce and garlic. Heat a wok or large frying pan until very hot, then add the oil and swirl up the sides. Tip in the chicken and chilli, if using, and stir-fry for 2 to 3 minutes or until the chicken is just tender and lightly golden. Add the spring onions to the chicken mixture and stir-fry for another minute or so. Pour in the orange mixture and continue to stir-fry for another 2 to 3 minutes. Add the broccoli to the chicken and orange mixture, with the bean sprouts, if using, and cook for another minute, tossing occasionally until everything is combined. Serve the chicken stir-fry in bowls with brown rice.

Mexican fish tacos with cherry tomato salsa

Ingredients:

For the fish:

3 tsp paprika
1 tsp ground cumin
1 tsp ground coriander
1½ tsp garlic powder
500g (1lb 2oz) firm white fish fillets (such as hake, haddock, whiting)
1 tblsp olive oil



For the cherry tomato salsa:

225g (8oz) cherry tomatoes, halved or quartered depending on their size
1 small red onion, finely chopped
1 tsp garlic paste or 1 garlic clove, crushed
2 tsp lime (or lemon) juice or ½ lime or lemon
1 tblsp olive oil

To Serve:

4 soft wholemeal flour tortillas
Bag of crispy lettuce or little gem lettuce, trimmed and shredded
2 firm ripe avocados, halved, stoned and thinly sliced
4 heaped tblsp low fat sour cream or low fat Greek-style yoghurt
A little Tobasco sauce (optional)
Freshly ground black pepper

Method:

Heat a frying pan over a medium to high heat. Meanwhile, mix together the paprika, cumin, coriander and garlic powder in a shallow dish and use to dust the flesh side of the fish. Brush the pan with oil and cook the coated fish for 8-10 minutes until cooked through, turning once.

Place the cherry tomatoes in a bowl and add the onion, garlic, lime juice and olive oil. Season with pepper.

Transfer the cooked fish to a warmed plate. Microwave the tortillas for about 30 seconds until heated through. Scatter the lettuce down the middle of each tortilla and add some avocado. Flake the fish on top, discarding the skin and any stray bones and spoon over the cherry tomato salsa. Add a dollop of sour cream or Greek yoghurt and wrap up the tortilla.

Watermelon and raspberry ice lollies

This is a great way to increase the amount of fruit that you are eating.

Ingredients:

½ watermelon
450g (1lb) raspberries

Method:

Cut the flesh from the watermelon and remove the seeds. Place in a food processor or blender with the raspberries and blend until smooth. Pour into the lolly moulds and freeze for at least 4 hours, or overnight is best.



FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

Summer Movie Preview



ALIEN COVENANT

Director: Ridley Scott

Ridley Scott returns to the universe he created, with **Alien: Covenant**, a new chapter in his ground-breaking sci-fi **Alien** franchise. Following the events of **Prometheus**, the crew of the **Covenant**, on a mission to a remote planet on the far side of the galaxy, discovers what they think is an uncharted paradise, but is actually a dark, dangerous world. When they uncover a threat beyond their imagination, they must attempt a harrowing escape.



The cast includes Michael Fassbender, who reprises his Android role from 2012's **Prometheus**. Danny McBride, James Franco, and Katherine Waterston in a breakout role also star. If the trailer is anything to go by we can expect some horrifying encounters with acid-dripping monsters in this sci-fi sequel to **Prometheus**.

King Arthur: Legend of the Sword

Director: Guy Ritchie

The legend of King Arthur has always been a popular subject for film-makers, Countless Hollywood and British adaptations have popped up on screen over the decades. There has even been a Lerner and Loewe musical, **Camelot** with a singing Richard Harris. Director Guy Ritchie (**The Man from U.N.C.L.E.**) brings his dynamic stamp to the epic fantasy action adventure **King Arthur: Legend of the Sword**.



Starring Charlie Hunnam (**Guns of Anarchy**) in the title role, the film is the latest take on the classic Excalibur myth, tracing Arthur's journey from the streets to the throne. There is no real advance excitement around this movie and it has had several proposed release dates. It remains to be seen if Hunnam is a big enough box-office draw. Still the supporting cast is strong with Jude Law, Aiden Gillen and Eric Bana in the mix. It's the first instalment of a planned 6-film series.

Pirates of The Caribbean : Salazar's Revenge

Director: Joachim Ronning

Pirates of the Caribbean: Salazar's Revenge is the fifth instalment in the swashbuckling film series. The producers have stated that the original film, **The Curse of the Black Pearl** is the inspiration in script and tone for this latest outing in the **Pirates** franchise. They have promised that the supernatural and love elements that made the original film so popular will return. Orlando Bloom and Keira Knightley also reprise their earlier roles for good measure.



Some will argue this franchise is past its sell-by-date. Johnny Depp is not the icon of cool that he was back in 2003 when the world was first introduced to the quirky, flamboyant Captain Jack Sparrow. Disney is hoping to recapture some of his early magic via a younger CGI incarnation of Depp. However, Oscar winner Javier Bardem is likely to steal his thunder as the supernatural, supervillain Salazar of the title.

The Mummy

Director: Alex Kurtzman

The Mummy is a reboot of **The Mummy** franchise by Universal Studios. The Studio has resurrected its classic, bandage-wrapped monster for another horror thrills-and-scares fest. The mummy is Ahmanet (played by Sofia Boutella of **Star Trek Beyond**) a long-dead princess who is disturbed from her resting place and - because what **Mummy** film would be complete without it - casts a curse over the modern world. Expect plenty of walking corpses, curses and plagues.



The Mummy is intended to be the first instalment in the Universal Monsters Cinematic Universe where classic monsters connect on screen for the first time. Tom Cruise on a break from his **Mission Impossible** gigs stars as a mysterious character while Russell Crowe makes an appearance as a certain Jekyll/Hyde. The film promises to be fun as Cruise has the roguish charm of the original **Mummy** star, Brendan Fraser. Importantly, The veteran actor is still a genuine draw in the entertainment stakes.

Wonder Woman

Director: Patty Jenkins

Wonder Woman is the most famous heroine of all time. The fictional superheroine first appeared in Comic form in 1941 and has been published by **DC Comics** ever since. She adorns magazine covers, T-shirts, has her own brand of dolls and action figures, and is a feminist icon with beauty, brains and brawn in abundance. Not surprisingly, she has proved popular in several TV and screen incarnations.



This summer, we'll see how the Amazonian princess became humanity's hope when she embarks on her first long-awaited solo big-screen adventure.

Gal Gadot stars as Diana Prince who leaves her island home in an attempt to stop the First World War and becomes **Wonder Woman**. Gadot underwent a strict diet and training regime, practiced different martial arts and gained 17 pounds of muscle for the role. **Wonder Woman** is poised to be one of the potential big hits of Summer 2017.

Best of the Rest

Other films worth taking a trip to your local Cineplex should include the following: a Daphne Du Maurier adaptation - **My Cousin Rachel** (Rachel Weisz); Tom Holland as Spidey in **Spider-Man: Homecoming**; **War for the Planet of the Apes** sequel (Andy Serkis, Woody Harrelson); Christopher Nolan's exciting all-star WW2 epic **Dunkirk** (Tom Hardy, Mark Rylance Cillian Murphy). Comedies: **Snatched** (Goldie Hawn) and **The House** (Will Ferrell).

Easter Film Quiz Answers

- 1 *The Greatest Story Ever Told*
- 2 Mel Gibson
- 3 Charlton Heston
- 4 Fred Astaire
- 5 Judy Garland
- 6 Robert Powell
- 7 Clark Gable
- 8 Jeffrey Hunter (*King of Kings*)
Max von Sydow (*Greatest Story Ever Told*)
Robert Powell (*Jesus of Nazareth*)
Willem Dafoe (*The Last Temptation of Christ*)
- 9 Kathleen Turner
- 10 Glenn Close



Frank O'Rourke TD

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 /Frank O'Rourke



Dáil
Éireann



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

Breast Cancer Table Quiz

Friends of Maynooth Educate Together are hosting a charity table quiz in

O'Neill's Pub on Thursday May 11th @ 8pm
in aid of Breast Cancer Ireland

All are welcome!!

Entry per table of 4 people is €20 with 100% of funds raised going to Breast Cancer Ireland.

Breast Cancer Ireland is a charity helping to improve the treatment of breast cancer which affects 1 in 9 Irish women. Breast Cancer Ireland supports the development of world class research and improvements in patients care. Prizes to be won on the night both as quiz and raffle prizes.

Find event on Facebook. Search "Breast Cancer Table Quiz".



Maynooth Newsletter



Serving the people of Maynooth



June 2017

Local News

Issue No. 458

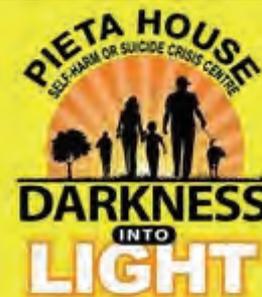
FREE

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

Maynooth Darkness into Light a Huge Success

Darkness Into Light is a movement against suicide. Money raised helps keep Pieta House's life-saving services free and helps us to broaden our services so that we reach those who need us." Our vision at Pieta House is to create a world where suicide, self-harm and stigma have been replaced by hope, self-care and acceptance.

Darkness into Light is vital for our fundraising, for raising awareness and for bringing people together as we do everything we can to bring about a suicide-free world. On 6th of May, our light was spread across the world, in over 150 venues on 4 continents. Maynooth was one of these venues and a massive €85,488.55 was raised.



- ◆ Darkness into Light keeps our doors open! Fundraising saves lives.
- ◆ Darkness into Light raised almost €3.5 million for Pieta House in 2016.
- ◆ €1,000 allows us to provide support for someone in distress.
- ◆ So far, Pieta House has helped over 29,000 people in distress.



Back Row: Left to Right John Ryan, John Mc Elliott, Brendan Ashe, & John Mc Carthy

Front Row: Left to Right Elaine Bean, Ashling Mc Neill, Ger Breslin, Melanie Oliver, Mary Mc Court, & Brian Mc Evoy (Pieta House)

To celebrate Maynooth Festival Manor Mills are hosting a free family fun day with lots of entertainment and fashion from 12pm to 3pm with music on the terrace with "Heroes from Mars" David Bowie Tribute Band, A meet and greet with Fireman Sam, Electric Zoo Animals, Selfie Mirror, Bouncy Castles, Face painting ,DJ, Gaming Zone run by AsOne Productions for family friendly game competitions or just for Fun Video gaming, In store fashion styling with Models from Assets who will showcase star buys and will have lots of style ideas for all your summer occasion and holiday needs with some stores having exclusive discounts ranging from 10 to 50% off on sale stock.



Summer Festival 2017 Saturday 1st - Sunday 2nd July

See centre Page Pull-Out for More Details





Oak Alley

Restaurant & Cocktail Bar

Events List

Thurs 29th: Gin Masterclass with Bombay Sapphire & Schweppes Tonic

Fri 30th: Various Promotions

Sat 1st: Hendricks High Tea & Tonic Party with Blind Gin Tastings. proceeds to NCBI

Sunday 2nd July, 12-3pm
Gin Brunch with DJ Jamie Byrne

Some Events are Ticketed.

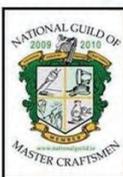
Please see Facebook or call us for details!

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



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Tel: 01-505 4725

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We look forward to seeing you soon.

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Awards 2017

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maynoothhub@kbc.ie

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James Lawless TD

Kildare North Representative

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Patrick Kevany and the Role of Submarines in World War One

At the end of 1916, Fridolyn Mayer, a Catholic priest and German military chaplain serving in occupied northern France, wrote wearily in his field diary as he looked ahead to 1917: "What will the New Year bring? Everyone has the word 'Peace' on his tongue and wishes peace to himself and to others for the New Year. Will 1917 live on in world history as a year of peace? In 1914 I was an optimist for 1915, in 1915 I was an optimist for 1916 and now, on New Year's Eve, I am a pessimist for 1917." (P. J. Houlihan, *Catholicism and the Great War: religion and everyday life in Germany & Austria-Hungary, 1914-22.*) Fr Mayer had good reason for being pessimistic.

There were many events in 1917 that marked a turning point in World War One in favour of the Allied Armies. One such event, which did not directly lead the United States of America into war, was the sinking of the RMS Lusitania by a German U-boat on Friday 7 May 1915 off the Old Head of Kinsale. Of the 1,960 souls on board, 1,197 died, including 114 Americans. While it had been the practice to allow neutral ships free passage, latterly it was found that the Lusitania was carrying shell casings and rifle cartridges.

The sinking caused a diplomatic uproar and turned public opinion against Germany. In September 1915 Germany moderated its tactics. But by January 1917, in addition to other problems, the impact of Britain's blockade against Germany was having a major effect.

Germany responded by announcing that from then on its navy would conduct full unrestricted submarine warfare – the only solution to its problems. And what was America's response? In early February 1917 the US severed diplomatic ties with Germany – and from then onwards, the dominoes continued to fall. By April 1917 the US had declared war on Germany.

The first 14,000 infantry troops of the US Army landed at the port of Saint Nazaire in France on the 26 June 1917. By May 1918 over one million US troops were stationed in France. It was the entrance of America's well-supplied forces into the conflict that was a major turning point in the war which finally ended on November 11 1918.

Although British submarines formed a very small part of the Royal Navy overall, Britain possessed the world's largest submarine service and they were among the first vessels put to sea when initially war broke out in 1914.

Among those from Ireland who enlisted in the Royal Navy in June 1915 was a young man named Patrick Kevany, aged 19 years. According to his war record held at Kew in England, Patrick was born in Maynooth, County Kildare in October 1896. By 1901, Patrick, then aged 5 was living with his parents and family in Celbridge. His father was Michael Kevany, a national school teacher,

born in County Roscommon and his mother was Bridget, born in County Sligo. Patrick's record states that prior to enlistment he had worked as a barman. We also get a good description of his appearance at the time. He was 5 feet 4 inches in height, with a 36 inch chest. He had brown hair, grey/hazel eyes and a fresh complexion. He also had a tattoo on his right forearm.

When a young man joined the navy he was given a 'Base Port' and in this instance the port was the Royal Navy Dockyard located on the River Medway at Chatham in Kent. This was the base he would return to for training or if he were ill. It also administered his drafts (which ships he served on). During World War One, 12 submarines were built here and in order to operate effectively, submarines depended on Depot Ships.

From November 1915 until March 1918 Patrick served as a Stoker on the Depot Ship, HMS Titania. Titania has been described as a floating power station which provided power (recharging of batteries) to submarines that moored beside her for that purpose. Titania also operated a powerful wireless transmitter acting as a 24-hour navigational aid to submarines and other vessels off the coast of England and in the North Sea.

As a weapon of war, submarines were considered to be well suited to their task. They were inexpensive to build, manned by small crews, required minimum support and possessed excellent endurance. But there was always a price to be paid for challenging the sea and the enemy. When a submarine was destroyed, she almost always took her entire crew with her. Between 1914 and 1918 the Royal Navy lost c. 60 submarines.

Patrick Kevany served on a number of ships both during and after the war – 12 in all. His last posting was on the HMS Ceres. He was discharged from the Royal Navy in June 1927 having served for 12 years and disappeared into civilian life. His record shows that throughout his time in the navy, his character was consistently described as 'Very Good'. With regard to his ability to undertake his duties, initially it was described as 'Satisfactory', and by the time he was discharged it was considered to be 'Superlative'.

What happened to Fr Mayer? A quick search on the internet indicates that during the war years he served as a volunteer at several locations in France until 1918 when he served briefly as chaplain to prisoners of war in Switzerland. He died in 1956 at 79 years of age. Other diocesan records and diary entries are, unfortunately, available in German only.

If Fr Mayer was pessimistic about the future of humankind in 1917, I wonder how he felt when World War Two broke out in September 1939? To quote a sentence from Joyce's *Ulysses*, "History, Stephen said, is a nightmare from which I am trying to awake." Maybe Stephen was right, especially when those with power rarely seem to learn from it.

Rita Edwards

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St Jude Thaddeus relative of Jesus & Mary
patron of hopeless cases. Thanks for many favours.
Jacko

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band

The Band are busy rehearsing for our annual trip to Clonakilty for the South of Ireland Band Championships on July 1st. Apart for the competitive aspect of the trip it offers an opportunity to meet with members of other bands from all over the country and there is a great social element to the event. Clonakilty is quite different from other competitions in that it is based on own choice pieces rather than specific test pieces which makes it more entertaining for the large local audiences that usually attend this event.

The Band has been prize winners in the past and hopefully we might bring back an award this year. We hope to be seen around Maynooth during the Summer months with the Maynooth Festival and other events happening so watch this space for further news.

We are delighted to report that the Junior Band is progressing very well

and we are looking forward to welcoming them in to the Senior Band as soon as they feel comfortable with the move. The Band welcomes interest from anyone, young or old, who would like to play in the band, just contact the Secretary at sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie for 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.



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth

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

Information is also available online at www.citizensinformation.ie and from the Citizens Information Phone Service - 0761 07 4000 or Lo-call 1890777121

Apprenticeships

Question

I'm leaving school soon but I don't want to go to college. What other options do I have?

Answer

You could consider looking for an apprenticeship. An apprenticeship involves on-the-job training with an employer. It will prepare you for work in a specific area or craft such as construction, engineering, motor or electrical. You can find information about different types of apprenticeships on the website apprenticeship.ie.

Apprentices get an allowance while training on the job. Their employer pays a recommended apprenticeship wage. The rates of pay can vary, depending on the apprenticeship and on your employer. Generally, rates will rise as you gain more skills.

During off-the-job training, a craft apprentice allowance is paid. The allowance is calculated in relation to the take-home wages paid in each trade sector. Sometimes, you will also get a contribution towards travel or accommodation costs.

It can take two to four years to complete an apprenticeship.

To be accepted, you must be at least 16 years of age and have a minimum of grade D in any five subjects in the Junior Certificate or equivalent. Some employers may require higher educational qualifications. If you don't have the required grades, you can still be registered by an employer as an apprentice if you satisfactorily complete an approved pre-apprenticeship course.

To secure an apprenticeship, the first step is to find an employer who employs apprentices in the specific craft or occupation that you are interested in. The website apprenticeship.ie lists websites that advertise apprenticeship vacancies.

If you are interested in taking up an apprenticeship, contact the Apprenticeship Section of your local Education and Training Board (ETB) for advice.

Force majeure leave

Question

I left work early because my grandmother fell ill suddenly. Can I take a half-day as force majeure leave?

Answer

If you are absent for only part of a day on grounds of force majeure, it may still be counted as a full day of force majeure leave.

If you have a family crisis, the Parental Leave Acts 1998 and 2006 give an employee a limited right to leave from work. Force majeure leave is paid leave that is granted to an employee and it arises where, for urgent family reasons, the immediate presence of the employee is indispensable owing to the injury or illness of a close family member. In general it should not be leave that an employee could plan for. You can obtain force majeure leave in relation to the illness or injury of:

- Your natural or adopted child (or a child you are acting in loco parentis for)
- Your spouse or partner (provided you are living together)
- Your brother or sister
- Your parent or grandparent
- Another person who resides with you in a relationship of domestic dependency

You are entitled to up to three days of force majeure leave in any 12-month period or five days in any 36-month period.

If you are taking force majeure leave, you must notify your employer as soon as possible and make an

application in writing as soon as you return to work. This must include the date of the leave, the reasons it was necessary and your relationship to the injured or ill person. The notice must also be signed by you as the employee.

You are protected against unfair dismissal for taking force majeure leave or for proposing to take it. If you have a dispute regarding force majeure leave, you should make a complaint to the Workplace Relations Commission within six months of the dispute. The time limit may be extended for up to a further six months if there is a substantial cause that prevents the complaint being brought within the normal time limit.

Press Ombudsman

Question

I want to complain about an article that was in a national newspaper recently. How can I do this?

Answer

The Office of the Press Ombudsman deals with complaints against publications that are members of the Press Council of Ireland. This is done free of charge without having to go to court. You can make a complaint about any article that personally affects you. You can also complain about the behaviour of a journalist. The article or the behaviour must be in breach of the professional standards and behaviours set out in the Code of Practice for Newspapers and Periodicals.

You must first make your complaint to the editor of the newspaper or magazine which published the article, explaining why you think the Code has been breached. If you don't get a response or you are not happy with the response, you can complain to the Office of the Press Ombudsman within three months of the publication of the article or the behaviour of the journalist. The complaint must be made in writing by email or post and must:

- Show how you are personally affected
- Indicate which parts of the code of practice have been breached and why
- Include a dated copy of the article
- Include copies of correspondence between you and the editor

The Office will first seek to have your complaint resolved through conciliation and/or mediation. This usually takes four to six weeks. If the matter is referred to the Press Ombudsman for a decision, it may take a further two weeks.

If the decision is in your favour, the newspaper or magazine must publish the decision unless it is appealed. If you are not happy with the decision, you can appeal to the Press Council of Ireland within two weeks.

You can get detailed information on how to make a complaint to the Press Ombudsman at citizensinformation.ie or from the Office of the Press Ombudsman.

Treatment Benefit Scheme and the self-employed

Question I run a small business and pay Class S PRSI. My wife works part-time. Are we both entitled to medical benefits under the Treatment Benefit Scheme?

Answer

Since 27 March 2017, the Treatment Benefit Scheme has been extended to cover self-employed people who have paid sufficient Class S PRSI contributions. The scheme is run by the Department of Social Protection (DSP) and provides dental, optical and aural services to qualified people. You should contact the DSP or your treatment provider to check your eligibility before proceeding with

any treatment. The number of PRSI contributions required depends on your age.

Your wife may qualify in her own right if she has enough contributions. If she doesn't have enough, she may still qualify for Treatment Benefit on your social insurance record.

To do this, you must qualify for Treatment Benefit and she must be dependent on you.

To be considered dependent she must:

- Have a gross income of €100 or less per week or
- Earn more than €100 per week and have been dependent on you before entering or resuming insurable employment (at Class A, E, H, P or S) or
- Not be getting a social welfare payment (except Disablement Pension, Supplementary Welfare Allowance, Carer's Benefit or Child Benefit) or
- Have a Carer's Allowance or State Pension (Non-Contributory) and have been dependent on you immediately before getting this payment

Benefits under the scheme include an annual oral examination by private dentists on a DSP panel. Most dentists are on the panel so you shouldn't have difficulty finding one. The scheme also provides for a free eyesight test but does not include sight tests for computer screens or driving licences.

Half the cost of medically required contact lenses and hearing aids, up to a maximum amount, may also be covered. Opticians, optometrists or hearing aid suppliers providing the treatment or hearing products must have a contract with the DSP.

You can get detailed information on the Treatment Benefit Scheme on welfare.ie.

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

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Maynooth Labour News

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

Maynooth Traffic Management

The Maynooth Municipal District members gave approval at their meeting 10 May for the Draft Maynooth Traffic Management Plan to go on Public Display. It is scheduled to go on display for 6 weeks from the end of May.

A summary of the main proposals are as follows:

Road Infrastructure Timeframe:

- **2017** Upgrade the Meadowbrook Link Road/ Straffan Road Junction to include a new signal controlled junction
- Upgrade the Lidl/Straffan Road junction
- Recalibration of 5 town centre SCOOT/UTC junctions to upgrade timing parameters
- **2018** New link road from Moyglare Road to Dunboyne Road with new roundabout junctions on both roads.
- Increase the capacity of the Kilcock Road/Moyglare Road/Mill Street Junction
- New Maynooth Outer Orbital Ring (MOOR) from Dunboyne Road to Moyglare Hall
- New ring road from Straffan Road to Celbridge Road with a new roundabout junction at the Celbridge Road.
- **2019** New ring road from Celbridge Road to Leixlip Road with a new roundabout junction at the Leixlip Road
- New ring road from Kilcock Road to Moyglare Road with a roundabout on the Kilcock Road and a signal junction on the Moyglare Road
- Upgrade the M4 Junction to Signal Control
- **2020+** New ring road from the Straffan Road to Kilcock Road with a new roundabout junction on the Rathcoffey Road.

Potential One-Way Systems in the Maynooth Town Centre

Option 1 The Preferred Option

- New road from the Glenroyal across the bottom of the Harbour Field to Leinster Street and new road from Leinster Street to Parson Street, with a signal controlled junction at Parson Street and free flow junction at Leinster Street. (As per the Maynooth Local Area Plan)
- Parson Street Closed for Vehicular Traffic at the Roost Junction with a new pedestrian and cycle plaza from the Roost Junction to the College Gates.
- One way traffic from the Roost Junction to the Square
- One way traffic from the Square to the Glenroyal
- One way traffic from the Glenroyal to Leinster Street.
- One way traffic on Leinster Street to the Roost Junction
- Two way traffic from Leinster Street to Parson Street
- Two way traffic from Parson Street to the College (For entry and exit from the College)
- The Roost and the Square Junctions would become free flow priority junctions

Option1A

- As Option 1 Plus alterations to the Glenroyal Access, with access closed to the Glenroyal for vehicular traffic and with a new junction on Doctors Lane.

Option 2

- As per Option 1 but with the Roost Junction open to Parson Street junction and the junction no longer being free flow.

Option 3

- It proposes a one way system using Pound Land as one way from Mill Street to Convent Lane.

The Conclusions of the Consultants, AECOM, are as follows:

From our analysis, the one-way system that incorporates a new link road between Straffan Road and Parson Street (Option 1) provides a greater opportunity to alleviate town center traffic congestion, compared to the other two options. The other two scenarios assessed will create congestion problems at various junctions on the road network.

Therefore, it is recommended that if a one-way option was considered for the town centre that it is only implemented if the following can be delivered:

- A new link road that connects Straffan Road to Parson Street
- Closing of the Parson Street access to/from Main Street
- Appropriately designed free flow priority junctions that will maximize capacity while maintaining a high level of service for pedestrians and cyclists and
- Appropriately designed signal controlled junction (or roundabout junction) at the Glenroyal Hotel that will maximize capacity while maintaining a high level of service for pedestrians and cyclists.

The Councils director of Services stated that the ring roads were the priority and that the Council will have to see how they work out before doing anything about the one-way system.

The Draft Traffic Management Plan also includes a significant Pedestrian and Cycle Schemes Timeframe.

Update on Traffic Lights at Straffan Road/ Meadowbrook Link Road Junction

The Council's Director of Services has advised Cllr. John McGinley that they are nearly there in their negotiations with the developer's engineers and that he expected agreement within weeks.

Cllr. McGinley Calls for the Repair of the Straffan Road Between the Traffic Lights at The Glenroyal.

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 10 May:

"That repairs be carried out on the Straffan Road to the trench between the traffic lights at the Glenroyal Junction."

John got the follow reply on 10 May:

"Works are scheduled and will be completed within the next two weeks."

Cllr. McGinley Calls for Repairs to the Straffan Road at Noones pull in, Before the M4 bridge

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 10 May:

"That the owner of the pull in section of the Straffan Road (at Noones) approaching the M4 from Maynooth (details provided) be asked to carry out repairs before a serious accident takes place."

John got the following reply on 10 May:

"Potholes and depression that are on the line of the main road will be repaired within the next two weeks."

Cllr. McGinley asked that discussions take place with the owner of the pull in bay so that repairs can be carried out on the private section as well.

Cllr. McGinley Asks for Litter bins to be Erected at the new Canal Walkway Between Maynooth and Kilcock.

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 10

May:

"Will the council be putting litter bins on the new canal walk between Maynooth and Kilcock?"

John got the following reply on 10 May:

"The Environment section will consider this proposal. However, it must first be agreed by the municipal district office that they have the available capacity to empty the additional bins."

Update on Proposed Swimming Complex for Maynooth

Councillors were given the following update by the Council's Director of Services on 10 May

"Council Officials and K Leisure (a subsidiary of the Council) had a meeting on 9 May with NUIM Officials to discuss progressing the Joint Venture Swimming Pool Complex. A Business Case is being developed by K Leisure. The intention is that 70% of the funding will be provided by NUIM, Kildare County Council and the State, with borrowings making up the remaining 30%.

Further Allocation of 5 Gardaí - Trend not Enough to Bridge Under-manning - Stagg

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has been advised By Human Resources at Garda Headquarters that an additional 5 Probationary Gardaí were assigned to the Kildare Division at Leixlip Garda Station on Monday May 8th.

Whilst welcoming the additional gardai Mr. Stagg stated that the allocation of 5 probationers to the Kildare Division out of 142 probationers who graduated on April 24th will not improve the under-manning of Garda Resources in the Kildare Division. Just 3.5% of probationers were allocated this time whilst Kildare has 4.7% of the State's Population. Kildare received 6.6% of probationer gardai who graduated last November, so the fall in the allocation to the Kildare Division is disappointing.

This will bring Garda Numbers to 329 in the Kildare Division or a ratio of 1 garda for every 675 people in Kildare. The total number of Garda Recruits allocated to the Kildare Division since April 2015 is 40.

Mr. Stagg stated that if we are to make serious inroads into the under-manning in Kildare we need to be getting a much higher number of probationary gardai and there needs to be a concerted effort to transfer gardai into the Kildare Division.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that he would contact the Minister for Justice and the Garda Commissioner to re-stress the opportunity once and for all to give us the Garda numbers we deserve whilst the force is being expanded Nationally.

Stagg To Press Canney on Phase 2 of Restoration Works to Maynooth Castle

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg raised with Minister of State Sean Canney the need for Phase 2 Restoration Works to Maynooth Castle with a view to promoting Maynooth Castle as a tourist attraction in view of the Ancient East Campaign. Maynooth Castle was founded in the 13th Century and remodelled in the 17th Century. It was the home of the Kildare Branch of the Geraldines.

Just under €2 Million stated Mr. Stagg was spent in 2,000/2001 on the Phase 1 Restoration Works which involved the development of the ground vaulted areas for exhibition purposes together with access to the first floor and the provision of small-scale guide and visitor facilities. Phase 2 of the Restoration works would have seen the provision of a roof on the Keep of the Castle and an Auditorium.

(Continued on page 9)

Maynooth Labour News (Cont.)

(Continued from page 8)

The Minister advised Mr. Stagg that there are no plans currently to do any works at Maynooth Castle. The building is in a good state of conservation and continues to be maintained in good order by the Office of Public Works, but no capital investment to create new visitor facilities is contemplated at this time. Maynooth currently operates as a seasonal site, open to visitors with a Guide Service from Mid May until the end of September. As a heritage asset therefore within the Ireland's Ancient East area, it will, in tandem with all the other Heritage sites managed by the OPW, continue to be available for visitors and for suitable special events and will remain a contributor to the local tourism economy. Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has described Minister Canney's response as disappointing in that the Government is not interested in developing the true potential of the Castle for the people of Maynooth and visitors to the area and he vowed to press the Minister on this issue.

Work Commences on Maynooth Education Campus

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg and Cllr. John McGinley have welcomed the commencement of construction of the Maynooth Education Campus. Mr. Stagg stated that this was fantastic news for the Pupils, Teachers and Parents of the Pupils who will now have Two State of the Art Post Primary Schools and a shared Sports Facility at Mariaville, Maynooth. The construction period is 24 months and Sammon Building Contractors have been awarded the contract. Both of the schools will cater for 1,000 pupils each. In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg and Cllr. John McGinley congratulated everybody involved in bringing the project to this stage including the Maynooth Education Campus Parent Teacher Association, the Principals of the Schools Johnny Nevin

and Siobhan McCauley, the Boards of Management, KWETB, the Department of Education and most importantly the people of Maynooth.

Stagg Seeks to Amend Fingal Plan to Protect St. Catherine's Park

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg is seeking to Vary the Fingal County Plan 2017-2023 to ensure that no link road goes through the wonderful recreational area that is St. Cathrine's Park in Leixlip. Describing the proposal as a pure act of state vandalism Mr. Stagg stated that he has been in contact with Labour Colleagues on Fingal Co. Council and has requested that they table the following motion for discussion at Council level:

"That this Council requests the Chief Executive to initiate a variation of the Fingal Development Plan 2017-2023 with the purpose of:

(a) removing the following road Schemes listed under Table 7.1 of Objective MT42, N3-N4 Link Ongar to Barnhill and N3-N4 Barnhill to Leixlip Interchange.

and

(b) to include an additional Objective under Green Infrastructure namely - *This Council recognises the significant importance of St. Catherine's Park as a recreational amenity for the Region, and mindful of this the integrity of the Park shall be preserved and it shall not be used in any way to provide a link from the N3 to the N4, within the functional area of Fingal or Kildare.*"

Mr. Stagg stated that he has received full support from the Labour Fingal Councillors who have agreed to put forward his motion at Area Committee Level and Full Council. Fingal Transport Planners he stated pulled a fast one by putting the route through the Kildare Side of St. Catherine's Park.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Em-

met Stagg stated that he was confident that the variation proposed was the way to ensure that the integrity of St. Catherine's Park was protected for future generations.

Funding To Be Sought for Electrification of Maynooth and Kildare Rail Lines - Stagg

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has again raised with the Minister for Transport the Electrification of the Maynooth and Kildare Rail Lines which form part of the DART Expansion Programme, in the context of the Review of the Capital Plan.

The Minister advised Mr. Stagg that he would be seeking to improve the funding available for public transport in the context of the mid-term review of the Capital Plan currently under way. This will include increased funding to accelerate implementation of the DART Expansion Programme.

Welcoming the commitment by the Minister to seek additional Capital Funding for the DART Expansion Programme Mr. Stagg stated that the project would involve the removal of level crossings and re-signalling and would provide fast high frequency electrified services to Maynooth and Hazelhatch in Celbridge.

Mr. Stagg further stated that both projects are recommended in the National Transport Authority's Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016-2035, and the Maynooth Rail Line Electrification is included in the National Transport Integrated Implementation Plan 2013-2018.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that he would continue to press the Minister to include the projects in the new Capital Plan given the enhanced services which would be provided to commuters in North Kildare.

Donaghmore (Grange William) Cemetery Annual Mass Celebrant Fr. John Nevin M.H.M. Saturday June 24th at 7 p.m.

Please note:

- All are invited to attend this year's celebration of Mass at Donaghmore (Grange William).
- Anyone willing to assist in the preparation of the cemetery for this event is welcome. Note cemetery will be open from 10 a.m. on June 24th.
- The Cemetery is accessible at any time, taking due care to surrounding farming property including closing gates.
- It is planned to have the road gates open on the day of the Mass.
- As the site is remote with rough terrain, care must be taken for personal safety.

Donaghmore Cemetery Maintenance Committee.

Maynooth Golf Society

 John Tiernan Cup
Sponsored by Maor Scaffolding
Portarlinton Golf Club 06.05.2017

1st	John Carroll	34pts
2nd	Norman Kavanagh	33pts
3rd	Declan Byrne	32ptsB9
4th	Brendan Bean	32pts
5th	Barry Farrell	31pts
F9	Martin Shields	20pts
B9	Mick Fahy	18pts
Over 50	Sean Farrelly	30ptsNP
NP	Peter Finnan	
2s Club	Eamon Murphy	

Maynooth Golf Society's results from the last outing to Portarlinton on the 6th May. We had a nice bright but cloudy day with a cool easterly wind blowing which dried out the course and had the greens very fast and very difficult. The scoring was low which shows how difficult it was. John Carroll played his first game in 6 months and came in with a great score of 34pts. Eamonn Murphy got the only 2 of the day and pocketed the money from the 2s club.

Maynooth Golf Society

 Coollattin Golf Club
Bunclody Golf Club
19th/20th May 2017

Maynooth Golf Society were away in Bunclody Co. Wexford last weekend. 25 Golfers took part in playing Golf in Coollattin Golf in Wicklow on Friday and Bunclody Golf Club on Saturday. The results over the two days are as follows:

1st	John Byrne
2nd	William Farrelly
3rd	Dave Weafer
4th	Liam Farrelly
5th	Eamonn Murphy
F18	Sean Lennon
B18	Pat Connolly
NP	Gerry McTernan

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

Never known to fail. MCC

James Lawless T.D. Kildare North

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

Construction to Begin on New Maynooth School

I am delighted to confirm following correspondence with the Minister for Education that construction will begin on the two new post primary schools in Maynooth. The two new schools once completed will hold 1000 students each.

From my correspondence with the Minister for Education I understand that the construction team behind the project will be Sammon Contracting Ireland Ltd. The progression of this project is very welcome news. I look forward to seeing the school build moving along swiftly to give students the state of the art facilities they deserve for their studies.

Maynooth 5K & 10K in aid of Maynooth Education Campus

There was a party atmosphere at the Maynooth Education Campus 10k & 5K following the news construction was to begin on site. It was a great day out and enjoyable to meet so many other runners and walkers on the track. A big credit must go to the organisers, volunteers, and competitors on the day.

Trade Visit to the European Space Agency and the Maynooth Connection

As part of my role as Fianna Fáil Science Spokesperson I was asked to lead a trade mission with Minister Halligan to the European Space Agency. We travelled with Enterprise Ireland and our group included over a dozen Irish companies who are heavily invested in space technology. Ireland was a founder member of ESA and has contributed engineering, scientific and technology projects to many space missions. Space is the ultimate test-bed and so many of these firms go onto "spin-out" success when commercial applications inevitably follow.

There are over 60 Irish companies involved in the space industry with 2,500 high skilled and high paid jobs in this sector within Ireland today. It is somewhat unusual for an opposition spokesperson to be included on a trade mission and I appreciated Minister Halligan's invite on this trip. It demonstrates to our international partners cross-party support for the continued development of this industry.

It was a pleasure to return to Maynooth to meet with Susan McKenna Lawlor of Maynooth University who is working on the first Irish made space craft right here in Maynooth. We discussed funding streams, jobs, and the potential for Ireland to become a 'launch country' in the very near future. I was delighted to host Susan in my Maynooth office and will continue to work with her to promote space sector jobs in Kildare North.

Bigger Picture Plan Lacking for Maynooth Commuters

I contributed to a debate in the Dáil recently regarding transport and the problems this is causing for commuters. In particular I raised my concerns regarding the transport links from Kildare North into Dublin.

We are in pretty much the centre of the commuter belt with huge numbers from the county travelling to Dublin daily for work and most of the country passing through the N4 and N7 to get to Dublin so it is very much steeped in commuting and private and public transport. It is estimated that between 60,000 to 80,000 vehicles travel daily along with commuters coming in from Sallins, Celbridge, Leixlip, Maynooth and Kilcock train stations and those travelling on buses

from Prosperous, Clane and Naas along with private transport along the N4 and N7.

What is lacking is a big picture - a vision. We do not have a transport policy. A 30-year transport strategy was published as the Government took office. There was barely a hint in it of any kind of connectivity in respect of projects like the interconnector, metro north, metro west or the outer orbital route for the M50. There is no joining of the dots. We have multiple routes. If people want to get into the city centre and back out again, they can do it - albeit very tortuously and slowly - making their way through traffic jams. If they need to go from A to B and up to C, it is far more difficult.

We need to put in place a basic transport infrastructure of the kind that every other capital city of its type in the world has. We are lacking in it. The Fianna Fáil plan was mentioned in proceedings. This plan, which was called Transport 21, was actually a fine plan. If we could revisit it now, we would be well served.

People Realising Government Homelessness Problem due to lack of Government Action

People have woken up to the Government spin on housing and are showing their frustration by taking to the streets in protest. Hundreds of people have marched in Dublin recently to call for Government action to address the escalating housing crisis.

The Government keeps pushing the message that housing is its number one priority but unfortunately the results of a series of action plans to address the crisis to date have been extremely disappointing. Minister Coveney record in delivering social and affordable housing is poor, and attempts to overstate the number of housing completions have backfired in the wake of new census figures.

Fine Gael in Government has presided over the lowest number of social housing completions in more than 20 years - will just 4,000 homes constructed between 2011 and 2016. That is significantly less than the annual figures between 1994-2009. This fall off in social housing is one of the main contributors to the current crisis and needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency because the private sector is simply unable to meet the current housing demand.

The Land Bank plan announced is the latest initiative to be unveiled by the Minister, and while it is a step in the right direction, the measure of its success will be judged on the number of homes it actually delivers. Despite a succession of grand plans, which Minister Coveney has been rolling out over the past 10 months, homelessness levels have risen month on month. This is proof that these initiatives are not tackling the problems at the heart of this crisis.

We need targeted plans which tackle homelessness, supply issues and which encourage construction. Instead of focusing on one area at a time we need to combine our efforts to ensure a more cohesive housing strategy that will effectively deal with the issues facing tens of thousands of families across the country.

Minister Misleading People over Junior Cert Reform

Minister Richard Bruton needs to be honest with parents and students regarding his proposals for Junior Certificate reform. Many schools are only now becoming aware that they will have to reduce the number of hours spent teaching other than English,

Maths and Irish to facilitate the introduction of a wellbeing class.

However the majority of wellbeing is essentially just a repackaging of the CSPE, PE and SPHE classes which are already thought in schools.

Earlier this year we heard through the media that Minister Bruton was seeking to implement a radical new wellbeing class to help students prepare for challenges outside of the classroom environment and to help facilitate discussions around issues such as mental health and physical wellbeing. I accept that this is badly needed; however the full details of its full implementation have been hidden until now.

Parents and students were genuinely excited by this news as they thought the Government was delivering a radical new class which would benefit them throughout their lives. However now we have learned the specific proposals for this new wellbeing class and they leave a lot to be desired. Essentially Minister Bruton has embarked on a mission to repackage the existing CSPE, PE and SPHE classes without actually introducing the radical new changes that were discussed earlier in the year. It's deeply disappointing and parents and children feel genuinely let down by the Minister.

What's even more alarming is the fact that other important classes are losing teaching time in order to facilitate the introduction of this repackaged class. There will be 3 fewer classes per week to facilitate the teaching of sciences and modern languages such as French and German. Schools will no longer be able to teach additional classes in these subjects under the new curriculum specification as they cannot teach more than 200 hours over 3 years.

Minister Bruton has misled people by not admitting that hours or time spent teaching academic subjects will be cut to facilitate the introduction of his repackaged wellbeing class.

It seems ridiculous that subjects such as German and French are set to lose classes at a time when research consistently shows that we need to be increasing the hours devoted to teaching modern languages.

It's time for Minister Bruton to be honest with parents and students over his proposals for Junior Cert reform. Repackaging existing classes does not constitute radical reform.

NOVENA

Novena Prayer to the Virgin Mary (Never known to fail):

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, Fruitful Vine, Splendour of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity. O Star of the Sea help me and show me here you are my mother, O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity, there are none that can withstand your power, O show here you are my mother, O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3times), Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands, (3times), Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands, (3 times), O thank you for your mercy to me and mine, Amen.

This prayer must be said for 3 days, and after that the request will be granted. M

Frank O'Rourke T.D. Kildare North

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

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

Intel's planning grant a boost for Kildare

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has welcomed the decision by Kildare County Council to grant planning permission for its expansion plans at its plant in Leixlip.

"It was confirmed that Intel's application for a two-storey development which will provide almost 90,000sq m of additional floor space to its existing campus in Leixlip has been granted planning permission by Kildare County Council. I understand that Intel plans also include proposals to widen the R148, which skirts the campus."

"I understand that Intel's Irish division is in competition with Israel to host a €4 billion euro chip-manufacturing plant, and securing planning permission will assist Intel Ireland in bidding for this investment."

"It is estimated that if Intel Ireland is successful in securing further investment, 3000 construction jobs and 850 additional full time employees will be provided."

"As a local TD and former councillor for the area, I continue to keep in touch with Intel. They are one of Ireland's best employers and have built firm roots in the county with nearly €1.2bn cumulative capital investment to-date, over the last 28 years."

"Last week, both myself and Fianna Fáil party Leader, Micheál Martin T.D. met with the General Manager of Intel Ireland for an overview of Intel's operations in Ireland."

"Intel's continued investment is a vote of confidence in the talent and the performance of the team in Kildare." concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

O'Rourke urges Kildare firms to avail of BREXIT Grant

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has urged Kildare companies that are exporting to the UK, and are Enterprise Ireland clients, should avail of the 'Brexit grant' that the agency is offering to assist companies with their Brexit strategy.

"Enterprise Ireland is offering a grant to exporting companies of up to €5,000 to encourage them develop a Brexit strategy." "Irish companies exporting to the UK have been the early casualties of the UK vote to exit to the EU. Sterling immediately devalued and this led to our exports becoming less competitive. Since the vote, I have repeatedly called on the Government and the state's agencies to support companies that are exporting to the UK."

"I have focused on supporting the Food sector in particular. Over 40% of our food exports are exported to the UK. Kildare is home to many food companies that are exporting to the UK and we need to support these companies deal with this new challenge to their business model."

"The Grant Support is being made available by Enterprise Ireland (EI) to help companies prepare a strategy for dealing with Brexit. It is designed to help firms cover consultancy, travel and other out of pocket expenses associated with drawing up a Brexit strategy. EI will match 50% of the costs of incurred, up to a maximum of €5,000."

"Food companies, and indeed Construction and Manufacturing Firms, are regarded as having a high level of exposure to the UK, with currency fluctuation the number one short-term concern."

"I will continue to press for Naas and surrounding areas to be designated as a Food Hub. As I have mentioned in the Dail on a number of occasions, Naas and the surrounding area is home to many Food related companies and they would benefit from such a designation."

"The Irish Food product is a quality brand that has potential in many markets outside of the UK as well. Having Naas designated as a Food hub will assist in this strategy. In the meantime, I urge Kildare companies that are exporting to the UK, and are EI clients, to avail of the Brexit grant. Details of the grant can be obtained by phoning +353 (1) 727 2000 or email EI at client.service@enterprise-ireland.com". concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Legislative blunder by Coveney will see planning expire for major housing developments – Frank O'Rourke T.D. - Error in Planning Act will force developers to cease construction -

Local Fianna Fáil T.D., Frank O'Rourke, has warned that a

major blunder in legislation put forward by Minister Simon Coveney will force developers to cease construction on many large housing developments.

The major error is contained in the 'Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016' which was passed by the Oireachtas before Christmas. The error means that planning permission for large housing developments which are currently under construction cannot be extended as they cannot get an extension under Section 42.1 (A) as originally thought. This will force developers to cease construction as they will not have active planning permission. Deputy O'Rourke explained, "The legislation which Minister Coveney rammed through the Oireachtas just before Christmas allowed local authorities to extend planning permission for a second time for major housing developments, for up to five years. This provision was introduced to allow the construction of large housing or apartment developments of more than 20 units, most of which were granted planning permission prior to 2009.

Many of these developments stalled and were granted a five year planning extension. The new legislation introduced just before Christmas sought to grant a further 5 year extension of permission where construction was already underway to ensure that works could be completed. This extension is especially important for the large developments granted their initial planning permission in 2007 or 2008 as their five year extension is due to expire in 2017 or 2018.

However it now transpires that a major error was made in the legislation which means they will not be able to avail of another extension of their planning permission. This in turn means that planning permission extensions can only be granted to developments where construction had commenced prior to the expiration of their initial planning permission. This means that projects where construction commenced during their initial extension period will not be eligible for a planning extension as was generally thought.

For example, projects granted planning permission in 2007 had to have commenced construction before 2012 to be now eligible for an extension of their planning permission. If construction began during the extension period from 2012 to 2017, these projects will not be allowed a further planning extension and construction will have to cease.

This will affect hundreds of housing developments that have broken ground or even those close to completion and will lead to significant delays in bringing new housing stock onto the market. This is a disaster considering how the country is currently in the midst of a housing crisis. Minister Coveney must be held accountable for this major blunder which will greatly exacerbate the housing crisis. This is what happens when legislation is rammed through the Dáil without proper scrutiny and I, along with my Fianna Fáil colleagues will be insisting that the legislation is amended."

O'Rourke supports proposal for free parking at Naas Hospital

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North Frank O'Rourke says he supports the efforts underway to secure free car parking for cancer patients accessing services at Naas General Hospital.

Deputy O'Rourke made the comments after Kildare County Council passed a motion calling for parking facilities at the hospital to be made free for cancer patients. "Currently patients accessing cancer treatment services at Naas General Hospital have to pay extortionate parking fees on a regular basis. Many patients have to travel to the hospital on a daily basis for treatment and over the course of a few months they end up having to pay hundreds of euro in parking fees," explained Deputy O'Rourke.

"I think it's inherently unfair to place such a large financial burden on cancer patients at a time when they are trying to focus on their recovery. The last thing patients and their families need to be worried about is parking charges during such a challenging time in their lives. Accordingly I believe the HSE should do the decent thing and waive such fees. "People in large urban areas such as Dublin are able to rely on public transport to access hospital. They don't have to worry

about paying extortionate parking fees. However many cancer patients travelling to Naas General Hospital simply don't have an alternative form of transport to rely on. They have to rely on the car parking facilities at the hospital if they are to receive the treatment they need.

"I have raised this matter with Minister for Health Simon Harris and have pressed the need for free parking facilities to be provided for patients availing of cancer treatment services. I am awaiting a reply from the Minister but this is something which I will continue to follow-up on. I fully support the position taken by the Council," concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

O'Rourke to meet with Garda management to discuss Kildare resources

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North Frank O'Rourke says he will meet with senior Garda management in the coming weeks to discuss policing issue in Kildare.

Deputy O'Rourke made the comments after securing a meeting with Assistant Commissioner Fintan Fanning and Garda Superintendent for the Kildare Division Gerard Roche.

Deputy O'Rourke said, "I've been in contact with Garda management to seek a meeting to discuss policing issues and to seek an update on the resources assigned to the Kildare Division. I previously met with Garda management in December 2016 and found the meeting to be informative and constructive. It was an opportunity to press the need for additional Garda patrols in areas which have been targeted by criminal gangs.

"In particular I will be seeking an update on the number of new Gardaí due to be assigned to the Kildare Division in the coming months. Three new classes will begin training in Templemore in May, August and November respectively. I'm hopeful that Kildare will get its fair share of new recruits once their training in Templemore is complete.

"The latest available figures demonstrate that there were 338 Gardaí assigned to Kildare in 2010, but this figure fell to 313 in 2015 and then to 307 in 2016. Fianna Fáil has been pushing hard for an increase in additional resources for An Garda Síochána. The Confidence and Supply Arrangement between Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael commits to increasing Garda recruitment to provide an additional 2,000 Gardaí across the country. We are already starting to see the impact of this demand on the ground as 10 additional Gardaí were assigned to Kildare in December 2016. I'm hopeful that this figure will be built upon in the coming months.

"We're all well aware of the difficulties that An Garda Síochána has experienced in recent months, but it's important to remember that a huge amount of good work is being done on the ground day in and day out. I believe the lack of resources assigned to the Gardaí in recent years has hampered their ability to carry out their job. It's important that Gardaí are given the necessary resources to allow them carry out their role effectively.

"I'll be asking for an honest assessment from Assistant Commissioner Fanning and Chief Superintended Roche to determine what level of further resources are needed for Kildare so that I can raise the issue with Minister for Justice Francis Fitzgerald."

O'Rourke - Construction of New Maynooth Community College to commence shortly

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke has been informed by the Minister for Education, Richard Bruton TD, that Construction is due to begin shortly on the new Maynooth Education Campus, following a Parliamentary Question tabled by Deputy O'Rourke in recent weeks.

"The Minister for Education has informed me that the tender process is complete and the contract has been awarded to Sammon Construction Group, who are locally based in Kilcock". It is envisaged that construction of the new school will commence on site shortly."

"This is the good news for pupils and staff and I want to compliment all those involved, from the Board of Management, Principal and parents who have fought hard to secure this project for Maynooth and surrounding areas." concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

WING TSUN - IEWTO

Ladies & Gents

Self – Defence Class

Beginners Welcome

Venue: Maynooth Community Space
Unit 11 Carton Park
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Maynooth



Class Times

Wednesday 8pm - 10pm

Sunday 10am - 12pm

Class Sizes Limited

Instructor

Si-Hing Barry Smith 1st HG

Contact - Barry Smith

Phone: 087 9695475

E-Mail: berrysmith265@gmail.com

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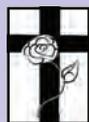
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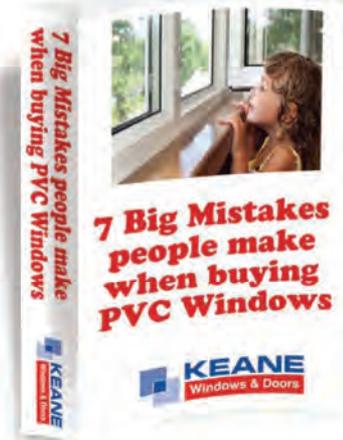
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(opposite the girl's school)

Maynooth Newsletter

Copy date for the July edition of the Maynooth
Newsletter will be Tuesday 20th June 2017



Comhaltas Craobh Mhaigh Nuad



We have come to the end of our 2016/2017 term, during which time we've been kept very busy, engaging in many community events, together with our Wednesday night classes covering whistle, flute, banjo/mandolin, button accordion, fiddle, bodhrán, harp, guitar, concertina, Irish dance and Comhrá gaeilge. Combining a healthy balance of work and fun, we had a great year in Craobh Mhaigh Nuad.

The year was wrapped up in Maynooth GAA Club with an end of year session on Wed 10th May. We've been holding the junior sessions up in the GAA on the last Sunday of each month, at 6 o'clock, and it had been a fantastic venue for us, so we were delighted to spend the night up there on a beautiful sunny evening in May listening to tunes from both our students and a couple of rare treats from our teachers. Included in this was some great fiddling from the current Fiddler of Dooney, Jason McGuinness and world-champion bodhrán player Aimee Farrell Courtney.



What a bunch! The end of year session in Maynooth GAA was A great success.

To kick off the Branch's activities a table quiz was held in O'Neill's in Maynooth. The quiz was well attended by branch members and the wider community in Maynooth, and we're due a big thanks to Paul Daly as quizmaster! Thanks to all for their support. The centrepiece of May's activities was the Fleadh Chill Dara, which this year was held in Clane. 300 traditional musicians from all over the county came together to flaunt their talents for the panel of judges who travelled from all over the country to adjudicate on the musicians. The events kicked off with concerts, dancing, recitals and sessions from Thursday through Sunday, bringing branch members from Maynooth, Leixlip, Kiltel, Kilcock and the home branch of Clane



The teachers gave their students something to aspire to with some virtuoso playing. From left – Lauren Tracey, Seán Tracey, Jason McGuinness, Caoimhe Reynolds, Aimee Farrell Courtney and Jimmy Cahill.

The participants from Maynooth Branch is growing every year and is a tribute to the hard work put in by the Committee, the Teachers and the students themselves. Long hours of practice in bedrooms, or in the morning before school are put in, before the performance on the day itself. It is no mean feat to get up in front of a judge and 20 or 30 spectators, in absolute silence and put in a solid, error free performance. The standard of playing from competitors is astounding when you factor in this pressure cooker environment, so well done all!

The team that lined out for Maynooth this year was as follows:

Dara Ni Nhochartaigh-Madrigal - Fidil
Róisín Hawley - Fidil, duet and Singing
Josefine Grimm-Blenk - Fidil
Conor McNerney - Bosca Ceoil, Guitar, Whistle & Piano
Seán Ó Catháin - Bosca Ceoil, Whistle, Comhrá Gaeilge and trio
Roibard Ó Murchú
James McEntire - Bosca Ceoil & Singing
Tom Ó Catháin - Bosca Ceoil (and trio)
Shane McInerney - Bosca Ceoil & Piano

Olivia Cannon - Flute
Aoife McNerney - Whistle, Concertina & Piano
Aoife O'Rourke - Whistle
Katie Carroll - Whistle
Keelin Ní Mhuireasáin - Whistle, Comhrá Gaeilge & Bodhrán
Kirsten Ní Fhearaíl - Whistle & duet
Emma Bennet - Whistle & duet
Seán Carroll - Whistle
Caoimhe Walsh - Whistle, duet & Bodhrán
Caoimhe Howley - Concertina and trio
Cillian Ó Fhearaíl - Guitar
Oisín McEntire - Bodhrán
Matthew Meehan - Bodhrán
Niamh O'Farrell - Bodhrán
Emma Ó Catháin - Comhrá Gaeilge

There was a great show of dancers also stepping out from Maynooth. The line-up here was as follows:

Team No. 2 - Aoibhe Garvey, Aimee Halcoombe, Áine McGivern, Lucia Connaughton, Niamh Farrell, Ciara Ó'Regan, Dara Doherty, Maeve Flood

Team No. 1 - Kate O'Connor, Nicola Connolly, Emma Meaney, Emily O'Connor, Ruby O'Connor, Zoe Meaney, Leah Rafferty

>18 - Barbara Wright, Una Philips, Andrea O'Connell, Mary Windrum, Margaret Greene, Debbie Chamberlain, Margaret Chamberlain, Ger Cantrell

No1. Olivia Canton, Rachel Wright, Sinead Crowley, Sarah O'Connor



The tension was palpable as the Tin Whistle judging was announced, with Branch Secretary, Angie, diligently clerking.



Caoimhe Howley, Keelin Ní Mhuireasáin and Seán Ó Catháin excelled in the trio, winning their competition and qualifying for Leinster

All performed with distinction and did the branch proud. Success in the competition is not the be all and end all of the branch – but preparing for, and performing in the Fleadh, is something from which the students learn an enormous amount – and hopefully have a lot of fun along the way. We'll have the full roll of honours in next month's edition, but for now maith sibh ge leor! All participants in the Fleadh received a goody bag also, which was generously sponsored by Tiger Store in Manor Mills, so go raibh mile maith agaibh!

The winners and certain 2/3 placed competitors will go along to the Leinster Fleadh in July, which is being held in Ballymahon from 10th – 16th July for what promises to be a most memorable Fleadh Cheoil Laighean 2017.

While classes come to a close for the summer, there are lots of chances including the Fleadh Laighean in Longford and our many sessions running around the town and many workshops and summer-schools taking place across the country.

It being year end, we wanted to extend our thanks to all who have given us their support and assistance throughout the year. It is great to see the kids being brought to the classes each Wed and we're delighted to see both our junior and adult sessions growing in popularity and competence. Thanks to our hugely talented teachers, who are so generous with their time and talents – have a great summer & we look forward to meeting you all again in September. forward to working with you all next year again. Registration for the 2017/2018 Comhaltas year will take place in early September. We would love to see new members trying their hand at an instrument from Sept; you are never too old to start out on a musical journey, we can promise you and old lots of fulfilment along the way. Keep an eagle eye on our Facebook or Twitter feeds for more information on upcoming workshops, pop-up sessions and performances. <http://www.facebook.com/ccemaighnuad> <http://twitter.com/CCEMAighNuad>
Derek Carroll, PRO, Committee Craobh Mhaigh Nuad CCE



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DISCOVER OUR DELICIOUS NEW MENU



Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich Lá Spraoi

Sunday 25th June 11am - 4pm - Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich School Grounds
Entry fee: €15 per family

Bouncy Castles - Obstacle Course + Sumo Suits - Penalty Shoot-Out + Crossbar Challenge
GAA Games - Hula Hoop & Skipping Challenge
Face Painting - Giant Lawn Games - Juniors Area - Disco



Refreshments available at additional cost.
Tickets available on the day or from
Sarah Jane: 087 6308897 or
Aghna: 087 3118237



Please note: no parking in school grounds on the day.



Inaugural School Blitz Day in North Kildare!

North Kildare CC hosted their inaugural School Blitz Day on Tuesday the 9th May in the Maws, Kilcock. This is part of the reinvigorated youth section for the club, which also has two Women's teams in the Leinster league, four established Men's teams as well as the club entering a team in the Development League in the LCU.

Jennifer Lowry, Honorary Secretary of North Kildare CC said on the event: "The Blitz Day is a part of our plan to rejuvenate youth cricket in the area, as well as to grow links with our local schools. We have done cricket sessions in five schools in 2017, including Killashee Multi-Denominational NS and Esker ETNS."

The big day itself had over 140 students participating in the Blitz Day, with schools including Lucan East ETNS, St. Joseph's BNS Kilcock and Kilclon NS playing on a sun drenched cricket ground at the Maws.

Bernard O'Mara, North Kildare CC's Director of Women's & Youth Cricket said: "We have had a really positive few weeks with our local schools and it has been fantastic to have them down to the club. I would like to thank anyone who has helped out with the school sessions or the Blitz Day itself. This is the start of developing this cricket club organically and the members are really excited for the future."

If anyone is interested in finding out more about school's and youth cricket at North Kildare CC, please contact Bernard on 087-1386009 or through his email benmara@gmail.com.



FREE FULL TIME COURSES FOR ADULTS WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED

- Courses are free for eligible Social Welfare recipients, people signing for credits, people in receipt of one parent payment or certain other DSP payments.
- Books and materials are supplied.
- Keep your Social Welfare payments - you will not need to sign on for the duration of the course. Courses are one and two years in length.
- Travel allowance available.
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- ⇒ Progress to Higher Education

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- **e-Business with Digital Marketing (level 5)**
- **General Studies – Pre University Course (level 5)**
- **Business Studies – with Accounting (level 5)**

Progression routes: Past students have progressed to full and part time employment, Further Education courses and Higher Education courses

New courses starting in June and August 2017

For more information ring 01-6246420 or email eilisclare@kwetb.ie



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Job Shadow Day 2017

Photos by John Boyd

Employment Services team St John of God's community Service Kildare would like to take this opportunity to thank the following employers for their participation in Job Shadow Day 2017 which was a great success and achievement for everyone involved.

Employers in Maynooth - Hickeys Pharmacy, Dunnes Stores, Paul Byrons Shoe Store and Elverys Sports Store in Manor Mills, Crystal Clean Valeting Service Manor Mills, Glenroyal Leisure Club, Centra Scally's Main Street, Upstairs Downstairs, Mill Street, Brady's Bar, Euro Giant, Carton Park, Super Valu, Glenroyal Shopping Centre, Maynooth Bookshop Main Street, Alaiinn Beauty Salon Glenroyal Shopping Centre, The Zip Yard Main Street, Heaton's, Carton Park, St Patrick's College, Pugin Hall, Eve Larine, Maynooth Library, Main Street, Maynooth GAA Club, McCarton's Pharmacy Carton Park and The Community Gardaí, Maynooth.

Employers in Celbridge - Tesco, Celbridge, Walshe's Pharmacy, Main Street, Bella Mia Clothes Shop, Elm Hall Golf Club, Colourtrend, Hogan's Café Main Street, Castletown House and Dept of Agriculture, Backweston, Celbridge.

Employers in Kilcock- Musgraves, Kilcock, Rye River Café, Kilcock and Portway's Trailer's Limited in Leixlip.



Simon Darragh
Centra Maynooth



Derek Murphy & John Egan
Upstairs Downstairs



Darren Selby
Maynooth GAA



Aine Walsh
Zip Yard



Sharon Richardson
Manor Mills Car Valeting



Maria Slattery
Heaton's Maynooth



Aaron Neill
Elverys



Laura Hickey
Mc Cartons Pharmacy



Lesley Kelly
Dunnes Stores



Sarah Burchéal
Brady's Clock House



Susan Parsons
Supervalu



Kenneth Boylan & Emma Bergin From
Genil Training Centre
Maynooth Bookshop



Claire Savage, John Ryan & Michael Gallagher
Community Gardaí Maynooth



Jenny O'Reilly
Alaiinn Beauty





Maynooth Summer Festival

2017

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY

SATURDAY 1ST JULY

**Opening Ceremony @ The Square, Special Guest Speaker, Artisan Market,
Street Performances, Live Music and much more
Silverarm Sessions @ the Castle, Live music, Food Fair,
Childrens Entertainment, FunFair
And Much More**

SUNDAY 2ND JULY

**Art Brunch @ The Square, Live Music, Street Food,
Art Exhibits and Art Market
Silverarm Sessions @ the Castle Day 2, Live Music and Dance,
Sunday Miscellany @ The Church Of Ireland, Music, Spoken Word
And much More**

MUSIC TASTE OF MAYNOOTH FOOD FAIR FAMILY PICNIC

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION GO TO

f Maynooth Festival @MaynoothFest



Saturday

1ST July

12pm - 3pm
Courthouse Square
Festival Grand Opening
Artisan Market
Live Entertainment

12pm - 3pm
Manor Mills Mall
Family Fun Day
Fireman Sam Show
Gameszone
Bouncy Castles
Live Entertainment

2pm - 7pm
Maynooth Castle
Silverarm Sessions
Live Music and Dance
Funfair
Food Fair
Kidzone Childrens Entertainment

8pm - 9.30pm
Courthouse Square
Live Music

8pm - 9.30pm
Live Entertainment in Local Bars

Sunday

2nd July

12pm - 3pm
Courthouse Square
Art Brunch
Street Food
Live Music and Dance

1pm - 3pm
Church of Ireland
Sunday Miscellany
Music, Spoken Word

2pm - 7pm
Maynooth Castle
Silverarm Sessions
Live Music and Dance
Funfair
Food Fair
Kidzone Childrens Entertainment

8pm - 9.30pm
O Neils Bar and Steakhouse
Closing Ceremony
Service Person of the Year
Live Music



**Events may be subject to change and
additional events may be added
See out Facebook page for up to date schedule
@MaynoothFestival**



FREE FAMILY FUN DAY

Saturday 1st July 12PM to 3PM

JOIN



for a meet and greet at
12PM 1PM, 2PM & 3PM



Lots more activities;

Music with "Heroes from Mars" David Bowie Tribute Band
Electric Zoo Animals, Selfie Mirror, Facepainting,
Bouncy Castles, Video Game Zone including tournaments & DJ
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EXHIBITS BY LOCAL ARTISTS
AND THE KILDARE GALLERY

SUNDAY 2ND JULY
12PM-3PM



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OR

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PRESENTS

SILVERAROO SESSIONS

MAYNOOTH CASTLE

1st & 2nd July 2017 2.00pm - 7.00pm

KILA

LIAM O MAONLAI

HEROES FROM MARS (BOWIE TRIBUTE)

THE ROCKERS (THIN LIZZY TRIBUTE)

COLM SKWIRBAT- BLIND WOLF CLUB

HOODOO REALIN - BEATRIX NOVA

AND MORE

MUSIC TASTE OF MAYNOOTH FOOD FAIR FAMILY PICNIC



For further information go to [f Maynooth Festival](#) [@MaynoothFest](#)





Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group Wednesday Morning's



Wednesday Mornings are a huge success so far. Wendy has had a lot of interest for this class. It's still not too late to sign up.

Playball is a multi-sport and movement-based program specifically designed for young children.

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

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

2 year old classes
Maynooth Community Space
€6.50 per class.

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

Thursday Morning's

Thursday Mornings we are in the Community Space from 9:30-11:30. We have Gymboree with us to entertain the little ones every second week. The weekly fee is €4 and this covers all your snacks and beverages. The toddler group is a great place to come to meet other parents from the town and a great place for the children to play with others their own age. Check us out on:

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

Currently Tesco have the Toddler Group as one of its blue token charity's. Can you please support us as this is the only fundraising we do. Our share of the money will go towards sensory toys for our members who have difficulties.

We are also looking for Volunteers to help us run this group on Thursday mornings. Many hands make light work from setting up to clearing away.

*****Toddler Group will finish up on Thursday the 15th of June for the summer*****

We look forward to seeing you all there.

Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee

What a wonderful Festival we had on May 21st when we celebrated "Bealtaine" in the company of the "Castle Keep Art Group". Susan and Brenda put on a magnificent display of paintings and our Senior Citizens displayed their best work yet. Susan in her talk complimented all their work with a special mention for Dympna Clifton. Everyone received a prize for their work and Susan presented Dympna with one of her own paintings. Many thanks to Susan and Brenda for a marvellous evening of culture. We danced the rest of the evening away to the music of Philip English who proved very popular with our dancers. The only down side to our evening was the absence of PJ and Chris Daly. PJ isn't very well at the moment and we wish him a speedy recovery.



Our next Tea-Dance will take place on Sunday June 18th and all seniors are welcome wherever you live. Our morning club continues every Tuesday and Thursday in the Geraldine Hall and don't forget we intend to rekindle our arts and crafts, so if you are interested, do come along you will be most welcome. Congratulations to all our Seniors who have just completed their Digital Skills Programme, proving once again, that age is just a number.

Finally may I express our sincere sympathy to the family of Rose Comerford who left us far too soon on May 8th. Rose was involved with our club for many years and enjoyed all aspects of it. Ar Dheis De go raibh a Anam.

Josephine Moore.
Chairperson.

YOUTH CRICKET!

NORTH KILDARE CRICKET CLUB

TUESDAYS 7PM!

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS OF ALL AGES AND ABILITIES!

HOWZAT?

CONTACT
BERNARD O'MARA
087-1386009
BENMARA@GMAIL.COM

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Maynooth
Tidy Towns
 Caring for our environment

Thanks to all who contributed to our annual collection in May. We very much appreciate the work that was put in by our collectors. Our very comprehensive National Tidy Towns entry has been submitted. Thanks to Mary Jennings for completing the National Tidy Towns application for 2017. Vinny Mulready and Ray Murphy have installed a new sun dial near the flower bed at Presentation Girls School which was supplied by Paul Dowling in the Eve Larine.

Congratulations to the Presentation Girls School on receiving their 5th Green Flag for Biodiversity projects at which Mary Jennings and Mary Molloy represented Maynooth Tidy Towns on 5th May.



Maynooth Community Church held a breakfast as a thank you to Maynooth Tidy Towns Volunteers on Saturday 20th May and a hot breakfast was supplied and sponsored by Denis Johnson of the Coffee Mill. Members of Maynooth Community Church assisted MTT in cleaning up and removing weeds, plants and bushes in the Pound. Well done to all.

Maynooth Tidy Towns have installed new stones on the Rathcoffey Road and Moyglare Road.

Gold Sign moved into a new position at the Meadowbrook Junction. 2 planters have been positioned outside Manor Mills on Kilcock Road at the traffic island.

Please keep Maynooth clean and tidy as judging starts in June until the end of August.

If you wish to volunteer please contact us on 087-3153189 or on Facebook/Twitter
Richard Farrell
PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns



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Summer Open Day 2017



When: Saturday, June 24, 2017 - 10:30 to 15:00

Where: Maynooth University North Campus

When you graduate with a degree from Maynooth University you will have both a deep knowledge of your chosen subject, and a set of skills that will serve you in work and in life.

Come to our Summer Open Day on June 24 to see our growing campus and to meet students and lecturers who will explain how the skills developed at Maynooth will prove invaluable in work and life - whatever you decide to do.

Register at <https://app-eu.geckoform.com/public/modern/FOEU025blehUvMjP>

Jungheinrich in Maynooth are proud sponsors of MTFC U11 girls team

Maynooth. Maynooth Town FC (MTFC) was formed in 1969, but it has taken over 40 years for the girls to come to the top. There was a successful girls team in the 90s, and in fact one of our present coaches to the U10 team played on this team. This year the club fielded 3 girls teams U10, U11 and U13. All teams play in the Metropolitan Girls League (MGL). The u10 and u11 teams have only formed as a group this year and have really performed beyond our expectations. The U10 girls played brilliant all season and the U11 girls only beaten twice. The U13 girls have been even more successful. They are in the cup final on May 28th and currently are facing a nervy finish to the league! 2 points clear with 4 games left.

The teams have representatives from all the schools in Maynooth, Gael Scoil, Girls School, Educate Together and the older girls from Maynooth Post Primary. But would welcome players from outlying schools as well. The girls train normally on a Wednesday evening with matches been played on a Sunday morning. We hope to field teams in u10, u11, u12, u13 and u14 next season 2017-18 and are always looking for new girls, you don't have to be a Stephanie Roche just as long as you can kick a ball. If you would like to give it a go then why not contact Club Secretary; Miriam (086) 1060654



Maynooth Town U11 girls wearing their new training Zippees sponsored by Jungheinrich Maynooth. (back row left to right, Aoife Richardson, Alannah Ford, Meabh Caffrey, Meabh McDonagh, front row, 1 to r, Carrie Colgan, Sorcha Whelan, Aoife Murnane, Ciara Regan, Amy Webb and Niamh Richardson.

MAYNOOTH Oskars



Maynooth GAA hosted the “Maynooth Oskars” on Sunday 30th April at Carton House Hotel. On the night seven professionally produced films starring over 50 local members of the local community and local businesses, plus many, many more extras were shown. The “Maynooth Oskars” was watched by over 400 people on the night, and the event was run in the same format as the Oscars. A red carpet dress up event with awards for best actor, actress etc... was hosted on the night with the assistance of Kevin Rowe events. A great night was had by all who attended. Congratulations to all the winners on the night.



- Best Film - The Field
- Best Actress - Imelda Conheady
(Mrs Doyle - Fr Ted)
- Best Actor - John Jordan
(Colonel Nathan Jessup - A Few Good Men)
- Best Supporting Actress - Natasia Hayes
(Jackie -The Snapper)
- Best Supporting Actor - Paul Kinirons
(Juror #3 - 12 Angry Men)
- Highest Performing Actor - Micky Noone
(Georgie Burgess - The Snapper)
- Highest Performing Film - The Snapper

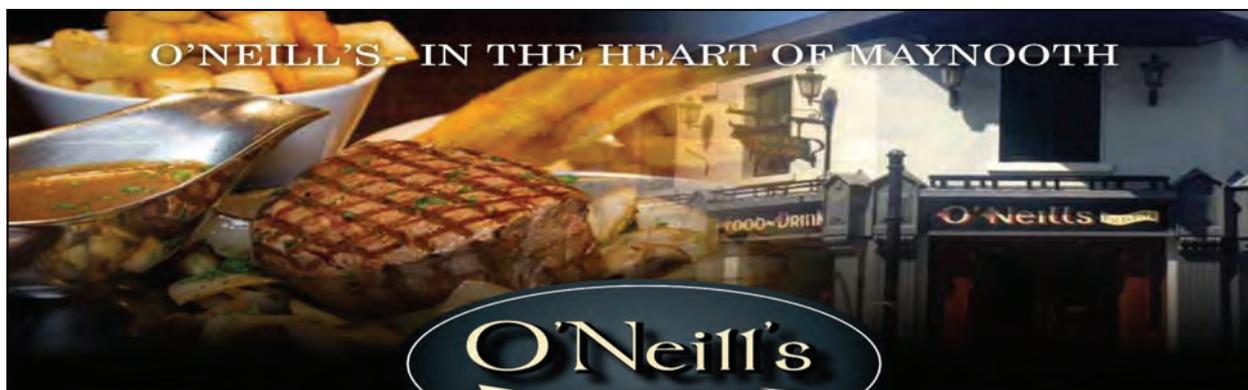


The Best of the Red Carpet on the Night

Photos by John Boyd



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

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

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

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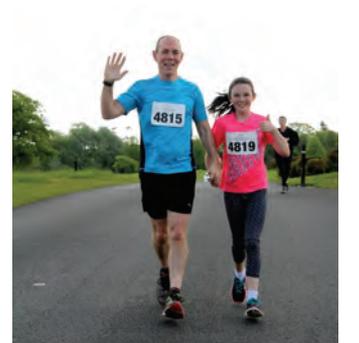
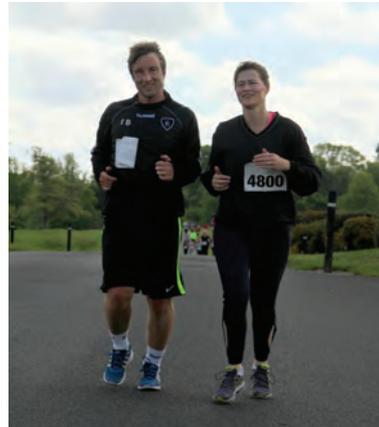
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Maynooth Education Campus PTA 10k and 5k Race A Great Success

The Maynooth 10k Committee would like to extend our thanks to all who participated in this year's Maynooth 10k and 5k. We had a wonderful morning with over 600 participants and a great atmosphere. The event would not be possible without the support of a large number of sponsors. In particular we would like to thank St Patrick's College and Carton House Hotel for allowing the race to go through their grounds and the Presentation Girls School for hosting the 5k start. This year's very generous prizes were sponsored by Carton House Hotel, Oak Alley Restaurant, Pearls Dental, Supervalu Lucan, Shoda Market Cafe, Salmon Leap Inn, Murty's Bar and Restaurant, O'Neill's Sportswear, Furey's Bar and The Coffee Lounge. Water for the race was sponsored by McDonalds and Supevalu Maynooth. Over eighty local businesses contributed by taking an ad in the 10k Times. We would also like to thank Maynooth GAA and Maynooth Scouts who helped with stewarding and the ICA for helping with post-race refreshments.



MEC Race Photo Gallery (Photos by John Boyd)



Maynooth Monthly Diary Planner

Community Library	Maynooth Multiple Births	Bridge Club
<p>Opening Times Mondays & Fridays 2pm to 5pm Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm to 8pm Wednesday 9.30am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm Sat 9.30am to 1pm</p>	<p>Maynooth Multiple Births playgroup (twins triplets or more) meets the last Thursday of the month in Leixlip library between 10 & 12 noon. This is a great opportunity to meet parents just like you. For further details email: maynoothmultiplebirthclub@gmail.com</p>	<p>Open for new members. If you would like to play in a friendly club with purpose-built facilities in the centre of Maynooth, please see our website at maynoothbridgeclub.com. Contact Katherine Cooney 086 8205910</p>
I.C.A.	MAYNOOTH LOCAL HISTORY GROUP	Arthritis Ireland
<p>Monthly meetings take place every 1st Thursday of the month at 8.00pm in the I.C.A. Hall in the Harbour. Crafts every Monday night at 8.00pm. New members welcome</p>	<p>Maynooth Local History Group Meets Last Thursday of each Month in the Maynooth Community Council Office (Next to the Post Office) New Members Welcome Contact: MCC Office for more details</p>	<p>Arthritis Ireland Walking Group (Maynooth) Meeting Monday's 12 - 2pm in the Maynooth Community Space</p>
University of Third Age (U3A)	Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group	Maynooth Men's Sheds
<p>Weekly meetings on Friday at 11am in Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth New Members Welcome</p>	<p>Every Thursday from 10.00am to 12.00pm Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth</p>	<p>Weekly meetings take place every Wednesday at 11.am at the Garden Centre Dublin Road Maynooth. For further details contact John Fleming - 087 2041334</p>
Maynooth Tidy Towns	ALZHEIMER CAFÉ LEIXLIP	Maynooth Community Church
<p>Volunteers required to help with this work. Contact Number 087 3153189 Meet every Saturday at 10.00am in the Square</p>	<p>Informal café atmosphere for people with Dementia & their partners family & friends. Free of charge. Venue Ryevale Nursing Home. Every second Wednesday of each month 7-9pm. Call 0894933533 Email: alzheimercafeleixlip@gmail.ie www.alzheimercafeleixlip.com</p>	<p>1st Floor Manor Mills (entrance next to Chill) Service times every Sunday morning from 10.30 am www.maynoothcc.org Everyone most welcome</p>
Maynooth Senior Citizens	Craobh Mhaigh Nuad C.C.E.	ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND
<p>Our morning club continues on Tuesday and Thursday and new members are always welcome. Perhaps you are new to the parish or new to the age bracket, why not come along you might enjoy it. You will find us in the Geraldine Hall on Leinster St, or contact Josephine on 087 9002296.</p>	<p>Classes are held on Wednesday 7pm to 9.30pm in Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road. Our classes are very good value, great fun and we promise you plenty of craic also !! Bígi linn!!! Contact Sean at 086 2225540 or email craobhmaighnuad@gmail.com.</p>	<p>Rehearsals are held in the Band Hall on Pound Lane each Monday night (except Bank Holidays) from 7.45pm to 9.30pm and musicians living in Maynooth and the surrounding areas are most welcome. E-mail: sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie Website: www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie</p>

Diary entries are published free of charge for all Community Groups. E-mail details of your event before the copy date (2nd last Tuesday of each month) to be included in the next months edition. E-mail: office@maynoothcc.com. Phone: 01-6285922
(The content of the Monthly Planner Diary is published in good faith. All details should be checked with groups)



MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN

200

Bikeweek 2017

Sunday 11th June **Leixlip Heritage Trail**
Saturday 17th June **Family Bio Cycle along the Royal Canal**

Both events will start at 2:30pm from Courthouse Square Maynooth

This year the two key events are the Heritage Cycle on Sunday 11th June which leaves from Courthouse Square at 2:30pm for the Leixlip Heritage Trail. This is a different trail from Arthur's Way and after cycling to Leixlip, will consist of a walk around Leixlip town centre and the Rye Valley. The second key event is a Family BioCycle along the Royal Canal on Saturday 17th June with local ecologist Karen Moore. Karen will be identifying points of interest along the canal east of Maynooth so come along and will find out what it is about canals that makes them so important to our natural landscape.

Straffan Road Cycle Tracks

On Friday 5th May, a group of some 12-15 boys and girls was observed cycling on the Straffan Road. They were of primary school age and were accompanied by what appeared to be a member of the Garda Siochana and some other adults who were probably parents or teachers. They obviously share the concerns of Maynooth Cycling Campaign about the quality of cycle facilities as none of them were using the new cycle tracks.

Kildare Cycle Forum

There has been much comment in the media about the election of a Saudi Arabian representative on a UN committee for women's rights and whether or not a Saudi representative would really be in favour of progressing women's rights. It seems that we have our own version in Kildare. After three years of this county council, it is understood that a meeting of the Kildare Cycling Forum has finally taken place. However, no cycling representatives have been asked to take part and the word on the street is that the chair, Cllr. Darren Scully, does not want any. Could he be related to the Saudi representative?

Dealing with Chasing Dogs

A look back at the past can throw up some amusing opinions. This is even true of the Maynooth Newsletter and it need not be the distant past. In the May 2005 edition under the title of Useful Tips, there was advice on how cyclists and joggers should deal with chasing dogs.

The advice ranged from

- Carry a folded umbrella to open in the animal's face.
- Try squirting the dog in its eyes with your water bottle.
- Keep dog treats such as dog biscuits in your pocket.
- Speak to the dog in a commanding but calm tone.
- Draw the owner's attention to the fact that his /her dog is a nuisance.

So all those people who took part in the recent Maynooth 5K/10K, we hope that you didn't forget to bring your umbrella and to the Maynooth cycling community, you have been advised!

Threats to Cyclists

Recent remarks by the journalist Paul Williams on Newstalk radio where he threatened any cyclist touching his car while he was driving have been condemned by cyclist representatives. Maynooth Cycling Campaign considers the remarks reprehensible in the light of increasing cyclist fatalities. While (the vast majority of) motorists do not go out to intentionally kill or harm cyclists, the remarks give support to a growing intolerance by a minority of drivers to cyclists on the road. Maynooth Cycling Campaign also condemns the failure of the Road Safety Authority (RSA) and Shane Ross, the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport to take any effective action to counteract the increasing fatalities.

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

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

Editorial

I always know the best-selling books from observing the reading materials that my fellow daily train travellers are reading even though the results exclude the people who are reading their e-books for obvious reasons. Research among students and younger book readers show that the paper versions are still a favourite over the electronic option. This is obviously good news for those who create and sell the paper option. Much information is shared on social media sites but it is likely that once the piece goes over a few hundred words people move onto the next piece. This is the case regardless of the item being a breaking news story or a social commentary piece.

The "Maynooth Newsletter" is not a newspaper in the sense that you would pick it up to get your latest news. It has a niche in recording the social and economic history of Maynooth as told through the events that happen in the town and of course through the notes and articles that are submitted. It also serves as a role in supporting local businesses through the adverts that appear and without this support there would not be a monthly newsletter. Also critical is the support provided by the Department for Social Protection. Of course there have been many others who by volunteering their time have contributed to support the publication.

The first "Maynooth Newsletter" that can be found dates back to November 1969 so give or take a few years it has been published for fifty years. When you read back through them you see that things change, but also stay the same. I read an edition from 17th May 1970 which includes the following; *the tidy towns drive is now commencing for this year and here everyone from the youngest to the*

oldest can show involvement. Active workers are badly needed and those willing to help should contact the tidy towns committee. (Maynooth Newsletter 17 May 1970). I am sure that a similar request from Maynooth Tidy Towns featured in the May 2017 edition.

The "Maynooth Newsletter" has grown in size over the years somewhat akin to the growth in the town. The normal thirty two page edition that is published monthly, with eleven editions a year is produced by the staff of Maynooth Community Council Ltd, based in the Tesco shopping complex next to the Maynooth Post Office.

The publication is the means by which people debated the issues in the town and as an open access newspaper opinions were published once the person took responsibility for their views, but it always kept away from publishing anything that could have legal implications.

From the gathering of the material to the design and layout, the notes and adverts grow into the final printed publication. There is an acute awareness by the staff that they are the guardians following in the footsteps of the hundreds of people who have played their part in recording the development of Maynooth and charted the social and economic history of our town. Now what part does the development of the web play in our history? Well the entire archive is available on the web. You can find it at www.maynoothcc.com/archives. Let us hope that there will be many more editions for years to come.

Paul Croghan
Editor

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**The Copy Date for the July Edition of the
Maynooth Newsletter is Tuesday 20th June 2017**

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

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

Maynooth Designated Large Growth Town (11)

The Regional Planning Guidelines for Dublin and the Mid East (Kildare/Meath/Wicklow) categorise each town. Maynooth was designated a Large Growth Town. Through these guidelines Kildare is set to accommodate 32,000 new residential units between 2017-2023.

35% of Kildare's housing growth has been distributed between Maynooth, Leixlip, Celbridge and Kilcock. Both Leixlip and Celbridge Local Area Plans (LAP) are currently being updated, it is proposed to rezone sufficient lands in each town to accommodate in excess of 3000 additional houses.

The Maynooth LAP is not due to be reviewed until 2019, however, if funding is provided for any part of the proposed ring road, it is likely to require the opening up of lands for additional large scale new housing. The mechanism that would be used is a variation to the Maynooth Plan.

There were a significant number of submissions made by members of the public in the context of the review of the Leixlip and Celbridge LAP's, many complain about the large scale of development proposed and the absence of accompanying services.

New "Planning" Law removes power from local decision making.

In December a new piece of legislation was passed by the Dail. The Planning and Development (Housing) Residential Tenancies Act 2016. Most media attention surrounded the rent pressure zones, Maynooth was originally excluded but has since been included in such a zone.

The Act also effectively provides for the bypassing of County Council's as decision makers for housing developments in excess of 100 houses. Such decisions will all shortly be made by An Bord Pleanala, this will occur in cases where land is zoned for housing.

The legislation centralises major planning decisions, disgracefully bypasses Kildare and other County Councils and significantly reduces submissions or objections from members of the public, who must instead rely on appealing to the High Court for a Judicial Review, this can also only occur in very limited circumstances.

3,000 Social Housing Applicants Have been given only 7 Days To Complete and return urgent Housing re-assessment form .

Catherine Murphy TD advises that all families who have applied for Social Housing to Kildare County Council since 2013 only have 7 days to update their assessment of social housing need with Kildare County Council's Housing Department.

All applicants who applied for a social housing assessment since 1st January 2013 to date, also those who did not respond to the request for updated information last year, have until the 29th May to return the completed update form to the council. Any family unit in a RAS (residential accommodation scheme) or HAP (Housing Assistance Payment) tenancy is not required to participate in the assessment and should not have received an update request.

The local authority have advised that they are directed by the Dept. of

Housing to carry out an update of householders needs for social housing by June 28th 2017.

Kildare County Council have posted out a form to each registered family unit on the social housing register. They had included a postage paid envelope in which to return the update form.

The form is a one page document that seeks to update the register and if any information has changed or, if any additional family members are to be included in the housing assessment.

Not returning the fully completed assessment form by 29th May 2017 will result in householders being removed from Kildare County Council's Social Housing List. Anybody who has not updated their file and seeks to apply to the local authority following this deadline will have to commence their application again.

Catherine Murphy has requested the minister explain how he means to deal with applicants who are in emergency accommodation or do not have a permanent address at the moment and are concerned about their housing application. Catherine has also said that those are among the most vulnerable in society.

There are also many single people and families who have lost their rented properties in the North Kildare area due to sharp increases in rent. This took place over the last two years specifically and was immediately prior to the 4% annual rent cap, which was only recently implemented for the Maynooth area, after much pressure from the Deputy.

She has asked that those displaced families be given some leeway when trying to establish their records on the social housing register.

A recent press release from Kildare County Council states:

"The Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government, under Section 21 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009, has directed that each housing authority is required to prepare a summary of housing needs of the social housing assessments carried out in its administrative area. The Minister has directed that the summary be prepared on 28 June 2017. The 2017 summary is the continuation of the process of annual assessments of national housing need, commenced with the 2016 Summary.

The key output of the summary remains the net need figure i.e. the number of qualified households on our housing list whose housing need has not been met.

This is a targeted housing needs assessment within specific criteria pre-defined by the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government. Only social housing applicants who have received a letter from the Housing Department need to reply and are asked to confirm that they remain in need of social housing support.

Housing applicants are asked to return the form to the housing department by Monday, 29th May and a freepost envelope has been provided to assist in this."



Maynooth I.C.A Guild

We have had a very busy couple of months raising money for different charities. Some members made a Wall Hanging with the theme Hope for the Pieta House Charity. Some of our members went to An Grianán for the Kildare weekend doing Art which they found well worth it. Nine members went to Hand craft week covering many different crafts and everyone was so thrilled with the tuition they hurried to book for

2018 Hand craft week.

In July, we have An Grianán Garden Party which is being held on the 7th of July. We are selling raffle tickets and there are fantastic prizes to be had. Ladies are going through their wardrobes to find the ensemble for the garden party hoping they may be judged the winner.

We have also welcomed more new members to our Guild, which is always very welcome, as these new members usually bring new ideas in crafts.

Monday night classes continue and we have learned a lot of new things, to sew, knit and make handmade jewellery. We meet every Monday evening at 8pm in our I.C.A building and on the first Thursday we have a Guild meeting where we plan for the future. We set out what new crafts are going to be taught for the next month so feel free to come along as you can come for three nights before you need to join. If you need a small hall to hold a meeting or any other programmes, we are willing to let it out for hire, not Mondays and Thursdays though.

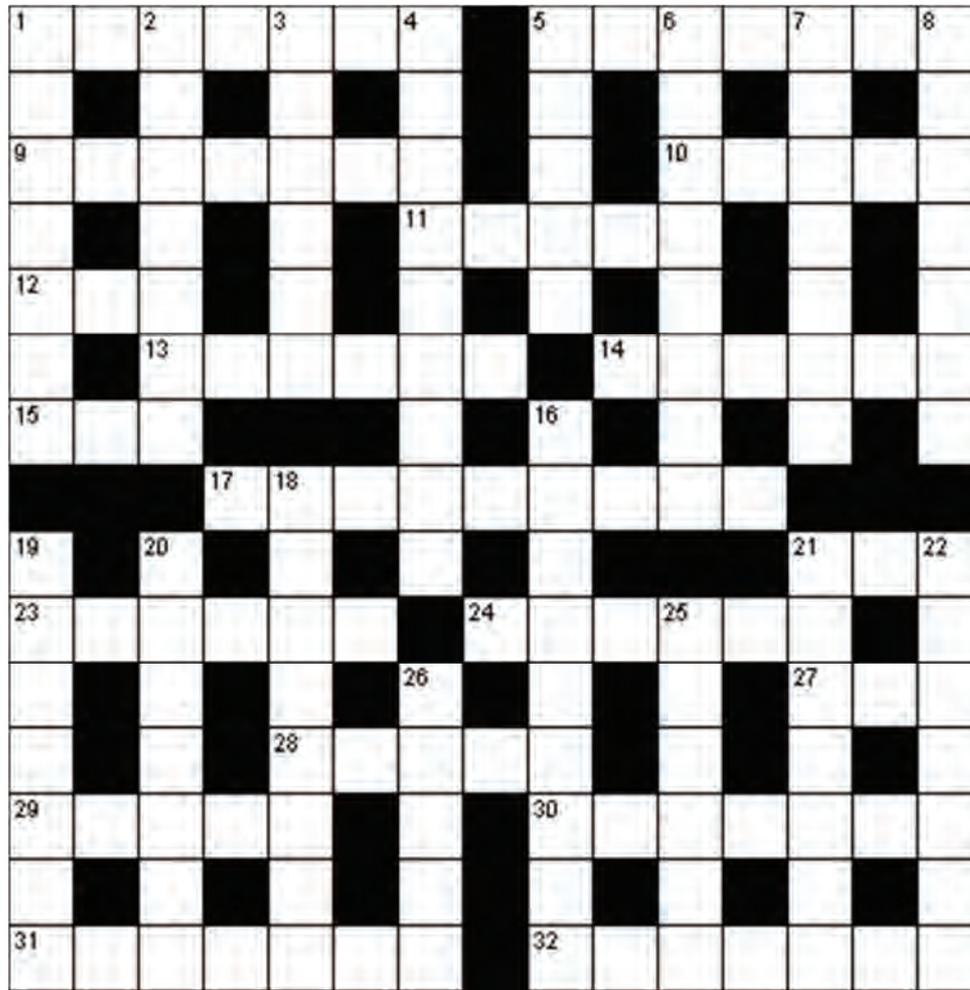
Our Guild has started going to Base on Tuesday mornings doing tenpin bowling and a lot of fun is had by all. We meet at 11am and bowl until 1pm. If you need a fun morning please feel free to join in. Other Guilds in the area are doing it as well. We even manage a few strikes, but everyone leaves feeling a renewed energy to do things at home after it.

Clues Across

1. Official sitting (7)
5. Saloon (3,4)
9. Tool for chipping ice (7)
10. Many times (5)
11. Living in a city (5)
12. Russian secret police (3)
13. With ease (6)
14. Complete (6)
15. Strike lightly (3)
17. Six (4-5)
21. Used for resting (3)
23. Make possible (6)
24. Russian sleigh (6)
27. Extinct flightless bird (3)
28. Son of Abraham (5)
29. Inanimate object (5)
30. Exterior (7)
31. Knitted jacket (7)
32. Burst violently (7)



June Crossword - No. 458



Clues Down

1. Holdup (5-2)
2. Fruit-flavoured sweet powder (7)
3. Foolish persons (6)
4. Capital of Tonga (9)
5. Sphere (5)
6. Midday (8)
7. Meantime (7)
8. Very long (7)
16. Eighty (9)
18. Yes (3,5)
19. Governing bodies (7)
20. Prisoner (7)
21. Baby (7)
22. Expert marksman (4-3)
25. Part of the foot (6)
26. Coming after (5)



Answers to Crossword No 457



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Tuesday 20th June 2017

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Phone: _____

Winner of Crossword
No. 457 May

**Olive O'Shea
45 Carton Court
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Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

From 21/3/17 to 19/5/17 - information from Kildare County Council Website

App. Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	Application Date
17569	Kildare County Council	Blathnaid Ward	Barrogstown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	19/05/2017
17566	Kildare County Council	Maynooth University	Maynooth University North, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	18/05/2017
17561	Kildare County Council	Maynooth University	Maynooth University North, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	17/05/2017
17547	Kildare County Council	Blathnaid Ward,	Barrogstown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	15/05/2017
17526	Kildare County Council	Shane & Emer O'Connell	52 Moyglare Abbey, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	10/05/2017
17519	Kildare County Council	Damian Travers	Taghadoe, Maynooth, Co Kildare	09/05/2017
17510	Kildare County Council	Adam Lyons	Greenfield Shopping Centr, Straffan Road, Maynooth	05/05/2017
17489	Kildare County Council	Bridgedale Homes Limited,	Unit H7 Maynooth Business Campus, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	28/04/2017
17481	Kildare County Council	Eamon O'Flaherty,	16 Parklands Way, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	27/04/2017
17470	Kildare County Council	Adam Lyons	Greenfield Shopping Centr, Straffan Road, Maynooth	26/04/2017
17457	Kildare County Council	Mary & Patrick Mooney	Toolestown, Straffan Road, Maynooth	24/04/2017
17453	Kildare County Council	Ian Barrett	Toolestown House, Straffan Road (R406), Maynooth	21/04/2017

Difficult

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

Sudoku Challenge

June 2017

Entries must arrive before:
20th June



Super Difficult

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

**Congratulations to
May Winner:**

Noel Mc Dermott
4 Woodlands
Maynooth

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

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Junior Puzzle Corner

Fairy Tale

Crossword Puzzle

Across

- The ____ Prince.
- The _____ and the Pea.
- The Goose Who Laid the _____ Eggs
- The _____ Man (cookie)
- _____ and Gretel.
- The Elves and the _____
- Creatures led away by the Pied Piper of Hamelin.

