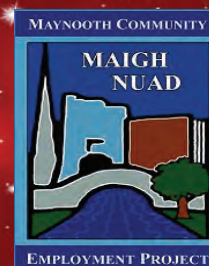




With best wishes for a **Happy Christmas**
& A Prosperous New Year from

Maynooth Newsletter

Serving the people of Maynooth



Local News December 2018 - January 2019 Issue No. 475 FREE

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The views & opinions expressed in this Publication are those of the contributors.



Keep your Business in Maynooth to Keep Maynooth in Business

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 a lively town with plenty of heart – many would say it has more going for it than other places on the commuter belt. It's also a pretty place with family-friendly housing, canal side walks, and a Main Street that hasn't been hollowed out by retail parks. It is extremely well supplied with supermarkets. There's a huge Tesco Extra and The Range Store in Carton Retail Park, a large Dunne's, an Aldi, a Lidl, and a SuperValu.

Maynooth is the “**Gastronomic Capital of Kildare**” There are vast amounts of establishments in town that offer the most sophisticated cuisine and the most appealing food and beverages. Maynooth is also a “**Purple Flag**” - “destination for a good night out, vibrant and well managed”.

There is ample car parking in Maynooth, customers can park (check parking fees and time allocated) 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 Salons, Pubs and Restaurants in and around the Town.

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 there is a multitude of restaurants, bars and coffee shops to visit and enjoy the gastronomic delights and Festive 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.

***Shop Local, Eat Local, Spend Local & Enjoy
Local in Maynooth this Christmas 2018***





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**Every Friday @ 4.00pm
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The Last Advice Service this year will be on

Friday 14th December 2018

The Advice Service will resume in the New Year on

Friday 11th January 2019

**Best Wishes for a Happy Christmas
 & A Peaceful New Year**

Maynooth University Town F.C.

The momentum continues on all fronts with League and Cup games coming at a fast rate. Some recent results:



Metropolitan Cup: Town 3 Tolka Rovers 2

The renowned Tolka Rovers came to town hoping to upset Town in this cup game.

Town however were not to be outdone and two goals by Eion Mc Dermott and one by Daniel Burke ensured victory in a tight game.

Metropolitan Cup 2nd Rd: Town 1 Dublin Bus

Dublin Bus set out to stifle Towns flowing game and they succeeded for long periods. Town eventually broke the stubborn resistance of the visitors when Darragh Reynor scored to ensure our passage to the next round.

Division One: Town 2 Leixlip 1

Town secured bragging rights following this local derby win in a pulsating game. Town were the better side over the ninety minutes and were good value for their victory. Darragh Gannon put Town in front with a glancing header. "Macker" put Town two up with a cracker. With time almost up Leixlip reduced the deficit from the penalty spot.

Division One: Town 2 T.E.K. 1

Goals by Reynor and Macker secured three valuable points in this impressive performance.

Division One: Town 5 Tullamore Town 0

A superb display of fast flowing football demolished Tullamore in a performance of sheer quality. The goals matched the quality of the play with each one being top class.

Conor Foley (2), Macker (2) and Darragh Reynor (1) provided goals.

F.A.I. Intermediate Cup: Town 1 Wayside Celtic 0

Town had to battle hard to keep our grip on this cup so gallantly won at the Aviva in May. Darragh Reynor with a curling shot from outside the penalty area booked our place in the next round.

May we extend Season Greeting to one and all.



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Crime Victims Helpline - Beware of Scam Phone Calls

Every day fraudsters and scammers come up with new ways to steal money and information from unsuspecting people. Scams can be very elaborate and it can be easy for even the savviest of people to be taken in by them. Following are some common scams to be aware of and how to recognise and avoid them.

A new and pervasive scam revolves around the claim that your computer is infected with a virus. Someone rings and says that your computer has been hacked and malicious software has been loaded onto your computer. They offer to help for a fee or they ask for information so that they can access your computer. They often end up with people's credit card information, personal information that can be used for identity theft purposes, or both. Legitimate technology companies will not ring you out of the blue. If you have any concerns about your computer, ask someone you know and trust to look at it or hire an established tech-support company to investigate the issues.

Other common scams involve claims that you have won a prize, lottery or free holiday. The fraudsters will then charge a fee or "tax" before releasing the prize. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Be suspicious of anyone who cold calls you and asks for personal information or money. Don't give out personal details over the phone. If you are unsure if someone is legitimate, take down their name and contact information. Independently verify the information either online, in person, or by ringing the number that is listed on your bank or credit card statements. Legitimate callers should not pressure you or make you afraid. Genuine people and organisations will understand why you are being cautious.

If you do end falling prey to a scammer, don't hesitate to contact your local Garda Station. You may also want to ring the Crime Victims Helpline for someone to talk to. The Crime Victims Helpline provides non-judgemental listening and support at Freephone 116 006. They can also be reached by email at info@crimevictimshelpline.ie



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Trying Too Hard To Have the Perfect Christmas?

Christmas brings out stress and anxiety in many of us, what is meant to be a happy time of year, often leads to us feeling overwhelmed, irritated, tense, stressed and anxious.

It is the one time of year when the true perfectionist comes out in a lot of us; everything must be perfect, from presents, to the tree, to making the perfect Christmas dinner, to cleaning the house from top to bottom just in case someone might call! We might over exert ourselves by going to countless parties and nights out, we might take out loans to pay for the expense of Christmas, running around shops, sitting in traffic getting more and more annoyed! As soon as it's over most of us wonder what it was all about?

Can we just STOP for a minute? Can we just take a moment to breathe? Let go of expectations.

There is no such thing as a perfect Christmas, but we are primed from early childhood to believe that there is. Christmas should be an enjoyable time. There is a big difference between enjoyment and perfection. Enjoyment allows us to take pleasure in Christmas. Perfection demands a flawless Christmas. Ask yourself would you like a perfect Facebook Christmas? Or a happy family Christmas? Do you want joy or perfection?

If you choose to enjoy Christmas you allow yourself to relax into the fun of it all without expecting yourself or others around you to be perfect. By enjoying Christmas we allow ourselves off the hook, we don't expect everything to be flawless and without its hiccups because life is like this, nothing is perfect,

ever. Instead we can choose to allow for the odd hiccup because it's not the end of the world, we won't lose our cool completely if the turkey is a little bit too dry, because at the end of the day we know we tried our best. That's all that matters.

Christmas can also bring about emotional stress with feelings of loss, loneliness and depression. If you are going to be experiencing a particularly hard Christmas this year, maybe it's the first Christmas without a parent, maybe a relationship ended or maybe you just feel alone even though you are surrounded by people. Take the time to look after yourself, make plans to journal thoughts and feelings, reach out to friends, don't drink too much and make plans so you aren't spending long periods of time alone. But more importantly allow yourself time to mourn if you need to, don't hide how you feel just because Christmas is supposed to be a jolly time. Acknowledge that you are going through a hard time and you feel sad, lonely, depressed and that it's ok to feel this way. Don't try and put on the "mask" and pretend everything is perfect!

Christmas time allows us to wind down at the end of the year, so take some time to do this over the festive period. Whether it's having a lazy day at home watching films, or bringing the dog for a walk, take some time for yourself. Otherwise you'll be back to work in January wondering why you are so tired. Look after yourself and your mental health.

Whatever your Christmas involves, remember to take time for YOU!

Wishing you all a happy, perfection-free Christmas!