Down

- Little Red _____ Hood.
- The girl who lost her glass slipper.
- Cinderella's Fairy.
- What was baked by the Little Red Hen?
- The Ugly Ducking was really a _____.

A people names word search A

Search the puzzle for the names shown in the word list. Circle each name that you find until you find all of the names in the whole puzzle!

T O S H M I A A T N U S T M Z	AARON
H A A Y Z A V E R Y A F A X C	ADAM
A J U W B A P P R Z Q N R B X	ADDISON
W R J A A R O N Z A E C I X Y	ALBERT
U E T Y D U R H Y Y L A E T V	ALLAN
J A A H J Y B H Z A F L L T A	AMANDA
A R N X U R L T C R Z B A V B	ANDREW
D C T I L R K R Z I A E J N C	ANITA
D H H W P E G Z A A N R R T J	ANNETTE
I I O A N S Y U N M N T E A J	ANTHONY
S E N C S E R X D A E I A O F	ARCHIE
O T Y A Z H O Y R N T L K A L	ARIEL
N O R L D M L P E D T E L R Z	ARTHUR
J V P X P A I E W A E R J S A	ASHLEY
U M A M T D M R Y U J V C E I	AVERY



June Gardening

Summer is here!

Here are a few June gardening tasks and projects that you can do to help keep your garden looking it's best for the rest of this season.

Continue to spray roses against blackspot disease, especially in the damper parts of the country, and after wet weather. Continue to tie in the new shoots of climbing roses so that they will be in the correct position for training later and are safely out of the way.

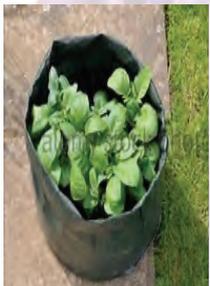


Even if it rains, young trees and shrubs planted in the last twelve months can be suffering from moisture shortage due to inability of the roots to take water. Water if the leaves are small and sparse. Begin to take cuttings of soft wood of current season's growth of fuchsia, clematis and other shrubs.

Bedding plants can be planted out in flower beds and containers and baskets planted up. There is still plenty of time for them to flower well, especially if large plants in individual pots or cell trays are used. Make certain to control the first flush of weeds among bedding plants. If there is wet weather, a flush of seedlings will appear and these will give a lot of trouble if they are allowed to make growth. If bedding plants are a little set back by cold weather, just after planting out as sometimes happens, a liquid feed will bring them on. Continue to watch for slugs and snails in the first few weeks after planting and on perennial flowers. Stake perennial flowers that need it, especially in an exposed garden, such as alstroemeria and delphiniums.



Grass really responds to rain showers and if there is some lightning as well it helps to green up the grass by 'knocking' nitrogen out of the air. If the grass is not growing well despite rain, apply some fertilizer to improve growth. The ideal weather for applying lawn weedkiller is fine and settled, warm but with some moisture in the soil. Lawn weedkillers are very effective in the right conditions. Do not apply weedkiller if you want to grow a wildflower lawn.



Pinch out any side shoots from your tomato plants and feed once the first truss is setting fruit. You can pot up the side-shoots to create new tomato plants. Continue to earth up potato plants as they grow. If you're growing potatoes in bags simply add more compost to half way up the plant stem. Harvest salad crops and resow every 2 weeks for a constant supply of tasty leaves. Harvest early potatoes - these are normally ready from 10 weeks after planting.

Look out for onion and garlic leaves yellowing and dying back - this means they are ready to harvest! Plant out tender vegetables such as courgettes, squash, tomatoes and sweet corn now the risk of frost has passed. When planting out cabbages, use cabbage collars to prevent cabbage root fly attack. There is still time to plant runner beans - sow them directly in the ground now.

By all means, take some time to simply enjoy your garden and all the hard work you've put into it. You have earned it.

*Fertilizer does no good in a heap,
but a little spread around, works miracles all over.*



Barbecue Recipes



Chicken tandoor-style kebabs

Serves 4 - 6

Ingredients:

3cm pieces of ginger
2 cloves of garlic
140g natural yoghurt
2 tbsps olive oil
60ml tomato passata
½ tsp garam masala
½ tsp chilli powder
½ tsp smoked paprika
½ tsp turmeric
10-12 skinless, boneless free-range chicken thighs

Method:

Peel and finely grate the ginger, peel and finely chop the garlic, then place in a large bowl with the yoghurt, oil, passata and spices. Stir well. Cut the chicken into 2cm cubes, coat well in the marinade, then season with sea salt and black pepper. Cover with clingfilm and refrigerate for 2 to 3 hours. Thread the chicken onto 12 skewers, then barbecue or grill for 15 minutes, or until golden and evenly cooked, turning occasionally.



Pepper Poppers

Ingredients:

8 oz cream cheese, softened
½ cup shredded cheddar cheese
½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 jar (4oz) pimentos or a tsp of crushed chilli pepper
1 tbsps chopped fresh basil
Salt and pepper to taste
6 peppers, de-seeded and quartered

Method:

Place cheeses, garlic, pimentos and basil in a large bowl. Whizz up with a handheld mixer until smooth and creamy. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Fill peppers up and grill over medium-high heat on tin foil until peppers start to char and soften, and the filling is warm and melted, about 5 minutes. Enjoy while they're hot.



Crunchy mackerel wraps

Serves 4

Ingredients:

2 tbsps extra virgin olive oil
2 mackerel fillets (all bones removed)
Freshly cracked salt and pepper
4 coriander tortilla wraps
4 tbsps cream cheese spread
2 tbsps sweet chilli sauce
2 large tomatoes, sliced
1 cucumber, peeled and sliced
1 Little Gem lettuce, washed and shredded
1 foil tray

Method:

Drizzle half the olive oil over the foil tray. The first thing you need to do is remove the mackerel bones and the best way to do this is cut a 'V' shape incision from tail to head and then remove them in one section. Season the fish and place skin-side down, then drizzle over the remaining olive oil and place the foil tray on a hot barbecue. Turn the mackerel after 2 minutes and cook for a further 2-3 minutes on the other side. Keep warm. Heat the wraps by placing each one on the barbecue grill for 30 seconds or so. Smear the cream cheese over the wraps and drizzle the chilli sauce over them. Remove the mackerel from the tray and divide between the wraps, then dress with the tomato, cucumber and lettuce. Wrap as snugly as you can and eat warm. Delicious.



FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

Spotlight On A Classic: *Breakfast at Tiffany's*



For the month of June, **The Lighthouse Cinema** in Smithfield, Dublin will be showing a joint season of Audrey Hepburn and Katherine Hepburn films. This is a wonderful opportunity to experience some classic films up on the big screen. Both Hepburn's were glamorous stars of 40s, 50s, 60s films and they are rightly celebrated today as icons of their eras. This is a timely opportunity to revisit a golden classic of the 1960's – **Breakfast at Tiffany's**

There was hardly a more elegant or graceful star than Audrey Hepburn. She epitomised 60s elfin chic and sophisticated glamour. **Breakfast at Tiffany's** is probably Hepburn's most famous film and certainly contains her most iconic performance. Blake Edwards (in his pre-**Pink Panther** days) directs a stylish and charming, if slightly sentimental and sanitised version of Truman Capote's bitter-sweet novella about a good-time girl.



Blake Edwards's gorgeous love-letter to New York high style and high living with an eccentric heroine at its core remains undiminished after nearly six decades.

Breakfast at Tiffany's boasts excellent production values. Edwards and his cinematographer, Franz Planer create striking visuals for the places his central character inhabits — New York's Greenwich Village and Fifth Avenue. They become characters in their own right.

Blake Edwards, as befitting his comedy background, ensures plenty of light moments in **Breakfast at Tiffany's**. He injects a playful vibe into proceedings. A shopping expedition to Tiffany's by Hepburn and Peppard is a joyous highlight. In a cameo role, John McGiver is a droll delight as the store assistant who helps them with their purchases.



Breakfast at Tiffany's has an impressive supporting cast: Patricia Neal is very good as Peppard's older, wealthy lover who places obstacles in the way of Paul and Holly's tentative romance. As Holly's agent, Martin Balsam delivers the best line in the film when he sums her up as 'as a phony alright, but a real phony!' Buddy Epsom gives a moving performance as a mysterious stranger from Holly's past. The only false note comes from, surprisingly, Mickey Rooney's turn as Holly's abrasive Japanese neighbour. His performance is jarring and ill-judged by modern standards, with racist overtones.



Interestingly, Truman Capote had not wanted Audrey Hepburn to play his amoral social-climbing heroine. His first preference was for Marilyn Monroe.

It is hard in the modern era to envisage anyone other than Hepburn playing the iconic role she so lovingly made her own. Screenwriter George Axelrod had worked with Monroe on **The Seven Year Itch**, so the possibility was there. It is probably safe to assume that **Breakfast at Tiffany's** would have been a radically different film if Monroe had secured the role of Holly Golightly. Thankfully, Capote didn't get his way.

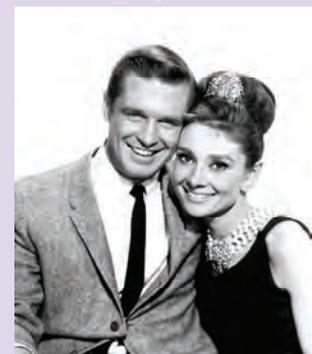


Unlike her role as Eliza Doolittle in **My Fair Lady**, (where she was dubbed by Marni Nixon) Hepburn got the chance to use her own singing voice in **Breakfast at Tiffany's**. This adds to the unique charm of the overall film. Hepburn's wonderful, and melancholic rendition of Mancini's elegiac **Moon River** on the windowsill is one of the most iconic scenes in cinema history. Mancini's song provides the emotional punch or counterpoint to director's Edward's visual gloss.

The producers had not thought Hepburn's voice strong enough to carry the tune so they made sure she was accompanied by a lush orchestra. The song won an Oscar, as did Mancini's gorgeous score and became a standard classic in bars and clubs all over the world.

Breakfast at Tiffany's is above all a love story. The undeniable charisma and chemistry of the two leads, Hepburn and Peppard helps to keep the romance simmering. George Peppard in his pre-**A Team** days was an interesting actor—handsome and talented. His Paul is the perfect calm foil to Hepburn's erratic and emotional Holly Golightly. Their scenes together produce humour, sparks and passionate romance especially in the classic rain-soaked finish.

This is Audrey Hepburn's film all the way though. She is simply radiant in a role she was surely born to play. We are acutely aware of this character in all her complexity and humanity. We laugh at her quirky behavior and mannerisms (her sleeping ritual is hilarious) but we also ache for the lonely, insecure and vulnerable little girl inside. **Breakfast at Tiffany's** still has the power to pull at the heartstrings and endures as a magical, moving and romantic film. It richly deserves its place as a classic of the genre.



A young, struggling writer Paul Verjak (George Peppard) moves into a New York apartment and becomes captivated by his attractive, charming, ditzy socialite neighbour, Holly Golightly (Hepburn). They find common ground in having wealthy benefactors that keep them solvent. The young woman exhibits a penchant for high-fashion and wild parties. But behind the carefree façade, Paul slowly uncovers the vulnerability she keeps hidden. George Axelrod's witty script details the day-to-day exploits of these two lonely souls in a funny but, at times, poignant romance.



Breakfast at Tiffany's has justly acquired the status of a classic over time. From its haunting iconic theme tune, **Moon River**, to the stylish chic of the central character, the film's memorable music and images are instantly recognisable.

Holly Golightly has taken on a life outside her cinematic incarnation in 1960's Manhattan. Her unique fashion statement, combining streaked hair pinned high, little black Givenchy dress, stack of pearls, long black gloves, thick black sunglasses and oversized cigarette holder, is considered one of the most iconic images of the 20th century. This image has adorned posters, billboards, bags, purses, clothing etc., and features in several advertisements up to modern times.



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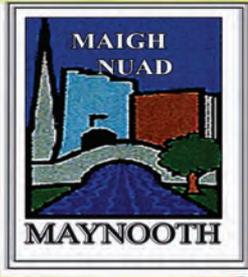
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Maynooth Newsletter



Serving the people of Maynooth



July 2017 Local News Issue No. 459 FREE

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

MAYNOOTH Lip Sync

St Mary's B.N.S held a Lip Sync fundraiser last Friday 16th June in The Glenroyal Hotel. The event was organised by the school's 'Parent Teachers Association', to raise some much needed for funds for the school's entirely new building, which is due to commence next September.

The fundraiser involved 34 amazing volunteers, made up of teachers, parents and local business people. On the night contestants took to the stage as a famous act. Acts included Little Mix, Tina Turner, Gene Kelly, Backstreet Boys, Weather Girls and the winner Bonnie Tyler who was performed by the very talented Ciara Houlihan! Ciara lip sync to Bonnie's classic 'Total Eclipse of the Heart' and was accompanied by her band which was made up by Ted Robinson, John O' Sullivan and Gavin Lyons. Ciara wasn't the only one who had everyone on their feet as Fr. Liam also got involved on the night and starred in his own Lip Sync video. Fr Liam lip sync to Bon Jovi's 'Living on A Prayer', accompanied by the school's principal Peter Coakley.

The night was a huge success and raised a huge profit of over €35,000. The school would like to thank everyone who donated or sponsored their event, in particular their main sponsor 'The Glenroyal Hotel'. If you would like to donate to this worthy cause you can make a donation online through their 'ifundraise' account @Maynooth Lip Sync. You can also check out more pictures and news from the night on their facebook page @maynoothlipsync.



*Winner on the Night
Bonnie Tyler a.k.a. Ciara Houlihan*



*2nd Place Madonna a.k.a.
Elaine Kelly Finn*



*3rd Place Back Street Boys a.k.a.
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Before You Think About Getting A Dog

Please ask yourself the following 10 questions?



1. Are you, and all those who live with you, committed to spend 15+ years providing health care, food, grooming, training and attention to a dog? Do the people who live with you also want a dog?
2. Do you have the time and/or resources available to take your dog for walks and to the vet? To bath, brush, clip, and, otherwise, groom your dog as often as necessary? To Hoover the floors daily and to wash the dogs bedding at least once a week? Will you want to play and work on training your dog on a daily basis? Are you willing to take your dog to puppy socialisation and obedience classes? Where will you walk your dog? Does your local park allow dogs off the lead or will you have to travel further a field to allow your dog to run and play with the ball?
3. Are there lifestyle-altering events that could occur in your foreseeable future? - A baby, caring for an elderly family member, a house move, job uncertainty or promotion, etc. How would you deal with these changes as they impacted your ability and time available to care for a dog?

4. Is your personality conducive to dog ownership? Do you often feel 'stressed out'? Do you like to have total control over your environment or 'space'? Are you a 'neat freak' enjoying a clean house and car? Are you flexible and patient? Answer honestly - nobody but you will know AND, more importantly, nobody but you will have to live with the results of you trying to 'fit' your personality to a dog.

5. Are you physically able to care for a dog? Will you be able to exercise the dog adequately and are you physically able to bend to pick up the dogs poo? Do you have any medical conditions that would make it difficult now or in the near future that will make it difficult to care for the dog? Are you economically able to provide care for a dog? Have you estimated the minimum cost of dog ownership covering food, vet bills and boarding costs?

6. Is your environment prepared for a dog and/or are you willing to make the investment of time and money necessary to insure that it does? Is your garden or a portion of it, fenced to a height of at least 5 ft? If your dog will be outside in the garden for any period of time, will you provide a secure and comfortable shelter for your dog? Have you thought about where the dog will be going to the toilet and how often you will have to collect the poo? If the dog is male, where will it cock its leg to wee?

7. Do you travel frequently? Will it be difficult for you to find quality care for your dog when you are away? How much does boarding cost on a daily basis and how much notice do they need to take your dog?

8. Will your dog be alone for long periods of time, daily or at weekends or evenings? Can you arrange for the dog to be let out in the garden for a romp, given fresh water, medication and playtime, as necessary, during the day? Will you be prepared to spend time with your dog immediately upon arrival home or will you be committed to cooking dinner for the family, etc.? Or, will you become angered and frustrated by behavioural issues that may arise due to the fact that your dog is alone for long periods of time or is ignored due to other commitments? i.e., relieves him or herself indoors, chews up a blanket, your shoes, your favourite chair cushion; barks incessantly, causing your neighbours to become angry or, perhaps, even call the dog warden on you; etc. If digging, chewing, etc. are likely to result in you packing your dog off to a shelter, please reconsider your decision to get a dog.

9. If this is in your plans, we suggest you revisit the question "Why do I/We want a dog?"

10. Do you really LOVE dogs? If you are truly motivated by your love of dogs, or a particular dog, you most likely don't need this page. You've done your homework and are ready for a lifelong commitment. You will train and play with your dog, provide appropriate veterinary care and nutrition, you will bath and groom him or her, happily, and the occasional behavioural problem won't throw you for a loop.



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Real artificial intelligence is still in its early stages of development

20 years ago, the defeat of the reigning chess world champion Garry Kasparov by a computer, IBM's Deep Blue, in 1997 is an interesting side-note on the development of computing. Rather than being a break-through in artificial intelligence, it perhaps shows something more prosaic about people's attitude to computers and how they work.

Kasparov did not know much about how Deep Blue worked. An earlier version had beaten him in one game in a challenge match the previous year but had then lost three-times to him in the overall 4-2 result. He had also played against simpler chess programs but knew that Deep Blue was much more powerful and impressive. During the first game of the 1997 tournament, initially computer and grandmaster seemed well matched, trading pieces and apparently understanding strategies. Out of the blue, at move 44, the computer made a seemingly naive error, giving up a piece for little advantage. This rattled Kasparov – had this powerful intelligence come up with some clever strategy he could not see?



IBM's Deep Blue was a fast, massively parallel machine that used reference data from 700,000 chess games provided by grandmasters. Kasparov asked to see the details of these games and the test games Deep Blue had already played but was refused. Deep Blue used a brute force trial-and-error method that looked ahead up to 20 moves in the game, evaluating every possible outcome so as to choose the best strategy to adopt. Under chess rules, this was time-limited so, depending on the state of the game, some of its moves looked ahead further and were better than others. In some cases this resulted in odd moves that no experienced chess player would make.

So while Kasparov worried about Deep Blue's strategy, the simple answer was that, in the time available, the best move the computer could find was a rather poor one. However, Kasparov thought he saw creativity and intelligence in Deep Blue's move. Drawn after game 5, he himself made an error early in game 6 on which Deep Blue capitalised to win the match. The media announced that a machine had out-thought the human brain in this most complicated game. A new era of artificial intelligence was here.

Deep Blue was a powerful computer dedicated to one task, using its speed to search through many possible outcomes and choosing the best. We use similar parallel computers today to forecast the weather, sequence DNA and analyse so-called big data. We use similar algorithms to recognise faces, recommend items in online shopping or drive autonomous cars. But this is not the creative, adaptable, general intelligence that humans exhibit. We really have only a superficial idea of how the human brain works. Real artificial intelligence is still in its early stages of development. Systems that can replicate human intelligence could be centuries away, at best.

After he realised what had happened, Kasparov requested a re-match but was denied and Deep Blue never played again. Its different parts are now un-functioning museum displays. Present-day computers can perform complicated tasks and solve complex problems like driving a car but real artificial intelligence is still only science fiction.

Prof Adam Winstanley is Head of the Department of Computer Science at Maynooth University. The Department is host to the BSc in Computational Thinking, which unites Computer Science, Mathematics and Philosophy, combining human creativity with the power of computers to find solutions in the presence of uncertainty.



Exploring how the digital games industry leads the way in the age of free-content

The story of how our phones became infiltrated with Angry Birds and our social networks by pleas for help down on the farm, is also the story of a creative and cultural industry successfully navigating some of the challenges raised by social media and the advent of free content, according to a new book by Maynooth University researcher Dr Aphra Kerr. *Global Games* documents the last decade in the industry, which has seen business models that have existed for decades undermined by free online content.

Up until ten years ago, the dominant market strategy of the games industry resembled that of books, music, and films. Independent development companies wanted to secure a publishing deal with a major international publisher and produce a final, physical product on CD. The publisher promoted and distributed the work and the developer would receive royalties once expenses had been recouped.

The highly networked and connected world which has developed in the last decade saw the decline in this model, as consumers became reticent to pay for content. The challenges created by the decline have been well documented with the global music industry seeing a 25% drop in revenues between 2005 – 2015 as a result of a 68% drop in physical sales over that period. However, the games industry responded to the growth and spread of the internet by developing a highly effective free-to-play model, which has not only shown that free content can be sustainable, but can lead to significant growth. The industry was reported to be worth more than €90 billion globally in 2016.

The general characteristics of this model is a reliance on indirect revenue streams, including advertising, product placement, and the use of player data. To this extent the model mirrors that of social media; however, the combination of indirect with direct revenues, mostly from micro-transactions, constitute a novelty that has emerged in the games industry. The facility to gather player data to both inform targeted advertising and, significantly, customise game content to improve monetisation is another novel slant.

Dr. Kerr observes: "Revenue and content development strategies based on player generated data were developed for casual games linked into social networks and later for mobile games downloaded as applications or run in a browser. Player generated data provides a partial understanding of the game player, and its use to influence game-playing experience, while not universally welcomed, is increasingly common in content development."

While the old models were built around restricting content, regulating quality, and maintaining barriers to access, the emergent logic in the industry is now based on an increased emphasis on games as a platform for transnational communities, which increases data flow and adds social and cultural value to the game.

As tools for games production become cheaper and more accessible, we are seeing an increased level of amateur games production, and some games, such as Minecraft, are being designed to encourage player generated content. Broadcast channels like Twitch and YouTube gaming also encourage player development of content, and have afforded game players the opportunity to perform gameplay online as a source of revenue, while also promoting the games.

As Dr. Kerr notes, maintaining these communities demands significant investment from games companies: "Successful online games require extensive community support, not only to drive user engagement but also to monitor problematic behaviour. Player-generated content may infringe on intellectual property rights and their behaviour may cause offense or harm to other players."

As part of their research, Dr Kerr and her fellow researchers immersed themselves in these transnational communities. Discussing her experience, she said: "We observed many examples of very positive community engagement, including online protests on political issues and community tributes to players who had died. However, we also observed some negative examples of interaction, and, if the games industry is to continue to grow at its current rate, then it needs to ensure that its communities are not allowed to become spaces of abuse and harassment."

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth

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

Information is also available online at www.citizensinformation.ie and from the Citizens Information Phone Service - 0761 07 4000 or Lo-call 1890777121

Long-term illness and the State Pension

Question

I've been on Illness Benefit for over a year. I don't ever expect to be fit to return to work. As I'm now nearing pension age, will I be entitled to a full State Pension (Contributory)?

Answer

The State Pension (Contributory) is paid to people from the age of 66 who have enough social insurance contributions. To qualify, you will need to have paid at least 520 full-rate contributions, which is equivalent to 10 years. The amount of the pension will depend on your average number of contributions per year. Illness Benefit is paid for a maximum of two years. It will end before that if you turn 66, when you may be eligible for a State Pension. You should apply for the State Pension three months before your 66th birthday.

If your entitlement to Illness Benefit ends before you reach pension age at 66 and you are likely to be permanently incapable of work, you may qualify for Invalidity Pension. To get Invalidity Pension you must have at least 260 (or five years) paid PRSI contributions and 48 contributions paid or credited in the last complete tax year before the date of your claim. The last complete tax year is the year before your claim. For example, if you claim Invalidity Pension in 2017, the last complete tax year is 2016. Note that only PRSI paid in classes A, E and H currently count.

If you get Invalidity Pension, you will automatically transfer to the State Pension (Contributory) at the full rate when you turn 66.

You will be contacted by the Department of Social Protection before your Illness Benefit is due to stop and you will be given information about your options. If at that stage, you don't qualify for Invalidity Pension and have a disability that is expected to last for a year or more, you may qualify for a means-tested Disability Allowance.

You can get detailed information about the State Pension and payments for people with long-term illnesses from the website of the Department of Social Protection.

Retirement age

Question

My employer says that I have to retire when I reach the age of 65. Can an employer make you retire at a certain age?

Answer

There is no single fixed retirement age for employees. If you are employed, your retirement age should be set out in your contract of employment. The usual retirement age in contracts of employment is 65.

Many contracts have provisions for early retirement from age 60 (or in some cases from age 55) and most have provision for early retirement on health grounds. Some occupations – for example, Firefighters, An Garda Síochána and the Defence Forces – have provisions for earlier retirement.

While employment equality legislation prohibits discrimination on the grounds of age, employers are still allowed to set retirement ages in employment contracts. Since 1 January 2016, under the Equality (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2015 an employer may set a compulsory retirement age if the employer can objectively justify the retirement age of an employee. This could be for health and safety reasons, for example, the physical demands and requirements of the job.

If an employee has reached the employer's mandatory age of retirement, this legislation provides that they may still be legitimately offered fixed-term contracts, provided that it is objectively justified. The provisions of the Protection of Employees (Fixed-Term Work) Act 2003 would still apply.

The Workplace Relations Commission (WRC) provides information on your rights and entitlements under employment legislation. For further information about your contract of employment and retirement age you can contact the WRC's Information and Customer Service at Lo-call 1890 80 80 90 or through the website, workplacelrelations.ie.

Medical card and Domiciliary Care Allowance

Question

I'm getting Domiciliary Care Allowance for my daughter so I was happy to hear that medical card cover was being extended to children who qualify for the payment. The medical card application form seems to require a lot of information that doesn't appear relevant in this situation. Is there another way to apply?

Answer

You don't need to complete the medical card application form to get the medical card for your daughter. The medical card for children who qualify for Domiciliary Care Allowance (DCA) isn't subject to a means test so information about your income is not required.

Instead, you can register your child online by going to the website medicalcard.ie and clicking on 'Medical Cards (DCA)'. The site also has a form you can download if you prefer to apply by post.

- You will need to provide the following information:
- Your Personal Public Service (PPS) Number and contact details
- Your child's PPS Number and date of birth
- The name and address of your child's GP

The website includes a list of GPs who are participating in the scheme. If your GP of choice is accepting applications electronically, your child's details will be sent to them. If not, you will be emailed a copy of the relevant details, which you can print out and bring to the GP.

Once the GP accepts your child to their GMS patient list, the registration will be finalised by the National Medical Card Unit and a medical card in your child's name will be sent to you.

If you have questions about the medical card, you can call the information line on Lo-call 1890 252 919. Further information is also available from the Citizens Information Service.

Disabled Person's Parking Permit

Question

Can I use my mother's Disabled Person's Parking Permit if I'm doing an errand for her?

Answer

The Disabled Person's Parking Permit can only be used by the person to whom it is issued. The permit shows the name and photograph of the person it has been issued to and you cannot use it unless that person is with you.

The permit allows the holder of the permit to use the public parking spaces that are specifically assigned for vehicles being used by a person with a disability.

These spaces or parking bays have the wheelchair

symbol painted on the ground or have a sign with the wheelchair symbol displayed. Most accessible parking bays are located near amenities such as shops and schools.

Car parking spaces with the wheelchair symbol are usually wider than most other car parking spaces to enable drivers or passengers with a disability to get from their car seat to their wheelchair.

A Disabled Person's Parking Permit is only issued to a person with a disability. The parking permit can be used by the person with the disability for any vehicle they are travelling in. This means that a person with a disability being driven at different times by different people can bring the parking permit and display it in whichever vehicle they are using.

The Disabled Person's Parking Permit is administered by the Disabled Drivers Association of Ireland (DDAI) and the Irish Wheelchair Association (IWA).

Both organisations provide detailed information on using the Disabled Person's Parking Permit.

St Jude Thaddeus relative of Jesus & Mary patron of hopeless cases. Thanks for many favours.
Jacko

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

Coimhlint

Dawkins, Fry is Harris, iad ar strae?
Ní fios dóibh bun nó barr de scéal ár ré,
Leis an pota fós leathbhruite,
Is annamh béile ite,
Ach an Críost a stair dea-fhite, sin an t-É!

Dawkins, Fry and Harris are they daft?
They fail to see the line 'twixt fore and aft;
While the kettle's not yet boiling,
To make tea in vain one's toiling,
And Christ their view is foiling, that's His craft!

Gabriel Martin

Maynooth Labour News

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

Maynooth Traffic Management Plan on Display

The Proposed Maynooth Traffic Management Plan is now available on the Council's website at

<http://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/RoadsandTransportation/TrafficManagementPlans/>

Comments on the Proposed Traffic Management Plan can be submitted to roadssubmissions@kildarecoco.ie

Cllr. John McGinley gave a summary of the Plan in the June edition of the Maynooth Newsletter.

There will be a public information meeting in the Glenroyal on Wednesday evening 28th June and after that the Traffic Management Plan will be published. While it is not a Statutory process the public are free to make comments.

Cllr. McGinley Supports Silken Vale Residents' Association Demand for Yellow Lines

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 12th June:

"When will the yellow lines requested by Silken Vale Residents' Association on 08 November 2016 be put in place?"

John was given the following reply by the Municipal District Engineer:

"The Council received a submission requesting yellow lines in Silken Vale, Maynooth. The Municipal District Engineer has considered the proposal and recommended that double yellow lines in Silken Vale should ensure that parked cars do not interfere with the working of the junction in terms of sight lines and available road space. He has concerns on the proposed layout as it will clear the central spine road of cars and open it up to speeding. Therefore, he recommends a revised layout in respect of the proposed yellow lines at the location. A map of the revised layout proposed will be produced by the council's technical team and will be made available to the members."

Cllr. McGinley Seeks Information on the Next Phase of the Maynooth North/South Corridor

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 12 June:

"That the design for Part 4 of the Maynooth North South Corridor (The Glenroyal - across the Harbour Field - Leinster Street - The Roost) be circulated to the Maynooth Municipal District members prior to the contract being awarded."

John was given the following reply by the Municipal District Engineer:

"Phase 4 of this scheme, which has gone through all the planning stages, is currently going through the detailed stage. The next stage will be to get this detailed design passed by the National Transport Authority (NTA) and the full package out to tender. Post tender, it automatically proceeds to tender award and construction, provided the returned tender amount is less than the funding allocation. Out of courtesy to the members, we can organise to circulate the drawings prior to the approval of Works package by the NTA in late June/early July."

Cllr. McGinley Supports Meadowbrook Residents' Association Demands for Improvements

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 12th June:

"That the wooden slatted gate at the Council site at Meadowbrook Lawns (behind the Health Board houses) be replaced with a solid one so that the residents of Meadowbrook Lawns would not see the eyesore every time they pass it."

John was given the following reply by Council Officials: *"The site in question is divided into three plots and involves three separate owners including Kildare County Council. The Gate referred to is on land owned by a private developer. However, as the gate and land are unsightly in their current state, steps will be made to contact the owner and repair the gate as requested."*

Cllr. McGinley Seeks Information on Celbridge Road Re-surfacing:

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 12th June:

"Where does the re-surfacing of the Celbridge Road, Maynooth, which is scheduled for late summer, start and finish?"

John was given the following reply by the Municipal District Engineer:

"As reported in recent correspondence to the Councillor, these works are scheduled for late summer 2017 and will commence at the ramp at the gaelscoil and finish just before the bridge over the M4."

Cllr. McGinley pointed out that residents were looking for the re-surfacing of the section of the road from Maxol to the Gael Scoil. The MD engineer stated that this section of the road is in a reasonable condition and does not need re-surfacing.

Update on the Proposed New Bus Terminus for the 66 Bus at Crinstown, Maynooth

Cllr McGinley was given the following update at the Maynooth MD Meeting on 12th July:

"The Roads Department met with the current owner of the Maynooth Lodge Nursing Home on 30 May to discuss the proposed bus turning bay on his lands adjacent to the Nursing Home."

A key issue is the transfer / lease lands to Kildare County Council to enable the bus bay to be constructed. Further discussions are scheduled to take place in June."

Update on Taking in Charge of Meadowbrook and Castle Dawson Estates

Cllr. McGinley was given the following update at the Maynooth MD meeting on 14th June:

Meadowbrook: The Council are hopeful that their discussions with Irish Water on the condition of the water and waste water pipes will result in the estate being taken in charge fairly soon.

In the meantime, Cllr. McGinley asked the Development Control Section of the Council to get repairs carried out to the very bad pothole on the corner of Meadowbrook Avenue, opposite house number 28.

Castle Dawson: The Council met with the developer of Newtown Hall (he has a pumping station in Castle Dawson) last week and they are hopeful that the outstanding issue can be resolved. The Council hope to be in a position to start the taking in charge process on Newtown Hall in October/November

Government Not Interested in Phase 2 Restoration Works to Maynooth Castle

Emmet Stagg again raised with Minister of State Sean Canney the need for Phase 2 Restoration Works to Maynooth Castle, in the context of the current Capital Review by the Government, with a view to promoting Maynooth Castle as a tourist attraction in view of the Ancient East Campaign.

Maynooth Castle was founded in the 13th Century and remodelled in the 17th Century. It was the home of the Kildare Branch of the Geraldines.

Just under €2 Million stated Mr. Stagg was spent in 2,000/2001 on the Phase 1 Restoration Works which involved the development of the ground vaulted areas for exhibition purposes together with access to the first floor and the provision of small-scale guide and visitor

facilities. Phase 2 of the Restoration works would have seen the provision of a roof on the Keep of the Castle and an Auditorium.

The Minister has now advised Mr. Stagg that the Office of Public Works has in the last 2 years, in the context of the development of a Tourism Capital Development Programme which will be co-funded by Fáilte Ireland, engaged in an appraisal of the heritage estate in their care with a view to identifying those possibilities which best meet the criteria for enhancing tourism assets within the Ireland's Ancient East Brand area. This Programme forms a significant part of the recent Capital Review carried out by the OPW and the early development targets are included in the spending targets for the Office over the period immediately ahead. The Minister further advised Mr. Stagg that while all of the current visitor locations in the relevant parts of the country, including Co. Kildare sites, were considered for investment, it is clear that certain properties have a better short and medium-term tourism development potential because of factors such as an identified visitor need, site availability, existing tourism traffic etc. It is felt that a targeted capital investment in these locations in particular would best meet the needs of the Tourism Programme and would yield exponentially better outcomes in terms of generating visitor footfall at these locations. The Maynooth site, while it is performing relatively well as a local and a seasonal tourism site, is not considered, in this early phase of the Programme, to offer as significant a potential for tourism generation. The Tourism Capital Development Programme is intended to progress over a 5 year period and will involve the continuing reappraisal of all investment options on an ongoing basis. Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has criticised the short sightedness of the Government and the Minister for not including the Phase 2 Restoration Works to Maynooth Castle in the Capital Programme. Mr. Stagg concluded by stating that the Government have no interest in developing the true potential of the Castle for the people of Maynooth and visitors to the area and indicated that he would continue to press this matter.

Further Information Requested on Planning for Two New Maynooth National Schools

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has noted that Kildare Co. Council have requested further information in relation to planning applications for two new Maynooth National Schools, a new Maynooth Boy's National School on the Moyglare Road and a new Maynooth Educate Together School on the Celbridge Road.

Mr. Stagg who lodged submissions in support of both new Schools stated that the new Maynooth Boy's National School consisted of a replacement of the existing school and the construction of a new 3 storey National School with 24 classrooms including Special Needs Unit, whilst the new Maynooth Educate Together School consisted of the replacement of the existing temporary school and the construction of a new 2 Storey 16 classroom school in two phases.

Mr. Stagg stated that the Further Information request in relation to the New Maynooth Boys National School covered revised design calculations for attenuation storage and pipework, additional lands required to accommodate the upgrading of the Kilcock Road/Moyglare Road Junction in line with the Maynooth Town North-South Corridor Part 8 and Maynooth Traffic Management Plan, internal drop off arrangements within the new school, cycle parking facilities and landscaping. The Further Information request in relation to the New Maynooth Educate Together School covered revised

(Continued on page 9)

Maynooth Labour News (Cont.)

(Continued from page 8)

design calculations for pipe network, flood risk assessment, landscaping, increasing width of Toucan Crossing, cycle parking, provision of construction management plan, provision of periodic warning signs and consideration of controlled pedestrian crossing outside the school instead of the existing uncontrolled crossing.

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that all of the issues raised by the Council in their Further Information Requests could be dealt with without any difficulty and he looked forward to the Design Teams for both schools responding to the Council so permission can be secured and we can progress both projects for the benefit of the pupils and staff of both schools.

Stagg Disappointed at Appeal of Planning Granted to Intel

Emmet Stagg has expressed his disappointment that two Third Party Appeals have been lodged with An Bord Pleanala against the decision by Kildare Co. Council on Tuesday May 2nd to grant planning permission to Intel for their Modified New Chip Manufacturing Facility at its headquarters in Leixlip.

Mr. Stagg stated that he would study both appeals lodged and would be submitting observations to An Bord Pleanala in support of the Council's original decision to grant planning permission.

Mr. Stagg stated that the development proposed comprises revised design of a previously permitted Manufacturing Facility and utility support buildings to ensure that the Intel Site has the capacity to manufacture the latest Semiconductor Technology in its bid to secure an estimated \$4 Billion new Chip Manufacturing facility at Leixlip. Intel's corporate parent has yet to decide to proceed with the proposed new plant and Intel in Leixlip

are competing with other locations, most notably Israel to land the investment.

Mr. Stagg stated that the need for the revised planning permission stemmed from a change in the standard design of Intel's manufacturing plants, known as Fabs. The permission granted on May 2nd is for a smaller facility than for the one which received planning permission in 2013. That permission was also appealed to An Bord Pleanala and the Bord granted permission. Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that it was critical that An Bord Pleanala rejected the appeals and confirmed the permission granted by Kildare Co. Council to reinforce Intel Leixlip as a Centre of World Excellence in the Knowledge Based economy.

Stagg Welcomes 5% Increase in Housing Adaptation Grants to Kildare Co. Council

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has welcomed the announcement of an Increase of 5% in the level of Grants to Kildare Co. Council for Housing Grants for people with a disability, people with mobility issues and housing aid for the Elderly.

Mr. Stagg stated that the sum allocated to Kildare Co. Council was €2,900,440 which included a block grant from the Department of Environment of €2,320,352 and €580,088 from the Council's own resources.

The additional funding provided stated Mr. Stagg will allow more elderly people and people with a disability to stay in their own Community. It will give people the opportunity to continue independent living in their own homes for as long as possible, which is their preferred option.

The Grants for people with a disability cover a range of measures such as downstairs extensions for bedroom/ toilet facilities, access ramps, stair lifts, walk in showers, grab-rails, and in relation to the elderly cover structural

repairs or improvements such as roofs/windows and rewiring.

Stagg Welcomes Signing Into Law of Bill Securing Rights of Freelance Workers

Emmet Stagg has welcomed the official signing into Law by President Michael D. Higgins on June 7th of Labour's Competition (Amendment) Bill 2016 which secures the rights of freelance workers.

The Act is based on a former Bill published by Emmet Stagg in 2012, the Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2012, and a Bill published by our current President, Michael D Higgins in 2006, the Competition (Trade Union Membership) Bill, 2006.

Mr. Stagg stated that the Act stemmed from a longstanding Labour Party commitment to ensure protection of the right to collectively bargain for freelance workers, including journalists, actors, musicians and others who perform their work on a self-employed or contract for services basis.

Under previous competition Law, self-employed persons who combined with others to set prices for their services could have been accused of an illegal anti-competitive practice. That has now all changed with the signing into Law of the Bill by the President on June 7th.

The Act allows self-employed workers such as actors and journalists, who personally provide work or perform services, to collectively bargain with their employers. The end result will be better pay and conditions and living standards for such workers.

In conclusion Emmet Stagg congratulated his Labour colleagues in the Oireachtas on successfully bringing the Bill through both the Seanad and the Dail, the first opposition Bill to be signed into Law by the President in this do-nothing Dail since the last General Election.

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Maynooth Golf Society

Joe "Do Do" Murray Cup

Sponsored by Sam Feeny

Castlewarden Golf Club 16.06.2017

1st	Pat Connolly	38 pts
2nd	Paul Farrelly	37pts B9
3rd	Dave Weafer	37 pts
4th	Johnny Murray	36pts B9
5th	Sam Feeny	36 pts
6th	John Byrne	34pts
7th	Marty Maguire	30pts B9
F9	Sean Lennon	19pts
B9	Brendan Bean	17pts
Over 50	Gerry McTernan	30pts
NP	Sam Feeny	
2s Club	Brian Shields	
Visitor	Pat Comeford	34pts

We had 37 golfers take part on a beautiful summer Friday afternoon. Castlewarden was in great condition and a great challenge for our players. Pat Connolly won the day and said in his speech afterwards that he was proud to win the DoDo Murray Cup as he used to play football with him in years gone by.

Our next outing is to Glasson in Athlone on the 22nd of July for our Captains Day.

I.C.A Maynooth Guild



We are preparing crafts that we will be selling at our stall at the July festival, so do come along and see what we have to offer.

Not a lot is happening with classes, while we are all helping to make sure our stall has plenty of goods because the money raised will be going towards new windows in our hall.

Many members are busy preparing for their holidays but we are always open for new memberships and you are allowed to come for two Monday evenings before you join to make sure you enjoy it first. Our hall is free for letting at a very reasonable fee all days except Mondays and Thursdays. It is ideal for small meetings, yoga and talks.

We wish everyone a great Summer holiday and we will be back in full swing for new crafts in September.

Heather M^c Weeney

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

Never known to fail. M

James Lawless T.D. Kildare North

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

Maynooth Office Open On Mondays & Fridays

Due to demand my Maynooth office, located just off the Main Street, will be open on Fridays by appointment. I was delighted to open the office following my election and have welcomed many residents through the doors to offer them advice and assistance. The office will be open Monday 10am to 4pm and Friday by appointment. Please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Public Swimming Pool Maynooth

I am aware from working with my colleagues in Kildare County Council that they have met recently with the management of Maynooth University to discuss the potential of a public swimming pool being built as a joint venture between the Council and the University. Both parties have agreed to progress the idea and carry out and prepare a business case to see how such a joint pool venture could operate. This is good news and the potential of a public pool located here would be most welcome and needed. I will keep you posted.

Time for Government to deliver on commercial rates Bill says Lawless

I am calling on the Government to accelerate its plan for a new commercial rates Bill. Fianna Fáil has made this legislation a priority and has put forward its own Bill to help resolve the matter. Previously I had assisted businesses in Maynooth and the wider areas with dedicated rates meetings for traders following significant increases in rates for some traders in the town.

Fianna Fáil has formulated a Bill that will reduce the impact of rates valuations on businesses by putting a cap on the rate increases themselves, and allowing businesses to spread their increased payments over a five year period, rather than frontloading it. This will help give businesses a chance to adjust to their new valuation levels. Local Authorities will not lose out as they don't benefit from valuation increases.

We will use this Bill to put pressure on the Government to come forward with its own long awaited legislation. The Government has been promising a new rates Bill for a number of months but it has yet to be published. I am calling the Minister to prioritise this issue, which is affecting businesses across the country. We will use our legislation to help strengthen the Government's proposed Bill.

This is an issue that impacts directly on thousands of jobs in every region of the country. It needs to get the attention it deserves. Businesses are currently undergoing a re-evaluation process and are facing increased rates of between 50 -100%. This is clearly unsustainable for a small business. It also risks penalising bricks and mortar shops on main streets in town's right across the country. This is the opposite of what we need.

Rather than hitting shops and businesses with additional costs we should be encouraging more businesses into towns. I will ensure that the

forthcoming Bill does just that by using the Fianna Fáil Bill to put pressure on the Government. Now it's time for the Minister to come up with the goods.

Lawless encourages students to use support services during State Examinations

Following the hectic exam period I am encouraging students to avail of support services as they expect their results and plan the next step in their education or working lives.

Having talked with parents and students, I am acutely aware of the toll that the Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate can have on young people. These exams have a profound impact on students health and some can feel overwhelmed by the experience.

It's important to recognise the emotional strain on student's mental health in the run up to the examinations. I encourage students to talk with their parents, friends and teachers if they feel overwhelmed by the exams. It's particularly important that schools highlight the availability of support services over the examination period. Young people need encouragement as they sit through these exams. Even if exams do not lead to instant success, there are always other means to pursue interests in life. The Leaving Certificate in particular is not the be all and end all that many young people think it is. There are a range of options to pursue further education and third level education has never been more accessible.

It's important that young people know that, while exams are important, they do not define who you are. There are alternative pathways to any chosen career. This is the message that needs to be delivered to students in the weeks ahead.

Lawless calls for improved digital facilities in Kildare schools

I am calling on the Government to use a €200 million budget from the Department of Education to promote digital technology in schools. This promotion would also include guidance for boards of management and technical support for stakeholders in schools.

The programme for Government refers to a digital strategy for schools and commits to introducing new technology into classrooms. Last year, the Minister for Education and Skills, Deputy Bruton, announced a €200 million spend over five years within schools. While this money is very welcome, without guidance, follow-through and professional implementation, I fear the money may not be utilised in the optimum way.

We know that school boards of management and management teams struggle with the challenges of new technology in the classroom, including cyberbullying, inappropriate images and digital usage across the schools. I am concerned that while the money has been committed, we are not seeing the appropriate support system in place, including technical guidance for boards of management to

deal with difficult situations and making the right decisions on how to utilise technology within their schools.

Garda Numbers and Stations Must Increase

It is well known that Kildare has the lowest number of Gardaí per head of population in the country. This is a scandal which I have raised repeatedly in the Dáil. While I have consistently called for improvements in Garda numbers. In Kildare we have seen some additional resources. I welcome the restoration of community Gardaí in some areas of Kildare. From recent parliamentary questions I raised directly with the Minister for Justice she has told me the division has been assigned some new recruits.

However we are so low down the table in terms of Garda numbers as compared to other counties. This means we need more than average resources assigned to the division to catch up. Kildare is a special case. I am calling for it to be designated as such. We have a historical deficit of low Garda numbers in Kildare and serious increases in these numbers need to be made.

It is not surprising that Garda management are doing their best with the scarce resources at their disposal. You would have to question the significant overtime spend in multiples of hundreds of thousands yearly compared with assigning recruits to the division. The Minister for Justice and the Government must address this issue immediately to strengthen numbers and morale in the force.

Our Garda do a fantastic job in Kildare. Despite suffering from pay and conditions which need to be improved, including the situation whereby overtime is incorporated into a basic pay package just to survive needs to be changed. This must be addressed in the Government talks regarding public sector pay. Being a Garda is a tough job and requires more support from management practices, the Minister for Justice and the Government regarding pay and conditions. I will continue to fight for better and improved Garda resources in Kildare.

NOVENA

Novena Prayer to the Virgin Mary (Never known to fail):

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, Fruitful Vine, Splendour of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity. O Star of the Sea help me and show me here you are my mother, O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity, there are none that can withstand your power, O show here you are my mother, O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3times), Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands, (3times), Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands, (3 times), O thank you for your mercy to me and mine, Amen.

This prayer must be said for 3 days, and after that the request will be granted. M

Frank O'Rourke T.D. Kildare North

Contact Details: Dail Office: 01 6183109 - Mobile: 087 255257 - e-mail: frank.orourke@oireachtas.ie -  /Frank O'Rourke

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

Car Insurance Credit needs to be considered for low income earners says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has called on the Government to introduce a car insurance credit for low income earners, to assist in dealing with the high car insurance costs. Deputy O'Rourke raised the matter following a meeting with a constituent who showed him the insurance premium for a modest car which had increased by 30% over the last few years.

"The Government has failed to deal with the motor insurance crisis. While I appreciate that the Government is implementing the action plan to deal with the high cost of car insurance, progress is too slow and it does not seem to be a priority for the Government high."

"Over the past three years, premiums have risen by over 50% and the government has failed to take decisive action to stem the rises that are placing families in severe financial difficulty."

"Earlier in the year, I called on the Government to publish a Quarterly update on the implementation of the action plan on the Cost of Motor Insurance. This has been done. The first report was published recently which showed that very little progress has been made in implementing the action plan."

"It is not enough to say that the level rate of the rise in car insurance is reducing, we simply have to reduce the cost of motor insurance. I believe that the Government should consider a car insurance credit, either by way of a tax credit or by way of a voucher for low income earners and families. This could be introduced on a temporary basis, say for a 12 month period, until car insurance is reduced. It will also incentivise the Government to implement the action plan designed to reduce the level of car insurance."

"As I have said in the Dail, there is little point in reducing the Universal Social Charge, if a multiple of the reduction in USC, is being taken back by increased Insurance costs. I believe that a measure to assist low income earners secure car insurance is essential. It is a pity that the Minister responsible, Minister Eoghan Murphy, was not as successful at reducing Car Insurance costs as he was as Leo Varadkar's campaign manager." concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

NTA's BusConnect Proposals

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has welcomed the inclusion of a proposed Park and Ride Bus facility adjacent to Celbridge and Junction 5 on the M4 as part of the BusConnections proposal to make Bus Transport more attractive to commuters and launched by the National Transport Authority (NTA). Deputy O'Rourke welcomed the news, who had raised the matter at a recent meeting with Dublin Bus.

"The National Transport Authority (NTA) outlined this proposal in its BusConnects Plans, which includes a suite of initiatives designed to transform bus services in the Dublin region. A Park and Ride for Bus commuters in Celbridge is included as part of its proposals."

"I have been calling for a number of bus park and ride facilities in North Kildare for some time. Funding was provided to select a park and ride facility in Kilcock and I continue to press the council to finalise its plans for this facility. We need a park and ride for Bus Commuters in Clane."

"However, the proposals set out in BusConnect does not capture North Kildare Bus commuters specifically. While the overall proposals will provide some advantages for Kildare Bus Commuters, their specific concerns, such as greater frequency for Kilcock, Maynooth and Clane are not set out in their plan. I have written to the National Transport Authority this evening to seek a meeting with them to ensure that our concerns are considered."

"Included in the plan is; More effective Bus Routes ; eleven radial bus corridors planned in addition to the Bus Rapid Transit routes, three orbital bus corridors, better ticketing options and the rolling out of new bus stops with better signage and information." stated Deputy O'Rourke

"We are making progress on our public transport; we now have a fairer fare structure for Kilcock and Naas rail commuters following the inclusion of both locations in the Short Hop Zone, with Leap card enabled for Kilcock from 1st June. I have also been campaigning for an orbital bus service linking Naas, Clane, Rathcoffey, Maynooth and Blanchardstown and this will hopefully go out to tender this month, Improved Bus services for Kilcock, Celbridge and Leixlip are also either delivered or planned.

"However, the commuter towns need to benefit from this €1bn investment announced by the NTA for Bus commuters and I intend raising this with the NTA at my meeting." concluded

Deputy O'Rourke.

New Secondary School Campus in Maynooth – construction commences – as O'Rourke presses for long term planning for school places.

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has confirmed that the new secondary school campus, comprising two secondary schools, will be completed by May of 2019. Deputy O'Rourke was speaking after meeting with the contractor who secured the contract, Sammon Construction, and the CEO of Kildare Wicklow ETB last week.

"The community of Maynooth and surrounding area have been waiting a long time for the commencement of the construction of the new secondary school campus comprising two secondary schools. I visited the site last week with the CEO of Kildare Wicklow ETB and received an overview of the project from Miceál Sammon Managing Director of the Sammon Group, which is based in Kilcock."

"There will 250 people employed in the construction phase of the project, many of whom are local people, providing a valuable contribution to the local economy. The Sammon Group have developed a very strong reputation in the provision of high quality school infrastructure and I was very impressed with the professional approach adopted by the Group. It is a local company, supporting the local economy, and providing first class service."

"This is the largest project of its type and includes 2 No 10,000m2 Post Primary Schools, 2,000m2 Sports Hall, roadways and carparks, playing pitch and ball courts. It will be an excellent facility once it is completed in May 2019, giving a fresh start to the first year students in September of 2019."

"Recently, I put a question down to the Minister for Education in relation to the planning for future school place requirements – given the increased demand due to the rise in the number of people living in North Kildare. The Minister confirmed to me that his Department's 6 Year Capital Programme prioritises building projects for areas where there is increased demography including Co Kildare. The Capital Programme also provides for devolved funding for additional classrooms for schools where an immediate enrolment need has been identified or where an additional teacher has been appointed." "As of now, there are 29 major capital projects that are being progressed in Co Kildare, with Maynooth being one of them. However, we need further investment in schools and I will continue to press the Minister to ensure that we allocate funds for capital projects to build schools in Kildare to meet the demand."

"I want to congratulate all those involved in bringing the project to this stage; including both Principals of the Schools; the boards of management, KWETB and its CEO, the officials in the Department of Education, the parents who have campaigned so hard for this project and indeed all public representatives who have worked on this project." Concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

HSE Confirms Lack of Psychology Services in North Kildare – O

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North, Frank O'Rourke says he is disappointed with the lack of progress being made in appointing a new primary care psychologist to North Kildare. Deputy O'Rourke made the comments after raising the issue with Minister for Health Simon Harris. The HSE subsequently contacted Deputy O'Rourke to confirm that North Kildare has been left without a psychologist.

Deputy O'Rourke said, "The lack of progress being made in assigning a primary care psychologist to Kildare is deeply disappointing. I have raised this issue with Minister Harris on a number of occasions but the reply I have received from the HSE indicates that little progress has been made on this issue. "The presence of a primary care psychologist is important for ensuring we have a proper functioning mental health service in Kildare. The HSE have confirmed to me that there is a significant gap in existing services in Kildare and this has been the case for many months now. The HSE has committed to implementing a revised model of care for psychological services but it doesn't seem as if much progress is being made in relation to this on the ground in communities.

"The need for properly staffed mental health services has never been greater. How can we expect to encourage people to use our mental health services when they are unable to properly meet the needs of patients? It's simply not acceptable for the Government to just pay lip service to the problems facing our mental health services.

Appointing a new primary care psychologist to North Kildare should be a relatively straight forward process once the will is

there to deliver on this commitment.

"I'll continue to raise this issue with the Government until it's satisfactorily resolved. North Kildare urgently needs a primary care psychologist to help improve our mental health services," concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

O'Rourke meets with Kildare Garda management to discuss resources

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North Frank O'Rourke says more resources are needed to support the roll-out of An Garda Síochána's renewal and modernisation programme.

Deputy O'Rourke made the comments after meeting with senior Garda management for the Kildare division in which he expressed support for the efforts being taken to promote community policing in the region.

Deputy O'Rourke said, "Last week I met with senior Gardaí to discuss the rollout of a number of community policing initiatives in the county. I was encouraged by the information which I received, including confirmation that 10 probationary Gardaí will be assigned to Kildare from July this year. Further Gardaí are expected to be transferred to the Kildare Division as the year progresses. Fianna Fáil pushed for increased Garda recruitment under the Confidence and Supply arrangement and it's positive to see that this is beginning to have a positive impact on the ground in communities right across Kildare.

"At the meeting I emphasised the importance of tackling the scourge of burglaries in the county alongside the occurrence of anti-social behaviour. I also pointed out the importance of maintaining a strong and adequately staffed Garda Drugs Unit in the region. The meeting also discussed road safety measures and I highlighted the need for additional resources for the Garda Traffic Corps in Kildare, especially when you consider some of the busiest roads in the entire country pass through the county.

"I was particularly impressed by the proposals brought forward by Chief Superintendent Roche and his team in regards to enhancing community policing in Kildare. I have been assured that there will be increased Garda visibility in towns such as Celbridge, Maynooth, Leixlip and Kilcock in the months ahead. People will also be given a constant point of contact within the service who will take ownership of community policing in particular areas. I'm also encouraged by the measures being taken to enhance community policing in and around Maynooth University.

"It's important to recognise that An Garda Síochána's renewal and modernisation programme, which is leading to new community policing practices, can only be successful if it is backed up by adequate resources. The service has been subject to severe cutbacks in recent years and it's clear that targeted investment is needed to ensure Gardaí on the ground are given the tools they need to carry out their duties," concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

€3m allocated to Kildare for Housing Adaption Grants for older people or people with disabilities.

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has welcomed the allocation of €3m, to Kildare Co. Co, by the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government, Simon Coveney TD, for Housing Adaptations Grants for Older People and People with a Disability living in private houses.

"Last year, I raised the requirement for increased funding for Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with Disabilities. Given the projected increase in the number of older people in Ireland, it is important that we put in place polices and supports to deal with this reality. In 2006, there were 468,000 people aged 65 or older in Ireland, but by 2041, the number of people in this country aged 65 or older will be 1.4 million."

"Under the Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes, Grants of up to €30,000 are available for an adaptation, up to €8,000 for housing aid for older people and up to €6,000 for mobility aids." Stated Deputy O'Rourke.

"Apart from improving the quality of life for people and facilitating people to continue the independent occupancy of their own homes, there are other benefits from the Government's expenditure on Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes. These include; a stimulus package for small local construction companies, more local employment and increased business for local building material suppliers, all either improve the Government's tax take or reduce social welfare payments. In addition, it is clear that it costs the state less to facilitate older people living in their home rather than in residential care." concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

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E-Mail: berrysmith265@gmail.com

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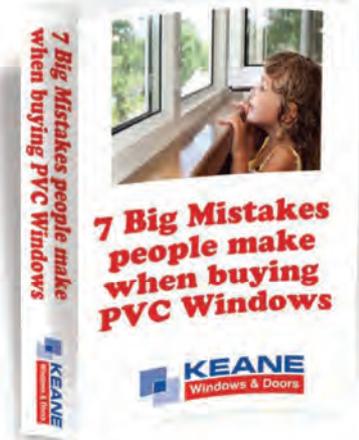
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Opening Hours 2017

18th May - 27th September
Open Wednesday - Sunday and
Bank Holidays - 10.00 - 18.00

Average Length of Visit: 45 minutes
Last guided tour 16.30.
Grounds close 17.45.

Please note: The Castle will close for the
winter at 4pm 27th September.

Free Admission

Maynooth Newsletter

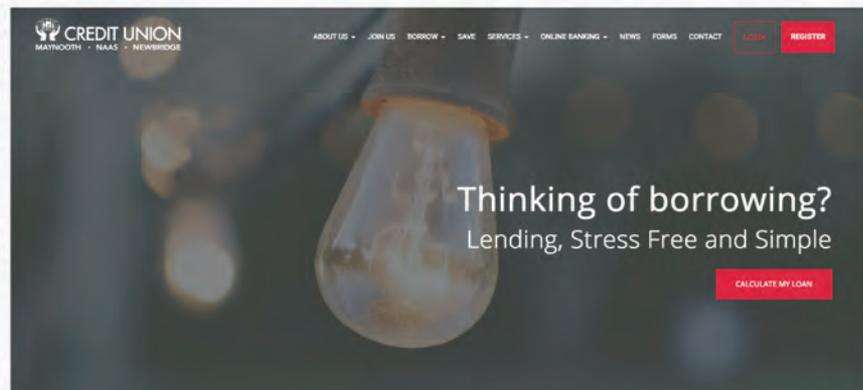
**Copy date for the August edition of the Maynooth
Newsletter will be Tuesday 18th July 2017**



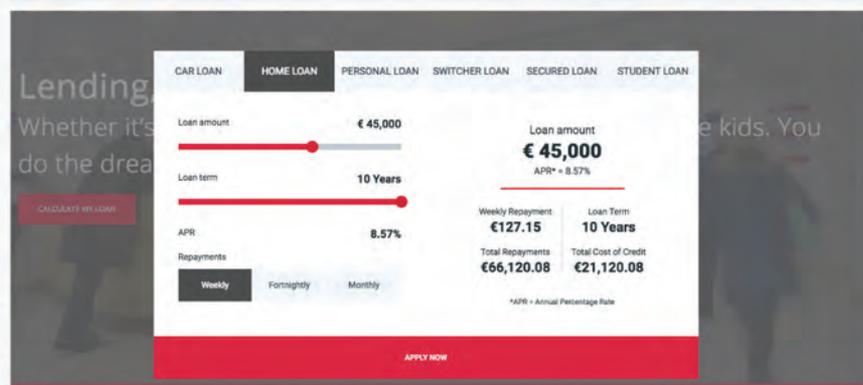
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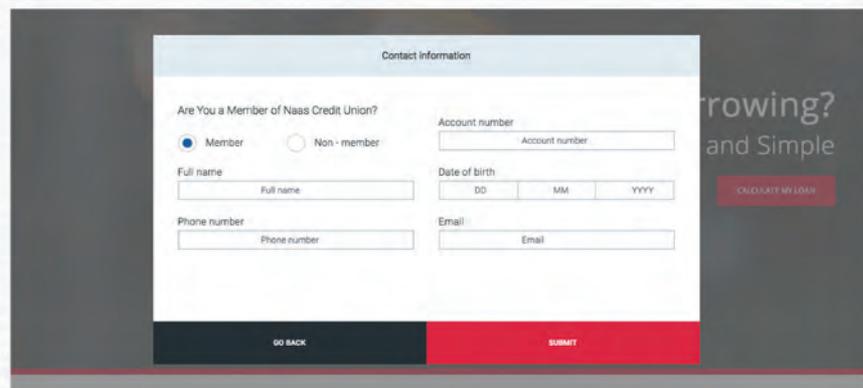
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Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee

Our June Tea-Dance was a very enjoyable event. There was a big attendance given that it was more sea-side weather than a dancing occasion. Not even the Sun stops our dancers it seems, and it was great to see PJ Daly tripping the light fantastic again with "Footsteps" keeping the momentum going. Congratulations to George Fennel who celebrated his 86th birthday with us and he did it all again at the club. He is like the Queen with two birthdays. Our next Tea-Dance will be on July 16th and this will be the last before the summer break.



For many years we held a summer outing every July, but we postponed this and other events about seven years ago. This action was prudent at the time because of the economic downturn. However this year we are rebooting this event, thanks to Barton's Transport who have supported us for over forty years. This trip will take place on Sunday July 30th and if you wish to be included, make sure you have your names with us in good time. You can do this through the committee rep in your area or at the club any Tuesday or Thursday morning. Can I also remind all our senior citizens that we provide transport to Mass on Saturday evenings. If you wish to be included do let us know.

Our club will close for August while we recharge our batteries and will reopen on September 5th. May I wish you all a very happy and safe holiday wherever you are.

Finally, may I extend our sympathy to the family of Anne Donnelly who passed away in June. Anne spent the last few years in Elm Hall Nursing Home, but when she lived on the Moyglare Road she attended our events and loved to dance. Ar Dheis De go raibh a anam.

Josephine Moore.
Chairperson.

Home Security Tips During The Holidays



It is that time of year when there is a mass exodus of people heading off on their summer holidays. Whether they plan to go home or abroad, the issue is the same: their house/apartment will be unoccupied and is therefore a target for opportunistic thieves. Heading on your summer holiday is a happy time, and so the idea of coming home to a home that has been burgled is an unsettling thought but there are ways you can prevent this from happening.

Here are some helpful tips to ensure your home is kept secure whilst you enjoy your summer holiday.

Tips for Securing your Unoccupied Home

- A home that looks obviously unoccupied is an easy target. Fully drawn curtains are one usual give away of this so best to either leave them open or get a neighbour to pull them occasionally while you are away. Timer lighting will also help to put off potential break-ins and they are relatively inexpensive to install too.
- With the advent of social media and the popularity of updating your profile to alert your friends that you are in sunnier climes, the danger is that an alert burglar will pick up on your social media updates and use this knowledge to know that your home is a good target. No matter how tempting it is, don't 'advertise' your holiday plans. Wait until you get home to post the pictures!
- It sounds obvious but double check that all windows and doors are securely locked. Research shows that unlocked doors and windows are the primary way thieves access homes.
- If labelling luggage, include your name, telephone number, email address and destination but leave your home address off. If your luggage goes astray and into the wrong hands, then they won't have your home address details so there will be no burglary fears.

If you manage to cover all the tips above, you should be able to travel and enjoy your holiday, safe in the knowledge that your home is secure until you return.

Children's Summer Activity Page

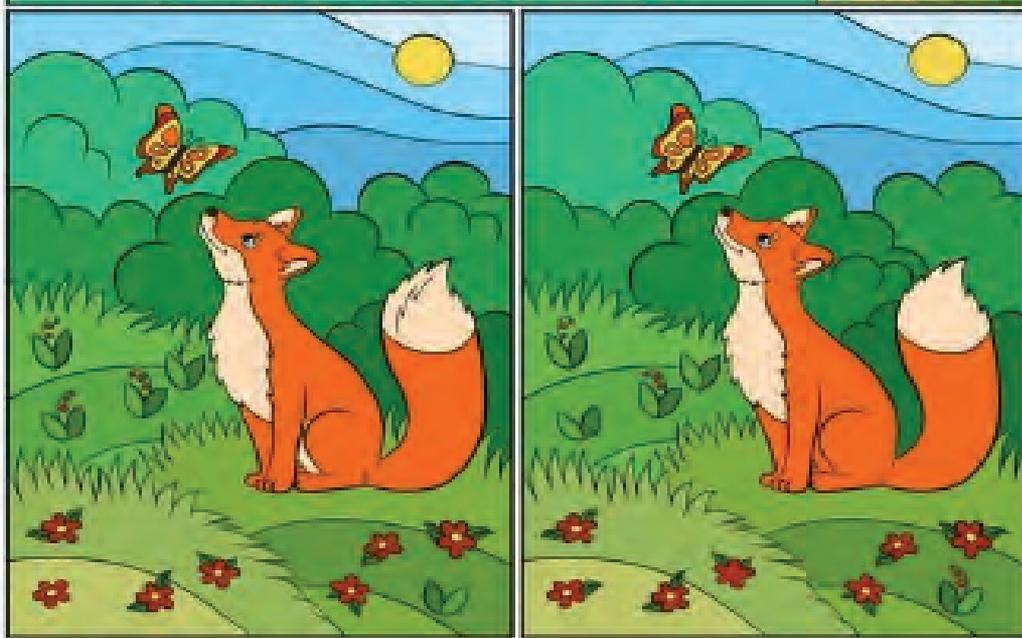
2017



True or False

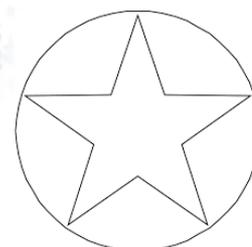
1. True or false? You see with your eyes. _____
2. True or false? Dogs have 10 legs. _____
3. True or false? $3 + 4 = 8$. _____
4. True or false? Sheep can't fly. _____
5. True or false? Yellow is a colour. _____
6. True or false? 'B' is the first letter of the alphabet. _____
7. True or false? Shoes are worn on your hands. _____
8. True or false? Up is the opposite of down. _____
9. True or false? You hear with your nose. _____
10. True or false? The Sun is very hot. _____

Spot the Difference



Q: Where do pencils go for vacation?
A: Pencil-vania.

Grab some colouring pencils and get adding colour to the scene



1. True 2. False 3. False 4. True 5. True 6. False 7. False 8. True 9. False 10. True



Comhaltas Craobh Mhaigh Nuad



Although the teaching term of 2016/2017 term has finished, there's still lots happening musically in our community. The branch was active in Manor Mills on Sat 24th June, with a fund-raising initiative for branch activities with bag packing in Manor Mills. Both parents and children chipped in with the bag packing and a few tunes were provided also by some of our musicians for those busy Saturday shoppers.

The Branch lashing out the tunes in Manor Mills

The centrepiece of July's activities will be Fleadh Laighean, which this year will be held in Ballymahon, Co Longford. The local committee there are working hard to organise a countywide week long programme of events for the Fleadh. These will include a wide selection of outdoor and indoor events, Workshops, Trad sessions in the pubs, Singing, Dancing, Aifreann Tradisiunta, Tours, promotion of Irish Language events, Open air Gig – Rig and most importantly the Leinster Fleadh competitions where competitors from the 12 counties of Leinster will compete for the All-Ireland Fleadh in Ennis 2017.

We look forward to seeing you in Ballymahon from 10th – 16th July for what promises to be a most memorable Fleadh Cheoil Laighean 2017. We have great representation from across Kildare – but we're especially proud of our branch qualifiers, so we'd be delighted to introduce you to two of them .

Name: "Concertina" Caoimhe Howley
Age: 10

Instruments & how long have you been playing:

Concertina, playing for 4 years.

How did you get on in the Fleadh:

This year I came second in under 12 concertina, I got a gold medal in a trio with Kirsten Farrell and Sean Keane and I got a bronze medal for U12 duets with Kirsten Farrell.

Who is the biggest influence on your musical career?

I love all music, I have been to the burden backroom series for three concerts and I really enjoyed these.

Who is the best musician you know?

The teachers in Craobh Mhaigh Nuad are fantastic! Sean Tracey Jason Kathy and Jimmy are all really good.

What do you like best about playing music?

All of the gang in the Craobh get to play in lots of sessions and I love playing for my Granny Nora.

The best of luck in Longford – go n-éiri an cheoil libh!

Registration for the 2017/2018 Comhaltas year will take place in early September.

As always, we'd love to see new members trying their hand at an instrument from September, you are never too old to start out on a musical journey, we can promise you lots of fulfilment along the way. Keep an eagle eye on our Facebook or Twitter feeds for more information on upcoming workshops, pop-up sessions and performances.



Name: James "The Bosca" McEntire
Age: 13 years old

Instruments & how long have you been playing:

Accordion and violin, for 5 years

How did you get on in the Fleadh Chill Dara:

Came first in Accordion under 15.

Who is the biggest influence on your musical career?

John Redmond, my music teacher at the Irish House in Woodlawn New York,

What do you like best about playing music?

I enjoy the atmosphere which music brings personally and as a group, I also like meeting other musicians from all walks of life and hearing about their journey through music.

We have a great lineup headed to Ballymahon to the Fleadh – keep an eye on this corner for next months, and we'll introduce you to more of them.

Our placed competitors in the Kildare Fleadh, most of whom are going on to the Leinsters are as follows:

Róisín Howley	Fidil 12-15
Josefine Grimm-Blenk	Fidil O18
James McEntire	Bosca Ceoil/ Button Accordion (12-15)
Shane McNerney	Bosca Ceoil/Button Accordion (12-15)
Olivia Cannon	Feadóg Mhór / Flute 12-15
Caoimhe Howley	Consairtín / Concertina (Faoi 12)
Aoife McNerney	Consairtín / Concertina (Faoi 12)
Conor McNerney	Pianó / Piano (Faoi 12)
Shane McNerney	Pianó / Piano (12-15)
Keelin Ní Mhuireasáin	Bodhrán (Faoi 12)
Matthew Meehan	Bodhrán (12-15)

Kirsten Ní Fhearail, Caoimhe Howley - Ceol Beirte / Duets (Faoi 12)

Kirsten Ní Fhearail, Caoimhe Howley , Sean Keane - Ceol Trí / Trios (Faoi 12)

Tom Ó Catháin, Róisín Howley , Paddy Merrick - Ceol Trí / Trios (12-15)

Róisín Howley - Amhránaíocht ar an Sean Nós (Mná) / Irish Singing (Ladies) (12-15)

Seán Ó Catháin Comhrá Gaeilge (9-11)

Keelin Ní Mhuireasáin Comhrá Gaeilge (11-13)

Emma Ní Chatháin Comhrá Gaeilge (15-18)

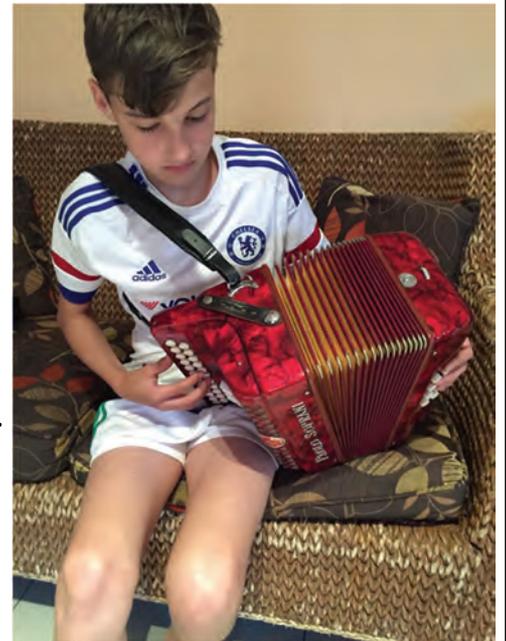
Déaglán Ó Conchúbhair Storytelling (O18)

We also have a number of Rita's dancers going forward as always, so the best of luck too to Aoibhe Garvey, Aimée Halcoombe, Áine McGivern, Lucia Connaughton, Niamh Farrell, Ciara Ó'Regan, Dara Doherty, Maeve Flood, Barbara Wright, Una Philips, Andrea O'Connell, Mary Windrum, Margaret Greene, Debbie Chamberlain, Margaret Chamberlain, Ger Cantrell, Olivia Carton, Rachel Wright, Sinead Crowley and Sarah O'Connor

<http://www.facebook.com/ccemaighnuad>

<http://twitter.com/CCEMaighNuad>

Derek Carroll, PRO, Committee Craobh Mhaigh Nuad CCE





Maynooth
Tidy Towns
 Caring for our environment

Regular walkers and visitors to Carton Avenue will have noticed that this year the Grass is being cut differently, this is to allow wild flowers to develop and to feed the bees and butterflies and this part of our biodiversity programme. Once again we thank Carton House for cutting the grass on this wonderful amenity for Maynooth

Speaking of Bio Diversity our own Mary Jennings was one of the speakers at a recent seminar held in Maynooth University, Mary spoke about our experiences and plans for Maynooth in relation to this subject.

Over the past number of weeks our teams on Saturday Mornings and Wednesday Evenings have been clearing and cleaning out the planting areas in various locations around Maynooth in preparation for new season planting.



This planting happened on Wednesday the 14th of June when up to a dozen volunteers of Maynooth Tidy Towns planted and watered hundreds of flowers the majority of which are bee and butterfly friendly.

Once again this year Maynooth Flower club have sponsored and planted flowers opposite the Glenroyal Hotel.

Earlier this year we met Joe Boland Environmental Director of Services for Kildare County Council and Jonathan Deane the Local Engineer who agreed to have Chewing Gum removed from the Main St., and this has been completed this month.

Best wishes to all involved with the Maynooth Summer Festival.

Please keep Maynooth clean and tidy as judging commenced mid- June and will continue until the end of August.

If you wish to volunteer please contact us on 087-3153189 or on Facebook/Twitter

Richard Farrell

PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns



SUNFLOWER COLLECTION 2017 THANK YOU



The Friends of St. Brigid's Hospice and Homecare Services

Want to say a big THANK YOU to the people of Maynooth who donated so generously to the Sunflower Collection, which took place on Friday 9th and Saturday 10th June, when a grand total of 7,229.58 Euro was raised.

A big THANK YOU too to all the volunteers who gave their time to fundraising at the five collection points.

And finally, a big THANK YOU to the five stores who facilitated our collections on their premises, and they are:

Aldi, Donovan's, Greenfield Shopping Centre, Dunnes, SuperValu & Tesco



BASKETBALL

SUMMER CAMP

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Tuesday 8th August-Friday 11th August

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Maynooth Post Primary School hosts Basketball Summer Camp

A four day basketball summer camp will take place in Maynooth Post Primary School from 8th to 11th August. The camp caters for all basketball abilities, with younger children in the morning and older children in the afternoon.

The camp is organised by the Maynooth Basketball Academy, a community initiative to promote under-age basketball in Maynooth and surrounding areas. All the camp coaches are qualified with Basketball Ireland.

Jim Walsh, one of the organisers of the camp, said: 'The summer camp is a great way to introduce children to the skills and thrills of basketball. Last year, 80 children attended the camp, over half of them were new to basketball.'

The cost of the camp is set at an affordable €60. This includes a camp t-shirt. Bookings can be made online at eventmaster.ie

Jim Walsh said 'Basketball is really taking off in Maynooth. We had three under-age teams in the Kildare community games, with our under 11 team coming second in the county. The team of five boys and five girls just lost out on score difference to Sallins (see photo).



There has also been success in schools basketball, with the first years in Maynooth Education Campus reaching a final and the second years a semi-final.'

We've also got a good attendance at the weekly skills development programme during the year with over 20 children attending. Recently, the academy moved to Rathcoffey GAA sports hall and has seen its numbers double with the extra space.

Further information on the summer camp and the academy can be found on Facebook @MaynoothBasketballAcademy.



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ROYAL CANAL AMMUNITY GROUP

THE BI-CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS AT CLOONDARA, CO. LONGFORD

The president Michael D. Higgins attended the Bi-Celebrations on the 27th May 2017. RCAG erected a Commorative Plaque. The Garda Band entertained.

MID- SUMMER SOLSTICE WALK

This annual walk was very well attended starting at the 10th Lock in Ashtown and finishing at the 12th Lock in Blanchardstown, a distance of 2.5kms. Refreshments and live music were on offer.

HERITAGE WEEK 2017

RCAG have organised a number of private walking tours. Please check out "Events" on rcag.ie

MAYNOOTH FESTIVAL 2017

RCAG will participate in the festival with kayak demonstration, a Heritage Boat, a Steam Boat and a display stand.

NO MORE "ROYAL" IN THE ROYAL CANAL

There has been no response yet, two letters have been sent to Mr. Gerry Adams TD requesting clarification of Sinn Fein Policy about decommissioning the word "Royal" in the Royal Canal name.

Come on the Lillywhites



Kildare are through to the Leinster SFC final for the first time since 2009!!!! Time to paint the town white and get the flags and bunting flying!

TIPS TO AVOID A SWOLLEN BATTERY

Sometimes a battery just fails and there's nothing you can do to prevent swelling, but here are some best practices to help not only prevent a swollen battery, but to maximize its normal life as well.

ALWAYS USE THE APPROPRIATE POWER CHARGER:- Do not buy cheap third-party knock-off chargers, and do not use chargers that are not rated for the power of your device, even if the charging plugs are interchangeable.

DO NOT LEAVE YOUR DEVICE PLUGGED IN ALL THE TIME:- This is particularly an issue for laptop users who primarily use their laptop at home. The device sits plugged in to the wall all the time, and the battery is not given the opportunity to exercise its capacity. You should take the battery out and leave laptop plugged in if you are going to use it for long periods.

Keep your device (or battery) stored in a cool, dry environment. Occasional use in the sun is fine, but don't store your laptop or smartphone in a hot car or humid environment.

REPLACE YOUR BATTERY IF IT BECOMES EXHAUSTED OR DAMAGED:- Batteries are consumable products, they are meant to slowly degrade in performance over time. So if your battery is no longer holding a charge, or if it becomes damaged due to a drop or impact, make sure to replace it.

WHAT IS A SWOLLEN BATTERY?

Although we'll be talking primarily about laptops in this article, swollen batteries can be found in many devices that use lithium batteries, such as mobile phones. There's also no single cause for a swollen battery. Some are due to manufacturing defects, others are caused by the age of the battery, and still other cases can be caused by misuse, such as not properly exercising the battery over time, or by using the wrong power charger.

In general a swollen battery occurs when the battery's cells are overcharged as lithium-ion batteries "react unfavourably to overcharging."

"There are strict limits on how much current can be put through a lithium-ion cell. During normal charging you never see metallic lithium, which is inherently unstable. But during overcharging the lithium builds up faster than it can dissipate. The result is that metallic lithium plates up on the anode. At the same time, the cathode becomes an oxidizing agent and loses stability."



This reaction produces heat, which warms the gasses inside the battery, causing them to expand. Without any avenue for ventilation, the battery's casing expands with the gasses, distorting and warping its appearance into that familiar swollen look.

Battery designers and manufacturers understand the possibility of this reaction, and design their batteries to withstand quite a bit of expansion. Circuitry built into the battery is also often included in order to regulate the battery's charge, and shut off the power if it detects charging levels beyond the battery's limit.

But these safeguards can occasionally fail, and some consumers end up with a swollen battery nonetheless. Next we'll talk about what you should do if you find yourself facing a swollen battery.

HOW TO DEAL WITH A SWOLLEN BATTERY:-

If you suspect that your device has a swollen battery, the first step is to exercise caution. Puncturing a battery in any state is incredibly dangerous, but swollen batteries are especially vulnerable to compromise as their casing is already under stress from the built up gasses within, in short, handle any device with a suspected swollen battery with care.

Next if your device has a user removable battery you can try to carefully remove it. Note that the battery's swollen casing may make removal difficult. If you encounter any unusual resistance to removing the battery, stop and follow the advice below for those with devices containing non-user-removable batteries. If, however, you are able to successfully remove the swollen battery, place it in a safe, cool container so that it won't be vulnerable to puncturing.



DO NOT DISCARD THE BATTERY IN THE TRASH OR ELSEWHERE:- Doing so can severely injure the health of sanitation workers who may come into contact with the battery, as well as the environment. Instead, always dispose of batteries – swollen or not – at an authorised battery disposal facility. Many computer repair locations have the equipment and procedures to safely handle swollen batteries. For example, if you have an Apple Product, take the battery to your nearest Apple Store. Other electronic retailers also offer recycling and disposal services. Just make sure that you inform the employees that you are recycling a swollen battery so that they can take the proper precautions (don't just drop the battery in a recycling kiosk). If you cannot find a suitable location contact your local government for instructions.

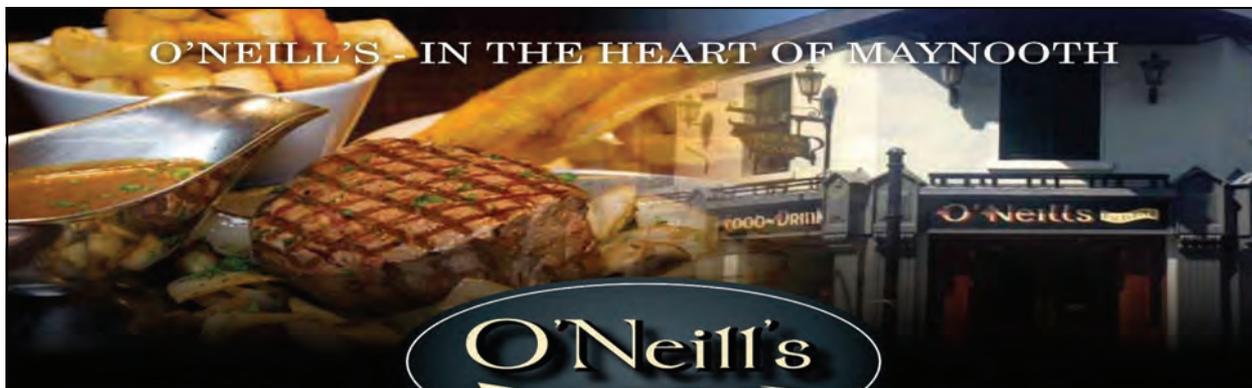


If your device does not have a user-replacement battery, such as some recent laptops and smartphones, do not try to remove it yourself. Simply take the entire device to one of the locations mentioned above for assistance. Note, however, that until your swollen battery is replaced, you should not connect your device to power or use it. Swollen batteries can explode if not properly dealt with, so you do not want to take any actions that may hasten the arrival of this unpleasant event. Above all else, be safe. Do not try to puncture the battery, do not leave it in a hot car or a location where it could be picked up by children or pets, and do not ignore it. Your laptop or smartphone will likely continue to work for a little while. But ignoring the problem and continuing to use the battery will only increase the risk of a puncture or explosion, which could result in devastating injuries. Battery leaks and explosions are rare, but you do not want to take recycling kiosk). If you cannot find a suitable location contact your local government for instructions.

If your device does not have a user-replacement battery, such as some recent laptops and smartphones, do not try to remove it yourself. Simply take the entire device to one of the locations mentioned above for assistance. Note, however, that until your swollen battery is replaced, you should not connect your device to power or use it. Swollen batteries can explode if not properly dealt with, so you do not want to take any actions that may hasten the arrival of this unpleasant event.

Above all else, be safe. Do not try to puncture the battery, do not leave it in a hot car or a location where it could be picked up by children or pets, and do not ignore it. Your laptop or smartphone will likely continue to work for a little while. But ignoring the problem and continuing to use the battery will only increase the risk of a puncture or explosion, which could result in devastating injuries. Battery leaks and explosions are rare, but you do not want to take any chances.

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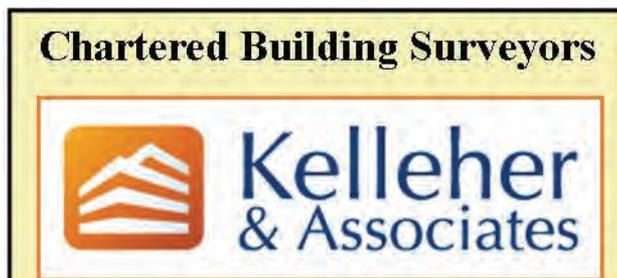
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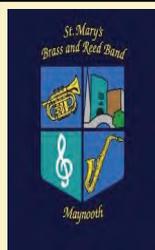
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St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band

The Band paid its annual visit to the South of Ireland Band Championships in Clonakilty over the first week-end in July. Sixteen bands from all over Ireland competed in our Intermediate Section and results are not available at the time of writing. Apart from the competitive aspect of the trip it offers an opportunity to meet with members of other bands and there is a great social element to the event.

Clonakilty is quite different from other competitions in that it is based on own choice pieces rather than specific test pieces which makes it more entertaining for the large local audiences that usually attend this event. The Band has been prize winners in the past and hopefully we might bring back an award this year. Because the Competition is held on the same week-end every year we will unfortunately be missing out on playing at the Maynooth Festival but we hope to make up for it at some stage during the Summer.

The highlight of the year happens the week after Clonakilty when we have been invited to play at one of the Summer Garden Parties held in Aras an Uachtarain on Saturday July 8th. This is a first for Maynooth Band and is a very special occasion for all members and while we have played in Farmleigh House across the road this indeed is something to remember.

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 there is always room for more no matter where you live.

A Night of Musical Delight



*Tony Savino
Mc on the night*

There was a charity music night held in the GAA Clubhouse on Friday the 19th of May by local music group "The Company." This group have held similar charity nights over the last couple of years with all proceeds going to Pieta House. This year, however, all proceeds were in aid of the Kym Owens Recovery Fund. As many of you will know, Kym was the young student from Monaghan that was severely injured here in Maynooth shortly before Christmas. Kym is making a steady recovery at home with her family at the moment, but she also has a long road to recovery ahead of her. In light of this The Company members decided to lend a helping hand and ran a night of music, raffles and an auction. They were wonderfully

supported by local businesses who were very generous in their sponsorship for what is a very worthy cause. There was a great affirmation of community spirit with many people attending on the night, which further re-enforced that sense of communal vitality. Overall the night was a great success and raised 3140 euro for Kym, which it is hoped will help with some of the expenses ahead of her. There was a full house on the night with music supplied by The Company, Sidewinder and Tony Savino (MC). There was complementary food supplied by Mizzoni's and Maximus. All in all, it was a great night, with many people commenting on how much fun they were having, but yet never losing sight of the reason for the event. On behalf of Kym and her family, the members of "The Company" would like to thank all those who sponsored a wonderful night of music and to further extend their appreciation to all of the public who bought tickets and to those that attended and made it such a memorable and enjoyable occasion.



Company B: Liam Moore, Brian O'Neill, Pat Dunne & Simon Morrison



Company A: Dave McCormack, Rossa Ward, Gerry Carroll & Anna Stempei

Maynooth Monthly Diary Planner

Community Library	Maynooth Multiple Births	Bridge Club
<p>Opening Times Mondays & Fridays 2pm to 5pm Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm to 8pm Wednesday 9.30am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm Sat 9.30am to 1pm</p>	<p>On Summer Holidays until the first week in September</p> <p>For further details email: maynoothmultiplebirthclub@gmail.com</p>	<p>Open for new members. If you would like to play in a friendly club with purpose-built facilities in the centre of Maynooth, please see our website at maynoothbridgeclub.com. Contact Katherine Cooney 086 8205910</p>
I.C.A.	MAYNOOTH LOCAL HISTORY GROUP	Arthritis Ireland
<p>Monthly meetings take place every 1st Thursday of the month at 8.00pm in the I.C.A. Hall in the Harbour. Crafts every Monday night at 8.00pm. New members welcome</p>	<p>Maynooth Local History Group Meets Last Thursday of each Month in the Maynooth Community Council Office (Next to the Post Office) New Members Welcome Contact: MCC Office for more details</p>	<p>Arthritis Ireland Walking Group (Maynooth) Meeting Monday's 12 - 2pm in the Maynooth Community Space</p>
University of Third Age (U3A)	Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group	Maynooth Men's Sheds
<p>On Summer holidays until First week in September Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth New Members Welcome</p>	<p>Closed for Summer Holidays. Will resume in September Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth</p>	<p>Weekly meetings take place every Wednesday at 11.am C/O Maynooth Lodge Fisheries Dunboyne Road Maynooth. For further details contact John Fleming - 087 2041334</p>
Maynooth Tidy Towns	ALZHEIMER CAFÉ LEIXLIP	Maynooth Community Church
<p>Volunteers required to help with this work. Contact Number 087 3153189 Meet every Saturday at 10.00am in the Square</p>	<p>Informal café atmosphere for people with Dementia & their partners family & friends. Free of charge. Venue Ryevale Nursing Home. Every second Wednesday of each month 7-9pm. Call 0894933533 Email: alzheimercafeleixlip@gmail.ie www.alzheimercafeleixlip.com</p>	<p>1st Floor Manor Mills (entrance next to Chill) Service times every Sunday morning from 10.30 am www.maynoothcc.org Everyone most welcome</p>
Maynooth Senior Citizens	Craobh Mhaigh Nuad C.C.E.	ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND
<p>Our morning club continues on Tuesday and Thursday and new members are always welcome. Perhaps you are new to the parish or new to the age bracket, why not come along you might enjoy it. You will find us in the Geraldine Hall on Leinster St, or contact Josephine on 087 9002296.</p>	<p>Classes will resume in early September in Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road. Our classes are very good value, great fun and we promise you plenty of craic also !! Bí gí linn!!! Contact Sean at 086 2225540 or email craobhmaighnuad@gmail.com.</p>	<p>Rehearsals are held in the Band Hall on Pound Lane each Monday night (except Bank Holidays) from 7.45pm to 9.30pm and musicians living in Maynooth and the surrounding areas are most welcome. E-mail: sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie Website: www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie</p>

Diary entries are published free of charge for all Community Groups. E-mail details of your event before the copy date (2nd last Tuesday of each month) to be included in the next months edition. E-mail: office@maynoothcc.com. Phone: 01-6285922
(The content of the Monthly Planner Diary is published in good faith. All details should be checked with groups)



MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN

200

Bikeweek 2017

After 6 years of organising Bikeweek events, Maynooth Cycling Campaign was not invited to participate in Bikeweek 2017 and consequently received no funding for advertising events. (For the first time too, schools in Maynooth and Celbridge received no funding either.) Nevertheless, we decided to go ahead with our two events as scheduled. For the Heritage Tour, we travelled to Leixlip for a trail developed by Leixlip Tidy Towns. The second event was a cycle along the Royal Canal exploring the biodiversity of the canal and towpath. Due to lack of advertising, attendances were significantly down on previous years.

14 Year Old Cyclist Seriously Injured near Monasterevin

There was more bad news for cycling with the collision of a 14 year old boy and a jeep outside Monasterevin. Maynooth Cycling Campaign is appalled at several reports in the media including "Kildare Now" which described the incident as the cyclist being *knocked from his bike when he collided with a jeep on the road*. We have no information on who or what was at fault but the report in "Kildare Now" implied that the cyclist was at fault and follows a familiar pattern where vulnerable road users – be they cyclists or pedestrians – are scapegoated for 'accidents' with motorised vehicles. Other reports even included the fact that the driver of the jeep was unhurt, which – considering that the incident involved a jeep and a child - was hardly news!

Census 2016 and Commuting

The results of Census 2016 on commuting patterns were published recently and revealed a 4.5% annual increase in cycling between 2011 and 2016. This was a lot more modest than the spin of 42% increase between 2011 and 2016 which appeared in some media reports and contrasts with figures released by the UK government which showed a 70% increase in six months in usage of the high quality London Superhighways.

The 4.5% increase reflects not only the failure of the political establishment to provide for cycling in terms of quality of infrastructure but also low funding. To impact on

cycling levels, funding must be at a minimum level of €10 per person per year whereas the actual level of funding is closer to €1.50 per person.

A succession of questions in the Dáil by TDs, in particular by Catherine Murphy, has attempted to uncover the level of funding but the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport has continually refused to answer the questions and instead has fobbed off deputies with a confusing stream of irrelevant figures.

Velo-City Conference 2017

Some good news at last! The Velo-City Conference 2017 recently took place in Arnhem-Nejmegen in the Netherlands and brought together 1500 delegates from over 80 countries to discuss all matters related to the everyday cycling. Topics included health, happiness, medical research, infrastructure, tourism and Bikonomics. The theme of the conference was the Freedom of Cycling and referred in particular to the freedom of mobility by children in the Netherlands. This is in stark contrast to the situation in Ireland where children are denied the option of cycling due to lack of high quality infrastructure with the result that the majority are chauffeured to school, to sports and to after school activities which impacts on their health and results in traffic congestion. In 2019, Velo-City will be in Dublin.

Kildare Cycle Forum

The Kildare Cycle Forum (perhaps it should be called the Non-Cycling Forum) held its second meeting again without any representatives from cycling advocacy groups. The meetings are in secret so it is not known if the Forum discusses one big secret or a number of little secrets.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. Further information on meetings and activities is available on our website. We are affiliated to Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cyclist Advocacy Network and through it to the European Cycling Federation.

Editorial

I recently had an experience of witnessing a cyclist being knocked from his bicycle in the centre of Dublin in a simple accident where a driver turned into a side street without any warning. It happened so simply and needless to say the cyclist came off worst.

Thankfully the traffic was moving slowly so the person was not seriously injured. In the same week, I became aware of a child cycling to school for the first time in Maynooth who came off his bike due to the rim height between the cycle lane and footpath on the Straffan Road and broke his wrist.

There are great plans to improve cycle routes in Maynooth but there will be no option at pinch points on routes in the town for the car/truck and cyclist to meet and these points will be more dangerous for the cyclist. The North/South Corridor in Maynooth has been talked about for several years but why is it taking so long to deliver. Let us trust that when delivered it will be completed to a high standard. For example, I think that cycle routes should have traffic controls on them so that the cyclists will have to abide by cycling lights to remind them of safety. This is particularly important for children to develop good cycling habits. I also wonder if cycle route surfaces are designed to cater for the younger cyclist with the smaller size wheels so that accidents like the one that happened to the child cycling to school becomes a rare event rather than a regular incident.

With changes to the Government on the retirement of former Taoiseach Enda Kenny, I noted that the Kilkenny Deputy John Paul Phelan TD had been appointed a Minister for State. His responsibilities includes Local Government with the suggestion of

a review of the decision taken by his former constituency Minister Phil Hogan to remove Town Councils. Under the previous legislation the 2001 Local Government Act, settlements like Maynooth with populations of greater than 7,500 were to be granted Town Council Status. However, Minister Hogan's Local Government Reform Act 2014 put an end to the chance of new town councils being established and also dissolved all existing ones. My personal opinion is that communities of the size of Maynooth need more locally based services and structured representation. It would also ensure that these areas would get more targeted funding much of which is already raised locally in charges by Kildare County Council.

In July, we welcome many foreign visitors to the town and surrounding area as Maynooth has many attractions especially for day trips. Remember that Maynooth is twinned with the French town Canet-en-Roussillon so if you meet people from there give them a special welcome. Of course, with the fact that Maynooth is accessible by rail to Croke Park will mean that we have thousands of visitors from all over Ireland as their counties progress in the GAA Football and Hurling Championship competitions. Everyone is welcome and hopefully they will spend their money in our many eating places. I will particularly welcome people from Roscommon as it could be our year to progress in the football !!!!!!!

Paul Croghan
Editor

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**The Copy Date for the August Edition of the
Maynooth Newsletter is Tuesday 18th July 2017**

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

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

Private Health Insurance Waiver forms

Catherine Murphy TD has continued to highlight the plight of a woman who found herself harassed to sign private health insurance forms while lying on a trolley in the hospital department of St. James Hospital. The woman actually suffered a deterioration in her condition as a result of the stress placed on her by the insistence to waive her right to public health care.

Deputy Murphy says the individual case is just one example of what appears to be a practice of this behaviour by staff in A&E Departments around the country and it appears the HSE has no central policy on it. When Catherine Murphy appeared on NewstalkFm on Friday morning to discuss the issue, numerous callers to the show spoke of similar stressful experiences while at their most vulnerable.

Catherine Murphy said that it is vital that people are made aware that every person, whether they have private health insurance or not, is entitled to present at an A&E department and be treated as a public patient. She has passed details of this case onto the HSE and they have agreed to review the case. Catherine Murphy says it is important that they consider the wider operation of these practices in A&E departments and the unsustainable and unrealistic targets which are driving this behaviour.

Ireland's teen suicide has been reported as the fourth highest of the world's 41 wealthiest nations in the EU/OECD region.

UNICEF has launched its annual report on child wellbeing today which found one in 10,000 of 15 to 19-year-olds in this country will die by suicide.

UNICEF has said that Ireland is above the international average of teen suicides for adolescents aged 15 to 19, in the developed world.

Their new report assess the status of children's well-being in 41 high-income countries. Their report indicates that more than 22% of 11 to 15-year-olds experienced such feelings up to twice a week.

That is why the Social Democrats have called for an extra €45million to be allocated to the area of mental health services to extend counselling hours and support staff.

The Social Democrats' Catherine Murphy has raised the issue of youth mental health in the Dáil. "In the years that I have been a public representative, there have been several incidents of clusters of teen suicides in my area which has a disproportionately young age profile. It causes huge long-term irreparable damage to the families involved and to their communities."

Speaking during a debate on a Private Member's Mental Health Bill, she said there is a very good, albeit flawed, strategy called Connecting for Life. "A mother came to me and showed me some elements of the report she would like to see changed," she said. "She was concerned about the discussions that could happen with a trusted adult, for example, in schools. The parent mentioned that page 115 of that strategy encourages - I underline the word "encourages" - schools to deliver but that does not make this mandatory. She wanted to get across the point that we need to have in-service training for teachers in addition to a module within the teacher training programme. That is not something that needs legislation but which could be done very easily."

Deputy Murphy said the mother made the point that the problem with suicide clusters was that youngsters were talking to each other in language of emotional immaturity and that we need a wider engagement.

"We need a structured coping mechanism in schools to provide that kind of engagement," she said. "She wants that kind of initiative to be made mandatory as opposed to being encouraged. She made the point that when such an initiative was taken with issues such as teen pregnancy, the HSE made a strong argument that the strategy had worked and there was evidence that the strategy had worked. That mother was someone who had been touched by this because her son unfortunately had taken his own life as a teenager. That was very raw for her when she came to me. She wanted to make sure, as far as she could, that this would not happen to another family and where there were things that could be done, they should be done. It was a simple request for it to be taken up at both in-service training and in the teacher training module."

Details on how to get Advice

If you or someone you know is at risk of suicide or self-harm, you should make contact immediately with one of the following:

- **Phone or go to your local doctor**
- **Go to the Accident & Emergency department of the nearest hospital**
- **Call 999**

Most helplines will provide a listening service, give information and advice, provide emotional support and point you in the direction of other services. They are often free-phone services which are staffed by trained volunteers or employees.

National Suicide Helpline (Pieta House)

1800 247 247

Pieta House (Suicide & Self-harm) (Offer a specialised service to teenagers)

www.pieta.ie

Tel: 01 623 5606

Teenline Ireland Helpline – Listen when no one else will

www.teenireland.ie

1800 833 634 (7pm-10pm)

TeenLine

www.teenline.ie

Text Teen to 50015

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Childline

www.childline.ie

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The Samaritans

www.samaritans.ie

Free phone: 116 123

Text: 087 260 9090

Aware (Depression, Bi-Polar Disorder & Anxiety)

www.aware.ie

Tel: 1800 80 48 48

Grow (Mental Health support and Recovery)

www.grow.ie

Tel: 1890 474 474

Bodywhys (Eating Disorders Associations of Ireland)

www.bodywhys.ie

1890 200 444

Irish Advocacy Network (Peer advocacy in mental health)

www.irishadvocacynetwork.com

Tel: 01 872 8684

IACP (Counselling & Psychotherapy)

www.iacp.ie

Tel: 01 230 3536

Shine (Supporting people effected by mental ill health)

www.shine.ie

Accessibility for Irish Rail mobility Impaired Users

Catherine raised the following Parliamentary Question asked in respect of accessible rail stations and the provision of services to customers requiring Irish rail staff to assist them in getting on and off the train with ramp access.

There had been a reported issue with a customer using the Maynooth commuter line. The PQ arose as there was an issue where a station had been unmanned and where the customer was subsequently unable to disembark the train. Since that PQ was raised (copied below), Irish Rail have been working on a comprehensive whole system approach to streamlining the accessibility and mobility impaired access for customers in order to deliver service improvements to those mobility impaired customers across the Irish Rail Network. Catherine welcomes this comprehensive body of work and is delighted with the response received today from the CEO of Irish Rail David Franks who details that they are currently seeking to implement significant customer service improvements which will see a significant increase in the number of employees working on board Intercity services. This will ensure that assistance is far more easily available to mobility-impaired customers using Intercity services. That response is attached.

Rail Services Provision

Deputy Catherine Murphy asked the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport the rail stations at which wheelchair users can independently access train services; the rail stations at which wheelchair users are required to give advance notice in order to access the train service; the number in each of the cases of hours that the station is unmanned; his plans to upgrade stations in order that rail services are fully accessible by wheelchair users without having to give advance notice; his estimate of the cost; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport (Deputy Shane Ross):

Accessibility is a fundamental consideration when developing the public transport network. Accessibility features are built into all new infrastructure projects and vehicles from the design stage and newer systems such as the Luas are fully accessible. With regard to existing infrastructure, my Department funds an on-going programme of accessibility improvement grants to upgrade existing public transport infrastructure and facilities. This programme is being managed by the National Transport Authority (NTA) on behalf of my Department.

I understand that at present at least 84 out of the 143 railway stations on the Iarnród Éireann network have received accessibility upgrades or were constructed new to accessibility standards. Accessibility upgrades are planned for several stations in 2017 and recently construction works commenced at Rathdrum, Mullingar and Leixlip Louisa Bridge stations. Some lightly used stations may not be fully upgraded and instead, passengers with mobility impairments within the catchment area of these stations will continue to be facilitated by Iarnród Éireann through the provision of a taxi or hackney to the nearest accessible station; this is arranged at a local level. Details regarding rail stations at which wheelchair users can access train services, the amount of advance notice required to access the train service and the hours during which certain stations are unmanned are operational matters for Iarnród Éireann. Future plans and allocation of funding for upgrade to rail stations are matters for the NTA who, as mentioned above, administer the accessibility grants programme.

I have therefore forwarded the Deputy's question to both Iarnród Éireann and the NTA for direct reply in relation to the matters raised within their respective spheres of responsibility. Please advise my private office if you do not receive replies within ten working days.

7th April 2017

Dear Deputy Murphy,

Thank you for your response of 22nd February, in relation to PQ 39738 DN 619 and I apologise for the delay in replying to you. I regret also that you were disappointed with my previous reply to you. I have endeavoured below to reply to each specific point you have raised.

Details regarding rail stations at which wheelchair users can access train services.

I have attached a full schedule of our stations, categorised as Accessible (all platforms can be accessed by mobility impaired customers) or Partially Accessible (at least one platform, but not all platforms, are accessible).

I would advise that in the case of Partially Accessible stations, we can arrange for trains to call to the accessible platform in any situation where a mobility impaired customer seeks to board or alight.

As clearance is required between train and platform for the safe operation of services, a mobile ramp is used by staff members at stations to facilitate train access. The amount of advance notice required to access the train station.

While we endeavour to assist customers at all times, we currently guarantee assistance when 24 hours notice is provided. We plan to shortly confirm details of a pilot programme on the DART network which will see the advised notice period significantly reduced and the hours during which stations are unmanned.

The schedule I have attached also details staffing hours at all stations.

We are currently implementing customer service improvements which will see a significant increase in the number of employees working on board Intercity services. This will ensure that assistance is far more easily available to mobility-impaired customers using Intercity services. Additionally, we are reviewing station staffing to provide a greater focus on customer assistance rather than ticket sales. This reflects the need to enhanced service and assistance, and trends in ticket sales which are now far more automated via Leap Card, season tickets and online booking.

I know my colleague Ronan Murphy, Customer Relationship Manager has been in contact with your office, and with Corporate Communications Manager Barry Kenny. He would be happy to meet with you to discuss these plans.

Yours sincerely,

David Franks,

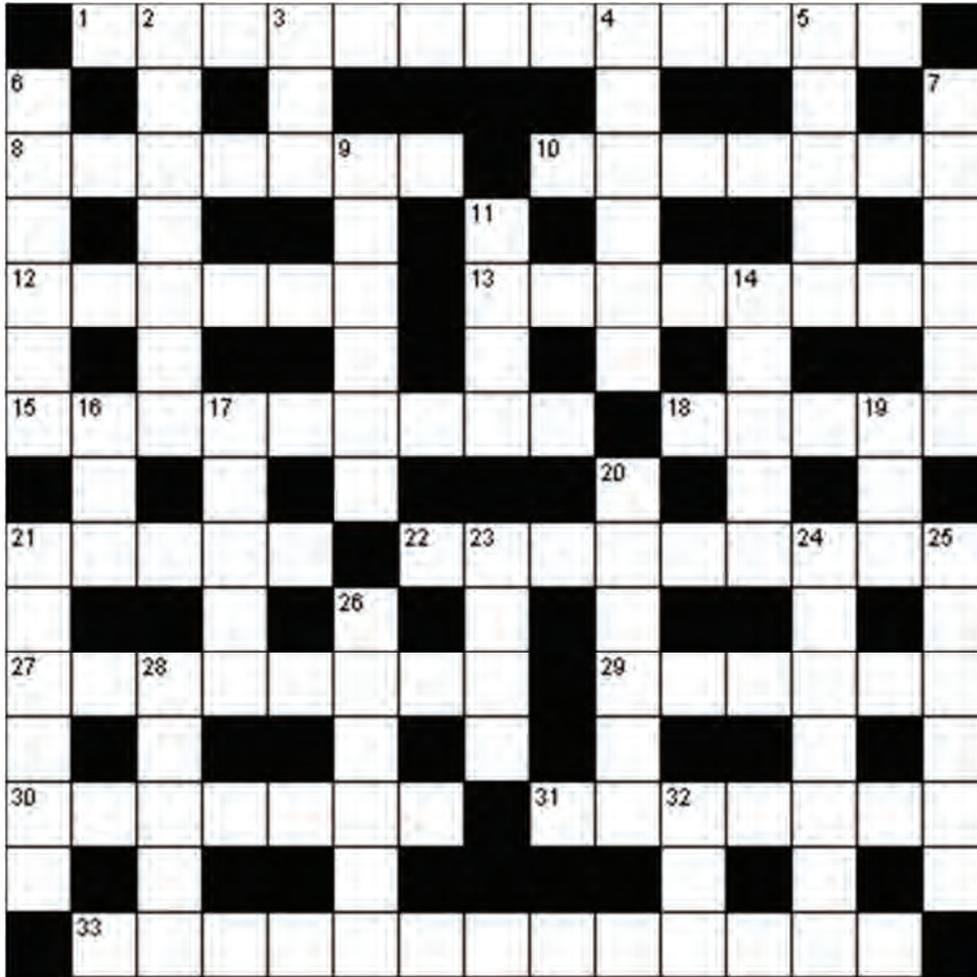
Chief Executive Officer.

Clues Across

July Crossword - No. 459

Clues Down

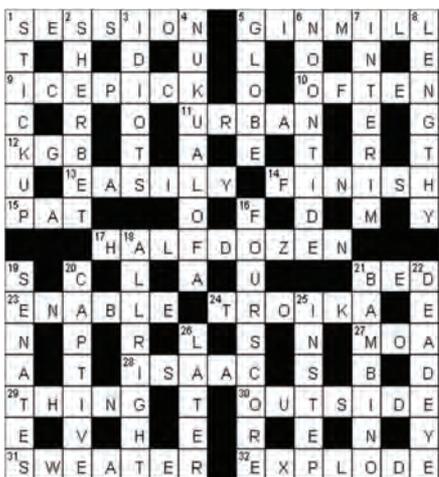
1. Treat by psychoanalysis (13)
8. Capital of Georgia (7)
10. Cavalry soldier (7)
12. Remember (6)
13. Rain containing industrial pollution (4,4)
15. Something obscene (9)
18. Burning gas (5)
21. Domesticates (5)
22. Loss of a ship (9)
27. Uneasy (8)
29. Experts (6)
30. Adhesive label (7)
31. Protection (7)
33. Donkey (5,2,6)



2. Chooses (7)
3. Study carefully (3)
4. Apprehensive (6)
5. Above (5)
6. Coiffure (6)
7. Son of the sovereign (6)
9. Tiles collectively (6)
11. Diplomacy (4)
14. Sovereign (5)
16. Fur scarf (3)
17. Defraud (5)
19. Family name prefix (3)
20. Bring up to date (6)
21. Shove (6)
23. Silence (4)
24. Expenditure (7)
25. Person who kisses (6)
26. Respectable (6)
28. Steeple (5)
32. In place of (3)



Answers to Crossword No 458



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No. 458 June

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Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

From 22/5/17 to 23/6/17 - information from Kildare County Council Website

App. Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	Application Date
17716	Kildare County Council	Kieran Kelly	5 Rockfield Rise, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	19/06/2017
17693	Kildare County Council	Adam Lyons	Greenfield Shopping Centre, Straffan Road, Maynooth	14/06/2017
17696	Kildare County Council	Eamon O' Flaherty	Unit 4 Maynooth Mall, Main Street, Maynooth	14/06/2017
17680	Kildare County Council	Rodisca Turcanu	House between 345-346a, Old Greenfield, Maynooth	12/06/2017
17677	Kildare County Council	Shaun & Orla Doherty	18 Temple Wood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth	09/06/2017
17673	Kildare County Council	Michael & Olivia Duggan	"Jaro", Maynooth Road, Celbridge	08/06/2017
17671	Kildare County Council	Moldovan Estates	Bistro 53 Restaurant, Main Street & Pound La, Maynooth	08/06/2017
17662	Kildare County Council	Sean & Mary Tuohy	No. 38 Maynooth Road, Celbridge, Co. Kildare	07/06/2017
17656	Kildare County Council	Deirdre Ward & Feargal Ward	Barrogstown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	06/06/2017
17649	Kildare County Council	Eamon O'Flaherty	Unit 4, Maynooth Mall, Main Street	02/06/2017
17639	Kildare County Council	Ian Barrett,	Straffan Road (R406), Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 D90H3.	01/06/2017
17630	Kildare County Council	John Hoare,	Catherinestown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	31/05/2017
17616	Kildare County Council	Roisin O'Flaherty,	Kilmacredock Upper, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	29/05/2017
17618	Kildare County Council	Pauline Dunne,	Clonfert South, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	29/05/2017

Difficult

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

Sudoku Challenge

July 2017

Entries must arrive before:
20th June

Super Difficult

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

**Congratulations to
June Winner:**

**Avril Fennessy
29 Railpark
Maynooth**

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

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

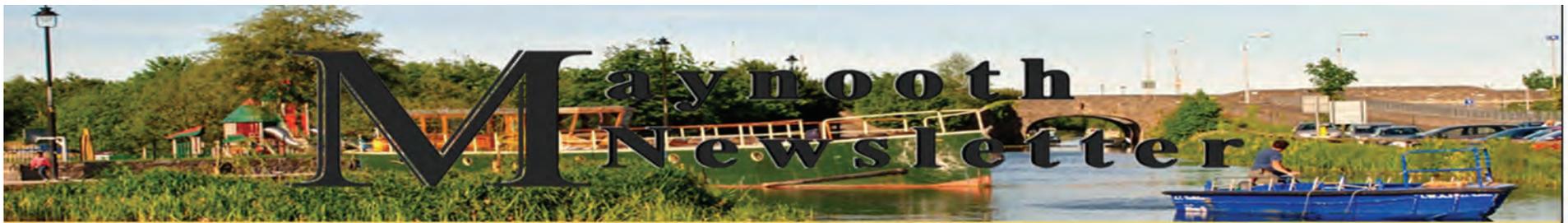
Send completed puzzles to
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Collect prize from Newsletter Office

Name: _____

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Bieber Fever As Justin Comes To Picaderos



Justin made a surprise visit to Picaderos Restaurant in Maynooth on Tuesday evening the 20th of June. Justin visited the Argentinean and Spanish eatery not once not twice but 3 times! The international popstar was with his body guard. Justin enjoyed a chicken tequila wrap with nachos and an Americano.

The Canadian singer has been renting out a luxurious House in the K Club Straffan for €20,000 per night. Justin preformed in the RDS Dublin on Wednesday the 21st of June as part of his Purpose World Tour. The singer again visited the Argentinean Grill and Spanish Restaurant in Maynooth the following day hours before his concert.

Justin then made one last visit to Picaderos on Thursday afternoon 22nd of June for a takeaway, before jetting off. Justin said "I love the food here and I will definitely be back the next time I visit Ireland".

How exciting!!!



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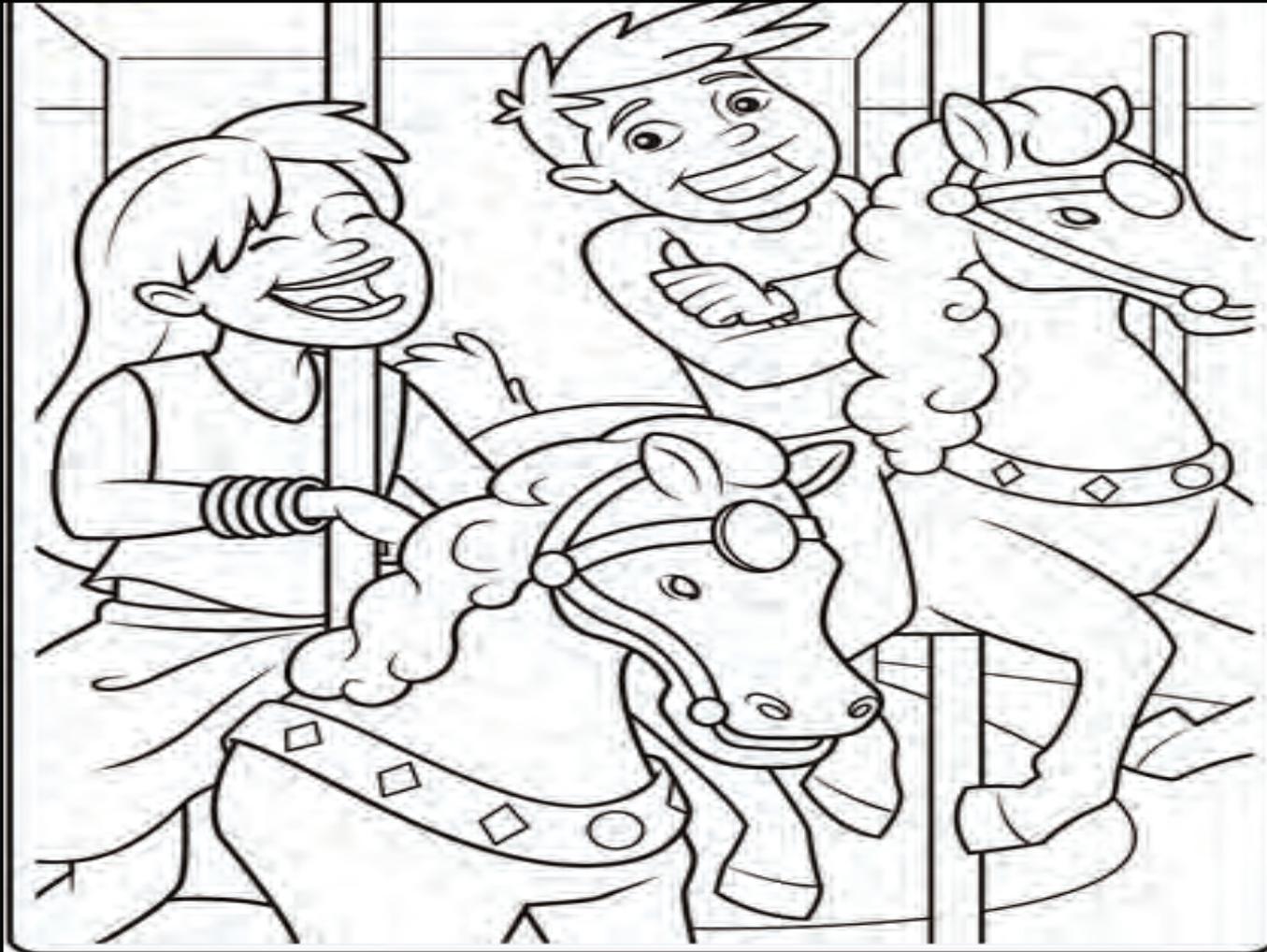
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Name: _____
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Last Month's Winner:

Aisling Webb
 18 The Greene
 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 18 April 2017

Junior Puzzle Corner



NAME THE SHAPE

Word Scrambles

DIRECTIONS: Write the name for each shape on the dotted line using the scrambled letters.

rcgeenatl

pengtano

brumohs



ecricl



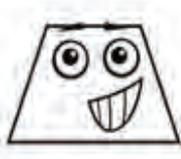
sreuqa



airtnle



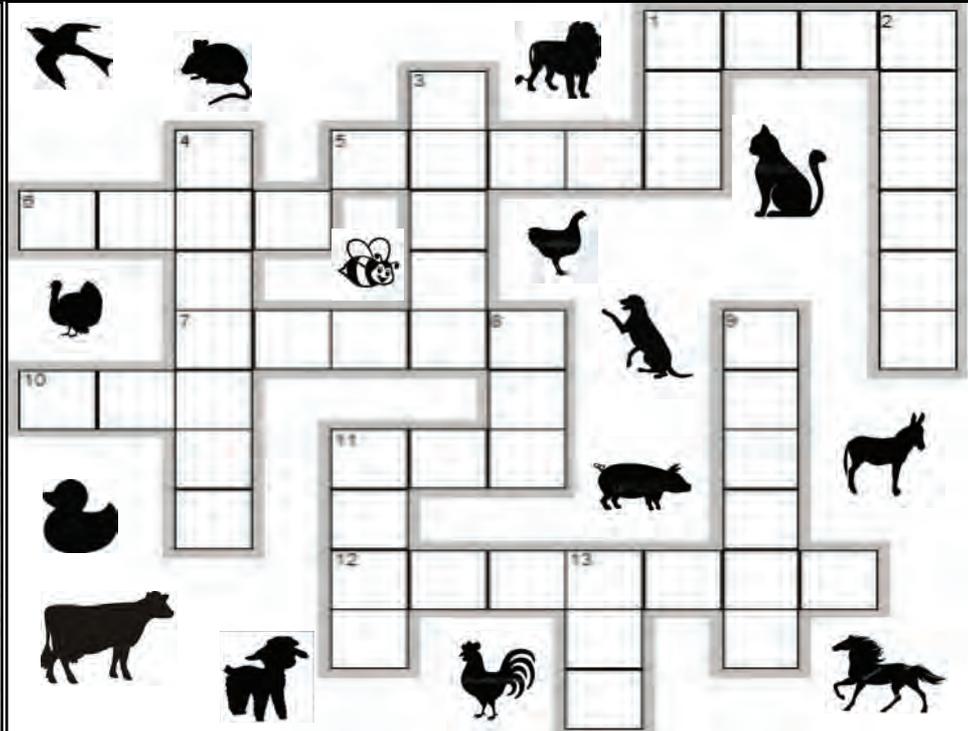
hnoaexg



piumeartz



gcotano



Across

- 1 Chirp, Chirp
- 5 Squeak, Squeak
- 6 Roar!!!!
- 7 Baa, Baaa
- 10 Meow, Meow
- 11 Woof, Woof
- 12 Cluck, Cluck

Down

- 1 Buzz, buzz
- 2 Hee-haw, Hee-haw
- 3 Neigh!
- 4 Cock-a-doodle-doo
- 8 Oink, oink
- 9 Gobble, gobble
- 11 Quack, quack
- 13 Moo, moo

Super Healthy Summer Recipes

Low Carb Turkey Lasagne

This is easy to make and is a guilt free delicious dish.

Ingredients:

2 courgettes
Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper
Coconut or rapeseed oil, for frying
1 large onion, chopped
4 garlic cloves, minced
20g fresh basil leaves, roughly torn
1½ tbsp dried oregano
600ml passata
1kg minced turkey breast
250g Greek Yoghurt
75g freshly grated Parmesan



Method:

Preheat the oven to 180°C. Slice the courgettes lengthways as thinly as you can, sprinkle them with some salt and set aside. Heat a little oil in a deep saucepan over a medium heat. Sauté the onion and garlic for about 10 minutes, until thickened slightly. Season with salt and pepper, then blend into a smooth sauce.

In a separate pan, heat a little more oil over a medium heat and add the minced turkey, using a spatula to break the mince into smaller pieces. Cook for 6 to 8 minutes, until browned. Transfer the cooked turkey mince to the tomato sauce with a slotted spoon and stir to combine. Pour the tomato sauce into a medium-sized rectangular baking dish. Prepare the cheese sauce by mixing the yoghurt and 50g of the grated Parmesan together in a small bowl.

To assemble the lasagne, put a layer of sliced courgettes on top of the tomato sauce in the base of the dish, then cover this layer with some of the cheese sauce. Sprinkle the remaining 25g of Parmesan on top. Bake for 30 minutes, until the lasagne is bubbling and the cheese on top is melted and golden brown. Remove from the oven and let the lasagne stand for 10-15 minutes before cutting.

Crispy Spinach and Feta Filo Pastry

This is a very tasty vegetarian option that makes a lovely lunch served with rocket salad.

Ingredients:

4 tbsp olive oil
1 onion, finely chopped
4 spring onions, finely chopped
300g baby spinach
225g feta cheese
2 large eggs
25g freshly grated Parmesan cheese
2 tbsp chopped fresh mint
Good pinch of freshly grated nutmeg
6 sheets of filo pastry, thawed if frozen
Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper
Cherry tomato, red onion and basil salad, to serve

Serves 4 - 6



Method:

Preheat the oven to 180°C. Heat 1 tablespoon of the oil in a pan over medium heat and add the onion. Sauté for a couple of minutes, until softened but not browned. Stir in the spring onions and cook for another minute. Add the spinach a handful at a time until it has all wilted down. Tip into a colander and press out any excess liquid, then cool. Crumble the feta cheese into a large bowl and lightly mash with a fork. Mix in the cooled spinach mixture, eggs, parmesan, mint and nutmeg. Season to taste. Unroll the filo pastry and brush a 20cm clip-sided or loose-based tin with a little of the oil. Lightly brush each sheet with a little of the oil and place in the tin, oiled side down, leaving the excess hanging over the edge. Rotate the tin a quarter turn after putting in each sheet.

Tip the filling into the tin and fold the excess pastry over the top, one sheet at a time, to give a ruffled effect. Brush any remaining oil on top. Bake for about 45 minutes, until crisp and golden brown. Remove from the oven and leave to settle for 5 minutes. Take the spinach and feta pie out of the tin and cut into slices. Arrange on plates with the cherry tomato, red onion and basil salad to serve.

July Gardening



If the weather is dry, there is no need to spray for blackspot disease of roses, but if it turns out wet, it is necessary to spray rose bushes, well into summer especially in the damper parts of the country. Early flowering shrub roses and ramblers that have now finished could be pruned. Water young trees and shrubs if they look like they need it, applying about twenty litres per plant at a time, if there is a dry spell of more than a week. Take cuttings of the soft growth of shrubs such as cistus, lavender, weigela and tree mallow. Layering can be used to raise a small number of plants - pin down a low-hanging shoot in good compost with a wire pin or a rock. It is time to clip hedges of all kinds before the wood gets tough. Any heavy cutting back of a hedge should be left until the start of the growing season next year. Take cuttings of shrubs, using soft shoots of the current year's new growth.

Pots and baskets need regular watering and feeding with liquid feed every two weeks or even every week to keep the plants going after the first flush of flowers. Remove seed heads of flowers that self-sow, such as foxgloves, aquilegia and libertia if this is not wanted as these can self-sow around the garden. Seeds of perennial flowers such as lupins, tickseed, mallows and foxgloves could be sown now for flowering next year. Perennial flowers are approaching their best time and many can be used as cut flowers for the house.



Keep up regular mowing, as growth has been good, but feed the grass if growth is poor or the colour is light. Use high-nitrogen lawn fertilizer during a wet spell but make sure more rain is on the way. If weeds have built up in the last few years, apply a lawn weedkiller during a fine spell when growth is active. Most lawns need weed control every three years or so as weeds re-establish from seeds in the ground. Do not water a lawn in dry weather - it is a waste of time and of water. If a lawn is pale or yellowish, it probably could do with feeding - lawns need to be fed at least twice each year. Taking the spring feeding in March/April as the first, most need a second one now. Feeding at this time is always a bit tricky because it will be counter-productive if the weather turns dry. Watch for rain on the way to make sure the fertilizer gets washed in.

Sow a batch of the salad vegetables that mature quickly, Chinese vegetables and some chard for next spring. Don't let weeds go to seed. Plant out winter cabbage varieties, if not already done. Continue to spray apple trees for apple scab, and pears for pear scab if it has appeared. Harvest herbs for winter use as they come ready by drying or freezing. The early varieties of potatoes will generally be used up before potato blight disease harms the tubers, later crops will need spraying in blight weather. Remove vegetables that have gone over and, to avoid gluts, try to use vegetables as soon as they are large enough. Make some late sowings of Chinese leaves, lettuce and radishes. If the soil is dry, some vegetables, notably peas, cauliflower and broccoli as well as cabbage might need watering. Sow spring cabbage seeds for planting out in September.



Where Flowers Bloom So Does Hope

FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

CANNES FILM FESTIVAL 2017



The Cannes Film Festival (*Festival de Cannes*) is 70 years old this year. The playground of the rich and famous, Cannes is situated in the French Riviera and has played host to film festivals since 1946. Second only in importance to the Oscars, it is a glittering star-filled event held in the month of May every year. The festival is an excellent opportunity to showcase mainstream and independent cinema.

During the early 1950s the film festival attracted a lot of press attention and notoriety with showbiz scandals and high-profile celebrity love affairs. However, Cannes increasingly became very important on the world stage for what it could do for a film's critical and commercial success.



The **Palme d'Or** is the highest prize awarded at the **Cannes Film Festival**. Classic films like **Brief Encounter**, **The Third Man**, **Taxi Driver**, **The Mission** and **Pulp Fiction** have all scooped the prestigious award. International Films and documentaries are given a preview either in or out of competition. The recent **Cannes Film Festival** was the most competitive yet with new work by Sofia Coppola, Todd Haynes, and festival regular Michael Haneke vying for the top prizes.

New Zealand director Jane Campion, (**The Piano**) the only woman to have won the **Palme d'Or**, presented all six episodes of her television series **Top of the Lake: China Girl**. David Lynch, a past winner of the top prize for **Wild at Heart**, was also at Cannes for the premiere of his follow-up to the 1990s cult TV series **Twin Peaks**. Clint Eastwood, president of the jury in 1994, presented a restored edition of his classic film **Unforgiven** and took part in a "70th Anniversary Masterclass" with the distinguished critic Kenneth Turan.



Irish talent has been highlighted at previous festivals. Lenny Abrahamson's 2007 rural Irish drama **Garage** won the **CICA E Art and Essai Cinema Prize** at Cannes. The WW2 Resistance drama **Anthropoid**, starring Cillian Murphy and Jamie Dornan, had its debut at the festival last year. Our own Catriona Balfe (of **Outlander** fame) graced the red carpet alongside George Clooney and Julia Roberts at the world premiere of **Money Monster** in 2016.

This year was no exception. There was very good news for the Irish film industry with Yorgos Lanthimos and

Efthymis Filippou winning best screenplay for the highly anticipated, disturbing psychological thriller, **The Killing of a Sacred Deer**. The film reunites director Yorgos Lanthimos with **The Lobster** star Colin Farrell. Element Pictures financed the film in Dublin with backing from the Irish Film Board. Colin Farrell stars as a surgeon forced to make an unthinkable sacrifice after his life starts to fall apart and the behaviour of a teenage boy he has taken under his wing turns sinister.

Nicole Kidman co-stars with Farrell in **The Killing of a Sacred Deer**. The film was received very well at Cannes and considered a frontrunner for the **Palme d'Or**.



The renowned Austrian director Michael Haneke's last two films at Cannes both won the **Palme d'Or**: **The White Ribbon** in 2009 and **Amour** in 2012. His first new film in five years, **Happy End** was expected to be just as successful. However, Sophia Coppola's feminist drama, **The Beguiled** (whose quirky **Marie Antoinette** was very popular at Cannes in 2006) pipped the great Michael Haneke to the post with the best director prize.

Colin Farrell again co-stars with Kidman and Kirsten Dunst in **The Beguiled**. A steamy emotional drama set during the American Civil War which director Don Siegel previously filmed in decidedly more masculine terms in the 1970s. Farrell takes on the role of a stranger in a house of women originally played by Clint Eastwood in Siegel's film.



It has some very melodramatic moments and great comic flourishes and it is a highly entertaining, watchable Hollywood picture – the single mainstream Hollywood film in competition, Ms Coppola is the first woman to take the director gong since the Soviet director Yuliya Solntseva back in 1961.

Some of the other Irish films seeking international recognition were Aoife McArdle's **Kissing Candice**, Stephen Burke's **Maze** and Tom Ryan's attractive romantic comedy **Twice Shy**.

On closing night, the **Palme d'Or** went to Ruben Östlund's stylish Swedish satire **The Square**. It beat 18 other competitors to claim the main prize. It is a rather long film at 140 minutes with striking set-pieces about

an ambitious art gallery director who suffers a kind of suppressed breakdown when his phone is stolen and subtly displaces his angst out into the "community" of the gallery itself.

The Square is a quirky, poignant film with moments of black comedy and its easy to see the appeal to a jury comprised of many languages, backgrounds. Something for everyone. Östlund is the first Swedish director to win the top prize since Alf Sjöberg back in 1951.

Lynne Ramsay's **You Were Never Really Here** is a



stunning, violent crime drama delving into the nightmarish world and mental torment of its central character. The film has distinct echoes of De Niro's Travis Bickle in **Taxi Driver** Many were hoping that Ramsay would get the **Palme d'Or** and become only the second woman director to do so. As it was, her film garnered best actor for Joaquin Phoenix, and shared the screenplay prize with **The Killing of a Sacred Deer**.



Phoenix plays a troubled ex-Gulf War soldier employed by an ambitious politician to rescue his teenage daughter from a trafficking ring, when things go terribly wrong. It is a very powerful performance from the always watchable Joaquin, displaying a haggard, exhausted, bearded exterior to the world he barely inhabits. He was a deserving winner of the Best Actor prize.

The actor seemed genuinely surprised at his win and apologised to the assembled audience for wearing Converse sneakers with his tuxedo to the ceremony! One of Phoenix's next projects will be the role of Jesus in Garth Davis' **Mary Magdalene**.

Other performances of note at the 70th **Cannes Film Festival** included Robert Pattinson's very charismatic performance in bank-heist film **Good Time**. Ben Stiller was also excellent in Noah Baumbach's comedy **The Meyerowitz Stories**, which itself had a shot at best screenplay. Other winners at the ceremony included Nicole Kidman, who picked up Cannes' 70th anniversary award after she had three films and one TV series premiere at this year's festival.





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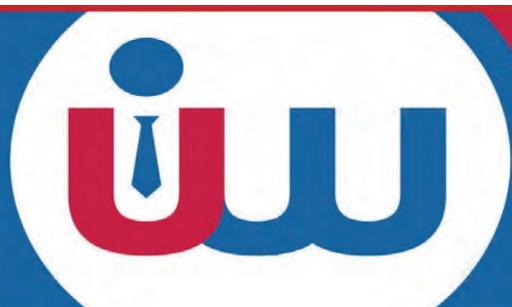
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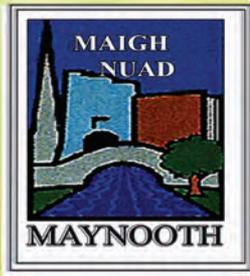


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Maynooth Newsletter



Serving the people of Maynooth



August 2017 Local News Issue No. 460 FREE

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



Maynooth Summer Festival 2017



Fun for all the Family

This year we had 2 days of fun, food, art, dance and music. The Square came alive with an artisan market on Saturday afternoon and we had entertainment from the Peelo School of Dance, Fierce Pole Fitness, Rita Doyle School of Dance and Firmsmile Zumba. All ages turned up to see the energetic performances and cheer on the local participants. All the performers taking part are local to Maynooth and gave a real flavour of the classes and fitness programmes available throughout the year.



Kila and Liam Ó Maonlaí bring Celtic song to the Castle

With a fantastic line up of music over the 2 days Kila and Liam O'Maonlaí headlined a concert of brilliantly balanced musical acts. With Hoodoo Realin providing some reggae and vintage sounds, Beatrix Nova and Tia Burke gave girl power a new name, Markas Carcas and the Trail Gang and Maynooth's own Witches Rave bringing eclectic guitar based original tunes, The Rockers and Heroes from Mars giving us some tribute sounds of Thin Lizzy and David Bowie and a good dose of the Blues from Colm Swirbat and Blind Wolf Club.



Thank you to our Main Sponsors

Huge thanks goes out to our Sponsors without whom the Festival would not go ahead.

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Sunday Brunch in the Square

Sunday Afternoon in The Square saw a collaboration between the Festival and Events Team and Picaderos Restaurant to bring an Art exhibition and Brunch, with Paella made fresh on the Square by Picaderos and music and dance by Picaderos own flamenco band.

Our Festival and Events Team

Maynooth Festival and Events team have worked tirelessly this year to bring you the Summer festival and entertaining fundraisers such as the Easter Egg Hunt and Maynooth's Got Talent. Jacqueline Farrell, Heather Ferguson, Susan

Durack, Catherine O'Riordan, Elaine McDonald, Robert Hogan and Lee Riordan.

Volunteers Make the Festival Possible

A fantastic team of volunteers helped to make the 2 days of festival fun possible. Members of the local community came together and were led by volunteer supervisors Elaine Bean and Melanie Oliver.



Sunday Miscellany – St. Mary's Church of Ireland

Sunday 2nd July saw a sizeable number of local writers and musicians assemble in the wonderful venue of St. Mary's Church of Ireland. The event began at 3pm with a view to finishing at 5pm. Members of the North Kildare Writers' Group that included a number of people from the Maynooth area, Members of Maynooth Local History Group and members of the Celbridge Writers' Group also came along to take part.



The readings from 18 speakers included a wide range of topics from childhood memories to contemporary comedy pieces and many other subjects. Musical interludes added to the interest and variety of the programme. Beautiful organ music was provided from Church of Ireland organist Gene Carr, there were beautiful renditions on the harp by Alana Thornburgh and music and song from Little Lighthouse musicians Pete McCluskey, Ania Stempel and Eithne Bean.



The event was well attended and enjoyed by all. It provided a quiet, reflective space where people could come and share their creativity. The response to the event and its success was evident in that it overran its time allowance.

We would like to thank Rev. Janice Aiton of St. Mary's Church of Ireland community for allowing the use of the church which is a wonderful venue for the miscellany. We extend our thanks to Cherry Prendergast who looked after use so well. We also thank Peter Nevin for his role as Master of Ceremonies and as one of the participants who spoke about historical aspects and connections with St. Mary's Church of Ireland. A very special thank you has to go to Hilda Dunne who began organising this event a number of years ago and continues to do so for the Festival. Thanks to her organisational skills, Hilda pulled it all together effortlessly.

The event brought people together from the community which is an important aspect of the Festival and one that the Festival and Events Committee continue to support and encourage. A big thank you to all who gave of their time and talent to make this such a successful and enjoyable miscellany.



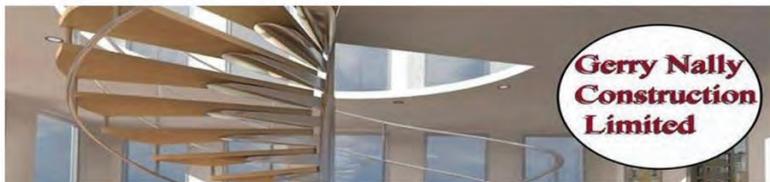
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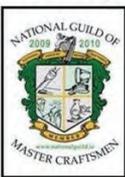
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WEDNESDAY 20TH SEPT

EXPERT GUEST SPEAKERS REPRESENTING EACH REGION

4 COURSE TAPAS PAIRING MENU

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COMPETITION ON THE NIGHT:
WIN A WINE VINEYARD TRIP TO RIBERA DEL DUERO FOR 2PPL

Family FUN DAY
Sunday 20th August
12.00 pm - 5:00 pm

in aid of the
Lorna Byrne Children's Foundation
at Wallaby Woods,
Derryvarogue, Donadea, Naas, Co. Kildare

Guided animal tours, entertainment, games, obstacle course and meet & greet with author Lorna Byrne

Bring a picnic!

LORNA BYRNE
Children's Foundation

Wallaby Woods
Donadea

Family of 4 €35 - Family of 5 €40 - Per person €10 (& booking fee)
Tickets from www.lornabyrne.com or in person at Wallaby Woods

A New Book on: Irish-Soviet Diplomatic and Friendship Relations 1917-1991 by Michael Quinn



Michael Quinn was a member of the Connolly Youth Movement in the 1970s, and Youth Officer of the County Kildare Constituency Council of the Labour Party in the 1980s. He was the founding Chair of the Maynooth Local History Group, and of the James Connolly Memorial Initiative. The Initiative commissioned the sculptor, the late Eamonn O'Doherty, to erect the memorial to James Connolly in Beresford Place, opposite Liberty Hall, Dublin, to coincide with the eightieth anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising. In 2014 Michael was awarded a PhD at the Department of History, Maynooth University for his thesis on the subject of Irish-Soviet diplomatic and

friendship relations. This book is an adaption and expansion of that thesis. He works as a Finance Administrator in the community and voluntary sector, and is a member of SIPTU.

Available at the Maynooth Bookshop.

OCCASIONS HAIRDRESSERS REACHES FINALS OF PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL AWARDS



Aisling Byrne of **Occasions Hairdressing** is celebrating after being named a finalist in the **Supreme Team** category of UK and Irish hairdressing competition – the **Most Wanted Awards**.

This is the second time Irish salons have been eligible to enter the Most Wanted Awards, already established as the most stylish and influential hair industry awards in the UK. And now, thanks to an impressive display of skill, dedication and talent, **Aisling Byrne** has secured a place at the Most Wanted Grand Final on Monday 4 September 2017, hosted by comedian Katherine Ryan at London’s historic Guildhall.

Judged by influential names in hair, fashion, business and the media – including George Northwood, hairdresser to Alexa Chung and Rosie Huntington-Whiteley, Vogue beauty editor Lauren Murdoch-Smith, and the founders of BeautyMART, Millie Kendall MBE and Anna-Marie Solowij – the Most Wanted Awards celebrate the outstanding individuals, teams and salons that make UK and Irish hairdressing the best in the world.

Presented by leading industry magazines Creative HEAD and Creative HEAD Ireland, the Most Wanted Awards comprise 14 categories, each recognising excellence across a multitude of disciplines, from business acumen and customer service to creative skill and technical ability.

When the winners are announced on Monday 4 September, they will each be given the hairdressing industry’s greatest seal of approval – a Most Wanted Trophy. They will also enjoy an exclusive prize courtesy of their category sponsor and receive editorial coverage in Creative HEAD Ireland and its associated titles and websites, resulting in global exposure.

“I’ve been so impressed with this year’s entries,” commented Catherine Handcock, Publisher of Creative HEAD. “We have an exceptionally strong line-up of finalists who, together, demonstrate a wealth of skills, innovation and forward-thinking that is very exciting to see. All our finalists are brilliant at what they do – now let’s look forward to the Grand Final to discover the overall winners.”

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Curves

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Light Entertainment Every Weekend

Friday night Music in Bar 9pm

Saturday night Music in Lounge 9pm

Sunday evening Music in Lounge from 6.30pm

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Our Thanks to the following Businesses who generously donated prizes for the Taste of Maynooth Raffle & Summer Festival 2017

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



Alainn Beauty Rooms Unit 8 Glenroyal S.C Maynooth	Allure Beauty Salon 2 Mill Street Maynooth	An Siopa Milseán Main Street Maynooth	Avenue Café Café - Restaurant - Bar Main Street Maynooth	Becks Beauty Salon Court House Square Maynooth	Brady's Clockhouse Bar & Lounge Main Street Maynooth
Brid Feely DNG Main Street Maynooth	Bistro 53 Main Street Maynooth	Bruce Betting Main Street Maynooth	Café Bon Bon 5 Mill Street Maynooth	Coffee Lounge Mill Street Maynooth	Coffee Mill Mill Street Maynooth
Coynes Butchers Tesco S.C. Maynooth	Cut n' Style Hair Salon Centre Point S.C Main Street Maynooth	Dawson's Menswear Main Street Maynooth	Finesse Fitness Studio Leinster Street Maynooth	Garry Print Clonagh Maynooth	Glenroyal Home Care Glenroyal S.C. Maynooth
Hickey's Pharmacy Manor Mills S.C. Maynooth	Holland & Barrett Manor Mills S.C. Maynooth	Maynooth Jewellers Main Street Maynooth	Maynooth Office Supplies Dublin Road Maynooth	McCormack's Pharmacy Main Street Maynooth	McMahon's Bar & Lounge Main Street Maynooth
Mezz Manor Mills S.C. Maynooth	Mizzoni Main Street Maynooth	Mulcahy's Butcher Greenfield S.C. Maynooth	Occasion Hairdressing Tesco S.C. Maynooth	Paddy Power Main Street Maynooth	Picaderos Restaurant Main Street Maynooth
Player1 Gaming Manor Mills S.C. Maynooth	Salon 91 Dillon's Row Dunboyne Road Maynooth	Stone Haven Restaurant Mill Street Maynooth	Tansey's Deli Parson Street Maynooth	The Elite Bakery Main Street Maynooth	The Gatehouse Parson Street Maynooth
The Glass Doll Court House Square Maynooth	The Rye Gallery Main Street Maynooth	The Zip Yard Main Street Maynooth	The Staff of Maynooth Castle (OPW)	Maynooth Branch Royal Canal Amenity Group	The Staff of Kildare County Council Maynooth Office

Taste of Maynooth Prize Winners:

Winners of 5 fabulous prize packages were:

Pat Watson, Tony Byrne, Michelle Farrell, Ger Durack & Tymon Malak

All Prizes have been claimed



Thanks to the businesses who took part in the "Service Person Of The Year" in support of the Festival. Congratulations To Anthony Tyrell from Brady's Clock House who came out on top with the most votes.

Congratulations also to Tia and Eanna on winning the "Maynooth's Got Talent" competition and well done to all who took part in this event.

Maynooth's Got Talent Winners Tia & Eanna

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth

Know Your Rights has been compiled by Citizens Information Service which provides a free and confidential service to the public. Information is also available online at www.citizensinformation.ie and from the Citizens Information Phone Service - 0761 07 4000 or Lo-call 1890777121

Help with school costs

Question

I am the parent of a four-year-old daughter who will start Primary School in September. My only income is from my One-Parent Family Payment and €90 I get each week from a part-time job. I don't get maintenance and I'm worried about the extra costs involved in sending my daughter to school. Is there State help available?

Answer

As you are getting a social welfare payment, you may be entitled to the Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance (BSCFA) to help meet the cost of your daughter's school uniform and footwear, as long as your weekly income is below a certain level.

You are currently receiving a One-Parent Family Payment of €222.80 (including a child payment) and earning €90, so your weekly income is €312.80, which is below the income limit of €418.10 for a lone parent with one child and will entitle you to BSCFA. The BSCFA payment this year is €125 for a qualified child aged 4–11 years.

The Department of Social Protection pays BSCFA automatically in many cases. If you haven't already received a letter from them, you will need to apply by 30 September 2017. Application forms are available on the Department's website, welfare.ie, or from your local Intreo Centre or Social Welfare Branch Office. A form can also be requested by SMS (text message) by texting 'Form BTSCFA' followed by your name and address to 51909 or by emailing the Department at BSCFA@welfare.ie.

The Department of Education and Skills also runs a School Books Grant Scheme which is available to State-funded schools to help with the cost of school books. Some schools will help with the cost of buying textbooks or run a Textbook Rental Scheme. You should contact your daughter's school principal to find out if this option is available at her new school. You can get detailed information on the Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance on citizensinformation.ie.

Help with paying the rent

Question

We are on the local authority's housing list, but for now we need to find private rented accommodation and get help with the rent. Should we apply for Rent Supplement or the new Housing Assistance Payment?

Answer

People on the local authority's housing list should no longer apply for Rent Supplement. You can apply for the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) instead.

HAP is a form of social housing support for people with a long-term housing need. Since 1 March 2017, it has been available nationwide.

The HAP scheme aims to allow all social housing supports to be accessed through one body – the local authority – and to enable people to take up full-time employment and keep their housing support.

Under HAP, you find your own private rented accommodation. 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. Flexibility is provided for people who cannot find suitable accommodation within these rent limits. The Homeless HAP Pilot in Dublin offers further flexibility for homeless people.

You won't pay the rent to the landlord yourself. You will pay a rent contribution to the local authority through the HAP Shared Services Centre, which manages HAP payments on behalf of all local authorities and will pay the rent directly to your landlord. The rent contribution you pay will be based on your income and your ability to pay – like with a local authority differential rent.

If you are getting a social welfare payment at a post office, you must pay your rent contribution 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.

Passport renewal

Question

I have booked a family holiday and checked my passport to make sure it's still valid. It is, but it's due to expire a couple of weeks before I travel. How can I make sure that I can get a new one in time?

Answer

You don't have to wait until the expiry of your passport to renew it. If you apply for a new passport before your current one has expired, the period that your new passport is valid for begins from when you apply, rather than from when your previous passport expires.

The website of the Passport Service, passport.ie, lists the current average processing times for different types of passport applications. The quickest way to renew your passport is by using the online application service, which was introduced earlier this year. You can use the online service if your passport expires any time in the next 12 months.

You must submit a digital photo with your application. You can get a friend to take your photo with a digital camera or smartphone or you can go to a photo provider, for example a pharmacy or a photographer, who will give you a copy of your digital photo to upload. Alternatively, you can go to one of the photo booth services listed on passport.ie, which will take your photo and provide you with a code. If you enter this code when you apply, you don't need to upload the photo yourself.

Online renewal isn't available for children's passports, so if you wanted to renew your family's passports together, you would have to use Passport Express, the postal application service. Alternatively, you could renew your own passport online and use

Passport Express for renewing any passports for children.

When you get your new passport you can set a renewal reminder. The passport.ie website offers a passport reminder service, which will send you an email three months before the passport expires.

Springboard

Question

I've been at home caring for my children for a number of years. I want to return to work. Can I get help to develop my skills so that I am more employable?

Answer

Springboard provides places on courses from certificate, to degree, to post-graduate level – Levels 6 to 9 on the National Framework of Qualifications. There are many different courses available that lead to qualifications in areas where there are employment opportunities. Most of the courses last for one year or less.

If you are a homemaker with a previous history of employment you don't have to be getting a social welfare payment to qualify for Springboard. To qualify, you must have been a homemaker for a minimum of 12 months prior to your Springboard application and be ordinarily resident in the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland for at least three of the five years before your entry to Springboard.

You must also provide supporting documentation to show you meet these requirements. You can do this by signing a declaration before a Commissioner for Oaths, attesting to your status. Further information about this is available on springboardcourses.ie.

Most of the courses start in September. Details on available courses and eligibility are on springboardcourses.ie. You do not have to pay course fees or charges while you are unemployed. To apply for a Springboard course, you choose the course(s) you are interested in on springboardcourses.ie and apply online, following the instructions on the website. If Springboard doesn't meet your needs, you can find information about other ways to go back to education on citizensinformation.ie.

**St Jude Thaddeus relative of Jesus & Mary
patron of hopeless cases.
Thanks for many favours.**

Jacko

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

Jacko

Maynooth Labour News

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

Cllr. McGinley Calls for Improvements in the Operation of the Children's Playground in Maynooth

"Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 12 July:

In relation to the safe operation of the Maynooth Playground:

- Can it be closed at night to prevent the anti-social element from entering it?
- Can CCTV be put there?
- Can someone clean it each morning?
- Can toilet facilities be put there? If not, can the council get the agreement of the scouts in the Geraldine Hall for the use of their toilets?"

John was given the following unsatisfactory reply by Council Officials:

"Maynooth playground is currently cleaned and inspected 3 times a week by a contractor. During the winter, it is cleaned and inspected once a week. We do not have the resources to extend the maintenance of the playground beyond this. If the current arrangements are to be extended we need greater cooperation from the community to do this as we have in other playgrounds in the county. In relation to CCTV we installed a trial system in Celbridge Playground a number of years ago but it was not successful as we were unable to monitor and maintain the system or identify individuals from footage. Additionally, the cameras became the target for antisocial behaviour. The best solution we have had to antisocial issues in playgrounds is more community involvement. Regarding toilet facilities, we will contact the scouts in relation to the use of their facilities"

Unfortunately, the Council's Parks Superintendent was on holidays so he could not answer Cllr. McGinley's further questions i.e.

- What is meant by more community involvement?
- CCTV is the best deterrent, even the sign itself acts as a deterrent
- Cllr. McGinley has asked the Gardai to make regular night patrols there. Can the Council also ask them to do so?

The Director of Services gave an undertaking to have a comprehensive response for the next MD meeting.

Cllr. McGinley Asks for Laurence Avenue to be Resurfaced

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 12 July:

"That the road at Laurence Avenue, Maynooth be resurfaced as it is in very poor condition."

John was given the following highly unsatisfactory reply:

The Municipal District Engineer confirms that there are no works currently planned for this location.

Cllr. McGinley asks for the Plastic Bottles, Cans, Supermarket Trolleys and Other litter to be Removed from the Canal:

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 12 July:

"Can the council ask Waterways Ireland to take the litter, cans and bottles out of the Royal Canal at Mullen Bridge, Maynooth Harbour and at Bond Bridge?"

John got the following response from the Council:

"The Environment Section will request that Waterways Ireland undertake a local clean up and to continue to monitor the area."

Unfortunately, Waterways Ireland removed the algae and litter at the same time and dumped all on the canal bank. The two supermarket trolleys were back in the canal within three days and all of the other cans and bottles will eventually end up in the canal. The Environmental Section of the Council have advised Cllr. McGinley that if Waterways Ireland liaises with them, they will remove the litter if it is left on the canal bank separate from the algae.

A Great Day for Maynooth as Sod Turned on Education Campus

Emmet Stagg and Cllr. John McGinley were delighted to attend the Official Sod Turning on Monday July 10th by the Minister for Education and Skills Richard Bruton T.D. for the Maynooth Education Campus on the Moyglare Road, Maynooth.

Mr. Stagg stated that it was a great day for the people of Maynooth and for education in the town. By May 2019 we will have 2 new State of the Art 1,000 Pupil Post Primary Schools and a shared Sports Facility at the Maynooth Education Campus. The Contractors for the project the Sammon Group are well established in the Education Sector both here and abroad and are based in Kilcock.

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg congratulated everybody involved in bringing the project to this stage including the Maynooth Education Campus Parent Teacher Association, the Principals of the Schools Johnny Nevin and Siobhan McCauley, the Boards of Management, KWETB, the Department of Education and most importantly the people of Maynooth.

Further Allocation of 10 Gardaí to Kildare Division

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has been advised By Human Resources at Garda Headquarters that an additional 10 Probationary Gardaí were assigned to the Kildare Division on Monday July 24th, 7 being assigned to Naas Garda Station and 3 to Newbridge Garda Station.

Whilst welcoming the additional gardai Mr. Stagg stated that the allocation of 10 probationers to the Kildare Division out of 198 probationers who graduated on July 6th will not improve the under-manning of Garda Resources in the Kildare Division. In effect it is maintaining the historical undermanning. Just 5% of probationers were allocated this time whilst Kildare has 4.7% of the State's Population. Kildare received 6.6% of probationer gardai who graduated last November, so the fall in the allocation to the Kildare Division is disappointing.

This will bring Garda Numbers to 339 in the Kildare Division or a ratio of 1 garda for every 655 people in Kildare. The total number of Garda Recruits allocated to the Kildare Division since April 2015 is 60.

Mr. Stagg stated that if we are to make serious inroads into the under-manning in Kildare we need to be getting a much higher number of probationary gardai and there needs to be a concerted effort to transfer gardai into the Kildare Division.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that he would contact the Minister for Justice and the Garda Commissioner to re-stress the opportunity once and for all to give us the Garda numbers we deserve whilst the force is being expanded Nationally.

Discussions Ongoing over Accommodation Options for North Kildare Gaelcholaiste

Emmet Stagg has again raised with the Minister for Education the issue of the securing of accommodation for the North Kildare Gaelcholaiste in Maynooth, which is due to open in 2019.

The Minister advised Mr. Stagg that he understood that a range of issues relating to the opening of the Gaelcholaiste are being discussed by Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board and An Foras Patrúnachta, who are the joint patrons of the Gaelcholaiste. The Minister reiterated that his Department would continue to work closely with both bodies in relation to the provision of appropriate accommodation for the establishment of the school.

The Maynooth Education Campus stated Mr. Stagg is due for completion in May, 2019, so the old Maynooth Post Primary School is an obvious choice for the Gaelcholaiste.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that he would continue to press the Minister on this issue to ensure that the Gaelcholaiste opens on time in 2019.

Streetscape in Maynooth Must Be Protected - Stagg

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has lodged a submission with Kildare Co. Council in relation to the planning application for a New Restaurant and Apartment to the Rear of Bistro 53 facing onto Pound Lane, with particular reference to the flat roof design proposed which would be out of character with development in the area.

Mr. Stagg in his submission stated whilst he welcomed the proposal to develop the area with the prospect of a further 20 jobs in the new restaurant, and the fact that the area is unsightly at present, he felt that the design of the front elevation facing onto Pound Lane should have a pitched roof in keeping with the streetscape. The proposed design would set an undesirable precedent and would not be in accordance with the many policies contained in the Maynooth Local Area Plan 2013-2019 which seek to protect the physical environment and streetscape.

Mr. Stagg suggested that the applicants be asked to revisit the design of the proposed front elevation of the development with a view to protecting the streetscape with the provision of a pitched roof.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that it was important that the Council act in the interests on the Maynooth Community by protecting the streetscape from inappropriate development.

Stagg Lodges Observations in Support of Intel Planning

Emmet Stagg has lodged Observations with An Bord Pleanála in support of the original decision by Kildare Co. Council to grant planning permission to Intel for a Modified new chip Manufacturing Facility at its Leixlip Headquarters.

Two third Party appeals were lodged with An Bord Pleanála against the Council's decision to grant planning permission on May 2nd last.

In his Observations Mr. Stagg stated that the proposed development was smaller in scale from that already adjudicated upon by An Bord Pleanála in 2013; that the proposed development complied with the policies and objectives of the Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023 and the current and proposed Leixlip Local Area Plans; that the proposal provides for the expansion

(Continued on page 9)

Maynooth Labour News (Cont.)

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

(Continued from page 8)

of an established industrial activity on a site zoned Industrial and Warehousing; that the Environmental Impact Statement submitted with the application adequately deals with many of the issues raised in the appeals; that the design of the proposed development when taken in conjunction with specified mitigation measures will not impact on the integrity of the Rye River Valley/Cartron SAC; and that the transportation department of the Council examined the proposal in detail and put down stringent conditions to mitigate the impacts on traffic movements on the surrounding road network, during the construction phase and post construction.

Mr. Stagg stated that the development comprises revised design of a previously permitted Manufacturing Facility and utility support buildings to ensure that the Intel Site has the capacity to manufacture the latest Semiconductor Technology in its bid to secure an estimated \$4 Billion new Chip Manufacturing facility at Leixlip. Intel's corporate parent has yet to decide to proceed with the proposed new plant and Intel in Leixlip are competing with other locations, most notably Israel to land the investment.

Mr. Stagg stated that the need for the revised planning permission stemmed from a change in the standard design of Intel's manufacturing plants, known as Fabs.

It is envisaged that 3,000 people would be employed in construction for 3 years and when operational the plant would have 850 permanent jobs on site. To date Intel have invested \$12.5 Billion at its Leixlip Plant between

Buildings and Process Equipment, which is a major investment not just in Leixlip and Co. Kildare but the State overall.

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that a decision is due on the appeal by September 27th and granting planning permission will reinforce Intel Leixlip as a Centre of World Excellence in the Knowledge Based Economy.

Stagg Calls for Additional Community Support Funding for Dementia Sufferer's in Budget 2018

Having attended the Alzheimer's Society of Ireland's Pre-Budget Submission launch on Thursday 29th June Labour Spokesperson for Older People Emmet Stagg has called for support for the Society's request for an increased allocation of €40 Million in the 2018 Budget to provide additional Intensive Home Care Packages for citizens suffering from Dementia, and for the appointment of back up advisers and co-ordinators to support individuals suffering from Dementia and their families.

There are now some 55,000 people with Dementia in Ireland and the choice of all are that they be given the resources to stay in their own homes, with their families and in their own Community. Over 34,000 Dementia Sufferers live at home. The emphasis on funding he said should be on Home Care and only on Long-Term Residential Care when that was the only option.

'I want to support the Alzheimer Society of Ireland in their demand that funding of €35 Million be provided for Home Care for people in the early to mid-stages of dementia and those with complex care needs. In addition

Dementia Advisers and Dementia Care Coordinators are required throughout the State to support families in their quest to keep loved ones in the Community. The cost of providing the advisers and care coordinators is estimated at €5 Million.

'I will be raising this matter with the Labour Party Spokesperson on Health Deputy Alan Kelly to have it pursued in the Dail ahead of the 2018 Budget'. Mr. Stagg concluded 'The right of people to stay in their own home where they desire to be should be resourced and will also prove to be more cost efficient in providing the necessary care'.

Stagg Commends SeniorLine

Attending the relaunch of the Senior Help Line as SeniorLine on June 27th in Buswells Hotel, Dublin, Labour Spokesperson on Older People Emmet Stagg commended the National Confidential LoCall Listening Service for Older People which received over 10,000 calls last year.

Mr. Stagg stated that the new LoCall number is 1800 80 45 91 and the trained older volunteers who operate the service are there to give older people a point of contact, to simply have a chat, or to give advice if older people are worried about something. The Lines are open Every Day from 10 am to 10 pm. It's a confidential service and the volunteers are specially trained to deal with low key and more serious issues faced daily by older people.

Mr. Stagg continued that there are unfortunately older people who are lonely or worried and I would encourage them to ring 1800 80 45 91 where you will be treated with compassion and care by trained older volunteers.

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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 for this special one (mention favour). Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart, where your Father sees it, then it will become your favour not mine. Say this prayer for three days, promise publication and favour will be granted no matter how impossible.

Never known to fail.

Thanksgiving for favour received RD

MATHS AND ACCOUNTING GRINDS

Do you need help in Accounting at Accounting Technician or similar level - in your own home? Also Project Maths at Leaving or Junior Cert. level.

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

For Leaving Cert HIGHER Level there is a reduced charge for August.

First lesson/discussion free.
Text or Phone Rory at
087 6751169



I.C.A. Maynooth Guild

A Garden Party was held in An Grianán on the 7th July and several members of our guild went and had a most enjoyable day.

For the past six weeks members have been very busy making crafts for the Festival which sold well. This money will go towards new windows for our ICA Hall.

Crafts will continue on Monday nights and will finish at the end of July. They will recommence in September.

New members will be welcome in September. We look forward to them bringing new ideas. Everyone is invited to come down and then make up their minds if they want to join.

Hall is rentable at a reasonable cost.
Heather Mc Weeney

James Lawless T.D. Kildare North

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

Maynooth Office Now Open On Mondays & Fridays

Due to demand my Maynooth office, located just off the Main Street, will be open on Fridays by appointment. I was delighted to open the office following my election and have welcomed many residents through the doors to offer them advice and assistance. The office will be open Monday 10am to 4pm and Friday by appointment. Please don't hesitate to get in touch on 01 618 3587 to make an appointment.

Sod Turning on New Maynooth Education Campus

I was delighted to attend the official sod turning on the new Maynooth Education Campus. This €30 million project is the biggest school build in the history of the state and is very welcome for Maynooth.

It has taken many years to get it to this stage and credit to the two school principals, the board of management, the parents group, local Councillors, Sean Ashe and all at the KWETB. The Minister for Education, Richard Bruton TD was on hand to launch the project and it is ploughing ahead with Sammon Construction at the helm.

I am aware there are some concerns regarding traffic management on the Moyglare Road. I have spoken with Kildare County Council who have confirmed a new, wider road lay out is in design. When I have further details I will update on the design.

Rapid Broadband Bill Introduced into the Dáil

I was delighted to have the opportunity to introduce my first Bill in the Dáil aimed at improving the rollout of high speed broadband services across Ireland and our county.

The 'Planning and Development (Rapid Broadband) Bill 2017' aims to achieve a common planning framework for broadband services across all local authorities and contains measures which will improve co-operation between service providers when developing communications infrastructure.

This Bill seeks to address some of the planning anomalies that have hindered the rapid roll-out of broadband services across the country. To date local authorities have applied different approaches to planning which has hampered the development of broadband infrastructure. The measures in this Bill will ensure that there is a consistent framework for broadband planning right across Ireland.

The Bill also introduces a new requirement for public bodies to make their assets available to host broadband infrastructure, as is required under EU law. In effect this means that when a set of ducting is being laid by one agency, such as a local authority or the National Roads Authority, then this ducting should be capable of re-use for the purpose of rolling out broadband infrastructure. This will prevent the need to dig up a road each time new infrastructure needs to be put in place.

There is also a requirement in the Bill for all future planning permissions to include ducting or cable to the door of the home. This will make all future builds "broadband ready" and will enable fibre services to be delivered directly into the home. Fibre infrastructure is already being rolled out across the country, but the final 'last mile' of the telecommunications network continues to rely on old copper based wiring.

This is hampering broadband speeds. The only way to remove this problem in the long-term is by requiring developers to use fibre cabling during construction.

The Bill also mandates Comreg to establish a list of all existing broadband assets in the State. This register will facilitate broadband providers to share key services in order to prevent duplication of work. For example, providers would share the same mast in a particular area rather than constructing their own individual ones.

The overall goal of this Bill is to make it quicker and easier for providers to roll out broadband services. Ireland has a poor track record in this area in recent years, as is demonstrated by the ongoing problems with the National Broadband Plan.

Dáil Motion to support CE Scheme employees in Kildare

I have recently submitted a motion in the Dáil to strengthen Community Employment Schemes. The motion aims to ensure the social element of CE Schemes, review the impact Jobpath is having on CE Schemes, allow more employees to stay on their scheme, and to review the participation limits of older people on the scheme.

I have met with a number of constituents employed under the Community Employment Scheme. Many of those explained to me their difficulties while on the scheme. Despite these difficulties their participation in the scheme gave them an enormous source of pride and a tremendous benefit to their community. Employees from schemes in Maynooth, Leixlip, Broadford, Naas, Clane, and Kilcock all expressed similar difficulties with the Department of Social Protection, who fund these schemes.

Following this I went back to my party colleagues with this motion. Historically employment schemes have evolved as the economic climate changes. While we aim to see as many people in full time employment there is still a vital need for CE Schemes. This motion aims to solidify this ambition.

I have called on the Minister for Social Protection to immediately review the impact that JobPath is having on CE schemes in particular, with a view to ensuring that those who wish to continue to participate on CE schemes are able to do so, and to also ensure that JobPath is not draining CE schemes of participants.

I have also called on the Minister to ensure that the review of participation limits for older people on employment support schemes is cognisant of the complexities that older people face in trying to access or re-enter the labour market, and that employment support schemes can be the mechanism whereby older people can continue to make a contribution to society.

Often CE Schemes are run by volunteers who do an excellent job with very little resources. We are calling on the Minister to ensure employment support schemes are adequately resourced, including training and continuous professional development.

The motion stems from feedback I received from those involved with CE Schemes in Kildare North. I would urge the Minister to take on board the points set out as the benefits will be there for local communities for many more years to come.

Additional Park & Ride Facilities Needed in Maynooth

I have raised the need for funding to secure park and ride sites across Kildare North with the Minister for Transport, with a particular focus on Maynooth given the increase in commuters over the last 12 months.

I have spoken with the Minister to highlight the urgent need for additional car parking facilities to accommodate the growing use of public transport. From my representations with the Minister I understand there is little funding available but he has informed me that a midterm review is underway in his Department. I would urge the Department to find funding sources in this review for park and ride facilities in the county.

For Maynooth I have raised with Irish Rail the need for the car park to be extended. By 7am most mornings the car park is full. In some cases commuters have returned home to find their car blocked in by bad parking, such is the demand for spaces in the car park. Irish Rail is aware of the situation following my representations and I will continue to press for a solution.

Maynooth Band Telephone Explosions Premiere New Single

Telephone Explosions are experimental dream-pop duo Dolores Fogarty and Adrian Mee, who formed in Maynooth in 2016 and released their first single "Pocket" on 16/01/17.



Their follow-up is "Significant", a harmonic meditation on our place in the universe. Released on 07/07/17, it's available on all digital music distribution outlets. Inspired by number stations, hidden transmissions and unbroken codes, Telephone Explosions plan to release their debut album in early 2018, which is proudly supported by Kildare County Council.

Press for "Pocket!"

A serene slice of electronic dream-pop, 'Pocket' is an almost ambient track that introduces the music of Telephone Explosions as one of deep atmosphere and gentle far-reaching production."

- Stephen White, *The Last Mixed Tape*

Dreamy, ostensibly easy, minimal, harmony-laced pop with a foreboding undertone!" Mike McGrath-Bryan, Broadsheet.ie

Telephone Explosions have set out their stall and this lone offering suggests a group who will create their own unique sound and subgenre!" Marky Edison, Pure M Magazine

New Irish artist of the week - Nialler9, Irish Times Culture section 21/01/17

Frank O'Rourke T.D. Kildare North

Contact Details: Dail Office: 01 6183109 - Mobile: 087 255257 - e-mail: frank.orourke@oireachtas.ie -  /Frank O'Rourke
Clinics: Monday in the Glenroyal Hotel - Constituency Office: Main Street Celbridge.

EU-Japan Agreement is good news for Kildare Food exporting companies says O'Rourke.

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has welcomed the announcement of the Economic Partnership Agreement between the EU and Japan. This provides for a very significant access to the Japanese market for Irish agri-food products. "I believe that this agreement is an important development for the EU agri-food sector, and will present very real opportunities for Irish agri-food exporters. As uncertainty grows over Brexit, Ireland must seek to diversify its markets away from the United Kingdom to reduce the risks to Irish business."

"As I have said in the Dail on a number of occasions, Naas and the surrounding area is home to many Food related companies, which have strong brands. Examples include, Kerry Food, Dawn Farm Food, Queally Group, Tara Vale Foods, Green Isle, Brady Farm Food located in Timahoe, and Ballymooney Foods located in Clane."

"I have called for Naas to be designated as a food hub, given the significant cluster of food companies in Kildare. Kildare Co Co have also called for the area to be designated as a hub." Stated Deputy O'Rourke.

"This EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement will give Kildare Companies an opportunity to develop new markets, or extend existing markets, in Japan. The addition of Japan as a potentially important export outlet will assist companies that are exposed to the impact of Brexit, as many Food companies are."

"Having met with Food companies in Kildare, I fully appreciate the challenges that they face and I will continue to press for supports for our exporting companies." Concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Maynooth New Education Campus - Sod Turning

I was delighted to attend the official sod turning today with Minister for Education, Richard Bruton T.D., at the new Maynooth Education Campus on the Moyglare Road. This will be a brilliant facility once completed and is the largest educational Campus being developed currently. The Sammon Group are carrying out the development and have a long standing reputation of expertise in this area. They are a local company which is providing local employment on this project and at their head office in Kilcock.

Congratulations to all involved, the Principals of the Schools; the boards of management, KWETB and its CEO, the officials in the Department of Education, the parents who have campaigned so hard for this project and indeed all public representatives who have worked to bring this project to fruition.

Government needs to consider Free Travel Scheme for Students says O'Rourke.

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has called on the Government to consider the introduction of the free travel scheme for students from September next, as costs for students continue to rise.

"As I know from my clinics, the cost of sending students to third level education or further education continues to rise. The rising costs of accommodation, registration fees and transport are becoming unsustainable for many students and their parents."

"We must seek opportunities to alleviate these rising costs and one such way is provide free public transport for full time students, even if it has to be means tested. There are other fringe benefits to this initiative such as developing a public travel culture, remove cars from the road and free up car parking places in colleges."

"I do want to acknowledge the work of Independent Cllr Michael O'Brien from Westmeath who has been to the fore in campaigning for this proposal. I know many of my constituents also support this proposal as the struggle to deal with the rising costs of sending students to third level education."

"I have made contact with a number of relevant Government Ministers and the National Transport Authority and requested that this proposal be given serious consideration. Aside from reducing the cost of further education it will also encourage the use of public transport." Concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

FF Bill provides solutions to long-term mortgage arrears cases - O'Rourke

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North Frank O'Rourke says his party is committed to assisting families who are struggling to cope with long-term mortgage arrears.

Deputy O'Rourke made the comments after Fianna Fáil Finance Spokesperson Michael McGrath TD introduced the Mortgage Arrears (Family Home) Bill 2017. The Bill aims to assist the 41,000 family mortgage holders who have been in arrears for a year or longer.

Deputy O'Rourke said, "This Bill is designed to help mortgage holders in arrears to secure sustainable solutions and to help them to stay in the family home. It will establish an independent mortgage resolution office which will act as a go between mortgage holders and the banks. This office will have the power to impose a resolution in a mortgage arrears cases and will require the banks to engage constructively with mortgage holders. It will also provide additional protections in cases where the family home is at risk."

"The Bill strengthens the rights of home owners who are in mortgage arrears and gives them the opportunity to avail of independent legal and financial advice as they engage with their mortgage provider. It also rebalances the relationship between those in mortgage arrears and the banks. Currently still penalties can be imposed, including the ultimate loss of the home, on those who do not engage with their lenders when they get into financial trouble. However there are no such issues when banks choose not to engage with the insolvency process. The Bill addresses this issue by removing the bank veto in order to rebalance the scales in favour of the home owner."

"The independent mortgage arrears office that we are seeking to put in place will have an entire suite of solutions available to it when making mortgage resolution orders. These include split mortgage options, interest-only payments and mortgage term extensions. Securing a viable agreement between those in mortgage arrears and the banks is far more desirable than forcing families out of their homes. It will also relieve the pressure that is currently on the courts system," concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

O'Rourke Welcomes Continued Investigation into High Cost of Insurance

Local Fianna Fail TD Frank O'Rourke, welcomed reports that the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC), together with the European Competition Directorate, have raided the offices of insurance companies, brokers and representative bodies for the industry, as part of an ongoing investigation into alleged cartel activity in the motor insurance industry. Deputy O'Rourke first suggested a role for the CCPC at the Finance Oireachtas Committee which considered the high cost of motor insurance.

"Motor Insurance costs have risen by over 60% in the last three years, and I have seen examples of even greater increases. The Government has failed to deal with the motor insurance crisis. The Government has said that it is committed to implementing the action plan to deal with the high cost of car insurance, however, progress is too slow and it does not seem to be a priority for the Government."

"This lack of progress was captured when the Government recently published its report on the implementation of the action plan. This showed that very little progress has been made."

"As I have said in the Dail, there is little point in reducing or talking about reducing the Universal Social Charge, if a multiple of the reduction in USC, is being taken back by increased insurance costs."

"The continued investigation by the CCPC is welcome and consumers must be protected from any potential anti-competitive behaviour in the insurance industry. Motorists deserve to know whether coordination across the industry has been a factor in the unprecedented increases."

"However more Government action is needed, and I will continue, with my colleague Finance Spokesperson, Michael McGrath TD, to press the Government for more action to achieve more reasonable premiums," concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Government guidelines on public procurement little comfort for Irish SME's - O'Rourke
- State spends €12 billion each year on goods, services and works -

- Fianna Fáil Bill could make major improvements to system and work for small businesses -

Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on Procurement Frank O'Rourke TD says he is disappointed following the publication of the Government guidelines on public procurement.

Deputy O'Rourke added that the guidelines contain nothing new and offer little comfort for Irish SME's who wish to compete for State contracts.

Deputy O'Rourke said, "These guidelines have already been in existence for quite some time and yet little has actually changed on the ground. Irish SME's continue to find it difficult to complete for State procurement contracts in the face of stiff opposition from large multinational companies. Of the 121 page publication on the new guidelines just 2 pages have been dedicated to the role of Irish SME's. Nothing new is actually contained in these two pages, it's just a rehash of previous guidelines."

"There is little sign that any attention will be paid to these guidelines as evidenced by previous experience. We have had situations where previous public contracts have made it impossible for Irish SME's to compete for State procurement contracts. In these cases we have seen potential jobs and resources going to other countries."

"Fianna Fáil has already brought forward comprehensive proposals to deal with this problem. The Public Services and Procurement (Social Value) Bill 2017 will increase competition in the tendering process by enhancing the ability for SME's to compete for State tenders."

"The Bill requires any State body, local authority or Department issuing a tender to take into account the impact of awarding a contract in the local and national economy. Other countries such as Denmark, France, Austria and Belgium have already introduced such social value clauses."

"This Bill goes beyond the current guidelines by compelling public bodies to try and level the playing field for Irish SME's when competing for public contracts. I'm hoping that the Bill will receive cross-party support when it goes before the Dáil for consideration," concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Flexibility needed for Tús scheme - as O'Rourke presses Minister Doherty

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has again highlighted the need for flexibility to be shown in relation to the way Tús scheme is administered, following a meeting he had with the new Minister for Employment and Social Protection, Regina Doherty TD in relation to the scheme.

'Last year and earlier this year, I met with the former Minister for Social Protection, Leo Varadkar TD, and made representations to him to have the Tús scheme made more flexible and not be as time bound as it is, currently subject to the maximum time of 12 months. Those involved in Tús schemes in Clane, Donadea, Leixlip and Celbridge have met me to discuss the problems associated with the way the Tús scheme and the way the scheme is currently structured and administered.'

"The Tús initiative, which is a community work placement scheme, provides short-term working opportunities for unemployed people. The work is to benefit the community, and is provided by community and voluntary organisations in both urban and rural areas, and comes under the overall responsibility of the Department of Social Protection. Participants work for 19 ½ hours a week and the placement lasts 12 months." Stated Deputy O'Rourke.

"When the placement finishes after 12 months, participants then sign on again and cannot participate in the Tús scheme again for 3 years. This is too restrictive and we need flexibility to, in certain case, allow the Tús scheme be extended for longer than 12 months, which would be mutually beneficial for both the participant and the community group."

"Indeed, the previous Minister did agree with me, at the time, that greater flexibility should be considered and I have now met with the new Minister to press again to ensure that the Tús scheme be administered with greater flexibility."

"Many of my parliamentary colleagues have also raised this issue and I believe that it is possible to get cross party support so that the Tús scheme be restructured and become more flexible. Community groups are losing skilled workers and there are situations where their services could be provided for a longer period than 12 months". concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

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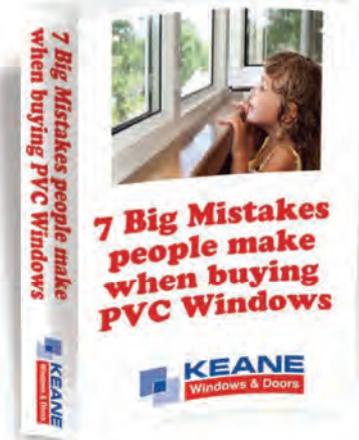
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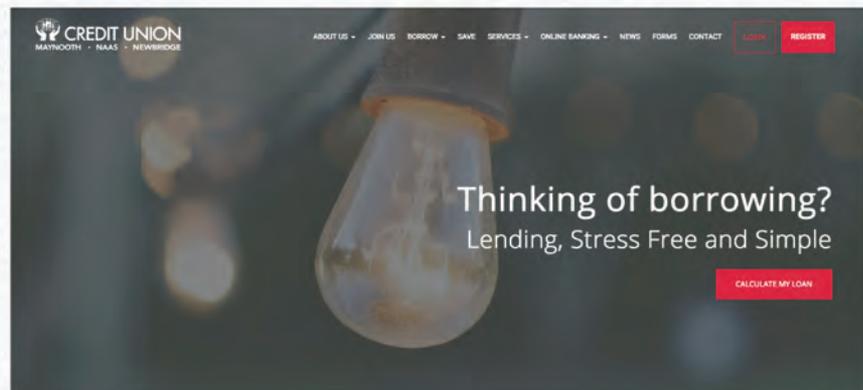
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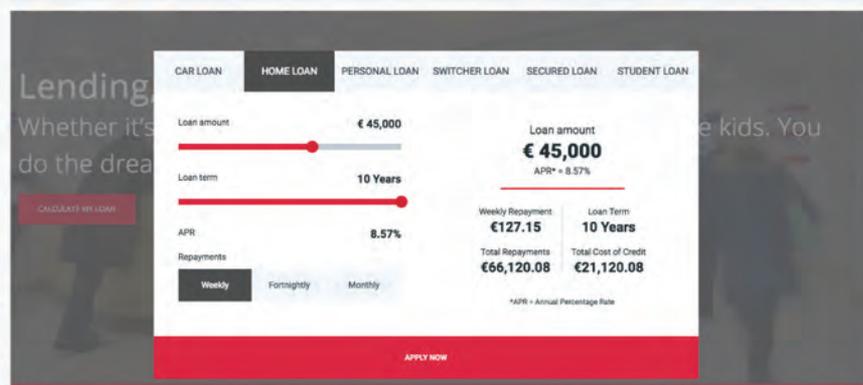
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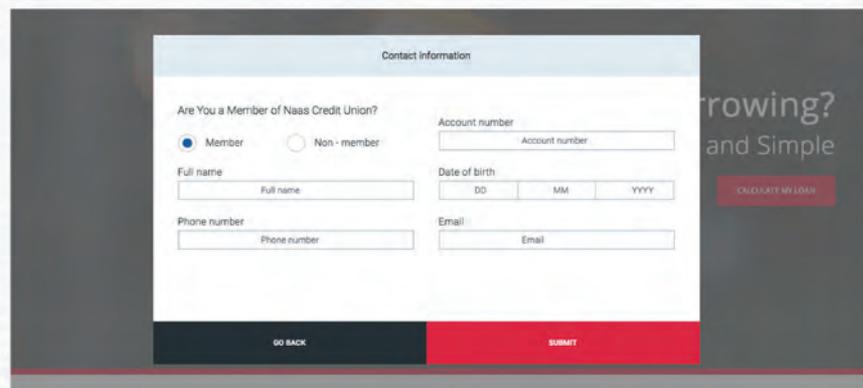
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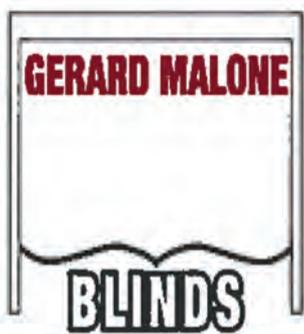
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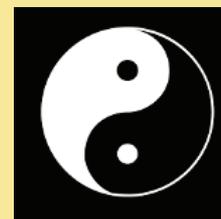
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ROYAL CANAL AMMENITY GROUP



RCAG participated in the Maynooth Festival on the 1st and 2nd of July where the Kayak demonstration was particularly popular. Our Secretary Niall Galway (who is also a No.66 Bus Driver) demonstrated his steam powered boat, while another RCAG member moored her heritage Canal Barge in the Harbour for the weekend.

Heritage Week 2018:
 RCAG has organised a number of Canal Walks in Dublin commemorating Eddie (Ned) Slane. RCAG Chairman (Matt Kennedy from Maynooth), unveiled a Commemorative Plaque at the Canal Lock at Ashtown, Dublin on the 15th July.



RCAG Website: Log on to rcag.ie for up to date news and events.

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Maynooth Festival 2017 Photo Gallery



Photos Courtesy of Liam O'Brien





Maynooth Festival 2017 Photo Gallery



Manor Mills Family Fun Day Photo Gallery Maynooth Festival 2017



Final Farewell to Fiddlers Green

After thirty years it's finally happening, when Fiddlers Green will once again thread the boards at O'Neill's Upstairs Lounge Maynooth on Friday 15th September @ 9.30pm for a final farewell concert in intimate surroundings and limited to 120 tickets @ €10 each.

Galway man Noel Brady and Donegal man Danny Carthy, now long term residents of Maynooth will be joined by two other Donegal men John McGarrigle and Jimmy Gallagher for a night of wonderful Irish folk music and song and certainly a night not to be missed.

Fiddlers Green having performed together from the late 1970s until about 1987 and also at a time when Irish music was at it's peak with superb venues nationwide and beyond (like the Hitching Post Leixlip and Dowling's Prosperous) Fiddlers Green were a highly respected band for their vocal and musical abilities, with many TV performances to their credit including with their very good friend Derek Davis on Live at Three. Many of the Garda fraternity will recollect the band's performance every Friday night at the Garda Boat Club, where they were resident for a number of years in the early 1980s.

With John and Danny both heading into the sunset of their 70th year this year, and Jimmy next year, and Noel being the baby of the band catching up, it was time to have one final farewell concert. As all of the band would agree there are incredible memories, great performances and long journeys both at home and abroad which will continue to be cherished, but it's time for the final curtain.

Don't forget the date Friday 15th September @ 9.30pm and tickets are now on sale at O'Neill's or phone 087/6750273.





Comhaltas Craobh Mhaigh Nuad



July is a quiet summer period for the branch, but lots of summer workshops were in place around the country, which see members pop up everywhere from Willie Week in Clare to Joe Mooney Summer School in Drumshambo.

The centrepiece of July's activities was of course Fleadh Laighean, held this year in Ballymahon, Co Longford. The week featured a wide selection of events including Workshops, Trad sessions in the pubs, Singing, Dancing, Aifreann Tradisiúnta, Tours, promotion of Irish Language events, Open air Gig – Rig and most importantly the Leinster Fleadh competitions where competitors from the 12 counties of Leinster competed for the All-Ireland Fleadh in Ennis 2017.

We had a strong representation from across North Kildare, and our own competitors also did us very proud, so well done folks!

We had a great lineup in Ballymahon for the Fleadh – the illustrious list is below.

Róisín Howley	Fidil 12-15
Josefine Grimm-Blenk	Fidil O18
James McEntire	Bosca Ceoil/ Button Accordion (12-15)
Shane McNerney	Bosca Ceoil / Button Accordion (12-15)
Olivia Cannon	Feadóg Mhór / Flute 12-15
Caoimhe Howley	Consairtín / Concertina (Faoi 12)
Aoife McNerney	Consairtín / Concertina (Faoi 12)
Conor McNerney	Pianó / Piano (Faoi 12)
Shane McNerney	Pianó / Piano (12-15)
Keelin Ní Mhuireasáin	Bodhrán (Faoi 12)
Matthew Meehan	Bodhrán (12-15)
Kirsten Ní Fhearail, Caoimhe Howley	Ceol Beirte / Duets (Faoi 12)
Kirsten Ní Fhearail, Caoimhe Howley, Sean Keane	Ceol Trítr/Trios (Faoi 12)
Tom Ó Catháin, Róisín Howley, Paddy Merrick	Ceol Trítr / Trios (12-15)
Róisín Howley	Amhránaíocht ar an Sean Nós (Mná) / Irish Singing (Ladies) (12-15)
Seán Ó Catháin	Comhrá Gaeilge (9-11)
Keelin Ní Mhuireasáin	Comhrá Gaeilge (11-13)
Emma Ní Chatháin	Comhrá Gaeilge (15-18)
Déaglán Ó Conchúbhair	Storytelling (O18)



Congratulations to Caoimhe Howley on a fabulous third place in Leinster! Maith thú Emma for her Fleadh Laighean Win!

For our musician's corner this week, we're chatting with Josefine, who lives in Straffan, but is all the way from Germany – Find out the rest below!

Name: Josefine Grimm-Blenk **Age:** 26

Instruments & how long have you been playing?

Violin - 15 years
Guitar - starting now

How did you get on in the Fleadh?

I was a nervous wreck, but enjoyed the experience in retrospect. I walked out with an 82% score and am grateful for the feedback from the judges. I'm looking forward to implementing the suggestions. I was very surprised to see that only three people were competing in the Fiddle O18 class, of which only two of us showed up to perform. A pity really.

Who is the biggest influence on your musical career?

Paganini, Fritz Kreisler impressed me early on. But really there were many, many people along the way who influenced me. They were always people who stood out

because they played differently. They would put their heart and soul into the music and played it the way they felt it, regardless of how it was written, "should be played", or what other people thought of their version.

When I moved to Ireland in January 2016, I went to Dublin and picked any random pub hoping someone would play the fiddle. Sure enough Pdraig O'Neil played a ridiculous set!

Ridiculously brilliant that is. I had always wanted to learn the fiddle. I bought a book a few years back only to realise that the music isn't played the way it's written - never really did much about it after that. After listening to that set, however, I had my mind set on finally going for it. So even though there is no single biggest influence, Pdraig O'Neil's set gave me the final push to put thought into action and start learning. How could I not, since I am already living here - it would be a wasted opportunity!

Who is the best musician you know?

There is no single best musician. We can all only try to become the best that we can be. Even when we reach full command of our instruments, we all play differently - even the same pieces - not better or worse than the other. Thankfully!

What do you like best about playing music?

Playing music allows me to express and feel things that words cannot. It's bigger than words. Often words just don't do life justice and that's when music comes into play for me. If I don't either listen to or play music daily, I'm just not happy. More than that I also like the bridge it forms between people. When you are playing music or listening, suddenly race, cultural norms, prejudices and all the other things that we allow to get between us, disappear. Simply because it's no longer about the people, it's about the music. You can have a whole conversation with someone through music, if you don't speak the same language as them. I remember one instance in particular. I had just moved to Germany and very early on I got to know a few people all from different countries. Those introductions ended up in us coming together to create an ensemble - I don't even know if that's the right word. We were always between 3-8 people when we played, from at least 5 different countries - often having to translate what one person was saying to another for someone - and at least half of us played more than one instrument. That made for very diverse music!

We played folk songs of all sorts of cultures and played them on the streets as well as in a concert. I remember we played some music on the street one day to practice for the concert and this group of at least 10 Turkish teenagers stopped and started dancing a traditional dance to our music. When we were done playing they couldn't thank us enough and said it was a celebration song from their home town. The other memorable situation was the incredibly diverse audience that showed up for the concert. After we were done playing, a great big session started all on its own and there was music being played that you couldn't understand the lyrics to, had never heard and didn't even know it existed! It was brilliant! I love how music instantly connects us.

Registration for the 2017/2018 Comhaltas year will take place in early September. So, whether you're lying on the beach in August, or saving the hay, or footing the turf, have a think whether you would like to join us on our journey through our fabulous traditional music. We'd love to welcome you to our gang. Keep an eagle eye on our Facebook or Twitter feeds for more information on upcoming workshops, pop-up sessions and performances.

<http://www.facebook.com/ccemaighnuad>

<http://twitter.com/CCEMaighNuad>

Derek Carroll, PRO, Craobh Mhaigh Nuad CCE

Coding Workshops

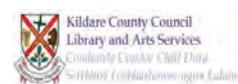
Tuesday 15th, Wednesday 16th & Thursday 17th August, 10:30am



Three day coding workshops for Children. Introduction to programming using Scratch. Learn how to create your own games, animations, stories and interactive art. Participants must be able to attend for the three days.

For ages: 9-13 years. Children must have their own laptop, fully powered. They must have a Scratch online account. They must be current library members with permission to use the internet signed and they must have their library card and pin number with them. Booking required.

All events at Maynooth Community Library are free of charge but booking may be required.



“IT’S A LONG, LONG WAY TO MAYNOOTH”



Recently, I was idling away a few moments ‘surfing the net’ and opened a link to Maynooth and was delighted to read the following: “The next time you think of swimming at a secluded beach, catching a pike, or enjoying a glass of wine as the sun sets over the lake, think of Maynooth.”

Where was this wonderful place? How come I had lived in Maynooth for so many years and had never had the chance to indulge myself in these tempting activities? Yes, I know there is plenty of water around Maynooth – but suitable for swimming? Definitely not! Yes, although I have never seen one, perhaps there are pike in the canal or at the fishing facility within walking distance of the town! As for enjoying a glass of wine and watching the sun set – no problem there! But over the lake? Never! Over the bird bath in the back garden more likely!

I read on: “Located in Hastings Highlands just south-east of Algonquin Park, Maynooth brings together the best of eastern Ontario’s great outdoors from a readily accessible location.” Ah ha, I thought, but unfortunately – not accessible from Maynooth, County Kildare, Ireland.

Nevertheless, I read on. “For the quiet type, [yes, that’s me] take a trip to nearby Fraser Lake where you can read a book at the water’s edge [and enjoy that glass of wine] and spot local bird species while enjoying the magnificent backdrops.”

“For the thrill seeker, [no, definitely not me] get ready for the time of your life on a white water raft or kayak, careening down the Madawaska River ... or galloping through the countryside on horseback...”

“Art lovers, [yes, that’s me] can take a tour of the many local galleries and artisans by travelling down Arts Route [a trail of discovery to painters, potters, jewellery makers,

photographers, performing arts and other creative people], a lovely scenic day trip by car”.