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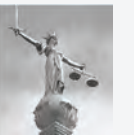
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Maynooth Labour News

Cllr. John McGinley can be contacted at: - 01-6285293 or 087 9890645 - E mail jmcginley@eircom.net - Web: www.labour.ie/johnmcginley/



Cllr. McGinley Calls for a Survey of the Trees on Carton Avenue

Cllr. McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD Meeting on 2 November: *“That a Tree Surgeon be engaged to carry out an audit of the trees on Carton Avenue and any needing replacing shall be in accordance with the Jim McConville and Associates Consultants Report of 2002 prepared for Kildare County Council, entitled Specification and Schedule of Works for Tree Surgery to Existing Lime Trees with funding for this work taken from the €405,294.00 allocated for Carton landscaping in the 2018-2020 Capital Programme.”*

John got the following positive response from Council Officials: *“An Arborist will be engaged to survey the existing trees on Carton Avenue and the adjoining amenity lands as part of the development of a masterplan for Carton Avenue. The planting of additional trees along the avenue as suggested by Joe McConville will be considered as part of this. In the interim any locations where trees have been felled will be replaced as part of the tree planting programme in 2019.”*

Cllr. McGinley Submits Motion to Improve Safety at the Kingsbry/Straffan Road Junction

Cllr. McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD Meeting on 2 November: *“That yellow box junctions are put on both sides of the Kingsbry exit with the Straffan Road, similar to those at the Parklands junction.”*

John got the following negative response from Council Officials: *“There is one yellow box on the Straffan Road at the Kingsbry exit and the council do not plan to extend this box or mark an additional unit.”*

Cllr. McGinley Asks for a Handrail at Bond Bridge Exit/Entrance to the Train Station

Cllr. McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD Meeting on 2 November: *“Can the council ask Iarnród Éireann to install a handrail on the wall of the sloped entrance to the Maynooth Train Station path from the Bond Bridge, as it is a real hazard in the freezing days of winter?”*

John got the following positive response from Council Officials: *“If the members are in agreement, a letter of request will be sent to Iarnród Éireann.”*

The members agreed that the Council write to Iarnrod Eireann.

Cllr McGinley Condemns the Delay in Taking in Charge of Meadowbrook and Castle Dawson Estates

Cllr. John McGinley got the following update to his motion at the Maynooth MD meeting on 2 November: *“In order to take Castledawson Estate in charge, Newtown Hall must be firstly taken in charge, as the pump station serving Castledawson is in the control of the developer of the Newtown Hall Estate. Newtown Hall is in the process of completing the snag list as issued by Kildare County Council Development Control Section. Meadowbrook Estate requires a tender package for the CCTV of the foul and storm water system to be carried out.”*

Cllr. McGinley stated that it was a disgrace that Meadowbrook has not been taken in charge as it is over four years since the residents signed a petition to have it taken in charge and it is eight years and nine months since the Council drew up a snag list for the estate. Likewise for Castle Dawson, the developer agreed in writing on 5 July 2013 to hand over the pumping station to the Council. So, there is no need to wait for Newtown Hall to be completed for Castle Dawson to be taken in charge. John further stated that a Director of the Council needs to take control of this process as it has gone on for far too long. It seems that when there is a change of staff that the Council have to start from scratch.

Cllr. McGinley Calls for the Provision of More Creches in Maynooth

Cllr. John McGinley got the following update to his motion at the Maynooth MD meeting on 2 November: *“Permission was applied for and granted for development, including the provision of crèches, at Castlepark, Griffinrath,*

Moyglare Hall and Newtown Hall in Maynooth. In the case of Griffinrath, permission was granted for a change of use from crèche to a community based Day Care Centre. The planning permission for Newtown Hall is live and runs until May 2019. The other two developments in question have been referred to Planning Enforcement and Building and Development Control for further investigation.”

Cllr. McGinley stated that he could not understand why Castlepark and Moyglare Hall had been referred to Planning Enforcement for further investigation as it is a fact that the developers have not built the creches. He further stated that it is clear that when it comes to Planning Enforcement that Kildare County Council does not do it well.

The planner present at the meeting made the extraordinary statement that “developers had told him that there was no demand for creches in Maynooth” and worse still he believed the developers.

Cllr. McGinley asks for the Two Vacant Houses in Old Greenfield to be allocated

Cllr. McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD Meeting on 2 November: *“When will the two vacant Council houses in Old Greenfield be allocated (house 1171 and 1 Brookview)?”*

John got the following highly unsatisfactory response from Council Officials:

“One of the properties is currently being allocated, the other will be allocated once works are completed.”

Cllr. McGinley stated that one of the properties was vacated a year and nine months and the other was vacated over a year ago and no work had started on it yet. John further stated that it was unforgivable that these two houses should remain vacant for so long with an enormous amount of people on the waiting list for a home.

Completion of Maynooth Education Campus Progressing - Stagg

Kildare North Labour General Election Candidate Emmet Stagg has welcomed the announcement by KWETB that a contractor is on site to complete the external fabric of both of the school buildings at the Maynooth Education Campus.

Mr. Stagg has been advised that the works to be carried out include:

- Roof Cladding
- Flat Roof Formwork and structural concrete
- Flat Roof Finishes
- Roof lights
- Fall Arrest
- Block work
- Windows and Curtain Walling including all glazing elements
- External Plastering

This will leave both school buildings weatherproof and secure and will form a neat finish-out package for a new main contractor to complete the Education campus.

8 Contractors have expressed an interest in completing the Maynooth Education Campus and it is expected that formal tenders will be invited in December with a contractor on site in March 2019, and the campus should be completed by June 2020.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour General Election Candidate Emmet Stagg stated that he would keep pressing both the Minister for Education and KWETB to ensure that the projected timeframe for the completion of the Maynooth Education Campus of June 2020 was met.

Improvements to Maynooth Rail Transport Service from December 9th

Emmet Stagg has welcomed the improvements to the Maynooth Rail service which are due to be implemented on December 9th. The following Improved Services will be introduced from December 9th:

- New earlier 05.58hrs Maynooth to Connolly
- Six additional off-peak services each way daily Dublin Connolly to Maynooth (Mon to Fri) delivering half-hourly off-peak service during the day and up to 21.00hrs
- 13 additional off-peak services each way on Saturday Dublin Connolly to Maynooth delivering half-hourly service from 08.00hrs to 19.00hrs approx.

- 11 additional off-peak services each way on Sunday Dublin Connolly to Maynooth delivering:
- Earlier first service from Maynooth at 08.00hrs
- Half-hourly service on Sundays from 11.00hrs to 19.00hrs approx
- Services extended to 23.00hrs approx. on Sunday evenings. These improvements will be welcomed by Maynooth Rail Commuters. Ultimately though, stated Mr. Stagg, we need additional rail carriages to relieve the current lack of capacity on commuter trains, and additional carriages must be leased in the short term.

17 Contractors Express Interest in Construction of New Maynooth Boys' National School

Kildare North Labour General Election Candidate Emmet Stagg has been in contact with the Minister for Education in relation to the construction of the New St. Mary's Boys' National School on the Moyglare Road, Maynooth.

Contractors had until November 1st to register their interest in the project. The Minister for Education has now advised Mr. Stagg that 17 contractors expressed an interest in the construction project by November 1st. The Minister further advised that an assessment of the expressions of interest has commenced and further information may be requested following this assessment. A short list will be prepared and following this process, the pre-qualified contractors will be invited to submit actual tenders for the project.

Welcoming this continuing progress Mr. Stagg stated that the New Maynooth Boys' NS was granted planning permission by Kildare Co. Council on August 1st 2017 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.

Kildare North Labour General Election Candidate Emmet Stagg stated that he would continue to monitor progress with the project until we got it to construction.

15 Additional Gardaí Allocated to Kildare Division - Stagg

Emmet Stagg has been advised by Human Resources at Garda Headquarters that an additional 10 Probationary Gardaí have been assigned to the Kildare Division following their graduation on Friday 30th November, and in addition to this there has been a net gain from transfers into the division of 5 additional gardai since the end of July.

Mr. Stagg was further advised that three of the probationary gardai have been assigned to Leixlip Garda Station, three have been assigned to Kildare Garda Station and four have been assigned to Naas Garda Station.

In relation to transfers into the Division we have seen the number of Garda Sergeants rise from 46 at the end of July to 52 now. This substantial increase in Sergeants is very important due to the experience they will bring to policing in the Kildare Division stated Mr. Stagg

Welcoming the additional Gardaí, Mr. Stagg stated that the allocation of 10 Probationary Gardaí will bring Garda Numbers to 394 in the Kildare Division by the end of November or a ratio of 1 Garda for every 563 people in Kildare. The total number of Garda Recruits allocated to the Kildare Division since April 2015 is 113.

Mr. Stagg stated that we must keep the pressure on the Commissioner and the Policing Authority to continue to reduce the unacceptable historical imbalance that existed in the Kildare Division and a concerted campaign to attract in Gardaí from other divisions must be maintained.

Concluding Kildare North Labour General Election Candidate Emmet Stagg stated that we are finally seeing dividends in our campaign on Garda Numbers but we must keep up the pressure and ensure that the demands of the people of Kildare are met by an increased strength Garda Force.



THE ROYAL CANAL (RCAG) CHRISTMAS JUMPER WALK

Join us on our annual post-Christmas walk on THURSDAY 27th December at 11.45 am from Maynooth Harbour, proceeding through Carton, a pit-stop at Pike Bridge, and back to base along the "Royal". We'll have good conversation and a little bit of local history.



Wear your Christmas Jumper, if you can. We're trying to create a little group photo-record of the most Christmas jumpers. Come anyway, 'jumperless' or not. It's all wheelchair-friendly, and, you know something! Your dog, yes your dog, will never forgive you if he/she is not brought along.

See you there ! WOOF!



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Train Services to Maynooth

I met with officials from the National Transport Authority to discuss transportation services for the town. In particular we focused on the trains and connectivity of the line. From this meeting it was agreed that capacity would be examined on peak services. There is also a new draft timetable out for public consultation. The new timetable is expected to commence on December 9th. The new timings will see improved, more frequent off peak services at evenings and weekends for the Maynooth line.

3 per cent of population waiting over a year for an outpatient appointment

The latest waiting list figures show that the number of outpatients has yet again hit an all-time high with 516,363 people waiting for an appointment with a consultant in October. The number of 'long waiters,' that is, people waiting over a year, now stands at 3 per cent of the population.

151,432 people have been waiting for an outpatient appointment for more than 12 months, a truly astonishing figure to be waiting so long. It is the equivalent of Limerick city and suburbs combined with Waterford city and suburbs. It would fill the Aviva stadium three times over.

It is shocking and it seems to me the only action being taken to address it are validation exercises that take people off the list without seeing a consultant. Last April, Minister Harris said he would be bringing forward an action plan on outpatient lists 'shortly'. Seven months later we're still waiting and I suppose this too will also end up on the waiting list for over a year.

There has been a fall in the In-Patient/Day Case waiting list which is further evidence of the success of the National Treatment Purchase Fund, the restoration of which was secured by Fianna Fáil. It's time to consider its extension to outpatient lists.

Health Check Outcomes

A public meeting will be held by Kildare County Council to detail the outcomes of the town and village health check conducted in Maynooth. This meeting will take place on Wednesday November 28th at 7pm in the Glenroyal Hotel.

Anti-social behaviour wreaking havoc on public transport services

Minister Ross must immediately address the anti-social behaviour that continues to plague commuters on public transport across the country. I have met with commuters who have raised concerns following incidents of fighting, arguments, and drunken behaviour on public transport in recent weeks. Fianna Fáil has been highlighting the need to tackle

rising anti-social behaviour on public transport services for many years now.

Both Irish Rail workers and passengers are regularly left distressed and inconvenienced by reckless behaviour. Arguments, brawls, people carrying weapons and general soiling of the carriages are all regular occurrences. There are workers who are petrified as they begin their shifts each day and there are passengers who avoid public transport at all costs as a result.

Minister Ross needs to take urgent action for the sake of Irish Rail staff and passengers. He needs to engage with Justice Minister Charlie Flanagan on this issue to discuss and coordinate a response to these attacks.

The Fianna Fáil election manifesto contained a clear commitment to establish a specific public transport police section within An Garda Síochána. We remain committed to this and believe Gardai, with full powers of arrest and detention, need to be actively patrolling on rail services and in train stations in order to tackle anti-social behaviour.

Grant Information Evening

I have been working with a number of local community organisations to support them during their application to various bodies for funding. I am delighted to say the Kildare Public Participation Network is hosting a grant scheme information evening on November 27th in the Glenroyal Hotel at 7.30pm. This information evening will explain how to apply for Community Dept. Grants, Heritage Grants, LEADER Funding, and other information. Please RSVP to kildarepnn@gmail.com if you would like to attend.

Ring Road Public Consultation

Alongside the local Fianna Fáil councillors in the district I have been working to have the ring road moved forward. Kildare County Council will present the route options being considered for the Maynooth Eastern Ring Road at a public consultation on November 21st. Most importantly this proposed route is open for submissions or observations from members of the public. You can have your say on the route by writing to Kildare County Council, Naas, Kildare or email roadsubmissions@kildarecoco.ie.

Maynooth Constituency Office

My Constituency Office in Maynooth (located on Doctor's Lane off the Main Street behind Brid Feely DNG Offices) is open all day Monday from 10am till 4pm. My colleagues Councillor Paul Ward and Councillor Naoise Ó'Cearúil and I are also available for appointments on Fridays from 10am to 1pm. Please call my office to organise a time. Please call in if there is anything we can assist you, your family or your organisation with.

Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

Planning Applications received from 26/10/2018 to 22/11/2018 Information from Kildare County Council Website

App Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	App Date
181395	Kildare County Council	Deirdre Ward	Barrogstown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	20/11/2018
181396	Kildare County Council	Fergal Ward	Barrogstown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	20/11/2018
181382	Kildare County Council	Jomaijo Trading Ltd.	M4 Motorway to the north, Ballygoran Road to the south, Maynooth Business Campus to the west & east, off R406 Straffan Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	15/11/2018
181360	Kildare County Council	Shajib Islam,	Londis Foodstore, 6 Buckleys Lane, Main Street, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	12/11/2018
181362	Kildare County Council	Damien Doyle,	Pike Bridge, Rail Park, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	12/11/2018
181338	Kildare County Council	Daryl & Claire McLoughlin	No. 9 Straffan Place, Straffan Wood, ,Maynooth, Co. Kildare, W23 H1X6	06/11/2018
181340	Kildare County Council	Laura Bruton & Ryan O'Neill	Ballygoran, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	06/11/2018
181331	Kildare County Council	Andrew Wynne & Rebecca Gunn	21 Temple Wood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth, ,Co. Kildare	02/11/2018
181321	Kildare County Council	Orivo Properties Ltd.	Carton Grove, Dublin Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	01/11/2018
181322	Kildare County Council	Clare & John Dowling	14 Newtown Court, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	01/11/2018
181292	Kildare County Council	Cathal Digney,	Laburnum Lodge,, Dublin Road,, Maynooth, , Co. Kildare.	25/10/2018
181295	Kildare County Council	Robert Lennon,	Kilmacredock Lower,, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	25/10/2018
181289	Kildare County Council	Minbay Limited	Silken Gardens, Dublin Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	24/10/2018



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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, in His merciful eyes it will become Your favour not mine. Amen

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

Never known to fail Cathy

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 prayer & favour, will be granted no matter how impossible.

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For further details please contact
Irene at 086-3622692
or email lupeng21031977@gmail.com

The Alzheimer Café Leixlip Co Kildare

Christmas Party Wednesday December 12th 7-9pm

Join us at our **Christmas Party** at the next Alzheimer Cafe, Wednesday December 12th in "The Conservatory", Ryevale Nursing Home, Leixlip from 7-9pm. The speaker and the cafe organisers will still be on hand to answer any questions you may have. We will also have refreshments, music and a bit of Christmas fun.

Attendance is free of charge and there is plenty of parking available

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THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

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**Merry
Christmas**

**Happy Christmas & a Prosperous New Year to All from the
Members, Directors & Staff
of Maynooth Community Employment Project**



Frank O'Rourke T.D. Kildare North

Contact Details: Dail Office: 01 6183109 - Mobile: 087 2555257 - e-mail: frank.orourke@oireachtas.ie - [Facebook](#) /Frank O'Rourke
Clinics: Monday in the Glenroyal Hotel - Constituency Office: Main Street Celbridge.



Bus Stop set for Carton Wood in Maynooth says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has been informed by Kildare County Council and Dublin Bus that a Bus Stop is going to be provided at Carton Wood and Grove in Maynooth on the Dublin Road.

"A Bus Stop will be provided at Carton Wood on the Dublin Road in Maynooth in the coming weeks. It is important that we improve the public transport services for North Kildare commuters."

"I continue to meet with management from Dublin Bus, Bus Éireann and the National Transport Authority to press for increased services."