Furthermore, we are told that: “Winter is just as lovely in the Maynooth area, when you can grab a cup of hot chocolate [or a glass of wine] and gaze out into the wintry wonderland around you. Cross-country skiing, ice skating, and other winter activities abound. Or there’s always warm shops to peruse and baked goods to eat in the town.”

With regard to the name of this Canadian town, according to a blog written by Jody Didler in 2011: “Originally known as ‘Doyle’s Corner’ (after Michael Doyle the first store-keeper), the name was to be changed to Tara but was rejected. Oxenden was selected as the replacement name for the town, but this too was rejected. In the late 1860s-1870s the town officially became Maynooth, named after the village in County Kildare, Ireland.”

Jody also states that: “The Ontario village of Maynooth is home to descendants of the Fitzgeralds.” There are FitzGerald living in the area but without the research, it’s anybody’s guess who first suggested that the name Maynooth should replace the name Doyle’s Corner.

Incidentally, my mother’s side of the family are all named Doyle, (her father was a Doyle who married a Doyle) so it’s also anybody’s guess where Michael Doyle came from. He could have been a Wexfordman!

If you feel inclined have a look at <https://maynooth.on.ca/> and Jody’s blog – I’m off to pack!



By Rita Edwards

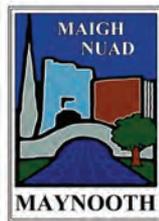
Congratulations to all concerned with the running of the Maynooth Summer Festival which was a great success.

Maynooth Tidy Towns had volunteers out at various times helping to clean up.

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

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

Richard Farrell - PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns



Maynooth
Tidy Towns
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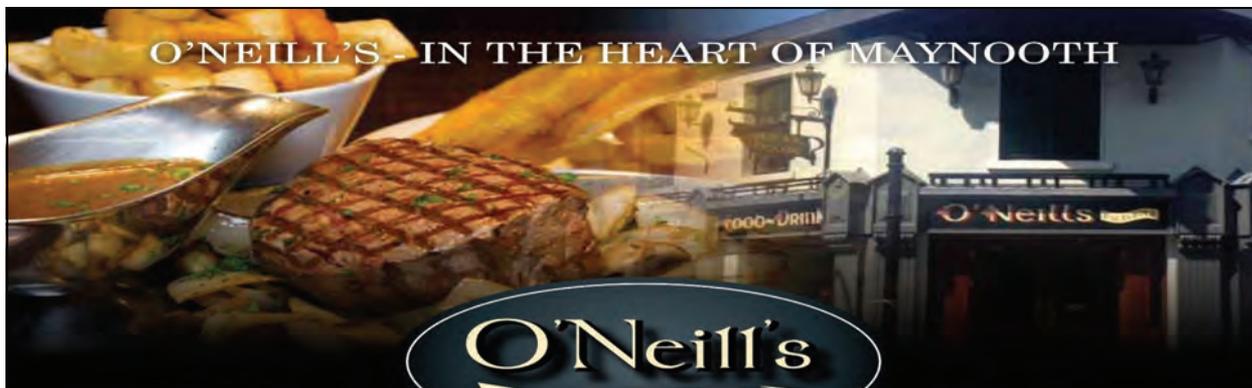
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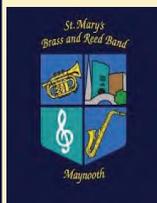
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St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band



The Band paid it's annual visit to the South of Ireland Band Championships in Clonakilty over the first weekend in July. Sixteen bands from all over Ireland competed in our Intermediate Section and while not in the prizes we gave a very creditable performance with a varied programme that was well received by the large audience in the Hall. We will be travelling again next year with hopes set high for a top three placing. Apart from the competitive aspect of the trip it offered an opportunity to meet with members of other bands as there is a great social element to the event.

The highlight of the month and even the year was our visit to Áras an Uachtaráin to play at the final Garden Party (there are only seven) of the year. The Band played an hour long programme of well known pieces specially requested by the event organiser as the more than 450 invited guests left the Áras on their tour of the magnificent gardens before they enjoyed the meal prepared for them in a large marquee erected for the occasion. The Band were introduced to the President and his wife Sabina who were photographed with them before the recital. It was a memorable occasion for the 26 band members who participated in the event as it was the first Maynooth Band to play in the Aras.

The Band take their annual holidays from 31st July until rehearsals resume on 14th August when they begin preparations for the Annual Mass for Deceased Members at 1pm on Sunday 5th November and our Christmas Concert in December, the date and venue for which has yet to be arranged,

Our Annual Autumn Collection towards the upkeep of the Band takes place on Friday and Saturday 25th and 26th August so keep an eye out for Band members shaking a box in the three shopping centres and please give whatever you can afford.

We are also hoping to arrange a Recruitment Day in September for those wishing to join the band to learn an instrument. At present we have over 30 members in the Senior Band with another 15 in the Junior Band. We feel there are quite a number of Girls and Boys AND women and men (you are never too old to join) who would like to be part of this band which has great plans for 2018. So watch this space and our Facebook page for news of this event.

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 further afield and there is always room for more no matter where you live.

BirdWatch Ireland are looking for your help in recording riverbird species (Dipper, Sand Martin, Kingfisher and Grey Wagtail) nesting in built structures along our countries waterways.

With support from The Heritage Council we have set up a project to collect these observations.



This behaviour is commonly observed in Dippers, Grey Wagtails and Sand Martins but it is not beyond the realms of possibility that Kingfisher may on occasion do the same. Instances of Sand Martins in quay walls, Dippers under bridges and Grey Wagtails in lock gates etc are just a few examples of the types of records we are after.

If we have location data for these sites we can help protect them as they are vulnerable to disturbance and destruction due to their position in man-made places. Structures may undergo repair work even destruction and we cannot do anything to help mitigate against this without location records.

It is late in the breeding season of course but we will accept retrospective records from earlier in the season no problem.



Dipper

Sand Martin

Grey Wagtail

Kingfisher

To find out more about the survey see the project page here:
<http://www.birdwatchireland.ie/OurWork/ResearchSurveys/Waterwaysbirds/RiverBirdSurvey2017/tabid/1260/Default.aspx>

To enter any records you have directly to the online system try here:
<http://records.biodiversityireland.ie/record/river-birds>

Please look on www.Facebook.com/bwikildare or
www.birdwatchkildare.com for up to date news and events.



Maynooth Monthly Diary Planner

Community Library	Maynooth Multiple Births	Bridge Club
<p>Opening Times Mondays & Fridays 2pm to 5pm Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm to 8pm Wednesday 9.30am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm Sat 9.30am to 1pm</p>	<p>On Summer Holidays until the first week in September</p> <p>For further details email: maynoothmultiplebirthclub@gmail.com</p>	<p>Open for new members. If you would like to play in a friendly club with purpose-built facilities in the centre of Maynooth, please see our website at maynoothbridgeclub.com. Contact Katherine Cooney 086 8205910</p>
I.C.A.	MAYNOOTH LOCAL HISTORY GROUP	Arthritis Ireland
<p>Monthly meetings take place every 1st Thursday of the month at 8.00pm in the I.C.A. Hall in the Harbour. Crafts every Monday night at 8.00pm. New members welcome</p>	<p>Maynooth Local History Group Meets Last Thursday of each Month in the Maynooth Community Council Office (Next to the Post Office) New Members Welcome Contact: MCC Office for more details</p>	<p>Arthritis Ireland Walking Group (Maynooth) Meeting Monday's 12 - 2pm in the Maynooth Community Space</p>
University of Third Age (U3A)	Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group	Maynooth Men's Sheds
<p>On Summer holidays until First week in September Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth New Members Welcome</p>	<p>Closed for Summer Holidays. Will resume in September Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth</p>	<p>Weekly meetings take place every Wednesday at 11.am C/O Maynooth Lodge Fisheries Dunboyne Road Maynooth. For further details contact John Fleming - 087 2041334</p>
Maynooth Tidy Towns	ALZHEIMER CAFÉ LEIXLIP	Maynooth Community Church
<p>Volunteers required to help with this work. Contact Number 087 3153189 Meet every Saturday at 10.00am in the Square</p>	<p>Informal café atmosphere for people with Dementia & their partners family & friends. Free of charge. Venue Ryevale Nursing Home. Every second Wednesday of each month 7-9pm. Call 0894933533 Email: alzheimercafeleixlip@gmail.ie www.alzheimercafeleixlip.com</p>	<p>1st Floor Manor Mills (entrance next to Chill) Service times every Sunday morning from 10.30 am www.maynoothcc.org Everyone most welcome</p>
Maynooth Senior Citizens	Craobh Mhaigh Nuad C.C.E.	ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND
<p>Our morning club continues on Tuesday and Thursday and new members are always welcome. Perhaps you are new to the parish or new to the age bracket, why not come along you might enjoy it. You will find us in the Geraldine Hall on Leinster St, or contact Josephine on 087 9002296.</p>	<p>Classes will resume in early September in Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road. Our classes are very good value, great fun and we promise you plenty of craic also !! Bí gí linn!!! Contact Sean at 086 2225540 or email craobhmaighnuad@gmail.com.</p>	<p>Rehearsals are held in the Band Hall on Pound Lane each Monday night (except Bank Holidays) from 7.45pm to 9.30pm and musicians living in Maynooth and the surrounding areas are most welcome. E-mail: sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie Website: www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie</p>

Diary entries are published free of charge for all Community Groups. E-mail details of your event before the copy date (2nd last Tuesday of each month) to be included in the next months edition. E-mail: office@maynoothcc.com. Phone: 01-6285922
(The content of the Monthly Planner Diary is published in good faith. All details should be checked with groups)



MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN

200

Summertime

It is summer. The schools and university are closed. The days are long and the weather is good (so far). We hope that people will have the opportunity to get out on bikes and enjoy the fresh air and the countryside.

Maynooth Newsletter Editorial

The editorial in last month's Newsletter contained a number of statements on cycling with which we take issue.

Firstly, an accident is an event that happens by chance or that is without apparent or deliberate cause. A driver turning into a side street and hitting a cyclist is not an accident. The event is not by chance and has a deliberate cause although not caused deliberately. It is a collision which results from not driving with due care and attention. The media often reports such events as accidents and even worse some journalists describe them as cyclists colliding with cars which suggests that the cyclist is at fault. Several reports in different countries confirm that in collisions between a vehicle and a cyclist, drivers are responsible for about 60% of collisions, cyclists for about 20% and in 20% of cases investigators are unable to decide which party is at fault.

In relation to pinch points, the editorial states that '...these points will be more dangerous for the cyclist'. It is not clear what 'more dangerous' refers to. There will always be pinch points in a network but good design should ensure that the vulnerable mode of travel i.e. pedestrians and cyclists are prioritised over car travel. This is in accordance with the Hierarchy of Road Users which most civilised countries follow. The problem in Ireland is that lip service is paid to the hierarchy and instead car travel is prioritised. It is hoped that the child in question will recover soon and will not be put off cycling. It was fortunate that he/she fell on the footpath side. If it had happened on the road side, the consequences could have been much more severe. Of course, Straffan Road could have had a verge or other separation on the road side to segregate cyclists from motorised vehicles as is best international practice but Kildare County Council officials and councillors instead chose to prioritise motorised vehicles and retain right turning lanes.

Based on the provision of cycle facilities in north Kildare, I fear that your trust that the North/South will be completed to a high standard is misplaced. None of the other proposals in North Kildare are to a high or even moderately high standard internationally and in fact several are substandard. There are good reasons why the European Cycling Federation ranks Ireland at 21st out of 28 in European countries in terms of being cycle friendly - just above Latvia, Greece, Malta, Cyprus, Portugal and Romania.

In relation to the desire for traffic controls on cycle routes i.e. traffic lights, I would point out that best international practice is to minimise delay for cyclists so good design provides for cyclists to bypass traffic lights, where feasible. Cyclists do not have to be reminded of safety. With eleven cyclists killed on Irish roads in 2017 to date including one young woman just a few kilometres outside Maynooth, we are acutely aware of safety every time we get on a bicycle. Rather than blaming the victim, I think your editorial should address drivers who after all are the ones who pose the threat.

Maynooth Newsletter Editorial

Justin Bieber visiting Maynooth in late June was well covered locally and on social media and the hype associated with his trips here during his tour reminded me that many other famous people visit our town, but we often never hear about their visit until they have left. I probably mentioned this before but I managed to get a tip-off in 1993 when Mother Teresa (now St. Teresa of Calcutta) was paying a short visit to St. Patrick's College, so I was one of less than ten people there to greet her on arrival. She stared all of us with her spectacular blue eyes, an image that will stay with me. Together with Pope John Paul II, means that I have been in the presence of two saints in my lifetime so hopefully they will come to my aid if needed.

Of course Maynooth has been an important place in Irish history for many centuries as the home of the Fitzgerald's. I recently paid another visit to Maynooth Castle and I was pleased to see the number of visitors from elsewhere who were taking an interest in the history of the castle. But for the pressure of a relatively small number of people in the 1980/1990s who campaigned for the castle to be made ready and open to the public, there is no doubt that the significance of Maynooth in Ireland's history might never be told. Of course the restoration work on the castle was only partially completed with the plans to replace an upper floor and include a roof deferred. I think that it is time that this project is revisited and a campaign to continue the restoration should begin. There is so much more potential to improve this significant heritage site in our town and to improve the facilities such as the introduction of audio-visual technology. The kind of exhibition that the people who are of an age to be a fan of Justin Bieber would expect. At the very least they should provide the comfort facilities

Census 2016

The CSO recently published the initial transportation results from Census 2016. The spin put on the report was that there was a 42% increase in commuting to work by bicycle. The reality was rather more modest. Taking work and education trips together, the increase amounted 4.15% per annum which might appear reasonable but for a country like Ireland with an existing low level of cycling 4.15% is poor. The Census figures also indicated that the number of Irish children being driven to primary school continues to increase. The table below compares how Irish and Dutch children travel to primary school.

Country	Means of Travel		
	Foot	Bike	Car
Ireland (2016)	24.6%	1.4%	62.8%
Netherlands (2012)	30%	37%	30%

Although there are footpaths to virtually all Irish primary schools in urban areas, the percentage of children who walk to school is 25% higher in the Netherlands. Dutch politicians are concerned that 30% of their children are driven to primary school and address the concerns by high levels of investment in cycling and walking. In contrast, Irish government and local government allocates a pittance to cycling and political parties and individual politicians are paralysed with fear of antagonising the motor lobby. So despite policies and strategies on health, transport and climate change, car dependency continues to increase.

Countdown Clock

As we are fast approaching the government target date of 2020 for the achievement of 10% commuting trips and also 10% of total trips by bike, Maynooth Cycling Campaign decided to add a Countdown Clock to its website to mark the occasion. When we investigated how to do this, we found that there was a computer app (application) available. However, a problem arose, when we tried to set the countdown clock to the estimated date which was calculated on the basis of increase in cycling over the last five years. The programme would only allow a countdown date of up to twenty years ie 2037. It would not allow a date far enough in the future. We managed to get around this however and our Countdown Clock shows that the 2020 target will not be achieved for another 30 years so don't hold your breath!

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. Membership is FREE. If you want to support our work, just email your contact details to maynoothcycling@gmail.com.

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

that are missing and be provided for the public and the staff working there.

The recent announcement of the sale of Carton House and Resort came somewhat as a surprise last month. In my early years in Maynooth, Carton Estate was a working farm closed to the public. Following development proposals back almost two decades now the estate has been greatly enhanced and is open to the community with some excellent facilities. It also attracts a large number of visitors to the area including many well-known international stars from many walks of life. I have been involved in several aspects of the transformation but I have always appreciated the commitment of the Mallaghan family to ensure that the historic house and seat of the Fitzgerald's would be maintained and open to future generations of people from the town.

The estate was always a major employer in the area as is the resort to-day. Some people may have a different opinion of the development but for me the enhancements completed so far have been for the best. I would have some concerns about what plans a new owner could have for the estate but for now I can only thank the Mallaghan family for their stewardship of Carton Estate. Rather than the description of Maynooth as a commuter town for Dublin, we should put more emphasis on our unique history including the centuries of religious outreach and education because of our two universities and seats of political power back to the 13th century in Maynooth Castle followed on by Carton Estate. So how would you describe Maynooth if you were asked by Justin Bieber the next time he visits?

Paul Croghan - Editor

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**The Copy Date for the September Edition of the
Maynooth Newsletter is Tuesday 22nd August 2017**

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

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

Hard-hitting PAC report pulls no punches

Catherine Murphy TD has welcomed the hard-hitting PAC report into financial practices at Templemore Garda training and said the report does “not pull any punches.”

Speaking at the launch of the report, Deputy Murphy said that when she had first raised the issue with the then Minister for Justice Frances Fitzgerald it had been dismissed as nothing to be concerned about. Catherine Murphy said the report today shows that the same dismissive attitude was true of both the Commissioner and the Minister and that there was an issue regarding the “wider circling of the wagons.” Catherine Murphy continued:

“The report is also highly critical of the treatment of those within the ranks who sought to speak out and raise issues of concern with the status quo regarding internal practices. That treatment is indicative of a wider culture regarding the treatment, or indeed mistreatment, of whistle-blowers within An Garda Síochána. That must change and change urgently.

“From the outset of this investigation it was characterised by the Commissioner as an ‘interpersonal dispute’ between staff members when in fact the Committee found it was a ‘profound professional disagreement among senior management’. There is quite a significant difference in the two.

“I am also concerned regarding the record keeping in the Department of Justice and the fact that the Department has told the Committee it cannot locate any records to indicate when it first had knowledge of problems. Given that these are important State papers that should have been retained and archived appropriately, it is extremely problematic that they cannot be located.”

At the recent sitting of the Public Accounts Committee meeting on 13th July, Catherine Murphy TD asked the Garda Commissioner about deployment of garda resources and the pilot reopening scheme of certain garda stations. The table is below the transcript and shows that Kildare has been allocated just 50 attested Garda officers in the past 3 years.

Deputy Catherine Murphy: The witnesses spoke about Stepside Garda Station and the report. Deputy McDonald asked them to provide us with the interim report up to now. The witnesses spoke about the CSO and making a decision about where stations will be opened and deployment of staff. I looked at the census from 1996 to 2006 to see where the big changes occurred. Dublin city grew by 13%, Dún Laoghaire grew by 13%, south Dublin grew by 22%, Fingal by 43%, Meath by 44% and Kildare by 39%.

Kildare, Meath and Fingal make up the area that has seen huge growth.

There has not been a parallel increase. I know that is not the only measurement because An Garda Síochána looks at crime statistics and a range of other things. On a *per capita* basis, the lowest rate of gardaí to population is found in Kildare followed by Meath and places like Wexford. If there are to be deployment and transfers, will they be on the basis of matching the population growth and crime statistics? What metrics will An Garda Síochána use? It has never been the case that this has played a whole part in this up to now. For the past ten or 12 years, I have engaged with various assistant commissioners about the deployment of resources because they have never matched population growth. It is part of the reason Deputy Cassells is so frustrated because the same pattern occurs in areas with very high growth. I would have thought that the full opening of Celbridge Garda Station, which opens on a part-time basis, would have come in ahead of Stepside Garda Station given the population increase.

Mr. Joseph Nugent: We are more than happy to share information on the distribution of Garda trainees over the past three years with the committee. What the committee will see from that is that the largest deployment of trainees has been into the types of areas about which the Deputy spoke. Deputy Catherine Murphy: Mr. Joseph Nugent: I accept that. My point is that this is part of a process. We are not in a position to take in all 15,000 gardaí overnight so we are wrapping up but the figures will show that the largest distribution of new trainees has been in the sort of areas described by the Deputy, including Louth. I will happily share this information with the committee so members can see where people have been deployed. That only relates to new trainees.

QUESTION NO: 780

DÁIL QUESTION addressed to the Minister for Justice and Equality (Deputy Frances Fitzgerald) by Deputy Catherine Murphy for WRITTEN on Tuesday, 20th June, 2017.

* To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the number of Garda graduates from Templemore college by station and division in each of the past five years and to date in 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter - Catherine Murphy

REPLY.

As the Deputy will appreciate, the Garda Commissioner is responsible for the distribution of resources, and I as Minister, have no direct role in the matter. I am assured by the Commissioner that Garda personnel assigned throughout the country, together with the overall policing arrangements and operational strategies are continually monitored and reviewed. Such monitoring ensures that optimum use is made of resources and the best possible policing service is provided to the general

public.

This Government is committed to ensuring a strong and visible police presence throughout the country in order to maintain and strengthen community engagement, provide reassurance to citizens and deter crime. To make this a reality for all, the Government has in place a plan to achieve an overall Garda workforce of 21,000 personnel by 2021 comprising 15,000 Garda members, 2,000 Reserve members and 4,000 civilians. In 2017, funding has been provided for the recruitment of 800 Garda recruits and up to 500 civilians to support the wide ranging reform plan in training in An Garda Síochána. Funding has also been provided for the recruitment of 300 Garda Reserves.

This plan is progressing apace. I am informed by the Commissioner, since the reopening of the Garda College in September 2014, that just under 1,000 recruits have attested as members of An Garda Síochána and have been assigned to mainstream duties nationwide. I am also informed that another 600 trainee Garda are scheduled to attest this year which will see Garda numbers, taking account of projected retirements, increase to around the 13,500 mark by year end - an increase of 500 since the end of 2016.

In so far as the allocation of newly attested Gardaí is concerned, this is a matter for the Garda Commissioner. I am assured by the Commissioner that the needs of all Garda Divisions are fully considered when determining the allocation of resources. However, it is important to keep in mind that newly attested Gardaí have a further 16 months of practical and class-room based training to complete in order to receive their BA in Applied Policing. To ensure that they are properly supported and supervised and have opportunities to gain the breadth of policing experience required, the Commissioner's policy is to allocate them to specially designated training stations which have the required training and development structures and resources in place, including trained Garda tutors and access to a permanently appointed supervisory Sergeant who is thoroughly familiar with their responsibilities under the training programme.

This focus on investment in personnel is critical. The moratorium on recruitment introduced in 2010 resulted in a significant reduction in the strength of An Garda Síochána. We are now rebuilding the organisation and providing the Commissioner with the resources she needs to allow her to deploy increasing numbers of Gardaí across every Garda Division.

I have requested the information sought by the Deputy from the Commissioner in relation to the number of Garda graduates from Templemore College by station and I will write to her on receipt of same.

For the Deputy's information I have set out below, as provided by the Commissioner, the number of new Garda recruits assigned to each Garda Division from 2015 to date in 2017.

Due to the moratorium on recruitment there were no attestations in the period 2012 to 2014.

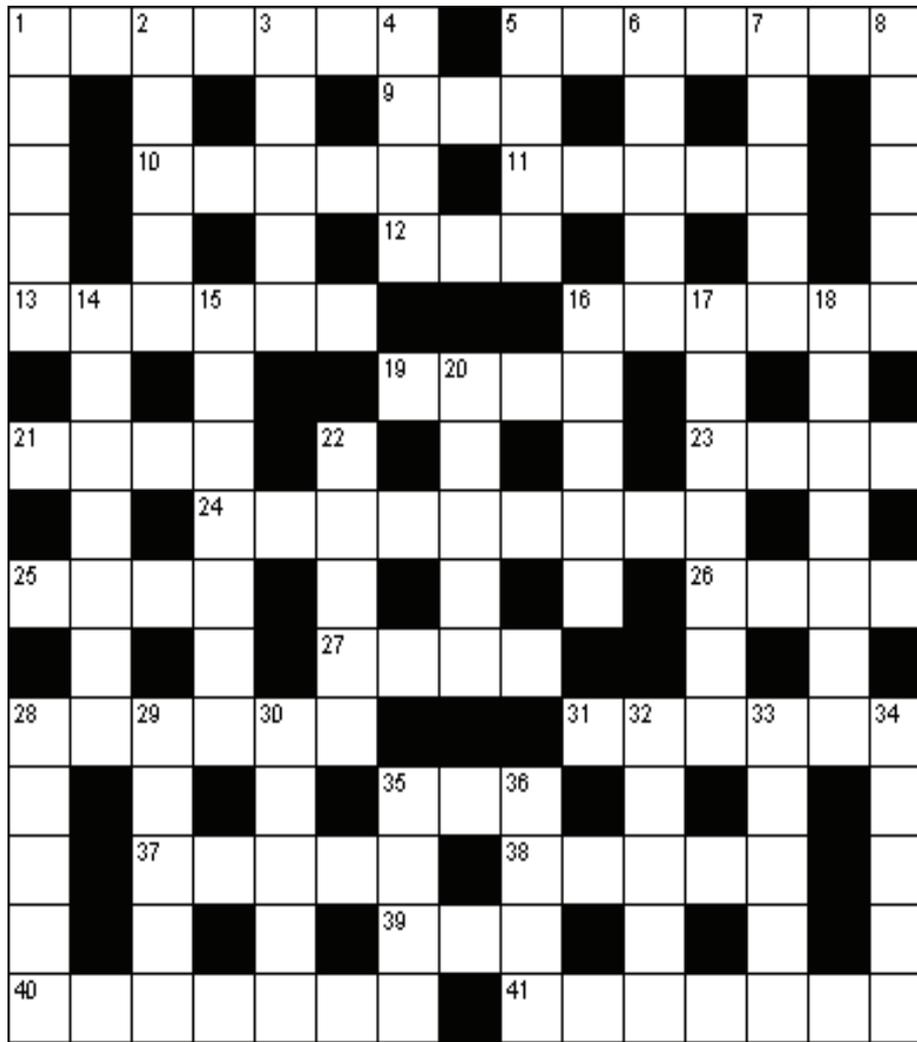
Number of newly attested Garda allocated				
DIVISION	DIVISIONAL HQ	2015	2016	2017
D.M.R. EAST	DUN LAOGHAIRE	9	19	14
D.M.R. NORTH	BALLYMUN	19	33	23
D.M.R. NORTH CENTRAL	STORE STREET	22	43	28
D.M.R. SOUTH	CRUMLIN	18	35	28
D.M.R. SOUTH CENTRAL	PEARSE STREET	19	44	29
D.M.R. WEST	BLANCHARDSTOWN	30	35	23
KILDARE	HAAS	15	20	15
LAOIS / OFFALY	PORTLAOISE	9	20	17
MEATH	NAVAN	5	19	7
WESTMEATH	MULLINGAR	5	5	12
WICKLOW	BRAY	9	0	4
CAVAN / MONAGHAN	MONAGHAN	10	7	4
DONEGAL	LETTERKENNY	8	5	4
LOUTH	DROGHEDA	25	17	7
SLIGO / LEITRIM	SLIGO	5	5	3
KILKENNY/CARLOW	KILKENNY	10	10	10
TIPPERARY	THURLES	5	15	11
WATERFORD	WATERFORD	14	10	6
WEXFORD	WEXFORD	15	10	7
CORK CITY	ANGLESEA STREET	5	5	10
CORK NORTH	FERMOY	0	5	5
CORKWEST	BANDON	5	0	5
KERRY	TRALEE	9	0	6
LIMERICK	HENRY STREET	8	16	9
CLARE	ENNIS	10	5	0
GALWAY	GALWAY	4	5	0
MAYO	CASTLEBAR	3	0	5
ROSCOMMON/LONGFORD	ROSCOMMON	0	5	0
TOTAL		296	393	292

Clues Across

1. Comes back (7)
5. Person who takes care of horses (7)
9. Bashful (3)
10. Cowboy display (5)
11. Damp (5)
12. Large cask (3)
13. Showy and cheap (6)
16. Round body (6)
19. Atop (2,2)
21. Chief god of ancient Greece (4)
23. Deep affection (4)
24. Roll forward end over end (9)
25. Money paid for work (4)
26. Roofing item (4)
27. Vehicles (4)
28. Hawk (6)
31. Metallic element (6)
35. Having a high temperature (3)
37. Form of oxygen (5)
38. Mountain range (5)
39. Long-sleeved linen vestment (3)
40. Place in a bank account (7)
41. Place of study (7)



August Crossword - No. 460

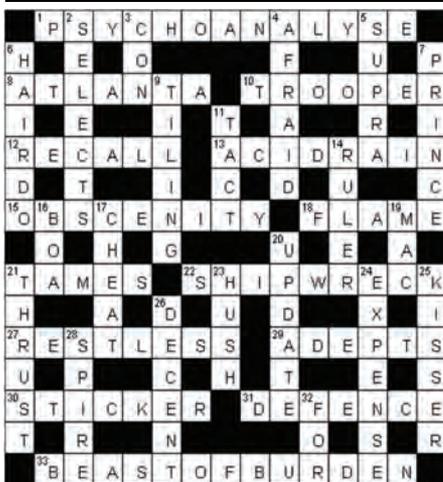


Clues Down

1. Automaton (5)
2. Hurl (5)
3. Person who rides (5)
4. Native of Scotland (4)
5. Song in praise of God (4)
6. Scrimp (5)
7. Supple (5)
8. Scoundrel (5)
14. Typical (7)
15. Move down (7)
16. Scoff (5)
17. Summit of a hill (7)
18. Rotate (7)
20. Strength (5)
22. Elegance (5)
28. Beg (5)
29. Sag (5)
30. Weaving machines (5)
32. City in Nebraska (5)
33. Dough (5)
34. Rough and disorderly (5)
35. Warmth (4)
36. Brass wind instrument (4)



Answers to Crossword No 459



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Tuesday 22nd August 2017

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Phone: _____

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No. 459 July**

**Noel Mc Dermott
Woodlands
Maynooth**

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claim their prize from the time the
results are made public.

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Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

From 17/7/17 to 23/7/17 - information from Kildare County Council Website

App. Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	Application Date
17837	Kildare County Council	GL Ireland ICAV,	Unit 4 Manor Mills Shopping Centre, Mill Street, Maynooth	20/07/2017
17797	Kildare County Council	Maynooth University,	Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	07/07/2017
17759	Kildare County Council	Stephen O'Reilly	5 The Green, Newtown Hall, Maynooth	30/06/2017
17728	Kildare County Council	Geraldine Dunne,	357 Celbridge Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	22/06/2017
17716	Kildare County Council	Kieran Kelly	5 Rockfield Rise, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	19/06/2017
17693	Kildare County Council	Adam Lyons	Greenfield Shopping Centre, Straffan Road, Maynooth	14/06/2017
17696	Kildare County Council	Eamon O' Flaherty	Unit 4 Maynooth Mall, Main Street, Maynooth	14/06/2017
17680	Kildare County Council	Rodisca Turcanu	House between 345-346a, Old Greenfield, Maynooth	12/06/2017
17677	Kildare County Council	Shaun & Orla Doherty	18 Temple Wood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth	09/06/2017
17673	Kildare County Council	Michael & Olivia Duggan	"Jaro", Maynooth Road, Celbridge	08/06/2017
17671	Kildare County Council	Moldovan Estates	Bistor 53 Restaurant, Main Street & Pound La, Maynooth	08/06/2017
17662	Kildare County Council	Sean & Mary Tuohy	No. 38 Maynooth Road, Celbridge, Co. Kildare	07/06/2017
17656	Kildare County Council	Deirdre Ward & Feargal Ward	Barrogstown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	06/06/2017
17649	Kildare County Council	Eamon O'Flaherty	Unit 4, Maynooth Mall, Main Street	02/06/2017

Difficult

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

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

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

Sudoku Challenge

August 2017

Entries must arrive before:
22nd August 2017



**Congratulations to
 July Winner:
 Rebecca O'Mahoney
 Castlepark Square
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Prize winners will have 30 days
 to claim their prize from the time
 the results are made public.

Super Difficult

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____



Maynooth Heritage Week Events

The Famous Fr. Nicholas Callan.

20 August, 2pm - 3pm

Maynooth Local History Group
Outside the Main Gate of St. Patrick's
Pontifical University, Maynooth. Co.
Kildare

A graveside talk about his pioneering
achievements in a world context; their
uses and application in our daily lives;
viewing his experimental equipment in
the nearby National Science Museum.

Admission Free

Access & Parking

Suitable for Children under 12

Wheelchair Access (Full)

Car Parking Available

Further Information

Phone: 086.8636.249

E-mail: declanpoconnor@gmail.com

Observations on Nature

21, 23, 24 August, 10am - 5pm

Maynooth University

Russell Library, Maynooth University
Co. Kildare

Explore nature through the historical
print collections of the Russell Library.
Books on gardening, botany, agriculture
and husbandry will be on display some of
which will refer to the local area.

The exhibition will appeal to anyone who
has an interest in nature and the
environment, local history, botanical art
or life in the eighteenth and nineteenth
centuries. A 6inch Ordnance Survey map
of Kildare will be on display as well as
items from our Special Collections in the
John Paul II. The Pugin designed Russell
Library is of historical and architectural
significance and well worth a visit. We
are also closed for lunch 1-2pm

Admission Free

Access & Parking

Not suitable for Children under 12

Car Parking Available

Cultural Resources - Meitheal Dúchas.ie & Logainm.ie

Tuesday 22nd August, 1:30pm - 2:20pm

Find out how you can contribute to the preservation
of Ireland's cultural heritage. Transcribe folklore
from the 1930s with Meitheal Dúchas.ie and record
minor place names with Meitheal Logainm.ie.

Meitheal Dúchas.ie is an opportunity to transcribe
folklore material collected by schoolchildren for the
National Folklore Collection in the 1930s in
Ireland.

It is one of the most successful crowdsourcing
projects of its kind in the world. Discover more at
www.duchas.ie/en/meitheal/

Meitheal Logainm.ie encourages the recording and
sharing of minor place names. The public are asked

to record minor place names, such as field names,
via a simple online form. Discover more at
www.meitheal.logainm.ie/en/ Presented by Fiontar
& Scoil na Gaeilge, DCU.
Suitable for anyone over the age of 12.
No booking required.

The Book of Kildare and Other Stories Presented by Mario Corrigan from Kildare Local Studies

Tuesday 22nd August, 7pm

25 GEMS from the Co. Kildare Local History
Collection – an exhibition and talk on 25 unusual
and little known items from the Local History
Collection in Co. Kildare.

All welcome.

Straw Craft Ireland Exhibition and Drop-In Workshop

Thursday 24th August, 10:30am - 12:30pm

Straw Craft Ireland will be giving people a chance
to try their hand at the ancient craft of straw plaiting
and weaving. There will be an opportunity to view
beautifully intricate items woven in a traditional
and uniquely Irish plaiting method handed down
through the generations. Exhibition pieces include a
straw cradle, chair, mats, baskets, donkey harness
and straddle mat as well as mummer's costumes
and masks. Suitable for all ages and everyone can
have a go at making a harvest knot to bring home.
All welcome.

National Heritage Week 19th -27th August



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Dress code : comfortable shoes and your best smile*

Stay tuned to get infos and events !

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Meals in Minutes

One Pan Pasta

This one pan wonder sees both pasta and sauce all cooked in the one pan resulting in perfectly al dente spaghetti wrapped in a silky spinach and tomato sauce.

Ingredients:

200g spaghetti
200g cherry tomatoes, sliced in half
100g baby spinach leaves
1 small onion, finely sliced
3 cloves garlic, finely sliced
1 red chilli, finely chopped
A small handful of basil leaves, roughly chopped
2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
50g pecorino cheese, grated
Sea salt and ground black pepper



Method:

Arrange the tomatoes, spinach, onion, garlic and chilli across the base of a large frying pan. Nestle the spaghetti in the centre of the pan and pour over the olive oil and 600ml of water or chicken stock.

Place the pan over a medium heat and bring the contents of the pan to the boil. Using a tongs, stir the pasta regularly and cook for about 9 minutes until it's cooked and the liquid has nearly evaporated creating a sauce.

Remove the pan from heat and stir through the pecorino cheese and basil. Season with sea salt and ground black pepper to serve.

Creamy Chicken and Spinach Pasta

Ingredients:

300g tagliatelle
A knob of butter
400g skinless chicken breasts, sliced into thick strips
3 garlic cloves, peeled and finely chopped
50g ready-to-use sun-dried tomatoes
150g baby spinach leaves
250ml single cream
A pinch of sea salt and freshly ground black pepper



Method:

Cook the pasta according to the instructions on the packet. Heat the butter in a large frying pan and when foaming, fry the chicken for about 4-6 minutes or until cooked through. Add the garlic, sun-dried tomatoes, spinach and fry until the spinach has wilted. Add the cream and bring to steady simmer for 3-4 minutes. Once the pasta is cooked drain and add to the sauce. Toss well and serve straight away.

Chicken and Vegetable Noodle Stir Fry

Ingredients:

7oz/200g medium whole-wheat egg noodles
1 red chilli, chopped very finely
2 cloves of garlic, chopped
1½lb/700g chicken, cut into very thin strips
1½ mixed peppers, sliced thinly
1 medium onion, red or white sliced thinly
3oz/75g mangetout
5-6 mushrooms, sliced
4 tbsp sweet chilli sauce
4 tbsp soy sauce



Method:

Blanch and refresh the noodles by cooking them according to the packet instructions and then strain them into a sieve and leave them under cold running water until they have completely cooled down. Store in the fridge until required.

Heat a large saucepan or wok. Have all of the ingredients prepared in advance because you do need to stand over this dish. Add a little oil to the wok together with the chilli, garlic and sliced chicken. Allow the chicken to seal off quite quickly. Next add in all of the sliced vegetables, allow these to cook for approximately 2-3 minutes on a high heat. Mix together the sweet chilli sauce and the soy sauce.

When the chicken and vegetables are almost fully cooked, add in the blanched and refreshed noodles and the sweet chilli sauce and soy mixture and allow to cook for a further 2-3 minutes. Garnish with crushed cashew nuts and torn coriander.



August Gardening

August is the last month of summer in Ireland and should be an opportunity for gardeners to enjoy the fruits of their spring labour. Hopefully this month will bring us endless sunny days to sit out and enjoy the flower filled gardens and harvests from the vegetable beds. But as always, there are a few things that require attention.



A late show of roses from strong new shoots can still be obtained by pruning the flowered stems back to a strong bud. New shoots are quickly produced and flower buds will form for late flowers. An application of rose fertilizer will speed this up. Early flowering shrub roses and ramblers that have now finished could be pruned by removing some of the shoots that flowered. Check young trees and shrubs for water shortage. Clip deciduous and broad-leaved evergreen hedges during this time.



Deadheading is not limited to your pots and containers; Dahlias, Roses, Calendula, Osteospermum, Penstemon, Geranium and Pelargonium are the types of plants that benefit from regular deadheading to encourage more flowers and prolong the flowering period. Liquid feed or granular

feed can also be applied to keep your beds and border plants in good condition on into the autumn.

In flower beds and borders, weeds should not be allowed to go to seed to avoid future trouble. Bedding plants in pots and baskets still need regular watering and feeding. Feeding every two weeks or so is essential to keep the plants going after the first flush. Because the roots have now filled the pots, watering has become more critical than before. Sow seeds of perennial flowers and collect seeds of others to sow in autumn or in spring. Take cuttings of tender plants such as marguerites, geraniums, fuchsias and argyranthemums to carry over winter before the end of the month.



It is time to prepare for sowing new lawn areas, or re-sowing in September, by killing existing vegetation with glyphosate-based spray, cultivating thoroughly and allowing the soil to settle. It is also possible to re-sow by simply killing the existing grass with glyphosate-based product and then sowing onto the dying or dead sod, as little as a

week later, without digging or even raking over. Lawn edges should be trimmed neat around beds and borders. Pale-coloured lawns should be fed, but only when the soil is moist.

Swiss chard, Oriental vegetables and lettuce can be sown still. Spring cabbage should be sown now. Do not let weeds go to seed to avoid building up trouble for the years to come. Spray apple and pear trees in damper localities or if wet weather persists. Use vegetables before they go over ... freezing them is a possibility and most garden vegetables freeze very well. Or give surplus vegetables away before they become over-mature.



Gardening Is All About Optimism

FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

Greatest Movies Of All Time



Compiling greatest films lists is always fluid in nature and subject to changing tastes. No doubt these lists also provoke heated debate and discussion as fans' personal favourites are inevitably left out. You can't please everybody. However, some acknowledged classics consistently make the cut in best film compilations. All choices are subjective but a good yardstick for a classic film is if you can watch it over and over again. Here is a selection, then, in no particular order of importance, of some of the greatest movies ever made.

THE GODFATHER (1972)



Stanley Kubrick described it as 'possibly the greatest movie ever made'. Kubrick was no slouch at making films himself. Francis Ford Coppola's gangster movie adaptation of Mario Puzo's Mafia novel has never been out of the top ten list of greatest movies ever made. The second *Godfather* is an even better film but dealt more with the corruption of power than acquiring of it. Coppola and his cinematographer Gordon Willis shot *The Godfather* with a minimum of modern film-making effects. In keeping with its underworld setting, it's moodily, dimly lit throughout. Nina Rota's score is especially memorable. The characters unlike the Hollywood gangster prototypes of the 30s and 40s, are shown in a more human, complex light. This was Brando's last hurrah as the bloated, wheezing Don. And possibly his most famous film. His mumbling turn as the *Godfather* has been parodied in countless adverts and sketches ever since. Al Pacino's performance as Michael Corleone, reluctantly caught up in his father's mafiosa empire, is the standout one though.

THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION (1994)



Based on a novella by Stephen King (*Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption*) this film depicts how two lifers bond and survive, finding solace and eventual atonement in the Shawshank State Prison. *The Shawshank Redemption* often tops the list of people's favourite films even though it was a box-office flop on its initial release. The film has an old-fashioned feel to it.

Reminiscent of the classic films of the 40s but is modern in its use of profane language. That jars somewhat with the style of the film

It's cleverly written and directed by Frank Darabont. Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman give outstanding performances. A most striking sequence happens mid-point in the film when Robbins plays classical music over the intercom to the prisoners. One moment of hope and beauty to the desolate surroundings and prisoners' lives. It's very reminiscent of the Concentration camp scene in the classic Oscar - winner *Life is Beautiful*. Despite dark, bleak elements, the triumph of the human spirit in the face of adversity is the overriding theme of this splendid and life-affirming film.

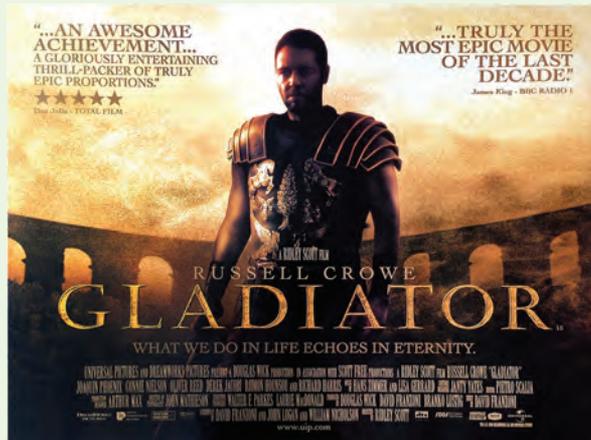
JAWS (1975)



'We're gonna need a bigger boat!' cries the perennially terrified Roy Scheider in Stephen Spielberg's famous shark opera, *Jaws*. A great white shark terrorises a coastal Florida resort at the height of the tourist season and Scheider, Richard Dreyfuss and Robert Shaw step in to save the day. Spielberg single-handedly invented the idea of the Summer Blockbuster with this film. He also delivered the most thrilling movie in cinema history

The opening sequence is surely one of the most chilling ever as a lone female swimmer meets a grisly end. The mounting tension and fear never really lets up after that as Spielberg's camera zooms and whoops at an alarming pace. Scheider, Dreyfuss and Shaw are simply tremendous as characters we genuinely care about. With a classic spine-tingling score by John Williams, this is surely one of Spielberg's greatest successes as a filmmaker.

GLADIATOR (2000)



In the tradition of *Ben Hur*, *Spartacus*, and *Quo Vadis*, Ridley Scott revived the Roman Epic film in spectacular fashion with *Gladiator*. With his trademark visual stamp, he makes everything on screen seem utterly glorious no matter how brutal or gritty. This is cinema on a truly epic canvass of filtered light and ancient landscapes. The massive Roman colosseum is recreated by CGI and the

combat sequences are visceral, bloody and exciting. This was Russell Crowe's big Hollywood break-through.

He plays Maximus the general who becomes a gladiator after being betrayed by his emperor (a cunning Joaquin Phoenix) and losing his wife and child. Crowe is a powerhouse of brute force and brawn as he seeks vengeance for wrongs done. It deservedly earned him an Oscar for his powerful performance. The supporting cast including Phoenix, Derek Jacobi and Oliver Reed (in his last film) are uniformly excellent. It is truly a beautiful film to look at and Han Zimmer's gorgeous score adds haunting resonance to proceedings.

CASABLANCA (1942)



Play it again Sam. The immortal line that Bogie never actually said in this timeless romantic war-time film from 1942. Humphrey Bogart was not known for his romantic roles. He was more comfortable pulling out a gun in the bullet-strewn gangster flicks of the 30s. However, he's surprisingly effective here as romantic anti-hero Rick Blaine in love with Swedish beauty Ingrid Bergman. Both Bogart and Bergman were reluctant to do this film because they thought it ridiculous and nobody knew how it would end right up the closing shot.

However, *Casablanca* turned out to be a masterpiece of timeless romance, thrills, villains, Nazis and wise-cracking humour. The script is razor-sharp with several memorable lines. Paul Henried is great as the patriotic husband of Bergman while Claude Rains steals the show as the amoral French policeman. The latter has some of the best and wittiest lines in the film. Above all. This is Bogart and Bergman's film. Rather like Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire, Ingrid gave Bogart sex appeal. The chemistry between the two stars sizzles. Dooley Wilson's rendition of *As Time Goes By* is the perfect icing on the cake.

SINGIN IN THE RAIN (1952)



One of the greatest musicals ever made about a couple of silent movie stars attempting to make the switch to the 'talkies'. Dance veterans Gene Kelly and Donald O'Connor star while a very young Debbie Reynolds makes her exuberant debut. Kelly also directs. Seemingly the American actor was a hard taskmaster behind the scenes but his perfectionism pays dividends on screen. The songs are memorable with the immortal *Singin' in the Rain* number stealing the show. Donald O'Connor's *Make 'Em Laugh* is also a glorious standout. The dance numbers literally bursting onto the screen are expertly and stunningly staged. Betty Condon and Adolph Green's screenplay is sharply funny. This timeless classic probably contains some of the most joyous, energetic performances ever committed to celluloid. A pure delight.



Frank O'Rourke TD

KILDARE NORTH

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Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

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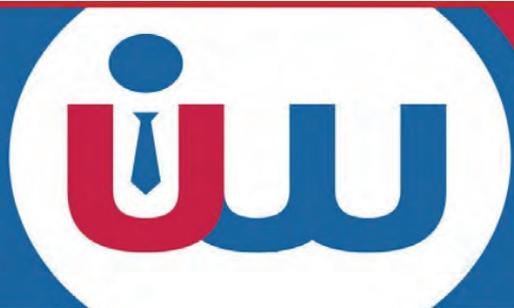
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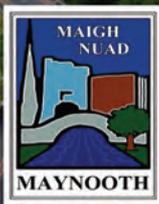
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Maynooth Newsletter



Serving the people of Maynooth



September 2017 Local News Issue No. 461 FREE

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

Congratulations Maynooth Post Primary/Community College Leaving Cert Class 2017



L-R Chloe Tracey, Simon Lawrence, Ellen Walshe



L-R Paul Maguire, Michael Diamond



L-R Emmet Stout, Christopher Gannon & Kyle Hussey



L-R Basil Jacob, Caolann Haughton, Oisín Nolan & Joseph Cronin



L-R Chloe Tracey, Ms. O'Hagan, Ellen Walshe

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4 Course wine and food tasting menu

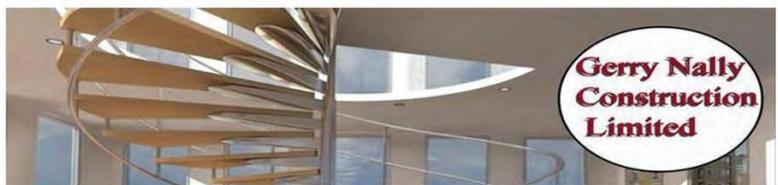
Tickets €55pp inc Aperatif drink

Thursday 19th Oct 8pm

in association with

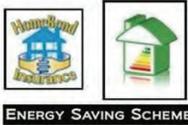
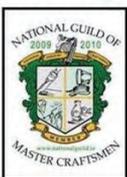


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St Mary's Brass & Reed Band Notes



The Band has resumed Monday night rehearsals following our normal August break and are now busy preparing for the annual mass for deceased members on Sunday 12th November at 1pm as well as our annual end of year Concert, the date and venue for which has yet to be decided.

The Big event for the month of September is a Recruitment Drive for new members, both beginners and hopefully musicians already living in the area. Please watch out for our members in Tesco on Saturday 9th and Manor Mills on Saturday 16th who will have application forms and further information on the benefits of joining the band which is open to all ages. This is the first time we have had such an event and this is because we know there are budding musicians out there who are only too willing to find out if they have what it takes to succeed as a musician.

The band rehearses in the Band Hall on Pound Lane every Monday night (except Bank Holidays) between 8pm and 9.45pm and musicians living in the area are most welcome to come along and listen and hopefully join us.

Contact details for the band are sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie if you wish to know more or indeed if you are looking for the band for an event you may be organising.



Photo (above) of our visit to Aras an Uachtarain to play at the final Garden Party (there are only seven) of the year. The Band were introduced to the President and his wife Sabina who were photographed with them before the recital. It was a memorable occasion for the 26 band members who participated in the event as it was the first Maynooth Band to play in the Aras.



Further Education and Training Centre,
Manor Mills, Maynooth



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Registration for all classes from 10.00am to 1.00pm and 7.00pm to 8.00pm on 12th-13th of September. Course details on www.kwetb.ie and brochures available locally.

Contact maynoothfetc@kwetb.ie or telephone 01-6292602 for more information



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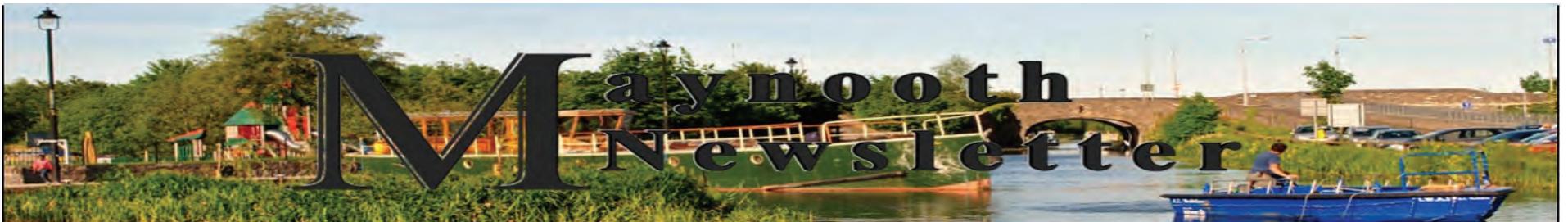
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Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee

Is it just me or did the summer fly away? Well when I say summer I mean the summertime, as for the weather I gave up on that a long time ago. So before I launch into Autumn let me mention our final event before our club closed in July, which was our summer outing to Belvedere House. The day started with rain, of course, but that did not deter anyone as eighty two people travelled and by the time we had polished off the tea and scones, which was waiting for us when we arrived, the rain had cleared.

We then enjoyed a most entertaining guided tour of the house and gardens. When we had rested, after all our walking and sightseeing, we headed off to the Mullingar Park Hotel for our evening meal which was superb. I take this opportunity to thank the Park Hotel and Belvedere house for their hospitality and courtesy to all our people. This was a most enjoyable day, made possible by the generosity of Barton Transport, one of our main sponsors over many years. A special thank you to our two drivers, Peter Brady and Joe Fahy, for their care and kindness throughout the day, proving once again that the age of chivalry has not yet passed.

Our club will reopen on Tuesday September 5th at 10.30am in the Geraldine Hall and I hope to welcome back all the familiar faces and hopefully some new ones. Our committee will meet that evening at 8pm and I also hope to see all the familiar faces and with a stretch, some new ones also. If there are people out there who are interested in what we do you can contact me on 0879002296 or you can email: jo@greenvilla.eu

Although it is still September our thoughts now turn to our main fundraising event, yes you guessed it, our "Sale of Work". You have only twelve weeks to clear out that attic, basement or spare room and if you are a bit nostalgic about parting with any "treasures" don't worry you can always come to our sale and buy them back again. We aim to please. So remember the date Sunday November 19th and the venue as last year, Maynooth Post Primary School.

This summer was particularly sad as we saw the passing of seven of our Senior Citizens. We extend our sympathy to the families of Pat Keirns, Todd Burke, Brian O'Malley, Marcella Kilduff, Sheila Kavanagh, Donald Steel and John McDonnell. Ar Dheis Dé go raibh a anam go leir.

Josephine Moore.
Chairperson.



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Maynooth Labour News

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

Cllr. McGinley Demands that Surplus from Maynooth Pay Parking be used in Maynooth

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 13 September:

“That any surplus funds from Pay Parking in Maynooth must only be used for improvement works in Maynooth Town, as previously agreed with the Area Committee.”

Cllr. McGinley Calls on Dublin Bus to extend the 67 Bus route to the Two New Secondary Schools on Moyglare Road

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 13 September:

“That Dublin Bus be asked to outline their plans for extending the 67 bus route to Moyglare Hall in order to cater for the needs of the 800 houses on the Moyglare Road as well as the two new secondary schools at Moyglare Hall and the 60+ individuals attending the St. John of Gods services.”

Next Phase of the Maynooth North/South Corridor to Begin on 9th October

Cllr. John McGinley got the following update on the Maynooth North/South Corridor from the MD Engineer on 4th August:

“This week we got the draft tender drgs back from Aecom Consulting engineers, for the Phase 4 of the north south corridor. This section of the scheme starts at the Glenroyal lights, crosses the harbour field to the ICA hall and along Leinster street as far as the Garda Station.

We are currently attempting to get final sign off of the package by the NETA, Road design in ACED and the Consultants, and issue the package for tender on the 25th August to potentially start on site by the 9th October. “

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.

The last phase, from the traffic lights at the Church to the two new secondary schools at Moyglare Hall, is due to begin in July 2018, with completion in September 2018.

Cllr. McGinley Calls for a Traffic Calming Ramp to be Installed at the Bond Bridge end of Newtown Road:

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 13 September:

“When will the Council install a traffic calming ramp at the Bond Bridge end of Newtown Road, Maynooth, as requested by residents?”

Cllr. McGinley Calls for Planting of the West Embankment at Bond Bridge:

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 13 September:

“When will the Council plant shrubs and trees on the west embankment at Bond Bridge as requested by residents?”

Stagg Welcomes Protection of Streetscape in Maynooth

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has welcomed the decision by Kildare Co. Council on August 2nd to refuse planning permission for a restaurant and apartment to the rear of Bistro 53 facing onto Pound Lane in Maynooth given that the design of the proposal was not in keeping with the sites location within the Architectural Conservation Area of Maynooth.

The proposal stated Mr. Stagg, was for a 3 storey flat roofed building, with a modern design, and this was inappropriate to the existing character of the area and the streetscape in the area. In his submission on the planning application Mr. Stagg had indicated that the proposal would set an undesirable precedent in relation to the rejuvenation of the Rear Lanes in the area and that the design proposed needed to be revisited.

The Council refused planning permission because the proposal, by reason of its design and architectural treatment would be contrary to the Kildare County Development Plan and the Maynooth Local Area Plan. Both plans seek to ensure that developments within Architectural Conservation Areas are designed appropriately and are not detrimental to the character of the area. The Maynooth Local Area Plan also seeks to ensure that the redevelopment of laneways has regard to the townscape character of the town centre with its pattern of two storey buildings with pitched slate roofs.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that the applicants should now go back to the drawing board and come up with an appropriately designed proposal that recognises the unique character of the Town Centre of Maynooth.

Court Date Awaited on Judicial Review On Moyglare Road to Dunboyne Road Ring Road

Labour Representative Emmet Stagg was in contact with Meath Co. Council in relation to the Judicial Review of the Part 8 passed in relation to the Ring Road linking the Moyglare Road and Dunboyne Road in Maynooth.

The proposed Ring Road linking the Moyglare Road and the Dunboyne Road via Moygaddy in the Meath part of Maynooth stated Mr. Stagg was a critical piece of infrastructure in the Maynooth Outer Orbital Route and was even more critical now given that work has now commenced on the Maynooth Education Campus on the Moyglare Road, where two new 1,000 pupil schools are under construction, and due to be completed by May, 2019.

Mr. Stagg stated that Meath Co. Council had advised that the Judicial Review in relation to their decision on 12th October, 2016, to approve the road was ongoing, that opposition papers have been lodged and a court date is awaited. The Judicial Review is being taken by Brian Clerkin and Kilcloon Environmental Action Association.

The developer who will deliver the Ring Road is Skycastle Limited and they are currently awaiting the outcome of discussions with Irish Water in relation to Water and Waste Capacity issues, and consultants are currently investigating short term and long term solutions for improving the foul sewer network capacity across North Kildare.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that construction of the ring road was vital and he hoped that a successful conclusion to the Court Case and the investigation in relation to short term solutions to improving the foul network capacity across North Kildare would be forthcoming.

New Maynooth Boys' National School Gets Planning Approval - Stagg

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has welcomed the decision by Kildare Co. Council to grant planning permission for the New St. Mary's Boys' National School on the Moyglare Road, Maynooth.

The Council stated Mr. Stagg granted planning permission for The New Maynooth Boys' NS on August 1st and it comprises the replacement of the existing school and the construction of a new 3 storey National School with 24 classrooms including a Special Needs Unit and Multipurpose Hall. 3 Ballcourts and a Junior Play area will also be provided as part of the project.

The school currently has 530 pupils and when completed the new school will cater for just under 700 pupils.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg, who lodged a submission in support of the planning application, stated that he would press the Minister for Education and Skills to progress the project to Tender Stage.

Additional 67 Bus Services to be Reviewed under BusConnects Strategy

Arising from demand for additional Public Transport services Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has been in contact with Dublin Bus in connection with carrying out a review of their existing 67 Bus Service with a view to providing additional services given the demand for public transport, particularly at the weekends.

Last November Mr. Stagg stated that on foot of demand, Dublin Bus added 23 new services on the 67 route on Sundays. Since then the passenger numbers have risen steadily and a number of passengers have contacted Mr. Stagg in relation to buses being packed at evening times on Saturday and Sundays.

The Chief Executive of Dublin, Bus Ray Coyne has advised Mr. Stagg that Dublin Bus will continue to monitor the 67 route and that they are currently engaged with the National Transport Authority in their *BusConnects* project which will review all services on day types.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that commuters in Celbridge and Maynooth would benefit from the additional services and he expressed the hope that the *BusConnects* project would identify the clear demand that was there for the additional services.

Tender Invited for Naas to Blanchardstown Route 139 - Stagg

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has welcomed the invitation to Tender by the National Transport Authority for the operation of a Public Bus Service on Route 139, Naas to Blanchardstown.

The route stated Mr. Stagg will serve Naas, Sallins, Clane, Rathcoffey, Maynooth, Leixlip, Clonee and Blanchardstown and the tender request is for nine daily return services Monday to Sundays including Public Holidays. Tenders must be returned by 30th August and it is envisaged that the service will commence within 6 weeks of the award of the contract.

Mr. Stagg stated that this new Public Bus Service will be of major benefit to public transport users and will fill a gap in public transport which has existed for some time. It will be hugely beneficial for Kildare Commuters who will now have a direct public transport link to Blanchardstown, and will give the people of Maynooth and Leixlip a direct link to Naas.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that by providing reliable public transport services such as Route 139 we will attract more people to Public Transport and he looked forward to the service being implemented later this year.

Permission Granted for New Maynooth Educate Together School - Stagg

Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has welcomed the grant of planning permission for the New Maynooth Educate Together School on the Celbridge Road, Maynooth. Mr. Stagg stated that the Council granted planning permission on July 27th for The New Permanent Build Maynooth Educate Together School which will consist of the replacement of the existing temporary school and the construction of a New 2 Storey 16 classroom school in two phases.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg, who supported the planning application, stated that he would contact the Minister for Education about progressing the project to Tender Stage.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth

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

Information is also available online at www.citizensinformation.ie and from the Citizens Information Phone Service - 0761 07 4000 or Lo-call 1890777121

Appealing your Leaving Certificate results

Question

Can I have the marking of my Leaving Certificate exam papers rechecked?

Answer

Yes, if you are not satisfied with the marks in one or more of your Leaving Certificate exams, you can appeal them to the State Examinations Commission (SEC). Before you make the decision to appeal a result, you can view your exam paper.

The SEC will send your school personalised application forms for you to view your exam papers and to appeal your results. (If you were an external candidate, not attending a school, these forms are enclosed with your examination results.) To view your papers, you must return the completed form to the school where you sat the examination by 22 August 2017. The Organising Superintendent will assign you to one of the viewing sessions, which will take place on Friday 1 September and Saturday 2 September 2017. There is no charge for viewing your papers.

To appeal your results, complete the application form, indicating the subjects you wish to appeal. The fee per subject is €40 for the Leaving Certificate Established and €15.50 for the Leaving Certificate Applied. Appeal fees must be paid in advance and will be refunded to you if your result is upgraded.

The closing date for the SEC to receive applications to appeal is 6 September 2017.

Your paper will be re-marked by an appeal examiner, who will be different from the examiner who originally marked your work. The same marking scheme is used for re-marking. Your result may be upgraded, left the same or downgraded as a result of an appeal.

There is further information about the appeal process on the website of the State Examinations Commission, examinations.ie.

If you are not happy with the outcome of your appeal, you may request a review by the Independent Appeals Scrutineers. Application forms for an appeal review are provided with your appeal results.

European Health Insurance Card

Question

My partner and I are planning a holiday in Spain. How do we access public healthcare services if one of us becomes ill?

Answer

You and your partner each need a European Health

Insurance Card (EHIC). This card allows you to access public healthcare services if you become ill or get injured when visiting certain European countries. It doesn't cover private treatment or the cost of repatriation to Ireland if required.

The countries covered by the card are the 28 member states of the EU, the three other members of the EEA (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway) and Switzerland. The card is not required for a visit to the UK if you can show that you are ordinarily resident in Ireland. In practice, this means showing a driving licence, passport or similar document.

If you have a smartphone you can download the free EHIC app. This includes emergency phone numbers and information about the treatments and costs that are covered. The app does not replace the card.

If you already have a medical card or Drugs Payment Scheme card, you can apply online for your EHIC at ehic.ie.

Otherwise, you can download an application form from ehic.ie or get one from your Local Health Office. You need to provide your name, address, date of birth and Personal Public Service Number (PPSN). If your EHIC has expired you can renew it online at ehic.ie. If your details have changed (for example, your address) you will need to contact your Local Health Office to renew the card.

If you have concerns about getting a new or renewed card in time, you can get a Temporary Replacement Certificate, either online or from your Local Health Office. You may also wish to consider taking out private travel insurance for expenses that are not covered by the European Health Insurance Card (such as the costs of repatriation or the expenses of relatives who travel to you if you fall ill abroad).

Jobseeker's Allowance rates		
Age	Maximum personal rate	Increase for a qualified adult
18 – 24	€102.70	€102.70
25	€147.80	€128.10
26 and over	€193.00	€128.10

Jobseeker's Allowance for younger jobseekers

Question

I am 23 years of age and I live with my partner (aged 25) who is currently unemployed and getting Jobseeker's

Allowance. I am now looking for work. What amount of Jobseeker's Allowance can I get?

Answer

People aged under 26 get a reduced rate of Jobseeker's Allowance. If you claim Jobseeker's Allowance in your own right, the maximum amount you are eligible for is €102.70 a week. However, your partner could claim for you as a dependent adult on their Jobseeker's Allowance claim and would be paid €128.10 each week in addition to their personal payment.

Even though the rate paid is less, it might be more beneficial for you to claim Jobseeker's Allowance in your own right, because you can be eligible for a range of training and employment schemes to help you into employment. If you take up a place on a course of education or training or on an employment support scheme you will get a higher rate of payment. The reduced personal and qualified adult rates of Jobseeker's Allowance for claimants under 26 do not apply to claimants with dependent children.

Cycle to Work Scheme

Question

I bought a bike under the Cycle to Work tax scheme in December 2013. The bike was stolen last week. Can I use the scheme again when I buy a replacement bike?

Answer

The Cycle to Work Scheme is a tax incentive scheme which aims to encourage employees to cycle to and from work. Under the scheme, employers can pay up to €1,000 for a bicycle and bicycle equipment for each of their employees. The repayment for the bicycle and equipment is then deducted from your gross salary (this means before income tax, PRSI or the Universal Social Charge are deducted) over a period of up to 12 months. You can only avail of the scheme once in a five-year period. The tax year in which the bike is purchased is counted as the first year. So, if you used the scheme in 2013 (regardless of the month), you can use it again if you want to buy another bike in 2018 (from January).

You must use the bicycle and safety equipment mainly for qualifying journeys. This means all or part of your journey to and from work.

If you buy a bike in 2018, you cannot get another bike under the Cycle to Work Scheme until 2023.

If you are concerned about another theft you could insure your new bike under your household insurance policy or you could use a special cycle insurance scheme.

Little Way Cancer Support Centre Clane

Little Way Cancer Support Centre has been operating in Clane for the last 14 years, supporting people their family and friends who have or had cancer. We provide support to people throughout the county and are the cancer support centre in Kildare.

We are delighted to announce we have now purchased a premises in Clane.

A total renovation of the premises is needed, we are looking for support to renovate the premises into a cancer support centre.



The Little way Cancer Support Centre is open from:
10.30am -1.30pm Monday to Friday.

You can contact us on 045902996/0872983140
or email clane@little-way.org.

You can also help by giving a donation at www.idonate.ie/renovationcampaign or organise a fundraising event.



MAYNOOTH GOSPEL CHOIR

Join us at 6pm on September 3rd, at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Maynooth for some soulful and uplifting gospel music! Fresh from our summer break we have lots of positive energy and enthusiasm for the upcoming season! You can also see us perform for Culture Night on Sept. 22nd, 7.30pm at Acre Project, Celbridge. Exciting announcements on the way!

For more information you can find us on Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/MaynoothGospel

Email: info@maynoothgospel.com

James Lawless T.D. Kildare North

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

Selected to run for Fianna Fáil in the next general election

I was delighted to be nominated to contest the next general election in Kildare North by our party members recently. It was a particular honour to secure the nomination of the Maynooth Old Carton branch of the membership.

It has been a privilege to represent Kildare North at national level and work for our communities across the county. I will be working hard to secure two seats in the constituency at the next election and ensure that Fianna Fáil leads the next government.

Changes to the Fuel Allowance Payment

Changes have taken place to the Fuel Allowance Scheme. It can now be claimed in two lump sums or weekly.

€292.50 in October and €292.50 in January can be claimed rather than the weekly option. This is an option people might like to take up if they are buying oil or want to stock up fuel in advance instead of weekly.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact my office off the Main Street or call us on 016183587.

North South Corridor Progress

The North South Corridor is making progress and will be of added benefit to the town. I can confirm that the next section of the project, which is expected to commence work in October, will go from the lights at the Glenroyal, to Harbour Field and the ICA Hall and along Leinster Street into the Garda Station. This project is being constructed to provide a safe and attractive infrastructure that links all modes of transport around Maynooth.

Independent Broadcasting Bill will strengthen viability of local media

As Vice Chair of the Oireachtas Communications Committee I was delighted to introduce the Independent Broadcasting Bill 2017 which seeks to extend support to the broadcasting of local news and current affairs by providing funding which will strengthen and promote diversity in media.

Independent, public service broadcasting has an important place in our society and we must do more to value it. There has been a significant shift in advertising spending towards social media platforms, and traditional media organisations are increasingly starved of revenue. This makes it near impossible to continue to provide the level of news and current affairs to the standards expected.

Creating original news content is quite expensive, and the lack of funding for independent and local stations often makes it impossible for them to do so. This means that local communities miss out on content that is specific and important to their locality, such as coverage of local sports events or history programmes with a local twist. For democracy to properly function, it is essential that our citizens can access honest, unbiased news coverage of the events that matter to them.

The Public Service Broadcast Scheme will be funded by the increased revenue that will come from a reduction in licence fee evasion, ensuring that no other organisation will experience funding cuts as a result of the establishment of this fund. The Minister claims that he has been examining means to reduce licence fee evasion, which is estimated to cost the state roughly €40m per annum. Under our Bill, 30% this sum will be allocated to our proposed Public Broadcast Scheme.

I am calling on the Minister to prioritise introducing initiatives to challenge licence fee evasion to get this scheme kick-started. I very much look forward to debating the proposals in the Dáil during the Autumn term, and I hope to get all party support in passing this important Bill.

Switch on of new Irish Telescope

As Fianna Fáil Science and Technology Spokesperson I was in Birr Castle recently the switch-on of the I-LOFAR radio telescope which is Ireland's part of a giant European telescope which can scan deep space. It works as a set of distributed nodes which each send data back to a central supercomputer. The Castle has been a home for astronomers for centuries since the original Lord Rosse built the world's biggest telescope there in the 1800s.

The technology has changed but the intention remains the same and the current Lord Rosse was on hand to send the latest model live with us. In my role as Science & Technology spokesperson it is a privilege to be part of events such as these. They showcase both Ireland's historical and ongoing excellence in engineering & science. Well done to Professor Peter Gallagher from Trinity and to all involved in this exciting project.

Maynooth Office Open On Mondays & Fridays

Due to demand my Maynooth office, located just off the Main Street, will be open on Fridays by appointment. I was delighted to open the office following my election and have welcomed many residents through the doors to offer them advice and assistance. The office will be open Monday 10am to 4pm and Friday by appointment. Please don't hesitate to get in touch on 01 618 3587 to make an appointment.

BRIAN O'MALLEY RIP

Maynooth has lost a true volunteer in the death of Brian and I have lost a great friend and colleague.

Eilis and family can be very proud of the volunteer legacy Brian has left behind in the community of Maynooth. Brian trained numerous quiz teams for Community Games at County, Provincial and National level for many years.

My first involvement with Brian was representing Greenfield Estate Residents Association in an inter estate question time in the Parish Hall, organised by the then fledgling Maynooth Community Council in the early eighties. Members of the winning team were Brian, Declan O'Connor, Plunkett McStravick and myself.

The popularity of table quizzes in Pubs started around this time as a fund raiser and many quizzes were attended in Kildare, Dublin, Cavan, Meath and Westmeath. Over the years the quiz team panel were Brian O'Malley, Declan O'Connor, John McGarry, Joey McBride, Paul Daly, John Dredge, Gerry Gilmartin, Richard and Mary Farrell. Before the quiz started Brian always had a puzzle or a joke.

Brian took part in a number of quizzes on various TV programmes and was part of a winning team on "Where in the World" hosted by Theresa Lowe with Declan, John and myself.

Brian, you were a wonderful friend to us all and as was said in Maynooth a gentleman in every sense of the word.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

Richard Farrell



Temporary Closing of Roads Notice of Intention Roads Act, 1993

TEMPORARY CLOSING OF ROADS

NOTICE OF INTENTION ROADS ACT, 1993

Kildare County Council gives notice, in accordance with Section 75 of the Roads Act, 1993 that it intends to close:

Pound Lane, Buckley's Lane, Double Lane and Cross Lane, Maynooth From Tuesday 12 September until Friday 24 November 2017

The closure is required to facilitate the laying of new water mains.

The roads will be closed individually and not all together to facilitate the works.

Alternative Route

All traffic will be diverted via the Main Street. Diversionary routes will be clearly signposted, as agreed with the Council and An Garda Síochána. Local and emergency access will be maintained.

Clean Your Washing Machine



To clean the drum, remove smells and kill bacteria add two cups of Soda Crystals to the detergent dispenser on an empty cycle and run on the longest hottest wash.

Once the cycle is complete, add 500ml of White Vinegar to the drum, and run another empty cycle on the longest hottest wash. This will eliminate any limescale and detergent from the pipes, leaving your washing machine sparkling and working more efficiently. This should be repeated every 4 - 8 weeks to ensure unpleasant odours and bacteria do not accumulate.

TWO BROTHERS

In 1901 Laurence Mulligan, a labourer, then aged 40 was living in Double Lane (later known as Buckley's Lane) in Maynooth with his wife, Anne (33), his son Joseph (14), his daughter Mary (11) and his two younger sons, Patrick (10) and Laurence (4). All had been born in Co Kildare. As was usual at the time, the cottage had a piggery and a fowl house situated at the rear, such amenities enabled the family to have a certain degree of self-sufficiency. The landlord was the Duke of Leinster.

For some reason, in the 1911 Census Laurence Mulligan Snr indicated that he was born in Co Meath. It stated that he and his wife had had seven children born alive, but only four were then still living. There is no mention of Mary in 1911, it is possible that she had left home to work, and I know that by then Patrick was no longer living at home. The two other brothers, Joseph and Laurence were still living in Double Lane and similar to their father, were working as labourers.

Where was Patrick? What is known is that at some stage he joined the Prince of Wales's Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians), 5th (Extra Reserve) Battalion. This regiment was formed in 1881 in Canada but eventually moved to Ireland. The 3rd, 4th and 5th Battalions of the Regiment were incorporated for a home-based reinforcement role in 1914 and thus did not serve overseas.

On the 4 August 1914 the Battalion was stationed at Drogheda in Co. Louth. That was the day that Germany attacked France through Belgium. Within hours, Britain declared war on Germany. The Battalion was then posted to Queenstown (now Cobh) in Co. Cork and in October 1914 to Passage West, also in Co Cork.

Records in the National Archives in Britain have little information on Patrick, other than that he was discharged on 26 October 1914. He may have been suffering from ill health because Private Patrick Mulligan (Service Number 4133) from Maynooth died from "Cardiac Disease" on 12 August 1917 at "Celbridge Hospital" at 25/26 years of age. On his death certificate he was described as an "Army Pensioner". Patrick was buried in Moyglare Church of Ireland Churchyard, Moyglare, Maynooth (north-east section). Less than a year later tragedy struck the family again.

At some stage, the Mulligans' son Laurence had joined the Princess Victoria's (Royal Irish Fusiliers), 2nd Battalion. In August 1914 they were in India. On their return to England they saw service in France and a year later the Battalion was fighting at the Macedonian Front in Salonika. By September 1917 as part of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force and part of the 10th (Irish Division) the Battalion was in Egypt and Palestine fighting in the Sinai-Palestinian Campaign.

Private Laurence Mulligan (Service No. 1746) died on 18 July 1918. He was 23 years of age. His name is inscribed on the Jerusalem Memorial which stands in Jerusalem War Cemetery, 4.5 kilometres north of the walled city and is situated on the neck of land at the north end of the Mount of Olives. The Memorial Wall honours all those who fell in Egypt and Palestine in the Great War 1914-1918 and who have no known grave.

From what we know it is likely that Patrick had an easier death than his brother Laurence. The Sinai-Palestinian Campaign resulted in 550,000 casualties for the Allied Forces, mostly due to the intense heat and disease. The heartbreak that Laurence and Anne Mulligan must have felt (as did so many other families during those years) can only be imagined. Of the seven children born alive, as far as can be ascertained, by the end of July 1918 only two were then still living. The Campaign which came to an end with the signing of an Armistice on 30 October that same year subsequently resulted in British civil administration in Palestine which operated from 1920 until 1948. As we know Peace in the area is more elusive than ever.

I saw Eternity the other night,
Like a great ring of pure and endless light,
All calm, as it was bright;
And round beneath it Time, in hours, days, years,
Driven by the spheres,
Like a vast shadow moved; in which the world
And all her train were hurled.

Henry Vaughan (1621-1695)

Article By Rita Doyle



Jerusalem Memorial Wall



*Burial Place of Patrick Mulligan
(Directly Behind the Larger Tombstone)*

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Windsor Motor Group Leaps To Support Cyclists

Cyclists and organisers taking part in the annual 'Leap On Your Bike' event called into Windsor Long Mile Road Nissan on Thursday, July 20th, to collect their support vehicles and a donation from Windsor Motor Group Managing Director, Peter Nicholson.

Windsor Motor Group provided a Nissan Qashqai as a pace car to lead the 30 cyclists on their 330km journey from Annascaul, Co. Kerry on Saturday, July 22nd to Leixlip, Co Kildare on Sunday, July 23rd. Participants were able to lighten their load by storing their luggage and spare gear in the Nissan NV200 and NV300 support vehicles also provided by Windsor Motor Group.

'We hope the vehicles help make the journey more enjoyable for the cyclists throughout the weekend and we are delighted our donation will help three great charities; Saint John of Gods, Cycle Against Suicide and The Kevin Bell Repatriation Trust raise much-needed funds' said Peter Nicholson, ahead of the event.

The annual 'Leap On Your Bike' event is organised by Cathal O'Shea and encourages all cycling enthusiasts to take part, raise money for charity and make new friends throughout the weekend. This year's event has so far raised €10,000.

For more information or to donate please visit www.leaponyourbike.com



*Peter Nicholson, centre, pictured with organisers of
Leap on your Bike*

Frank O'Rourke T.D. Kildare North

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

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

Students need to be wary of Rental scams

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North Frank O'Rourke TD has advised students to be wary of rental scams.

Deputy O'Rourke said, "There is a huge number of students looking for accommodation now that the first round of CAO offers have been made. It's an extremely difficult rental market for students to find adequate accommodation and scammers are well aware of this fact. Students need to be cautious and ensure they take the necessary precautions when searching for accommodation.

I have been contacted by a number of students in recent days who have outlined how they have fallen foul of rental scams. In one instance a student was defrauded of money when a scammer posing as a landlord requested a deposit for accommodation which did not exist. This was an elaborate scam which involved fake feedback from previous tenants and a management agent. Similar stories are emerging right across the country.

"An Garda Síochána has been proactive in highlighting the threat posed by rental scammers. They have pointed out that the number of rental scammers peaks at this time of year when unsuspecting students are frantically searching for accommodation. The Gardaí have put up a comprehensive guideline on their website which outlines what steps students should take to prevent them from falling victim to rental scammers.

"I urge students and parents to be vigilant as they search for accommodation. People should always meet a prospective landlord in person in the accommodation to be rented. They should also request identification and use cheques or bank drafts to pay deposits and keep copies of receipts and payments and any correspondence," concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

O'Rourke presses for Bus Rapid Transit for North Kildare

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has been informed by the National Transport Authority (NTA) that it will consider the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) for Routes 66 and 67 servicing Maynooth, Celbridge and Leixlip after meeting with the NTA this week.

"The NTA recently launched BusConnects which is a suite of initiatives to radically transform public transport in the Greater Dublin Area (GDA). The proposals in BusConnects puts the bus services at the heart of the solution when it comes to addressing congestion in the capital and the M50."

"The average daily traffic at the tolling point on the M50 for example, was almost 18% higher in 2016 than two years earlier in 2014 and Journeys by car in the morning peak hour take, on average, over 18% longer than just two years ago."

"A transformed Bus Service will greatly assist in encouraging a model shift from the car to the Bus. The Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is put forward as a solution to increasing the capacity of the Bus service."

"Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is a high-quality bus based transit system that delivers a service with higher speeds and quality of service than traditional bus services. A typical BRT system uses multi-door vehicles, higher platforms for level boarding but stops that are spaced further apart than those that serve conventional buses. Using different vehicles than normal buses, a BRT route can cater for a higher volume of passengers than a normal bus corridor."

"Initially, the NTA has provided for 3 corridors for the Bus Rapid Transit. However the NTA have now confirmed to me that it will consider this type of Bus service on Routes serving North Kildare."

"Since getting elected, I have made continuous representations to have the public transport services improved. We have made progress on improving Bus Services, a farer Fare structure for Kilcock and Naas Rail commuters and plans are in place to have park and ride facilities, an orbital route is planned linking Naas to Blanchardstown and DART to Maynooth and Hazelhatch is planned. We must make further progress and providing a

BRT service for North Kildare will be another step in the right direction." concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Government Needs to Deliver on Drug Treatment Services for Kildare

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North Frank O'Rourke says the Government needs to honour its commitment to increase spending on drug treatment services in Kildare.

The HSE recently confirmed to Deputy O'Rourke that there still are no specialised drug treatment services in Kildare. Patients are forced to travel to Dublin to avail of services as a result of this.

Deputy O'Rourke said, "The Government accepts that it is best practice to treat patients with drug addiction issues in a community based setting. However to date the necessary funding hasn't been made available to allow the HSE to set up a dedicated treatment service in Kildare. The end result of this is that many patients simply cannot avail of drug treatment services that they desperately need access to.

"I have raised this issue in the Dáil on a number of occasions. The Minister for Health, Simon Harris, has given me a firm commitment that a specialised drug treatment service will be established in Kildare. He has recognised the enormous benefits of adopting a community based approach for the provision of drug treatment services. However, to date he has failed to deliver on this commitment.

"I recently met with Minister Harris to reiterate my call for a specialised drug treatment service to be established in Kildare. He has assured me that such a service will be made available by the end of the year. I have also been in contact with the HSE to highlight the importance of progressing this issue. They have noted that a lack of drug treatment services in Kildare is resulting in an average waiting time of nine months for people accessing such services.

"The HSE has acknowledged the urgent need for a specialised service to be established in Kildare, but they are waiting for the Minister to sign off on funding. I'm calling on Minister Harris to stop stalling on this issue by releasing the necessary funding. Patients shouldn't have to wait months on end to access services which they urgently need, and they shouldn't be forced to travel great distances when the Government itself acknowledges that drug treatment services should be delivered in a community based setting. "This is something which I will continue pursuing with the Government until Kildare gets its own dedicated drug treatment service," concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Insurance Stats Contradict Industry Claims says O'Rourke

Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has stated that information received from a reply to a recent Parliamentary Question flatly contradicts Insurance Industry claims that the cost of claims are responsible for rising insurance premiums.

"According to a reply to a recent Parliamentary Question that I received, gross written premiums received by the Insurance Industry exceed claims paid across the industry by a higher amount in 2015, than during any other recent year. This is despite the fact that insurance premiums have rose during that period."

"In 2011, gross claims paid by insurance companies were approximately €1.6bn while gross premiums paid to insurance companies were €1.1bn. In 2015, gross claims paid by insurance companies were approximate €1.1bn while gross premiums paid to insurance companies were approximately €1.4bn. "

"Over the past three years, motor insurance premiums have risen by over 50% and the Government has failed to take decisive action to stem these rises that are placing families in severe financial difficulty. The rising cost of insurance is raised with me on a regular basis at my weekly clinics" stated Deputy O'Rourke.

"Over the last year, I have continued to raise the importance of reducing motor insurance costs. I suggested at an

Oireachtas Committee that the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) investigate the high level of motor insurance; this is now happening. I have also proposed that low income earners get financial support with the cost of their motor insurance while the Government implements the action plan to reduce the cost of insurance." "As I have said in the Dail, there is little point in reducing the Universal Social Charge, if a multiple of the reduction in USC, is being taken back by increased Insurance costs. The Government needs to accelerate implementation of the recommendations of the Cost of Insurance Working Group, as it is now clear the industry's claims in relation to the rising cost of insurance do not stand up to scrutiny. The new Minister responsible for the implementation, Minister D'Arcy, needs to make this his main priority" concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Fee for driver theory test resits needs to be examined

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North Frank O'Rourke has called on the Minister for Transport Shane Ross to examine the fee's associated with resitting the Driver Theory Test.

Currently people have to pay the full €45 fee each time they sit the Driver Theory Test, irrespective as to whether they are resitting the test or not. This is in contrast to other tests, such as the National Car Test, which offer a reduction for repeat examinations.

Deputy O'Rourke said, "In many instances people don't pass the Driver Theory Test on their first attempt. In such cases they are forced to pay the full fee of €45 when resitting the exam. This is a punitive policy which is putting people under unnecessary financial pressure.

"There is a reduced administrative overhead associated with resit exams for the Driver Theory Test. The details of those sitting the test are already on file from the initial examination so there is a case to be made for a reduced fee to apply for those resitting the test. This would be a sensible measure which would encourage people to resit the test and successfully pass the exam instead of driving on the road without the necessary qualifications.

"I have raised this issue with the Minister for Transport Shane Ross and I am hopeful that he will take on board my concerns."

Drugs Repayment threshold should be reduced in Budget says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has called on the Government to reduce the monthly threshold applicable under the drugs repayment scheme. Deputy O'Rourke made the comments in the context of reducing the cost of living for people. "Under the Drugs Payment Scheme, you pay a maximum of €44 in a calendar month for approved prescribed drugs, medicines and certain appliances for use by yourself and your family in that month. This equates to an annual threshold of €1,728, which is a significant outlay on any family with health issues."

"Reducing this, even by a modest amount of €14 per month to €30 per month would provide direct help for those that most need it. I am having discussions with my colleague Deputy Michael McGrath, our Finance Spokesperson, on this issue as I want it on our agenda for discussions with the Government in relation to our priorities for Budget 2018." "It is not all about reducing tax rates. It is about reducing the cost of living. As I have repeatedly said in relation to the rising costs of Motor Insurance, there is little point in reducing the Universal Social Charge (USC) if the Insurance Industry is going to retake a multiple of the reduction in USC with the increase in the cost of Motor Insurance."

"Reducing the monthly threshold from €44 to €30 would provide a direct benefit to those that most need it. I believe that this is an issue which should be pursued by the Government in the forthcoming budget, and focus on reducing the cost of living for our citizens." Concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

The Suzuki Approach

The Suzuki Method of Music education was founded by Shinichi Suzuki over half a century ago. Born in Japan in 1898, he studied violin in Berlin where he was befriended by Albert Einstein (who was a keen amateur violinist). However, it was on being asked to teach some very young children that Suzuki began to reformulate ideas on the best method of education.

The resulting approach, now called Suzuki Method, has many different facets behind one very simple and straightforward idea. It is based on the commonplace but quite remarkable feat all our children achieve within their first few years of life: the ability to speak their mother-tongue. Suzuki's belief is that if you apply the same principles of language development to musical education you will get the same happy result.

His method is therefore based on (1) Starting a child as young as is practicable, (2) Placing great emphasis on listening to music, (3) Daily practice and repetition and, perhaps most importantly, (4) Parents and children working together, guided by a trained teacher.

Suzuki places great importance on the education of the whole child.

"My aim in teaching the violin is to give children a sense of joy in experiencing one of the most beautiful and spiritually enriching things we have in the world, which is music. I do not wish to turn all my students into professional musicians - but to use music to develop their sensitivity as human beings. Music can open a child's heart, and give him a finer appreciation of life".



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**Maynooth Golf Society
Ollie Bright's Captains Day
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1st	Gerry McTernan	40ptsB9
2 nd	Liam Farrelly	40ptsB9
3rd	Brian Shields	40ptsB9
4th	Dave Weafer	40pts
5th	Brendan Leigh	36ptsB9
6th	Sean Lennon	36ptsB9
7th	Mick Fahy	36pts
8th	Peter Finnan	35ptsB9
9th	Martin Shields	35ptsB9
10th	William Farrelly	35pts
Front 9	Tom Coffey	
Back 9	John Carroll	
Past Captains	Gerry McTernan	
Nearest Pin	Barry Farrell	
Longest Drive	Paul Farrelly	
Top Caddie	Niall Farrell	
2sClub	S.Lennon, P.Finnan, B.Farrell, D. Weafer, M. Fahy	

Captain's Day 2017 was played a couple of weeks ago in Glasson Golf Club in Athlone on the 22nd of July. We had a great turnout to support our Captain. Our Captain this year Ollie Bright very generously sponsored a burger and a beer after the 9th hole and a great day was had by all involved.

Maynooth Toastmasters



The new location for Communication Skills run by Maynooth Toastmasters is the Maynooth Community Space, Unit 11/12 Carton Park.

The first meeting was scheduled for the 28th August, a taster of the great programme for the season 2017/2018, with the next meeting on the 18th September at 7.45 pm.

Maynooth Toastmasters help to make Public Speaking a skill which anyone can achieve. Being recognised as a Distinguished Club by Toastmasters International since 2006 demonstrates the expertise of the club.

Start your journey with us, come along and sample the fun of speaking

*Felicity Cuthbert
Maynooth Toastmasters Committee.*



**St Jude Thaddeus relative of Jesus & Mary
patron of hopeless cases.
Thanks for many favours. L**

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

**St Jude Thaddeus relative of Jesus & Mary
patron of hopeless cases.
Thanks for many favours. B**

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

**Tá an Cine Daonna as a mheabhair go baolach agus an-tinn!
Sin an fhírinne. Ní breithiúnas é.
Ach tá leigheas ar fáil, má mhair-eann muid san nóiméad seo.**

(Coimre)

Eckhart Tolle

WING TSUN - IEWTO

Ladies & Gents

Self – Defence Class

Beginners Welcome

Venue: Maynooth Community Space
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Maynooth



Class Times

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Instructor

Si-Hing Barry Smith 1st HG

Contact - Barry Smith
Phone: 087 9695475
E-Mail: berrysmith265@gmail.com

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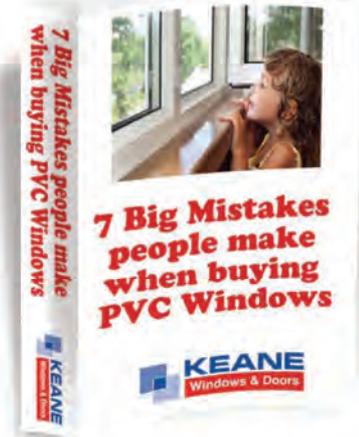
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Maynooth Castle

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Email: maynoothcastle@opw.ie

Opening Hours 2017

18th May - 27th September
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Last guided tour 16.30.
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Please note: The Castle will close for the
winter at 4pm 27th September.

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Maynooth Newsletter

Copy date for the October edition of the Maynooth
Newsletter will be Tuesday 19th September 2017



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FINAL PAYMENT DATE..... **2038**
(what, 21 years away!!)
TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE.....**€15,876**



CU LOAN.....€2,500
REPRESENTATIVE APR.....8.58%
MONTHLY PAYMENT.....**€63**
FINAL PAYMENT DATE.....**2021**
(wait, that's only 4 years!!)
TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE....**€2,930**

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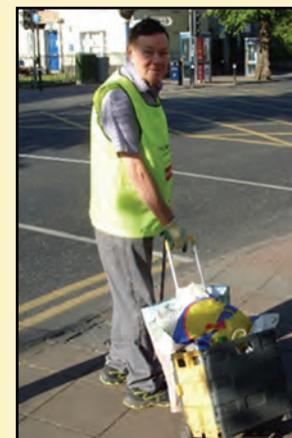
Wednesday 13th September 10 - 12noon
Maynooth Community Space
Join us for a coffee morning to learn more about modern cloth nappies and the benefits for baby while reducing your waste. Bring the kids!



Maynooth Tidy Towns

Maynooth Tidy Towns lost a true friend and supporter on 31st July with the death of Brian O'Malley. To Eilis and the O'Malley family on behalf of everyone in Maynooth Tidy Towns we extend our deepest sympathy. Brian was one of the team who cleaned up on Sunday mornings and Bank holidays. He also made himself available on community clean ups. Everyone loved working with Brian because he always started his work by telling a joke. Maynooth Tidy Towns provided a guard of honour before and after his funeral Mass.

At the time of writing we are anxiously awaiting the Supervalu National Tidy Towns results for 2017. The results are due to be announced at the end of September. We thank all members of the Maynooth Tidy Towns team and all other members of the community who helped with our campaign to beautify and keep Maynooth tidy during 2017. Once again we appeal for VOLUNTEERS to help with our work on Wednesday, Saturday or Sunday.



Brian O'Malley RIP.



Richard Farrell - PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns
087 3153189

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Maynooth Community Library September Events

All events are **free of charge** and open to all. Bookings may be required

For further information contact:

www.kildare.ie/library

Email: maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie

 KildareCountyLibraryService

 [Twitter.com/kildarelibrary](https://twitter.com/kildarelibrary)

Phone: 01 6285530

Work Matters at the Library: Support for Business & Employment

Maynooth Community Library provide support to agencies, small business, entrepreneurs, students and job seekers. As a core service we provide the following;

Meeting Space [pre-booking essential] Free Wifi and access to PCs. Free access to VisionNet and Mintel online resources. Access to our library catalogue at www.kildare.ie/library. Books, periodicals and business newspapers (including the Financial Times and the Economist). Elearning: Free online continuing education courses. Elanguage: Free online language courses.

Local Enterprise Office – Business Advice Clinic

Wednesday 20th September

For anyone seeking business advice. To book an appointment, applications are available through the LEO office. *Please contact 045 980838.*

Upcoming Workshops for Business and Career Support

Enhancing Confidence Workshop Presented by Deirdre O'Shea & Gustavo Bernstein (Life and Business Coaching and Training)

Friday 8th September, 11am

This workshop will look at the areas that detract from your confidence and specific strategies and a personalised plan to address these challenges and enhance your confidence. *Booking required.*

Communication (Handling Difficult Conversations) Workshop Confidence and Self Empowerment Workshop Presented by Deirdre O'Shea & Gustavo Bernstein (Life and Business Coaching and Training)

Friday 22nd September, 11am

This workshop will look at identifying what beliefs and emotions get triggered for us when facing a difficult conversation and how to develop a more empowering mindset & tips to guide the conversation. *Booking required.*

Flexibility in a Changing Environment Workshop Presented by Deirdre O'Shea & Gustavo Bernstein (Life and Business Coaching and Training)

Friday 29th September, 11am

This workshop will focus on the VUCA (volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous) world. Handling uncertainty and unpredictability and developing skills in adaptability and flexibility. *Booking required.*

Library Events

Storytime

Mondays, 10am – 11am

An hour of stories, art and songs for children aged 2- 5 *No booking required. All welcome. All children must be accompanied by an adult.*

Maynooth Women's Group

Saturday 2nd & 16th September, 11am

New members welcome.

Contact the library for further details.

Ciorcal Comhrá Irish Language Conversation Group

Tuesdays 11am – 12 noon

This is an informal group for adults who would like to

meet on a weekly basis to use and practise their conversational Irish.

No booking required. All welcome.

Maynooth Creative Writing Group

Tuesday 5th & 19th September, 6:15pm

A monthly meeting for writers in the Maynooth area.

Beginner writers always welcome. *No booking required.*

Spanish Conversation Exchange

Thursdays, 6:30pm – 7:30pm

An informal meeting where people can practice and converse in Spanish. All adults welcome from novice to expert. *No booking required.*

FitLine

Thursday 14th & 28th September, 10am-12 noon

Go for Life FitLine is a free telephone service for people over 50 giving you the information and encouragement you need to get more physically active. (In association with The National Programme for Sport and Physical Activity for Older People). *Please note this is a phone service only. For more information call 1800 303 545.*

Summer Stars 2017 Awards Event with Genie Mackers!

Saturday 2nd September, 2:30pm. Maynooth Scout Den.

Magical party with Genie Mackers (As seen on RTÉ). Magic, Party Games, Balloon Animals and Face Painting. A fun filled afternoon and presentation of certificates & medals for children who took part in the Summer Stars Reading Adventure 2017. Children must be accompanied by an adult. *By invitation only.*

Make Time

Thursday 7th & 21st September, 6 – 7:30pm

Make Time for knitting, crochet, cross stitching, embroidery, patchwork, quilting, origami, papercraft & calligraphy.