"There is little point in trying to encourage people to use public transport if the level of service is not adequate to cater for the increased demand. The solution is clear, increased frequency and capacity."

"We have seen improvements in the service of Route 115 for Kilcock commuters, Orbital Bus Route 139 linking Naas to Blanchardstown, via Clane, Rathcoffey, Maynooth and Leixlip, is attracting more commuters and we have Bus connect proposals which have some positive elements for bus commuters, including an orbital route linking Maynooth to Tallaght via Celbridge and Newcastle."

"I will continue to press for better public transport" concluded Deputy O'Rourke

Orbital Route linking Straffan, Ardclough and Maynooth being considered says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil T.D, Frank O'Rourke, has received confirmation from the National Transport Authority that it will examine the feasibility of providing an orbital bus route linking Ardclough, Straffan and Maynooth. The National Transport Authority (NTA) confirmed the study following representations made by Deputy O'Rourke.

"I received confirmation from the NTA that it will examine the potential of providing an orbital bus route linking Ardclough, Straffan and Maynooth. This orbital route would provide residents in Ardclough and Straffan with a link to a regular bus and rail public transport service, a connection to the Maynooth Business Park, and a link to NUI Maynooth, opening up this area to the Rent a Room Scheme for student accommodation."

"I am meeting Dublin Bus with the aim of improving the unacceptable service on Route 67 and 67X at the moment. Many bus commuters have made contact with me to highlight the poor service in recent times and we need to address this issue as well."

"We have seen a slight improvement in the service of Route 115 for Kilcock commuters. Orbital Bus Route 139 linking Naas to Blanchardstown, via Clane, Rathcoffey, Maynooth and Leixlip, is attracting more commuters and we have Bus Connect proposals which have some positive elements for bus commuters, including an orbital route linking Maynooth to Tallaght via Celbridge and Newcastle."

"However, we need to expand the public transport services that we have and I have made strong representations to the NTA to provide an orbital route linking Ardclough, Straffan and Maynooth," concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

North Kildare back to Square One with loss of child psychologist for Celbridge and Clane – O'Rourke

Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke has said it is wholly unfair that children in need of psychology services in North Kildare have been left high and dry by a failure of the HSE to secure replacement consultants to cover gaps in services and maternity cover.

Deputy O'Rourke was commenting after securing new information from the HSE that shows that the towns of Celbridge, Clane and Maynooth are once

again without the services of a child psychologist.

"For the past period, the towns of Clane, Celbridge and Maynooth have been without a child psychologist. Last July, one was appointed to serve Clane and Celbridge leaving Maynooth without one.

"However, in recent days I have learned that the recently appointed psychologist has now gone on maternity leave. This wouldn't be an issue if the HSE had prepared the ground and sought a replacement to ensure that there was no break in service.

"We are now back to square one with no child psychology service for these three large, and growing towns.

"The HSE must secure the services of locum psychologists to ensure that waiting lists do not begin to grow. Longer term, two full-time permanent psychologists are needed to cover this area.

"There are major staffing shortages in Child and Adolescent Mental Health services (CAMHS) in this country. Up to 40% of the required positions under the flagship policy, a Vision for Change, have yet to be recruited. It's very unfair on the children themselves, but also their families.

"I have written to the Minister for Health seeking an update on plans for interim replacements. We need an urgent response from the HSE to allay the fears and worries of parents," concluded O'Rourke.

Government shelves claim-by-claim register – missed opportunity says O'Rourke.

Fianna Fáil's Deputy Spokesperson on Finance, and Local TD, Frank O'Rourke, has expressed his disappointment at the shelving of the claim-by-claim database, which was designed to tackle high insurance costs, and says that it is a missed opportunity.

"The stubbornly high cost of both motor insurance and business insurance remains a major issue for households and businesses across the country. The average annual cost of motor insurance now stands at €750 compared with €450 in 2014, an increase of nearly 70%."

"Transparency is one of the main issues facing the industry. Currently, around 70% of claims are settled out of court and outside of the Injuries Board process, meaning that nobody can make an informed opinion on the scale of personal injury claims in Ireland."

"The Government's plan to establish a National Claims Information Database is now nearly 12 months behind schedule. This database was to be up and running by the fourth quarter of 2017, yet the legislation is still only making its way through the Dáil.

"Fianna Fáil has done everything possible to facilitate this legislation but the fact remains the database will not be in place until well into 2019."

"Now, it has emerged that the Government will not be implementing a claim-by-claim register. According to a Department of Finance report, the proposal has been shelved. This claim would give an insight into individual claims and give An Garda Síochána information to tackle insurance fraud, a key driver for increasing insurance costs."

"Reducing the high cost of Insurance is a priority for Fianna Fáil and for myself, it is an issue I have regularly brought to the floor of the Dáil. Our party has brought forward a number of pieces of legislation that would help to tackle high insurance costs. This Government must provide greater focus to the implementation of recommendations of the Cost of Insurance Working Group. I will continue to press for Government action in this area."

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Carbon Monoxide Awareness

What is carbon Monoxide?

CARBON MONOXIDE
The facts...

The Basic Facts:

- Carbon monoxide (also known by its chemical symbol, CO) is a highly poisonous gas.
- It has no colour, no smell and no taste and is often called the silent killer.
- When inhaled, it prevents blood from absorbing oxygen.
- At high levels it can kill in as little as 3 minutes; at lower levels it causes illness.
- It kills, on average 6 people in Ireland every year and makes many more ill.
- It can be produced by any fuel when burned-coal, turf, oil, gas and wood.
- It doesn't just occur at home – in fact it can be produced anywhere that fuel is being burned: caravans, tents, mobile homes, boats, holiday homes and workplaces.

Where does it come from?

Carbon monoxide can be released by any fuel when it is burned, including coal, turf, oil, gas and wood.

Harmful levels can be produced by:

- Badly installed, faulty or blocked heating appliances, chimney or flues such as open fireplaces, gas or oil – fired boilers and solid fuel stoves.
- Blocked or insufficient ventilation in rooms where a burning appliance is in use.
- Barbecues.
- Petrol driven machinery.
- Carbon monoxide can also be produced by the natural oxidation of wood and biomass pellets such as those used for wood pellet heating systems, even without burning.

How to protect yourself from carbon monoxide:

- Be aware: any appliance, burning any type of fuel, can produce carbon monoxide.
- Ensure fuel burning appliances are properly installed and regularly maintained by a quality service agent.
- Keep vents, flues and chimneys clear.
- Use fuel burning appliances correctly.
- Have at least one audible carbon monoxide alarm installed in your home and anywhere else you burn fuel.

Visit www.carbonmonoxide.ie or call 1850 79 79 79



EMBARGO: 2.30pm Wednesday, 14 November

**Maynooth University develops first public online
platform to track gender composition of staff and
students in third level institutions**

**Minister of State for Higher Education, Mary Mitchell O'Connor, TD, presents
Maynooth University with Athena SWAN Bronze Award 2018 for work in
advancing gender equality**

Maynooth University is working to develop the first publicly accessible 'gender equality dashboard,' which will allow users to compare the composition of staff and students across third-level institutions.

MU's Athena SWAN Committee is working closely with the All-Island Research Observatory (AIRO) at the University to develop an interactive system that will allow users to monitor progress by third-level institutions in tackling gender equality, based on data from the Higher Education Authority. It is expected to be launched in early 2019.

Maynooth University was today officially presented with the internationally recognised Athena SWAN Bronze Award by the Minister of State for Higher Education, Mary Mitchell O'Connor, TD. The Athena SWAN Awards in Higher Education recognise work in advancing gender equality for women in academia, and in promoting diversity and inclusion for staff and students in third-level institutions.

Maynooth University was the first institution in Ireland to apply for and receive the Athena SWAN Bronze Award under the expanded Athena SWAN Charter. The expanded Charter recognises work undertaken in Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences disciplines, as well as STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine).

Maynooth is also the first Irish institution to incorporate 'intersectionality' as part of its Athena SWAN application, taking into account factors that can overlap with gender inequality, such as race and ethnicity.

President of Maynooth University, Professor Philip Nolan, said: "This award is a welcome recognition of Maynooth University's collective commitment to advancing gender equality and represents a key milestone for us.

"Our approach to gender equality is grounded in a wider strategic goal to be a model university of equality, diversity and inclusion. We are proactively improving the position of women at every level and in all parts of our institution, including some initiatives which

we hope will serve as models of best practice," Prof Nolan said

Maynooth University's gender equality dashboard is one of 57 actions in its Gender Action Plan for 2018-2021, which was a cornerstone of Athena SWAN application for a Bronze Award. The Action Plan is underpinned by the University's recently renewed Equality and Diversity Policy.

The action plan includes the appointment of a Vice-President for Equality, Diversity and Interculturalism; a Gender Identity and Expression Policy for transgender and gender diverse staff and students; and other strategies to address the under-representation of women in different disciplines and grades within the University.

Key advances:

- A Vice-President for Equality, Diversity and Interculturalism to be appointed shortly, following completion of applications process in October. The successful nominee will be a member of the University Executive.
- Maynooth's Gender Identity and Expression Policy for transgender and gender diverse staff and students to be published in early 2019.
- The Department of Biology will this month submit its first application for an Athena SWAN Bronze Department Award. Other departments/schools have already committed to applying in later rounds (Geography, Business, both in 2019, and Law, Chemistry, Experimental Physics).

Athena SWAN accreditation is awarded by the Equality Challenge Unit (ECU) recently reconstituted as Advance HE). The Maynooth University Athena SWAN Bronze Institution Award Application was prepared by the University's Self-Assessment Team and chaired by Professor Linda Connolly, Director of the Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute. Professor Connolly was assisted in this role by Athena SWAN Project Officer Claire McGing.

Photographer: Mark Maxwell, Maxwell Photography, 087 2558147

Media Details: Niamh Connolly, Communications Office, niamh.connolly@mu.ie Tel: 01 7086160



Photo: Minister of State for Higher Education Mary Mitchell O'Connor, TD, presents Maynooth University President, Prof Philip Nolan, with the Athena SWAN Bronze Award.

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



Getting a copy of my Birth Certificate

Question

I am planning to get married and need my birth certificate to give notice. I can't find it. How and where do I get a new one?

Answer

If you plan to get married in Ireland, you must give 3 months' notice. To do this, you need to book a marriage notification appointment at a civil registration service. You need to bring certain documents with you to this appointment, including a full standard birth certificate and a copy of this certificate.

You can apply for a birth, marriage or death certificate, or copies of these certificates, online, by email, by post or in person at a civil registration office or the General Register Office.

There is a €20 fee for issuing birth, marriage and death certificates. There is a €4 fee for each photocopy requested (however, you can make copies of certificates yourself).

You can apply for a birth, marriage or death certificate online at lifeevents.hse.ie. You can also apply in person to any civil registration service. Contact details for civil registration services are on hse.ie.

If you wish to apply by post, you should complete an Application for certificate of Birth/Death/Marriage/Adoption/Civil Partnership (available online and at civil registration service offices) and send it to the Office of the Registrar General, Government Offices, Convent Road, Roscommon.

To apply for a certificate by email, you will need to download an Email Application for certificate of Birth/Death/Marriage/Adoption/Civil Partnership, complete the required details and email the form to GROonlinepayments@groireland.ie.

When the General Register Office receives your email application, it will email you a secure payment link, allowing you to pay the fee using a debit or credit card. Certificates are printed on secure paper and must be posted.

GP visit card

Question

I am a full-time carer for my mother. I don't qualify for a medical card but I've heard that a GP visit card for carers is now available. How do I apply to get one?

Answer

The rules for GP visit cards have changed. Now everyone who is getting Carer's Benefit or Carer's Allowance, at full rate or half rate, is eligible for a GP visit card.

To get the GP visit card, you complete the registration form for carers. The form does not ask for information about your income – just your personal and contact details. You also need to get the form signed by your GP. You must choose your GP from the list of participating GPs.

You can get a registration form, and the list of participating GPs, on medicalcard.ie or by calling LoCall 1890 252 919. You can also register for the card online at medicalcard.ie.

When you have a GP visit card, you can visit the GP for free. It also covers visits to out-of-hours GP services. However, the GP visit card does not cover hospital charges.

Prescribed drugs are not covered by the card but, if you use the Drugs Payment Scheme, there is a limit on how much you have to pay for prescriptions each month. At present, you pay a maximum of €134 in a calendar month for approved prescribed drugs and medicines for use by yourself and your family in that month.

You can download an application form for the Drugs Payment Scheme from the Health Service Executive (HSE) website, hse.ie, or you can get an application form from your pharmacy or Local Health Office.

Regulation of charities

Question

How are charities regulated in Ireland?

Answer

The Charities Regulatory Authority (Charities Regulator) regulates charities in Ireland. It maintains a public register of charities and monitors their compliance with the Charities Act 2009. This Act sets out what an organisation must do to be recognised as a charity and the legal obligations for operating as a charity in Ireland.

To be considered a charity, an organisation must:

- Operate in the Republic of Ireland (though its target group can be elsewhere)
- Exist for a charitable purpose and exclusively promote this purpose (a charitable purpose is a goal that is of public benefit)
- Not be an excluded body (such as a trade union, chamber of commerce etc.)

The organisation must first give the Regulator information about itself, so the Regulator can assess if it meets the requirements to be a charity. If the Regulator approves the application, it awards the organisation charitable status, gives it a Registered Charity Number and lists it on the charities register. You can search the charities register on charitiesregister.ie.

It is an offence for an organisation to describe itself as a charity and carry out charitable activities, if it is not registered with the Charities Regulator.

The Regulator can appoint an inspector to investigate a charity's affairs. The charity and its trustees must co-operate fully and give the inspector all the relevant accounts and documents.

The Regulator can choose to take a charity off the register – for example, if it fails to comply with its financial obligations or give the Regulator the information it requires.

If you are concerned about a charity or its activities, you can raise a concern with the Charities Regulator.

Help for people in mortgage arrears

Question

We're way behind with our mortgage and can't pay our other bills either. We're afraid that the bank will take our home – they keep sending us letters. What can we do?

Answer

You can contact MABS, the Money Advice and Budgeting Service, to get help under the scheme of aid and advice for borrowers in home mortgage arrears. Contact the MABS Helpline: 0761 07 2000 (9am - 8pm, Mon - Fri) or your local MABS office.

This scheme is part of Abhaile, the national Mortgage Arrears Resolution Service. It provides a range of services to help you to deal with your situation, including financial advice, legal advice and insolvency advice.

Abhaile is coordinated by the Departments of Justice and Equality, and Employment Affairs and Social Protection. It is operated by MABS along with the Insolvency Service of Ireland (ISI), the Legal Aid Board and the Citizens Information Board. Panels of qualified and regulated professionals provide services under Abhaile.

You will qualify for advice and assistance under Abhaile if:

- You are insolvent – this means that you are unable to pay your debts in full as they fall due and
- You are in mortgage arrears on your home and
- You are at risk of losing your home (for example, if your mortgage lender has initiated repossession proceedings or indicated that they plan to do so; if they have said that they consider you to be non-cooperating; or if they have asked you to consider selling or surrendering your home) and
- The costs of staying in your home are proportionate to your reasonable accommodation needs

You can contact MABS to check if you are eligible for Abhaile (as eligibility is decided case by case). Read more about Abhaile on mabs.ie.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

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Taxi charges

Question

Can taxis charge higher fares over Christmas and New Year?

Answer

Yes, taxis can charge more on certain days over Christmas. There are three different rates under the National Maximum Taxi Fare; the standard rate, the premium rate and the special premium rate.

The standard rate applies from 8am to 8pm, Monday to Saturday. The premium rate applies at night from 8pm to 8am and on Sundays and public holidays. And the special premium rate applies between 8pm on Christmas Eve and 8am on St. Stephen's Day and between 8pm on New Year's Eve and 8am on New Year's Day. The rates are lowest at the standard rate and most expensive at the special premium rate. So, taxis can charge more when the special premium rate applies over Christmas.