An opportunity to make, share skills & stories at Maynooth Community Library on the 1st & 3rd Thursday of every month.

All welcome. No booking required.

Family Board Game Afternoon

Saturday 9th September, from 2:30pm

Join us for a fun-filled board game afternoon for all the family!

Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. *All welcome.*

OWL Festival 2017: Music Appreciation with Ted Courtney

Tuesday 12th September, 7pm

'In the name of Bach the Father, Beethoven the Son and Brahms the Holy Spirit'. All of them spiritual in different ways. The opera 'Leonora' or 'Fidelio' by Beethoven is of great importance when we consider the 'Fellowship of Man', held dear to all of them. This talk has been specially chosen by Ted noting the time of year. No previous knowledge of music is required when attending. You will not feel the time pass as you are whisked away into the world of music. Ted is a regular presenter on Radio 1 and Lyric FM. *Adults only. Booking required.*

OWL Festival 2017: Learn to Draw with John Carpenter

Friday 15th September, 11am

Being able to draw is one of life's greatest pleasures. John has introduced more than 5,000 people to the art of drawing and painting. If you would like to take up drawing or move to the next level then this workshop is for you! *Adults only. Booking required.*

Philip Barrett Comics Workshop

Saturday 16th September, 2:30pm

Create your own characters, learn about the elements of cartooning and visual storytelling, and apply your skills to make a comic in this workshop with artist Philip Barrett. With plenty of tips and techniques along the way, you'll learn about cartoon styles, character and location, visual storytelling, comic making materials, pencilling and inking. For ages 8 – 14. Places limited. *Booking required.*

Meditation for Stress Relief with Chris McMahon, The Treatment Room

Tuesday 19th September, 11am

Learn how to meditate with Chris McMahon, The Treatment Room. Some benefits from meditation are; lowers stress level, lowers blood pressure, calms the mind, balances the nervous system and improves sleep. *Adults only. Booking required.*

Parenting Talk: Mindful Self - Compassion Workshop Presented by Sarah Murphy, Life Coach

Thursday 21st September, 11am

As parents, compassion comes easily to us when our child is struggling. What would it be like to extend the same kindness and caring attention to ourselves when we need it most? Join life coach Sarah Murphy for this important workshop which introduces you to effective self-care practices, which nourish the mind, body and soul and increase emotional wellbeing, alleviate anxiety, increase the ability to cope with life's challenges and lead to more satisfying personal relationships.

Adults only. Booking required.

Culture Night 2017

Friday 22nd September, From 8pm

This year on Culture Night, local artist Holly Delaney will launch her second exhibition, named 'Canal Bank Walk' inspired by the Patrick Kavanagh poem of the same name. This will be followed by a talk and demonstration from Bernard Gibney looking at wild Irish edibles, where to pick them and how to do it in a sustainable manner, and also the folklore that goes with them. We will also have readings on the night from local poets Clare O'Reilly, Sean Ruane and Jimmy O'Connell. *All welcome.*

Story starter LEGO Workshop

Saturday 23rd September, 2:30pm

Let your Lego adventure begin!

Using Lego you'll be creating a story board before turning it into a mini comic strip that you can bring home in this fun and exciting workshop.

For ages 8-12. *Booking required.*

OWL Festival 2017: Nutritional Toolkit with Rina Whyte

Thursday 28th September, 11am

This talk will focus on therapeutic nutrition. Learn how to eat to help improve age related ailments such as elevated blood pressure, cholesterol, blood glucose, osteoporosis, joint pain etc. Bring your notepad, you'll leave with plenty of practical tips!

Adults only. Booking required.

Creative Writing Workshop for Young Adults

Saturday 30th September, 2:30pm

Have you always wanted to write books like your favourite author or enjoy writing down your ideas for stories? Are you aged between 12 and 14? Then our getting started creative writing workshop is for you. Hang out with other young people who like writing and get a start on the next best-selling book. The workshop is also open to absolute beginners who want to have a go at creating some characters or writing some dialogue. *Places limited. Booking required.*

Book & Film Clubs

The following book & film clubs meet regularly at Maynooth Community Library. Please contact us if you are interested in joining a book club or starting one.

Readers of the Lost Ark Book Club

Tuesday 12th September, 6:30pm

New Sci-Fi/ Fantasy Book Club at Maynooth Community Library. Reading 'Age of Myth' by Michael J. Sullivan. Title is ready for collection. *If you would like to join please contact (01) 6285530 or email maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie*

Reel Good Film Club

Tuesday 26th September, 6:45pm

We are currently discussing the film 'The Grapes of Wrath' directed by John Ford.

If you would like to join please contact (01) 6285530 or email maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie

(Continued on page 17)

(Continued from page 16)

Kildare Readers Festival 2017

Sunday 1st -Sunday 15th October

Kildare County Council Library Arts Service are proud to present our eight annual Readers' Festival. This is an entirely free literary festival with the aim of connecting readers with authors and artists, working to bring the very best from the world of literature to Kildare. The festival programme has something for everyone, including regular favourites such as Ten Books You Should Read with **Catriona Crowe** and **Manchán Magan** and our Sunday Morning Session with **Demot Bolger**, who this year is joined by one of Ireland's most popular authors, **Paul Howard**. This year we are proud to welcome one of the most exciting new voices in Irish literature **Donal Ryan**, who will be in conversation with the current writer in residence at the Washington Ireland Program, **Martin Dyar**.

The ever popular **John Connolly** will be appearing to talk about his latest book, an extraordinary reimagining of the life of one of the greatest screen comedians the world has ever known, Stan Laurel.

Two writers stirring up the book charts and airways, **Liz Nugent** and **Louise McSharry**, will be in cahoots with **Rob Doyle** and we are so excited to present Writing and Creating Modern Irish Theatre with **Phillip McMahon** and **Tom Swift**, an event not to be missed by writers, creators and theatre goers.

There are plenty of great events taking place throughout the county over the festival fortnight and the full programme of events can be found at <http://www.kildarereadersfestival.ie/>

Bookings

We are committed to ensuring that the festival remains accessible to all, and so **All Events are FREE of charge**, though bookings are essential through Box Office at

Riverbank 045 448327 / www.riverbank.ie *Please note that there is a €1 booking fee for online bookings. *Stay connected and we will keep you posted!*

F: <https://www.facebook.com/KildareReadersFestival>
Or <http://www.kildarereadersfestival.ie/>

Helpful Hints for Avoiding Fines

Please note ways you can avoid paying fines at your local library: **Renew Online:** Go to www.kildare.ie/library and enter your card number and pin to access your account. **Telephone:** Ring us at (01) 6285530 with your card number and a member of staff will renew your items for you. We are available Monday to Saturday from 09.30am to 1pm & from 2pm to 5pm (until 8pm on Tuesdays & Thursdays) **Email:** Contact us at maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie with your card no and we will renew your items for you.

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The AlzheimerCafé

**Leixlip,
Co. Kildare**

Join us at the next Alzheimer Cafe, Wednesday September 13th in "The Conservatory", Ryevale Nursing Home, Leixlip from 7- 9pm.

The talk this month will focus on tips and strategies for living well with dementia.

Attendance is free of charge and there is plenty of parking available.

www.alzheimercafeleixlip.ie
089 4933533

HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICER JOB ADVERTISEMENT

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 are 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:

- Salary €30k - €35k pro rata DOE
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- Workplace Incentives



Morning Routine For School

Children don't understand time in the same way as grown-ups. This can make school mornings a stressful time of day for families.

But staying calm and getting along in the morning will help you all feel positive about the day ahead. For example, fighting with children in the morning makes it harder for you to work well. It even increases the risk of you having an accident at work.

The most useful way to reduce morning chaos is to set up a morning routine for school. Sticking to a morning routine for school helps your children predict what's coming, and remember what they need to do.

Here are some ideas to take some of the pressure out of school mornings – even if things don't always go smoothly!

Planning ahead for school mornings: the night before

The first step in your morning routine for school is to think about what you need to do and work out a plan for doing it. You'll probably find that you and your child can do many things the night before.

Here are some ideas:

- Try to find out the night before (or even earlier) if there is something special going on at school the next day.
- Organise lunches and set the breakfast table ready for the morning rush. Breakfast is one of the most important meals of the day, and helps your child to concentrate better at school.
- Get your child to have a bath or shower the night before. This means you won't have to worry about this in the morning.
- You might know something is going to come up that could cause conflict, like your child not wanting to eat breakfast, or wanting to wear sneakers rather than school shoes. Talk about it the night before when everybody has time and you're all less likely to be stressed.
- Think about having a weekly schedule or calendar with reminders of what your child needs to take to school each day – for example, library books, sports clothes, show and tell, and so on.
- Think about getting ready for your day the night before as well, to help ease time pressure in the morning.



NORTH KILDARE FURTHER EDUCATION & TRAINING CENTRE



FREE FULL TIME COURSES FOR ADULTS WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED

- Courses are free for eligible Social Welfare recipients, people signing for credits, people in receipt of one parent payment or certain other DSP payments.
- Books and materials are supplied.
- Keep your Social Welfare payments - you will not need to sign on for the duration of the course. Courses are one and two years in length.
- Travel allowance available.
- Childcare support available.

Would you like to have more options for your future?

- Full time/part time job
- Progress to Further Education
- Progress to Higher Education

North Kildare FETC offer the following courses:

- Information & Communication Technology Skills (level 4)
- Healthcare Support (level 5)
- eBusiness with Digital Marketing (level 5)
- General Studies – Pre University Course (level 5)
- Business Studies – with Accounting (level 5)

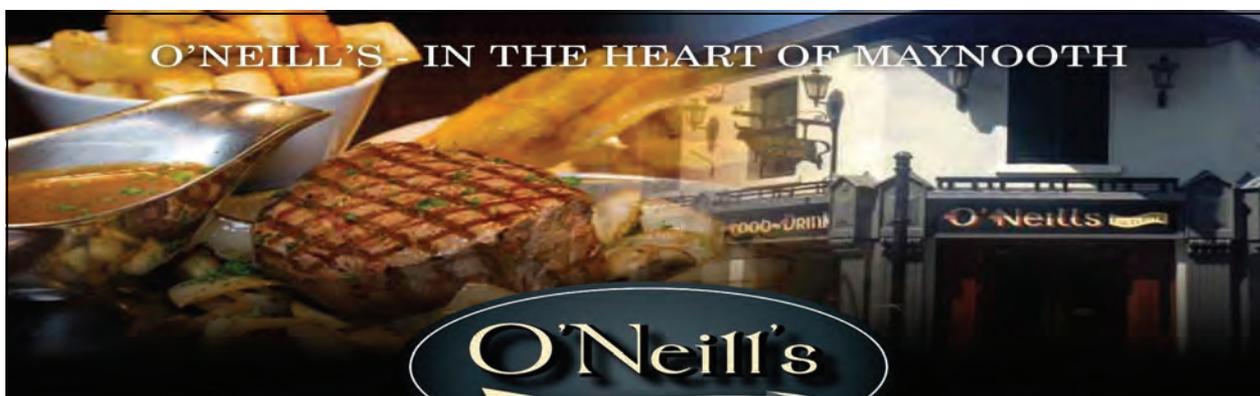
Progression routes: Past students have progressed to full and part time employment, Further Education courses and Higher Education courses

New courses starting in late August 2017

For more information ring 01-6246420 or email eilisclare@kwetb.ie



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**Copy date for the October edition of the Maynooth
Newsletter will be Tuesday 19th September 2017**



Leinster Rugby Summer Camp at North Kildare



A Leinster Rugby Summer Camp was held recently at North Kildare Club. On the Thursday of the Summer camp, the participants were delighted to have an opportunity to meet Devin Toner, Leinster and Irish 'Lock' and former North Kildare player and Josh van der Flier, Leinster and Irish Openside Flanker, who talked with the young players, answered their questions, signed autographs and had some fun taking part in some of the games.

North Kildare Rugby has a long and well-respected tradition in inter-provincial rugby. We field youth teams from U7 to U20s and senior teams playing Leinster Junior League. Facilities include three rugby pitches and floodlit training areas, with wonderful developments currently under way in the construction of an all-weather training area (in addition to the development of a new outdoor bowls green at North Kildare Club).



Ryan Cattigan and Robert Griffin (North Kildare players) giving Josh van der Flier (Leinster and Irish Openside Flanker) a challenge

All Junior teams train on a Wednesday at 7pm.
Contact Des Lynch 087 851 3828 or Kerry Hartnett 087 987 9911.
For training times and details for Senior Rugby contact
Joe Curran 086 068 2430 or John Hurley 087 240 9235.
New players are always welcome at every level.



Participants at Leinster Rugby Summer Camp in North Kildare with Devin Toner (Leinster and Irish 'Lock' and former North Kildare player) and Josh van der Flier (Leinster and Irish Openside Flanker).



Devin Toner (Leinster and Irish 'Lock' and former North Kildare player) signing a rugby ball for Aaron Casey



Josh van der Flier (Leinster and Irish Openside Flanker) playing tag with a group of players.



Devin Toner (Leinster and Irish 'Lock' and former North Kildare player) and Josh van der Flier (Leinster and Irish Openside Flanker) with North Kildare U9 and U10 participants at the recent Leinster Rugby Summer Camp in North Kildare.



Josh van der Flier (Leinster and Irish Openside Flanker) signing Sean Casey's North Kildare jersey. Also in photo, North Kildare players Luke Maddock and Oran Duff.

Maynooth Monthly Diary Planner

Community Library	Maynooth Multiple Births	Bridge Club
<p>Opening Times Mondays & Fridays 2pm to 5pm Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm to 8pm Wednesday 9.30am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm Sat 9.30am to 1pm</p>	<p>Maynooth Multiple Births playgroup (twins triplets or more) meets the last Thursday of the month in Leixlip library between 10 & 12 noon. This is a Great opportunity to meet parents just like you. For further details email: maynoothmultiplebirthclub@gmail.com</p>	<p>Open for new members. If you would like to play in a friendly club with purpose-built facilities in the centre of Maynooth, please see our website at maynoothbridgeclub.com. Contact Katherine Cooney 086 8205910</p>
I.C.A.	MAYNOOTH LOCAL HISTORY GROUP	Arthritis Ireland
<p>Monthly meetings take place every 1st Thursday of the month at 8.00pm in the I.C.A. Hall in the Harbour. Crafts every Monday night at 8.00pm. New members welcome</p>	<p>Maynooth Local History Group Meets Last Thursday of each Month in the Maynooth Community Council Office (Next to the Post Office) New Members Welcome Contact: MCC Office for more details</p>	<p>Arthritis Ireland Walking Group (Maynooth) Meeting Monday's 12 - 2pm in the Maynooth Community Space</p>
University of Third Age (U3A)	Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group	Maynooth Men's Sheds
<p>Weekly meetings on Friday at 11am in Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth New Members Welcome</p>	<p>Every Thursday from 10.00am to 12.00pm Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth</p>	<p>Weekly meetings take place every Wednesday at 11am at the Garden Centre Dublin Road Maynooth. For further details contact John Fleming - 087 2041334</p>
Maynooth Tidy Towns	ALZHEIMER CAFÉ LEIXLIP	Maynooth Community Church
<p>Volunteers required to help with this work. Contact Number 087 3153189 Meet every Saturday at 10.00am in the Square</p>	<p>Informal café atmosphere for people with Dementia & their partners family & friends. Free of charge. Venue Ryevale Nursing Home. Every second Wednesday of each month 7-9pm. Call 0894933533 Email:alzheimercafeleixlip@gmail.ie www.alzheimercafeleixlip.com</p>	<p>1st Floor Manor Mills (entrance next to Chill) Service times every Sunday morning from 10.30am www.maynoothcc.org Everyone most welcome</p>
Maynooth Senior Citizens	Craobh Mhaigh Nuad C.C.E.	ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND
<p>Our morning club continues on Tuesday and Thursday and new members are always welcome. Perhaps you are new to the parish or new to the age bracket, why not come along you might enjoy it. You will find us in the Geraldine Hall on Leinster St, or contact Josephine on 087 9002296.</p>	<p>Classes are held on Wednesday 7pm to 9.30pm in Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road. Our classes are very good value, great fun and we promise you plenty of craic also !!. Bígí linn!!! Contact Sean at 086 2225540 or email craobhmaighnuad@gmail.com.</p>	<p>Rehearsals are held in the Band Hall on Pound Lane each Monday night (except Bank Holidays) from 7.45pm to 9.30pm and musicians living in Maynooth and the surrounding areas are most welcome. E-mail: sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie Website: www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie</p>

Diary entries are published free of charge for all Community Groups. E-mail details of your event before the copy date (2nd last Tuesday of each month) to be included in the next months edition. E-mail: office@maynoothcc.com. Phone: 01-6285922
 (The content of the Monthly Planner Diary is published in good faith. All details should be checked with groups)



MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN

200

Independence of Children

There was recent controversy on Joe Duffy's Liveline with people complaining about Ryanair's policy of splitting up groups unless they pay for reserved seating. Michael O'Leary rang RTE and vigorously defended the airline against public criticism. One of the points raised by a member of the public was that a thirteen year old was in tears because he/she was forced to sit separately from his/her parents. Michael O'Leary vehemently denied that any such incident had occurred.

I do not know whether this is true or not but what is clear is that many people thought that the idea of a thirteen year old being upset in these circumstances was credible. The independence/self reliance of children in Ireland is in stark contrast with that in the Netherlands where it is normal for young children to travel independently and doing things for themselves. I recently read about a Dutch girl who at five years went to the shops on her own on her bike to get bread for her mother. Twenty years later and living in New York, she still spoke with great pride and pleasure of her achievement. I doubt whether many five year old Maynooth children would be allowed to do the same.

Royal Canal Greenway

As most people are aware the towpath of the Royal Canal is being developed as part of the Dublin - Galway Greenway, the first Irish cross country greenway. The section either side of Kilcock has been open for some time. We visited it recently but were not impressed - it compares poorly with the recently opened Waterford Greenway. The section close to the bridge is particularly poor because the width is narrowed by the choice of public lights and their positioning across the footpath rather than parallel to the road.

Gross National Happiness

At the recent Velo-City Conference in the Netherlands which attracted over 1500 people from 80 countries across the world, there was a discussion on cycling, happiness and Butan. Butan, is a small country perched in the Himalayas between India and China that many people will never have heard of. Realising that money does not make people happy, it has rejected GDP as the way to measure progress and instead has championed a new approach to development which measures prosperity through formal principles of gross national happiness (GNH). What has this got to do with cycling? Well cyclists are generally happy when they get on a bike (provided it is not raining and there is a headwind blowing). Most children like to cycle and even many people who no longer cycle fondly remember the freedom and happiness of cycling as a child. So more people cycling make more people happier!



This is intended for pedestrians and two way cycling

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. Further information on meetings and activities is available on our website. We are affiliated to Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cycling Advocacy Network and through it to the European Cycling Federation. Membership is FREE. If you want to support our work, just email your contact details to maynoothcycling@gmail.com.

Editorial

September already here brings the summer to an end and ushers in the last part of the year. Yes the evenings are shorter and there is no doubt that the temperatures will fall by the end of the month. Of course September also brings a new year and this is very evident in Maynooth as we welcome the new first year students to Maynooth University. Going to University is a major milestone in a person's life and by choosing Maynooth you are coming to a town that welcomes you as part of the local community. We all remember our years in university as being special and as well as having a focus on getting an education there was also lots of new people to meet and of course fun and enjoyment.

As members of the community, students of course bring additional spending to the town and help to support jobs in many businesses. They also take rooms in houses which helps family finances. The growth of on campus accommodation in recent years has helped to increase the supply and made it easier for students to get somewhere to live. Daytime the operation of the university brings significant extra traffic to the town centre but this is a relatively small price to pay for the presence of the university in the town.

Of course the student body need to be conscious that Maynooth is also home to a permanent population of families who live busy lives and need to have their privacy and domestic circumstances respected. This is well understood by the vast majority of students and in fairness to the student leadership they make significant efforts to spread this message to new students. Maynooth is a

welcoming town and it is disappointing when a small number of students give all students a bad reputation as far as some members of the community are concerned. It is hard to defend some of the behaviour and there is often significant damage which is the evidence to annoy the community impacted. So hopefully this academic year will be a positive one for students and the community together.

Staying on the education subject it is great to finally see the work has commenced on the new two Post-Primary Schools for Maynooth up in the Moyglare area. There is no doubt that the trucks coming and going from the site will cause additional traffic in the area during the two years of construction work. In the end there will be two state of the art schools in the town and having visited other new post-primary schools elsewhere recently, these schools will be well equipped with facilities and resources for their students. Roll on the completion without delay.

Also two new primary schools have received planning approval in Maynooth. While these new buildings replace existing schools there will be an increase in school places in these schools. Maynooth's newest school, Maynooth Educate Together NS is one of the schools getting a new permanent building and the school has other reasons to celebrate this month as they start the celebration of their tenth year providing education in Maynooth.

Paul Croghan
Editor

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**The Copy Date for the October Edition of the
Maynooth Newsletter is Tuesday 19th September 2017**

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

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

Catherine Murphy calls for immediate action on accommodation crisis.

The number of rental properties in Ireland is at its lowest in recorded history. The latest Daft.ie quarterly rental report makes for grim reading for renters around the country.

Rents nationally are increasing at a much faster pace than they have for the last few years. A new report has been issued by Daft.ie and was authored by Ronan Lyons, economist at Trinity College.

The survey indicates that rents nationally have increased by almost 12 per cent year-on-year to June, according to a new survey. Rents in Kildare have risen by 11.5%. There are very few properties available for rent on-line and the crisis is deepening.

There will be huge pressure to find suitable rental accommodation for families of students where they will be seeking to attend Maynooth University. The supply is the tightest it has been in many years. Currently there are 13 properties to rent using the student accommodation search tool on the website. The 1-bed options are priced at between €750 & €900 per month. The most expensive property listed is €3,500 per calendar month.
<http://www.daft.ie/student-accommodation>

According to the statistics, it will cost a family that are renting between €2,000 & €3,000 more in payments per calendar year than it has in the last couple of years.

There is little sign that the incremental increases show any signs of a slow-down. The competition across Ireland for available and appropriate properties to rent, whether it be the student community or working families, is going to be fierce and there will be much disappointment. For families not working 91% of the properties available are not eligible for state support as the rents are too high.

In ongoing tenancies, tenants are afraid to stick heads above the parapet. People forgoing essentials - heat, lighting, food to try to keep homes for now. The market is unsure what will happen in the next couple of years if supply doesn't improve drastically.

According to a Journal.ie article on the survey where they interviewed Ronan Lyons who stated; "average rents across the country reached a new all-time high in the period April-June for the fifth-quarter in a row, rising to €1,159 a month.

Rents are now rising in every county across Ireland, with the average national rent up by

11.8 per cent, or €22 a month, in the year to June 2017.

Ronan Lyons, economist at Trinity College Dublin and author of the Daft Report, said given the demand for student accommodation over the summer months and the lack of supply, it is "unsurprising to see rents reach a new high".

Indeed, supply of accommodation to rent continues to shrink; figures from Daft.ie show that there were just 2,900 properties available to rent as of August 1st, down by almost 20 per cent on the same date in 2016. In Dublin, there were just 1,100 homes available to rent, compared to 2,000 on the same date in 2014. "The rental market remains in severe distress due to a lack of supply and thus the appropriate policy response is to boost supply of all forms. This includes purpose-built student accommodation.

"Based on demographics and other factors, Dublin alone needs a block of 300 student beds approved every month until the late 2020s," Mr Lyons said."

Without a dedicated Housing Delivery Agency, piecemeal approaches will fail to resolve crisis

With children four years and younger revealed as the largest age group among those who are homeless, the implementation deficit in addressing the housing crisis becomes more apparent and more chronic every day.

The announcements by Housing Minister today on vacant homes and other measures to free up existing housing stock are welcome. But the Minister needs to radically step-change the pace of delivery across all fronts to increase the housing supply. We need much greater ambition in terms of the number of homes built with the support of the State.

"Ireland urgently needs a dedicated housing body to drive and oversee the faster delivery of new homes. The Housing Delivery Office in the Minister's department has four staff – how can the wide range of actions necessary be overseen by four staff?"

"The Social Democrats want to see a new State Housing Delivery Agency that would have a hands-on approach and be able to coordinate activities of local authorities and housing agencies, contract builders and activate publicly-controlled land banks. Without a powerful coordinating agency, individual measures will simply not deliver the scale of response needed.

Many more vacant units are available and we call for urgent implementation of measures including promised changes to the planning laws to facilitate easier conversion of 'above the shop' units into housing.

Land hoarding remains a problem. The Social Democrats have published a Bill that would deal with land-hoarding. The Urban Regeneration and Housing (Amendment) Bill would mean that owners of vacant sites would face higher levies the longer the land remains undeveloped."

"No sense of urgency from Government about crisis in Health" says Catherine Murphy, TD.

The current shocking hospital waiting lists of 687,000 people are a new record and represent a huge failing on the part of Government. Providing a decent health service where people can get timely treatment, on the basis of need, is a basic requirement of any civilised country. Yet for people who depend on the public health system, things are getting progressively worse by the month."

The all-party Committee on the Future of Healthcare made a number of specific recommendations in respect of hospital waiting lists, key among them are:

1. Abolish the private-patient income targets for public hospitals as these incentivise the admission of private patients over public patients in public hospitals. The spare capacity in private hospitals can be used for private patients while public beds will be freed up for public patients.
2. Deal with the 500+ delayed discharges by funding adequate homecare services and step-down facilities. The freeing up of these beds would allow significant progress to be made in tackling the waiting lists.
3. Designate one hospital in each hospital group for elective-only work without the pressure of EDs or the complications of hospital infections.
4. Accelerate the process of moving diagnostics and chronic disease management into the community and incentivise primary care staff to do this work and thereby take pressure off hospitals.

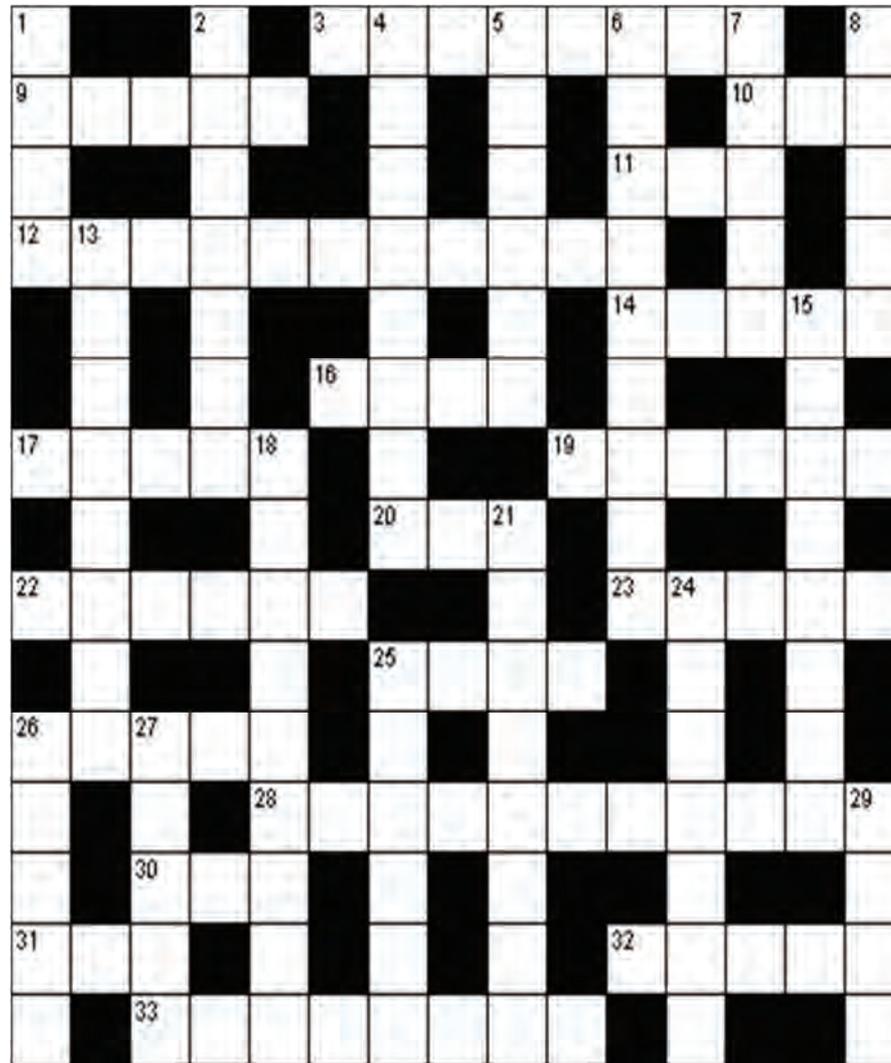
"All of these actions, and more, are outlined in the Slaintecare report. It is now time for the Taoiseach to adopt the report, establish the Implementation Office and start the process of real reform".

Clues Across

3. Extremely hot (5,3)
9. Participant (5)
10. Large island in the Channel (3)
11. Pull laboriously (3)
12. Basic (11)
14. Paddled (5)
16. Back of the neck (4)
17. Crawl (5)
19. Act properly (6)
20. A failure (3)
22. Hovers (6)
23. Sound (5)
25. Speech defect (4)
26. Set apart as sacred (5)
28. Not qualified (11)
30. Impair (3)
31. Young bear (3)
32. Arranges in groups (5)
33. Superficial (4,4)



September Crossword - No. 461



Clues Down

1. One of two equal parts (4)
2. Farewell (4-3)
4. One's native land (8)
5. Grow teeth (6)
6. Evening of Oct. 31 (9)
7. Large cat (5)
8. Weapon (5)
13. Portable weather protection (8)
15. Visualise (8)
18. Medley (3-6)
21. Space between two objects (8)
24. Outward movement (7)
25. Neither gas nor solid (6)
26. Trail (5)
27. Explosive weapons (5)
29. Partial darkness (4)



Answers to Crossword No 460



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No. 460 August**

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Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

From 22/6/17 to 23/8/17 - information from Kildare County Council Website

App. Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	Application Date
17959	Kildare County Council	Edward and Katie Robinson,	Donaghstown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	23/08/2017
17932	Kildare County Council	Joseph Murtagh	Ath Dara, Maynooth Road, Celbridge	18/08/2017
17920	Kildare County Council	Saffron Property Limited	No. 22 Temple Wood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth	16/08/2017
17918	Kildare County Council	Adrian and Michelle Guckian,	102 Leinster Wood South, Carton Demesne, Maynooth	15/08/2017
17913	Kildare County Council	Maynooth University,	Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	11/08/2017
17902	Kildare County Council	Celine Clarke,	Moyglare Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	10/08/2017
17879	Kildare County Council	Martin and Michelle Maguire	29 Rockfield Green, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	03/08/2017
17872	Kildare County Council	Edward & Claire Chung	Barberstown Upper, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	02/08/2017
17837	Kildare County Council	GL Ireland ICAV,	Unit 4 Manor Mills Shopping, Mill Street, Maynooth	20/07/2017
17797	Kildare County Council	Maynooth University,	Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	07/07/2017
17759	Kildare County Council	Stephen O'Reilly	5 The Green, Newtown Hall, Maynooth	30/06/2017
17728	Kildare County Council	Geraldine Dunne,	357 Celbridge Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	22/06/2017

Difficult

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

Sudoku Challenge September 2017

Entries must arrive before:
19th September 2017

**Congratulations to
August Winner:
Paula McTernan
Laurence Avenue
Maynooth**

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

Super Difficult

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

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Comhaltas Craobh Mhaigh Nuad



It's end of August already and the excitement is building toward the upcoming new year. The summer holidays and summer schools are wrapped up and the schoolbooks are bought, as another September beckons.

At the centre of August's trad calendar was the Fleadh Cheoil in Ennis. Well done to all from the branch who competed – and indeed to all musicians across North Kildare who participated in the competitions and craic. We're looking forward already to 2018, when the Fleadh is coming back to Leinster and will be hosted by Drogheda.

For our musician's corner this week, we're chatting with Tom, a Maynooth man, who has been with us since the very beginning of the branch.

Name: Tom Keane
Age: 12

Instruments & how long have you been playing?

I play the button accordion and I started it in First class when I was 7.

How did you get on in the Fleadh?

Well this year I moved up to Under 15s, but I didn't get through, but I still think I did well. I got through to Leinster last year and won medals at county level also.

Who is the biggest influence on your musical career?

My teacher Seán Tracey is the biggest influence in my music career because he makes music really fun to learn and play.

Who is the best musician you know?

The best musician that I know, is again, my music teacher Seán Tracey. 😊



What do you like best about playing music?

What I like best about playing music is the energy and the fun when playing with others.

Registration for the 2017/2018 Comhaltas year will take place in early September. With September coming up fast, do have a think whether you like to join us on our journey through our fabulous traditional music.

We'd love to welcome you to our gang and we have folks from every background, including:

- Kids starting out or switching over from other traditions.
- Adult beginners.
- Adult players of rock, pop, reggae, classical, jazz, jive, or just the odd carol at Christmas time who'd like to take up a traditional instrument and have a bit of fun along the way.

Registration information is on the website below, but why not drop down to the evening on 6th Sept at 7 in Maynooth PPS, where you can ask whatever question you like.

Note that this year, thanks to support from KBC, our sponsor, we've built a decent instrument bank for those who'd like to try an instrument without a big up-front investment. In it are concertinas, accordions, fiddles, guitars and more but it's first come, first served, so the early bird...and all that.

Keep an eagle eye on our Facebook or Twitter feeds for more information on upcoming workshops, pop-up sessions and performances.

<http://www.ccemhaighnuad.com/>
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<http://twitter.com/CCEMaighNuad>

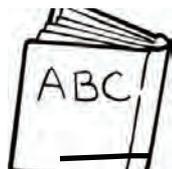
Derek Carroll, PRO
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Back to School



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Age: _____

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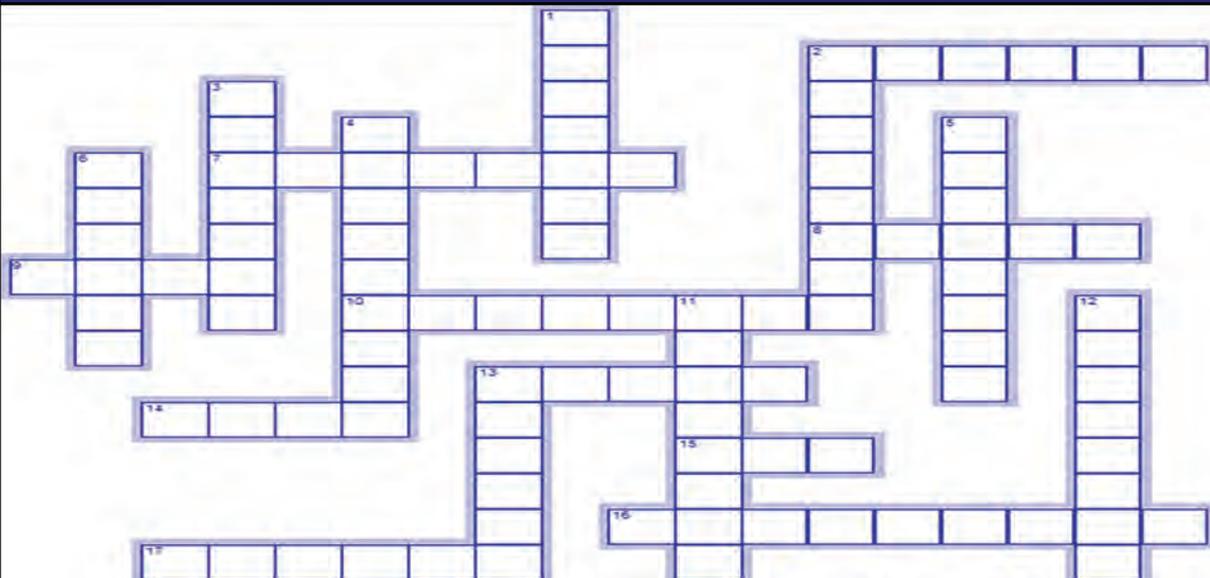
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Last Month's Winner:

Emilia Harrington
Moyglare Hall
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Tuesday 19th September 2017

Junior Puzzle Corner



Can you find the
the **mistake**?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Andrew couldn't decide what flavour of Ice Cream he wanted most, so he just asked for nine scoops in the cone. Unscramble the letters on each scoop to find out what flavours he enjoyed .

Across

- 2. The day before Saturday
- 7. The day before Wednesday
- 8. The fourth month
- 9. The month when we celebrate Father's Day
- 10. Last day of the week
- 13. The only month that ends with H
- 14. The seventh month
- 15. The month with just 3 letters
- 16. The ninth month
- 17. First day of the week

Down

- 1. The first month of the year
- 2. The month with the fewest days
- 3. The month with Halloween
- 4. The middle day of the week
- 5. The day before Friday
- 6. The eighth month
- 11. The last month of the year
- 12. The month for America's Thanksgiving
- 13. The day after Sunday

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____
- 7. _____
- 8. _____
- 9. _____



September Recipes

Roast whiting with chorizo and tomatoes

Ingredients:

8-12 whiting fillets or similar
100g chorizo
250g cherry tomatoes
1 pepper, red or yellow
Small bunch fresh basil
Crusty white bread

Serves 6



Method:

Preheat the oven to 200°C. Remove the skin from the whiting by placing the fillet on the chopping board flesh side up. Use a sharp, flexible (if possible) knife. Make a small nick at the tail end but don't cut all the way through to the skin; this will give you something to grip. Carefully work towards the top of the fillet from the tail end, gripping firmly while using a saw-like motion with the knife. The skin should come away in one piece. Remove any bones you can feel. Repeat with each fillet.

Place each fillet on a large oiled baking tray. Fold each one in half with the tail tucked underneath to create a small compact rectangle. Place a thin slice of chorizo on top of each one and then scatter the tomatoes, chopped pepper and remaining chorizo around the fish. Bake in the hot oven for 12-15 minutes until the chorizo is crisp, tomatoes ready to burst and the fish opaque. Scatter with torn basil leaves and serve straight away with crusty bread to mop up the sauce.

Lamb with olives and baked feta

Ingredients:

2 cloves garlic, crushed
2 tbs olive oil
250ml red wine
8 black olives, halved and stones removed
15g mixed herbs
1 shoulder of lamb, about 1.5kg, boned
2 large handfuls of spinach
200g feta cheese
200g cherry tomatoes
4tbs basil pesto

Serves 4



Method:

Mix the crushed garlic, oil, olives and roughly torn herbs. Rub this mix all over the inside of the lamb piece - no need to put it on the fat-covered side. Pour the red wine over and make sure every part of the meat is covered with the wine. Roll it all up and place in a sealed tupperware or zip-lock bag in the fridge for a few hours to marinade.

Preheat the oven to 170°C. Unroll the lamb and place in a roasting tray with 250ml of water and any of the marinade that hasn't been soaked up. Cover tightly with foil and cook for two to three hours (three is best). Then remove the foil, baste the meat with juices and add another splash of water, if needed. Turn the oven up high to 200°C and roast uncovered for 10 minutes or so until the meat is crisp and browned. Cover with foil and leave to rest for a few minutes before serving.

You can cook the feta while the oven is high and browning the lamb. Roughly chop the spinach. Place in a colander and pour over boiling water. Leave to cool slightly, then squeeze dry and place at the base of a small oven-proof dish. Place the feta on top and cover with the chopped tomatoes. Drizzle with oil and bake for 10 - 15 minutes. To serve, simply shred the lamb with two forks and then spoon over some of the pan juices. Serve with the hot baked feta and cauliflower purée or mashed potato and a drizzle of pesto or fresh herbs.

Apple and Chestnut Soup

Ingredients:

2 pints of chicken stock
115g shallots
170g peeled potatoes
2 large apples
300g chestnuts (poached and peeled)
20g butter
200ml cream
Toasted hazelnuts (to garnish)
Seasoning, to taste

Serves 4 - 6



Method:

Melt the butter, then add shallots, apples and poached and peeled chestnuts. Cook until it's transparent in colour and then add diced potatoes. Season, then add chicken stock and simmer for 30 minutes approximately. Liquidize all ingredients and then pass through a fine sieve. Season to taste and then add cream. Garnish this soup with toasted hazelnuts and sliced fresh apple.



September Gardening

September is generally a cooler, gustier month than August and the days are noticeably shorter. While there's not as much to do in the ornamental garden at this time of the year, if you have a fruit or vegetable patch, you'll be busy reaping the rewards of harvest. It's also time to get out and start planting spring-flowering bulbs for next year and you can collect seeds for next summer's colour too. Make the most of the remaining warmth while you can!



Roses that were pruned after flowering and were given some rose fertilizer will be showing a new crop of late buds and flowers - these can even flower into early winter if there is no frost. Evergreens can be lifted from late September and re-planted. Control grass and weeds on areas that are marked

down for planting in autumn. Check that young trees are securely tied to stakes, going into autumn gales and winter weather. Finish clipping hedges as soon as possible, all kinds of hedge can be clipped at this time and they will stay neat longer if clipped now. Evergreen shrubs could be moved now if they need to be given more space.

Create a new lawn from turf or seed - autumn weather is favourable for good lawn establishment. Raise the height of your mower blades as grass growth slows down. Now is a good time to carry out essential lawn maintenance to avoid waterlogging and compaction. Try aerating your lawn with a garden fork, removing thatch from the surface with a rake and repairing dead patches. Use a specialist lawn scarifier if you have a large area to cover. Apply a special lawn top-dressing after carrying out maintenance work. Follow the instructions on the packet carefully. You can feed your lawn with an autumn fertiliser now, which is rich in potassium and low in nitrogen.



Spring bulbs are appearing in the shops and it is a good time to make an assessment of new locations for bulbs. Tidy up messy perennial flowers, but be sure to leave good stems and seedheads, such as agapanthus, fennel, lysimachia, dierama, phlomis and monarda, for autumn and winter display. Bedding and container annuals will last longer if given some

liquid feeding now, they still have two months in them but will fade long before that without feeding and regular watering. There is a last chance to take cuttings of tender plants such as geraniums, marguerites, fuchsias and argyranthemums to carry over winter.

Keep harvesting crops. If you have a glut of fruit and veg try freezing, drying, pickling, and storing so that you can benefit from them later on. If vegetables have gone over, pull them up and compost them, if they are not diseased. Most vegetables pull out easily when the soil is soft. Take the opportunity to clear out weeds. Later the soil will grow colder and wetter and these removal jobs will be more difficult. Conditions are ideal for planting spring cabbage which benefits from making root growth while there is still a little heat in the ground. Lift potatoes before the small underground slugs become active, and the soil becomes sticky. Place pumpkins on a flat stone or piece of slate or wood if the ground is heavy and wet.



You know you are a hard-core gardener if you deadhead flowers in other people's gardens.



FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON



DUNKIRK (2017)



The Battle of Dunkirk was a strategic military operation that took place in Dunkirk, France during WW2. It involved the defense and evacuation of British and Allied forces from the beaches and harbour of Northern France.

In **Dunkirk**, director Christopher Nolan (Batman movies) has fashioned a stark and harrowing movie around one of the most triumphant military retreats in the history of the world. By mid-1940s, the Nazis had swept across Europe and pushed at least a quarter-million British troops to the beaches of Northern France. With the enemy hard on their heels and the route home obstructed, the young soldiers could only pray for a miracle.



The British faced with the capture or possible annihilation of their troops, initiated a seemingly impossible rescue. **Operation Dynamo** has assumed near-mythic status in British history and has often been revisited in books or onscreen.

Christopher Nolan's focus here is not on the historical context or political machinations of Churchill in London. Rather it is more intimate look. He gives us the story of a handful of men who are fighting for their very survival in the air, on the ground and in the sea.

Nolan's film doesn't bombard you with information like other war movies. It is a minimalist approach where silence does the talking. The dialogue is sparse and functional at best.

The eerie opening sequence is especially striking in this regard as soldiers walk along a deserted street. We the audience are immediately thrown into an atmosphere of isolation, danger, desperation and fear.



No filmmaker is as fascinated with time as Nolan or as expert at playing with it in filmic terms. In **Dunkirk**, Nolan interweaves three storylines with the help of his editor Lee Smith. On the beaches, British Army privates, Tommy (Fionn Whitehead) and Alex (singer Harry Styles) are desperately fighting to stay alive and get off the beach.

Tom Hardy (barely visible in an oxygen mask for most of the movie) is a spitfire pilot shooting down Luftwaffe planes and ever conscious of the perilous state of limited fuel supplies. Meanwhile in England, Mark Rylance

loads his small yacht with life vests to do his bit in the race to save the stranded soldiers at Dunkirk.



The crosscutting of scenes involves not just different locations but different time periods too. At one point, Nolan draws these three narrative strands tightly together, creating a visceral sense of foreboding. **Dunkirk** is very much a story of land, sea and air, beautifully framed by Nolan's cinematographer, Hoyte van Hoytema. The spitfire dogfights in the sky are particularly exhilarating and exciting. No wonder as Nolan used real spitfires above the English Channel.

Nolan's film is not especially gory or bloody like most war films of this ilk. Rather, the horror and sheer devastation of war is visible on his actors' faces: Kenneth Branagh conveys much as a naval commander who watches some of his men die. Dunkirk scales down gung-ho heroics in favour of deeper characterisations and meaning.



It's a complex view of war where humans take centre stage rather than battle plans. Overhead shots of soldiers scattered across the beach of Dunkirk convey an unnerving sense of isolation. **Dunkirk** is every inch a British film with a cast made up of notable English actors and stars. There is no American star on show to appeal to international audiences. A rarity in cinema these days.



Rather than heroics, Christopher Nolan is concerned with what men can endure. Dunkirk examines people under immense pressure in war time. From Rylance's civilian on a mission to Cillian Murphy's traumatised wreck survivor. Performances are muted, underplayed with no melodramatic speeches and in the case of the

terrified Tommy, almost no talking at all.

Despite the starry cast of Tom Hardy, Cillian Murphy, Kenneth Branagh and Mark Rylance, this is very much an ensemble film. The four actors are used sparingly and in supporting roles throughout **Dunkirk**. Murphy's role is small but important as a soldier suffering from PTSD. Branagh does a classic stiff-upper-lip turn as a British Naval Commander.



Oscar-winner Rylance is excellent as a dignified war-time 'civvy' who is resolved to end the plight of the stranded soldiers at Dunkirk. As in **The Dark Knight Rises**, Hardy demonstrates that he can still deliver a vivid performance even with his face covered for most of the film. Newcomer, Fionn Whitehead and pop star Harry Styles prove they can hold their own against their more experienced counterparts.

Hans Zimmer's score for **Dunkirk** is amazing. His pulsating score resembles a ticking clock counting down the seconds. It is a fitting accompaniment to the film's sense of urgency and dread.

Christopher Nolan's film on the Dunkirk mission (which he also wrote) is one of his shortest at 106 minutes. Some critics have called **Dunkirk** Nolan's 'best film to date' and 'one of the greatest war films ever'. It's certainly an accomplished piece of work and can stand comparison with other great war movies in the genre.

Dunkirk is a more tightly-paced, thrilling and intimate affair than some of the director's previous offerings. Nolan has stated his film is more a story of 'survival' than a war film. See it on the big screen (the bigger the better) for accomplished set pieces and epic, heart-stopping filmmaking. Capturing real emotions and enormous horrors at intimate quarters.





Frank O'Rourke TD

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Maynooth Newsletter



Serving the people of Maynooth



Local News

October 2017

Issue No. 462 FREE

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

Maynooth Strike Gold “Again” in National Tidy Towns Awards 2017

Maynooth Tidy Towns won Gold again at The National Tidy Towns Awards in The Helix Theatre, DCU for 2017.

We are absolutely delighted and thrilled with this win especially as we are in a different category this year and most importantly we increased our points this year to 323 up from 316 in 2016. We were competing with the likes of Naas, Leixlip, Newbridge, Celbridge and many other towns in Category G all over Ireland. Most of these Towns would be large tourist towns with bigger budgets than Maynooth.

In the special Awards Category we won the “Lets get Buzzing-Local Authority Pollinator Award” sponsored by Kildare County Council worth €1,000. We also came third in the County Awards, winning €500 for Maynooth. This Award is sponsored by SuperValu and our own Eddie Casey.

The biggest thrill of the day went to our own Volunteer Tina Drury, whom the committee nominated for the Community Heroes awards. Tina won the nomination for Kildare and received her invitation to join us and Eddie Casey, SuperValu, in The Helix. Tina received a Certificate and Vouchers to spend in SuperValu, Maynooth. Well done Tina.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers, committee and sponsors who helped us out during the year, especially Ted Robinson, Glenroyal Hotel. The Flower and Garden Club Ladies are a pleasure to deal with and our thanks to Peter Cuthbert for all his advice on Pollinators and plants. Our thanks also to Moreish @ Maxol, Maynooth for the supply of coffees.

Last but not least, you, the people of Maynooth, for all your encouragement and messages of congratulations. We did this together.

Mary Molloy - Secretary - Maynooth Tidy Towns
(Photo's supplied by Maynooth Tidy Towns)



Above the Maynooth Tidy Towns Group pictured with Johnny Doyle, Kildare County Council Tidy Towns Ambassador outside The Helix after the Awards.



Photo Above: Maynooth Tidy Towns Group at The Helix following the announcement of the National Tidy Towns Awards 2017. Left to Right: Sean Lyons, Committee Member, Catherine Mulready Volunteer, Vincent Mulready, Vice Chairman, Mary Jennings, Treasurer, Mary Molloy, Secretary, John Kavanagh, Chairman, Tina Drury, Local Hero, Des Matthews Committee member, May Haren, Volunteer & Mattie Callaghan, Committee member.



Above Left to Right: Tina Drury (Local Hero Award Winner), Sean Lyons & Mary Jennings.



Above Left to Right: Mary Jennings & Sean Lyons with the Pollinator Award.

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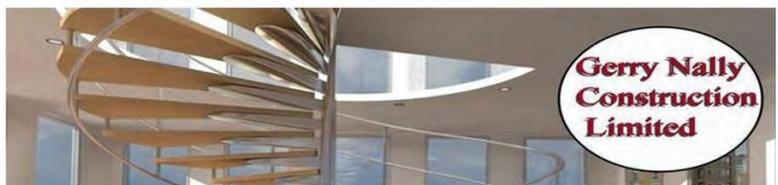
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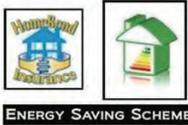
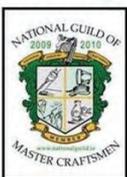


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Maynooth GAA Coaching Junior & Senior Infant Boys and Girls

Maynooth GAA Coaching has begun for the new season.

This is a great opportunity for kids to get involved in a team sport, to keep fit, to make friends and most importantly to have fun. If your child is new to the GAA, we would be delighted for them to come down to training and give it a go. Training is every Saturday morning at the GAA pitches.

If you have any questions, you can contact the coaches below:

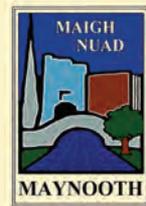
Junior Infant Boys: maynoothgaaboys2012@gmail.com

Senior Infant Boys: maynoothgaaboys2011@gmail.com

Girls: maynoothjuniorgirlscoaches@gmail.com



Martin O'Grady
PRO - Maynooth GAA



Maynooth

Tidy Towns
Caring for our environment

Johnny Doyle, Kildare County Council Tidy Towns Ambassador visited us in Maynooth on 29th August. Thank you to all who turned out on the day.

Maynooth Tidy Towns wish Fr. Liam Rigney every success in his new appointment in Athy, Co Kildare.



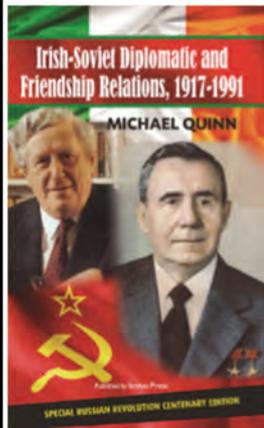
Fr. Liam has been a great supporter of all our work over the last 10 years, and giving us the opportunity to speak from the altar about our work and the need for more volunteers.

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



Richard Farrell - PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns
Mobile no. 087 3153189 - Follow us on Facebook/Twitter

A New Book on: Irish-Soviet Diplomatic and Friendship Relations 1917-1991 by Michael Quinn



Michael Quinn was a member of the Connolly Youth Movement in the 1970s, and Youth Officer of the County Kildare Constituency Council of the Labour Party in the 1980s. He was the founding Chair of the Maynooth Local History Group, and of the James Connolly Memorial Initiative. The Initiative commissioned the sculptor, the late Eamonn O'Doherty, to erect the memorial to James Connolly in Beresford Place, opposite Liberty Hall, Dublin, to coincide with the eightieth anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising. In 2014 Michael was awarded a PhD at the Department of History, Maynooth University for his thesis on the subject of Irish-Soviet diplomatic and friendship relations. This book is an adaption and expansion of that thesis. He works as a Finance Administrator in the community and voluntary sector, and is a member of SIPTU.

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Maynooth Labour News

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

Update on the Provision of Traffic Signals for the Straffan Road/Meadowbrook Link Road Junction

Cllr. John McGinley got the following update from the Council's Senior Executive Engineer on 5 September: "The Engineer for the Developer has confirmed to me recently that the traffic lights on the Straffan Road Maynooth should be installed shortly by the Developer. I have requested the programme of works, the traffic management plan and the name of the Contractor from the Engineer. I will update you on this information as soon as I get it."

Update on Improving Safety at Maynooth Playground

Cllr. John McGinley was given the following update on his motion at the MD meeting on 13 September: Temporary CCTV will be installed for 2/3 months to see how they will work. The Council are seeking volunteers to open and close the Playground. Refurbishment of the Playground will take place in October.

Planting to be Carried out at Bond Bridge Embankment:

Cllr. John McGinley got the following reply to his Motion at the Maynooth MD meeting on 13 September: "When will the council plant shrubs and trees on the west embankment at Bond Bridge as requested by residents? The Council replied as follows: "The work will be carried out as part of the 2018 tree planting programme which will take place between January and March."

Cllr. McGinley Seeks Traffic Calming for Newtown Road:

Cllr. John McGinley got the following reply to his Motion at the Maynooth MD meeting on 13 September: "When will the council install a traffic calming ramp at the Bond Bridge end of Newtown Road, Maynooth, as requested by residents? The Council gave the following highly unsatisfactory reply: "We have no plans to construct a ramp on this section of road." John asked the Engineer to re-consider the issue as pedestrians cross the road where the footpath narrows at the entrance to the Health Board houses. As KCC won't put a footpath on the northern side of the road a ramp is needed in the interest of public safety. John also highlighted the fact that a large volume of pedestrians use the footpath.

Cllr. McGinley demands that any Surplus from Maynooth Pay Parking Must be Ring-fenced for Use in Maynooth Town:

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 13 September: "That any surplus funds from pay parking in Maynooth must only be used for improvement works in Maynooth Town, as previously agreed with the Area Committee." The Council replied as follows: "This is for the discussion and agreement of the members." Cllr. McGinley made the following points in support of his Motion:

- Maynooth, being a University Town needs special attention, especially in the Town Centre Area.
- Funding is needed to implement the Public Realm Strategy identified in the Maynooth Local Area Plan, which includes the Re-Vamp of the Square and the enhancement of the Lanes off the Main Street.
- The surplus funds from the Maynooth Pay Parking will help in achieving the objectives of the Local Area Plan
- That was the thinking of the Area Committee when they unanimously agreed that any surplus from Pay Parking in Maynooth must only be used for improvement works in the town

Cllr. McGinley's Motion was agreed unanimously despite the strong objections of the Director of Services. The MD engineer advised the Councilors that a scheme is currently being designed for the refurbishment of The Square and that it will be brought to the MD members prior to public

consultation.

Cllr. McGinley Again Calls for the Extension of the 67 Bus Route to the New Schools on the Moyglare Road;

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 13 September: "That Dublin Bus be asked to outline their plans for extending the 67 bus route to Moyglare Hall in order to cater for the needs of the eight hundred houses on the Moyglare Road, as well as the two new secondary schools at Moyglare Hall and the sixty plus individuals attending the St. John of God's services."

John got the following unacceptable reply from the Council: "The National Transportation Authority (NTA) has commenced a process to fundamentally transform Dublin's bus system - BusConnects will include Dublin Bus services to Maynooth and other towns in the county. The bus network redesign is underway and a public consultation process will commence in early 2018. Information can be obtained from www.busconnects.ie"

John pointed out that Dublin Bus had agreed to the Route extension in February 2014, subject to NTA approval. He asked that the Council now write to Dublin Bus and the NTA asking them to proceed with the Route extension to facilitate the two new schools, the 800 houses and the sixty plus individuals attending the St. John of God's Services. This was agreed.

Backward Step in Providing a Bus Turning Point for the 66 Route at Crinnstown Nursing Home.

Councillors were advised at the Maynooth MD meeting on 13 September that the owner of the Nursing Home at Crinnstown has requested the Council to suspend this project.

Double Yellow Lines to be Provided at Silken Vale/The Arches

Maynooth MD Councillors unanimously agreed at the MD meeting on 13 September to the Councils proposal for double yellow lines/parking restrictions at Silken Vale/The Arches.

Update on the Greenway from Kilcock to Maynooth:

Councillors were given the following update at the MD meeting on 13 September: "As part of the Chambers Bridge to Maynooth Harbour project, which is due to commence on 11 September 2017, underground ducting will be laid along this section of the canal to facilitate potential lighting of the greenway. No commitment is in place as yet, for the provision of these lights." Cllr. McGinley asked that as a minimum public lighting should be provided from Bond Bridge to the Harbour.

Prevention of Parking of Caravans at the Entrance to the Harbour, Maynooth

Following on from Cllr. McGinley's motion the MD engineer advised the September MD meeting as follows: "As part of the North/South Corridor, we intend to landscape this portion of land and incorporate it into the Public Realm element of this project."

Update on the Taking in Charge of Castle Dawson and Meadowbrook:

Councillors were given the following update at the Maynooth MD meeting on 13 September: "Castle Dawson has not been taken in charge to date. The pump station that serves Castle Dawson is now in the control of the developer of Newtown Hall. He had indicated some time ago that he had no objection to the council taking the pump station in charge in advance of the remainder of Newtown Hall. We provided him with a list of remedial works that were required to bring the pump station up to taking in charge standard but to date these works have only been partially completed. Given that all of the houses are now substantially completed in Newtown Hall, the developer may want us to take that estate in charge along with the pump station and Castle Dawson. Building and Development Control staff will contact the developer to clarify and will keep the members informed of progress. When the taking in charge of Castledawson has been finalised, the Municipal District Engineer can consider maintenance works to the roads in the estate."

"We have included Meadowbrook on the agenda for our next meeting with Irish Water. No date for our next meeting as yet though."

Examination of Accommodation Options for North Kildare Gaelcholaiste Still Ongoing - Stagg

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has again raised with the Minister for Education the issue of the securing of accommodation for the North Kildare Gaelcholaiste in Maynooth, which is due to open in 2019.

The Minister advised Mr. Stagg that Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board are continuing to examine options for accommodation for the school which will involve consideration of the timing and availability of appropriate infrastructure in the area. The Minister reiterated to Mr. Stagg that his Department would continue to work closely with KWETB and An Foras Patrúnachta in relation to the provision of appropriate accommodation for the establishment of the school.

The Maynooth Education Campus stated Mr. Stagg is due for completion in May, 2019, so the old Maynooth Post Primary School is an obvious choice for the Gaelcholaiste.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that he would continue to press the Minister on this issue to ensure that the Gaelcholaiste opens on time in 2019.

Construction of New Maynooth Educate Together School to Commence in Early 2018 - Stagg

Emmet Stagg has been in contact with the Minister for Education and Skills in relation to progressing the Tender Stage of the New Maynooth Educate Together School on the Celbridge Road, Maynooth, and the commencement of construction of the New School.

The Minister has advised Mr. Stagg that the initial grant of planning permission for the new permanent school was received on 27th July last and that the final grant of permission is awaited. The Minister further advised Mr. Stagg that when the final grant of permission is received the project will then proceed to tender stage in the final quarter of 2017 and that construction will commence in early 2018.

Welcoming this positive news that construction should commence in early 2018 Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg congratulated the Board of Management of the school on progressing the project to this stage. The school he stated recently celebrated their 10 anniversary. Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg looks forward to work commencing on the new 2 storey 16 classroom school in early 2018.

IDA Actively Promoting HP Inc Manufacturing Plant at Leixlip – Stagg

Following the decision by Hewlett Packard to close their Hp Inc Business Manufacturing Plant at Leixlip last February, Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has been pressing the Tanaiste and Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation in relation to progress in securing a replacement manufacturing industry for the site.

The Tanaiste advised Mr. Stagg that since HP Inc. made the regrettable decision to close its facility in Leixlip, the IDA has been actively promoting the site to existing clients and potential investors and will continue to do so in the time ahead. The Tanaiste stated she was hopeful that a new investor will be identified in due course and that further employment opportunities will in turn be created for the people of Leixlip and the surrounding area.

The Tanaiste added that while HP Inc's decision is very disappointing, there remain over 20 other multinational companies in Kildare that employ 10,139 people in total across a broad range of sectors. IDA Ireland continues to work with this client base to both sustain and grow employment further in the County.

Commenting on the Tanaiste's response Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that he welcomed the fact that the IDA were actively promoting the site and he expressed the hope that an alternative manufacturing operation would be secured for the Leixlip site.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth

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

Information is also available online at www.citizensinformation.ie and from the Citizens Information Phone Service - 0761 07 4000 or Lo-call 1890777121

Fuel Allowance

Question

Who qualifies for Fuel Allowance

Answer

Fuel Allowance is paid under the National Fuel Scheme, operated by the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection. It is intended to help people who are dependent on long-term social welfare payments and who are unable to meet their heating needs. The fuel season for 2017–2018 starts on Monday 2 October 2017.

Under the scheme, a Fuel Allowance of €2.50 per week is generally paid with your social welfare payment. For the 2017–2018 fuel season, the total allowance of €85 can be paid in two equal lump sums, one at the start of the season in October and the second in January. To avail of this payment option, you must complete the form FA CPF 1 which is available from your local post office or social welfare office. You can also get this form by texting FORM FUELCHANGE, followed by your name and address, to 51909. To get the lump sum in October 2017, you must submit your completed form before 15 September 2017. If you submit your form after this date there is no guarantee that you will receive the lump sum in October, but your weekly payment will continue until the January lump sum is issued.

Fuel Allowance is a means-tested payment. If you are getting a non-contributory social welfare payment, you are accepted as satisfying the means test.

You must live alone or with someone who also qualifies for the allowance – you cannot get the allowance if you live with someone who does not qualify. Where two or more people living in the same household qualify for the allowance, only one allowance is paid. If your heating needs are met in other ways (for example, if you live in local authority housing where heating is provided), you do not qualify for Fuel Allowance.

If you think you are eligible, you should apply immediately because the allowance will not be backdated after the start of the fuel season in October. The application form for Fuel Allowance (NFS1) is available at your post office or social welfare office, or by texting FORM FUEL followed by your name and address to 51909.

Student grant appeals

Question

I've applied for a student grant to start a college course this year but I didn't get the grant I was expecting. What can I do?

Answer

Applications for the Student Grant Scheme are processed by Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI). If you are not happy with the outcome of your application, you can ask SUSI to review the decision if there has been a change in your circumstances or if you think your household income wasn't assessed correctly. You can also request a review if you think you should get a special rate of grant or if you think there was an error in assessing the distance between your home and college (which affects whether you get an adjacent or non-adjacent rate).

You can request a review by using the online form on the website susi.ie.

You can also make an appeal to SUSI if you are not happy with your final grant decision or if you request a review and are not satisfied with the outcome. You must make the appeal within 30 days of the original grant decision. This deadline may be extended by a further 30 days if the Appeals Officer accepts that you have reasonable cause.

To appeal, you complete the form, available at susi.ie, explaining why you think SUSI applied the rules incorrectly. The Appeals Officer will notify you of the outcome within 30 days.

If your appeal is turned down you can submit a further appeal to the independent Student Grants Appeals Board, outlining why you believe the scheme has not been interpreted correctly in your case. When you get the written decision of the SUSI Appeals Officer it will include information on how to submit an appeal to the Student Grants Appeals Board.

The Board has 60 days to decide on your appeal and will write to you to let you know its decision. An appeal of this decision on a specific point of law is possible and can be made to the High Court.

Lost or stolen passport

Question

What happens if my Irish passport is lost or stolen while I am travelling abroad?

Answer

If you lose your Irish passport abroad, you should immediately report the loss to the local police and to the nearest Irish Embassy or Consulate. You will be asked to confirm the loss in writing or, if you are applying for a replacement, to include the details of the loss in your passport application.

You must also ask the local police for a written statement that you have reported the loss of your passport. A member of the police authority in the country in which the passport went missing must witness this statement.

You will need this police report to get a replacement passport or Emergency Travel Document from an Irish embassy or consulate.

If there is no Irish embassy or consulate in the country where you are, contact the embassy of any EU member state and they will get in touch with the nearest Irish embassy on your behalf. An embassy of another EU member state cannot issue you with a new Irish passport, but can, in some cases, issue an EU Emergency Travel Document for a single journey back to your country of permanent residence in the EU.

It may be useful to carry a photocopy of the personal data page of your passport with you when travelling, or to scan an image of that page and email it to yourself. Any passport reported as lost or stolen is no longer a valid travel document. You should not try to travel on a passport that has been reported as lost or stolen.

Small Claims Procedure

Question

I am not happy with work that a builder did on my

house and will have to pay for someone else to finish the job properly. What can I do to recoup the additional expense?

Answer

If your original builder is unwilling to compensate you, you may be able to pursue a claim against the builder through the Small Claims Procedure. The aim of this procedure is to provide an inexpensive, fast and easy way for consumers to resolve disputes without needing to employ a solicitor. The maximum amount you can claim is €2,000. The small claims service is provided through local District Court offices.

Anyone who has purchased goods or services for private use from someone selling them in the course of business may submit a claim using the Small Claims Procedure. You can make claims for faulty goods or bad workmanship, for minor damage to property, and for the non-return of rent deposits for certain kinds of rented properties, for example, a holiday home. Businesses involved in disputes with other businesses can also use the Small Claims Procedure.

To make a claim, you complete an application form which you can download from the Small Claims Procedure section of courts.ie or get from the Small Claims Registrar at the District Court office. Make sure you use the correct name and address of the person or company you want to make the claim against. The completed form and a fee of €25 should be lodged with the Small Claims Registrar. You can also apply online at the Courts Service Online website, csol.ie.

The Registrar sends a copy of your application to the person you are making the claim against. If the other party does not reply within 15 days of receiving your application, your claim will be automatically treated as undisputed and you can apply for a court order in your favour. If your claim is disputed, the Registrar will contact you and let you have a copy of the reasons why the other party is disputing your claim. The Registrar will try to negotiate a settlement to the dispute. If no settlement can be reached, the matter is then set for a court hearing in the District Court.

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

James Lawless T.D. Kildare North

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

Additional transport services as GoCar launches in Maynooth

I am delighted to be able to welcome GoCar to Kildare North. I have had correspondence with GoCar lobbying to extend services to Irish Rail stations where many commuters had contacted me on the same. I am delighted to confirm this is now the case. Since the 16th of September commuters have had the option of using GoCar vehicles in Kildare North.

GoCar is a car sharing membership based program where, once you join, you can rent a car or van 24/7, 365 days a year. I understand each GoCar is estimated to replace up to 15 private cars which will only serve to ease congestion and make commuting to work that bit quicker.

I have long advocated and lobbied for better transport links for Kildare North, including increased bus routes, restructuring of train fares, and road improvements. I will continue to work on these various transport projects to ensure better transportation links for our towns.

Local Improvement Scheme for rural roads

I was very keen to help residents on rural, private roads to apply for funding to have their roads improved following the reopening of the Local Improvement Scheme from the Department of Rural and Community Development. The scheme has been restored for the remainder of the calendar year following pressure from Fianna Fáil.

This is a great opportunity to have rural roads resurfaced where the council have not taken these roads in charge. It is estimated that residents on these private lanes are asked to cover 10% to 15% of the cost while the Department will cover the remaining 90%.

Applications had to have been submitted into the Department via Kildare County Council by the 14th of September. I was delighted to assist with some residents on rural roads on the outskirts of Maynooth and elsewhere in Kildare North.

Expansion of Trading Online Voucher Scheme vital for small businesses

The Government must examine possibilities to expand the Trading Online Voucher Scheme. The scheme was put in place to support small and local businesses in getting a foothold in the online marketplace. The

vouchers are available from local enterprise offices. New information revealed that just over 1,100 vouchers were availed of in both 2015 and 2016. €3m has been allocated to the scheme for 2017.

Nearly 70% of Ireland's online consumer spending currently goes overseas according to the European Commission. The online marketplace is expected to grow significantly in the years ahead so there is a need to ensure that Irish businesses have a presence online to take advantage of this.

Greater supports are urgently needed to assist businesses in securing a high profile presence online. This can be achieved by expanding the Trading Online Voucher Scheme in order to give Irish businesses in all regions increased market share as online consumption grows. This is now more important than ever with Brexit on the horizon.

High speed broadband is a must for small businesses to compete in e-commerce. It connects small businesses to a global market so they need to be able to utilise the latest digital technologies to enable their enterprises to grow and prosper.

In the Dáil I recently introduced a bill to improve and speed up the provision of rural broadband. The overall goal of this Bill is to make it quicker and easier for providers to roll out broadband services. Ireland has a poor track record in this area in recent years, as is demonstrated by the ongoing problems with the National Broadband Plan.

The roll out of the National Broadband Plan has been haphazard with over 500,000 homes and businesses still waiting for information on when they will be able to access high speed broadband. The National Competitiveness Council has said that regional jobs growth is being stunted due to the sluggish roll out of the National Broadband Plan.

High speed broadband is also needed for the development of online e-commerce opportunities for Irish SMEs. It is essential that SME businesses, which employ over 900,000 people nationwide, are given every support to diversify their sales platform.

Affordable Housing Scheme must be a core part of Government policy

The Government must take real action on its

commitment to launch a new affordable housing initiative. The Taoiseach made another announcement about utilising Nama to help with providing housing but unfortunately this announcement lacked any specific details on how it was going to be used to deliver more affordable and social housing.

Fianna Fáil pledged to use NAMA to build affordable homes in our election manifesto in February 2016. The Government must make up its mind and outline the plan they have for NAMA.

An explicit commitment of the Confidence and Supply arrangement is the establishment of an affordable housing scheme. We believe that NAMA should be used for this explicit purpose of helping increase supply and open up home ownership to working families currently squeezed out of the market.

NAMA can and should be used to launch affordable housing schemes in Dublin and other urban areas where supply is weakest and where prices are highest.

This will help ensure that working families are not priced out of the market and have a chance to own their own home. This was originally outlined in our manifesto and would be financed by a new national home building bond, on an off balance sheet basis, and through funds from the Strategic Investment Fund and the credit union movement.

I am deeply concerned that this is another one of his Government's kite flying exercises rather than a substantive policy proposal.

Establishing an affordable housing scheme is a core part of the Confidence and Supply arrangement between Fine Gael. Using NAMA and accessing off balance sheet finance makes sense to help deliver the housing units we need, and I look forward to engaging with Minister for Housing, Eoghan Murphy in its design.

Maynooth Office Open On Mondays & Fridays

Due to demand my Maynooth office, located just off the Main Street, will be open on Fridays by appointment. I was delighted to open the office following my election and have welcomed many residents through the doors to offer them advice and assistance. The office will be open Monday 10am to 4pm and Friday by appointment. Please don't hesitate to get in touch on 01 618 3587 to make an appointment.

TEMPORARY CLOSING OF ROADS NOTICE OF INTENTION ROADS ACT, 1993

Kildare County Council gives notice, in accordance with Section 75 of the Roads Act, 1993 that it intends to close:

Pound Lane, Buckley's Lane, Double Lane and Cross Lane, Maynooth From Tuesday 12 September until Friday 24 November 2017

The closure is required to facilitate the laying of new water mains. The roads will be closed individually and not all together to facilitate the works.

Alternative Route:

All traffic will be diverted via the Main Street. Diversionary routes will be clearly signposted, as agreed with the Council and An Garda Síochána. Local and emergency access will be maintained.

Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee

Our morning club is in full swing now and all Senior Citizens in the Maynooth area are welcome to join us. Our next event will be our Halloween Tea-Dance on October 15th and you can come in fancy dress if you wish. I would normally be announcing the Tony Smith memorial walk at this time but as it only took place in February this year we will have to wait until February 2018 for the next one.

From October onwards our focus will be on the "Sale of Work" as this is our main fundraiser. All our activities depend on its' success. Remember the date November 19th and the venue is the Post Primary School. Speaking of funds we had a nice little windfall on September 15th when we attended the launch of CarePlus at Maynooth Pharmacy in the Glenroyal shopping centre. Brian generously presented us with a cheque for €500 for which we are most grateful. George Fennell was the man of the moment when he cut the ribbon wielding a weapon that should have landed him a part in "Game of Thrones".

By the time you read this we will have bade farewell to Fr. Liam our PP for the past ten years. On behalf of our committee I would like to thank him for his generosity in facilitating our bus on Saturday evenings and for his support and recognition of our work. He will be missed, but we wish him well in his new Parish. I also understand that Rev. Janice Aiton is leaving our Parish and returning to her native Scotland. Our loss is their gain. We wish her well also.

Finally, may I express our sympathy to the families of Frances Reidy and Josephine Coakley who passed away recently. Ar Dheis De go raibh Anam.

Josephine Moore - Chairperson





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Frank O'Rourke T.D. Kildare North

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

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

O'Rourke Presses For Increased Rail services for Kilcock

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, is pressing for increased frequency of service for Kilcock rail commuters, given the increased level of commuters living in Kilcock and using the train service.

"Since getting elected, I have campaigned hard for better public transport services for North Kildare. Kilcock is a growing area and is a commuter town. We must improve the public transport servicing the town."

"A Park and Ride location for Bus and Rail Commuters, which I worked hard to deliver, has now been agreed for Kilcock, Kilcock is now included in the Shop Hop Zone for Rail commuters which had the effect of reducing the fares for commuters, the Leap reader is now installed at the Kilcock Rail Station and our Bus Service for Kilcock commuters has improved and plans are in place to improve it further."

"Given the increased number of people using the train from Kilcock, we must now improve the capacity on the line at peak times. We need extra capacity in the morning and in the evening. I have made specific representations to Irish Rail and the National Transport Authority to improve the rail service to Kilcock."

"As I have said in the Dail and elsewhere, having a regular and reliable public transport service will increase the attractiveness of public transport. I will continue my work to improve the public transport services for North Kildare." Concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Irish mortgage rates remain dramatically out of line with EU norms – O'Rourke

Recent Retail Interest Rate statistics published by the Central Bank show that mortgage rates are falling in Ireland. However, they are not falling at the same pace that deposit rates are falling, and mortgage rates in Ireland remain dramatically out of line with rates charged elsewhere in Europe, according to Fianna Fáil's Deputy Finance Spokesperson, Frank O'Rourke.

"These statistics published by the Central Bank recently show that despite modest reductions in mortgage rates, Irish mortgage holders are continuing to pay dramatically more than consumers elsewhere in Europe."

"For example, In Ireland, the interest rate on all new mortgages, fixed and variable, stood at 3.3% in June compared to a euro area rate of 1.83%. This means that a borrower with a mortgage of €200,000 is paying €250 per month more than they would be paying in the average Euro area country. That is €250 a month, each and every month, which could be spent by families on other household necessities. There has yet to be a credible explanation for such a dramatic difference in the rates charges and it is depriving our economy of much needed money which could be spent more productively in our economy." stated Deputy O'Rourke.

"In May 2016, a Fianna Fáil Bill designed to give the Central Bank powers to tackle excessive variable mortgage rates passed second stage in the Dáil. The progress of the Bill through the legislative process has been tortuous and painfully slow. Despite not opposing the Bill at second stage, it is abundantly clear the Government does not want the Bill to become law."

"As I have said in the Dáil on a number of occasions, we must focus on reducing the cost of living as well as reducing the burden of taxation. There is little point in reducing tax rates, if the banks are continuing to charge excessively high variable mortgage rates or insurance companies are continuing to increase their rates, take back a multiple of any reduction in taxation."

"However, key elements of our Bill on mortgage rates will proceed when the Dail returns next month which will be of help in relation to securing fairer mortgage rates in the Irish market." Concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Traffic Lights to be installed at Meadowbrook Link Road says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has been informed that works to install traffic lights at the junction of Meadowbrook Link Road and the Straffan Road will commence shortly.

"Traffic lights, with safe crossing facilities for pedestrians and cyclists, will be installed at the junction of Meadowbrook Link Road and the Straffan Road. Works are to commence shortly."

"I have asked Kildare Co Co, the National Transport Authority (NTA) and Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) to assess the overall traffic management issues along the Straffan Road, including the traffic exiting the Maynooth Business Park. Traffic volumes are increasing at these junctions and we need to see if we can alleviate the situation."

"Earlier this year the Department of Local Government confirmed to me that funds have been allocated to enable the construction of a section of the Maynooth Ring Road linking the old Dublin Road to the Celbridge Road."

"I welcome that works will commence shortly at the Meadowbrook Link Road / Straffan Road junction and this will assist traffic entering Straffan Road from the Meadowbrook Link Road." Concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Maynooth needs extra Park and Ride places says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has called for further investment to increase the capacity of the car park at Maynooth Rail station. Deputy O'Rourke made the call following representations he made to the National Transport Authority (NTA) seeking increased park and ride places for Maynooth rail commuters.

"The Maynooth Rail Car Park is full at around 7.30am or 7.45am in the morning. Driving to city centre is becoming increasingly difficult and we need to encourage more people to use public transport. However, we must provide facilities which encourage the use of public transport, and one such facility is adequate park and ride facilities at our rail stations." Stated Deputy O'Rourke.

"Leixlip Louisa Bridge and Hazelhatch Rail stations have seen investments in Park and Ride facilities. I, with others, have succeeded in securing a park and ride for Kilcock commuters, both bus and rail commuters. Plans are in place to have a park and ride for bus commuters adjacent to Junction 5 on the M4, beside Celbridge, as part of the Bus Connects project. The NTA are considering an option to increase the number of car parking spaces at the Naas/Sallins station, which I hope will be completed shortly. I have been successful in getting Kildare Co Co and the NTA to consider a modest bus park and ride for Clane based bus commuters."

"The NTA have examined options for increasing the number of car parking places in Maynooth. It would cost €27,000 to provide just over 30 additional places in Maynooth and would cost €3m to provide a significant additional number of places as property acquisition would be required."

"I have written to the Department of Transport seeking support for additional park and ride places at Maynooth. We must encourage people to use public transport and providing adequate park and ride places is key to attracting more public transport commuters." Concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Focus on widening Tax Bands rather than reducing Tax Rates in Budget – says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fail TD, and Deputy Spokesperson on Finance, Frank O'Rourke, has called on the Minister for Finance to focus on widening the tax bands rather than on reducing the tax rates in the forthcoming budget.

"At present the standard rate tax band for a single person is €33,800. PAYE employees pay the higher rate of tax of 41% once they earn over this amount. In my view, we should increase the standard rate tax band to €40,000 in the

forthcoming budget, enabling more workers to be taxed at the lower rate and incentivising work."

"Reducing the higher tax rate would disproportionately assist the better off. Widening the tax bands is a fairer way of reducing the overall tax burden, but it is less headline friendly. This Government seems more focussed on spin and getting headlines rather than on substance and delivery, so could favour reducing tax rates rather than widening the tax bands."

"We are seeing the cost of living increasing, with increases in motor insurance, fuel, in public transport costs, in rents, medical expenses and back to school costs. Workers, particularly those that are earning modest incomes need their tax burden reduced."

"Widening the tax bands is much fairer than reducing the higher rate of tax and we must focus on reducing the tax burden where lower income families derive the most benefit. I will continue my work in relation to keeping the Government to account in relation to rising cost of motor insurance, so that what people get in one hand is not taken by the insurance companies in the other hand." Concluded Deputy O'Rourke

Reduction in Motor Insurance costs welcomed – but battle not over says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fail TD, Frank O'Rourke, has welcomed the reduction in motor insurance costs by 14% over the last 12 months. However, the campaign to reduce the cost of motor insurance must continue as they increased by over 70% in the last three years.

"The latest Central Statistics Office figures show that the cost of motor insurance has reduced by 14% in the last 12 months. This is welcome news but we must keep the campaign in place to reduce premiums further as the reduction is only a fraction of the increase that has taken place in recent years."

"Since getting elected last year, I have campaigned to have the cost of motor insurance reduced. In the Dail, I called for the Competition Authority to investigate the activities of insurance companies and also to have a quarterly review of the implementation of the Oireachtas action plan to reduce Motor Insurance. I have also called for increased competition in the sector."

"The latest Central Statistics Office figures are published just a month after European Commission competition carried out dawn raids on insurers, brokers and Insurance Ireland. The latest figures now show the biggest annual drop in motor insurance costs since the insurance crisis hit, months after the dawn raid."

"Officials from the EU's Competitive Directorate are investigating the possibility that an insurance cartel is operating within the Irish motor insurance industry. The Government is publishing regularly the progress on the implementation of the action plan on motor insurance. However, a 70% rise in motor insurance over the last three years was unacceptable and action was needed. For the first time in a number of years, we are seeing a small first step in the right direction, but we must continue to campaign for more reductions." stated Deputy O'Rourke.

"The battle is not over yet. Irish Motorists are paying too much for their motor insurance. We must continue with our campaign. The Government needs to get their priorities right and urgently work to complete all the recommendations from the working group on Motor Insurance."

"The message must go out to all that we are determined to get fairer motor insurance premiums for Irish motorists. Many Kildare motorists have made contact with me over the last 18 months in relation to their rising costs and I am determined to keep a focus on this important issue for Kildare motorists." Concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Those Magnificent Women in their Flying Machines



Recently, I attended an interesting talk by Ronan Jackson on the life and work of Captain Darby Kennedy late of Weston Aerodrome and Aer Lingus. Captain Kennedy died in Spain on 15 May 2016 at 101 years of age.

That got me thinking of 'Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines; Or, How I Flew from London to Paris in 25 Hours 11 Minutes'. This was a 1965 British comedy film, based on a screenplay entitled 'Flying Crazy' which was a work of fiction set in 1910. For those who are interested, excerpts and its catchy theme song are available on YouTube. Then that got me thinking again. What about 'Those Magnificent Women in their Flying Machines?'

Writing in 2014 the journalist Mary Kenny noted that in the pioneering days of flight 'the sky was the limit for an élite group of highflying Irish women who let nothing stand in the way of dreams'. One young woman who appears to have fulfilled her dream was Sicele Julia Mary Annette O'Brien. Sicele was the daughter of Sir Timothy Carew O'Brien, 3rd Baronet (1861-1948) and Gundrede Annette Teresa de Trafford (1860-1952). They had ten children, two sons and eight daughters, many of whom died young.

Their eldest son and heir, Lieut Timothy John Aloysius O'Brien (Royal Field Artillery), was killed in August 1916 during World War One. His body was interred at Quarry Cemetery, Montauban in Picardy (Somme) in France. He was 24 years of age. The O'Brien ancestral home was at Lohort Castle, Fermoy in Co. Cork, however, at that time members of the O'Brien family were living at Grangewilliam, Maynooth in Co Kildare.

Tragedy struck the family again that same year when their daughter Hilda Moira Clare died the following month at a private nursing home in Leeson Street in Dublin. The cause of her death was complications which arose from appendicitis. She was 20 years of age. Her body was interred at Donaghmore Cemetery on 8 September 1916 after Mass at Saint Mary's Catholic Church at Maynooth.

What happened to our 'aviatrix'? Sicele, although she had raced her fellow Irish women earlier, went on to win the first women's air race ever held in the UK. In 1927 she became the second woman in the UK to receive a commercial licence. She accompanied Lady Mary Heath (born at Knockaderry, Co Limerick in 1896 – died

London 1939) when she set a British altitude record of 13,400ft in 1928. Afterwards Lady Heath noted that: 'It took me over 90 minutes [to reach that height]. The machine behaved splendidly, but the air got colder as we ascended until it was nearly freezing. The visibility was wonderful. We could see for 25/30 miles. I shall attempt to establish a record for speed and distance on the same light seaplane in the near future.' Following an air crash that same year near London, Sicele had part of one of her lower limbs amputated. However, having fully recovered and with an artificial leg, our determined pioneer got her licence renewed and was soon back flying. But flying was a dangerous occupation. Up to June 1931 alone, there were nine fatal air crashes in England or to British airmen abroad and the civilian death toll for that six month period stood at seventeen. Unfortunately, two of the fatalities that June included 'airwomen' Miss Sicele O'Brien and a Mrs. Gordon Gallien.

On 18 June their two-seater biplane made a good landing for refueling at the de Havilland flying school near Hatfield in Hertfordshire. Before they set off, the two women enjoyed a cup of tea in the clubroom. With Sicele in the pilot's seat, eyewitnesses stated that within a short time of taking off and when the plane had reached a height of c. 100 feet it suddenly stalled and spun around once or twice before crashing headlong into the ground and immediately bursting into flames. People rushed forward but it was impossible to do anything due to the intense heat. The bodies were charred beyond recognition. Sicele's remains were subsequently identified by her father, Sir Timothy because he recognised a ring on her finger and the second body was identified by a set of keys. An inquest was held and having heard the evidence the Coroner said that 'he did not think there could be any blame attached to the pilot or the passenger.' A verdict of accidental death was returned. Burial took place following Requiem Mass at Brompton Oratory at St Thomas's Cemetery at Fulham in West London. Sicele was 44 years of age.

But to end on a positive note. For various reasons, it took some time for women to be accepted as full-time commercial pilots. It was not until 1977 that the first woman pilot was recruited by Aer Lingus, the second airline in Europe after Scandinavian Airlines to do so. This was Captain Gráinne Cronin, a native of Malahide in Co Dublin and the daughter of an Aer Lingus captain, Felim Cronin. Flying must be in the Cronin genes because Grainne's sister Caroline is a commercial pilot, her husband is a pilot and their two daughters Alana and Louisa Johnston both hold private pilot's licenses.

Gráinne recently retired after 33 years' service. Aer Lingus now employs 40 women pilots – 'those magnificent women in their flying machines' – taking to the air no longer being a prerogative of the élite.

Rita Edwards - Maynooth Local History Group.



Warehouse & General Office Support Vacancy

We currently have a position for a person to work in our small Warehouse/ General Office.

Our Company is located in Maynooth Business Campus and is a Wholesaler of Ventilation products.

This position will have the following duties:

- Keeping the warehouse tidy
- Making and keeping an up to date list of items in the warehouse
- Managing all products coming in and out of warehouse (one or two deliveries per day)
- Small product assembly
- General office work, to include database upkeep
- Local deliveries.

Driving Licence, Forklift Licence and Computer skills would be required.

Candidates who wish to apply for this position please forward CV to michelle@entropic.ie or contact 016106170

Maynooth University welcomes 900 students for largest University Access Orientation Programme in Ireland

On Saturday, 2 September, Maynooth University welcomed 900 students for registration for its weekend-long Launchpad programme, the first step in a semester-long phased induction programme for Access students about to embark on their undergraduate journey.

The programme aims to ease new students, who are often the first in their families to go to third level, into university life in a supported and friendly setting.

Launchpad is unique in Irish higher education due to its scale; over 900 new students and 1,100 of their supporters attend the programme. Students attending Launchpad have entered Maynooth through HEAR (Higher Education Access Route), DARE (Disability Access Route to Education), further education and training, or the entry routes for mature students.

Some upcoming events at Maynooth University

Tuesday 3rd October, Meet companies with job opportunities in Accountancy, Tax, Consultancy for Final Year Students & Graduates of any Discipline further details on <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/news-events/accountancy-showcase-1>

Sunday 8th October, On the year of his 75th birthday, Gerard Gillen, Professor Emeritus of music at Maynooth University will give an organ recital in St Patricks College Chapel. Booking at <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/news-events/organ-recital-prof-gerard-gillen>

Maynooth University Open Day on Friday 25th and Saturday 26th November.

Schedule of talks on our website:

www.maynoothuniversity.ie



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Ladies & Gents

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Beginners Welcome

Venue: Maynooth Community Space
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Maynooth



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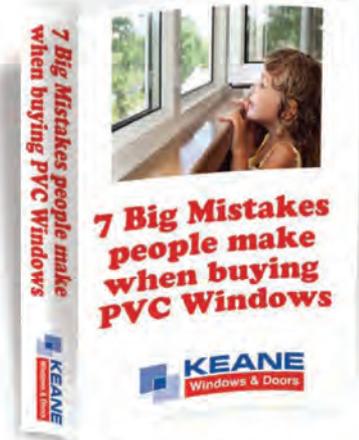
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Maynooth Newsletter

Copy date for the November edition of the Maynooth
Newsletter will be Tuesday 24th October 2017



Top ten tips for a safe Halloween

1. If you see material such as pallets, tyres and old furniture being hoarded in advance of Halloween please report it to your local County Council.
2. Go along to organised events.
3. Do not leave material lying around that may be taken for a bonfire. Many garage or garden shed items such as petrol, white spirits, diesel, aerosols, batteries, tins of paint, bottles and tyres are especially dangerous if set on fire.
4. Explain the dangers of illegal fireworks and bonfires to children and teenagers.
5. Stay a safe distance from bonfires and fireworks – wind can carry sparks long distances and cause permanent injuries and scars.
6. Stay with your children and escort them on ‘trick-or-treat’ visits, parties and events.
7. Keep dangerous substances such as oil, petrol and diesel away from fires or fireworks.
8. Do not buy, use or supply fireworks.
9. Respect the Emergency Services, County Council staff and the Gardaí in doing their jobs.
10. Keep pets indoors on Halloween night.

Zombie Cocktail



Ingredients

- 1 oz. light rum
- 1 oz. dark rum
- 1 oz. apricot liquor
- 2 oz. orange juice
- 1 dash lime Bitters
- 1 handful ice
- 1 oz. Bacardi 151 Rum
- Orange slice and a cherry for garnish

Directions:

Combine light rum, dark rum, apricot liquor, orange juice, and bitters using a cocktail shaker.

Pour into a large glass filled with ice. Top with the shot of Bacardi, then garnish with the orange slice and cherry.



Halloween has always been a holiday filled with mystery, magic and superstition. It began as a Celtic end-of-summer festival during which people felt especially close to deceased relatives and friends. For these friendly spirits, they set places at the dinner table, left treats on doorsteps and along the side of the road and lit candles to help loved ones find their way back to the spirit world.

Today's Halloween ghosts are often depicted as more fearsome and malevolent, and our customs and superstitions are scarier too. We avoid crossing paths with black cats, afraid that they might bring us bad luck. This idea has its roots in the Middle Ages, when many people believed that witches avoided detection by turning themselves into cats. We try not to walk under ladders for the same reason.

This superstition may have come from the ancient Egyptians, who believed that triangles were sacred; it also may have something to do with the fact that walking under a leaning ladder tends to be fairly unsafe. And around Halloween, especially, we try to avoid breaking mirrors, stepping on cracks in the road or spilling salt.



But what about the Halloween traditions and beliefs that today's trick-or-treaters have forgotten all about? Many of these obsolete rituals focused on the future instead of the past and the living instead of the dead. In particular, many had to do with helping young women identify their future husbands and reassuring them that they would someday - with luck, by next Halloween - be married. In 18th-century

Ireland, a matchmaking cook might bury a ring in her mashed potatoes on Halloween night, hoping to bring true love to the diner who found it. In Scotland, fortune-tellers recommended that an eligible young woman name a hazelnut for each of her suitors and then toss the nuts into the fireplace. The nut that burned to ashes rather than popping or exploding, the story went, represented the girl's future husband. (In some versions of this legend, confusingly, the opposite was true: The nut that burned away symbolized a love that would not last.) Another tale had it that if a young woman ate a sugary concoction made out of walnuts, hazelnuts and nutmeg before bed on Halloween night she would dream about her future husband.

Young women tossed apple-peels over their shoulders, hoping that the peels would fall on the floor in the shape of their future husbands' initials; tried to learn about their futures by peering at egg yolks floating in a bowl of water; and stood in front of mirrors in darkened rooms, holding candles and looking over their shoulders for their husbands' faces. Other rituals were more competitive. At some Halloween parties, the first guest to find a burr on a chestnut-hunt would be the first to marry; at others, the first successful apple-bobber would be the first down the aisle.

Of course, whether we're asking for romantic advice or trying to avoid seven years of bad luck, each one of these Halloween superstitions relies on the good will of the very same "spirits" whose presence the early Celts felt so keenly about.



Rock a Skeletal Style Halloween Wreath



Give a plastic skeleton a fresh take on the afterlife as a minimalist wreath. Disassemble the skeleton by removing the thread, wire or string used to hold the pieces together. Next, attach bones to a wire wreath form using craft wire, overlapping and interlacing the bones. As a creepy finishing touch, wire the skull to the wreath's bottom so its sockets are approximately eye-level with trick-or-treaters.



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20th October 2017

BERNARD O'SHEA

03rd November 2017

michael english
& his Band

24th November 2017

Foster & Allen

20th January 2018

BRENDAN GRACE

26th January 2018

JOHNNY McEVOY

8th February 2018

Neil Delamere

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SHOW, DINNER & ACCOMMODATION PACKAGES

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Your Chance to Win Tickets to See the Fat Chancers *Competition Sponsored by The Glenroyal Hotel*

**Bernard O'Shea & Karl Spain Fat Chancers are Appearing in the
Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth on Friday 3rd November 2017**

We have 3 pairs of tickets to give away for Fat Chancers comedy. To be in with a chance of winning just answer this question in the picture below: Bernard O'Shea is on the left and Karl Spain is on the right; True or False



Send your Answer with your contact details to The Maynooth Newsletter Office, Unit 5, Tesco S.C., Carton Retail Park, Maynooth. Thank you for entering and Good Luck!!

Comedians Karl Spain and Bernard O'Shea haven't been feeling so body confident lately have decided to drop a few pounds together and go on tour.

Fat Chancers is a new comic two-hander from Bernard O'Shea and Karl Spain that is touring the country and making a pit stop in The Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth. Karl says: "Don't expect massive weight loss or body transformations or Bernard being funny". Cue the Biggest Loser, the comedy edition. Bond a little with these on-the-button comedy kings as they discuss love handles and slimming fads in their humorous style. In addition, they'll be making acute observations on social norms, culture, and even what's been on the news.

Bernard O'Shea is from Durrow, County Laois, Ireland. He co-hosts the 2FM Breakfast Republic with Jennifer Maguire and Keith Walsh. He made his name on the satirical sketch TV show Republic of Telly, and starred in and co-wrote the spin off series for RTÉ 2, Bridget and Eamon.

Karl Spain is from Limerick and probably best known in Ireland for his TV series Karl Spain Wants A Woman, which was a huge success in that he not only got huge ratings but he also found himself a woman. In 2009 he filmed Karl Spain Wants to Rock but did not get a woman from that show. 2015 saw the premiere of his first pantomime, 'Freezin': The Story of The Snow Queen which he co-wrote with fellow comic Al Porter. The pair also co-wrote a short film for Sky 1 as part of the Irish shorts series. Karl is a resident writer for Republic of Telly and for countless other comedians.

You'll enjoy this offbeat stand-up exploration of diets and Dad-bods at the
Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth on Friday 3rd November 2017
Tickets are €20 on sale from The Glenroyal Hotel & on line at Ticketstop.ie

Further Information available from Colm McCabe Promotions on Facebook & Twitter



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Maynooth Educate Together



Maynooth Educate Together welcomed the tenth intake of new students on the 31st August. CEO of Educate Together, Paul Rowe attended the school for the first event of a year-long series of events to celebrate this milestone. He also launched the new school website.

The celebrations are following other good news for the school with building expected to commence on their new school building early in 2018.



Paul Rowe, CEO of Educate Together with Marie Hand, School Principal, Maynooth Educate Together NS

Maynooth Film For All

We hope you've had a lovely summer! Now that school's are back and the evening's are getting shorter .. it's time to start pencilling in some 'must see' films

Here's what we've planned for the next couple of months:

**OCT 4th | 8.00pm (SHORT FILM AT 7.45PM)
 A MAN CALLED OVE**

**NOV 8th | 8.00pm (SHORT FILM AT 7.45PM)
 PERSONAL SHOPPER**

DEC 6th | 8.00pm (SHORT FILM AT 7.45PM)
 I AM NOT YOUR NEGRO (DOC.)
 Continuing MFFA's focus on short IRISH films, Caroline Farrell will present a series of shorts themed around the haunted and the fantastical!*

And Finally
 We can't believe it ... but ... , Maynooth Film for All is celebrating its 10th anniversary! THANK YOU sincerely to our loyal and committed audience for all your support - watch out for the party!

*All the best
 Brenda, Denis, Caroline & Rita*

Brenda Brady | Kildare County Council Arts Service | Riverbank | Main St | Newbridge | Co Kildare T: 045 448328 E: bbrady@kildarecoco.ie | W: www.kildare.ie/artsservice

MAYNOOTH FILM FOR ALL: Film Club | Maynooth University | Venue: Iontas Theatre | Sept - May | Adm: €6.00; €4.00; Students Free!

Like us on facebook 'Maynooth Film for All'
<https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Maynooth-Film-For-All/158441647524316>





Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group Wednesday Mornings

Wednesday morning's **Playball group** will commence back with Wendy on October 4th. It is €65 for 10 weeks or €180 for 30 weeks which covers the school year!! With the 30 week option the kids will receive a free Playball t-shirt.

Playball is a multi-sport and movement-based program specifically designed for young children.

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

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

2yr & 3yr old-classes - Maynooth Community Space
Contact Wendy for more info 086-2987551 or
wendy@playball-ireland.com

Parent & Toddler Group Thursday Mornings



We want to say a huge Thank You to Orla Jennings who was running the Toddler Group last year. You brought such a warm and friendly smile to the group. We will really miss you and we hope KIKI gets on great in Playschool x

We also want to say a huge Thank you to Donna Phelan. You and Orla did an amazing job with the Toddler Group and it is a huge success because of you both. We will miss you but you are always more than welcome to pop back to chat to the many friends you have made. Good luck Gracie with Playschool x



Thursday Mornings we are in the Community Space for 9:30-11:30 We have Gymboree with us to entertain the little ones every second week and this year we have a new addition Karen from Musical Tots who will be with us once a month. The weekly fee is €4 and this covers all your snacks and beverages. The toddler group is a great place to come to meet other parents from the town and a great place for the children to play with others their own age. We have brand new toys for all the little ones. So please pop in and say Hello!!

Check us out on:: <https://www.facebook.com/Maynooth-Toddlers>

If you are a working parent at home we would love to hear from you. We place all our leaflets on the Community Notice Board and we will advertise for you on our Facebook page. Every little bit helps and we really do believe in supporting local business. If you have a craft you make and sell let us know and we will allocate you a week to talk to our parents and sell your items.

We are running our **BUMBLEance** campaign again this year. So if anyone has any **old DVDS OR GAMES CONSOLES** we will be more than happy to take them off you to be recycled by **BUMBLEance**.



Every cent we raise helps the extremely sick children in Ireland get transport to hospital or home on angel trips. This is such an amazing charity. You can drop your items off in the Maynooth Community Council Office located beside the post office.

When possible we are asking our parents not to bring a buggy as we need to maximise space as much as possible so it is comfortable



for everyone using it..

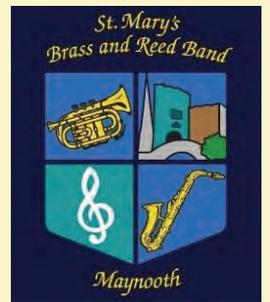
We would like to extend a big **Thank You to the people of Maynooth** for helping us raise funds in the Blue Token Campaign. Because you choose us we received €277 from Tesco in July. This money was for sensory toys for our little members and we have now a small selection of these toys in our group.



We are always looking for Volunteers to help us run this group on Thursday mornings. Many hands make light work from setting up to tidying away. We all use the space together and many hands make light work.

*****The Parent and Toddler Group only runs during School Term*****

St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band



We are very pleased to announce that we have engaged a new Conductor, Jon Clifford, for the Senior Band who has taken over from Karen Ni Bhroin who has unfortunately had to stand down due to pressure on her time. However we feel that Jon will be a very able successor as he has a wealth of band experience and a proven track record of success with other bands. Jon started working with the Band in early September and he has already left a very good impression on the Band members.



The Recruitment Days organised last month were a great success and we already have quite a number of names signed up for classes beginning next month. These classes will be under the direction of John Kenny who has considerable experience at this level. We are looking forward to increasing the size of the Junior Band and preparing these members for progression to the Senior Band when they have reached the required standard. The Band are satisfied that these two new appointments will ensure that in the next couple of years the band will be in a good place to successfully compete with the best bands in the country but more importantly to secure the future of St. Mary's Band.

An unexpected bonus to emerge from the Recruitment Days was the arrival of two new people to our rehearsal on Monday 18th of September, a Trumpet player from Stuttgart in Germany and a Bassoon player, Adriana Garcia from Valencia in Spain, see photo attached. If memory serves us right this is the first time that there has been a bassoon in Maynooth Band.

The next appearance of the Band in Maynooth will be at our annual Mass for Deceased Members at 1pm on Sunday 12th of November when we will be remembering all members who have helped to maintain the tradition of Maynooth Band over the years. It will be an opportunity for the families of these departed members to remember them and to share in the music that is always very much a part of this special event.

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 8pm and 9.30pm any Monday night (except bank holidays) where you will receive a very warm welcome.

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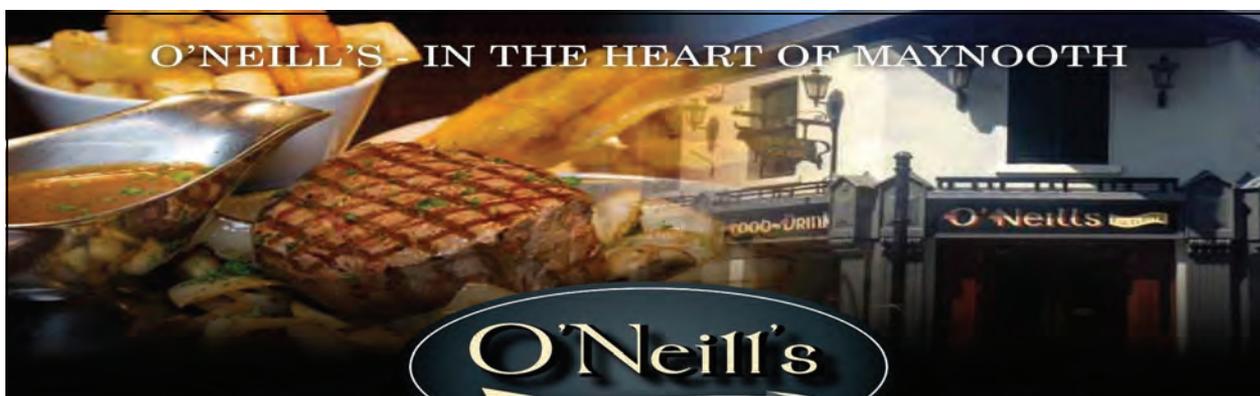
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**Copy date for the November edition of the Maynooth
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host of “Man vs Wild”.

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**starts Thur 5th Oct @ 7.15pm
on first floor Manor Mills**

(Entrance along the river by Chill Restaurant)

www.maynoothcc.org/alpha-course/

Maynooth Community Church
Eaglais Phreispitiréach in Éirinn



Maynooth Scouts is part of Scouting Ireland the largest youth organisation in Ireland which has over 40,000 members across the Island of Ireland. The aim of Scouting Ireland is to encourage the Social, Physical, Intellectual, Character, Emotional and Spiritual development of young people so that they may achieve their full potential and as responsible citizens, to improve society.



Activities include hiking, camping, orienteering, survival skills and many other outdoor activities and games. In Maynooth we have over 100 youth members aged from 6 to 26, as well as our adult volunteers. Our group is



hugely involved in the community, assisting at events such as the MPPS 10k run, the annual Senior Citizen's Sale of Work and the Darkness into Light Walk in aid of Pieta House.

Maynooth Scouts was founded over forty years ago and in recent years we have finally achieved our dream of obtaining our own Den, after much fundraising and support from scout members, parents, friends and the wider community of Maynooth, together with some LEADER funding and a bank loan. This involved the restoration of the Geraldine Hall, an old schoolhouse which had fallen into disrepair, and adding a substantial extension. Our Den has proved invaluable for us as a Scout group.



However, our fundraising efforts to support the costs of our Den continue and as part of this we have launched a new venture – Split the Pot. This involves a draw every two weeks where the proceeds are split equally between the winner and our Den fund. Entry costs €2 and draw boxes are available at the

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following locations - Emma's Place in Glenroyal SC, Maynooth Bookshop, The Roost Off Licence, Brady's Clockhouse, Mulcahy's Butchers in Greenfield SC, Mulligans Barbers, Newtown Inn, Benny's Coffee Shop in Maynooth Business Park and of course the Scout Den. We would like to thank all these businesses for their support. We had our first draw last week, with €725 divided between the winner and the den. Our next draw takes place on October 21st in our Den. Please see our Facebook page, Maynooth Scouts, for more information.



Maynooth Monthly Diary Planner

Community Library	Maynooth Multiple Births	Bridge Club
<p>Opening Times Mondays & Fridays 2pm to 5pm Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm to 8pm Wednesday 9.30am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm Sat 9.30am to 1pm</p>	<p>Maynooth Multiple Births playgroup (twins triplets or more) meets the last Thursday of the month in Leixlip library between 10 & 12 noon. This is a great opportunity to meet parents just like you. For further details email: maynoothmultiplebirthclub@gmail.com</p>	<p>Open for new members. If you would like to play in a friendly club with purpose-built facilities in the centre of Maynooth, please see our website at maynoothbridgeclub.com. Contact Katherine Cooney 086 8205910</p>
I.C.A.	MAYNOOTH LOCAL HISTORY GROUP	Arthritis Ireland
<p>Monthly meetings take place every 1st Thursday of the month at 8.00pm in the I.C.A. Hall in the Harbour. Crafts every Monday night at 8.00pm. New members welcome</p>	<p>Maynooth Local History Group Meets Last Thursday of each Month in the Maynooth Community Space (Tesco Shopping Centre) New Members Welcome Contact: MCC Office for more details</p>	<p>Arthritis Ireland Walking Group (Maynooth) Meeting Mondays 12 - 2pm in the Maynooth Community Space</p>
University of Third Age (U3A)	Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group	Maynooth Men's Sheds
<p>Weekly meetings on Friday at 11am in Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth New Members Welcome Contact Ger : 0874133505</p>	<p>Every Thursday from 10.00am to 12.00pm Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth</p>	<p>Weekly meetings take place every Wednesday at 11am at the Maynooth Lodge Fisheries Dunboyne Road Maynooth. For further details contact John Fleming - 087 2041334</p>
Maynooth Tidy Towns	ALZHEIMER CAFÉ LEIXLIP	Maynooth Community Church
<p>Volunteers required to help with this work. Contact Number 087 3153189 Meet every Saturday at 10.00am in the Square</p>	<p>Informal café atmosphere for people with Dementia & their partners family & friends. Free of charge. Venue Ryevale Nursing Home. Every second Wednesday of each month 7-9pm. Call 0894933533 Email: alzheimercafeleixlip@gmail.ie www.alzheimercafeleixlip.com</p>	<p>1st Floor Manor Mills (entrance next to Chill) Service times every Sunday morning from 10.30am www.maynoothcc.org Everyone most welcome</p>
Maynooth Senior Citizens	Craobh Mhaigh Nuad C.C.E.	ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND
<p>Our morning club continues on Tuesday and Thursday and new members are always welcome. Perhaps you are new to the parish or new to the age bracket, why not come along you might enjoy it. You will find us in the Geraldine Hall on Leinster St, or contact Josephine on 087 9002296.</p>	<p>Classes are held on Wednesday 7pm to 9.30pm in Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road. Our classes are very good value, great fun and we promise you plenty of craic also !!. Bígí linn!!! Contact Sean at 086 2225540 or email craobhmaighnuad@gmail.com.</p>	<p>Rehearsals are held in the Band Hall on Pound Lane each Monday night (except Bank Holidays) from 7.45pm to 9.30pm and musicians living in Maynooth and the surrounding areas are most welcome. E-mail: sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie Website: www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie</p>

Diary entries are published free of charge for all Community Groups. E-mail details of your event before the copy date (2nd last Tuesday of each month) to be included in the next months edition. E-mail: office@maynoothcc.com. Phone: 01-6285922
 (The content of the Monthly Planner Diary is published in good faith. All details should be checked with groups)



Writer's Corner

Short Stories from Our Readers

Apocalypse When? (A Short Story By Fionn Timmons)

“The World is screwed, my friends” declared Larry as he took another swig of his drink. This was something that Larry a.k.a. Lawrence Gilmore declared often. Very often. Practically every day for as long as anyone could care to remember. In fact, he’d said it nine times already that night, three times in the last four minutes. He said it again, for emphasis. However, despite the frequency at which he made this declaration, it had never been more true. The world was screwed. World War Three had begun though nobody was exactly sure why.

It had all started with North Korea. Their dictator had finally managed to develop nuclear weapons and had threatened the United States with this fact. The president of the USA found this out in the same way as everyone else, via YouTube. He stated that should North Korea attack, the USA would strike back with calamitous results. The North Korean dictator was very offended by this for some reason and fired what was the nuclear equivalent of a bottle rocket which knocked a small bit of ice off Alaska, barely enough for a cold drink. The Americans over-reacted slightly and reacted with what could only be described as excessive force, quite literally blowing North Korea out of the water. The Russians and Chinese didn’t appreciate this and despite the protests of the entirety of Europe, Africa and South America pretty soon the world went completely mental and World War Three began. Larry was a paranoid man but a harmless one and was well liked which may or may not have been due to the fact that he ran the local pub. He had long since predicted a nuclear war and had converted his pub into a nuclear bomb shelter with enough food and drink to last them decades. Now his paranoia was paying off and drinks were on the house. It’s not like money had value anymore.

Two televisions were playing in the centre of the room. One was playing a news programme covering the events. The other was playing all of Ireland’s matches from the World Cup of 1990. As some drunk geezers cheered for a goal scored thirty years ago, Larry engaged in a tipsy conversation with his closest friends Ger, Nick and Ciarán. “I’m rather looking forward to being irradiated” said Ger “I think it’ll be cool to have three eyes” “I could use a third arm” laughed Nick, pointing at a bandaged arm, injured playing GAA “This one’s banjaxed!” They laughed for a while before something crossed Larry’s mind “Ciarán! Do you remember the bet we made two years ago?” Ciarán had been dreading this moment for hours and his lie was weak. “No?” Larry took great pleasure in reminding him of the bet he’d been holding for two years. “I bet you that if there was a third World War, you’d have to be a waiter in the pub for two weeks!” Ciarán swore as the inevitable slugging ensued. And as the world tore itself apart the loudest sound that could be heard on the Emerald Isle was the swears of drunk old fellers as Ireland missed another chance on goal.

October Events at Maynooth Community Library

All of our events are free of charge and open to everyone

For further information contact:

www.kildare.ie/library

maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie

Ph: 01 6285530

facebook.com/KildareCountyLibraryService

twitter.com/kildarelibrary

Work Matters at the Library: Support for Business & Employment
Maynooth Community Library provide support to agencies, small business, entrepreneurs, students and job seekers.

As a core service we provide the following;

Meeting Space [pre-booking essential]

Free Wi-Fi and access to PCs

Free access to VisionNet and Mintel online resources

Access to our library catalogue at www.kildare.ie/library

Books, periodicals and business newspapers (including the Financial Times and the Economist)

E-learning: Free online continuing education courses

E-language: Free online language courses

Local Enterprise Office – Business Advice Clinic

Wednesday 18th October, all day

For anyone seeking business advice. To book an appointment, applications are available through the LEO office. Please contact 045 980838.

Upcoming Workshops for Business and Career Support

Time Management Workshop

Friday 13th October, 11am

This workshop will look at factors that impede effective time management and specifically the role of procrastination. It will discuss developing time management strategies to improve your effectiveness. Booking required.

Leadership skills in Business Workshop

Friday 20th October, 11am

This workshop will look at assertive versus authoritarian leadership. Why leaders need to be good communicators and finding the style that works for your organisation. Booking required.

Wellness in the Workplace Workshop

Friday 27th October, 11am

This workshop will help people understand the factors contributing to stress in the workplace while creating strategies to enhance wellness and resilience. Booking required.



Editorial

October 1st marked the sixth anniversary of the formal signing of the town twinning agreement between Maynooth and the French town of Canet-en-Roussillon. In both places there is physical evidence of the relationship with signage and logos. Even on this monthly publication and on our office window we proudly display the formal crest of Canet-en-Roussillon. When you visit our twinning partner the Maynooth Crest and the Kildare flag will also greet you. There are many ongoing connections between the two towns and these links were spearheaded by the students of Maynooth Post-Primary School who arranged student exchanges from the beginning. Also Maynooth University made connections in both swimming and rugby. A number of people have made lifelong friendships.

Aside from a number of formal visits from the twinning committee especially from Canet –en-Roussillon to Maynooth over the past few years there has been a steady flow of individual and family visits also. Each year our office in the Tesco Shopping Centre receives a number of people who have travelled from Canet-en-Roussillon. A number of people in Maynooth have visited Canet-en-Roussillon on my and other recommendations and have enjoyed their visits there. So is there more that can happen? Of course, Canet-en-Roussillon boasts over three hundred days of sunshine a year. There are opportunities for people who have retired from work and for other reasons, with their families

reared, to travel to Canet-en-Roussillon out of peak season and still have a sunny break there. For people coming to Maynooth, more could be done to make the holiday more affordable and to connect with the people here. While the two hotels in Maynooth and other holiday accommodation have supported the twinning and would always be recommended to visitors, we are also unique in that we have a lot of rented houses and apartments used by students in Maynooth University in college term that are free during the summer months. We should try to market these extra places to people from Canet-en-Roussillon who might need larger places to stay when here.

Similarly when people from here travel to Canet-en-Roussillon they do not limit their travel to the area only. We also can offer Kildare, Meath and Dublin attractions with ease to our visitors. I have given a number of guided tours around Maynooth over the years but it is always good to recommend other places to visit. Maynooth Community Council CLG is actively considering how to provide greater support to the twinning agreement. With our office located in the centre of the town and the experience of welcoming visitors from Canet-en-Roussillon our thoughts are on how we could support all visitors to Maynooth. One suggestion being considered is to put in place a number of tourism ambassadors who would be available to give tours of the town during the summer months.

However, the possibility of providing a tourism desk in our office should also be evaluated. As it stands the office is usually the first place that people are directed to when they need to get local information. Maynooth Community Council clg is a not for profit company supported with part funding from the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection with the remit to provide services and supports to the community of Maynooth. As well as publishing the monthly Maynooth Newsletter and providing office services to the public, we run the annual St. Patrick’s Day Parade and a Community Festival and manage the Maynooth Community Space on behalf of Kildare County Council as well as maintaining the environs of Maynooth Harbour and supporting Maynooth Town Soccer Club. Our office is the best place in Maynooth to provide a place where visitors can come to get access to the local information that you will not find on a website and connect with the area.

We would like to wish Fr. Liam Rigney the very best in his new parish of Athy. Fr. Liam has been an integral part of the Community and supported a wide range of activities for the past 10 years. Congratulations to Maynooth Tidy Towns on winning a Gold Medal in the National Tidy Towns Awards 2017. A just reward for all their hard work throughout the year.

Paul Croghan - Editor

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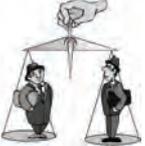
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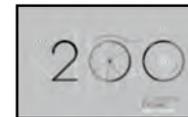
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**The Copy Date for the November Edition of the
Maynooth Newsletter is Tuesday 24th October 2017**



MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN



Census 2016 & Travel to School

The CSO continues to publish the results of Census 2016. The report on commuting revealed more information on current travel patterns in Kildare and Ireland generally. One of the key statistics is that despite nearly twenty years of central government and Kildare County Council 'promoting' walking and cycling and health authorities drawing attention to rising childhood obesity, more children than ever are being driven to school. The effect of this on areas around schools continues to worsen and school wardens in Dublin have had to call the police over behaviour by boorish drivers who have no consideration for the safety of other children or their parents.

In the Canadian city of Ottawa, police authorities issued 294 notices in five days in a targeted road safety campaign when schools reopened after the summer. Maynooth Gardaí could do worse than follow their example.

Increased Funding Required for Cycling from €12M to €147M

It is the policy of Irish cycling campaign groups that 10% of the transport budget should be dedicated to cycling which is in line with government targets that by 2020, 10% of trips should be by bicycle. Current levels of investment are approximately €12 Million per annum which is equivalent to an approximate expenditure of €2.50 per person per head per annum. With a Department of Transport annual expenditure of €1470 Million, Ireland should be allocating €147 Million per annum for cycling which would be equivalent to €30.87 per person per head which is broadly in line with what Dutch politicians have allocated for the last forty years.

As pointed out in a previous Newsletter, Ireland will not achieve the target of 10% of trips by bicycle at current rates of progress for another thirty years due to low standards and low levels of investment. Minister Ross has stated that his Department is unable to provide an overall figure of investment in cycling as some facilities, for example greenways are

used by both walkers and cyclists. It seems that the inability to carry out basic 90 mathematical functions which has affected the Garda Síochána has now spread to the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport. The Minister stated that he will look for increased funding under the mid-term Capital Expenditure Review, the results of which are expected before the end of the year. However, we shall wait to see the scale of any increase and see whether or not cycling will continue to get crumbs from the Transport budget.

Bike Share

Bike sharing is where people make a typically short cycle journey in a town or city centre on a rented bike, rather than one owned. It began in the Netherlands in the 1960s so is now more than fifty years old. Bike sharing came to Ireland with the launch of Dublin Bikes and has now spread to Cork, Limerick and Galway. These are known as Third Generation bike systems and are based around a number of 'Hubs' where you can collect and return a bike. Fourth Generation Bike Sharing does not involve hubs and instead relies on Smart phones and the internet to access and leave bikes. Bleeperbikes in conjunction with South Dublin County Council has introduced Fourth Generation bike sharing on a pilot basis to Lucan, Clondalkin and Tallaght. A number of Fourth Generation operators are also keen to set up in Dublin City. How this will affect Dublin Bikes is unclear at this time. We wish them well.

WHO calls for Active Travel to be Prioritised

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has published a draft Global Action Plan within which increased cycling and walking is flagged as a priority for authorities in order to minimise deaths related to physical inactivity.

Dubbed the Global Action Plan for the promotion of Physical Activity (GAPPA) 2018-2030, the plan cross references a wealth of UN documents in order to draw its conclusions. Topics are wide ranging – detailing everything

from sports and education to urban planning – but transport and health are heavily linked themes within which building exercise into our existing daily routine is recommended. Four objectives are laid out within the draft, each of which have potential to drive active travel:

- ◆ Creating an active society
- ◆ Creating active environments
- ◆ Creating active lives
- ◆ Creating active systems

Progress on reducing car dependency has been slow in most countries when it comes to achieving goals set previously. WHO has described as 'challenging' progress on a 2013 voluntary goal set by the World Health Assembly to increase physical activity by 10% by 2025.

There are good financial reasons for changing our mode of transport to active travel. The European Cycling Federation estimates healthcare savings tied to cycling to be worth €191.27 billion a year. Health Authorities across the world are under increasing pressure to reduce costs. In response to an epidemic in diabetes and other inactivity related illness the World Health Organisation has before now said that Governments should build active travel into our lives. Cycling has been proven to reduce some of the enormous burdens on health services, notably Type 2 Diabetes and even "risk of death from 'any' cause".

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. Further information on meetings and activities is available on our website. We are affiliated to Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cycling Advocacy Network and through it to the European Cycling Federation.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. Membership is FREE. If you want to support our work, just email your contact details to maynoothcycling@gmail.com.



REMINDER DON'T FORGET TO CHANGE YOUR CLOCK

(SUMMER TIME ENDS 29TH OCTOBER)

PUT CLOCKS BACK 1 HOUR

Sunday, 29th October 2017 02:00:00 clocks turn backward 1 hour to Sunday, 29th October 2017, 01:00:00 local standard time instead.

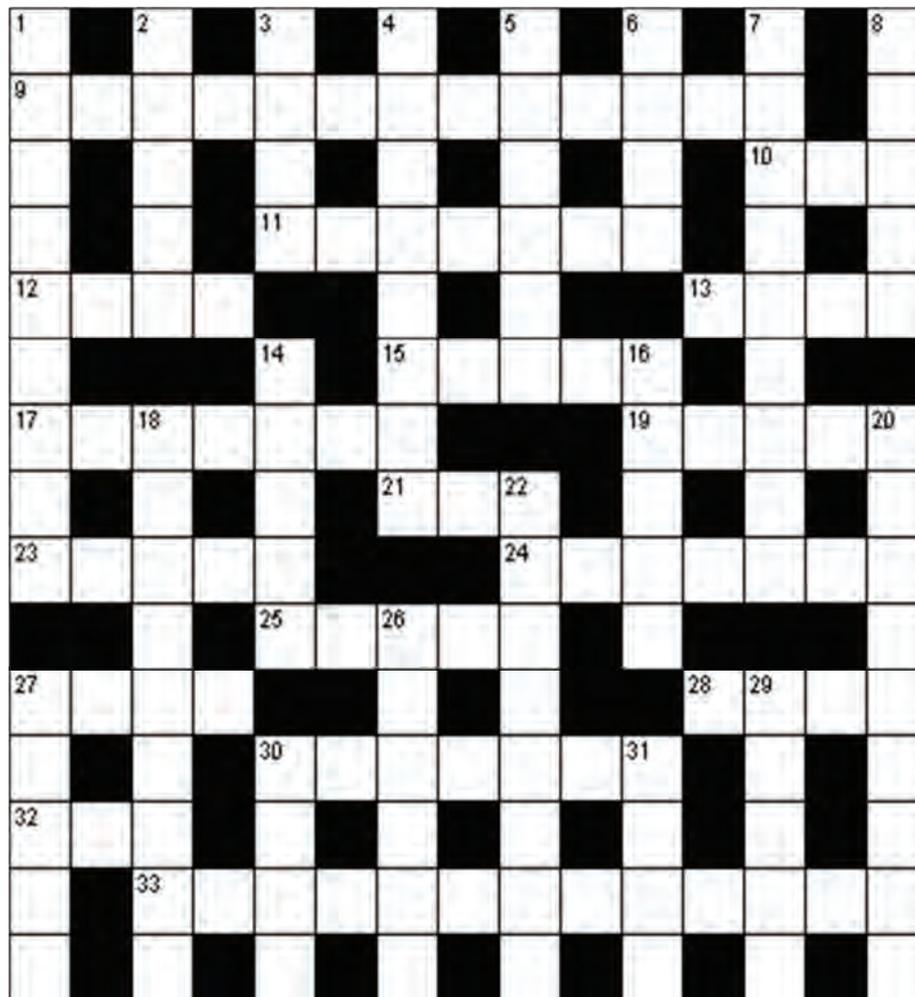


Clues Across

9. Not proper (13)
10. Weep (3)
11. Necessary (7)
12. Underground part of a plant (4)
13. Agitate (4)
15. Monetary unit of Saudi Arabia (5)
17. Corridor (7)
19. Accustom (5)
21. Finish first (3)
23. Long (5)
24. Against (7)
25. Chaff (5)
27. Membership fees (4)
28. Goad (4)
30. Capital of Iraq (7)
32. Contend (3)
33. Prekindergarten (7,6)



October Crossword - No. 462



Clues Down

1. Written history of a person's life (9)
2. Courtyard (5)
3. Duration (4)
4. Beer made at home (4-4)
5. Cunning (6)
6. Metal fastener (4)
7. Pruning shears (9)
8. Aviator (5)
14. Threads (5)
16. Speaks with impediment (5)
18. Something stated (9)
20. Tolerable (9)
22. These days (8)
26. Tattered (6)
27. Sofa (5)
29. Hinge (5)
30. Obstructs (4)
31. Wharf (4)



Answers to Crossword No 461



Special Prize Book Voucher

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

The Maynooth Bookshop
68 Main Street,
Maynooth

Entries in before:
Tuesday 24th October 2017

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Winner of Crossword No. 461 September

Bernadette Duffy
175 Kingsbry
Maynooth

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

Collect prize from
The Maynooth Bookshop
68 Main Street, Maynooth



Maynooth Toastmasters

Attend our meetings and see how communication can make the difference for you. Many say breaking the ice in respect of speaking was participation in Table Topics session at their first Toastmasters meeting in Maynooth.

Looks like its going to be another great year, it was epic to have 6 guests come to the Club meeting on Monday 18th September.

So back to Table Topics, it's an exercise for people to think quickly and respond, very much a real time exercise that happens so often in everyday life.

So come along to our **new venue at Community Space, Maynooth**. Checkout our Facebook page, but do come on 3rd and 4th Monday of the month.

Felicity Cuthbert
Maynooth Toastmasters Committee

Little Way Cancer Support Centre Clane

Little Way Cancer Support Centre has been operating in Clane for the last 14 years, supporting people their family and friends who have or had cancer. We provide support to people throughout the county and are the cancer support centre in Kildare.



We are delighted to announce we have now purchased a premises in Clane. A total renovation of the premises is needed, we are looking for support to renovate the premises into a cancer support centre.

The Little way Cancer Support Centre is open from:
10:30am -1:30pm Monday to Friday

You can contact us on 045902996/0872983140
or email clane@little-way.org.

You can also help by giving a donation at www.idonate.ie/renovationcampaign or organise a fundraising event.

Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

From 20/7/17 to 22/9/17 - information from Kildare County Council Website

App. Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	Application Date
171019	Kildare County Council	Kevin O'Connor on behalf of Colourtrend - General Paints Ltd	Maynooth Road, Celbridge, Co. Kildare	11/09/2017
171016	Kildare County Council	Kevin Farrell	85 Griffinrath Hall, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	07/09/2017
17967	Kildare County Council	Roisin O'Flaherty	Kilmacredock Upper, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	25/08/2017
17959	Kildare County Council	Edward and Katie Robinson,	Donaghstown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	23/08/2017
17932	Kildare County Council	Joseph Murtagh	Ath Dara, Maynooth Road, Celbridge	18/08/2017
17920	Kildare County Council	Saffron Property Limited	No. 22 Temple Wood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth	16/08/2017
17918	Kildare County Council	Adrian and Michelle Guckian,	102 Leinster Wood South, Carton Demesne, Maynooth	15/08/2017
17913	Kildare County Council	Maynooth University,	Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	11/08/2017
17902	Kildare County Council	Celine Clarke,	Moyglare Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	10/08/2017
17879	Kildare County Council	Martin and Michelle Maguire	29 Rockfield Green, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	03/08/2017
17872	Kildare County Council	Edward & Claire Chung	Barberstown Upper, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	02/08/2017
17837	Kildare County Council	GL Ireland ICAV,	Unit 4 Manor Mills S.C., Mill Street, Maynooth	20/07/2017
17838	Kildare County Council	Catherine Quirc Furnishings Limited,	The Forge, Maynooth Road, Straffan	20/07/2017
17839	Kildare County Council	Catherine Quirc Furnishings Limited,	The Forge, Maynooth Road, Straffan	20/07/2017

Difficult

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

Sudoku Challenge October 2017

Entries must arrive before:
24th October 2017

**Congratulations to
September Winner:**

**Patrick O'Donoghue
171 Kingsbry
Maynooth**

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

Super Difficult

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

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

MCC Art Festival 2017

On the 26th of August, Maynooth Community Church were delighted to host its 8th annual Music & Arts Festival on the Town Square. The theme of this year's event was "Discarded Treasure", and a trove of thought provoking art created by local artists and talented members of the congregation was on display.

On what was a beautiful summer's day, those who went along enjoyed complimentary tea, coffee and home bakes while children had their faces painted or played with giant Jenga, Checkers or other street games. The festival concluded on Saturday evening with an array of great music from a wealth of talented local musicians such as Katie Neville, Roisín & Vanessa Addo, Alex Harding & Pauline Keane.

Congratulations to everyone involved and all who worked so hard behind the scenes to make it possible.

(Photo's supplied by Maynooth Community Church)





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



Name: _____

Age: _____

Address: _____

Phone No: _____

Last Month's Winner:

Aimee Jane Cleary
59 Priory Square
Celbridge

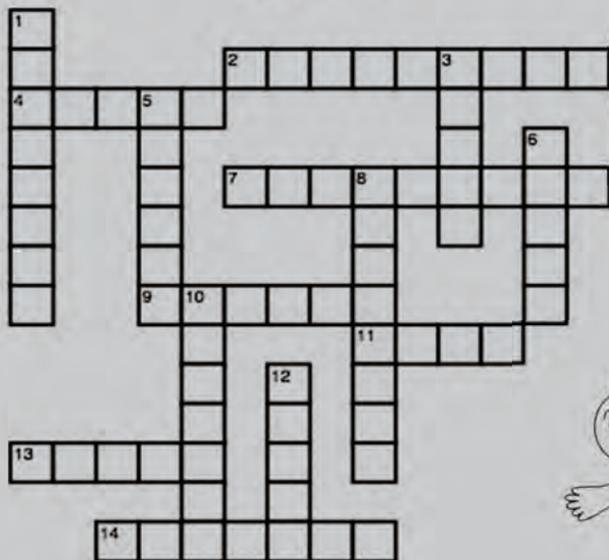
Prize of a Free Family Meal for Colouring Competition can be collected at:
Maynooth Community Council CLG
Office, Unit 5, Tesco Shopping Centre.

Entries must arrive before:
Tuesday 24th October 2017

Junior Puzzle Corner

sona Oíche Shamhna 

Halloween



Across

- 2. Popular holiday on the last day of October
- 4. Most candy contains a lot of this
- 7. Popular Halloween treat (two words)
- 9. I spin webs
- 11. A mammal that sleeps upside down
- 13. Cats this color are bad luck
- 14. Scary creature?

Down

- 1. Clothes worn on Halloween?
- 3. I ride on a broom
- 5. Bob for this fruit in a barrel?
- 6. _____ or treat!
- 8. Ring this and say, "Trick or treat!"
- 10. Word for jack-o'-lantern prior to carving
- 12. Put a sheet over your head and you can be a _____ for Halloween



Join the Dots and colour in the the shape



Halloween Recipes

Pumpkin Crisps

Ingredients:

¼ small pumpkin, deseeded and peeled
Ground nut oil
Flour for dusting

Method:

Cut pumpkin into very thin slices with a vegetable peeler. Pour oil to a depth of four inches into a large saucepan and heat up on a medium heat. Dust the pumpkin slices in flour and fry in batches for about 3 minutes or until crisp. Remove with a slotted spoon onto kitchen paper and sprinkle with salt.



Creeepy Chocolate Eyeballs

Ingredients:

400g of bourbon biscuits
300g of white chocolate
115g of cream cheese

For decoration:

Red, green and black writing icing
Skinny paint brush

Method:

Whizz biscuits in a food processor until you have small crumbs. Add cream cheese to biscuit crumbs, mix with a wooden spoon until a dough comes together. Using your hands roll 30 little balls and place them on a baking tray lined with parchment paper. Pop in the fridge. Melt chocolate until smooth. Toss the balls in the melted white chocolate until they are completely covered then lift out using a fork and place on a lined baking tray. Allow to set in fridge and decorate the eyeballs with food colouring. Allow to dry and then place in a large jar. The eyeballs will keep for about a week.



Ghost Meringues

Ingredients:

2oz sugar
2oz icing sugar
Black food colouring

Method:

Preheat your oven to 120°C, gas mark 4. Prepare 2 baking trays, either with baking parchment or lightly oil. Place your two egg whites into a non-plastic bowl and whisk until light and fluffy. While still mixing add your granulated sugar, a little at a time until it has been all incorporated, leaving a few seconds between each addition to ensure the sugar is well mixed and you can see stiff peaks when you remove the whisk. Sieve the icing sugar into your meringue mixture and then whisk just until it is combined and the mixture looks shiny. Place the mixture into a piping bag fitted with a round nozzle. Holding your piping bag totally vertically, squeeze a ball shaped meringue onto your prepared piping sheet, then lessen the pressure on the bag and pull straight up so that you get a clean point on the top of the meringue shape. Place your baking trays into the oven and allow to cook slowly for about 1 hour and 15 minutes. Keep an eye to make sure they aren't going too brown. You will know they are done when they lift easily off the baking parchment. Allow to cool and then using black food colouring and a paint brush, add any eyes, mouths or any other effect you like.



Spooky Biscuits

Ingredients:

5oz white flour
5oz sugar
2oz coconut
1oz cornflakes
6oz butter
1tbs of cocoa powder
1tsp of baking powder

Method:

Mix flour, sugar, coconut and cornflakes together in a bowl. Melt butter in a pan then add the cocoa powder and baking powder. When mixed together add to the dry ingredients. Spoon the mixture onto a lined greased tray. Bake at 150°C for 40 minutes. Decorate with liquorice, chocolate and sweets to create spooky spider cookies!



October Gardening



Autumn is approaching. While there are still sunny days to enjoy, there is also a crisp in the air that is the herald of the changing seasons. The wild growth evident during the heyday of summer is over now. Although the weather in autumn is often drier than some of the summer months, it is important to remember that winter is coming.

While the grass is still growing, keep mowing once a fortnight with the blades on high for the final few cuts. Carry out an autumn lawn care programme - scarify (rake out the old dead grass and moss) the lawn, spike to improve drainage again either by hand with a garden fork, add a top dressing of soil/sand/compost mixed according to your soil type (ask for advice at your garden centre) and feed with autumn weed and moss killer. This low-nitrogen preparation strengthens grass for winter.



Clear any debris and diseased material from your garden. Fallen leaves can be left to rot down or collected for leaf mould, but be sure to remove any diseased material. Pests and diseases that overwinter in your garden will reappear next spring with a vengeance so get rid of them now. If your soil is heavy clay, start digging it over now - add plenty of organic matter to improve the quality and pea shingle to improve the drainage.

Your soil has had a lot taken out of it during the busy growing season, and now is the best time to replace that goodness by digging in a lot of organic matter. The earlier you start, the better, especially if your soil is heavy. It can be left in a pretty rough state over the winter when the cold will break the lumps down, making spring planting infinitely easier. Resist the temptation to do a thorough cleaning of the garden until spring, though, and try to leave some winter cover for wildlife as the weather starts to cool. Our feathered friends will be starting to build their reserves for winter, so do please put out food and fresh water for them.

Don't waste fallen leaves – given time they decompose into fabulously rich leaf mould, the best natural soil conditioner there is. Rake up fallen leaves and dump them into a simple frame to make leaf mould (black bin liners spiked with air holes will also do if you can bear the visual offense, but remember to dampen the leaves first). If leaves are left lingering on the lawn, the grass will turn yellow. Leaf mould takes about a year to mature (2 in the case of oak leaves), makes a great top dressing for woodland plants such as rhododendrons and is an excellent and free home-grown substitute for peat.



Remove any diseased, spindly, old and unproductive stems from roses and remember to burn any diseased material. Tie new shoots onto some form of support to prevent their thrashing about in autumn winds. Trim your lavender if you haven't already done so. Prune tall shrubs such as lavatera and buddleja by about half to protect them against wind rock. Trim

conifers again if necessary, making sure you do not cut into the old wood. With the ideal planting conditions of autumn (warm moist soil), now is the time to plant container-grown shrubs, trees, fruit bushes, perennials and bulbs. Even in damp conditions, it is worth checking that the rootballs of shrubs and trees are adequately moist when planting - heavy rain will not necessarily penetrate a rootball that has been allowed to dry out. If it feels light, plunge into a bucket of water before planting.

Finish planting spring bulbs such as narcissi and crocuses; tulips can wait until November. Plant hardy perennials so their roots have a chance to become established before winter. Replace summer bedding with winter and spring bedding. Plant out violas, wallflowers and primulas now for cheery colour in the coming months. Winter colour comes in all shapes and sizes; hardy cyclamen and heathers, dwarf conifers, winter pansies, violas and trailing ivy all make wonderful displays.



~To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow~



FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

HALLOWEEN MOVIE QUIZ



1. What was the name of Richard Dreyfuss' character in *Jaws*?

2. Which actress co-starred with Jack Nicholson in *The Shining*?

3. Which British studios were famous for their horror movies?

4. Which renowned actor played the role of Professor Van Helsing in Francis Ford Coppola's *Dracula*?

5. In the movie *Se7en*, who is murdered for the deadly side of pride?

- a. A politician
- b. A model
- c. An actor
- d. A professional athlete



6. Name the actor and the movie.

7. Jamie-Lee Curtis was involved in how many films in the *Halloween* series?

8. Which one of these movies was the last horror film to win an Oscar?

- a. *Jaws*
- b. *The Exorcist*
- c. *Silence of the Lambs*
- d. *The Sixth Sense*



9. Which classic film was remade in 2006 with Nicholas Cage?

- a. *Psycho*
- b. *The Wicker Man*
- c. *Nightmare on Elm Street*
- d. *I Spit on Your Grave*

10. In Alfred Hitchcock's 1960 film *Psycho*, what is the name of the character who is stabbed in the famous shower scene?

11. Which 2002 horror film tells the story of a mysterious videotape which appears to cause the death of anyone who watches it within a week?



12. Name the movie.

13. What year was *The Exorcist* released in?

14. Who played Freddy Krueger in the *Nightmare on Elm Street* films?

15. Who was the female star of *Rosemary's Baby*?

16. *Leatherface* was a character in what horror film?

- a. *Carrie*
- b. *The Shining*
- c. *The Blair Witch Project*
- d. *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre*

17. In the last scene of *Silence of the Lambs*, who is Hannibal following?

- a. *Dr Chilton*
- b. *Clarice*
- c. *Mr Crawford*
- d. *An old patient*



18. Name the actress and the movie

19. What is Hannibal Lector's nickname in *Silence of the Lambs*?

20. In *Nightmare on Elm Street*, what is the manner of Freddy Krueger's death?

- a. Drowning
- b. Shooting
- c. Fire
- d. Motorcycle Death

21. Who played the possessed girl in *The Exorcist*?

- a. Ellen Burstyn
- b. Geena Davis
- c. Jamie Lee Curtis
- d. Linda Blair



22. What age is Regan at the time of her possession in *The Exorcist*?

23. In the 1976 movie, *The Omen*, what is the name of the evil child?

24. In *The Omen*, what is the priest impaled by in the graveyard?

25. In what horror movie did the monster attack students through their dreams?

26. How many people does Jason kill in the first *Friday 13th*?

27. In *Halloween*, who was Tommy afraid of?

28. British actor Boris Karloff created a cinematic icon when he played the role of what monster?



Quiz answers will be available in the November edition of the Newsletter.



Frank O'Rourke TD

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

Notice to Advertisers

Due to increases in associated costs of production there will be an increase in the Maynooth Newsletter Advertising Rates of 20% effective from the November 2017 Edition.

This is the first increase in the Maynooth Newsletter advertising rates since 2010.

The Maynooth Newsletter serves the Community and has a role in supporting Local Businesses. Without our Advertisers there would not be a monthly Newsletter. We would like to thank our Advertisers for their continued support in providing this valuable community service. Let us hope that there will be many more editions for years to come.



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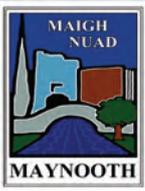
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Maynooth Newsletter



Serving the people of Maynooth



Local News

November 2017

Issue No. 463

FREE

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



Youthreach Leixlip & FETC Maynooth Awards Night October 2017

Guest Speaker: Brenda Lynch - Adult Education Officer (KWETB)



Anyone who keeps learning stays young: Henry Ford

2017

The Maynooth Further Education & Training QOI awards presentation night was held on Thursday 19th October 2017 in the Springfield Hotel in Leixlip. Among the recipients on the night were members of Maynooth Community Council CLG Community Employment Scheme. Congratulations to all the night's recipients but a special well done to Mary Mc Ginty, Marian Kelly, Bernadette Claxton & Martina Mooney all of whom are current or ex-members of MCC staff. The majority of our office staff training is completed through the Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board training centre at Manor Mills, Maynooth. A big thank you to Mary Faughnan and all the staff at KWETB for their support in completing this valuable training.



Anne-Marie Tallon (KWETB) presenting Mary McGinty (MCC) with her Major Award



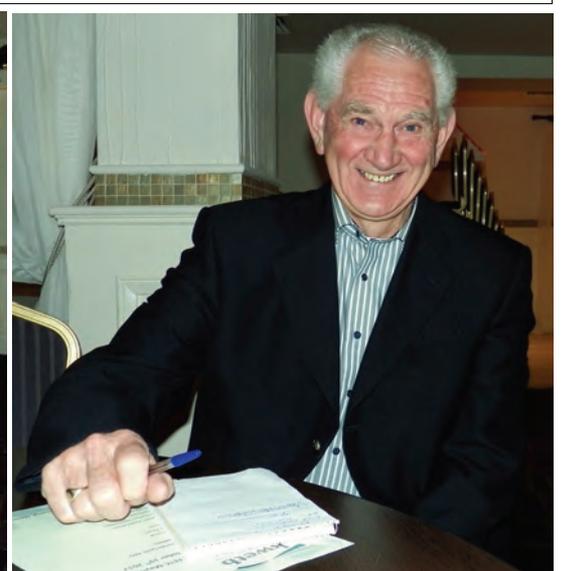
L-R Bernadette Raftery & Fr. Tom Raftery at the Awards Night



L-R Mary McGinty, Bernadette Claxton & Martina Mooney at the Awards Ceremony



L-R Catriona Cullen, Billy Mulvihill, Sinead Baker, Donald Macleod & Mary Faughnan



Laurence Barron at the Awards Night

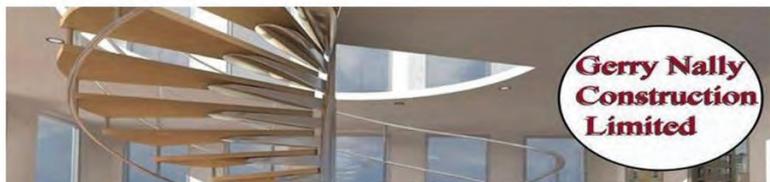


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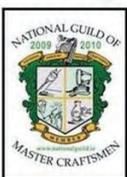
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Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee



Our Hallowe'en Tea-Dance was a most enjoyable event with attendees from all the surrounding areas. Some added to the occasion with hilarious dress and rare fascinators. Kevin and Katy Cullen, as usual, had the best costume. However the day belonged to Lima and Billy Higgins who celebrated their Diamond Jubilee.

Yes folks, sixty years of marriage, now that's something to celebrate. There they were in all their glory surrounded by their family. Well done to you both and may I wish you many more years together. Thank you to all the family who kept the secret and aided and connived in the plot. A big thank you to Pam Flood who made the beautiful cake for the occasion and indeed who so generously supplies cakes for all our events. (see photos)



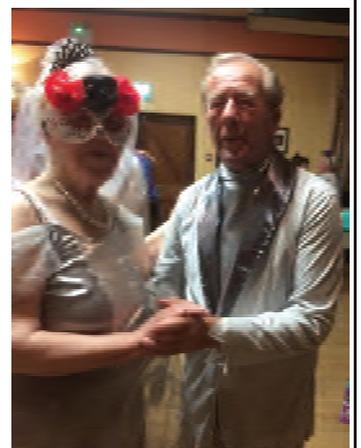
Now our attention turns to our Sale of Work which takes place on Sunday Nov. 19th in the Post Primary School, Moyglare Road. Our members will be calling to you in the next week or two and all I ask is that you continue to support us the way you have for half a centenary. This is also the time of year when the opportunists emerge, so be vigilant. Our people should be familiar to you by now but if in doubt, check them out. This is our main fundraising event and all our activities depend on how well we do. All monies are spent on fuel, transport, social occasions, safety and security, for the most vulnerable in our community.

All our workers are volunteers and nobody is paid whatsoever. Our accounts can be viewed annually at our AGM in March. So I thank all those who help physically and fiscally with our work. You can, if you prefer, deliver items to the school hall on Saturday or Sunday 18th /19th.

Meanwhile our morning club continues every Tuesday and Thursday in the Geraldine Hall and all seniors are welcome.

Finally, may I extend our sympathy to the family of Seamus Murphy, Parklands, who passed away recently. His wife Anne is a valued member of our committee and our thoughts are with her at this sad time. Ar Dheis De go raibh a Anam.

Josephine Moore. - Chairperson.





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Information correct as at 12th October 2017. Source: Bonkers.ie Lending criteria, terms and conditions apply. Security and insurance are required. The maximum mortgage is 90% of the property value. The maximum loan amount will typically not exceed 3.5 times an individual's gross annual income. *If the loan is drawn down before 31st December 2017 KBC Bank Ireland plc will give the customer €3,000. Customers drawing down in stage payments will only qualify for the contribution if the initial stage draws down between 2nd May 2017 and 31st December 2017. The payment of the contribution will be made by electronic transfer within 30 days of the drawdown of the Loan into the account from which the monthly mortgage repayment is or will be paid. This Switcher offer excludes Buy to Let properties. The Lender reserves the right to amend, modify, cancel, withdraw or change the terms on which this contribution is available at any time at its sole discretion. ** Home Insurance 50% discount is valid until 31st December 2017 and is for the first year only. Home Insurance offer excludes Buy to Let properties. If the KBC Home Insurance policy is cancelled before the first 12 months has expired, KBC reserves the right to request a refund the balance of the premium. KBC Bank Ireland plc has an exclusive agency agreement with Zurich Insurance plc for the provision of Home Insurance. KBC Home Insurance products are underwritten, administered and provided by Zurich Insurance plc, subject to Zurich Insurance underwriting terms and conditions. Zurich Insurance plc is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. KBC Bank Ireland plc is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.

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ADMINISTRATOR POSITION

Location: SAP Landscapes Head Office, Ballygoran, Maynooth, Co. Kildare

Reporting to: Contracts Manager & Senior Contracts Manager

Roles & Goals for Results:

The primary purpose of this position is to add value to the landscape management team by; Allowing the Contracts Managers more time on sites by divesting them of key bureaucratic and administrative duties, by adding margin to tenders and contracts through effective procurement management and by assisting in general desk based contracts management tasks to improve the throughput and efficiency of works undertaken. In order for you to deliver effectively on these aims you will need to quickly become proficient in bespoke software solutions employed by the company. These include: eForms, eSAP, Valesco, CS Project and COINS. It is imperative that you have the ability to quickly integrate with and support the existing management team.

Desired Experience & Skills

- Minimum 2 years strong administration experience.
- Plant knowledge is an advantage.
- Good working knowledge of Word, Excel and other MS Office software systems.
- Excellent organisational and interpersonal skills with the ability to drive change & adapt to different working environments.
- Excellent interpersonal and problem solving skills.
- Ability to multi- task is essential for this role.
- Good attention to detail whilst working to deadlines.
- Ability to prioritise numerous tasks to promote and ensure the smooth day to day running of Landscapes Department.
- Ensure work is of a high standard that is expected in SAP Landscapes.

Package:

- Salary - DOE
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Michelle Tully, HR Manager
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Congratulations to Maynooth Tidy Towns on achieving
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Maynooth Labour News

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

Update on Traffic Management in Maynooth:

Councillors were given the following report at the Maynooth MD meeting on 17 October:

“As recommended as part of the Maynooth Traffic Management Plan, the traffic signals maintenance contractor has been instructed to carry out the SCOOT review and revalidation. This work has commenced, the first stage is to carry out a desktop review on the SCOOT database, assessing all SCOOT settings and parameters and then prepare a report on the findings. Following on from this, a review of each junction and assessment whether any physical works are required in advance of the full SCOOT revalidation will be carried out. This work, depending on the extent of any physical works required, should take approximately six to eight weeks to implement.

It was necessary to await the reopening of all schools and the university to assess the town when traffic volumes are at maximum levels. As the members are aware, the junctions in Maynooth town centre are all currently operating at over capacity, and with traffic volumes nationally on the increase, we are essentially managing queues during am/pm peaks in the town centre. In the absence of major infrastructural improvements as outlined in the Maynooth Traffic Management Plan, maximising the capacity of existing infrastructure is planned in the short term.”

Councillors were advised, after a long debate, that all junctions in the town are being monitored by KCC and Contractors with a view to improving the efficiency of the junctions within 4/6 weeks

Update on the Provision of the traffic Lights at the Straffan Road/Meadowbrook Link Road Junction

Cllr. John McGinley got the following e mail from the

Council’s Senior Executive Engineer on 13 October:

“I have been in contact with the Engineer for the Developer yesterday to get an update on the programme of the works. I will confirm when these works are scheduled to start once I get this information.”

The Director of Services stated on 17 October that work on the traffic lights is about to start.

Update on 67 Bus Extension to Moyglare Road.

As a result of Cllr. John McGinley’s motion, Kildare County Council wrote to Dublin Bus and they got the following extraordinary reply:

“Thank you for your letter dated 17th October regarding the possibility of the route 67 extending to Moyglare. Dublin Bus has no current plans to extend route 67 through the chronic congestion over to Moyglare Hall.

However, we are currently engaged with the National Transport Authority (NTA) in their BusConnects project with its commitment to investing €1bn in Dublin’s bus network.

The BusConnects project is a suite of initiatives proposed by the NTA at revitalising bus transport in Dublin. A planned redesign of our current bus network is one of the nine initiatives within the busConnects project and is still very much in the early stages; data analysis is being conducted and design options and route choices are being discussed. Dublin Bus is fully engaged in this project and are committed to promoting and protecting the interests of our customers. Thank you again for your email and if you have any further queries regarding this issue please do not hesitate to contact me directly.”

At the Maynooth MD meeting of the Council on 17 October Cllr. McGinley expressed his outrage at the extraordinary reply from Dublin Bus. He asked the Director of Services to again write to Dublin Bus pointing out that in their e mail dated 5 February 2014 they stated:

“I wish to confirm that Dublin Bus are keen to extend route 67 from beside the railway station on the Straffan Road in Maynooth to Moyglare.”

Public Lights in Castle Dawson to be Repaired

Cllr. John McGinley got the following response from the Council on 18 October in relation to his representations to the pole that was knocked down and to the 16 public lights not working:

“I have been in contact with Stephen Cunningham (formerly of Development Control Section) regarding the lighting issues in Castle Dawson, Maynooth. Both the PL Contractor and the ESB have been out on site and made it safe, the pole and exposed cables. While the estate is not taken in charge of

Kildare County Council, the Development Control Section have asked us to repair any faults that exist at present. I have contacted our PL Contractor about the situation and they are programming it into their schedule.”

Re-vamp of The Square, Maynooth

The Maynooth MD manager will discuss the Draft proposals for the Square, with Councillors, before the end of October; when they will then go on public display.

Back Lanes, Maynooth to be Re-Surfaced in Spring 2018

The Maynooth MD Manager advised Councillors at their meeting on 17 October that he would re-surface the Back Lanes, Maynooth, in Spring of next year. Surplus from the Pay Parking will be used to pay for the work.

Drainage Work and Re-surfacing of the Back Lane in Old Greenfield Scheduled for Next Month

The Maynooth MD Manager advised Councillors at their meeting on 17 October that the drainage and re-surfacing of Old Greenfield Back Lane is scheduled to begin on 6 November and that it would take 3 full weeks to complete.

Cllr. McGinley Calls for Turnstile Gate to be Retained at The Harbour Field:

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of Maynooth MD meeting on 17 October:

“That the turnstile gate, which is being removed to accommodate the North South Corridor development, be relocated to where the double gate is at present (further along the Harbour Field wall) and that funding be provided to rebuild the wall where it has fallen.”

He got the following highly unsatisfactory reply:

“This work is not included in the National Transportation Authority funded scheme.”

Cllr. McGinley stated that he made a submission to retain the turnstile gate when the North South Corridor was on public display and as a result the Final Report stated:

“that the turnstile would be relocated to accommodate the new street.”

Maynooth Tidy Towns and Cllr. John McGinley have asked that it be re-located to where the double gate is at present and that the Harbour Field wall be re-built. Cllr. McGinley has asked that the Local Property Tax and the Pay Parking Surplus be used for this purpose.

Cllr. McGinley Calls for the Re-surfacing of the Newtown Road Footpath:

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of Maynooth MD meeting on 17 October:

“That the footpath from Cluain Aoibhinn to the Health Board houses in Newtown, Maynooth be re-surfaced. “

He was given the following weak reply:

“Work on this footpath is warranted but is not included in the current works schedule.”

Cllr. McGinley stated that this is a highly pedestrianised area and that the Local Property Tax and the Pay Parking Surplus should be used for the work.

Cllr. McGinley Calls for Extra Parking Spaces at Maynooth Train Station:

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of Maynooth MD meeting on 17 October:

“Can the Director of Services contact Iarnrod Eireann again asking them when they will be providing the much needed 38 additional parking spaces at Maynooth train station? (They were granted planning permission for these in 2011, which was extended this year until 6 July 2021).”

John got the following reply:

“If the members are in agreement a letter will issue to Iarnrod Eireann in respect to their timeline for the provision of 38 additional car parking spaces at Maynooth train station.”

Cllr. McGinley stated it was unforgivable that Iarnrod Eireann had still not provided the additional spaces as Planning Permission was granted for them 6 years ago and that the station car park was now full at 7.30 am.

The Director of Services said that he would meet Iarnrod Eireann to ask them why they have not proceeded with the additional much needed spaces.

Update on the Maynooth North South Corridor:

Councillors were given the following update on 17 October: *“Work is scheduled to begin at the Harbour Field on 6 November and will be completed to The Roost in mid-February 2018.”*

Update on the Canal Greenway

Councillors were given the following update on 17 October: *“The section from Maynooth Harbour to Chambers Bridge will be completed by the second week in November. Some much needed repairs to the footbridge to the train station will also be carried out. Around 90% of the Greenway will be completed to Athlone by the end of the year.”*

Stagg Presses HSE on Refurbishment of Maynooth Community Care Unit

Emmet Stagg has raised with the HSE the need to provide funding for the required refurbishment works to the Maynooth Community Care Unit at The Harbour, Maynooth. The cost of the works are estimated at €1 Million and the HSE have advised that the refurbishment plans have been submitted to the Social Care National Office of the HSE and a decision on funding is awaited. The HSE further advised that the HSE are committed to ensuring that the Maynooth Community Care Unit will meet the HIQA standards and will continue to meet the needs of people in Maynooth and the surrounding areas.

The Maynooth Community Care Unit is a fantastic facility to have in our Community and Emmet Stagg praised the staff for the excellent care provided to our elderly people at the facility. In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that he would continue to press the HSE to confirm funding for the refurbishment works to enable the project to proceed in 2018.

Tenders for Construction of New Maynooth Educate Together School to Be Invited in December

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has been in contact with the Minister for Education and Skills in relation to progressing the Tender Stage of the New Maynooth Educate Together School on the Celbridge Road, Maynooth, and the commencement of construction of the New School.

The Minister has advised that a new Design and Build Contractor Framework is currently being established and is expected to be in place in the next 2 months. In tandem with this, tender documents for the New Maynooth Educate Together School are being prepared, in order to be in a position to invite tenders when the Framework is in place. Welcoming this continuing progress with the school Mr. Stagg stated that the project remained in place to commence construction in early 2018 and he again congratulated the Board of Management of the school on progressing the project to this stage.

Stagg Calls for Enforcement Action over Car Parking Provision for Oak Alley

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has called on Kildare Co. Council to take enforcement action for non-compliance with planning conditions in relation to the provision of a Car Park to serve the Oak Alley Restaurant & Cocktail Bar on Main Street, Maynooth.

Planning permission for the provision of the Restaurant & Cocktail Bar also included provision of a car park for 103 vehicles. Entry was to be off Doctor's Lane and the exit was to be into the Public Car Park adjoining the site. A Car Park of some sorts has been provided which is not open to the Public. The surface of the Car Park is not a durable permanent surface as required under the planning conditions.

Whilst the development of the car park with 103 parking spaces was a matter for the developer, what is not is that the development of Oak Alley required the provision of 35 car parking spaces under the standards in the Maynooth Local Area Plan. We can't force the developer to provide 103 spaces but he must comply with the Maynooth Local Area Plan and provide 35. Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that he had raised the non-compliance with the Transportation Section of the Council who have now referred it to the planning section in the context of planning enforcement, and he looked forward to action by the Council in this matter.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth

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

Information is also available online at www.citizensinformation.ie and from the Citizens Information Phone Service - 0761 07 4000 or Lo-call 1890777121

Funding for College

Question

I'm unemployed and planning to go to college. What funding is available for this?

Answer

Most undergraduate students attending publicly funded third-level courses for the first time will qualify for the Free Fees Initiative. You must meet criteria as regards residence, nationality and immigration status, as well as course requirements. If you qualify for free fees, you do not have to pay tuition fees. In addition to fees, there is a separate student contribution, which you pay to the college.

The student grant is the main financial support for students. The grant can cover all or part of your fees (if they are not already covered) and the student contribution and it can also provide some maintenance. To qualify for a grant, you and your course must meet certain criteria and you must pass a means test.

The Back to Education Allowance is available to people who have been getting certain social welfare payments for a set period of time before starting their course. You cannot get a Back to Education Allowance and the maintenance portion of a student grant at the same time. If you are eligible for both, you should find out which would be of more benefit to you.

The Free Fees Initiative, the student grant and the Back to Education Allowance all have rules regarding progression from previous studies. However, there are exceptions. If you intend to start a course at a level you have studied before, you should check whether the rules on progression apply to your situation.

If you do not qualify for the Free Fees Initiative or the student grant, you should find out whether Springboard can help you to return to education. Springboard provides free higher education courses related to specific areas in which there are employment opportunities.

If you have to pay tuition fees and a student contribution, you may qualify for tax relief. You can find out more about sources of funding, including the Student Assistance Fund for students experiencing financial hardship, on studentfinance.ie.

Flu Vaccination

Question

I have been recommended to get a flu vaccination. Can I get it for free?

Answer

Influenza, usually known as the flu, is highly infectious and anyone can get it. However some groups are at greater risk of complications if they get the flu. This includes people over the age of 65, pregnant women and people who have a chronic medical condition.

The flu vaccine can help protect you from getting the flu. The flu virus changes every year and this is why there is a new vaccine each year. Vaccination is strongly recommended if you:

- Are aged 65 and over
- Have a long-term medical condition such as diabetes, heart, kidney, liver, lung or neurological disease
- Have an impaired immune system due to disease or treatment
- Have a body mass index (BMI) over 40
- Are pregnant
- Live in a nursing home or other long-stay institution
- Are a carer or a healthcare worker
- Have regular contact with poultry, water fowl or pigs

You can get the vaccine from your GP (family doctor) or pharmacist. Children can get the vaccine from a GP.

The vaccine itself is free of charge if you are in one of the recommended groups.

However, doctors and pharmacists may charge a consultation fee when they give you the vaccine

If you have a medical card or GP visit card, you can get the vaccine without being charged a consultation fee.

Replacing Lead Pipes

Question

Can we get a grant to replace lead water pipes in our house?

Answer

The local authorities administer a means-tested grant scheme to help low-income households with the cost of replacing lead pipes and fittings. If your income is below €50,000 a year, you may get a grant of up to 80% of the cost, up to a maximum of €4,000. If your income is between €50,001 and €75,000, you may get up to 50%, up to a maximum of €2,500. You will need to provide evidence of your household's income when applying to the local authority for the grant.

You must own the premises and live in it as your principal private residence (your main home). You must get the remedial work done before applying for the grant, and it must cost at least €200.

You must have evidence of a risk of lead contamination in your home. This can either be:

- A letter from your water supplier (Irish Water or a group water scheme), advising that your water system probably contains lead pipes and fittings, or
- A recent certificate from an accredited laboratory, showing that the level of lead in your water supply is higher than the legal limit

The contractor who does the work must give you the following: a current tax clearance certificate; itemised receipts; written confirmation that the works carried out and the materials used are of an appropriate quality and standard.

You will need to enclose all these documents with your grant application.

If you are an Irish Water customer and you plan to replace your lead piping, you must first apply for Irish Water's Customer Opt-in Lead Pipe Replacement Scheme.

You may be able to get some tax relief under the Home Renovation Incentive (HRI) scheme even if you get a grant to replace your lead piping – see revenue.ie.

Benefits for Carers

Question

I will need to take time out from work to provide full-time care for my father. What is available for people in my situation?

Answer

There are several entitlements available to you. In order for you to qualify, the person you are caring for (your father) must be in need of full-time care and attention.

If you are working at present and will be taking time off to care, you may be eligible for carer's leave of up to 2 years. You must have worked for your employer for a continuous period of 12 months to qualify for this leave. While you are on carer's leave, you are entitled to get credited social insurance contributions to maintain your PRSI record.

You are entitled to annual leave and public holidays in respect of the first 13 weeks of carer's leave. Your employer cannot dismiss you or victimise you for exercising your right to carer's leave.

You may also be entitled to Carer's Benefit from the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection, if you have enough PRSI contributions to qualify.

If you do not qualify for Carer's Benefit, you may qualify for a means-tested Carer's Allowance. If you get Carer's Allowance, you may be entitled to a Free Travel Pass. If you live with the person you are caring for, you may also qualify for the Household Benefits Package.

There is also an annual Carer's Support Grant of €1,700, formerly known as the Respite Care Grant, which is paid to full-time carers in June each year. Even if you are not getting any other social welfare payment, you can qualify for this grant if you fulfil the conditions.

Tidy Towns Competition 2017 Adjudication Report

Centre: Maynooth Ref: 377 County: Kildare

Mark: 323 Category: G Date(s): 21/06/2017 - 30/07/2017

Area	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2016	Mark Awarded 2017
Community Involvement & Planning	60	52	53
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	41	42
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	46	46
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	35	37
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	19	20
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	54	55
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	31	33
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	36	37
Total Mark	450	314	323

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Maynooth as always is most welcome to the Supervalu Tidy Towns competition 2017. Thank you for your excellent application and helpful map. Your biodiversity action plan 2017-2021 as you state in your application is a major undertaking for Maynooth. It is evident from your application that your committee and volunteers are dedicated to foster a sense of pride in the unique environment of Maynooth, as well as creating a more sustainable town to live. You get support and assistance from other groups such as the men's shed who undertake various projects such as making bird boxes for use around Maynooth. Working with the National Learning Network is commended. It is nice to see that all members of the community are included in developing projects that enhance the town they live in. This is one of your key qualities as a committee, engaging with all the community and creating a social aspect as well as working with volunteers. Having that cuppa encourages people to come along and make friends and not feel isolated. You have also good support from all the relevant agencies, schools and businesses as fund raising can be difficult at times and it is good to have local support. Communication to the wider community is varied with social media one of the top means of communicating the word around. Well done on your gold medal and pollinator awards in 2016. Your participation in the competition for over 50 years has played an important part in helping Maynooth's achievements in developing and enhancing the town to what it is today. May it continue to help you with further success into the future.

Built Environment and Streetscape / An Timpallacht Thógtha agus Sráid-dreacha:

The charming streetscape of Maynooth is appreciated as one looks from the magnificent grounds of Carton House to the Spire of the Church. This is part of the historical college buildings with mature trees softening the hardness of the buildings along the street, which creates a charming vista. There is a noticeable reduction in hanging baskets on the buildings except on the business premises and this is commended. This is also evident on the side streets running parallel as the buildings along these streets have been painted instead and look resplendent. The town like many today have some buildings unoccupied but you are working on this. The Chocolate Bar and Powderly Solicitors are two such buildings that today are occupied and well presented. The Water Point along the main street is in need of painting. The red and cream building of St Mary's band dating back to 1795 was admired and the pound with its well landscaped surrounds was also visited. Green park's mature trees and new oak tree planting was visited. The tree planted in honour of 1916 was noted. The train station, a busy amenity in this college town was excellent and the planted containers at the Bus Stop were also splendid. The schools visited were excellent, Scoil Mhuire in particular had an interesting garden "Veronicas" which would help you forget your troubles as you wander around. Well done to the pupils and teachers on the work they have done to create this magical garden.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

It is clear looking at the planting around Maynooth that you fully embrace the All Ireland Pollinator Plan and have certainly set in motion your biodiversity plan. Many areas of exquisite landscaping were noted around the town. The pollinator beds and native hedgerow planted on the Dublin Road, opposite Tesco was admired. However the railing here is in need of painting. The planting at the roundabouts is also excellent. Planting at the Maxol Filling station and bed opposite the Glenroyal hotel fit well into your new biodiversity plan. A large number of planted trees were noted at the embankment on the Dunboyne road and on a smaller scale at The Green Pound Lane where a number of oak trees were planted. Do ensure that trees are staked and monitored until they are established. Too often communities plant new trees and forget about the after care of them.

Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities / Fiadhúlra, Gnáthóga agus Taitneamhachtaí Nádurtha:

This is another area where the town is embracing the natural habitats that exist within its environs. The Leixlip road provides good natural habitats in the hedges, trees and unspoiled verge that border this stretch of busy road. The university campus is also

home to numerous trees and this theme is carried through the main street and on to Carton House which also has areas of wild flower planting nestled beneath the large trees that line the avenue. The canal is an amenity for the community to enjoy for recreational purposes such as cycling and walking. Along the canal and river is a good place to host walks and talks that celebrate and create awareness of the wildlife that live there. The planting mentioned under landscaping that was noted throughout the town and approach roads complements the natural habitats that already exist in Maynooth. The Biodiversity Action Plan will hopefully build on the wildlife habitats and rich natural amenities that already exist in Maynooth. This will create a greater awareness throughout the community of the proper management of our existing biodiversity and how it can be enhanced. Your concerns of new housing and planting of native trees should be addressed by the local authority, as their environmental officer should be ensuring that this type of planting is enforced at all new developments around Maynooth.

Sustainable Waste and Resource Management / Bainistiú Acmhainní agus Dramhaíola Inbhuanaithe:

This category is about reducing the amount of waste produced in the community and reducing the amount going to landfill sites. Like most groups with the introduction of pay by weight for waste, more people are looking at reducing their waste load. You are moving in the right direction by organising an information night for the residents on proper management of their waste. More recycling and upcycling of waste material will certainly help to reduce the overall amount of waste leaving for landfill. The sundial upcycle project and the poles used for your gold medal are two good examples on ways of reusing materials that would otherwise be left as waste material. Management of resources around transport, pooling of cars and using buses which reduces the number of cars on the roads is another area to look at. Well done to the College for getting involved and introducing energy saving methods. The community of Maynooth are working together across all methods of better waste management and this is commended.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Your stamina in managing litter around Maynooth is commended. Taking a back seat from your regular litter picking regime to highlight to the County Council the need for more services proved worthwhile. As you state in your application the town has a large amount of footfall, taking into consideration that this is a college town and a historic town with many visitors, visiting daily. You now have a good service in place from the County Council and the community working along with you to help keep the town litter free. Very little litter was noted on day of adjudication. Some graffiti was noted up from the green. Some untidiness was noted at the car park on Leinster Street. This is a very busy area of the town with a lot of walkers and commuters to the playground.

Residential Streets & Housing Areas / Sráideanna Cónaithe & Ceantair Tithíochta:

Working with the residents on the proper care and management of trees is important. This is an area that needs training as some groups plant but forget the after planting care. Well done to your volunteer member providing the residents with this important advice. The residential areas visited have good landscaped entrances and green areas. They are taking your advice on board on the planting of wild flowers, native trees and shrubs. Convent lane impressed with the presentation of the houses, all painted and looking pristine. The very busy playground was visited and all looked excellent.

Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes / Bóithre Isteach, Sráideanna & Lánaí:

On the Kilcock approach road, grass verges are well maintained. Mature trees and landscaping was noted. Laraghbryn cemetery on this road was well presented. The college campus with its beautifully landscaped grounds complemented this road. Maynooth is approached on the Dublin road and Celbridge road by excellent presented roundabouts and numerous areas of splendid planting. Road surfaces are generally good, footpaths and cycle lanes are in good order.

Concluding Remarks:

Well done to Maynooth on your continued dedication to develop and enhance the town and you are wished continued success.

Second Round Adjudication:

Having never had the pleasure of visiting Maynooth before, we were bowled over at the special character of the town centre and the quality buildings, both old and new. Of particular note is the lay of Main Street and Carton Avenue which we learned dates back to the Dukes of Leinster. We understand that the axis from St. Patrick's College to the Carton estate is one of the finest examples of 18th century urban and landscape design in the country. It certainly is memorable and we delighted in walking along the Carton Avenue which you have been working with Kildare County Council and Carton House on to increase the biodiversity. It was interesting and perhaps a little disheartening to read that the density of hedgerows in Maynooth is significantly lower than the county average. Hopefully you can work with the Council in order to try and improve the situation and locate other areas that would benefit from hedge planting, such as the recently planted hedge along the wall in the Green. The Royal Canal and the magnificent grounds of St. Patrick's College are amongst the town's prime

(Continued on page 11)



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Editorial

Sir Walter Scott said "November's sky is chill and drear, November's leaf is red and sear" which are two interesting images of this month. At the outset let me go towards the end of the month and wish the many Maynooth residents who celebrate it – "Happy Thanksgiving" on the 23rd.

From our front page this month you will have seen that we had our own recent celebrations with the presentation of the QQI training awards for our staff. We are very proud of the successes achieved and the benefits of these awards for our dedicated staff. One of the main reasons why Maynooth Community Council clg exists is to provide the opportunity for people from our town to come and work for the community that we serve and to get valuable training opportunities during their time with us. This could not be achieved without the support of the Department for Employment Affairs and Social Protection and of course the directors of the company that give freely of their time and expertise.

The upgrading of the Canal towpath from Bond Bridge to the Harbour area is near completion and will enhance the canal area as well as improving an important local amenity. While the major works are being undertaken as part of creation of a walking/cycle route along the entire Royal Canal the outdoor

staff of Maynooth Community Council clg are continuing the work to enhance and maintain the Royal Canal bank area from Jackson's Bridge to Pike's Bridge including the Harbour area. As Maynooth expands with new housing and of course new residents the value of this natural amenity area will become even more important.

Wherever you read this article you will have received a free copy of the "Maynooth Newsletter" as it is a free community publication. It is only possible for this publication to be produced and distributed because of the generous ongoing support from our advertisers. The revenue goes directly to supporting the work of our CE scheme, in particular towards the funding of the office which allows us to offer services to the local community.

Another important date to remember is November 11th which this year falls on a Saturday. Armistice Day which marked the end of the hostilities on the western front in World War 1 took place ninety- nine years ago this year. Maynooth was connected to the war effort in many ways but most uniquely the role played by St. Patrick's college in addressing the need for catholic chaplains to be trained to accompany the Irish men going to fight in the war. To end with quote from Cynthia Ozick "We often take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude"

Paul Croghan - Editor

Frank O'Rourke T.D. Kildare North

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

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

Government must do more for Mortgage Holders says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, says the Government must do more to secure a better deal for mortgage holders, from banks operating in Ireland.

"The latest examples of bank customers caught up in the tracker mortgage scandal, reports that profits in Banks here are three times the EU norm and the interest rates that the banks charge their customers in Ireland are the highest in the EU, are all examples of the how the Banks operating here are not giving their customers fair play."

"As I said earlier this year, for example, the interest rate on all new mortgages, fixed and variable, stood at 3.3% in June compared to a euro area rate of 1.83%. This means that a borrower with a mortgage of €200,000 is paying €250 per month more than they would be paying in the average Euro area country" stated Deputy O'Rourke.

"We hear a lot about helping those that get up early in the morning; however, we must put more focus on reducing the cost of living. If banks gave their Irish mortgage holders a fairer deal, their cost of living would be reduced and more money would be available for the local economy."

"Around 13,000 customers were left on the wrong interest rate, and over 100 lost their homes as a result of the banks' failure to place them on the correct mortgage rate. The banks' treatment of these customers is nothing short of scandalous. It is simply not acceptable, and the Government must adopt a stronger stance with the banks."

"We have been campaigning for mortgage holders, and particularly those in mortgage arrears, for some time now. Since I got elected last year, I have worked with our Finance Spokesperson, Michael McGrath TD, to keep a focus on their concerns."

"The Central Bank revealed at the Oireachtas committee a number of disturbing features of the approach taken by banks to the tracker mortgage scandal. This together with the higher interest rates being charged to Irish customers must be dealt with by the Banks. The time for persuasion is over. All of the instruments available to the Government and the Central Bank must be used to address these scandals" concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Primary care psychologist appointed to Kildare - O'Rourke

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North Frank O'Rourke has welcomed the appointment of a primary care psychologist to Kildare.

Deputy O'Rourke previously raised concerns about the lack of a primary care psychologist in the Dáil with Minister for Health Simon Harris and pressed the need for an appointment to be made without delay.

Deputy O'Rourke said, "Kildare was left without a primary care psychologist for a number of months which had a detrimental impact on mental health services in the region. I raised this issue with Minister Harris on a number of occasions and pointed out that the absence of a psychologist in the county was at odds with his Government's claim that they are pulling out all the stops to strengthen mental health services.

"Minister Harris recently wrote to me to confirm that *"a new Primary Care Psychologist has recently taken up her post in North Kildare."*

"This is a positive development. The need for a properly staffed mental health service has never been greater. Primary care psychologists play a vital role in assisting people in managing their mental health and promoting psychological wellbeing within communities.

"Fianna Fáil is pushing for additional investment in mental health services in Budget 2018 and I will be working to ensure Kildare gets the resources it needs. There has been significant under investment in mental health services in recent years and a change in approach is clearly needed.

"The 'Vision for Change' policy document set out a roadmap for developing our mental health services. It was first published in 2006 yet many of its recommendations remain to be addressed. The Government urgently needs to refocus its efforts to ensure our mental health services are fit for purpose."

Budget 2018 is far from perfect - FF's influence puts it in the right direction - says O'Rourke - but lack of focus on cost of living a missed opportunity

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has said that while Budget 2018 is far from perfect, we have though the supply and confidence agreement with the Government, and our determination, ensured that fairness is put at the heart of the budget.

"I am delighted that once again we have secured a € per week increase in the State Pension. This is the second year in a row that Fianna Fáil has secured such an increase. The € per week welfare payment increases are a core priority for Fianna Fáil."

"Increased resources for public services are also welcome, with increased number of teachers and special needs teachers, which I have campaigned for. The reduction of the USC for low income families and the widening of the tax bands for low income families are also welcome; we have succeeded in moving the debate from reducing the higher tax rate, a Fine Gael proposal, to focusing on low income families. "

"The Telephone Allowance for older people is to be brought back from October 2018. I called for this in recent weeks and I am delighted that it is included in the budget, but it is only a step in the right direction. However, the funds allocated for the Taoiseach's Strategic Communications Unit, €5m, would be better placed in further supports for older people."

"We need to focus more on the cost of living expenses. Rising cost of insurances, increased home property taxes and increased energy costs are the hidden rising costs which have not been the Government's priority. I have said many times, that there is little point in reducing taxes, if a multiple of the reduction is taken back in the increase in the cost of living."

"Last year was the first progressive budget in 6 years; a fact admitted by the Taoiseach himself. Fianna Fáil's influence over budgetary policy, through its supply and confidence agreement, is greater than Labour's party influence while they were in Government. Our spokesperson on Finance, Michael McGrath TD, whom I work closely with, has been determined to ensure that fairness is put at the heart of the budget." Concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

O'Rourke presses for extra funding for Bord Bia to open new markets post-Brexit

Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has raised the requirement for extra resources for Bord Bia, the agency tasked with promoting Irish food at home and abroad, to enable it adequately market Irish foods abroad in a post-Brexit scenario.

"Kildare is home to many food based companies. It is essential that we sustain the growth in our food export business, given the challenges that Brexit present. The UK accounts for more than 40% of Irish food exports, and Kildare is home to much of that business."

"Despite the outcome of the Brexit referendum last year, the Government has only allocated €2m in additional funding to Bord Bia in its 2017 budget. Bord Bia is responsible for promoting and marketing Irish food products, both here in Ireland, and right across the globe."

"The industry is facing a very serious challenge following Britain's decision to leave the EU, and we need to ensure that new markets and opportunities are explored to ensure that we protect the many jobs that are associated with this important Industry."

"As I have mentioned in the Dáil on a number of occasions, Naas and the surrounding area is home to many Food related companies, which have strong brands. Examples include, Kerry Food, Dawn Farm Food, the Queally Group, Tara Vale Foods, Green Isle Group, Brady Farm Food located in Timahoe, and Ballymooney Foods located in Clane."

"Since getting elected, I have campaigned for the area of North Kildare to be designated as a Food Hub. Kildare County Council's CEO has also supported calls for the area to be designated as a Food Hub. The agri-food sector is Ireland's largest indigenous industry which employs over 175,000 people with a turnover of €1bn last year. We must support this Industry given the challenges presented by Brexit."

"Bord Bia has 13 international offices, but only 5 of them are located outside of the EU. The EU-Japan trade deal now

allows access of Irish dairy and meat product into Japan. However, there is no Bord Bia bureau in Japan." stated Deputy O'Rourke having raised the issue with his colleague, Fianna Fáil's Spokesperson on Agriculture & Food, Charlie McConalogue TD.

O'Rourke - Supports for older people in Budget 2018 as more focus on reducing the cost of living required.

Fianna Fáil Kildare North TD, Frank O'Rourke, has said that his party's footprint in relation to supports for older people has been demonstrated in the range of measures included in Budget 2018.

"We have secured a € per week increase in the State Pension, an extra week of Fuel Allowance, the Telephone Allowance for older people is to be brought back from October 2018 and a new €2.50 weekly allowance to adults living on their own." stated Deputy O'Rourke.

"In terms of the health service, there will be additional funding for home care packages. I know from my clinics the increased requirement for home care packages, as we try and assist older people live in their own homes. I had raised these issues prior to the budget and I am delighted that we have made some progress."

"We ensured that fairness was put center stage in Budget 2018. Last year, was the first progressive budget in 6 years; a fact admitted by the Taoiseach himself. Fianna Fáil's influence over budgetary policy, through its supply and confidence agreement, is greater than that of the Labour party influence while in Government. We successfully moved Fine Gael away from their focus on reducing the higher rate of income tax."

"This wasn't a perfect budget, but the direction of the Budget, in terms of lower income families and older people, was much fairer because of our influence." concluded Deputy O'Rourke who has urged the Government to put more focus on reducing the cost of living between Budgets.

Maynooth Tidy Towns

Huge Congratulations to Maynooth for taking Gold in the National Tidy Towns Awards. Maynooth has shown what Community involvement can do. This is very well deserved and well done to Maynooth Tidy Town Committee and all the volunteers who have helped achieve this recognition.

Waiting lists for spinal surgery services deteriorates further - O'Rourke

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North Frank O'Rourke says he is growing increasingly concerned by the deterioration in waiting lists for spinal surgery services at Tallaght Hospital. Patients from right across the country are referred to Tallaght Hospital for spinal treatment surgeries. New figures obtained by Deputy O'Rourke show that the number of people waiting for treatment has climbed considerably in recent months.

Deputy O'Rourke said, "Tallaght Hospital currently provides spinal surgery services for a number of hospitals, including Naas. There is a significant demand for such services but the Government has failed to set aside the necessary investment in recent years to ensure the hospital is able to cope with this demand. "

"I have been raising this matter in the Dáil chamber for over a year now and each time the Minister gives a commitment that it will be dealt with comprehensively and that waiting lists will be reduced. Yet figures clearly show that the waiting lists at Tallaght Hospital are rapidly deteriorating with one surgeon alone having 500 patients of which 170 are awaiting spinal surgery."

"It's simply unacceptable that patients, who have been told that they urgently require treatment by their doctor, are expected to wait up to 18 months and in some cases up to 38 months to receive the life altering surgery that they require. It's expected that demand for such services is set to increase significantly in the years ahead so the waiting lists are likely to get even longer unless the Government takes action.

"At present, Tallaght hospital is hiring or renting theatre space from the Beacon Clinic for 1 day per week. This confirms the chronic lack of resources, theatre space and infrastructure at Tallaght."

I have previously called for a targeted investment programme to boost spinal surgery services at Tallaght Hospital. The latest waiting list figures show that such an investment programme is needed now more than ever," concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

(Continued from page 8)

Tidy Towns Competition 2017 Adjudication Report Cont/..

environmental assets. However you are to be commended for commissioning a Biodiversity Action Plan to facilitate the conservation and protection of other areas of biodiversity importance in the town. Your committee has also benefited from training in biodiversity awareness and management. In terms of the Wildlife Heritage and Natural Amenities category you certainly have a good understanding of the requirements and your BAP 2017 to 2021 will keep you focused in this category.

Maynooth is well recognised as a university town and both St Patrick's College and NUI Maynooth boast impressive campus. The modern and sophisticated John Paul II library building sits comfortably amongst the older campus buildings and is very appealing from the kerbside. The campus is a feast for the eyes, with the magnificent old buildings surrounding the quad and beautiful extensive grounds with lovely tree-lined walks. We passed the Church of Ireland and Maynooth Castle and heading down the street. Thanks for actioning last year's comments in relation to the signage and we understand that the OPW are working on improvements. Many businesses along the main thoroughfares are doing you proud and are upping their game in terms of their visual appearance. We admired Avenue, the bright red and white façade of the Credit Union, the fresh appearance of the Maynooth Bookshop and the traditional looking Clock House. In this vicinity we thought that the building housing Manor Cabs and the tattoo parlour was over cluttered and detracted here. Perhaps a colour co-ordinating the exterior paint choice with that of the building next door would help. O'Neills and the Coffee Lounge also caught the eye. Planting at the main entrance to the NUI Maynooth is very impactful and was admired. The wildflower area beside the student accommodation was noted but we see a planning application notice here and the area is due to be redeveloped. Perhaps the Green Committee will look for other areas that can be planted with wildflowers to compensate.

In the grounds of St. Patricks College we admired the orchard explored the walled garden, it is as pretty as a picture and a perfect place to stop and smell the roses. The Maynooth Pound area also looked well with planting sponsored by Anne & Norman Birchall Plumbing. On adjudication day Maynooth was busy and vibrant, tourists were noted in a number of locations, residents were enjoying the canal walks but more noticeable was the influx of fans destined for Croke Park. Supporters from Galway, Roscommon and Mayo were converging on the town, parking up and making the onward journey to the All Ireland Senior Football Championship Quarter-Finals via train. Therefore, we did note that parking in certain areas was beginning to be an issue. We noted the cycle track on the Straffan Road. Do you promote sustainable transport methods to residents? The e-car charging point at Tesco's and at the university was noted, is there any others? The recycling bins along the street were noted positively and you have been busy organising an information evening covering

a variety of interesting topics. The presentation and maintenance of residential estates is a strong point of your application. There is a significant number of residential estates, and in the main, those that we visited were presented to an excellent standard. We liked that there is a wild area in Castle Dawson specifically to help pollinators.

A number of estates are becoming more sustainable with the use of solar panels noted on the likes of Newtown Hall. Housing off and along the Newtown Road was admired. At Cluain Aoibhinn entrance landscaping was attractive and it was nice to see the medals proudly on display here relating to your own competition. The majority of properties looked well in College Green however one or two would benefit from a fresh coat of paint. Signage was missing in Beaufield and the maintenance of grass and attention to weeds would not be up the same standard as other estates visited. Moyglare Hall, Moyglare Abbey and the various areas within are excellently presented and the small name signs were enhanced with a touch of summer colour from bedding plants. The various approaches to the town were looking well with new name stone erected near Maynooth Town Football Club. On the Kilcock Road there is an empty wooden sign, just before the 50km speed sign at the NUI Maynooth roundabout that should be taken down. The twin towns signage on the Moyglare Road would need cleaned but we realise this is probably due to the large construction works nearby. Pedestrian crossing markings are faded in places particularly near your sundial outside the girl's school on Convent Lane. A section of wall at St.Mary's Church has been knocked down and needs to be repaired. Your back streets and lanes fared well. In terms of litter, beer cans were noted in the grass near seating on Carton Avenue. The Bring Banks at the Aldi on the Kilcock Road also had bags and cardboard boxes deposited at them and presentation could be improved. Pruning is required to enable users to read the recycling information here. From the information provided it appears you are well organised with committees, sub-committees and extra support on the ground. You have been working with a plethora of agencies and bodies and have strong links with residents, voluntary groups and schools and work in partnership with local businesses and Kildare County Council.

Your means of communication are many and include a dedicated mobile number, presentation at mass, Facebook, newspaper and local radio as well as maintaining a high profile in the St. Patricks Day parade. The involvement with primary, secondary, and third level students is commendable. Your adjudicator believes that your next step is to develop a junior committee. Your committee are to be congratulated on a super effort this year. Your adjudicator did wonder would the same high standard be witnessed during term time when the transient student population is back in town, however you adjudicator does not believe your group would let standards slip. You have a fabulous town with tremendous potential to excel further in this competition. Everyone involved with Maynooth Tidy Towns movement should be proud of their achievements, enhancing your town for the benefit of the wider community. Your adjudicator has no hesitation in endorsing the findings of my colleague and wishes you well for 2018.



MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN



Kilcock Road Worse for Cyclists

Kildare County Council has recently made changes to the Kilcock Road at Laraghbryan which not only fail to attract new cyclists but also makes the situation worse for existing cyclists so for anyone who cycles or would like to cycle, it is a case of 'Lose Lose'.

They do not seem to realise that the Department of Transport stopped funding the conversion of hard shoulders for cycling some four or five years ago and that Irish, UK and Dutch standards recommend that cyclists are segregated on roads where the speed limit is 60kph or higher. The result of the changes is that drivers expect cyclists to use the hard shoulder and some cyclists have been blown at for exercising their right to cycle on the 'road'.



The Electric Car - Panacea for Modern Ills?

Some twenty years ago, it was cars which ran on lead free petrol. Five or six years ago, car salesmen were promising that diesel engines were the future rather than greenhouse gas producing petrol engines. Now they are hyping electric cars as the new improved environmentally friendly car. What will Mill Street look like full of electric cars? Well actually exactly the same as it looks full of cars powered by petrol or diesel engines. In a recent article, Prof Frank Kelly of Kings College London says "Fewer not cleaner vehicles are needed" and has warned that the UK government already accepts there is no safe limit

for the tiny pollution particles from brake and tyre dust.

Budget 2018

In October, the government announced the budget for 2018. Maynooth Cycling Campaign and other cycling groups had been looking for 10% of the land transport budget (€165Million) to be allocated to cycling or at least the announcement of a roadmap towards that target. What was the outcome? Well the Minister has allocated €10 for walking and cycling over four years which amounts to an average annual allocation of €27.5M. So how much will the Minister give to cycling? Who knows? He could give €27 Million to cycling and €0.5 Million to walking. Then again, he could €0.5 Million to cycling and €27 Million to walking. Or he could nothing in the first three years and backload cycling in year 4. Like any three card trick, the viewer has to try to guess where the Queen (ie money) is.

In Sweden the government has just announced that they will be providing €35M per year until 2020 just to promote (electric) e- bikes. Transport is one of the main causes of increasing greenhouse gases which lead to climate change and weather extremes. The lack of joined up thinking between our pattern of travel and global warming is astonishing. Expect more storms.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. Further information on meetings and activities is available on our website. We are affiliated to Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cycling Advocacy Network and through it to the European Cycling Federation. Membership is FREE. If you want to support our work, just email your contact details to maynoothcycling@gmail.com.

WING TSUN - IEWTO

Ladies & Gents

Self – Defence Class

Beginners Welcome

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



Class Times

Wednesday 8pm - 10pm

Sunday 10am - 12pm

Class Sizes Limited

Instructor

Si-Hing Barry Smith 1st HG

Contact - Barry Smith

Phone: 087 9695475

E-Mail: barrysmith265@gmail.com

Oliver Reilly

Leinster Street, Maynooth,
Co. Kildare

Mobile 086 8105581 - 01 6289452

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Leinster Street

Maynooth



Thinking of replacing your PVC Windows?

WHAT TO DO NEXT

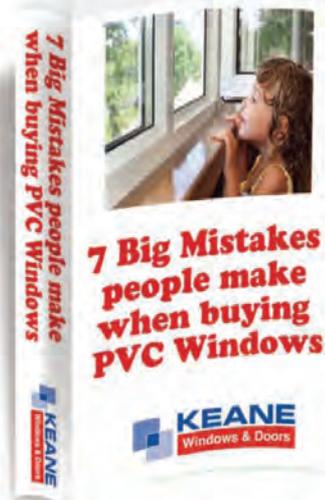
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Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Parade 2018

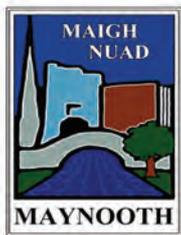
Preparations are underway for next year's St. Patrick's Day Parade. Last year's parade was bigger and better than ever but we're always looking for more groups and organisations to get involved. The Committee are working on a theme but groups should start thinking of ideas for next year. We will be looking to incorporate more music into the next parade so please use that as a starting point for your preparations.



The theme will be announced in the December issue of the Maynooth Newsletter along with an application form. Any queries should be directed to the Chair of the Organising committee, Naoise Ó Cearúil by e-mail at cllrnaoise@gmail.com.

Maynooth Newsletter

Copy date for the December/January edition of the
Maynooth Newsletter will be Tuesday 21st November 2017



Maynooth

Tidy Towns
Caring for our environment

Thanks to all who congratulated us on winning our Second Gold Medal in the National Tidy Towns competition. This came as a surprise to us as we had moved into a new category because of the increase in population following the last census. Elsewhere you can read the judges report in which all members of the community of Maynooth can be proud of. The Gold Medal will be presented at the Regional awards ceremony in Skerries later in the year. We also won a National Pollinator Award, Mary Jennings, Sean Lyons and the team put a lot of work into this project. More advice on pollination will follow in future Newsletters.

Tina Drury received National recognition as one of 10 Superval Local Heroes. Eddie Casey of Maynooth Superval was on hand for the presentation to Tina and photos. On the 28th September Maynooth Tidy Towns held their monthly meeting to review the Judges report and Ted Robinson, Manager of the Glenroyal Hotel presented a cake to congratulate us on winning our second Gold Medal. We thank Ted for his continued support.