The National Maximum Taxi Fare consists of 3 separate parts:

- **Initial charge:** amount which appears on the meter at the beginning of the journey. This is €3.80 at the standard rate and €4.20 at the premium rates. It includes an initial distance of 500m, or 85 seconds.
- **Further travel:** after the distance/time included in the initial charge has been exceeded, further travel is calculated on small portions of the journey. At low speeds, or when a taxi is stationary, the fare is calculated on the basis of time. The charges for further travel differ depending on what rate applies when you are travelling. The charges are lowest at the standard rate and most expensive at the special premium rate.
- **Extra charge:** there are strict rules about extra charges, including a booking fee, additional passenger charges and a soiling charge.

You can ask for a discount before engaging a taxi. Drivers have the right to charge the maximum amount calculated on the meter, or a lower amount at their discretion.

Online shopping

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

In general, when goods are imported into Ireland from a country outside of the EU, they are liable for import charges. These include VAT, customs duty and excise or other duties where relevant. You are importing goods if you buy items online from abroad or from a mail order catalogue. You are also importing goods if you get a gift sent from abroad. In some cases, you can get relief from import charges.

If someone sends you a gift from outside the EU, and it is valued less than €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 don't have to pay VAT on certain goods from outside the EU if they are valued less than €22. The value is calculated as 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 €50, 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 of the goods 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 they are in fact shipping their products from outside the EU. If this is the case, you are liable for duties and VAT.

Drink driving offences

Question

I've heard the law around drink driving changed recently. What has changed?

Answer

Yes, the law around drink driving has changed. Since 26 October 2018, under the Road Traffic (Amendment) Act 2018, drivers who previously got 3 penalty points for certain drink driving offences will now be disqualified from driving for 3 months instead.

It is an offence to drive in a public place if the level of alcohol in your blood, breath or urine is above the prescribed alcohol limit. There are different alcohol limits for new drivers and experienced drivers. New drivers are drivers with learner permits or drivers who have held a driving licence for 2 years or less, or people without a valid licence or permit.

Drink driving offences can be dealt with through the administrative penalty system or the court system. However, the administrative penalty system only applies in certain cases, for example, where the driver has a valid licence or permit and their alcohol intake is below a certain level.

The recent legislation changes the additional penalty for experienced drivers found with the lowest levels of alcohol in their system. These levels are:

- 51mg to 80mg of alcohol per 100ml of blood
- 68mg to 107mg of alcohol per 100ml of urine
- 23mg to 35mg of alcohol per 100ml of breath

Previously, experienced drivers found with these levels of alcohol would be fined €200, and get an additional penalty of 3 penalty points. Now, these drivers will get the same €200 fine, but will also be disqualified from driving for 3 months.

Christmas Bonus

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. This year it will be paid to people getting the following payments:

- State pensions
- Widow's/Widower's/Surviving Civil Partner's pensions
- Invalidity Pension, Blind Pension, Disability Allowance, Carer's Allowance, Carer's Benefit, Domiciliary Care Allowance, Guardian's payments, Partial Capacity Benefit
- Jobseeker's Transitional payment, One-Parent Family Payment, Farm Assist, Deserted Wife's Benefit and Allowance, Magdalene Laundry Payment
- Community Employment, Rural Social Scheme, Tús, Gateway, Back to Work Enterprise Allowance, Job Initiative, Back to Work Family Dividend
- 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 (SWA), you must have been getting the payment for 15 months to get a Christmas Bonus.

However, if you were getting another eligible payment immediately before claiming JA or SWA, and your combined time on both eligible payments is 15 months, you will get the Christmas Bonus.

In 2018, the Christmas Bonus is 100% 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 100% of the weekly payment.



Zero Waste Maynooth

Zero Waste Maynooth and Tidy Towns Maynooth are delighted to announce that their next event on Saturday 8th December will be run in conjunction with the Nu Wardrobe. The following article explains the benefits of this organisation.

The Nu Wardrobe- 'You don't need 50 dresses. You just need 1 dress and 50 Nu. friends'.

Nu. is a female-led, online platform to share clothes. Born in Ireland, the start-up has quickly expanded across colleges and communities and is now being enjoyed by like minded people in London, Oxford, Bristol and Cambridge.

With Nu, you can have access to a constantly changing and sustainable wardrobe no matter what your budget. As a community we recirculate clothes, reduce waste and bypass all of the social and environmental impacts of the fast fashion industry.

We are committed to building a strong community through grassroots sustainable fashion events, a network of brand ambassadors and close relationships with local groups, sustainable businesses and third level institutions.

Sharing clothes with your friends, is an excellent habit and one of the best ways to reduce our environmental impact. Every time you share your clothes you offset 25% of the resources used to make a new item. This means we can all make a massive impact with the wardrobes we already have!

By coming to our Swap-Shop you can give a new life to those pieces in perfect condition but sadly are left sitting in your wardrobe. By swapping clothes in your community, you ensure that clothes don't waste in landfill but instead get to be worn and loved many times over.

The team at The Nu Wardrobe are committed to:

1. Recirculating clothes as much as possible, so we can collectively reduce the negative impact of the fashion industry.
2. Raising awareness of the environmental impact of the fashion industry
3. Building a community of changemakers
4. Helping women to feel confident and represented in the clothes they wear

With the recent 2018 IPCC report, emphasising the 12 short years we have to keep rising temperature below 1.5 degrees celsius, we need to start sharing clothes now more than ever. The fashion industry is the second biggest polluter (behind the oil industry). The time to recirculate clothes is now.

How does the Swap-Shop work?

- Bring those pieces you have in perfect condition, that are living a lonely life in the back of your wardrobe
- Please do not bring items that you would not like to receive (i.e. stains, odours, fit for recycling etc.)
- You will get a token for the amount of pieces you bring and can swap your pieces for the same amount (3 items of clothing can be swapped for 3 items of clothing)
- If you don't see anything you need this time, hold onto the token for the next Swap-Shop!

Find us on our social media:

Website: <https://www.thenuwardrobe.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/thenuwardrobe>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/thenuwardrobe?lang=en>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/thenuwardrobe/>

Email: info@thenuwardrobe.com

Zero Waste Maynooth December Event Featuring Nu.Wardrobe for a fashion swap shop and a sustainable market



Saturday 8th December 2-4pm
Maynooth Community Space



Maynooth Cycling Campaign



#Allocate4Cycling

Cycle advocates are very interested in expenditure on cycling by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport. It had been thought that expenditure was around 2% but it is now estimated that it could be as low as 1.26% or even lower depending on progress on Bus Connect. This is a long way short from the #Allocate4Cycling campaign level of 10% so the campaign continues.

Bus Connect

The National Transport Authority has gone to public consultation on the preferred route for the first four core bus routes between Dublin city centre and Clongriffin (north Dublin), Swords, Blanchardstown and Lucan. The initial impression of the cycling infrastructure on the Lucan route is a proposed 2m wide uni-directional cycle track on each side of the road which is a good start. However, the apparent details on priority at side roads, bus stops and the shared paths at junctions are disappointing as they are not best practice and lead to a potential conflict with pedestrians.

Climate Change

The UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) warns that there are only twelve years to limit global warming to 1.5°C beyond which even half a degree more will significantly worsen the risk of droughts, floods, extreme heat and poverty for millions. Meanwhile, civil servants tell the Dáil Committee on Climate Action that civil servants in other Departments are responsible for lack of action and the recent EPA Lecture by Prof Hugh Montgomery on Climate Change and Health paints a pessimistic picture of the future.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign welcomes the appointment of Richard Bruton as the new

Minister for the Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment. With Ireland already far behind on its commitments to tackle the problem, the Minister has sought Cabinet approval for an all-government plan to respond to climate change and will set out targets for the different sectors, in particular transport and agriculture. Meanwhile, in the recent US mid-term elections, efforts to reduce the effect of climate change by measures such as carbon tax were turned down in a number of states due to opposition and massive spending by oil and gas interests.

Extinction Rebellion IE

In October, approximately one hundred academics signed a call to action about the ecological crisis facing mankind. It was prompted by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) reporting that humanity had wiped out 60% of animal populations since 1970 and

"that current consumption is destroying the web of life, billions of years in the making, upon which human society ultimately depends for clean air, water and everything else".