Our annual BBQ which took place on Friday October 13th was kindly hosted by the Kavanagh family and hot food was supplied by Mizzoni's Pizza, Main St. Maynooth also we wish thank Anne and Norman Birchall for they kind donation towards the BBQ. Kildare County Council Tidy Towns and Community Awards will be held on 1st November in Maynooth University @ 7pm. Maynooth Tidy Towns AGM will be held on Thursday 9th November in the Glenroyal Hotel, @ 7.30 pm.

If you wish to volunteer and have an hour of two to spare we could do with your help. Please contact us on 087 3153189 or Facebook/Twitter.

Richard Farrell
PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns



Maynooth Tidy Towns BBQ



Members of the Maynooth Tidy Towns team at the Tidy Towns Awards

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TEMPORARY CLOSING OF ROADS NOTICE OF INTENTION ROADS ACT, 1993

Kildare County Council gives notice, in accordance with Section 75 of the Roads Act, 1993 that it intends to close:

Pound Lane, Buckley's Lane, Double Lane and Cross Lane, Maynooth From Tuesday 12 September until Friday 24th November 2017

The closure is required to facilitate the laying of new water mains. The roads will be closed individually and not all together to facilitate the works.

Alternative Route:

All traffic will be diverted via the Main Street. Diversionary routes will be clearly signposted, as agreed with the Council and An Garda Síochána. Local and emergency access will be maintained.

*Congratulations to Maynooth Tidy Towns
on their recent Gold Medal Award*



BRADY'S CLOCK HOUSE

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Now Taking Christmas Party Bookings
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to á la Carte
Live Music Every Weekend

Great Food Served 7 Days

Maynooth Flower and Garden Club

Come and See

“A Winter Wonderland”

With Christine Hughes

On Tuesday November 21st

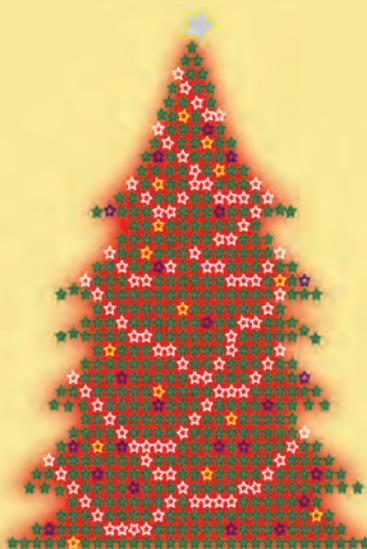
at 8pm

In Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth

Admission €15

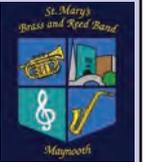
For further information contact

Moira Baxter at 086-4041927



St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band

We are fast approaching one of the busiest periods of the year which begins with our annual Mass for Deceased Members of the Band at 1 o'clock on Sunday 12th November where we remember those who have gone before us in the way that they would have wished, with the playing of some beautiful and appropriate music. We invite relatives and friends to join us in remembering them but even if you don't have connections with the band please come along to listen to us.



Another annual event for the Band is our Christmas Concert which is happening on Sunday 3rd December in the Glenroyal Hotel at 7.30pm. Both the Senior and Junior Bands will be treating the audience to a wide range of music including well known Christmas numbers so it should be a very entertaining evening.

In what is becoming a regular part of our Christmas programme some members of the band will herald the arrival of Santa to Manor Mills on Saturday 25th November. This is always a great event and will really get the Christmas feeling up and running in the centre.

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

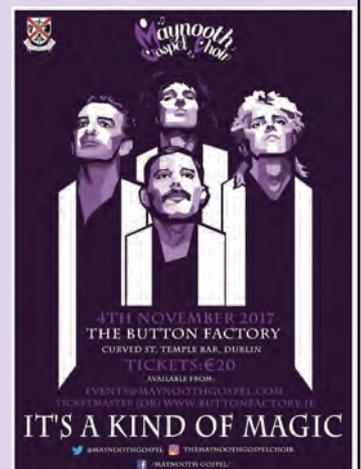


any Monday night (except Bank Holidays) where you will receive a very warm welcome.

Michael Dempsey (photo) was Community Person of the year in March which was a very proud occasion.

IT'S A KIND OF MAGIC

"Calling all Queen fans! 'It's a Kind of Magic,' a Queen-themed gospel gig will take place in the Button Factory in Temple Bar, Dublin, on Saturday, November 4th, 8pm. We'll be bringing you all the hits, from



Radio Gaga to Bohemian Rhapsody, with a gospel twist! This is a gig not to be missed!

For more information, visit Maynooth Gospel Choir on Facebook or email: info@maynoothgospel.com. Tickets cost €20 and can be booked via www.eventbrite.ie Book without delay to avoid disappointment! "



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www.naascu.ie | 045 879 622 | Naas Credit Union Ltd. is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland

November Events at Maynooth Community Library

All of our events are **free of charge** and open to everyone but booking may be required.

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

 facebook.com/KildareCountyLibraryService
 twitter.com/kildarelibrary

Musical Tots

Monday 6th and 20th November, 10am – 11am

Come sing and dance and blow bubbles with Karen Donnellan!

Numbers are limited. Do book beforehand. This is for children under 4 who must be accompanied by an adult.

Storytime

Monday 13th and 27th November, 10am – 11am

An hour of stories, art and songs for children aged 2- 5 years.

No booking required. All welcome.

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Maynooth Women's Group

Saturday 4th and 18th November, 11am

New members welcome.

Contact the library for further details.

Ciorcal Comhrá / Irish Language Conversation Group

Tuesdays 11am – 12 noon

This is an informal group for adults who would like to meet on a weekly basis to use and practise their conversational Irish.

No booking required. All welcome.

Maynooth Creative Writing Group

Tuesday 7th and 21st November, 6:15pm

A meeting for writers in the Maynooth area. Beginner writers

always welcome. No booking required.

Spanish Conversation Exchange

Thursdays, 6:30pm – 7:30pm

An informal meeting where people can practice and converse in Spanish.

All adults welcome from novice to expert. No booking required.

Make Time

Thursday 2nd and 16th November, 6 – 7:30pm

Make Time for knitting, crochet, cross stitching, embroidery, patchwork, quilting, origami, papercraft & calligraphy.

An opportunity to make, share skills & stories at Maynooth Community Library on the 1st & 3rd Thursday of every month.

All welcome. No booking required.

John Carpenter art classes for adults

Beginning Saturday 11th November. 2.30pm – 4.30pm

The above classes will run for 3 consecutive weeks. Borrowers must sign up for all 3 sessions. These art classes are in great demand and must be booked well in advance as John only takes a limited number of participants. Contact the library on 01 6285530 or maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie

Meditation for Stress Relief with Chris McMahon, The Treatment Room

Tuesday 21st November, 11am

Learn how to meditate with Chris McMahon, The Treatment Room. Some benefits from meditation are; lowers stress level, lowers blood pressure, calms the mind, balances the nervous system and improves sleep.

Adults only. Booking required as numbers limited.

Parenting Talk: Building your Daughters Self-Esteem Presented by Clare Crowley Collier, Counsellor from Family Matters

Tuesday 14th November, 7pm

These are challenging times for girls. They are coming of age in a more media-saturated and sexualised culture facing incredible pressures to be perfect and beautiful. For girls to successfully navigate these years it's important that their self-esteem remains intact. Parents will learn practical strategies for building self-esteem, so that their daughters are listening to their own voices and living up to their own expectations and not those of others. Adults only. Booking required.

Parenting Talk: The Affordable Childcare Subsidy and other childcare supports, a talk for parents. Presented by Jane Beatty and Emily Moore, Kildare County Childcare Committee

Thursday 23rd November, 7pm

Join Kildare County Childcare Committee for a talk on the universal Affordable Childcare Scheme (for children from 6 months to 3 years) and other targeted government childcare schemes. If you have children and would like to know more or are a prospective parent please come along. If you believe you may be entitled to childcare support, for example if you hold a medical card or are taking part in a Solas/ETB training course and would like to know more we can answer your questions. We will also discuss the ECCE preschool scheme, which has been extended in the budget. The AIM programme will also be explained, this allows children with disabilities or who need support in their preschool years to access the ECCE scheme. If you have questions about any of the above the speakers will be available afterwards to answer your questions. Professionals who work with parents and have questions about these schemes/would like to understand them further are also welcome to attend.

STEAM event: Michael Moylan Food Show – Open event

Saturday 18th November, 10am

The Food Show is the history of food from our hunter gathering stone age to modern fast food, cakes, biscuits and sweets. It will illustrate hunting technology through the ages, human digestive biology, dental decay, food production technology and cooking chemistry.

This is a family friendly event and open to everyone.

Work Matters at the Library: Support for Business & Employment

Maynooth Community Library provide support to agencies, small business, entrepreneurs, students and job seekers.

As a core service we provide the following;

Meeting Space [pre-booking essential]

Free Wifi and access to PCs

Free access to VisionNet and Mintel online resources

Access to our library catalogue at www.kildare.ie/library

Books, periodicals and business newspapers (including the Financial Times and the Economist)

Elearning: Free online continuing education courses

Elanguage: Free online language courses

Local Enterprise Office – Business Advice Clinic

Wednesday 15th November, all day

For anyone seeking business advice. To book an appointment, applications are available through the LEO office. Please contact 045 980838.

Book & Film Clubs

The following book & film clubs meet regularly at Maynooth Community Library. Please contact us if you are interested in joining a book club or starting one.

Readers of the Lost Ark Book Club

Tuesday 14th November 6:30pm

New Sci-Fi/ Fantasy Book Club at Maynooth Community Library. Reading 'Prince of Fools' by Mark Lawrence. Title is ready for collection. If you would like to join please contact (01) 6285530 or email maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie

Reel Good Film Club

Tuesday 21st November, 6:45pm

We are currently discussing '10 Cloverfield Lane' directed by Dan Trachtenburg.

If you would like to join please contact (01) 6285530 or email maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie

Maynooth Film for All – Outreach at NUIM

Wednesday 8th November, 8pm

'Personal Shopper'. Olivier Assayas, the internationally acclaimed director of Clouds of Sils Maria and Summer Hours, returns with this ethereal and mysterious ghost story starring Kirsten Stewart as a high fashion personal shopper to the stars who is also a spiritual medium. Grieving the recent death of her twin brother, she haunts his Paris home determined to make contact with him.

Texting and Email Service now available for Requests!

If you wish to receive a text or Email (rather than a phone call) regarding books that have come into the library for you, please log into your account on www.kildare.ie/library. Go to 'All the Time' option and select 'Renew: Check Your Loans'. Log on to your account using your library card number and 4 digit pin. Go into 'edit account' enter your mobile number and/or Email address and click on the 'opt in' option for texts/ 'I would like to receive my notices from the library by: Email'. To access your account online, you need a library PIN number, please contact the library if you need to set this up.

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Friday December 1st
Friday December 8th,
Saturday December 9th
Saturday December 16th

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*Ring in the new year
at the
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To book or for further information please call us on 01 6106249 or email conference@glenroyal.ie

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GLENROYAL
HOTEL

Christmas Bistro Menu

December 1st – 22nd

€24.95

Starter

Savoury Chicken & Mushroom Vol au Vent
In a Wild mushroom & white wine sauce

Soup

Chef's Homemade Soup of the Day
*Served with our renowned,
Freshly baked brown bread*

Main Courses

Traditional Hand Carved Turkey & Baked Ham
*With our herb stuffing, roast potato,
red wine jus and homemade cranberry sauce*

Herb Crust Fillet of Cod

*Served on a bed of mashed potato with our white wine
sauce, served with market fresh vegetables*

Desserts

Traditional Christmas pudding
Served with fresh cream and custard

Freshly Brewed Tea or Coffee & Mince Pies

01 6290909



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& his band

IN
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The Legendary **Brendan Shine**

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Time: 8pm

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GLENROYAL HOTEL

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

Sunday December 3rd

12.00pm - 4.00pm

Don't miss Santa arriving at 1.00pm

*Get some early Christmas shopping in with
a fantastic range of gift ideas for everyone*

Music by Maynooth Gospel Choir 2-4pm

An Garda Síochána Crime Prevention Information Sheet Home Security Doors



Door Security

Most intruders entering your property will either enter through a door or a window. It is not uncommon for people to leave doors and windows open, un-locked or not properly secured. Most external domestic doors come in one of the following types -

- Solid hardwood
- Hardwood incorporating glass panelling
- Aluminium
- uPVC
- Composite doors
- Timber-faced steel-reinforced doors



The strength and security of any door is primarily governed by the quality of the material used in its construction and the standard of the locks and fittings used. Whether an intruder will gain access to your home through your external doors may depend on -

- the strength of the construction material,
- the quality of the locks,
- proper fitting and installation

We can reduce their attraction as an entry point for the burglar by trying to minimize these risk features.

Hardwood Doors

Hardwood doors should be a minimum of 44mm in thickness and capable of supporting both rim and mortice locks and hung on at least three 100mm hinges. Glass panelling, where fitted, should be laminated to at least 6.4mm in thickness. The frame of the door should be securely bolted to the wall at no less than 600mm intervals around the frame.

uPVC and Aluminium and Composite Doors

These types of doors are generally unsuitable to retro-fit with security devices and may, where this is done, compromise any installation warranty. In these circumstances, you should always consult with the fabricator or installer as appropriate. Most are commonly fitted with a multi-point locking system and when certified to the standards outlined below generally offer a high degree of security protection.

Timber-faced steel-reinforced doors

This type of door is the strongest residential door available and when certified to European Security Standard IS EN 1627:2011 offers a higher degree of security protection.

Door Security Features

The front access door to any home should be fitted, where possible and appropriate, with the following additional security features -

- **Door Viewer**, which should be wide-angled, that will allow the occupant to identify callers before the door is opened.
- **Door Chain or Limiter** which allows the occupant to restrict the complete opening of the door until desired.
- **Hinge Bolts** which will strengthen the door against forced entry.
- **Letter Tray/Restrictor** to prevent car key fishing.

Door Security & Standards

It is recommended that all external entry/exit doors are designed to withstand forced intrusion to an acceptable level. Doors manufactured to comply with the European standard I.S. EN 1627:2011 or the British security

standard for doors & windows PAS 24-2016 or equivalent are recommended as these will have been subjected to specific security and burglar resistance tests. Currently, most doors fitted to houses will not conform to these standards. The ideal domestic secure door will incorporate most or all of the following security features:

- 5 lever mortice deadlock lock to BS 3621, or EN 12209 or equivalent - top and bottom.
- Cylinder lock - EN 1303 or equivalent.
- Rim-latch lock with dead lock facility.
- Hinge bolts to reinforce the hinge side of the door.
- Door chain and wide angle viewer.

There are a wide variety of locks and locking devices available on the market today. It should be remembered, however that fitting a quality security lock to an inherently weak door, or fitting a poor lock to a quality door will not in any real way improve your security. Domestic locks are generally rim-latch, mortice (deadlock or sashlock), or a may have a multi-locking bolt mechanism. All should comply with an appropriate security standard e.g. BS 3621, EN 12209 or equivalent. This will ensure that the locks have been security tested to withstand forced hacking, drilling and sawing for a defined period.

All security devices should be fitted with strong screws or bolts. Deadlocks, when fitted and used, will also deny burglars removing property from your home via the doors.

When employing a locksmith to alter, repair or change locks in your home. they must be licensed by the Private Security Authority.

Glass panels on or around doors are particularly vulnerable and should be avoided where possible. Alternatively they should be replaced with laminated glass to a minimum of 6.4mm thickness.

Letterboxes

Where letterboxes are fitted to a door they should be at least 400mm or 16 inches from any locking mechanism. A letterbox cage or restrictor will also help prevent a thief from accessing the locks manually or fishing for car keys.

Patio Doors

Patio doors are generally either sliding or double leaf "French Doors" - sometimes known as "French Windows".

The most common security weakness with sliding patio doors is to be found in their fitting along the running rails. In some instances it is possible to lift the door completely out of the running rail. Approved anti-lift devices should be fitted. Security bars fitted internally, which will prevent the doors being parted even if the locking mechanism is forced, are also strongly recommended.

Secondary security can be applied to two-handled French Doors by installing a keyless device that cuffs the two handles together and there is also a similar device available for securing one-handled French Doors. A reputable locksmith will advise accordingly.

Internal Doors

Most internal domestic doors are hollow core and fitted with two-lever mortice locks. They should not be regarded as providing good security but rather as an additional time delay measure. It is generally considered prudent to leave these doors unlocked, when the house is vacant, as they will seldom restrict the determined intruder and will likely further add to any vandalism that is committed.

Keys

A common custom is to leave keys inserted in their

locking mechanism. This is a foolhardy practice as it can assist the burglar in two ways. Firstly, they can be used by a trespasser to deny you entry to your home and secondly; they can be stolen or removed and copied. In the case of doors where entry or exit is solely key-controlled it is imperative that the location and safe storage of these keys is known to all the occupants in the event of a fire or emergency evacuation. Keys should generally be colour coded or numbered rather than named as this will hinder their identification to the intruder.

Garages, Sheds & Side Gates

Garages and sheds used for storing valuable property should be properly secured. Padlocks with an EN 12320 or equivalent standard are recommended. Consider connecting your garage or shed to your house alarm. Side Gates should be flush with the front of the house and ideally not easily scalable.

Fire Precautions

Any physical changes or alterations made to doors in your home should not needlessly impede or restrict your exit in the event of a fire alert or evacuation. Keys should always be kept accessible to occupants but out of reach of potential trespassers or burglars.

Remember!

When the home is occupied, fire safety is your priority; however, when the home is unoccupied, security is your main concern.

The advice contained in this information sheet is not intended to be exhaustive or absolute. At all times it is wise to seek appropriate professional advice where physical or structural changes are made to your property to improve security



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS OR OTHER CRIME PREVENTION ISSUES, PLEASE CONTACT your local GARDA CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER or visit the Garda website at www.garda.ie

Issued by the Garda Crime Prevention National Centre of Excellence

Useful Contacts and Links
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Tel: (01) 6663822
Email: GCPNCE@garda.ie
An Garda Síochána - www.garda.ie
The Private Security Authority - www.PSA.ie
The National Standards Authority of Ireland - www.nsai.ie
Secured by Design - www.securedbydesign.com
The Associated Locksmiths of Ireland - www.aloi.net

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

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

Meeting to be held at Maynooth University on 13th November at 6pm. Anne-Marie McNally & Gary Gannon visiting to meet students interested in finding out more information and getting involved with the Social Democrats. The meeting is convened by Aidan Farrelly, student society convener.

Call in Gardaí, levy bank profits and stop banker's bonuses until mortgage interest overcharging sorted says Catherine Murphy, Social Democrats TD for North Kildare

Social Democrats co-leader Catherine Murphy TD has urged the Government and Central Bank to call in the Gardaí to investigate the conduct of bankers in the overcharging of tracker mortgages.

Deputy Murphy said:

"This seems to me nothing short of thievery. In any other such circumstances you would expect the Gardaí to be investigating the people within banks who deliberately engaged in these overcharging practices that have come to light. Those individuals have to be held accountable. The only way the grossly unjust overcharging on tracker mortgages will be resolved is to punish the bad behaviour of banks and bankers who have engaged in these practices."

"The cost and impact on individual families is enormous and it's deeply unjust that banks continue to treat people as pawns in their quest to rebuild from their self-inflicted disasters. It is imperative that those homeowners impacted get adequate remedies as soon as possible to prevent further damage to their lives."

Calling on the Government to take control, Catherine Murphy continued:

"The Government has been sitting back for years on this issue. It's long past time for them to sort this out. It's only when banks and bankers get hit in their own pockets that we will see any resolution."

"In the forthcoming Finance Bill, the Government

should apply levies on bank profits that are in excess of the estimated amounts they have made from these fraudulent rates. That will make the shareholders sit up and take control."

"As the main shareholder in some of the banks involved, the Government should ban all staff bonuses until each bank has rectified the issue, restored the proper rates and compensated the individuals for their losses."

Limits on tax relief for high-end pensions would fund reversal of unfair cuts in State pensions for women

The Government has been accused of double standards by the Social Democrats co-leader **Catherine Murphy, Social Democrats TD for North Kildare** over its refusal to reverse the unfair 2012 cuts affecting state pensions for women.

"The changes to state pension introduced in 2012 have resulted in an estimated 36,000 people, mainly women, receiving reduced rate pensions. Yet the Government chooses to ignore the plight of these pensioners and instead is holding fast in its refusal to reverse these cuts. At the same time, we know that the government has back-tracked on its own promise to limit tax relief on high end pensions, including for Ministers and senior public servants.

"In 2013, the then Minister for Finance Michael Noonan promised to restrict tax relief to ensure that any tax benefit would be limited to a pension of no more than €60,000. However, this was not fully implemented and the result was that Ministers and senior civil servants continue to enjoy tax relief on pensions up to €100,000.

"If the government had kept their promise it would have resulted in savings of approximately €120 million per annum, more than twice the cost of reversing the unfair 2012 cuts for state pensioners.

"The Dáil debate a Fianna Fáil motion calling for the

2012 pension changes to be reversed. That motion does not identify where the funding of €60 million will come from to do that.

"That is why the Social Democrats have proposed an amendment calling on the Government to now follow through on their earlier promise to restrict pension tax-relief on high earners and thereby make the savings to fund full state pensions, as set out in the motion."

Give C&AG scrutiny of Irish Water accounts say Social Democrats

Social Democrats co-leader Catherine Murphy has today urged Government to accept an amendment tabled by her to the Water Bill 2017. The amendment seeks to make Irish Water answerable to the Comptroller and Auditor General regarding its finances.

Deputy Murphy has received a reply to a parliamentary question which indicates that a subvention of €753 million will be paid to Irish Water for 2017 alone. Deputy Murphy said it is vital that given the amounts of public monies being pumped into Irish Water that it be subject to the same scrutiny as other public bodies.

Speaking today Deputy Murphy said:

"As Irish Water was initially set up as a Semi-State body it was not included under the remit of the C&AG however given the findings of the Oireachtas Water Committee, Irish Water is now a fully publicly funded body and as such it must be subject to scrutiny by the C&AG for audit and investigation purposes."

"People have very good reason to question how Irish Water uses public monies given some of the stories of excessive waste that have emerged when it comes to their spending decisions and as such the Social Democrats believe it is vital the C&AG is given full oversight of the body and its accounts. The Water Services Bill 2017 does not make provision for this and as such I've tabled this amendment and would urge the Government to accept it."

Maynooth Golf Society Notes



Please see the results sheet for our October outing to Athy Golf Club sponsored by Brady's Bar in Maynooth.

We were lucky with the weather with a nice mild dry day. The course was in great order for this time of the year and was a good challenge for all the players.

We have also included the results sheet from our Presidents Prize in Carton House in September.

Niall Murphy PRO - Maynooth Golf Society

Maynooth Golf Society

Sam Feeney's Presidents Prize

Carton House Golf Club 16.9.2017

1st	Tom Coffey	42pts
2nd	Brian Shields	41pts
3rd	Martin Shields	39pts
4th	Terry Moore	34pts
5th	Dave Weafer	33pts
Front 9	John Carroll	
Back 9	Brendan Leigh	
Over 50	Derek Murray	
Nearest Pin	Joey Edwards	
Visitor	Dermot Myles	
2s Club	Dave Weafer x 2 Martin Shields	

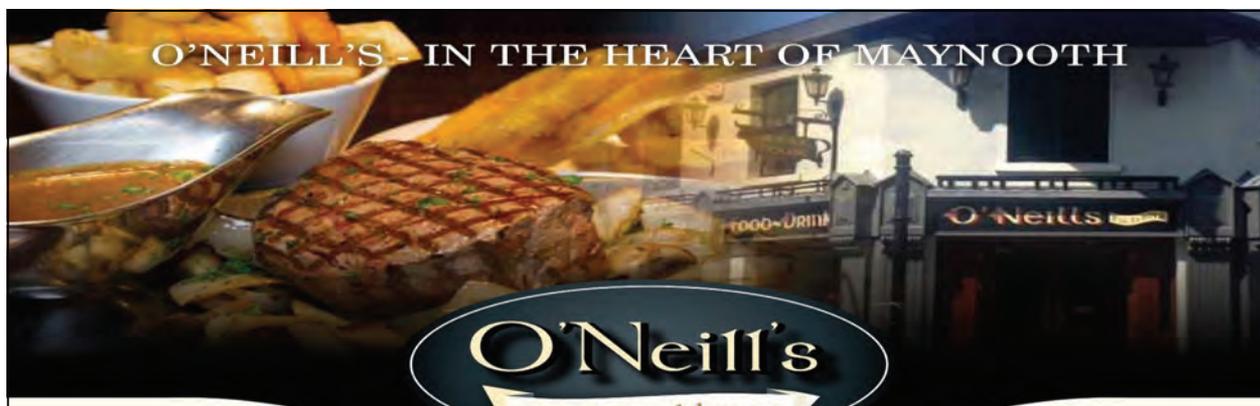
Maynooth Golf Society

October Outing Sponsored

**By Brady's Bar Maynooth
Athy Golf Club 07.10.2017**

1st	Sean Farrelly	41pts
2nd	Liam Farrelly	39pts
3rd	Norman Kavanagh	38pts
4th	Mick Fahey	37pts
5th	Brian Shields	37ptsB9
Front 9	Brendan Bean	
Back 9	Alan Clarke	
Over 50	Marty Maguire	
Nearest Pin	Sean Farrelly	
2s Club	Sean Farrelly	

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**Aonach Ceardaíochta na Nollaig
Christmas Craft Fair**



Dé Domhnaigh 26^ú Samhain

Sunday 26th November

**11- 4pm with Santa Claus visiting at 2pm
Christmas Raffle and Spot Prizes**

Festive Ornaments & Decorations

Handmade Cards - Jewellery

Handmade Knitwear

Second hand Children's Books

Children's Area & Festive Café

Face Painting, Tea, Coffee, Hot Choc,

Arts and Crafts, Homemade Cakes

Cookie Decorating

Agus go leor eile.../And much More...

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**Copy date for the December/January edition of the
Maynooth Newsletter will be Tuesday 21st November 2017**

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Handy Household Hints

By Lana Hallowes

Source: KIDSPOT (MYSPOT)

Did you know that separating bananas from the bunch makes them last longer? Or that the best way to reheat a pizza (so it retains its crispy base) is to warm it in a fry pan? No? Then read on because these must-know household hints will change your life!

Handy hint 1 - bananarama

Pull bananas apart before displaying them in your fruit bowl. If you leave them connected at the stem, they'll ripen faster and go brown quicker. Who knew?!

Handy hint 2 - flexible vacuum

To suck up hard-to-reach gunk under your fridge, or behind a bookshelf, insert an empty paper towel roll into the end of your vacuum cleaner and bend, or flatten it, to squeeze into these difficult spots.

Handy hint 3 - buying capsicum

We're not sure why, but a capsicum with three bumps on the bottom is sweeter than one with four. Oh, but four bumps makes for a crunchier, firmer capsicum, so you should weigh up crunch vs. sweet when picking out your pepper!

Handy hint 4 - fend off weeds

Instead of tossing your daily rag in the recycling bin, use the newspaper as mulch and deter noxious weeds. Simply wet the sheets and put the layers around your plants and garden beds, covering with soil as you go. The weeds won't be able to get through the wet newspaper layers.

Handy hint 5 - so cheesy

Wrap cheese chunks in aluminium foil and store in the fridge to keep your cheddar fresher for longer and to keep mould out.

Handy hint 6 - mozzies be gone!

If you have the kind of blood that attracts mosquitoes like a moth to a flame, then listen up. To keep the pesky blood suckers at bay, place a fabric softener dryer sheet in your pocket. Mosquitoes are repelled by the scent and you'll smell like summer breeze all night!

Handy hint 7 - crispy leftover pizza

To reheat a pizza so that the base is out-of-the-oven crisp, heat your leftover slices in a fry pan on low-medium heat on the stove until warm and wave goodbye to the days of soggy microwave pizza.

Handy hint 8 - reopening envelopes

If you seal an envelope and realise you've forgotten to include something inside, just place it in the freezer for an hour or two and voila, the envelope will unseal without a trace!

Handy hint 9 - the power of garlic

Add garlic immediately to a recipe if you want a subtle taste and towards the end to blast it with flavour.

Handy hint 10 - getting rid of ants

It may sound cruel, but if you have an ant problem, desperate times call for desperate measures. Put small piles of polenta where you see ants and they'll gobble it up, return 'home' and won't be able to digest it. Your ant problem (and the ants) will soon be dead.

BOOK LAUNCH (POETRY AND ART)

'BE THAT AS IT MAY....'

13th November, Maynooth University Library

A stalwart tale of friendship, creativity and determination to be heard amid the clutter of everyday life prompted two long time friends to create an exhibition, which to many women who are busy 'getting on with the getting on'. The two women, coming from entirely different artistic genres –one poet and one visual artist - saw the value, beauty and amazing synergy that existed between them as women and artists, resulting in a joint show and Book Launch 'Be That As It May...' on November 13th in Maynooth University Library.

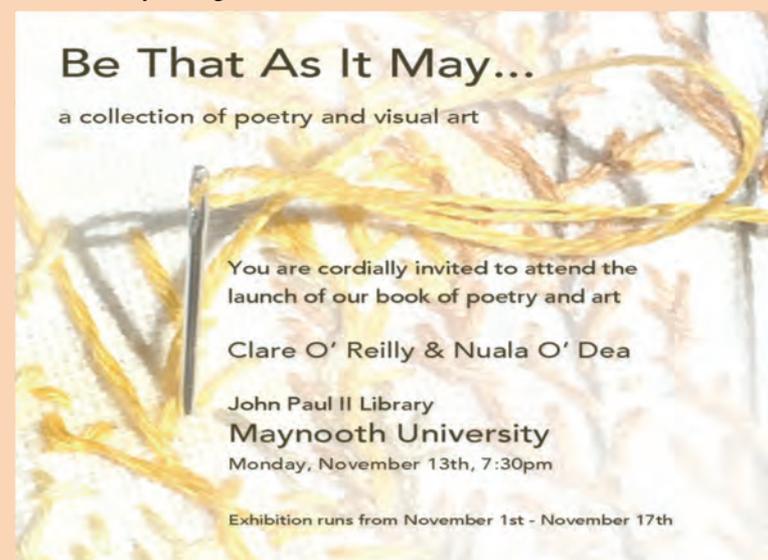
'Be That As It May...' is the exhibition on which the book is based and the exhibition will run in the John Paul II Library in Maynooth University from 1st – 17th November 2017. The show is a result of a collaboration between two artists – poet Clare O'Reilly, and visual artist Nuala O'Dea. The title 'Be That As It May' comes from an acknowledgement that life for many women is not planned but a glorious tapestry of unforeseen events, each in their own way important in their unimportance.

The two artists are inspired and motivated to make art by their daily lives - typical of many women - Mothers, Daughters, Wives. Both seek beauty in the ordinary through their work and this shared process led them to respond to each others art, allowing them to connect with, and appeal to a broad spectrum of people. Their work blends together and overlaps in many places. Both are driven by similar artistic inspirations, seeking to find and see meaning in people's everyday lives. They each wish to capture moments in time - memories or experiences that are commonplace but whose importance is elevated beyond the mundane in their significance. In this book and show, they have an open dialogue with the audience through their work; engaging hearts as well as minds - stimulating thinking and emotional responses and encouraging participation in their artistic conversation, which they hope inspires others to join in. Funding was received from Kildare County Council and Naas Credit Union to whom they are most grateful.

The artists:

Nuala O'Dea has worked as a second level art teacher for over 20 years. She studied Fine Art in DIT; Art and Design Teaching in NCAD and has a Masters in Digital Media Technologies. She works in a range of areas including fine art, teaching and graphic design. Her work utilises a variety of processes including photography, sculpture, embroidery and digital media. She has exhibited in both the Royal

Hibernian Academy and the Royal Ulster Academy annual exhibitions as well as in Vanishing Art, a sculpture trail in Carton House, Maynooth. Clare O'Reilly's work has been broadcast and published widely in Ireland. She has received various awards, including the first prize in Poetry Ireland / Trócaire Unpublished Poet Competition, The Jonathan Swift Poetry Awards, Crawford Art Gallery Poetry Award and the Charles Macklin Prize. Her poems have featured in the Sunday Tribune for the Hennessey Award for Poetry, Poetry Ireland Review, The Honest Ulsterman, Skylight 47, Golden Pen Journal and the Midir and Etain Anthology. A teacher, living in Maynooth, Co Kildare, her short stories were broadcast in the Francis McManus Awards, Book on One, on RTE Radio. Her stories have been shortlisted for the Over the Edge Writer of the Year Award; Fish Short Story Prize; the Colm Tobin International Short Story Award, Books Ireland. She was recently awarded second place in the Benedict Kiely Short Story Competition. Much of her writing focuses on the experience of the new 'Irish' in Ireland and the ambivalent feelings that arise in both societies as they change traditions and narratives.



For further information please contact ;

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Nuala O'Dea Tel:087 2396611 E-mail :nualaodea@gmail.com

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/clarenuala/



Writers' Corner - Short Stories from Our Readers

The Enforcers

Lester looked at his watch and then at the man in front of him. He checked another box on his checklist. The man in front of him was about average height and chubby, wearing a dark suit and a panicked expression. His comb-over had quickly become dishevelled and sweat cascaded down his portly face. Both of his chins wobbled and while he tried his best to look calm, his eyes betrayed him, holding a look of pure fear as they looked upon three well-built men in dark trench coats. The worthless façade of tranquillity collapsed as he tried to reason with these monsters. "Now, now fellas there's no need for violence" he stuttered. His voice cracked violently as he continued the pointless negotiations. "Now I'm sure you all work for Silvio and I'm sure you know what a wonderfully patient and compassionate man he is and I'm certain you fellers are the same. So, if you just give me a fortnight, no, a week and I'm positive I can get him his money."

The behemoths didn't say a word, they just kept on advancing, forcing him further and further down the alley. The central man slowed for a second and in one smooth movement, a gun moved from his waist to his hand to pointing at Jeffery Taylor whose blood ran cold. "Please" he whimpered as his back, literally and figuratively went up against the wall. A cornered animal will always fight and even a creature as pathetic as Jeffery Taylor had some form of survival instinct. He took a deep breath and charged at the three men.

He got all of thirty centimetres before a finger twitched and a small lump of metal flew out of a gun barrel at a speed faster than sound and into Taylor's forehead.

"Silvio Mesderoni sends his regards" Lester said to himself as his three henchmen stole Taylor's valuables and roughed up the body. Satisfied that the brutal assassination looked like a mugging gone wrong Lester put a line through Taylor's name on the checklist. He checked his watch and told his henchmen to get a move on. They had another killing organised for three a.m. and they needed to hurry.

Lester Frick was ex-military and having served in some nasty places, he came back with a changed view of justice and laws and so, he set up a wholly unique company. He and his employees collected money for anyone willing to pay their fee and killed people for anyone who was willing to pay a little extra, such as Silvio Mesderoni who wanted Taylor, a corrupt politician who owed him money, offed. Funnily enough the next job was another politician that hadn't paid his bills. Lester didn't care who they were. Mesderoni paid good money and Lester's company hadn't failed yet. However, as they pulled up to the targets' house a van pulled out of the garage and the people inside opened fire. Lester swore as the driver drove to cover. The target had hired protection. The three henchmen grabbed guns and leapt from their own van. Lester wasn't usually one for spontaneous decisions but as he watched each of his employees be shot one by one he made the split second decision that it might be time to retire. He shifted into the drivers' seat left a message to his second in command, telling him that he was in charge now and drove off into the night.

By Fionn Timmons

Teach an Phiarsaigh, Ros Muc

Towards the end of September my companion and I had the good fortune to spend a few days in paradise. This earthly paradise is to be found near the village of Rosmuc or Ros Muc (formerly anglicised as Rosmuck) in the heart of Connemara in west Galway. It is said that the name 'Ros Muc' comes from the old Irish "the peninsula of rounded hills" or "pig" as from a distance the rounded peaks of the hills look like the backs of farm animals.

Our accommodation was located a few miles south of Maam Cross overlooking Camus Bay, which is part of the Wild Atlantic Way. The Irish for Maam Cross is Teach Dóite (the burned house). There must be a story there somewhere! Over 90 per cent of adults in this area speak Irish. One afternoon, when I walked into our accommodation and not being used to the layout of the house, I accidentally turned right before turning left. One of the staff who happened to be passing said, "An bhuil fóidín meara ort?" I had to ask what he meant. It means: "Are you feeling disorientated?" But not surprisingly, as Gaeilge, the words have a more nuanced meaning.

According to folklore, fairies sometimes cast a spell on a piece of ground (fóidín being a little sod of turf) and if you inadvertently step on it you lose your sense of direction. However, the good news is that you can reverse the spell by taking off your coat and wearing it inside out. Good to know!

Overlooking Loch Oiriúlach at Rosmuc stands a small cottage built in 1909 by Patrick Pearse (1879-1916). Pearse was an Irish language enthusiast, writer and educator, before he joined the IRB in 1913. In 1905 when he was 23 years of age he was sent to Rosmuc by the Gaelic League (founded in 1893 by Eoin MacNeill with the support of Douglas Hyde and Eugene O'Growney of Maynooth College) to act as an Irish Examiner. He fell in love with the place and its people. Eugene O'Growney (1863-1897) had been appointed Professor of 'Irish Language, Literature and Antiquities' at St Patrick's College, Maynooth in 1891. Provision for the teaching of Irish at Maynooth dates back to 1804 but at the time it was not easy to find a teacher. A student named Paul O'Brien (1763-1820), from Moynalty in Co Meath, a grand-nephew of Turlough Carolan (1670-1738) the early Irish harper, composer and singer, was given the task. This was considered necessary in order to provide priests for Gaeltacht areas. However, spoken Irish was in terminal decline and as time went on it became more difficult to find anyone proficient enough in the language to teach it and no one wanted to spend their time doing it anyway. When O'Growney was appointed in 1891 the study of Irish had become compulsory, but it was downgraded in 1901 and in 1907 it became optional.

The College subsequently came into conflict with the Gaelic League which felt that Irish-speaking priests played a crucial role in preserving the native tongue. Pearse who was totally committed to the language was openly highly critical of the Church. He asked what benefit would it be to Maynooth to get good results at the Royal University (established 1880) while at the same time preside over a dying language in Gaeltacht areas where the "old pure unquestioning" faith of the inhabitants was still thriving?

Apparently the response from Maynooth and the bishops didn't please Pearse. He wrote that it was "the beloved college of O'Growney" that had now betrayed Ireland and its language and that it had sided with the Gail against the Gael. Strong words indicating the passion and fervour he was to exhibit later during his more revolutionary years.

The Gaelic League then gained the support of the County Councils who said they wouldn't grant scholarships to the new university unless the Irish language was made compulsory for entry. And this became the case from 1913 onwards, when external students (including those from Maynooth) continued to attend arts courses at what had become (from 1908) a college of the new National University of Ireland, at Newman House at St Stephen's Green in Dublin. After the 1916 Rising relations between the Gaelic League and the bishops were mended by more moderate men led by Douglas Hyde, who in June 1938 was elected unopposed as first President of Éire.

But, perhaps we'll leave Pearse in 1913, and imagine him standing at the door of his beloved cottage, overlooking the still lake and the distant hills around Ros Muc: "I stood for a while to get my fill of what is laid out before me. If thousands were trying to draw speech from me, that view would take my voice. The sweetest voice that ever spoke, it would be sweeter in silence, than to speak in the presence of those peaks." A Day in the Country.

(See www.heritageireland.ie for details of new Cultural Centre at Ros Muc).

Rita Edwards, Maynooth Local History Group



Teach an Phiarsaigh, Ros Muc



Writers' Corner Short Stories from Our Readers (Cont.)

Plastics in the Oceans by Amelie Deinhard

Water is life. Water is the thread that interconnects life. Water connects us all. Water is a commons. Vandana Shiva in Water Wars, 2002/2016

What is Plastic?

Plastic consists of synthetic organic polymers. Their base units are monomers, which in turn consist of ethylene and propylene: carbon-hydrogen compounds with non-metals.

History

Plastic was invented in the 1920s by Belgian scientist Leo Hendrik Baekeland and correspondingly called Bakelite (1). Industrial production of plastic began in the 1950s. The American "Life Magazine" then jumped to the topic and advertised on its cover pages the new fabric as "throwaway material" for every-day-life.

Status Quo of Plastic in our Oceans

It is estimated that 8300 million tons of virgin plastics have been produced to date (2). That is 20000 fold the mass of the Burji Khalifa in Dubai, with 848 meters the highest building in the world. In 2015, only 9% of the overall plastic was recycled, 12% incinerated and 79% land-filled (2). This means that the largest part of all man-made plastic still exists. It does not rot, but instead is fractionised and finally ends up in the Sea. Five big Great Pacific Garbage Patches have formed in the Oceans - around 1 million square meters each (3). By 2050 there will be more plastics than fish in the Sea, according to the Ellen Mac Arthur Foundation.

Who produces Plastic?

Five countries produce half of the amount worldwide: China, India, Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand (4). There are laws for surveillance on production and recycle, but no executive control body.

Our Contribution to Plastic Pollution

Every year, 8 million tons (to the 8300 million tons present) are added to the oceans. Imagine one big truck packed with plastic dumped into the oceans every minute of our time, 1440 times a day (5). In the US, 2 million plastic bottles are consumed every 5 minutes (6). We talk about plastic bottles that are made of PP (polypropylene), the material of plastic lids for bottles that float on water – what we see floating on the oceans

make up only 5% of the overall plastic in the oceans (7), and PET (polyethylene), the material of the bottle themselves that sinks to the bottom of the sea – which makes up the remaining 95% of the overall plastic in the oceans (7). Micro plastics have developed as an invisible offspring of the plastics of everyday objects. Micro particles are defined as particles smaller in size than 5mm. These fragments concentrate pollutants on millions of times the pollution level in the sea. They become poison pills. Parts end up in the metabolism and innards of fish - and humans who consume the fish. Studies have shown that the plastic odour attracts the fish, which holds the small plastics for food, the stomach is inflated and the fish dies on starvation (8).

Paradigm: Micro- and Nanoparticles in Waste Water

The majority of all cleansing agents and many skin creams contain plastic nanoparticles as lubricants, smaller than 1 billionth meter. The annex contains a list of the corresponding chemicals (11). Up to 60% of clothing is made of polyester fibres, also responsible for plastic micro and nanoparticles in waste water. EU washing machines produce 300000 tons of synthetic fibres per year. As an example, one washing cycle of a fleece jacket discharges up to 1 million microfibers into the wastewater (9). These residuals will finally end up in organic metabolisms. Conventional sewage treatment merely retains between 30 and 60 % of microfibers. Consequently, these fibres are contained in tap water all over the world as residuals (10). Ultimately, the entire water cycle is affected.

GUPPYFRIEND® is a laundry bag which, according to the manufacturers, helps retain micro fibres attached to the fabric and enmeshes repulsive fibres.

Plastic Nanoparticles in Cleaning-Agents and Skin Creams(11)

- Acrylic copolymer (AC)
- Acrylics Crosspolymer (ACS)
- Dimethiconol
- Methicone
- Nylon
- Polyamide (PA)
- Polyacrylates (PA)
- Polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA)
- Polyquaternium (PQ)
- Polyethylene (PE)

- Polyethylene glycol (PEG)
- Polyethylene terephthalate (PET)
- Polypropylene (PP)
- Polypropylene glycol (PPG)
- Polystyrene (PS)
- Polyurethane (PUR)
- Siloxanes
- Silsesquioxane

Article Credits:

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Submitted by Amelie Deinhard
e-mail: amelie.deinhard@gmx.de

BRUSCAR

Caithfidh muid bheith foighneach leis an nglúin óg. Bhíomar go léir óg uair agus níl muid bródúil as gach a rinneamar. Mar a deir an seanfhocal, tagann ciall le haois agus is maith mar atá. Ag an am chéanna ní foláir dúinn dea-shampla a thabhairt do na daoine óga agus dea-chomhairle freisin ó am go chéile. Bheadh muid faillíoch gan é sin a dhéanamh go háirithe i gcás imeachtaí a bhaineann le gnáth-shaol an bhaile. Tóg, mar shampla, fadhb an bhruscair!

Tá sáréacht ar fad déanta ag lucht na mBailte Slachtmhara anseo i Maigh Nuad le roinnt blianta. Beidh na boinn óir agus airgid féin ina mbagairt ar ghlanachar an bhaile má leanann an t-ádh ina rith orthu. Ach ar an taobh eile tabhair stracfhéachaint ar phríomhshráid an bhaile go moch maidin Dé Máirt nó Dé hAoine (An Aoine seo caite, 20 Deireadh Fomhair, mar shampla) agus tuigfidh tú tapaidh go leor go bhfuil roinnt maith daoine ann atá ar nós is cuma liom faoin mbruscar, agus tá sé thar a bheith cinnte gur iad ár gcuariteoirí léinn iad a bhformhór.

Murach sár-bhean lena mála mór, nó uaireanta a tralaí siopadóireachta, bheadh an salachar faoin ár gcosa go léir agus muid ag tabhairt aire dár ngnó. An ceart? Ní hé sin é! Nach féidir leis an gcoláiste rud éigin a dhéanamh!

Gabriel Martin.



Novena Prayer to the Virgin Mary (Never known to fail) :

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, Fruitful Vine, Splendour of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity.
O Star of the Sea help me and show me here you are my mother, O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity, there are none that can withstand your power, O show here you are my mother, O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 times), Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands, (3 times), Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands, (3 times), O thank you for your mercy to me and mine, Amen.

This prayer must be said for 3 days, and after that the request will be granted.

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

Never known to fail

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

Never known to fail RH

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**The Copy Date for the December/January Edition of the
Maynooth Newsletter is Tuesday 21st November 2017**

Maynooth Monthly Diary Planner

Community Library	Maynooth Multiple Births	Bridge Club
<p>Opening Times Mondays & Fridays 2pm to 5pm Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm to 8pm Wednesday 9.30am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm Sat 9.30am to 1pm</p>	<p>Maynooth Multiple Births playgroup (twins triplets or more) meets the last Thursday of the month in Leixlip library between 10 & 12 noon. This is a great opportunity to meet parents just like you. For further details email: maynoothmultiplebirthclub@gmail.com</p>	<p>Open for new members. If you would like to play in a friendly club with purpose-built facilities in the centre of Maynooth, please see our website at maynoothbridgeclub.com. Contact Katherine Cooney 086 8205910</p>
I.C.A.	MAYNOOTH LOCAL HISTORY GROUP	Arthritis Ireland
<p>Monthly meetings take place every 1st Thursday of the month at 8.00pm in the I.C.A. Hall in the Harbour. Crafts every Monday night at 8.00pm. New members welcome</p>	<p>Maynooth Local History Group Meets Last Thursday of each Month in the Maynooth Community Space (Tesco Shopping Centre) New Members Welcome Contact: MCC Office for more details</p>	<p>Arthritis Ireland Walking Group (Maynooth) Meeting Mondays 12 - 2pm in the Maynooth Community Space</p>
University of Third Age (U3A)	Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group	Maynooth Men's Sheds
<p>Weekly meetings on Friday at 11am in Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth New Members Welcome Contact Ger : 0874133505</p>	<p>Every Thursday from 9.30am to 11.30pm Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth</p>	<p>Weekly meetings take place every Wednesday at 11am at the Maynooth Lodge Fisheries Dunboyne Road Maynooth. For further details contact John Fleming - 087 2041334</p>
Maynooth Tidy Towns	ALZHEIMER CAFÉ LEIXLIP	Maynooth Community Church
<p>Volunteers required to help with this work. Contact Number 087 3153189 Meet every Saturday at 10.00am in the Square</p>	<p>Informal café atmosphere for people with Dementia & their partners family & friends. Free of charge. Venue Ryevale Nursing Home. Every second Wednesday of each month 7-9pm. Call 0894933533 Email:alzheimercafeleixlip@gmail.ie www.alzheimercafeleixlip.com</p>	<p>1st Floor Manor Mills (entrance next to Chill) Service times every Sunday morning from 10.30am www.maynoothcc.org Everyone most welcome</p>
Maynooth Senior Citizens	Craobh Mhaigh Nuad C.C.E.	ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND
<p>Our morning club continues on Tuesday and Thursday and new members are always welcome. Perhaps you are new to the parish or new to the age bracket, why not come along you might enjoy it. You will find us in the Geraldine Hall on Leinster St, or contact Josephine on 087 9002296.</p>	<p>Classes are held on Wednesday 7pm to 9.30pm in Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road. Our classes are very good value, great fun and we promise you plenty of craic also !!. <i>Bí gí linn!!!</i> Contact Sean at 086 2225540 or email craobhmaighnuad@gmail.com.</p>	<p>Rehearsals are held in the Band Hall on Pound Lane each Monday night (except Bank Holidays) from 7.45pm to 9.30pm and musicians living in Maynooth and the surrounding areas are most welcome. E-mail: sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie Website: www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie</p>

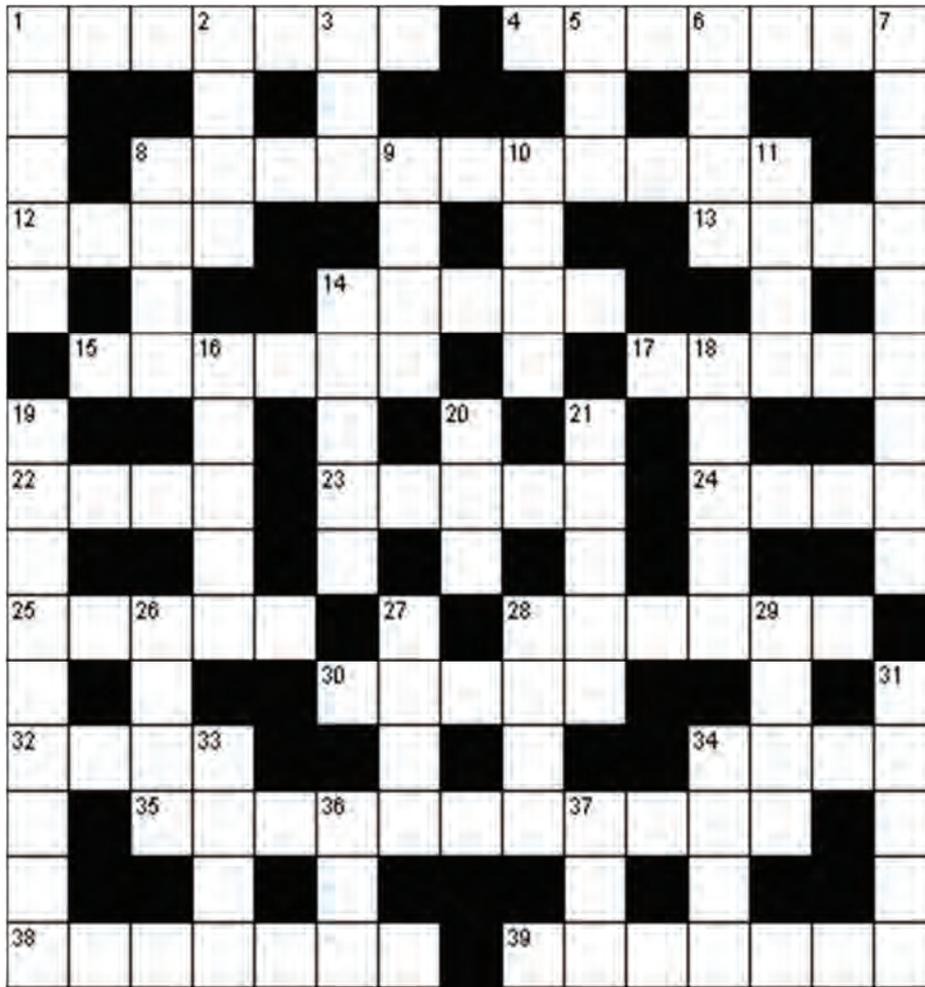
Diary entries are published free of charge for all Community Groups. E-mail details of your event before the copy date (2nd last Tuesday of each month) to be included in the next months edition. E-mail: office@maynoothcc.com. Phone: 01-6285922
 (The content of the Monthly Planner Diary is published in good faith. All details should be checked with groups)

Clues Across

November Crossword - No. 463

Clues Down

- 1. Fortunately (7)
- 4. Sensational novel (7)
- 8. Measure of the warmth or coldness (11)
- 12. Score (4)
- 13. Paint unskilfully (4)
- 14. Insanely (5)
- 15. Jams tight (6)
- 17. 8th letter of the Greek alphabet (5)
- 22. Bring into existence (4)
- 23. Grasp (5)
- 24. Sudden assault (4)
- 25. Chambers (5)
- 28. Bother (6)
- 30. Doughnut-shaped roll (5)
- 32. Deep wound (4)
- 34. Crack (4)
- 35. Inflammation of the tonsils (11)
- 38. Not at work (3,4)
- 39. Incomplete (7)



- 1. Express mirth (5)
- 2. Bottom of ship's hull (4)
- 3. Cut off (3)
- 5. Covering for the head (3)
- 6. Thin rope (4)
- 7. Dutch painter (9)
- 8. Story (4)
- 9. Periods of history (4)
- 10. Supporter (4)
- 11. Overhanging lower edge of a roof (4)
- 14. Untidy (5)
- 16. Sleep images (5)
- 18. Groups of animals (5)
- 19. Misunderstanding (9)
- 20. Masculine pronoun (3)
- 21. Pertaining to punishment (5)
- 26. Expel (4)
- 27. Worn by women in India (4)
- 28. Hades (4)
- 29. Optical device (4)
- 31. Prickly (5)
- 33. Grasp (4)
- 34. River sediment (4)
- 36. Posed (3)
- 37. Class (3)



Answers to Crossword No 462



Special Prize Book Voucher

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

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

Entries in before:

Tuesday 21st November 2017

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Winner of Crossword No. 462 October

**Peter Denman
Minard, Leinster Park,
Maynooth.**

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

**Collect prize from
The Maynooth Bookshop
68 Main Street, Maynooth**

Maynooth Community Church



Maynooth Community Church is delighted to invite you to our 10th Birthday celebration on Sunday 26th November 2017. Our service will be at 6.00pm on the first floor in Manor Mills.

Very Rev Dr Trevor Morrow, former Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, will be our guest speaker.

A light supper and refreshments will follow the service and we hope to have our new MCC Building Project Design on display for the first time that evening.



**For more details please see:
www.maynoothcc.org.
Everyone welcome!**

**Customer Service Advisors -
Maynooth X 50 - Immediate Start**

We are currently recruiting for 50 X Customer Service Advisors as part of a recruitment drive for a leading business based in Maynooth Business Park.

The roles will be a fixed term contract until 31st March 2018. The roles are starting immediately & full training will be provided. There is no experience required and there will be the opportunity for some part-time roles also.

For full details of salary & to receive more information on the role please contact **Eimear Bourke** on **ebourke@morganmckinley.ie** or call **016652232**

Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

From 1/8/17 to 27/10/17 - information from Kildare County Council Website

App. Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	Application Date
171182	Kildare County Council	Kevin O'Connor on behalf of Colourtrend - General Paint Ltd.	Maynooth Road, Celbridge, Co. Kildare	23/10/2017
171168	Kildare County Council	Paul & Denise Moroney	No. 23 Temple Wood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth	18/10/2017
171071	Kildare County Council	Ciaran & Nicola Doherty	No. 20 Temple Wood, Carton House, Maynooth	27/09/2017
171067	Kildare County Council	Briargate Developments Maynooth	Carton Wood, Dublin Road, Maynooth	25/09/2017
171019	Kildare County Council	Kevin O'Connor on behalf of Colourtrend - General Paints Ltd	Maynooth Road, Celbridge, Co. Kildare	11/09/2017
171016	Kildare County Council	Kevin Farrell	85 Griffinrath Hall, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	07/09/2017
17967	Kildare County Council	Roisin O'Flaherty	Kilmacredock Upper, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	25/08/2017
17959	Kildare County Council	Edward and Katie Robinson,	Donaghstown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	23/08/2017
17932	Kildare County Council	Joseph Murtagh	Ath Dara, Maynooth Road, Celbridge	18/08/2017
17920	Kildare County Council	Saffron Property Limited	No. 22 Temple Wood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth	16/08/2017
17918	Kildare County Council	Adrian and Michelle Guckian,	102 Leinster Wood South, Carton Demesne, Maynooth	15/08/2017
17913	Kildare County Council	Maynooth University,	Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	11/08/2017
17902	Kildare County Council	Celine Clarke,	Moyglare Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	10/08/2017
17879	Kildare County Council	Martin and Michelle Maguire	29 Rockfield Green, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	03/08/2017

Difficult

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

Sudoku Challenge November 2017

Entries must arrive before:
21st November 2017

**Congratulations to
October Winner:
Tom O'Sullivan
6 Laurence Avenue
Maynooth**

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

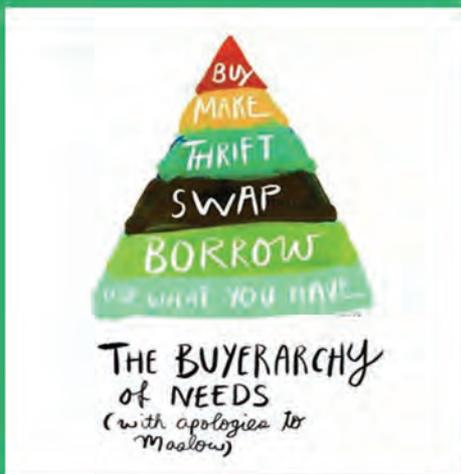
Super Difficult

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____



ZERO WASTE MAYNOOTH FIRST OFFICIAL MEETING

What is Zero Waste?

Zero Waste started out as an industrial term but now has become a term to describe a way of life in which you try to produce as little waste as possible. Zero Waste involves looking at your lifestyle and shopping habits in a new way and becoming more conscious of the way you consume – from food to clothes to gifts. Modern life and the idea of convenience has resulted in a plethora of plastic products being bought, used and discarded – often within a short time frame. Think of the plastic straw in your drink, the water bottle, the light plastic fruit and veg bags – all thrown away within minutes of purchase. But we are now beginning to understand that there is no such place as “away”. The plastic ends up polluting our seas and killing animals that mistake it for food. Recycling is only a small part of the solution – refusing and reducing the use of these products is more important. So try out these small Zero Waste living tips:

1. Carry a reusable water bottle with you.
2. When ordering a drink, get into the habit of saying “No straw please”.
3. Keep a reusable bag in the car or your bag.

Zero Waste is part of the solution to the global environmental problem. But it isn't all doom and gloom – living a Zero Waste life can be a creative project that ends up saving you money. Buying second-hand, borrowing rather than buying, substituting reusables for disposables can require imagination, can result in a lighter bin and more money in your pocket. Ask yourself the following questions:

1. Instead of kitchen roll, what have you got at home that you could use instead?
2. Before buying new, have you asked a friend/neighbour if you could borrow first?
3. When buying fruit and vegetables, could you buy loose instead of pre-packaged? Could you make cloth bags or re-use ones that you have at home?

Conscious Cup Campaign

The Conscious Cup Campaign was started in late 2016 with the aim to reduce and eventually eliminate single use cups in Ireland. The central focus points of this campaign will be to encourage individuals to switch to reusable cups and to persuade coffee shops to; one, accept the reusable cups and two offer a reward to those customers, be it a monetary discount or extra loyalty points / stamps. Currently cafes in Maynooth are being approached to take part in this campaign. We are delighted that already we have two cafes looking to join the campaign and offer discounts if you bring your own reusable cup:

- Willow & Wild
- L'Art du Chocolat.

We hope all cafes and venues will see the great benefits of this campaign to our local environment!

To find out more about Zero Waste:

There is a **Zero Waste Maynooth Area** group – you can find us on Facebook. We are holding our first official meeting in the community library on **Tuesday 21st November at 6.30**. Timi Nicholson, an advocate of Zero Waste living (simplenowastelife.com), will present a short introduction to Zero Waste living. There will be time after the talk for questions and discussion. Please come along and learn some ways to reduce your family household waste.



Comhaltas Craobh Mhaigh Nuad

Halloween is over already and the countdown is beginning to Christmas. The branch lessons are now well under way, with the term in full swing. We've seen increases in our numbers again this year, so we're delighted with that. The term start saw our beloved Karen return to the teaching team from her travels, so welcome back Karen!

For our Cúinne an Cheoltóra this week, we're chatting with Sean (aka Gareth ;-), who has been with us since the very beginning of the branch here in Maynooth

Cúinne an Cheoltóra

Name. Sean Carroll

Age. 10

Instruments & how long have you been playing?

I play the whistle, guitar, bodhrán and I started the fiddle this year with Jason.

I started the bodhrán and played in my first session at 3.



How did you get on in the Fleadh?

I was under 9 last year, so I changed to under 10 this year, which is a big step up. I was happy with how I played, but no medals unfortunately.

Who is the biggest influence on your musical career?

The teachers in the branch would be my biggest direct influence, and my dad of course. Outside of people I know, in traditional music I like the Pogues.

Who is the best musician you know?

The teachers in the branch are great, especially Jason. The lads that play in the Roost are also brilliant. I also knew some

great musicians in Germany and of course Lenny from Leixlip. So impossible to say really!

What do you like best about playing music?

Music is cool, because I've met lots of people playing in sessions and I get to go to the pub all the time, which is fun.

Practising your instrument is tough, but I find this easier as I get better & it's nice to feel your improving all the time.

It's got a little late for this term, but we'd love to take on new member after the New Year, so what a nice Christmas present an instrument and some lessons would be – drop us a line if you'd like any info or advice!

Note that this year, thanks to support from KBC, our sponsor, we've built a decent instrument bank for those who'd like to try an instrument without a big up-front investment. In it are concertinas, accordions, fiddles, guitars and more but it's first come, first served, so the early bird...and all that.

Watch our Facebook or Twitter feeds for more information on upcoming workshops, pop-up sessions and performances. We're usually in Maynooth GAA the last Sunday of the month, and our adult slow session runs every 2 weeks, so get in touch if you'd like to participate in these even if you're not a branch member.

<http://www.ccemhaighnuad.com/>
<http://www.facebook.com/ccemaighnuad>
<http://twitter.com/CCEMaighNuad>

*Derek Carroll, PRO,
Craobh Mhaigh Nuad CCE*

Lisa Richards Presents
STAND-UP FROM

BERNARD O'SHEA & KARL SPAIN FAT CHANCERS

Competition Sponsored by
The Glenroyal Hotel
**The Lucky Winner of the Tickets for the
 Fat Chancers Competition to see
 Bernard O'Shea & Karl Spain
 Appearing in the
 Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth on Friday 3rd
 November 2017 was:**
**Laura Hughes
 Leixlip**



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



Name: _____

Age: _____

Address: _____

Phone No: _____

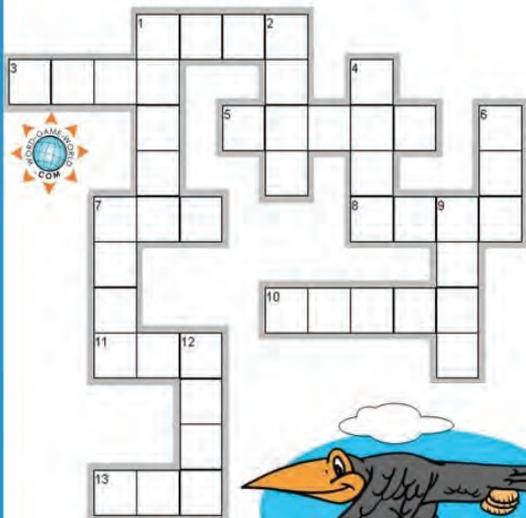
Last Month's Winner:

Riona Flynn
14 The Drive
Straffan Wood
Maynooth

Prize of a Free Family Meal for
Colouring Competition can be
collected at:
Maynooth Community Council
CLG Office, Unit 5, Tesco
Shopping Centre.
Entries must arrive before:
Tuesday 21st November 2017

Junior Puzzle Corner

Rhyme Time



ACROSS

- When the boy fell, the teacher rang the ____.
- We got a good deal on our ____.
- If you walked a mile, would you still ____?
- Birds can fly in the ____.
- The sleepy clown sat ____.
- The spilled milk made a mess on her ____.
- What is your plan for this frying ____?
- Our cat is very ____.

DOWN

- Jack always wears the colour ____.
- She put the stamp under a ____.
- She is very sad, but I hope she will soon be ____.
- When will the man open the ____?
- If you start to hop, when will you ____?
- If you see the lucky fish, be sure to make a ____.
- The baby bird will rest in its ____.

Solution to Crossword

Across: Bell, Meal, Smile, Sky, Down, Dress, Pan, Fat
Down: Black, Lamp, Glad, Can, Stop, Wish, Nest.

- Q: Why is 6 afraid of 7?
A: Because 7 — 8 — 9

- Q: Where do pencils go on holiday?
A: To Pencil-Vania

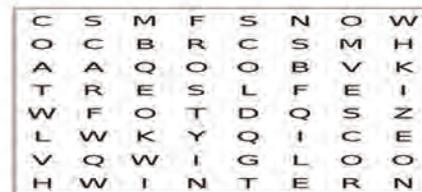
- Q: What do Elephants and Trees have in common?
A: They both have Trunks

- Q: What animal can jump higher than a house?
A: Any animal. A house can't jump.

- Q: How do you spot a modern spider?
A: He doesn't have a web, he has a website.



November Word Search



COAT
COLD
FROST
ICE

IGLOO
SCARF
SNOW
WINTER

REMEMBER TO
Set Your Clocks Back!

Sun. 29th Oct.



What Happens in November?

Hibernation occurs when an animal becomes inactive, or "sleeps," during the short, cold days of *winter*. Hibernating and dormant *mammals* include *bears, squirrels, groundhogs, raccoons, skunks, opossums, dormice, and bats.*



Slow Cooker Recipes

Slow-cooked chicken with chorizo

Ingredients:

200g chorizo, cut into chunks
1 onion, peeled and diced
2 sticks of celery, finely sliced
2 cloves of garlic, finely chopped
2 packs of chicken thighs (12 in total)
1 tin chopped tomatoes
200 ml water
1 dessert tomato puree
1 tsp sugar
Sprig of rosemary, chopped

Serves 6



Method:

Chicken thighs work beautifully in the slow cooker. Firstly, trim off any excess skin tucked underneath the thighs, there is usually quite a bit of spare skin. Fry off the chorizo in a heavy-based frying pan. There is no need to add any extra oil, the chorizo will release oil when cooking. When the chorizo is nicely browned, remove it from the pan using a slotted spoon and add to the slow cooker

Fry the chicken thighs a few at a time until skin is crispy. This will need to be done in batches. Add the chicken to the slow cooker as each batch is fried off. When you have finished cooking off the chicken, add the onion, celery and garlic to the pan and cook over a gentle heat for five minutes or so until starting to colour, then add to the slow cooker, along with the tin of chopped tomatoes, water, tomato puree, sugar and rosemary. Season with some freshly ground black pepper. Put the lid on the slow cooker and cook on low for seven hours. This is delicious served with baked potatoes.

Slow cooker cashew chicken

Ingredients:

2lbs boneless skinless chicken breasts (About 4 pieces), cut into 1 inch pieces
3 tbs cornstarch
½ tsp black pepper
1 tbs canola oil
½ cup low sodium soy sauce
4 tbsp rice wine vinegar
4 tbsp ketchup
2 tbsp sweet chilli sauce
2 tbsp brown sugar
2 garlic cloves, minced
1 tsp grated fresh ginger
¼ tsp red pepper flakes
1 cup cashew nuts



Method:

Combine cornstarch and pepper in resealable food storage bag. Add chicken. Shake to coat with cornstarch mixture. Heat oil in skillet over medium-high heat. Brown chicken about 2 minutes on each side. Place chicken in slow cooker. Combine soy sauce, vinegar, ketchup, sweet chilli sauce, sugar, garlic, ginger, pepper flakes and cashews in small bowl; pour over chicken. Cook on low for 3 - 4 hours. Serve with rice.

*

Slow cooked brisket of beef

Ingredients:

1.6kg (approximately) brisket of beef
A bundle of hard herbs such as rosemary, thyme, marjoram and bay
A large glass of red wine or stock (beef or vegetable)
2 carrots, peeled and cut into chunks
2 onions, peeled and cut into quarters
4 cloves of garlic, roughly chopped
Quarter of one star anise (optional)
Quarter of one cinnamon stick (optional)



Method:

Brown the brisket on both sides in a little olive oil in a frying pan and season with freshly ground salt and pepper. Put the brisket into the slow cooker, deglaze the pan with the wine or stock and pour this over the brisket. Add the rest of the ingredients to the slow cooker. Put the lid on, and turn on the slow cooker on medium or low and cook for 8 hours.

To serve, remove the brisket from the slow cooker and pull it apart with two forks or alternatively slice it, cutting against the grain. The beef should fall apart; the meat deliciously juicy. Serve the beef with the cooking liquid and vegetables.



November Gardening

Our leaves are falling as well as our temperatures.

Isn't there always something to be doing in our gardens, be it pruning, tidying or sowing/planting. Nevertheless, there is something easy about our gardens in November, it's our time for reflection but with one eye on the forthcoming year. Some people think that Autumn is the time to hack everything back before winter really sets in, however, it's actually not a good time to prune many trees and shrubs, better done in late winter or early spring. Cherries if pruned are vulnerable to silver leaf disease, then evergreens are usually tackled in early spring after flowering. Beech, Hawthorn, Hazel, Climbing and Shrub Roses like to be pruned right now. I think, being out there in the garden is therapeutic in itself even if one achieves nothing. Honestly, I simply cannot imagine life without plants and flowers, even one single beautiful bud to look at, to admire near you, on your desk speaks volumes. Different plants and different scents evoke different emotions.



Early November:



Try to finish off bulb planting soon. In fact this is a great time to be planting tulips but if your soil is heavy put some coarse grit into the planting holes.

Mid November

Check tree stakes and ties before winter winds cause damage. Plant bare root hedging plants. Grass growth generally slows down a little this month, so only give your lawn a light mowing if the grass is dry. If you have not already done so, treat the lawn to a dose of autumn lawn fertiliser and aerate it. This treatment will pay dividends in the spring. If your garden is lacking colour plant some winter flowering shrubs now. Sow fast maturing carrots, radishes, winter hardy salad onions etc. in the greenhouse for April harvest. Clean patios and concrete paths to remove potentially slippery moss and algae.



Late November

Garden birds benefit from extra feeding all year round, but it is especially important in the winter months. Try to put out appropriate food for the species living in your garden and make sure that water is readily available too. Prune free standing apple and pear trees after leaf fall. Begin washing pots and trays in disinfectant ready for the new sowing season.



November Gardening Tips

Shorter days, darker evenings mean only one thing its officially Winter! We hope you will find these November gardening tips helpful to guide you through the beginning of Winter!

In General

Rake leaves and make leaf mould or compost. Clean, sharpen, and oil garden tools. Finish winterizing your water garden.

Start forcing bulbs like paperwhites, hyacinth and amaryllis for the holidays.

Add organic matter to beds.

Cover compost so that rain doesn't flood and leach the nutrients.

Keep weeding.

Check that indoor plants are receiving enough water, humidity and air circulation.

Cut back the yellowing foliage of herbaceous perennials, and lift and divide overcrowded clumps to maintain their vigour



Now is a great time to prepare a perennial vegetable bed which can be planted up with rhubarb crowns, asparagus crowns and now is the ideal time to plant currant bushes whilst they are dormant. Once plants are dormant, it is a good time to lift and relocate any plant that you want to move.

Sweep paths and surfaces regularly. In "Open" gardens you have to do this on a daily basis. In winter try and do all the surfaces visible from the house fairly regularly to avoid the drab, neglected look. Chopped or left whole, leaves make an excellent mulch for vegetable crops, they suppress weeds and retain soil moisture.

Gather up fallen leaves from around the base of rose bushes which suffered from blackspot or rust this summer, to reduce the chance of infection next year.

FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

BLADE RUNNER 2049

STARRING: RYAN GOSLING & HARRISON FORD



In an era where Hollywood studios regularly plunder classic movies, looking for the next successful remake or reboot, few revivals have caused as much excitement as the highly anticipated **Blade Runner 2049**. The original 1982 **Blade Runner**, which followed ex-cop Rick Deckard (Harrison Ford) as he hunted runaway replicants is considered by many to be the height of stylish sci-fi filmmaking. Though some might consider it foolhardy to create a sequel, some big guns (Ryan Gosling, Ford and Robin Wright) have been brought on board to liven up proceedings. Even **Blade Runner** director Ridley Scott is back as producer.



The producers have cleverly surrounded the sequel to **Blade Runner** in mystery, creating a surge in interest. At an early press screening of **Blade Runner 2049**, the director, Denis Villeneuve, sent a note requesting that the assembled journalists not divulge crucial plot points in their reviews. To retain the element of surprise for viewers.

This imperfect, complicated but energetic film deserves to be seen with just the barest of plot outline or details. The less you know, the better.



One of the enduring mysteries of the first **Blade Runner** is the question of whether Ford's Deckhard, hired to eliminate a group of rogue replicants, was himself a replicant? Will the new film finally resolve that decades-old mystery? Mystery also surrounds the exact nature of Ryan Gosling's role in the new movie.

The film, set thirty years after the original, has a quiet brooding lead character in Gosling's Officer K, a blade runner himself, who hunts androids that pose as humans. He seeks out the old models. The problem with those replicants, as witnessed in the 1982 film, was the inconvenient development of feelings: making it difficult to enslave them and also creating resentment of their own built-in expiry date.

Just like Ford's Deckard, Officer K is the best at what he does. Trouble comes in the form of a long-buried uncovered secret that could open a whole can of worms

for the totalitarian government of the new world order. Plunging what's left of society into chaos.

Gosling's discovery leads him on a quest to find Rick Deckard (Harrison Ford), who has been missing for 30 years. **Blade Runner 2049** is certainly more action-centered than its illustrious predecessor. Gosling has stated in interviews that the new film is "more brutal".

Blade Runner 2049 is a long film: clocking in at a posterior-numbing two hours and 43 minutes, and for some it will be a bit of an endurance test. The film is slowly paced with each revelation a long time coming. The director likes mist and fog more than the original **Blade Runner** director, Ridley Scott, so the look of the film is less hard-edged. Figures melt slowly out of yellow smog. If characters are obscured in dense fog, the plot of the film isn't far behind.



It is not the easiest film to follow, and the long third act has elements that are simply mind-boggling. Like its 1982 predecessor **Blade Runner 2049** is not particularly plot-driven, but it is heavy on atmosphere and style. For over two hours the viewer is continually perplexed as to what will happen next. We do know that a meeting between K and Deckard is inevitable, but that's as much as we know.

Knowledge of the 1982 **Blade Runner** is helpful but not mandatory to see this sequel. Just like the original, it's set in the not-to-distant future and portrays the world as a dark, desolate, bleak place. Cinematographer Roger Deakins (The Shawshank Redemption) generates a visual assault on the senses.



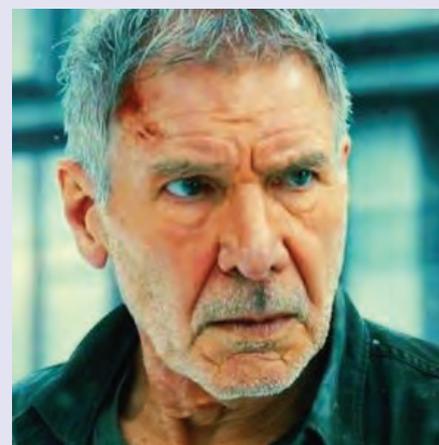
He recaptures the perennially grey, choked, rain-soaked futuristic Los Angeles from the original film. His work is sublime, masterful and jaw-dropping and will surely earn him a well-earned Oscar at the Academy Awards

next year. Praise is also due to Dennis Gassner's breath-taking set designs and Han Zimmer's pulsating score. These crafts people help the director to echo the look, sound and feel of the first **Blade Runner** film, while simultaneously creating a new exciting experience for the modern audience.



What of the performances? Ryan Gosling is on a roll this year with the recent success of **La La Land**. The actor's trademark persona of detachment and monotone delivery has never been put to better use than in **Blade Runner 2049**. Gosling is tailor-made for moody, introspective roles. He does a lot of acting with his eyes: bringing emotional depth and vulnerability to the role of the complicated and conflicted agent K. It's a wonderful performance.

Thirty years on, Harrison Ford reprises his iconic role of the guarded, cynical replicant hunter, Rick Deckard. Although he doesn't share much screen time with Gosling, Ford is surprisingly effective in what scenes he has. The veteran actor portrays Deckhard with a soul-crushing weariness. It's an excellent performance from Ford and a fitting continuity with the original **Blade Runner** classic.



Blade Runner 2049 is a substantial, daring exercise in modern filmmaking. Its visual delights and dazzling special effects will literally take your breath away. However, it is the humanity, the insight and characters of this compelling sci-fi sequel that lingers in the mind long after the credits have rolled. See it on the biggest, widest screen you can.



HALLOWEEN QUIZ ANSWERS



(1) Matt Hooper (2) Shelley Duval (3) Hammer Horror (4) Anthony Hopkins (5) b (6) Martin Balsam (7) Five (8) c (9) b (10) Marion Crane (11) The Ring (12) Scream (13) 1973 (14) Robert Englund (15) Mia Farrow (16) d (17) a (18) Jamie Lee Curtis (19) Hannibal The Cannibal (20) c (21) d (22) 12 (23) Damien (24) Lightning Rod (25) A Nightmare on Elm Street (26) Ten (27) The Boogeyman (28) Frankenstein



Frank O'Rourke TD

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Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

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 frank.orourke@oireachtas.ie

 www.frankorourke.ie

 /Frank O'Rourke



Dáil
Éireann



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



MAYNOOTH SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE

ANNUAL SALE OF WORK

will take place in

Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road.

On Sunday November 19th 2017

DOORS OPENING 3pm

SOMETHING TO SUIT EVERYONE



WHEEL OF FORTUNE

WHITE ELEPHANT

BOTTLE STALL

BOOK STALL

CHRISTMAS FARE ETC.



HOME PRODUCE

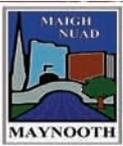
CAKES

JAMS ETC



As always proceeds from above provides for fuel and social outings for our older people

WE KNOW WE CAN RELY ON YOUR SUPPORT



With best wishes for a **Happy Christmas**
& A Prosperous New Year from



Maynooth Newsletter

Serving the people of Maynooth



Local News

Dec/Jan 2017/18

Issue No. 464

FREE

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

Shop Local, Eat Local, Spend Local & Enjoy Local in Maynooth this Christmas



Christmas, the season of giving and receiving is upon us once again. This is the perfect opportunity to support our local shops in Maynooth. Lets buy our Christmas presents from our local businesses and self-employed people. Be honest, who are we supporting with our spending? If the goal is for money to flow back into the local economy, we must commit to choosing wisely. Driving an hour out of our town or shopping online does not contribute to the community we live in.

Maynooth is the “**Gastronomic Capital of Kildare**” There is a vast amount of establishments in town that offer the most sophisticated cuisine and the most appealing food and beverages. Maynooth also hosts the “**Purple Flag**” - “destination for a good night out, vibrant and well managed”.

There is ample free car parking in Maynooth, customers can park **free while shopping** in **Carton Retail Park, Manor Mills, Glenroyal, Greenfield and Beaufield Shopping Centres**. There is also ample customer car parking in the Aldi and Lidl stores. Pay Parking is also available within the Town enabling customers to enjoy the many retail shops, Jewellers, Book Shops, Boutiques, Gift Shops, Hairdressers & Beauty, Pubs and Restaurants in and around the Main Street. Stay local this year and take the stress out of shopping, avoid the cost of travel and expensive parking fees. When all the shopping is done relax in a multitude of restaurants, bars and coffee shops to visit and enjoy the gastronomic atmosphere of Maynooth.

Christmas Shopping is important to small-town retailers. It's a great opportunity to focus on your own business and give your customers a pleasant experience. Retailers need to say, “Stay in Maynooth”, we have lots to offer. Support our community, our businesses, our schools, our organizations. Everyone working together will make Maynooth a great place to live in.

Spend where you live, support what you love, choose local!!

Maynooth Residents Re-live the Horror of the November 2000 Flooding

Maynooth residents living in close proximity to the Meadowbrook Stream re-lived the horror of the November 2000 flooding during the recent heavy rainfall. A resident of Meadowbrook stated: Residents became very concerned as they watched the level of the Meadowbrook Stream raise above the culverts from the M4 Motorway through Brookfield, Meadowbrook and parts of Old Greenfield estates down to Parsons Street. While the main issue appears to be the size of the culvert under Parsons Street creating a choke point and this cannot be remedied in the short-term. An emergency plan needs to be put in place to ensure the stream is clear of minor blockages between the M4 motorway and the culvert in Parsons Street. It would also be prudent for the local Kildare County Council office to have a plan to deliver a large amount of sand bags to residents in the affected area to stem any future flooding as best as possible.

While the local KCC staff delivered some sand bags to concerned residents in the area there was nowhere near enough to protect every house that could have been affected had the heavy rain seen on the 22nd November continued for a longer period of time. It would take several hundred sand bags at each road that crosses the stream for the residents to have any chance of avoiding the devastation seen in 2000.

Local County Councillor John Mc Ginley, who visited the scene on the day of the flooding, has committed to having the issue raised at the next meeting of the Maynooth Municipal District meeting on the 13th December. Councillor Mc Ginley commented “The surprisingly fast increase in water levels in the Meadowbrook Stream and flooding of the M4 motorway (which caused massive traffic congestion through Maynooth and surrounding areas) needs to be addressed urgently”. “In the short-term Kildare County Council must work in partnership with affected residents to alleviate their fears every time we get a “Yellow rainfall warning” stated Councillor Mc Ginley.



Photo: Meadowbrook Stream covers the culverts following recent heavy rainfall.



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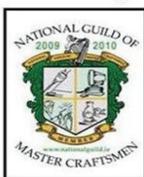
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www.labour.ie/emmetstagg

Every Friday @ 4.00pm

McMahon's Main St. Maynooth

The Last Advice Service this year will be on

Friday 15th December 2017

The Advice Service will resume in the New Year on

Friday 12th January 2018

**Best Wishes for a Happy Christmas
& A Peaceful New Year**



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SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS



St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band



It has been quite some time since the Band has featured in the Newsletter but it is very much alive and flourishing as we come to the end of another year. Our recitals during the year have taken us to Farmleigh House, Maynooth Girls' School, Dunboyne Primary School and Scoil Uí Rhiada in Kilcock as a part of the Family Days in each school. We also participated in the Tesco Open Day and were delighted to be a part of the Leinster Fleadh held in Maynooth for the first time and by the time these notes appear we will have taken part in our Annual Mass for Deceased Members on Sunday 29th November.

We had a change of Musical Director during the year and were very happy to secure the services of Karen Ní Bhroin who is an extremely experienced Conductor who has worked with a number of Bands, Choirs and Orchestras, including the RTE Concert Orchestra so hopefully the Band will make further progress under her baton. December tends to be a busy time for the Band and we have been busy rehearsing for our Christmas Concert which is again being held in the **Glenroyal Hotel on Sunday 13th December at 3pm**. This promises to be a most entertaining event with a mixture of popular and Christmas numbers and we hope to have a number of guests joining us on the day. Although the date has not yet been set we expect to

again join our Friends in the Church of Ireland for their Christmas Carol Service. You will also meet the groups from the band when they appear in the usual locations in the town in the lead up to Christmas shaking boxes to help fund the high cost of keeping the Band going throughout the year.

Finally we are delighted to report that Junior Classes are still being held to keep the flow of musicians coming through and if you are interested in joining please mail your details to sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie and we will let you know when the next term of classes begin. Of course proficient musicians are indeed welcome at all times and already this year we have had a number come to join us for which we are indeed grateful. If you can play a brass, reed or even percussion instrument please don't hesitate to drop in to the Band Hall at Pound Lane any Monday night (except Bank Holidays) between 7.45 and 9.45pm and we would be delighted to see you.



Presentation to Michael D. Higgins at the Aras last July



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Maynooth Labour News

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

A Car Park at the Harbour Field, Maynooth, Raises its Ugly Head Again

At the Maynooth MD meeting on 8 November a Councillor proposed "that the Council start the design process for an underground car park at the Harbour Field, Maynooth."

Cllr. John McGinley stated that he was completely against the proposal as apart from wrecking the amenity of the Harbour Field it would cost a fortune and a waste of Council money. Cllr. McGinley said that the existing Council car park between McMahons and SuperValu is never full, the Long Term Permit Parking just costs €2 per day/5 days per week and it is only 5 minutes from the train station.

Council Officials want to put a 60 bay car park on the west side of the field, where the hard stand is at present (where the fun fair parks). Cllr. McGinley stated that he was also against this proposal as it would create a dangerous precedent of a reduction in the amenity of the Harbour Field

Update on the Meadowbrook Link Road/ Straffan Road Junction

Cllr. John McGinley was advised on 8 November by the Council's Director of Service that the Council might have to take Legal action to get the developer to provide the traffic lights at the Meadowbrook Link/ Straffan Road junction.

Update on the 66 Bus route Extension to Newtown and the 67 to Moyglare Hall

Cllr. John McGinley was advised on 8 November by the Council's Director of Service that the National Transport Authority (NTA) have no plans to extend the 66 bus to Newtown, Maynooth. John stated that this was very disappointing news as Councillors understood that all were in favour of the 66 extension and that the only stumbling block was finding a turning point.

Cllr. McGinley again Calls for Action on the High Noise levels from the M4

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of Maynooth MD meeting on 8 November:

"That Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) be written to in relation to the M4 between Leixlip and Kilcock asking:

*- why re-surfacing of the M4 is of such a low priority with the TII, bearing in mind that the surface is over twenty three years old and no other motorway in the country has the same surface for such a length of time?
- why has the M4 not got quiet surfacing as part of noise reduction measures?*

- why have noise reduction barriers not been erected at nearby residential properties?"

Cllr. McGinley pointed out that the Council's Senior Engineer had put similar question to TII on 29 May 2017 and TII replied on 23 June last stating that re-surfacing the M4 was not a priority for them. John further stated that it beggars belief that the M4 with a surface 23 years old is not a priority. It is the only Motorway in the country that does not have low noise tarmacadam. The Council's Director of Services agreed to again write to the TII. The Director also acknowledged that the installation of noise reduction barriers at nearby residential properties is a matter for Kildare County Council.

Cllr. McGinley asks for the Ramps at Old Greenfield to be repaired

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of Maynooth MD meeting on 8 November:

John got the following reply:

"Irish Water has plans to lay a new water main the

length of Old Greenfield, the ramps will not be repaired until this work is completed."

The Municipal MD Manager advised John that Irish Water intend laying the pipes in 2018.

Cllr. McGinley Calls for Public Lighting at Carton Wood Estate, Old Dublin Road, Blacklion Road and at Castle Park;

Cllr. McGinley made the following proposal at the Maynooth MD Meeting on 8 November;

"That public lighting be completed at Carton Wood on the Old Dublin Road and that it be extended down the Blacklion Road to the roundabout and back in towards Maynooth on the Dunboyne Road to include Castlepark housing estate."

The following reply was given by Council Officials:

"The Public Lighting Engineer will survey the location and it will be assessed using a priority system within Kildare Lighting Priority Schedule (KLIPS). When funding becomes available and depending on the volume of requests within KLIPS, the installation of the lights can be considered."

Cllr. McGinley asks if Kildare County Council will Construct the Easter Ring Road in Maynooth

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of Maynooth MD meeting on 8 November:

"Will the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund Programme (LIHAF) of €10,875,000 plus the council borrowing of €3,625,000 agreed at the Kildare County Council meeting on 23 October, be enough to construct the bridge and road from Blacklion to Celbridge Road, and if not, will development levies be used or developers asked to come up with the shortfall?"

John got the following unsatisfactory reply:

"All costings being used at present are estimated and until tenders are sought for the works involved, exact costings will not be known. Kildare County Council has a responsibility to contribute 25% matching funding against the amount provided by the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government"

Cllr. McGinley asked bluntly if the Council would fund and construct the bridge and all of the road and the Director of Services stated that YES they would.

Cllr. McGinley Calls for the Boreen to be Opened to Pedestrians and Cyclists and for the Lands adjacent to it to be Landscaped:

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of Maynooth MD meeting on 13 December

"That whatever arrangements necessary be put in place to open The Boreen (opposite TESCO), Maynooth, to pedestrians and cyclists and that the Council land between The Boreen and Carton Avenue be landscaped generally in line with the Carton Avenue Action Area Plan of July 2006, over the next two years."

Cllr. McGinley Calls for Safety Measures to be Provided for Carton Wood and Carton Grove Estates, Opposite Tesco:

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of Maynooth MD meeting on 13 December

"That recognition be given to the new housing estates, Carton Wood and Carton Grove, on the Old Dublin Road, Maynooth, by introducing Traffic Calming and/or Crosswalk between the estates and Tesco/McDonalds entrance and by asking Dublin Bus to provide stops to

service the estates."

Update on Ring Roads and Other Projects in Maynooth

Cllr. John McGinley was given the following report from the Council's Director of Services on 6 November:

"Maynooth Northern Orbital Route

This section will link the Moyglare Road with the Dunboyne Road. The Rathoath MD members approved the Part 8 for this section of the Outer Orbital Route, however subsequently a Judicial Review of this decision was lodged in the Courts. No date set yet for the hearing. Representatives for the owners/developers of the land on the Meath side of the boundary have always maintained that they will build the entire section from the Moyglare Road to the Dunboyne Road if the Judicial Review is heard in Court and the Part 8 planning approval is not overturned. Mycette Homes have already lodged their contribution to the cost of the Kildare section of this route with KCC.

Maynooth Eastern Orbital Route and Bridge (Section 1)

This section will link the Leixlip Road with the Celbridge Road and includes a bridge crossing the Royal Canal and the rail line. The Minister for Housing Planning and Local Government has informed us that he is agreeable to signing a funding agreement with KCC under the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund, (LIHAF). I am awaiting receipt of the funding agreement. This will be a difficult project to deliver in parallel with a review of the Maynooth LAP, within the timeframe set by the Minister i.e. that the 800 residential units which are a central condition of the funding must be completed by the end of 2021.

Maynooth Eastern Orbital Route and Bridge (Section 2)

This section will link the Celbridge Road with the Straffan Road. The owner/developer of the lands which contain this link received planning approval for a residential development including the road earlier this year. However it is my understanding that the owner/developer intends seeking planning approval for a revised layout on site and therefore the timeframe for delivery of the road is unclear at this time.

Maynooth South Western Orbital Route and Bridge

This section links the Straffan Road with the Kilcock Road and includes a bridge over the Royal Canal and rail line. No funds have been identified for this section of the Outer Orbital Route.

Maynooth North Western Orbital Route

This section links the Kilcock Road with the Moyglare Road. I have had discussions with a land owner/developer and a representative from St Patrick's in regard to planning how this section of the Orbital Route could be delivered. Agreement has been reached between the land owner/developer and St Patrick's in regard to the crossing of lands owned by St. Patrick's. The review of the Maynooth LAP is now awaited.

Moyglare Road to Dunboyne Road Inner Relief Street

This street will form part of a planning application which is due to be lodged in the near future. A number of pre-planning meetings have taken place including a pre-planning meeting with An Bord Pleanala as this planning application will be submitted directly to An Bord Pleanala.

Second Interchange on the M4

(Continued on page 7)

Maynooth Labour News (Cont.)

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

(Continued from page 6)

Discussions between KCC and TII are at a very early stage in regard to the possibility of securing a second interchange on the M4.

Maynooth North South Corridor Project

Phase 4 which covers the section from the Traffic Lights at the Glenroyal Hotel through the Harbour Field and up to the Garda Station in Leinster Street commenced 6th November and is due to be completed in late February 2018.

Phase 6 which covers the section from the traffic lights on the Moyglare Road at the Kilcock Road junction out to the new school will commence detailed design within the next few weeks. The commencement of construction of Phase 6 is dependent on NTA funding.

Phase 5 which covers the section from the traffic lights on the Moyglare Road at the Kilcock Road junction to Mill Street is dependent on NTA funding."

Funding to Be Sought in 2018 for Additional Car Parking at Maynooth Train Station

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg contacted the Chief Executive of Irish Rail, David Franks, in relation to the delay in providing additional car parking at Maynooth Train Station given that planning permission for an additional 38 car parking spaces has been in place since 2011.

In his correspondence to the Chief Executive Mr. Stagg stated that planning permission for the 38 car parking spaces had originally been granted in 2011 and the permission was extended for a further 5 years on 23rd September, 2016. Mr. Stagg pointed out that there was an urgent need for additional parking.

In his response Mr. Franks advised Emmet Stagg that unfortunately he could not advise when the car parking scheme is likely to go ahead as it was subject to funding from the National Transport Authority. Mr. Franks further added that he was acutely aware of the excess parking demand at the Maynooth Train Station and that it was his intention to seek funding in 2018 to address same.

Welcoming the commitment to seek funding for the project in 2018 Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that at present the existing car park

is full at 7-30 am. He concluded by stating that he would also contact the National Transport Authority in 2018 to support Irish Rails funding request.

Time to Decide on Accommodation for North Kildare Gaelcholaiste

Emmet Stagg has again raised with the Minister for Education the issue of the securing of accommodation for the North Kildare Gaelcholaiste in Maynooth, which is due to open in 2019.

The Minister advised Mr. Stagg that Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board are continuing to examine options for accommodation for the school which will involve consideration of the timing and availability of appropriate infrastructure in the area. The Minister reiterated to Mr. Stagg that his Department would continue to work closely with KWETB and An Foras Patrúnachta in relation to the provision of appropriate accommodation for the establishment of the school.

The Maynooth Education Campus, stated Mr. Stagg, is due for completion in May, 2019, so the old Maynooth Post Primary School is an obvious choice for the Gaelcholaiste. Mr. Stagg further stated that it was time the KWETB and An Foras Patrúnachta decided on the Accommodation for the North Kildare Gaelcholaiste to give certainty to pupils and parents who want to use the facility in 2019.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that he would continue to press the Minister on this issue to ensure that the Gaelcholaiste opens on time in 2019.

Stagg Presses Minister on Tenders for New Maynooth Boys' National School

Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg has again been in contact with the Minister for Education in relation to progressing the Tender Documents for the new St. Mary's Boys' National School on the Moyglare Road, Maynooth

Mr. Stagg stated that planning permission for The New Maynooth Boys' NS was granted by Kildare Co. Council on August 1st last and it comprises the replacement of the existing school and the construction of a new 3 storey national school with 24 classrooms including a Special Needs Unit and Multipurpose Hall. 3 Ballcourts

and a Junior Play area will also be provided as part of the project.

The school currently has 530 pupils and when completed the new school will cater for just under 700 pupils.

The Minister has advised Mr. Stagg that the project is currently at Detailed Design of Architectural Planning including the preparation of Tender Documents and seeking consent for Disability Access Certificates and Fire Safety Certificates. The Design Team are working on these issues and when completed they will be submitted to the Department for review.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that he would continue to press the Minister for Education and Skills to progress the project to Tender Stage.

Future Funding of Public Swimming Pools Dependent on National Sports Policy

Emmet Stagg was in contact with the Minister for Sport in relation to plans to reintroduce the Local Authority Swimming Pool Programme given the continuing unacceptable absence of a Public Swimming Pool in North Kildare.