Following this, a protest - the first Extinction Rebellion - was organised in London. The protest aimed to influence the government and global environmental policy through non-violent protest. Civil disobedience has been used previously to highlight injustices across the world in countries such as Ireland, the US and India. An Extinction Rebellion (IE) demonstration took place on November in Merrion Street. Other Rebellion protests have been or are planned for Australia, Canada, France, Germany and the United States.

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.



Have some fun doing your own research

Local History – people, place and time

Maynooth is full of history - we have the Castle, the College, Carton House and nearby Castletown House linked by two of four sisters of the Lennox family – Emily at Carton and Louisa Conolly at Castletown. Maynooth University’s Centre for the Study of Historic Houses and Estates partners with Castletown House and the Office of Public works in the study of historic houses and estates.



The town itself is a planned 18th century town with many buildings dating from that period. A case in point is the present day Duke and Coachman built in 1777. St. Patrick’s College Maynooth boasts famous architects such as Augustus Welby Northmore Pugin (1812-1852) who was commissioned in 1845 to design St. Mary’s quadrangle which includes the historic Russell Library and College Refectory. J.J. McCarthy’s (1817-1882) design of the college chapel and the Infirmary are also stunning architectural examples. J.J. McCarthy also added the tower to St. Mary’s RC church.

Books about Maynooth

Historic towns Atlas for Maynooth edited by Arnold Horner was published in 1995 by the Royal Irish Academy. This is the essential must have handbook for the history of the town as it notes the history of the development of the town in all its aspects (population, housing, administration, manufacturing, education and entertainment to mention a selection). It is fully referenced and contains a selection of reproduced maps dating from the 18th century up to 1995. This is available from the Royal Irish Academy for €25. For a full list of towns covered by the series and much more see RIA website <https://www.ria.ie/research-projects/irish-historic-towns-atlas>

Má Nuad-Maynooth: a short historical guide by Mary Cullen, reprinted in 1995.

Cannonballs and Croziers researched by John Drennan. Edited by Patricia Condrón, Muireann Ní Bhrolchain and Dominic Nyland. Produced by Maynooth Community Council in 1994. There are a number of publications that members of our local community have also brought out:

1798 and Maynooth written by Liam Chambers and brought out by the Maynooth 1798 Commemoration Group in 1998.

Myth and Memory: the history and story of the graveyards of Maynooth was brought out in 2002 by the Maynooth Local History and Civic Forum Group.

Tombstone inscriptions, Ladychapel and Taghadoe, Maynooth, Co. Kildare / compiled by Martin J. Kelly. [Maynooth, Ireland : Ladychapel Restoration Committee, 1987?].

Celebrating the past: The golden years 1965-2015.
Maynooth, Co. Kildare: Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee, 2015.

Recollections : memories by senior citizens of Maynooth celebrating Active Age Week and European Year of Older People 1993
Maynooth : Maynooth Old People’s Committee, 1993]

Most counties have produced a history of their county. They usually take the form of interdisciplinary essays on the history of the county.
Kildare History and Society is edited by William Nolan and Thomas McGrath (2006).

Maynooth University is also well served by many publications in relation to its history in terms of its establishment, governance and its people. One that comes to mind is **Maynooth College 1795-1995** by Patrick J. Corish comes to mind as well a plethora of other titles, many of which came out in 1995. The online catalogue at Maynooth University Library will point to these.
There have been a number of publications on the history of the big house and to help get started on this line of enquiry various research guides have been produced such as **The big houses and landed estates: a research guide** produced by Maynooth University’s Terence Dooley and who has many other publications around the theme of the big house and estates.
Aspects of Irish aristocratic life: essays on the FitzGeralds of Kildare and Carton House / edited by Terence Dooley, Patrick Cosgrove and Karol Mullaney-Dignam. Dublin: University College Dublin Press, 2013.

Maynooth University local history graduates have produced a myriad of publications on local history from different parts of Ireland – check out Maynooth University Library Catalogue and search under **Maynooth Local History series**. The list is extensive whether

it be about the college, town or famous people associated with the place.
Maynooth University Library information for visitors
<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/library>
Members of the public requiring access for research purposes or scholarly needs may apply for reading or borrowing facilities. The fees for full access with borrowing are outlined on the website. Go to **using the library and information for visitors**.

Free online Sources

National Archives – <http://www.genealogy.nationalarchives.ie/>
Genealogical material

- Census of Ireland, 1901 and 1911, and pre-1901 survivals
- Census Search Forms, 1841 – 51
- Tithe Applotment Books, 1823 – 37

The Tithe Applotment Books were compiled to determine the amount which occupiers of agricultural holdings over one acre should pay in tithes to the Church of Ireland (the main Protestant church and the church established by the State until its dis-establishment in 1871).

- Soldiers’ Wills, 1914 – 1918
- Calendars of Wills and Administrations, 1858 – 1922
- Prerogative and diocesan copies of some wills and indexes to others, 1596 – 1858
- Diocesan and Prerogative Marriage Licence Bonds Indexes, 1623 – 1866
- Catholic qualification & convert rolls, 1700 – 1845
- Valuation Office house, field, tenure and quarto books 1824 – 1856
- Shipping agreements and crew lists, 1863 – 1921
- Will Registers 1858 – 1900

National Library of Ireland <http://sources.nli.ie/>

Check out the NLI catalogues in particular **Sources**
The NLI has also digitised **Catholic Parish Registers** that are searchable by parish (not be name of individual) for various years.



National Photographic Archive part of NLI



Detail: Maynooth Station Oct 1968 from the O’Dea photograph collection NLI

Irish Military Archives

<http://www.militaryarchives.ie/collections/online-collections/military-service-pensions-collection-1916-1923>

One can search the Military Services Pension Collection database which was released in May 2018.
It relates to claims lodged by 1,442 individuals (c. 4,000 files), or by their dependants and contains new and unique information on the revolutionary period.
This is a very significant release as it is the largest release of files relating to over 600 female participants.

(Continued on page 16)

(Continued from page 15)

Guide to the Bureau of Military History

<http://www.bureauofmilitaryhistory.ie/about.html>

About the Bureau of Military History, 1913-1921. The Bureau of Military History Collection, 1913-1921 (BMH) is a collection of 1,773 witness statements; 334 sets of contemporary documents; 42 sets of photographs and 13 voice recordings that were collected by the State between 1947 and 1957, in order to gather primary source material for the revolutionary period in Ireland from 1913 to 1921. The Bureau's official brief was 'to assemble and co-ordinate material to form the basis for the compilation of the *"The Maynooth Branch Gaelic League. In the early years of the present century a branch of the Gaelic League was established at Maynooth. Its founder was Domnall Ua Buacalla. I do not know how long it was established when I became a member..... P.R. Pearse appeared in Court on behalf of Ua Buacalla when he was prosecuted for having his name on his dray in Irish"*.

The Local Studies Department of Kildare County Council Library and Arts Services

provides very comprehensive sources relating to Kildare.

This includes secondary sources, original sources and online and research aids.

It also includes a link to the **Kildare Observer Newspaper 1880-1935**. There is so much available on this site that it is not possible to mention all in this article. Browse away at your leisure.

There is an index to the *Kildare Archaeological Society Journal* online. The print version is available in the local public library and is also available in the Maynooth University Library. A DVD version is also available.

<http://kildare.ie/Library/LocalStudiesGenealogyArchives/>



Don't forget our own **Maynooth Community Library** for all their resources related to Maynooth specifically. See Newsletter for open hours and events and classes.

There is the **National Inventory of Architectural Heritage** www.buildingsofireland.ie, where one can find descriptions and an appraisal of buildings in your local town.