The Minister advised Mr. Stagg that in relation to future funding of swimming pools the Department are currently finalising a review of National Sports Policy. The review includes a specific focus on how the Government should fund sports facilities including swimming pools in the years ahead and it is expected that the new sports policy will be published before the end of the year.

Mr. Stagg stated that there was a limited reopening of the Local Authority Swimming Pool Programme in early 2016, where 4 new swimming pools were approved. At the time Kildare Co. Council did indicate an expression of interest in a pool for Maynooth in partnership with Maynooth University. That application was deemed invalid because the council would not have had a chargeable title to the proposed facility.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour Representative Emmet Stagg stated that the New National Sports Policy must recognise the benefits of having Public Swimming Pools and he hoped that a new Local Authority Grant Scheme would be recommended so we could set about the task of securing funding for a Public Swimming Pool for North Kildare.

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Minister to deliver road map for Maynooth Gaelcholáiste

I am calling on the Minister to provide a programme of implementation for the structure of the proposed Maynooth Gaelcholáiste and urging all stakeholders involved to work together to progress the project. The call comes following a motion by the Maynooth Old Carton Fianna Fáil Cumman supporting the delivery of the school that was passed during the Education segment of the Fianna Fáil Ard Fheis.

Like the local Fianna Fáil members in attendance from Maynooth, including Cllr Naoise Ó Cearúil and Colm Ó Cearúil, I was delighted to support the proposed Maynooth Gaelcholáiste motion passed at our party's Ard Fheis.

The motion calls for the Minister for Education to publish a programme of implementation, which would include Board composition, school policies, and management structure for Maynooth Gaelcholáiste from all the stakeholders involved.

The motion reads in full "This Ard-Fheis calls on the Minister for Education and Skills to publish a programme of implementation including Board composition, school policies and management structure for the Maynooth Gaelcholáiste from An Foras Pátrúntachta and Kildare and Wicklow E.T.B., joint patrons of the Gaelcholáiste".

I am aware of the demand for this Gaelcholáiste from parents visiting my office in Maynooth and from meetings with local groups. The town has seen considerable growth in recent years and continues to grow. This Gaelcholáiste will facilitate this growth and allow students who have been educated through Irish continue their schooling into second level, as Gaeilge.

Children lose out as Government fails to deliver high speed broadband to schools

Children are being unfairly marginalised as a result of poor broadband access in schools and the Minister for Education needs to make his voice heard in Government regarding the need to progress the National Broadband Plan.

There is a growing digital divide in schools right across the country. The Government hasn't taken this problem seriously in recent years and the result is that many schools that fall outside of high speed broadband areas are left with substandard internet services.

This means many students in rural districts are losing out on learning opportunities as they grow up. Meanwhile their peers in towns and urban centres are enjoying speedy access to modern broadband and benefiting from a huge variety of online educational resources.

Schools in communities where broadband is being rolled out are not even benefiting from such advances because

these schools are in areas not deemed commercially viable for broadband operators. They must therefore wait for enhanced broadband in the years to come, as part of the Government's delayed National Broadband Plan. Many schools are adjacent to where Eir are currently connecting homes to fibre broadband, but they are unable to avail of such services.

The responsibility for the National Broadband Plan falls under Minister for Communications Denis Naughten. His performance to date has left a lot to be desired. The rollout of the plan has been plagued by long running delays and we are still unsure when areas earmarked for State intervention will actually get access to high speed broadband.

The delay in rolling out high speed broadband to all schools is having a detrimental impact on pupils across the country. Minister Bruton needs to speak up and make his voice heard. He needs to ensure that this Government meets its commitments on the rollout of the National Broadband Plan.

Two New Bus Shelters for Maynooth on Kilcock Road

I have had confirmed two bus shelter will be provided on the Kilcock Road close to the University roundabout following my meetings with the National Transport Authority. I am delighted to secure a bus shelters for these stops in Maynooth. Many residents and students in the area had contacted me requesting the shelters and I brought their concerns to the NTA who have confirmed a shelter will be provided. The NTA have now communicated with Kildare County Council to recommend the installation of the two new shelters.

Hundreds of hospital beds out of action due to staff shortages and refurbishment

At a time of major overcrowding crisis in our Emergency Departments, it is simply mind boggling that there are hundreds of hospital beds closed in the health service. 172 beds were lost to the health system for a variety of reasons. Worryingly 33% of the bed closures were as a direct result of staff shortages.

Despite a lot of hot hair from successive Fine Gael Health Ministers, little or no progress has been made in stemming the flow of nursing and medical graduates out of the Irish health system, and even less progress made on attracting those professionals who emigrated from Ireland.

We have on average 400-500 people lying on trolleys every night of the year in our EDs across the country; yet there are nearly 200 beds out of action, and not being used to allow patients be admitted to the hospitals.

There are a large number of beds taken out of use regularly to allow for refurbishment and repair. I don't understand why beds are not transferred to the many unopened hospital wards to ensure that there is no reduction in bed capacity.

89 beds lost because of refurbishment is a scandal. There are elderly people lying on trolleys for hours on end, sometimes days, and their health and wellbeing is being damaged. Minister Harris must finalise and publish the Bed Capacity Review, and outline his plans to reduce the number of closed beds.

For as long as there are sick people lying on trolleys in our Emergency Departments, there can be no acceptance for unnecessary bed closures. It's immoral, in my view, and it must be dealt with as a priority.

Calling for tougher response to repeat offenders in communities nationwide

I can confirm a motion is being brought forward by my party in response to the growing intolerance of repeated criminal activity including burglary which is taking place in communities across Ireland.

Much emphasis is placed on the level of criminality that is taking place in rural communities but it's also important to recognise that urban areas are affected too. Constituents in my own area are in touch all too regularly about robberies and attempted burglaries on their homes.

This Government's failure to address the need for more Gardaí on the ground has undoubtedly increased fear in many communities and is leaving those, particularly in rural areas unprotected. Restoring a strong Garda presence in rural Ireland needs to be an urgent priority for this Government.

The re-opening of rural Garda stations which were closed by Fine Gael in 2013 is an essential component of the response that is needed to deliver greater public confidence in the effective policing of our communities.

Mechanisms such as Garda controlled CCTV and GPS tracking also play an important role in detecting and deterring criminal activity. Tougher amendments to current legislation are required to tackle the level of organised crime that is so damaging to communities up and down the country.

Fianna Fáil believes that electronic monitoring should be made a condition of bail for anyone convicted of a serious offence in the previous 10 years, while measures should be taken to allow the State to recoup the cost of legal aid from a person subsequently convicted of an offence.

Fine Gael has always claimed to be the party of law and order but their record since 2011 shows that when it comes to being tough on crime, they have clearly lost their way.

I am hopeful that this motion to combat and protect against the rise in rural crime will receive full, cross-party support.

Polish Christmas Carols/Polskie Koledy

Polish Carols Concert

on Sunday 17th December at 3pm in St. Mary's Church Maynooth.

Selection of the most beautiful traditional Polish Carols.

All welcome!

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A little anecdote from Greek philosophy

Bhí Diogenes, ina fhear déirce san Ataen, 4ú aois R. Ch., mar shéan sé maoin uile an tsaoil. Ní raibh meas aige ach ar an tsuáilce. Bhí a chlú i mbéal na ndaoine agus chuala Alastair Mór faoi. Thug sé cuairt air. 'An bhfuil aon rud gur mhaith leat go ndéanfainn duit', arsa Alastair.

'Cinnte', arsa Diogenes, 'tá tú ag seasamh sa solas orm!'

Gabriel Martin





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Ministerial direction overrules local voices.

Catherine Murphy TD has said the recent decision by Minister Damien English to overrule local councillors in respect of the Celbridge Plan will be met by huge anger locally.

The Ministerial direction effectively rezones part of Donaghcumper Demesne for a town centre extension, it includes 150 residential units linked by a pedestrian bridge. The proposal had been opposed by thousands of Celbridge residents at each stage of the Local Area Plan process. The majority of Councillors in the Municipal District had agreed the zoning as amenity but the Minister has overruled all of that.

Kildare North TD Catherine Murphy, who has personally spoken to the Minister regarding the issues with Donaghcumper Demesne, said:

“The Minister has completely failed to appreciate the unique value of the linked demesnes of Castletown, Donaghcumper and St Wolstan’s and the fact that they were specifically designed in tandem.

“An additional direction by the Minister has removed the residential zoning on the site beyond Crodaun where in excess of 200 houses were proposed. Back in the year 2001 lands at Donaghcumper were originally zoned as residential and provision for a town centre extension. Subsequent to this, two major planning applications were lodged in 2008 and 2009 with both being heavily opposed by the local community who

appealed them to An Bord Pleanala. After a lengthy oral hearing An Bord Pleanala sided with the community stating it was ‘unfortunate’ the lands were zoned in the first place.

“The Ministerial decision will pose the obvious question about the point of the Local Area Plan process which invites submissions from local people. Elected Councillors then use the information submitted from local people to inform the decisions made at Council level only for the Minister to overrule them. It’s ludicrous and completely undemocratic.”

Consumer Protection (Gift Vouchers) Bill 2017

Social Democrats co-leader, Catherine Murphy TD., introduced the Consumer Protection (Gift Vouchers) Bill 2017, to the Dáil on 21st November, which would tilt the balance in favour of consumers by banning many of the sneaky charges associated with gift vouchers.

The Bill would ensure gift vouchers are valid for at least five years, would ban charges for issuing gift vouchers and would ban the practice of applying charges to unused or inactive balances. It would also ban any charging for the repayment of credit balances on gift vouchers.

Deputy Murphy said:

“The whole area of gift vouchers and gift cards is largely unregulated in Ireland with everything stacked against the consumer.

“Retailers are free to put any expiry period on gift

vouchers with many opting for just 12 months. This amounts to an unfair ‘use it or lose it policy’ and is just not acceptable. These are not gifts or money-off from the retailer – they are actually money, paid for by customers. Our Bill would mean all gift vouchers have an expiry period of at least 5 years.”

“One of the worst anti-consumer practices we found while preparing this Bill is the practice of charging ‘administration fees’ after a certain period. Quite a number of high profile shopping centres and gift card providers operate in this fashion. This results in the credit on the card being run down until the value of the card drops to zero. Such terms and conditions would be banned under this Bill. At up to €3 per month on some gift cards, these are exorbitant charges that rip-off consumers.”

“We are entering the busy pre-Christmas Shopping period, and the peak sales period for gift vouchers. Many of us will give and receive gift vouchers for Christmas for everything from food, books, clothes and sporting goods to meals out or hotel stays. It’s important that legislation is in place to ensure that neither those giving nor those receiving gift vouchers are ripped off by sneaky charges.”

Season’s Greetings to all of the residents and businesses in Maynooth. Many thanks for your support in 2017 and I look forward to working for you again in 2018..

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

DEAR Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask for this special one (mention favour).

Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart, where your

Father sees it, then it will become your favour not mine. Say this prayer for three days, promise publication and favour will be granted no matter how impossible.

Thanksgiving for favour received.

Never known to fail

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

DEAR Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask for this special one (mention favour).

Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart, where your Father sees it, then, in his merciful eyes it will become Your favour not mine. Amen

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

Never known to fail

Thanksgiving for favour received. **RD**

*Merry
Christmas*

**Happy Christmas & Prosperous New
Year To All From The Members,
Directors & Staff
of Maynooth Community Council CLG**

Frank O'Rourke T.D. Kildare North

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

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

Nearly 20% Increase in Number of Older People Acting as Carers – O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has again highlighted the need to provide supports for older people, as CSO figures show a significant increase in the number of older people acting as carers for their loved ones and relatives.

“Between 2011 and 2016, there has been nearly a 20% increase, from 24,746 to 29,311, in the number of people, aged 65 years or older, providing care for their loved ones.”

“Since being elected, I have highlighted the need to prepare for the change in demographics. In 2006, there were 468,000 people aged 65 or older in Ireland, but by 2041, the number of people in this country aged 65 or older will be 1.4 million.”

“I have highlighted the need for increased resources for Housing Adaption Grants, Fair Deal Scheme, Phone Allowance, Pension, Home Care Packages and Carers. The recent figures show that older people are now fulfilling, in many cases, the role of the State in providing care to those living with illness or disability,” stated Deputy O'Rourke.

“We must also ask who is looking after the Carers? These carers also have needs and they also need supports. Those aged over 65 years of age are, on average, providing 1.43 million hours of care per week. This is an increase of 12% in just five years, which is placing an unfair burden on our older people.”

“I know from my constituency clinics that older people are not receiving the supports they need. As I have said in the Dáil, there is not enough home help hours, respite support, and limited access to the Fair Deal Scheme. This means that the responsibility of providing care is being passed to spouses and older relatives,” concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Government should provide Legal Aid to all those affected by Tracker Mortgage scandal says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, says the Government must do more to secure a better deal for mortgage holders from banks operating in Ireland and should provide legal aid to those who are currently in dispute with the Banks in relation to the tracker mortgage scandal.

“The latest examples of bank customers caught up in the tracker mortgage scandal, reports that profits in Banks here are three times the EU norm and the interest rates that the banks charge their customers in Ireland are the highest in the EU which are examples of the how the Banks operating here are not giving their customers fair play.”

As I said earlier this year, for example, “the interest rate on all new mortgages, fixed and variable, stood at 3.3% in June compared to a euro area rate of 1.83%. This means that a borrower with a mortgage of €200,000 is paying €250 per month more than they would be paying in the average Euro area country.”

“It appears that those that are affected by the mortgage scandal may have to go to the courts to secure fair play. If they do, then the Government should provide legal aid to them to ensure that legal fees are not an obstacle to securing what they are entitled to” stated Deputy O'Rourke after speaking on the issue in the Dáil.

“I welcome the initiative from MEP Brian Hayes to ask the EU to investigate Irish banks over tracker scandal, having made a complaint to the European Commission's Directorate-General for Competition.”

“We have been campaigning for mortgage holders, and particularly those in mortgage arrears, for some time now. Since I got elected last year, I have worked with our

Finance Spokesperson, Michael McGrath T.D, to keep a focus on their concerns. All of the instruments available to the Government and the Central Bank must now be used to address the latest bank scandals” concluded Deputy O'Rourke who spoke on the issue in Dáil Éireann this week.

FF expects progress to be made on ending pension inequality – O'Rourke

The Government is expected to make progress on reversing the 2012 pension contribution changes that resulted in nearly 35,000 people, including 25,000 women receiving reduced pension payments stated local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, at Fianna Fail's Constituency meeting in Maynooth last night.

“The Minister for Employment and Social Affairs, Regina Doherty TD, stated that she expects the Government to move on this matter, and outline a roadmap to ending this blatant discrimination. I welcome this move by Minister Doherty and the Government as I have raised this matter with the Government through our party's spokesperson and the Government have listened.”

“We have been consistent that this discrimination has to end. I have raised it after the budget and I know that it has caused hardship for thousands of people across the country and people living in Kildare.”

“We have stated that if additional funding becomes available through either day to day savings in the Department of Social Protection through further reduced unemployment or from an increased surplus in the Social Insurance Fund that priority should be given to reversing the 2012 changes.”

“This is a complex issue, and may unearth other anomalies in the pension system. However, it is an example of discrimination, and one which a fair and equal republic cannot support or sustain. Many constituents have raised the matter with me and it was raised with me at our Fianna Fail meeting in Maynooth last night” concluded O'Rourke.

Extra Capacity needed on 67 Route says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has called on Dublin Bus to increase the capacity of the outbound Route 67, as the numbers using the link between Celbridge and Maynooth increases.

“We need to increase the morning capacity of Route 67 outbound, as the number of passengers using the service between Celbridge and Maynooth increases. Route 67 provides a valuable public transport link for people living in Celbridge that are working or studying in Maynooth. I have also requested additional 67X services later in the evening from the City.”

“Last week, I received confirmation that a service that I have worked and campaigned for, namely the Orbital Route linking Naas to Blanchardstown, via Clane, Rathcoffey and Maynooth will commence early next year. We have made minor improvements on Route 115 servicing Kilcock, with more improvements on the way” stated Deputy O'Rourke.

“Since the Grand Canal Dock line opened in 2016, the number of passengers, using the Kildare line is increasing. The Kildare line has now opened up commuters to the heart of the city centre and I have called for more capacity on this line.”

“While we need to improve the services linking North Kildare Towns and the city centre as travelling by car is becoming almost impossible into the city centre, we must also improve the connectivity between the towns in North Kildare. Route 67 capacity needs increasing and I will be meeting Dublin Bus again shortly to raise this issue” concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Government's Broadband Plan needs more focus says O'Rourke

Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has said that broadband must be delivered to rural parts of Kildare as soon as possible, as he criticised the Government's lazy approach to the Broadband Rollout Plan.

“There are many locations throughout North Kildare, even within a few Kilometres of one of the world's best known IT companies, where access to Broadband is limited or even non-existent.”

“High quality broadband is crucial for small businesses, and for many families and young people where there is an increasing opportunity to work from home or a requirement to access the internet for educational needs” stated Deputy O'Rourke.

“The Government's National Broadband Plan, which was designed to assist areas that were not commercially viable, should have been in place by now. However, the National Broadband Plan will not now take place until 2019 at the earliest. This delay is indicative of this Government's dismissive attitude to the roll out of Broadband.”

“Considering the original deadline for completion of the National Broadband Plan was 2018, it's a farce that many areas across Kildare will not even see preliminary work carried out until 2019.”

“As I have said before, Broadband is not a luxury commodity – it's an essential service. Kildare County Council has a senior official appointed as a Broadband officer which I am liaising with on this important issue. This is bringing focus to the roll out of high speed broadband across the county. However, the Government needs to act on the National Roll Plan to address the gaps in the service” concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Route 139 Operator Selected for Orbital Route from Naas to Blanchardstown says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has said the campaign, which he led, to secure the new bus service from Naas to Blanchardstown via Clane, Rathcoffey and Maynooth, has been successful. The preferred bidder for Orbital Route from Naas to Blanchardstown, route 139, has been decided.

“The NTA have considered the tenders for the Orbital Bus Route 139, from Naas to Blanchardstown linking, Clane, Rathcoffey and Maynooth, and have decided on a preferred bidder, namely JJ Kavanagh Limited.”

“Since getting elected, I have campaigned to secure an orbital bus route linking the towns of Naas, Clane, Rathcoffey, Maynooth and Blanchardstown to link colleges and hospitals providing a valuable transport link for all along the route.”

“It is intended to provide nine daily return services which will be fully operational from early next year” stated Deputy O'Rourke.

“Since getting elected, I have been campaigning for an improved public transport services for commuters in North Kildare and we are making progress.

“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 and Blanchardstown have colleges 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. “ concluded Deputy O'Rourke who thanked all those who campaigned with him for this service.

Cllr Naoise Ó Cearúil - Maynooth Fianna Fáil Notes

Mobile: 086-728 0050 e-mail: cllrnaoise@gmail.com - Facebook: www.facebook.com/naoiseoceanuil

Jake's Law in Maynooth

Kildare County Council advises that it will commence the installation of Slow Zone signage in residential areas in accordance with Jake's Law. The programme will commence on November 23rd. With regard to other residential areas, the Council will continue this programme in 2018 following the assessment of areas, currently underway as part of the County Speed Limit Review. Funding to support this programme is being provided by the Department of Transport to enable the reduction of speed limits in residential areas from 50kph to 30kph

The first estates in Maynooth to receive signage are; **Maynooth Park, Railpark, Carton Court, Straffan Woods**

Update: Ring Roads around Maynooth

Maynooth Northern Orbital Route

This section will link the Moyglare Road with the Dunboyne Road.

The Rathoath MD members approved the Part 8 for this section of the Outer Orbital Route, however subsequently a Judicial Review of this decision was lodged in the Courts. No date set yet for the hearing.

Representatives for the owners/developers of the land on the Meath side of the boundary have always maintained that they will build the entire section from the Moyglare Road to the Dunboyne Road if the Judicial Review is heard in Court and the Part 8 planning approval is not overturned.

Mycette Homes have already lodged their contribution to the cost of the Kildare section of this route with KCC.

Maynooth Eastern Orbital Route and Bridge (Section 1)

This section will link the Leixlip Road with the Celbridge Road and includes a bridge crossing the Royal

Canal and the rail line.

The Minister for Housing Planning and Local Government has informed us that he is agreeable to signing a funding agreement with KCC under the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund, (LIHAF). The council is awaiting receipt of the funding agreement.

Maynooth Eastern Orbital Route and Bridge (Section 2)

This section will link the Celbridge Road with the Straffan Road.

The owner/developer of the lands which contain this link received planning approval for a residential development including the road earlier this year.

Maynooth South Western Orbital Route and Bridge

This section links the Straffan Road with the Kilcock Road and includes a bridge over the Royal Canal and rail line. No funds have been identified for this section of the Outer Orbital Route.

Second Interchange on the M4

Discussions between KCC and TII are at a very early stage in regard to the possibility of securing a second interchange on the M4.

Maynooth North South Corridor Project

Phase 4 which covers the section from the Traffic Lights at the Glenroyal Hotel through the Harbour Field and up to the Garda Station in Leinster Street commenced 6th November and is due to be completed in late February 2018.

Phase 6 which covers the section from the traffic lights on the Moyglare Road at the Kilcock Road junction out to the new school will commence detailed design within the next few weeks. The commencement of construction of Phase 6 is dependent on NTA funding.

Phase 5 which covers the section from the traffic lights on the Moyglare Road at the Kilcock Road junction to Mill Street is dependent on NTA funding.

Local works Update

- Draining works have started in Old Greenfield.
- Three ramps have been put into College Green.
- Works on upgrades to Beaufield Footpaths have commenced.
- Benches will be placed outside the Castle in the near future.
- Speed detection signs will be erected in Newtown (Rathcoffey Road) & Parklands.

Refunds from Irish Water - Information

Irish Water has launched a dedicated refunds website page water.ie/refunds

If your address has changed you must contact Irish Water on 1850 448 448 to update your details. Refunds will be made via cheque to the account holder at the address they provided to Irish Water, there's no need to contact IW.

Representations

As always if you require any personal assistance or advise, please feel free to get in touch on (086) 728 0050 or cllrnaoise@gmail.com.

Nollaig Shona

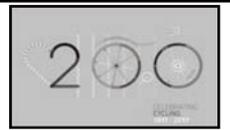
I'd like to wish everybody in the area a very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year. Thank you for all your support in 2017!

Please remember older members of our community this Christmas time.

Le meas,
Naoise



MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN



Review of Year

For the last Newsletter of the year, we look at two of the major challenges to Government for the past year and for future years - climate change and community health.

Both impact on people directly affected but also impose a financial burden on the wider community. Increased cycling will not solve these problems but will reduce their detrimental effect. Before that though, we look at the issue which concerns all cyclists and the families of cyclists – road safety. While the risks of an accident are small, the effects of an accident can be appalling.

Fatalities

2017 has been a horrendous year for cyclist fatalities – the worst for more than a decade and a 50% increase on the number in 2016. With eleven months of the year gone, there has been 14 (15) fatalities including a young woman in a collision just a few kilometres from Maynooth. The official statistics say 14 - the 15th was pushing his bike at the time of a collision with a car. In November a coalition of cyclist groups staged a major demonstration in front of Leinster House to protest at (1) lack of investment in safe cycling facilities by Government, (2) lack of enforcement of traffic regulations by the gardaí and (3) lack of support for Minimum Passing Distance Legislation. There is a lot of anger at indifference by the Government and by Shane Ross, the Minister for Transport.

Climate Change & the Citizens' Assembly

Maynooth was well represented among observers at the recent meeting of the Citizens' Assembly in Malahide which was debating Climate Change. Maynooth Cycling

Campaign was there along with representatives from Trócaire who are part of Stop Climate Chaos campaign as well as Prof John Sweeney.

On Saturday, the Assembly heard experts and discussed the issues while on Sunday the Assembly voted on thirteen motions related to climate change including three on transport :

- Sustainable transport
- Electric vehicles
- Public transport

The vote on sustainable transport was for greatly increased bus and bike lanes. The second was for increased charging points for electric vehicles. The third was for a reallocation of funding from roads to public transport.

All of the votes were carried overwhelmingly so we shall have to wait and see the response of Government.

Ireland has now become the worst performing country in Europe on the Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI). The journalist Eoin Burke Kennedy described the situation very well when he wrote:

The Government's decade of inaction is, however, finally beginning to overtake its rhetoric. In nearly every metric by which a country can be vetted on climate change, Ireland is failing.

Emissions are on the rise across all sectors; renewable-energy targets have not been met, water quality is plummeting, while cities are clogged with cars and public transport infrastructures starved of investment.

Community Health

The second major challenge to the Government is health. The Department of Health recently published the results of the 2017 Healthy Ireland Survey. Its findings include

- 36% have a normal weight, 39% are overweight and 23% are obese.
- Men are more likely to be overweight than women, with 70% of men overweight or obese, compared with 53% of women.
- The proportion that is obese rises from 9% of 15 to 24 year olds, to 32% of those aged 65 and older.
- Over a third (36%) indicate that they are trying to lose weight, 28% are trying to maintain their weight and 5% are trying to gain weight.
- The most common action taken to lose weight is doing more exercise (68%).
- Almost two-thirds (65%) of those travelling to work or education mainly travel by car.
- 73% of those whose usual journey is less than one kilometre mainly use an active form of travel (by foot or cycle). This falls to 37% for those travelling between 1 and 3 kilometres.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. Further information on meetings and activities is available on our website. We are affiliated to Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cycling Advocacy Network and through it to the European Cycling Federation. Membership is FREE. If you want to support our work, just email your contact details to maynoothcycling@gmail.com.

WING TSUN - IEWTO

Ladies & Gents

Self – Defence Class

Beginners Welcome

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



Class Times

Wednesday 8pm - 10pm

Sunday 10am - 12pm

Class Sizes Limited

Instructor

Si-Hing Barry Smith 1st HG

Contact - Barry Smith

Phone: 087 9695475

E-Mail: barrysmith265@gmail.com

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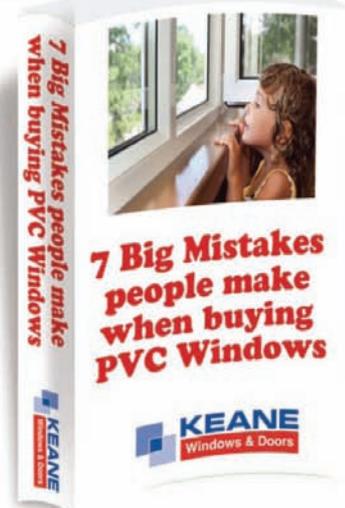
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Looking forward to seeing
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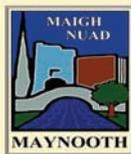
**MON/FRI - 10AM - 6PM
SAT - 10AM - 5.30PM**



M a y n o o t h N e w s l e t t e r

Copy date for the February edition of the Maynooth
Newsletter will be Tuesday 23rd January 2018

Maynooth Tidy Towns received an invitation from Kildare County Council to the County Awards in the IONTAS Building in Maynooth University on Wednesday 1st November 2017. A wonderful evening took place culminating with a certificate being presented to John Kavanagh by the Deputy Mayor of Kildare Darragh Fitzpatrick for winning our second Gold Medal.



Maynooth
Tidy Towns
Caring for our environment



Mattie Callaghan received recognition for over 30 years volunteering with Maynooth Tidy Towns.



After Christmas please recycle your tree in Kildare County Council depot yard beside the Fire Station in Leinster St. Maynooth. Also remember to recycle your bottles and cans in Glenroyal shopping centre, Tesco and Aldi after Christmas.

The WEEE Ireland Collection of electrical goods and batteries will take place on 24th March 2018 in the Tesco Shopping Car Park.

On behalf of Maynooth Tidy Towns we wish Staff and readers of Maynooth Newsletter and all who supported us a very **Happy Christmas and litter free New Year.**

Richard Farrell

PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns

Mobile no.0873153189... Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter

Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee



Our annual "Sale of Work" which took place on Nov. 19th was a huge success.

We hit the €1,000 mark which is very gratifying. All of this money will be spent in totality on our older people, in terms of winter fuel, transport, social occasions, safety and security. Many thanks to Johnny Nevin, school principal for such a great venue, to Mark Leamy, for his trojan work erecting the stage, to Sean, Paul and Jim the school caretakers for their co-operation and patience and to Frank Walsh who does all our collection and delivery. Thank you to our sponsors, Thornton's, Donovan's, Supervalu, Manor Mills, Barton's Transport and to all who helped in any way to make this day worthwhile.

Congratulations to the many people who won prizes on the day. Among the winners were: Ray Leavy, our "Monster Hamper", Claire Brannigan €200, and Theresa Hurley €100. Well done to Mary Molloy who won the 32" TV [well deserved Mary]. There were lots of winners too numerous to mention here. However, if you were not lucky on this occasion take comfort in the knowledge that you supported a great cause and that we will spend your money wisely.

Our next event is our Christmas Shopping / Party afternoon courtesy of Supervalu, which takes place on Sunday Dec. 3rd at 3pm. Our Christmas Dinner will take place on Sunday Dec. 17th at 4pm in the Glenroyal Hotel. All names should be in by Dec, 5th.

Our Morning Club will close for Christmas on Dec. 7th and will reopen on Jan. 2nd.

May I wish you all a Happy and Holy Christmas and Peace throughout 2018.

Finally, may I extend our sincere sympathy to the family of Maureen Lenehan who passed away recently. Ar Dheis De go Raibh a Anam.

Josephine Moore.

Chairperson



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Progression routes: Past students have progressed to full and part time employment, Further Education courses and Higher Education courses.

NEXT COURSE STARTS on 16th JANUARY 2018

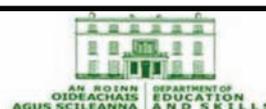
For more information ring or call in to us

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

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Soup

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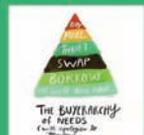
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**ZERO WASTE
MAYNOOTH**

Zero Waste Christmas

Christmas is a wonderful time of year but it can also be a wasteful time. By adopting a Zero Waste attitude to the festive season you could save yourself stress and money. One of the most stressful parts of Christmas can be finding a present for everyone. Often in the panic of needing something to wrap we buy products that have little use or

longevity. George Monbiot wrote an article called "The Gift of Death" in which he highlights the true environmental cost of the novelty gifts that get bought as stocking fillers but quickly become bin fillers.

Many advocates of Zero Waste living suggest that the focus of gifts should be put on experiences, rather than actual physical goods. Building memories and spending time together will be more special than unwrapping the latest "must have" toy or gadget.

Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Check out Groupon and similar sites for discounts on family day trips/sightseeing tours/spa breaks/etc. You could go race car driving, hot air ballooning, learn to fly or some falconry – all much more exciting than another jumper!
- Does the person have an interest in craft? Look up online lessons on Crafts.
- Give a voucher for a nights babysitting!
- Hire a cleaner for an hour or two to give busy parents a hand with the chores. Or make a coupon book full of chores you will do for them.
- If you have special skills, offer them as the present – a skilled photographer can take a family portrait, a baker could supply personalised cookies and cakes, a gardener could supply cuttings and instructions to help someone start their own garden.

Wrapping gifts shouldn't cost you much either with a little ingenuity! Use what you have already in the house.

- Gifts wrapped in newspaper with a pretty ribbon or string. Decorate with paper flowers or a piece of evergreen. You could use paper bags turned inside out instead of newspaper.
- Print on the newspaper/paper bag. Cut the design into a potato and print away. You don't have to be a kid!
- Use fabric – make simple drawstring bags out of old sheets or clothes. Or google "Furoshiki" to learn a new and beautiful way to simply wrap gifts with fabric.
- Search your house (or the charity shop) for pretty tins and boxes. The wrapping can become part of the gift.

Christmas Bucket List

1. *Be Buy-Presents*
2. *Wrap Gifts someone in a hug*
3. *Send Gifts Love*
4. *Shop For Food*
5. *Make Cookies Memories*
6. *Be See-The Lights*

Hopefully these ideas will help make Christmas less stressful and more special for you!!

Conscious Cup Campaign Update

ZWM, together with Tidy Towns, have been working on promoting the Conscious Cup Campaign to cafes in Maynooth. This topic has become even more relevant since Minister Naughten's announcement of a levy on disposable cups. It is estimated that we dispose of over 200 million of these non-recyclable cups annually. The goal of the CCC is to promote the use of reusable cups by cafes offering an incentive to those who bring their own cups. We are delighted to announce that the following cafes have jumped on board and are proudly supporting the Campaign.

Willow and Wild, L'Art du Chocolat, Emma's Place, Café Bon Bon

First Meeting Update

Many thanks to all that came to ZWM's first meeting which was held in the Community Library on Tuesday, 21st November. The meeting started off with an interesting and inspirational talk given by Timi Nicholson about starting to live a zero waste life. Timi highlighted the role of the five "R"s in living a zero waste life – refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle, rot (compost). The order of the "R"s is important – if we refuse junk mail, then we do not need to recycle. If we reduce the amount of food we waste, then we do not need to rot. For many this is a new, more conscious way of thinking about how we consume.



A display of simple zero waste swaps highlighted how easy it can be to reduce the amount of plastic that you use in your life. There was a lively discussion after the talk. It was great to see people being aware of the problem with plastic pollution and looking for ways individually and collectively that we can tackle it.



We would like to say a special thanks to Timi (simplenowastelife.com) for a wonderful talk and to the staff of the library for being such great hosts. Zero Waste Maynooth will be holding meetings and events throughout 2018.

Find us on facebook to stay informed.

Timi Nicholson who gave the talk



Comhaltas Craobh Mhaigh Nuad



Hello again, for your monthly instalment of trad-related news from your local Comhaltas Craobh Mhaigh Nuad.

October & November are a great time of year for playing music. The evenings are long, the weather is unappealing and the term lessons are in full swing, so there is lots of stuff to be practicing on.

We had a fantastic night at a gala concert to celebrate 50 years of Comhaltas Chill Dara. Each of the Craobhs around the country were represented with a mix of musicians from 5 up to (and possibly beyond;-) 50. First up were Clane, followed by Eadestown, then Leixlip, Kilcock and proceedings were wrapped up by our crew, who were joined at the end of our performance by young musicians from across the county. The branches each performed a medley of music, song and dance for 30 mins each or so, and we followed up with a roaring session afterwards.



Craobh Mhaigh Nuad performing in Kilcock GAA on 18th Nov.

Thanks to Kilcock GAA for their support of the hosting and to the Cill Dara Committee members for the organisation.

“Trad for Trocaire” took place again in Gaeilscoil Uí Fhiaich and branch members were very much to the fore in a splendid evening’s music. 5th & 6th class played a variety of tunes and they were augmented by a very able performance from Neil & the teaching staff. A lovely night of culture along with money raised for great causes worldwide. Maith sibh!

A number of Branch members were involved in the first round of Scór in Allenwood on 3rd December. For those who qualify, the Leinster Final is in Oulart, Wexford on 10th December. The results will be published by next month, so more to follow on this.

For our “Cúinne an Cheoltóra” this week, we’re chatting with Riobard “The-Squeeze” Ó’Murchú, who joined the branch 3 years ago, and is already somewhat of a Laoch.

Cúinne an Cheoltóra

Name. Riobard Ó Murchú

Age. 11

Instruments & how long have you been playing?

I started with the feadóg stáin in rang 1 in Gael Scoil Uí Fhiaich. I began to play the bosca ceoil when my teacher Dónal Ó Gradaigh a box player, introduced us to the box in 2nd class. I continued to attend classes with Dónal in 3rd class at which time he left the school.

I started with Sean Óg Tracey in CCE Maigh Nuad in 4th class. I’m still at classes with Sean Óg up to present time.

Who is the biggest influence on your musical career?

I enjoy listening to Séamus Ó Beaglaoich and Tony McMahon, my Dad plays their CDs in the car. I have also attended a Ceardlann given by Breandán Ó Beaglaoich both at Ceardlann Ceoil in Léim and Bhradáin and Ceolscoil an Earraigh in Kerry.

Who is the best musician you know?

Sean Óg Tracey in CCE Maigh Nuad and Breandán Ó Beaglaoich from West Kerry.

What do you like best about playing music?

Playing the box is great and I really enjoy performing for people, especially for dancers. The gang at Comhaltas are all really good craic and we get lots of chances for playing in sessions and in performances – like last week in Kilcock

We’d love to take on new members after the New Year, so what a nice Christmas present an instrument and some lessons would be – drop us a line if you’d like any info or advice!

Note that this year, thanks to support from KBC, our sponsor, we’ve built a decent instrument bank for those who’d like to try an instrument without a big up-front investment. In it are concertinas, accordions, fiddles, guitars and more but it’s first come, first served, so the early bird...and all that.

We’ll be popping up in all sorts of places in the run up to Christmas and our kids and adult sessions will be also running, so watch our Facebook or Twitter feeds for more information on upcoming workshops, pop-up sessions and performances. We’re usually in Maynooth GAA the last Sunday of the month, and our adult slow session runs every 2 weeks, so get in touch if you’d like to participate in these even if you’re not a branch member.

<http://www.ccemaighnuad.com/> - <http://www.facebook.com/ccemaighnuad>
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Derek Carroll, PRO, Craobh Mhaigh Nuad CCE



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Run for Oisíon - Sunday April 20th 2018



Oisín Quigley

ANAM CARA CEO Sharon Vard “One of the most intense and devastating losses is the death of a child. Whether a baby or adult child, the death of a precious son or daughter goes against the natural order of life. Sadly in Ireland over 2,000 families experience the death of a child each year.

The cause of death could be stillbirth, SIDS, an unexpected illness, suicide, SADS, road traffic collisions, drowning, or an accident in the home or farm. The intense grief resulting from such a loss is something that can only be understood by people who have experienced it. Anam Cara provides safe and comfortable settings where bereaved parents can be among others who understand and care because they know what it is like.”

ANAM CARA has ten active groups meeting regularly throughout the four provinces, hosts over 100 events annually, and in 2017 has given direct support to over 1,500 parents. All services are provided free of charge for parents following the death of a child. Anam Cara is very grateful to Gordana Quigley and our fundraisers in Maynooth for this latest initiative to raise funds for our work with bereaved mothers and fathers. Full details of how to participate in this fundraising event will appear in the February edition of the Maynooth Newsletter

THE DEATH OF A CHILD IS DEVASTATING

Anam Cara is an all-island organisation that supports bereaved parents.

www.anamcara.ie

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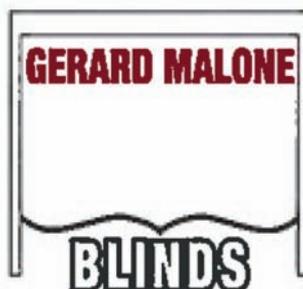
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 **The Alzheimer Café**

**Christmas Party,
Wed. December 13th 7-9pm
Leixlip Co. Kildare**

Put on your glad rags or your favourite Christmas jumper and join us to celebrate the holiday season on Wednesday December 13th in "The Conservatory", Ryevale Nursing Home, Leixlip from 7-9. Come along for the evening or drop by to learn more about the Cafe. Attendance is free of charge and there is plenty of parking available.

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**Copy date for the February edition of the Maynooth
Newsletter will be Tuesday 23rd January 2018**

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Maynooth Golf Society

Trevor Cassidy Memorial Scramble In Aid of Maynooth Senior Citizens Knockanally Golf Club 11.11.2017

Please see the results from our charity scramble in Knockanally Golf Club sponsored by The Cassidy Family, Supervalu Maynooth, McMahon's and John Gillick.

We had a great turnout of 16 teams in the end and we would have had more only for the heavy rain the night before and there were no buggies allowed so we lost a couple of teams. The course was wet underfoot but the greens were in very good condition and our winning team had 7 birdies and an eagle which would be very hard to beat in any conditions.

Thank you to all the sponsors and everyone who took part on the day.

Niall Murphy PRO - Maynooth Golf Society

1st	J. Carroll, B. Desmond, J. Thompson	66.6
2nd	L. Farrelly, P. Farrelly, N. Farrell	69.5
3rd	E. Murphy, P. Lafferty, T. Teahan	69.6
1st Ladies Team	U. Murphy, D. Glynn, Y. Murphy	
Nearest Pin	Shane Mc Bride	
Longest Drive	Derek Murray	
Ladies Longest Drive	Miriam Malone	



North Kildare Rugby - Remember Pat Geraghty at Business Lunch



Rob Casey and Ted Robinson at the NKR Lunch



Ray Feally, Stephen Rust, John Reilly (Rugby Coaches)



Denis Heneghan (president NKR) presenting Lee Mallaghan with the North Kildare Rugby Lifetime Achievement Award.



Cathy Geraghty with her daughters Sarah & Mary Kate Geraghty at the NKR Business lunch, in memory of the late Pat Geraghty



Jeff Smyth, former President of IRFU Charitable Trust and Michael (Mick) Cuddy, former president of IRFU, present 1950s cricket team photo and broken stump, to Tom Satchwell of North Kildare. Photo contains Mick Cuddy, Jeff Smyth's father and Tom Satchwell's grandfather and great grandfather.



Guests of Honour at NKR Business Lunch: Rob Casey, Gordon Darcy, Jeff Smyth, Liam Toland, Malcolm O'Kelly, Michael (Mick) Cuddy



Writers' Corner - Short Stories from Our Readers

Miss Maria

A True Story By: Patrick Dunne

Tuesday evening at about 10:30 pm I recalled the instruction as the car took me through the dark and winding back roads of North Kildare. 'Visit somewhere that you are not familiar with and record a scenic description, write a story inspired by it'... It sounded like a fun assignment but I could feel the challenge. The Pusher in my head trying to get his usual spoke in to make things more difficult. I pushed him back. I could surrender myself to the solitude of a seaside setting or maybe do a tourist thing in town, the Guinness storehouse or a museum time-out perhaps. I could get a nice story going there. "That would make the assignment too easy" The Pusher whispered a bit louder. "Take the train in the other direction like you've always wanted to do on those rush hour mornings". I turned up the volume on the Sigur Ros cd hoping he'd go away. He didn't.

"Think of the towns on that route... Kilcock, Enfield, Mullingar, Edgeworthstown. There you go! Never been to Edgeworthstown have you?" he pushed. "Oh I wonder why" I replied with a scoff. "I could write it now."

I'm standing in the rain on a street in Edgeworthstown, Co Longford, the only street in the town as far as I can see; I could be in almost any small midland town in Ireland, no character to speak of, no story to tell. It's cold, dull and the clouds are even greyer than the cracked concrete underfoot. Drab, uninspiring two-storey flat faced buildings yawn at each other across a narrow litter strewn street. Sour faced locals trudge along with heads down, sad that their bypassed town is dying. That's hardly fair now is it? And besides, it's cheating, you haven't been there". The pusher was being bossy. 'If you would study and admire her as she deserves, you must see her at home' (Sir William Hamilton)

At 10 am on Wednesday morning I googled Edgeworthstown. The first line from Longford tourism read:- A small but spirited community town located on the N4 and therefore within easy reach of many of the larger towns and counties. Hardly inspiring! The best thing about Edgeworthstown is its proximity to other places!

"Read on." The Pusher ordered.

Hang on What's this?...

The town is most famous for its association to the celebrated author Maria Edgeworth and her family. Amongst the eminent members of the Edgeworth family who first made their home here in 1583, was Richard Lovell Edgeworth, ingenious inventor and surveyor and father of 22 children, one of whom was Maria. At this point I was interested and more than a little ashamed by my earlier ignorance. I had never before associated the town with the author, there was bound to be a story attached to your man with the 22 kids and besides, after reading a brief history of her life and work, I was strangely attracted to Maria. She seemed smart, mischievous and mysterious but mindful and caring. Her written work had been admired in the past by acclaimed authors such as Jane Austen, Lord Byron and Walter Scott amongst others. She was a huge commercial success in her life time and there was a suggestion that Austen may have been a little jealous or at least influenced by and in awe of Maria. As to why things later changed may be due to Victorian attitudes at the time or a discomfort with Maria's satirical style and strong political commentary. Or perhaps it was because Maria lived in a quiet midland town in Ireland. I clicked on a link to the dedicated and professionally presented website of the Edgeworth's Society. I spent the next two hours reading about Edgeworthstown, the fascinating Edgeworth family history and about Maria and her writings; intriguing, varied and much more extensive than her famed novel 'Castle Rackrent'. The annual literary festival and historical town walking tour notes

caught my attention. There were also references of associations with the town to Oliver Goldsmith, Oscar Wilde and others.

Wilde's sister Isola died from meningitis just 2 weeks short of her 10th birthday while on an extended stay with her aunt and uncle in the town. Her aunt was her father's sister and was married to Rev. William Noble. They lived in the rectory in the town and Isola often visited with them. Wilde, deeply saddened by his sister's passing, later wrote the beautiful poem, **Requisat**, in her memory.

To prepare him for college, Goldsmith was sent to school in Edgeworthstown under the supervision of Rev. Patrick Hughes. Although not factually confirmed, it is likely that he resided in the rectory during that time.

Reports suggest that Oliver was not a brilliant student, even a little careless at times.

Maria lived from 1768 until 1849 at a time when it was not considered appropriate to educate women in the same way or to the same level as men. Not only did she overcome that barrier but she sought, helped to fund and worked towards the development of children's education both locally and further afield through her writings. Her early work '**Practical Education**' written with support from Richard is an innovative and progressive theory of education for young children.

I spotted a phone number for further information. I rang without stopping to think... To the friendly female voice that answered I must have sounded like an excited child asking for Christmas. In one breath I mentioned; Creative writing course, scenic description, railway line, Maria Edgeworth, Edgeworthstown, History, Goldsmith, Wilde, walking tour and festival. The two seconds of silence before I got a reply was long enough for me to question my own sanity. "Are you interested in the town or Maria Edgeworth's work?" the response was welcome but I didn't know the answer. "Both" I said and I made - a chancing my arm face. "We'll ring you back" said the friendly voice...

Ten minutes later the phone rang "Matt Farrell works full time but he would be delighted to meet you for an hour some morning this week. Just let us know when you are coming." She said enthusiastically.

My short walk around by Maynooth college seminary campus and on to the train station the following morning was interrupted as The Pusher popped in again. "Well isn't that working out grand now. Your prejudice and ignorance are fixed, you'll go down, meet the locals, see the town and rewrite that horrible paragraph of putrid perception you had of the town" Well yes, that's the plan... I thought. "And they all lived happily ever after" he scorned. "These people were protestant English landlords, at a time of poverty and famine. She may have been a talented author who supposedly loved her tenants and indeed she wrote a satirical novel or two about English land holders. As for her father, he may have been a kind-hearted inventor who encouraged the peasants to improve themselves. But they both made sure that the rent was coughed up and they watched as thousands took to coffin ships on the Atlantic. I'm sure the locals would have liked to have had time and the ability to write stuff and your man with the 22 kids probably never tended to a child in his life"... The Pusher was being really annoying.

"Coming back today?" The ticket seller in Maynooth train station asked. "Yes, unless I get a better offer" I joked. "That'll be €9.70 for a day return to Edgeworthstown. Try the Goldsmith Inn" he smiled. It was 9 a.m. and one degree Celsius in a damp haze. The near platform was crowded with coated commuters cupping Costa coffees and heading to the city. Even though my dodgy knees had to carry me up the slippery steps and across the bridge, I was happy to be heading the other way. 'Iarmoid Eireann Platform 2 Westbound Trains', the sign said.

I was met at Edgeworthstown train station by Mary, a community development worker and the friendly voice from the phone. Petite, friendly and with short dark hair, I wondered if Mary was a distant relative of Maria. She had taken personal time from her day to collect me and bring me to the community office which is also the location of the old school house. She told me that it was originally funded and developed by Maria Edgeworth and her family and dates from 1840; it is one of the oldest school buildings in the country. I noticed that she called her Maria with the I sounding like an I and not an E. I didn't argue, I just corrected my pronunciation and fell even more deeply for Maria. Matt Farrell, a local historian, greeted me with a smile and a warm handshake. Matt is the proud and deserved holder of the prestigious title '**Ireland's Heritage Hero**'. He is also responsible for the establishment of the Edgeworthstown district development association and the Edgeworth Society. We took a walk and commenced an historical tour of the town.

We started, strangely I thought, at the Catholic Church; but it is the proximity of the church to the gate lodge of Edgeworthstown house and the residence of the sitting Landlords across the road that is significant. That closeness was most unusual in Irish country towns. The fact that the Edgeworth's donated land and helped fund the original building on the same site is also noteworthy.

The main house itself, now a care home, is still in place and the gate lodge with its fancy open cast iron front porch has been carefully preserved and is close to its original state. It was also heart-warming to see the old garden, which Maria had tended and loved throughout her lifetime, still fully intact, loved and ready for spring. All these sights and the slow stroll in between brought questions from me and answers from Matt. His words flowed with ease, his pride, love and knowledge of the town's unique history were infectious. We sauntered on through the garden, the wooden archway and towards the Rectory. The old Rectory is a three storey, three bay building and dates from 1735. It is now a mini museum to the Edgeworth family and the town's other connections to literary and cultural history. There are portraits, artefacts and furniture from the old house, Matt proudly read aloud Maria's two page hand written note of her father's will as dictated to her from his death bed. Upstairs is Isola Wilde's bedroom, preserved as it would have been at the time of her death.

I chatted with Matt about Maria and her father Richard Lovell. Their works and creativity, their connection with local people, their charity and local care, their role in local education, the relationship between the two all came up for discussion. We spoke about Maria's endless efforts in 1847 to relieve the stress and seek relief for the starving victims of the Great Hunger. I heard the story about the aid package from America that found its way to Maria addressed simply; Miss Maria, Ireland.

I still had a niggling question: Was the love between the Edgeworth's and the local tenants a true and mutual thing or is it a sort of fudged up nice history story? Matt's answer came naturally.

In 1798 during the rebellion against British rule in Ireland the Edgeworth's had fled the country for fear of their lives. A band of rebels supported by French soldiers arrived one night with intention to destroy their home and property. They were met at the gate of the house by locals and other Irish workers from the estate. The house was left unharmed and the rebels retreated.

"And the town name, has there ever been any attempt or pressure to change it?" I asked. Officially the town name was changed to Mostrim in 1949 but nobody knew where that was. There were stories of parcels and post remaining in the GPO for weeks undelivered, of confused train passengers wondering where this new

(Continued on page 23)



Writers' Corner - Short Stories from Our Readers (Cont.)

(Continued from page 22)

town came from.

There was obviously no great desire or intention from the local people to change it, so it went back to being Edgeworthstown. We visited the old graveyard at St. Johns Church of Ireland. An iron railing guards the grey stone vault of the Edgeworth family, old faded grave stones stand in solemn support around it and the old church building. Inscribed on Isola Wilde's restructured and preserved stone are lines from Oscar's famous poem. We talked about the church spire and Richard's innovation regarding it's build on the ground and subsequent elevation to position. This and other work of his, including the first installation of central heating in a private house in Ireland, his extensive survey of the local bog land, used by Bord Na Mona 100 years later, and his work as an M.P in Grattan's government must have kept him busy. Hardly much time to tend to his children, I thought.

In her lifetime Maria had a mother and 3 stepmothers, one step mother was the first step mother's sister and 2 of them were younger than her. With 21 siblings and half siblings it was a busy home and Maria was central to it. She also helped manage her father's affairs, regarded herself as his secretary and had a firm but fair

relationship with the tenants. She dealt with them directly for the most part and she encouraged them to help themselves through self-development and innovation. Like her father she was supportive of Catholic emancipation and also of the Union but only when the majority of Irish people were in favour of it. Maria was a sensitive woman with a caring and charitable nature. She was regarded as Anglo-Irish, a sort of betwixt and between, resident in Ireland but from Britain.

She had no barriers to race or religious beliefs and did not hold the stereotypical 'muck savage' view of many of her peers towards the local Irish tenant. As a landholder she had access to and conversed equally with upper-class aristocracy and the Irish, so called, peasants. She invited and hosted many visitors, both local and from abroad to her home. She believed in and supported the equal rights of all the Crown subjects. The bronze figure of Maria Edgeworth welcomes all visitors at the entrance to the town that bears her family name. Petite and pensive and with book in hand she strolls from her library, her long flowing dress gently brushes the grass outside. She guards the new growth of yellow daffodils and white snow drop spring flowers in

her little garden. The traffic island that bears her name feeds passing motorists away from the town's main street. It's a street that is unusually broad, open and unhindered. It curves it's way gently around to the original gate lodge residence of her family home and the neighbouring Gothic style Catholic church.

The pathways are quiet and the road is free from fuming exhausts, a farmer has parked his tractor outside one of the pubs. A mix of old and new buildings, of crafted brickwork and colours, yellow, purple, blue, red, black and white face each other across a tidy street. Young mixed flowers gently wave from hanging baskets along the way. 'The Maria Edgeworth Café' and 'The Goldsmith Inn' remind visitors of the unique history of this small sleepy town in Midland Ireland.

As I took to the train back home I reflected on Maria's vision without impairment, her love without barriers, her drive without obstacles, her wonderful written work and her caring hospitable nature.

Almost 250 years after she was born her spiritual invitation to visit her home town, learn of its history and meet its wonderful people had repaired the prejudiced views and misconceptions of an uninformed visitor.

Thank you Maria.

Swimming at The Great Barrier Reef By Patrick G. Nerney

It was 7.20am when my wife, Iris, and I arrived at the Cairns Reef Terminal Building to check-in for our trip to The Great Barrier Reef, roughly 40 miles out from the coast of Queensland, but at least twice that distance if a ship doesn't sail directly east. There is an Inner Reef also, composed of separate coral ridges and islands, but the outer one is more spectacular and has a greater variety of fish. Unusually for the Australian autumn, the weather was showery and we feared that the voyage might be cancelled, but we needn't have worried. When we walked to the harbour where the white, twin-hulled catamaran, the Silverswift, was berthed there was already a crowd waiting on the pier, most of them young and fit looking, some of the men with attractive Asian girlfriends. Possibly because I looked to be well past the snorkelling age, a young man whose family came from Rome chatted with us and introduced us to his Chinese girlfriend. All the passengers seemed eager to get started.

Finally, we were allowed to board. A man took our photos on the upper deck, for later sale - or, possibly, for identification purposes should we go missing - then we handed over our receipt and were given an information leaflet. Next, we descended to a lower level. This was divided into two sections, a dressing area at the back that had metal racks for scuba diving and snorkeling paraphernalia, as well as a toilet, and a forward area furnished with fixed benches and tables, a video screen, food counter and a galley. There was also a downstairs area with more seating, a toilet and changing room. One of the crew distributed lycra suits according to our size - these were meant to protect us from jellyfish and sunburn - and we folded them together with compact lifejackets, flippers, a mask and snorkel into a bundle, which we placed on the metal rack for later use. Many of the fellows were now in bathing shorts, their svelte girlfriends in bikinis. We found a seat at a table in the forward area, which we shared with some Chinese people, and at 8.35 a.m. set sail. Before long the motion of the ship ploughing headlong through the rough sea was making Iris seasick and I even felt a little queasy myself.

A bearded man, probably the captain, counted us, and this procedure was repeated later. While Iris kept her gaze fixed firmly ahead, I looked out the window at the occasional wooded islands we passed or concentrated on the video screen showing colourful, exotic fish

swimming about the reef. Ryan, a sturdy, middle-aged member of the crew, now gave a talk to passengers planning to scuba dive. He kept emphasizing safety, pointing out that by swimming fast they would quickly use up the oxygen in their tanks, and if they surfaced too rapidly they would get the bends. He would accompany them in their dives. At one point, he told Iris and me that his ancestors were 'pig stealers from Meath', though his father's people came from Tyrone! He also humorously described a colleague as speaking 'Chinglish'! There was obviously a good rapport between crewmembers, many of them Asian.

By this time I was wondering how I would fare with the snorkeling, having, unlike Iris, neglected to practice in our local swimming pool. At eighty years of age I was the oldest person on board and hadn't ventured into the water for a few summers. Nevertheless, I was determined to have a go. Eventually, the Silverswift halted and was moored by tying two cables to floats anchored on the sea bottom. After a short wait we headed to the back section to don our lycra suits, which were damp from previous use. Now a problem arose when Iris got seasick and vomited into one of the paper bags provided for such occurrences, but ever the sportswoman, she decided to carry on.

Getting into the lycra suits and donning the lifejackets, masks and snorkels was awkward but eventually we succeeded. The stern was now open, with a large, hydraulic platform lowered to facilitate entry into the water. Directly ahead, a line of white surf showed where the sea was washing over the partially submerged reef. Making our way to wide, metal steps just above the water surface, we sat down, pulled on the heavy flippers and closed our teeth on the snorkel ends, remembering to breathe through our mouths. I lowered myself into the pleasantly cool waves and struck out from the ship. Kai, a young crewmember from Taiwan, seeing me floundering around, told Iris that because of the direction I had taken I would end up in Papua New Guinea! He swam out and helped me back to the ship. Now Iris was ready to join me.

When we were both in the water, Kai gave us bright, spongy buoyancy tubes to place around our chests, the ends projecting above our backs. We mustn't have appeared too competent, however, because he swam out to us with a rectangular, plastic float, which he pulled by an attached rope. We held onto the float with our hands, while looking through our masks at the underwater scene. There's no doubt the experience lived up to expectations, shoals of exotic, brightly coloured fish

swimming above the flat, sandy bottom or venturing to the surface to investigate the strange, two-legged intruders. There were no reef sharks, stingrays or conger eels to be seen.

Breathing through my mouth was proving more awkward than anticipated and before long I had swallowed two mouthfuls of water. Since Iris was feeling unwell, we both indicated to Kai that we had enough and he steered us back to the ship, where, upon getting to the dressing area, Iris vomited again. I was now faced with the dilemma of staying on board with her or venturing once more into the water. On impulse, I stripped off my flippers, goggles, lifejacket and lycra suit, then clad only in an ancient, brief swimsuit and ignoring the possibility of jellyfish encounters, I struck out from the ship. What an experience that was! Here I was doing the breast stroke in The Coral Sea, watching another white ship moored further out, hardly a cloud in the vast sky. This was freedom, the rediscovery of my youthful days at Salthill, Rockaway and Jones Beach! Gradually, it dawned on me that I was some distance from the Silverswift and it might be dangerous to overtax myself. On heading back, however, I found that I was making little progress. Was the tide carrying me further away from safety? While my arms seemed strong enough, my legs had lost their power. Forcing myself to remain calm, I kept swimming towards the ship. Would I make it or would I join the shoals of exotic fish down beneath me? Now and then I half-swallowed a mouthful of water. After what seemed an eternity, I drew near the metal steps and Kai helped me to clamber onto them. I was safe!

Drying myself and dressing in my street clothes, I sought out Iris in the inner area. She was still feeling sick and had no desire to join me in partaking of the self-service lunch provided. The Asian cook, no doubt noting the leather elbow patches on my well-worn jacket and my somewhat disheveled appearance, asked if I was a professor. I assured him I wasn't and carried my tasty meal back to the table. It was, I felt, a treat I had earned. Meanwhile, outside our window a turtle was swimming laboriously on the surface, almost as if replicating my own less-than-Olympian exploit. On the video screen the colourful denizens of the reef were still swimming in never-ending, leisurely curves, as if reminding me of what the scuba divers and snorkellers were now enjoying. There would be stops at two other reef sites before we headed back to Cairns but I felt that I had accomplished what we had set out to do, I had actually swum at that threatened natural wonder, The Great Barrier Reef.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth

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

Information is also available online at www.citizensinformation.ie and from the Citizens Information Phone Service - 0761 07 4000 or Lo-call 1890777121

Online shopping and import charges

Question

I want to do some of my Christmas shopping on American websites. What are the rules about VAT and customs duties when shopping outside the EU?

Answer

You are importing goods if you buy goods from abroad online or from a mail order catalogue, or if you get goods that are sent as a gift from abroad. In general, when goods are imported into Ireland from a country outside of the EU, they become liable to import charges. These include VAT, customs duty and excise or other duties where relevant. In some cases, you can get relief from import charges.

If someone sends you a gift from outside the EU, and it is valued at under €45, you do not have to pay customs duty or VAT. To qualify for this relief, the gift must be of an occasional nature and sent from one private individual to another.

You can buy some goods from outside the EU up to a value of €22 without paying VAT. The value is calculated on the full value of the item, plus postage and duties. This is also the value that is used to calculate VAT, if it is payable.

If you buy goods from outside the EU valued at more than €150, you will have to pay customs duty as well. Customs duty is normally calculated as a percentage of the full value of the goods including the cost of postage, packaging and insurance. VAT, customs duty and excise duty are always charged on excisable products (such as alcohol, tobacco and perfume) from outside the EU, whatever their value.

All packages received from outside of the EU require a customs declaration, which is usually completed by the sender. The declaration should include a description of the goods, the value and whether they are gifts or commercial items. Some websites offer to undervalue your goods to avoid import charges. This is illegal. You, as the importer of the goods, are responsible for ensuring that the information provided is accurate and that all duties and taxes are paid. Some websites may also promise delivery from within the EU, which would eliminate any import charges, but are in fact shipping their products from outside the EU. If this is the case, you are liable to duties and VAT.

Opening a bank account

Question

My bank is insisting I must prove my identity to open a new account, even though I already have an account with them. What is required to open a bank account?

Answer

Under laws to prevent money laundering, there are minimum requirements you must meet to prove your identity when opening a bank account. These apply even if you already have an account with the same bank. You cannot use the same document to prove both your identity and your address.

You can prove your identity by producing one of the following:

- Valid photographic identification in the form of a passport or driving licence.
- A National Age Card (issued by An Garda Síochána).
- An identification form with a photograph signed by a member of An Garda Síochána.
- A document issued by a Government department showing your name. This must be verified by a person in a position of responsibility who will come to the bank with you and bring proof of their own identity. Check with the bank who they will accept as a person in a position of responsibility.

In addition, you will need one of the following as proof of address:

- A current utility bill (such as a bill for gas, electricity, phone or TV).

- A current car or home insurance policy with your address.
- A document issued by a Government department that shows your address.
- A list of your tax credits or a current balancing statement (P21) or a C2 certificate from the Revenue Commissioners.
- A social insurance document that shows your address.
- A letter from your employer or licensed employment agency to say that you have recently arrived in Ireland and started work but cannot provide evidence of your address here yet. This evidence will have to be submitted later.

If you have a problem opening an account and you cannot resolve it with the bank, you can make a complaint. If you are not happy with the bank's response to your formal complaint, you can complain to the Financial Services Ombudsman.

Better Energy Homes Scheme

Question

Our heating bills are quite high because our house is difficult to heat. Is there a grant available to improve the insulation?

Answer

The Better Energy Homes Scheme provides grants to homeowners to improve energy efficiency in their homes. It is also available to landlords and owners of more than one property. The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) administers the scheme.

You can use the Home Energy Self Survey on the SEAI website to identify areas in your home that could be improved to increase energy efficiency. You can also get a Building Energy Rating (BER) done if you are uncertain about your energy-saving options or what work to get done first.

Grants are available for roof insulation, wall insulation, upgrade of heating controls, high-efficiency boiler installation and solar heating. You can also get a grant to have a BER done after the energy-saving work is carried out.

To qualify for a grant, you must: own a dwelling built before 2006; use a contractor from SEAI's registered list; use newly fitted materials and products; have work done that complies with the required standards; have a BER carried out **after** the works are done and use a BER assessor from SEAI's National Register. You must have grant approval before you buy materials or start work.

Grants for qualifying measures range from a maximum of €300 for attic or cavity wall insulation to a maximum of €4,500 for external wall insulation on a detached house. Grants are paid after the work is completed and you have paid your contractor.

If you get three qualifying measures done, a bonus of €300 is payable on top of the grants. (A BER doesn't count as a measure for this bonus.) A further €100 is payable on completion of a fourth measure. See seai.ie for full details of grants and bonuses.

If you are also claiming a tax credit under the Home Renovation Incentive, the amount of expenditure that qualifies for the credit will be reduced. You can contact SEAI at 1850 927 000 or info@betterenergyhomes.ie.

Complaints about health and social care professionals

Question

How can I find out whether a particular health and social care professional is regulated? I'm not happy with my treatment and I would like to make a complaint.

Answer

CORU is the regulator for health and social care professionals. It sets standards that practitioners must meet and maintains and publishes a register of practitioners who meet those standards. This register is currently under development.

The system of statutory registration will eventually apply to 15 professions, regardless of whether the practitioner works in the public or private sector or is self-employed. CORU also handles complaints about the fitness to practise of registered practitioners – for example, complaints of professional misconduct or poor professional performance.

Currently, the registers for the following professions are in effect:

- Dietitians
- Dispensing opticians
- Occupational therapists
- Optometrists
- Physiotherapists
- Radiographers and radiation therapists
- Social workers
- Speech and language therapists

You can make a complaint to CORU about a practitioner registered in one of these areas. You can check the registers at coru.ie. Once all registers are open they will also include clinical biochemists, medical scientists, orthoptists, podiatrists, psychologists and social care workers.

You can get further information about the fitness to practise complaints process on the website coru.ie. To make a complaint about a registered practitioner, you need to download and complete the Fitness to Practise Complaint Form. For information about how to make a complaint about practitioners of health and social care professions that are not regulated by CORU, see the website, healthcomplaints.ie.

Christmas Bonus December 2017

Question

I am getting a social welfare payment. Will I get a Christmas Bonus this year?

Answer

The Christmas Bonus is paid to people getting a long-term social welfare payment. Long-term social welfare payments include the following:

- State Pensions and Widow's/Widower's/Surviving Civil Partner's Pensions
- Invalidity Pension, Blind Pension, Disability Allowance, Carer's Allowance, Carer's Benefit, Domiciliary Care Allowance and Guardian's Payments
- Jobseeker's Transitional payment, One-Parent Family Payment, Farm Assist, Deserted Wife's Benefit and Allowance
- Community Employment, Rural Social Scheme, Tús, Gateway, Back to Work Enterprise Allowance and Job Initiative
- Back to Education Allowance (BTEA), VTOS and Further Education and Training (FET) training allowance (people coming from jobseeker's payments must have been on their payment and/or BTEA or VTOS or FET training allowance for 15 months)

For Jobseeker's Allowance (JA) or Basic Supplementary Welfare Allowance (BSWA), you must be getting the payment for 15 months to get a Christmas Bonus. However, if you were getting another payment eligible for the Christmas Bonus immediately before claiming JA or BSWA, and your combined time on the eligible payments is 15 months, you will get the Christmas Bonus.

In 2017, the Christmas Bonus will be 85% of your normal weekly payment (including the Living Alone Increase, the Island Allowance and the Over-80 Increase). Fuel Allowance is not included when calculating the Christmas Bonus. The minimum Christmas Bonus payment is €20.

For Domiciliary Care Allowance (DCA), which is paid monthly, the bonus is 85% of the **weekly** payment. The DCA portion of the bonus is calculated independently of other payments. So, for example, if you are getting full-rate DCA for one child, 85% of the weekly payment is €60.70.

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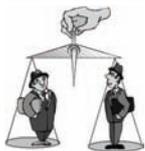
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**The Copy Date for the February Edition of the Maynooth
Newsletter is Tuesday 23rd January 2018**

Maynooth Monthly Diary Planner

Community Library	Maynooth Multiple Births	Bridge Club
<p>Opening Times Mondays & Fridays 2pm to 5pm Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm to 8pm Wednesday 9.30am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm Sat 9.30am to 1pm</p>	<p>Maynooth Multiple Births playgroup (twins triplets or more) meets the last Thursday of the month in Leixlip library between 10 & 12 noon. This is a great opportunity to meet parents just like you. For further details email: maynoothmultiplebirthclub@gmail.com</p>	<p>Open for new members. If you would like to play in a friendly club with purpose-built facilities in the centre of Maynooth, please see our website at maynoothbridgeclub.com. Contact Katherine Cooney 086 8205910</p>
I.C.A.	MAYNOOTH LOCAL HISTORY GROUP	Arthritis Ireland
<p>Monthly meetings take place every 1st Thursday of the month at 8.00pm in the I.C.A. Hall in the Harbour. Crafts every Monday night at 8.00pm. New members welcome</p>	<p>Maynooth Local History Group Meets Last Thursday of each Month in the Maynooth Community Space (Tesco Shopping Centre) New Members Welcome Contact: MCC Office for more details</p>	<p>Arthritis Ireland Walking Group (Maynooth) Meeting Mondays 12 - 2pm in the Maynooth Community Space</p>
University of Third Age (U3A)	Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group	Maynooth Men's Sheds
<p>Weekly meetings on Friday at 11am in Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth New Members Welcome Contact Ger : 0874133505</p>	<p>Every Thursday from 9.30am to 11.30pm Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth</p>	<p>Weekly meetings take place every Wednesday at 11am at the Maynooth Lodge Fisheries Dunboyne Road Maynooth. For further details contact John Fleming - 087 2041334</p>
Maynooth Tidy Towns	ALZHEIMER CAFÉ LEIXLIP	Maynooth Community Church
<p>Volunteers required to help with this work. Contact Number 087 3153189 Meet every Saturday at 10.00am in the Square</p>	<p>Informal café atmosphere for people with Dementia & their partners family & friends. Free of charge. Venue Ryevale Nursing Home. Every second Wednesday of each month 7-9pm. Call 0894933533 Email: alzheimercafeleixlip@gmail.ie www.alzheimercafeleixlip.com</p>	<p>1st Floor Manor Mills (entrance next to Chill) Service times every Sunday morning from 10.30am www.maynoothcc.org Everyone most welcome</p>
Maynooth Senior Citizens	Craobh Mhaigh Nuad C.C.E.	ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND
<p>Our morning club continues on Tuesday and Thursday and new members are always welcome. Perhaps you are new to the parish or new to the age bracket, why not come along you might enjoy it. You will find us in the Geraldine Hall on Leinster St, or contact Josephine on 087 9002296.</p>	<p>Classes are held on Wednesday 7pm to 9.30pm in Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road. Our classes are very good value, great fun and we promise you plenty of craic also !!. Bígí linn!!! Contact Sean at 086 2225540 or email craobhmaighnuad@gmail.com.</p>	<p>Rehearsals are held in the Band Hall on Pound Lane each Monday night (except Bank Holidays) from 7.45pm to 9.30pm and musicians living in Maynooth and the surrounding areas are most welcome. E-mail: sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie Website: www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie</p>

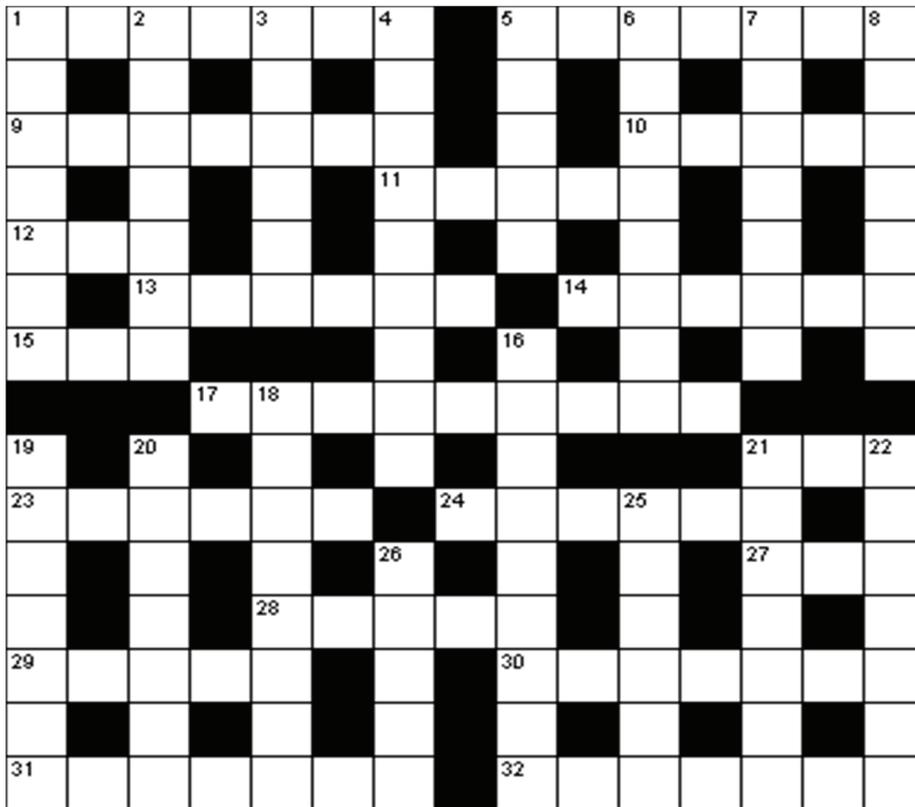
Diary entries are published free of charge for all Community Groups. E-mail details of your event before the copy date (2nd last Tuesday of each month) to be included in the next months edition. E-mail: office@maynoothcc.com. Phone: 01-6285922
 (The content of the Monthly Planner Diary is published in good faith. All details should be checked with groups)

Clues Across

1. Provide with new housing (7)
5. Ambitious (7)
9. Rather tall (7)
10. Become liable for (5)
11. Choose (5)
12. Uncooked (3)
13. Spain and Portugal (6)
14. Become sad (6)
15. Container used for cooking (3)
17. Water fallen as rain (9)
21. Nevertheless (3)
23. Flowering shrub of the genus Rhododendron (6)
24. Small stone (6)
27. Meadow (3)
28. Keyboard instrument (5)
29. First prime minister of India (5)
30. Personal view (7)
31. Strategic withdrawal (7)
32. Systematically arranged body of facts (7)



December /Jan 18 Crossword - No. 464



Clues Down

1. Device for catching rats (3,4)
2. Fool (4-3)
3. Incomparable (6)
4. Book of the New Testament (9)
5. Card game (5)
6. Piece of luggage (8)
7. Enclose (7)
8. Republic in central Europe (7)
16. Resembling a cavern (9)
18. Tavern (8)
19. Person who drives a wagon (7)
20. Hearing distance (7)
21. Inhabitant of Belgium (7)
22. Learner (7)
25. Two-piece bathing suit (6)
26. Heron (5)



Answers to Crossword No 463



Special Prize Book Voucher

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

The Maynooth Bookshop
68 Main Street,
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Entries in before: Tuesday 23rd January 2018

Name: _____

Address: _____

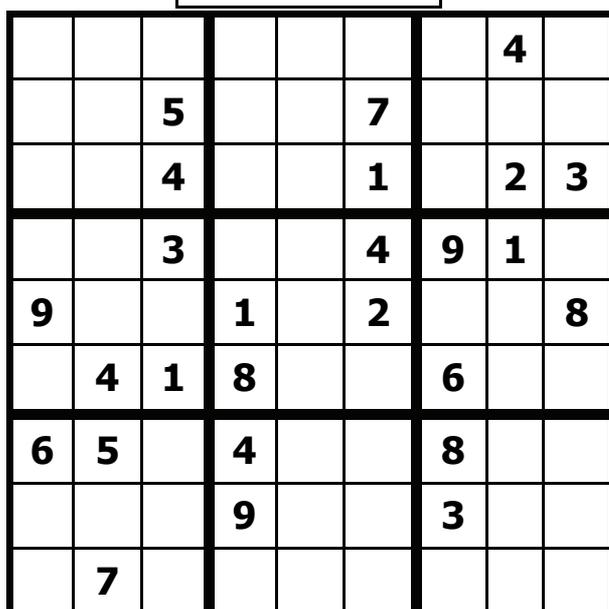
Phone: _____

Winner of Crossword No. 463 November
Phyllis Stewart
Rockfield Green

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

Collect prize from
The Maynooth Bookshop
68 Main Street, Maynooth

Difficult



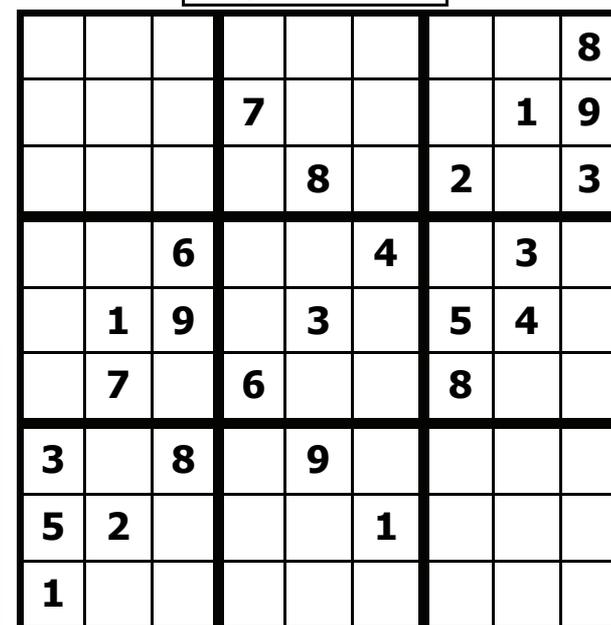
Sudoku Challenge DEC/JAN 2018

Entries must arrive before:
23rd January

Congratulations to November Winner:
Michael Bowie
Parklands Square

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

Super Difficult



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

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Address: _____

Phone: _____



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



Name: _____

Age: _____

Address: _____

Phone No: _____

Last Month's Winner:

**Tess Liffey
 The Drive
 Straffan Wood**

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 23rd January 2018

Junior Puzzle Corner

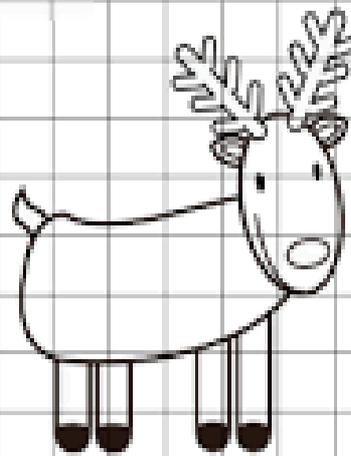
Christmas Word Search

P	H	O	H	O	H	O
Q	S	T	R	E	E	W
G	A	S	C	W	W	B
U	N	T	O	Y	F	O
L	T	A	L	J	U	W
C	A	R	D	Y	N	F
N	G	N	L	E	L	F

- HOHOHO
- SANTA
- STAR
- TREE
- CARD
- COLD
- ELF
- BOW
- FUN
- TOY



Copy the Reindeer-then Colour In



Editorial

Being the December/January edition we are tempted to both look backward on 2017 and forward to 2018 at the same time. Also thinking about all our readers who will have your own thoughts on the year going out and your hopes for 2018. For those that have suffered a personal loss in 2017, particularly the loss of a loved one, we hope that you will have the support of this community at this time of year. Maynooth has grown to be a relatively large town but in neighbourhoods there is still a great sense of community and support for each other. For those looking forward to a happy event in 2018, we hope that your expectations are met and if it is a new baby that both your family and the wider community share in your joy.

I think that it is now safe to say that as a community we have evidence that there are more people at work and the majority of families are finally in a position to put the decade of recession behind them. The evidence in Maynooth is certainly the large increase in traffic volumes. It doesn't seem to matter what time of day that you choose to travel across Maynooth but you will be in a long traffic queue. We need to push forward and look

for the delivery of the planned ring road systems around the town. One obvious problem is the turning right lane from the Straffan Road to Main Street. Have you noticed that the turning left lane is often clear of traffic but the turning right lane is backed up past the entrance to the Glenroyal Centre? Where is this traffic going to and is there a better route that could be developed. Still on traffic the Moyglare Road has queues coming to the junction at the church of over a kilometre for much of the day. I witness it from just after 7am on a weekday morning to 7pm in the evening. Yes, there is a plan for a ring-road, but when will it be delivered?

Of course the progress being made on the building of the two new Post-Primary schools also in Moyglare is very welcome. This project is well behind the original expected delivery but now it is planned that these buildings will be occupied by early 2019. Let's hope that the two new buildings for the Primary schools will start in 2018. There was great news in 2017 with Maynooth Educate Together and St. Mary's Boys schools getting planning approval for replacement school buildings. While St. Mary's Boys school is getting a building to replace the existing one, Maynooth Educate Together has been approved to double their number of

school places so will be able help to offer places to meet the demand from the new housing being built in Maynooth.

It is likely that the future development needs of Maynooth will be reviewed by Kildare County Council in 2018. While many checks and balances exist in the process there is no substitute for feedback from the community. The rezoning stage is where the key decisions are made and it is difficult to influence developments at the planning application stage. Good developments are very self-evident and should be supported but it is legitimate to raise concerns about proposals that need serious consideration. Elsewhere in this publication there is evidence that the risk of flooding cannot be ignored.

Of course this time of the year there is a chance of snow to add to the Christmas atmosphere. Regardless of a white Christmas or not, can I wish you on behalf of the staff of the Maynooth Newsletter a very happy Christmas and new year. Remember to take care of each other at this time of year.

Paul Croghan - Editor

PUBLIC STATEMENT

By Board of Maynooth Community Council clg.

The Board of Maynooth Community Council clg finds it necessary, at this time, to clarify the company's position in relation to the community forum that is Maynooth Community Council in order to address the confusion which exists within the general community of Maynooth on this subject.

In late 2000, regulation changes introduced by FÁS compelled CE Scheme sponsors to form Limited Companies in order to continue operating such Schemes. Maynooth Community Council, which had been operating a Scheme since 1985, felt that, as a community forum, this was not something they felt comfortable engaging with.

When eight community activists then came together to form Maynooth Community Council Limited, the Council made over control of their Scheme to the new company in order to ensure the continued publication of the Maynooth Newsletter and staging of the St. Patrick's Day Parade and Summer Festival events.

In the intervening years Maynooth Community Council

Ltd (now designated a clg) extended the scope of the Community Employment Scheme to provide training and employment experience for the unemployed in other spheres of activity. These additional operations include Canal and Harbour area maintenance, grounds maintenance for Maynooth Town Football Club and management of the Maynooth Community Space.

Maynooth Community Council clg co-existed seamlessly with Maynooth Community Council until, at the end of last year, divisions arose within the membership of that forum relating to its role in the running of the Community Employment Scheme. The polarisation of views and opinions, and lack of understanding of the legal standing of the Company, led to confusion and damaging comments and actions, by some members of that forum.

Legal opinion was sought by the company to bring clarity to the situation for all involved.

That Legal Opinion states clearly, that the forum, Maynooth Community Council, and the company, Maynooth Community Council clg, are two distinct and separate entities.

Maynooth Community Council clg has managed one of the most successful Community Employment Schemes in Ireland. It is lauded by the Department of Social Protection as the model to be followed.

Over 400 participants have been employed to date on this Scheme with 16 people currently employed.

The current board, which was appointed in July 2017, is committed to building on the success of past administrations and to driving the Company forward towards new goals.

The Board outlined the details of their plans to the members of the Company at their AGM on 27th November 2017. The aims include; increasing the number of Scheme participants to facilitate the expansion of the Company's activities, and the attaining of charitable status from the Charities Regulator.

Maynooth Community Council clg strives at all times to meet its responsibilities to its employees, and to protect, maintain and manage, the services delivered by it, for the benefit of the community of Maynooth.

The Board - Maynooth Community Council clg

My name is Daniela Roze Kutischev. I am a ballroom and Latin-American dancer from Maynooth. I have been dancing since I was 5 and representing Ireland at international dance sport competitions since the age of 10. As I am nearly 19 now I have been fortunate to bring back home some important achievements throughout the years including the International Juvenile Latin-American champion's title and British Open Juvenile Latin-American champion's, British Open Junior Latin-American silver medalist's and Jive champion's titles among others. (British Open Championships is the World's most prestigious ballroom and Latin-American Dance competition.)

With my current dance partner who is a former Russian and World Latin-American Champion we have been representing Ireland in the Youth category for two years. We won the All Ireland Youth and Amateur Latin-American Championships 2016 & 2017, came third in Autumn Moscow Cup 2015, third in the Dutch Open 2015, runners up in the Naples Open 2015, bronze medalists in the World Championships 2015, fourth in the New York Dance Festival 2016 and recently we brought a bronze medal back from the New York Dance Festival 2017. We are organising a fundraiser and a social dance event in Barberstown Castle on the 10th of February and we would be very obliged to you if you could feature some information about it in your newspaper. Tickets can be purchased online at bestevents.ie/ecwid.com. What is the fundraiser for? Like all other athletes we train relentlessly and achieve results for Ireland but receive absolutely no funding from the government. Dancing at a high level is very costly and puts great pressure on young dancers.

We are organising this event so we can raise funds to represent Ireland at the European Championships 2017 and the Blackpool Dance Festival 2017. In return we promise a great evening filled with fantastic performances from the world's best ballroom, Latin-American and Salsa dancers, a performance by a live orchestra and a singer, fantastic food and fabulous raffle prizes. The objective of our event is also to show that Ireland has many strong and talented dancers representing it but they receive little to no recognition for their abilities and hard work. Hopefully this will help to promote our art and sport.

Strictly Come Dancing

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING NIGHT

AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENING

Filled with performances by the **WORLD'S BEST** salsa & ballroom dancers, a top class **LIVE ORCHESTRA & SINGER**, fantastic food, prizes to be won & social dancing for everyone!

Saturday the 10th of February at the historic Barberstown Castle Hotel, Straffan, Co. Kildare.

TICKETS: €40 Online €50 At The Door

CONTACT: 0894957028 rozedaniela@gmail.com

Christmas Party Bites

Lettuce cups with prawn and mango

Ingredients:

1 small cos lettuce
300g cooked peeled Dublin Bay prawns
1 large firm ripe mango, peeled and cut into small dices
Finely grated rind of 1 lime and lime separated into segments
2 tbsp rapeseed oil
Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper
Salad cress, to garnish

Serves 20



Method:

Divide the cos lettuce into individual leaves, trimming down the large outside leaves so that they are all roughly the same size - you will need 20 in total. Place in a large bowl and cover with cling film. Chill until ready to use. Chop the Dublin Bay prawns if large and place in a bowl with the mango, lime rind and segments. Dress with the rapeseed oil, mixing well to combine and season to taste. Cover with cling film and chill until ready to use. You can prepare this up to four hours in advance.

To serve arrange the little lettuce leaves on a serving platter, spoon in a little of the prawn and mango mixture and finish each one with a few sprigs of salad cress to serve.

Toasted cheese bites

Ingredients:

150g (5oz) cheddar cheese, grated
200ml tub crème fraîche
1 tsp mild mustard
10 thick slices of white or brown bread
225g (8oz) cooked wafer-thin ham (or use leftover Christmas ham)
3 tbsp softened butter
Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

Serves 20



Method:

Mix together the cheese with the crème fraîche and mustard. Season with salt and pepper and spread over 5 slices of the bread. Cover with a layer of the cooked ham and finish each one with another slice of the bread. Heat a large frying pan over a medium heat. Thinly spread the butter on the outside of each sandwich and then cook in batches for a couple of minutes on each side until golden brown. Cut off the crusts if and then cut into bite-sized pieces. Arrange on a platter, then pierce each one with a cocktail stick and serve immediately.

Feta-style Sheep's cheese and artichoke stuffed peppadews

Ingredients:

3 chargrilled artichokes, drained (from a jar)
Handful of rocket or flat-leaf parsley
50g (2oz) sheep's cheese
20 peppadews, drained (from a jar)
Freshly ground black pepper

Serves 20



Method:

Finely chop the artichokes and rocket or parsley and put in a bowl. Crumble in the cheese and season with pepper. Use a teaspoon to spoon the mixture into the peppadews and arrange on a platter to serve.

Peppadews are available in most supermarkets.

Chorizo with Celeriac Remoulade

Ingredients:

1 small celeriac
Juice of 1 lemon
1 tbsp mild mustard
2-3 tbsp mayonnaise or crème fraîche
40 thin slices chorizo (rind removed)
Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

Serves 40



Method:

Peel the celeriac and then coarsely grate in a food processor or shred into matchsticks on a mandolin. Place in a bowl and add the lemon juice and mustard with enough of the mayonnaise or crème fraîche to bind. Season with salt and pepper.

To serve, spoon a teaspoon of the celeriac remoulade on to each slice of chorizo, then fold over to encase the remoulade and secure with a cocktail stick. The remoulade can be made a day in advance and kept covered in the fridge.

Gardening & Tips for December 2017

Caring for your Christmas Tree

When you buy your tree, recut the base – otherwise your tree will not take up water. Cut about an inch off the base and immediately place the tree in a stand that can hold at least 1 gallon of water. You should expect your tree to take up extra water. Water the new tree until the uptake stops.

Always keep the base of the tree in water. If the base dries out, resin will form over the end of the tree, preventing it from absorbing water again.

Add a few spoons of sugar and it will help hugely!



Leave the faded flower heads on your **hydrangeas** until the spring, as they will provide frost protection to the swelling buds further down the stems.

If you still haven't planted your **tulip bulbs** there is still time, provided the ground isn't frozen.

Now is the perfect time to prune fruit trees to maintain an open, balanced structure and encourage quality fruit production. Plums, cherries and other stone fruits should not be pruned until the summer as winter pruning will make them susceptible to silver leaf fungus. Make sure you use clean, sharp **secateurs** to avoid damaging your trees.

Avoid walking on your lawn when it is blanketed by heavy frost or snow, as this will damage the grass beneath.

If it's a mild winter, continue to cut the lawn if it's growing, but raise the height of the mower blades.

Choose a dry day to clear out the garden shed in preparation for the spring.

Group potted plants together in a sheltered spot in the garden to give them some protection from the winter weather.

Keep **fleece** to hand to protect hardy salad crops such as Lettuce 'Winter Gem', winter land cress, purslane, and corn salad on cold nights. Protect any remaining celery plants left in the soil by covering with **straw or fleece**. Cover heavy clay soil with polythene to keep it drier and allow winter digging.

If you are not quite ready to say goodbye to your Christmas Tree in January why not use it as a natural framework for other plants. A Christmas tree's beautiful conical shape makes it a perfect host for climbing plants such as the **Nasturtium** and **Sweet Peas**.

To turn your old tree into a frame for climbers is a really simple task. Simply place your tree in the garden with a stake for support and plant your seeds indoors to grow for a couple of weeks. The seedlings can be then transplanted outdoors at the end of February or early March. They should be planted around the base of your old tree allowing them to use the tree as a support while growing. Your old Christmas tree provides a natural looking and attractive frame for these colourful plants. You can expect them to flower in June right through until November, and with a choice of many different colours in both plants they are a welcome addition to any garden. As well as this, **Sweet Peas** are perfect for cutting and bringing indoors for the summer months to add to your indoor display. You can expect the tree to last at least one and possibly two seasons before it deteriorates.



Layered Holiday Centrepiece

Materials Needed:

One large oval-shaped tray (larger than 14", widest point).
One 14" grape vine wreath.
One pedestal based candle holder and candle.
One cup faux berries.
5\6 evergreen and pinecone floral picks.
Three Faux flower stems

Position Wreath on tray - Position Candleholder

Add Evergreen and pinecones inside the wreath, around the base of the candleholder. Place a candle inside the candleholder. Place a cup of faux berries around the candle. Randomly tuck a few faux flowers into the evergreen sprigs around the base of the candleholder.



Prepare your planting beds now, with **compost and manure**, for planting in early spring. **Fruit Trees:** Gather and dispose of any remaining fruits or nuts on trees or the ground beneath them. This reduces pests and diseases next year.

The best fertilizer is the shadow of the gardener.

Wishing you a warm, merry flower-brightened Christmas Day with family and friends...and the promise of good things to come in 2018

FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON



CHRISTMAS 2017



Christmas may come once a year, but it seems to arrive earlier and earlier with each passing year. Festive spirit is in evidence everywhere from decorated stores, to Christmas lights and carol singers on our streets. 'Tis the season to be jolly and indulge in mince pies, mugs of steaming hot chocolate, mulled wine, roasted chestnuts and, of course, Christmas movies. *The Lighthouse Cinema* is showing its annual *Naughty or Nice* season of films in Smithfield for the month of December.

Romantic-comedy Love Actually (2003) has become a standard Christmas favourite. The film was the runaway hit of last year's Naughty or Nice season at the Lighthouse Cinema. It's the perfect film to get you in the mood for the festive cheer. Set in London five weeks before Christmas, love in all its varied forms is the common thread connecting several people's lives. First time director, Richard Curtis was noteworthy as a comedy writer of considerable talent when he took on the film project of Love Actually.



Love Actually is a sentimental celebration of all aspects of love, and portrays happiness and heartbreak in equal measure. In Curtis's film, 'love is all around us'. The writer/director assembles a glittering all-star cast in *Love Actually* to enact a somewhat complex and, at times, emotional plot. Ten different love stories play out and eventually interlink as the film goes on. The performances are uniformly excellent. Both Hugh Grant and Colin Firth utilise their likeable, stiff-upper-lip Englishmen personas to comic effect in *Love Actually*. Grant is particularly engaging as a Tony Blair-like Prime Minister, crushing hard and inappropriately on his attractive, bubbly assistant (Martine McCutcheon of *EastEnders* fame). Their scenes together are sweet and touching. The relationship between Neeson's widowed father and his cute lovelorn son is also a highlight of the film. Bill Nighy steals the film though as an aging rocker. He is spectacularly funny and worth the price of admission alone. *Love Actually* is a charming, life-affirming, upbeat delight!

Naughty Or Nice Christmas Films Season

December 2017

Light House Cinema, Smithfield, Dublin.



Die Hard - 1st, 16th, 22nd December
Love Actually - (2nd, 7th, 10th, 19th, 21st December)
Elf - (2nd, 16th, 21st, 23rd December) *It's A Wonderful Life* - (3rd, 12th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd December) *Sleepless in Seattle* - (3rd, 28th December) *Home Alone* - (3rd, 17th, 20th, 21st December) *The Muppets Christmas Carol* - (4th, 9th, 10th, 17th 23rd December) *The Snowman* - (9th December) *White Christmas* - (10th, 16th December) *National Lampoons Christmas Vacation* - (11th, 16th, 23rd December) *Gremlins* - (15th, 19th December) *Home Alone 2: Lost in New York* - (17th December)

Christmas Film Quiz

1. Which 1998 Bill Murray film is an adaptation of Charles Dickens's 'A Christmas Carol'?
2. Who played the burglars in the 'Home Alone' films?
3. In the 1946 film 'It's A Wonderful Life', what was the name of George Bailey's guardian angel?
4. Name the two films that Bing Crosby sang 'White Christmas' in.
5. Who directed the 1946 classic Christmas film, 'It's A Wonderful Life'?
6. In the 2003 film, 'Elf' what was the name given to the human child Santa accidentally carried to the North Pole?
7. In what city did the 1947 classic film, 'Miracle on 34th Street', take place?
8. Which actor played 'Bad Santa' in the 2003 Christmas comedy?
9. What is written on the jumper of the dead terrorist in 'Die Hard' (2008)?
10. Name the child actor who was left 'Home Alone' both in 1990 and 1992?
11. Who plays Buddy in the 2003 comedy fantasy film 'Elf'?
12. Which veteran English actor played Scrooge in 'The Muppets' Christmas Carol' (1992)?
13. In 'National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation' (1989), what happens when Chevy Chase switches on the house lights?
14. What was the name of the famous song from the animation film 'The Snowman'?
15. Which Christmas song opened the movie 'Lethal Weapon'?
16. What role does Gonzo The Great play in The 'Muppet Christmas Carol'?

Quiz Answers will be available in the February 2018 edition of the Newsletter

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!!



Frank O'Rourke TD

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FIANNA FÁIL
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

Wishing a very
Happy Christmas
and a Peaceful New
Year to you all !!



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

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