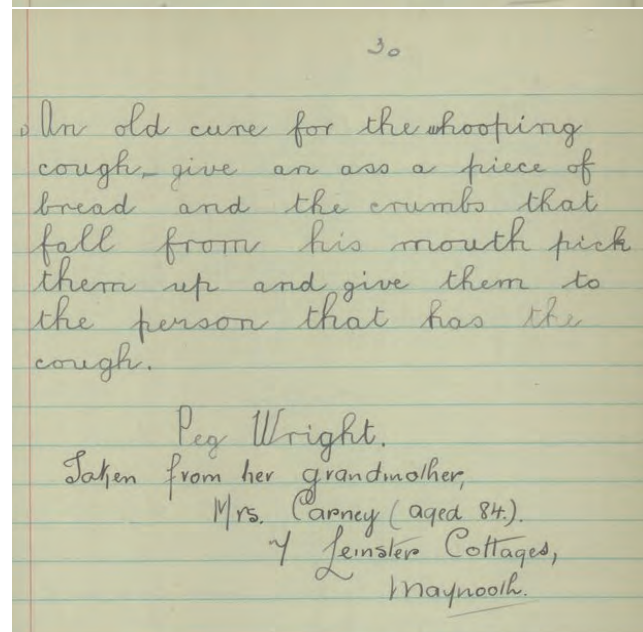
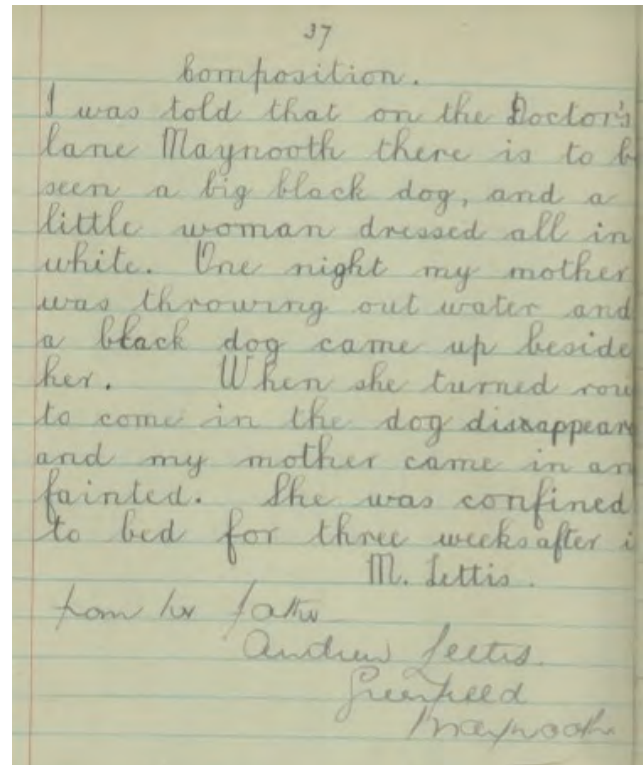
The present day Duke and Coachman



Build in 1777.... Part appraisal.... *This former hotel is a fine and imposing Classical-style building that has a prominent impact on the streetscape of Main Street, introducing a formal and sophisticated design to a row of relatively modest structures. Of social and historical significance, the former hotel attests to the coaching tradition in Maynooth in the late eighteenth century...*

The Schools' Collection (from the UCD Folklore Collection)

Approximately 740,000 pages (288,000 pages in the pupils' original exercise books; 451,000 pages in bound volumes) of folklore and local tradition were compiled by pupils from 5,000 primary schools in the Irish Free State between 1937 and 1939. This collection can be viewed at <https://www.duchas.ie>. Mother Borgia from the Presentation Convent was in charge of submitting students' work to this project. The UCD Folklore Department has further plans to digitise other material over the coming years.



Two local accounts from the Schools' Collection written by M. Lettis, Greenfield, Maynooth and Peg Wright whose grandmother Mrs. Carney lived at 7 Leinster Cottages.

Maynooth Newsletter Digital Archive

<http://www.maynoothcep.com/Archives/javadropdown/Archivepage1.html>

Produced and maintained by the Maynooth Community Employment Project. This contains digitised versions of the *Maynooth Newsletter* going back to the mid-1970s. It is a resource that records life in Maynooth from that time to the present.



And this is only a start! There is so much more out there. Enjoy the detective work!

Susan Durack

Maynooth Sustainable Energy Community

Throughout November, Maynooth Sustainable Energy Community (SEC) held three meetings to further progress their plans to formally launch the SEC group in early 2019. The meetings were a great success with strong attendance and representation from the wider community.

The group discussed a wide range of issues and a number of ideas were put forward as to how Maynooth can become a low carbon community in a way that delivers huge benefits to local residents including;

- Lowering energy bills;
- Increasing home comforts;
- Improving air quality;
- Creating green jobs, and;
- Lowering emissions.



Upcoming Events

Our next meeting will take place on January 16th in Maynooth University and all are welcome. Please contact Peter Hamilton at peterrham6@gmail.com for more information.

Top Tips for Saving Energy this Christmas!

1. Switch to LED Bulbs

Switching to LED bulbs is one of the easiest changes we can all make to save energy. LED bulbs are 85% more energy efficient than incandescent bulbs. They can also last for up to 25 years! So while they're a little bit more expensive to buy, you can make your money back in one year through energy savings and continue to save money each year.

2. Fix those Leaks

A hot water tap that leaks just one drop of water per second can add up to a whopping 620 litres of water over the course of a month. That's more water than the average person uses in two weeks! By fixing leaky faucets you can save a huge amount of water, and money.

3. Drop the Thermostat

18 - 20 degrees is the ideal temperature for living areas in a home. If you lower your thermostat by just 1 degree it could knock as much as 10 per cent off your heating bill, saving around €150 in a typical family home.

4. Close the Curtains

A lot of heat loss from a house occurs through the windows, particularly if they are single-glazed. Keep curtains closed at night and ensure that the curtains don't hang over the tops of the radiators to help retain heat.

5. Insulate, Insulate, Insulate

Insulation is a really effective way of saving energy in your home. Insulating your attic and walls could save you 30-40 per cent on your home heating bill.

For those who enjoy a long shower, did you know that heating water uses more energy than anything else in your home and can account for half of your annual electricity costs? You can reduce your water heating costs by up to 30% just by properly insulating your tank.

Grants for insulation are available from the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland. Visit www.seai.ie

6. Check your Washing Machine

An energy efficient washing machine can save a huge amount of water as well as save up to 50 per cent more energy than older models. Also, a warm wash doesn't clean your clothes any better than a cold wash, and it uses a lot more energy!

7. Stick with the Shower

It can take about 95 litres of hot water to fill the bathtub, whereas a quick shower may only use 25 litres! That's a big water and energy saving over the course of a year.

8. Leave the Washing Up

A modern dishwasher uses about 22 litres less of hot water than washing by hand. That's a massive 7570 litres less a year, and one less argument about whose turn it is to clean the dishes!

Our Vision...

- Maynooth Community is committed to become one of Ireland's role-model sustainable towns.
- We are working together to create a healthy and low-carbon community for all of our residents, and a safe clean future for our children and grandchildren.

O'NEILL'S - IN THE HEART OF MAYNOOTH

O'Neill's
Bar & Steakhouse

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

O'Neill's Bar & Steakhouse is a family run traditional style bar in the heart of Maynooth. We are renowned for our quality food, service and our warm welcome.

Food is served daily from 12pm, full A La Carte menu available from 5pm.

Live music every Thursday & Saturday night.

www.oneillsbar.ie

Thinking of replacing your PVC Windows?

WHAT TO DO NEXT

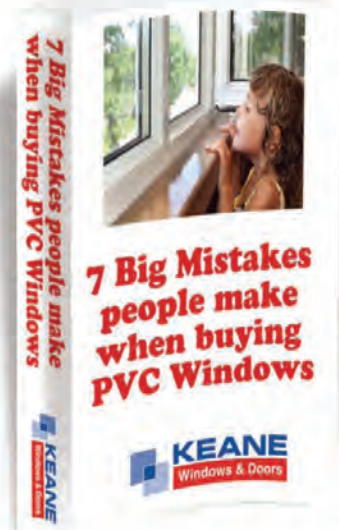
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'7 Big Mistakes people make when buying PVC Windows'.

In this book you will learn:

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

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Call 01-6203232





Christmas Crafts & Decorations

These activities should be supervised with younger children



Make a Snowman from Paper Plates

Make a cute snowman decoration using two paper plates. This makes a nice decoration to put on a door or hang in a window

* 2 white paper plates, * Construction paper (black, red) or wrapping paper, * An orange pipe cleaner (for the nose), * A short length of yarn or ribbon, * Hole punch, * Marker or crayons, * Scissors, * Glue, * Optional: googly eyes, large buttons

Step One



On one of the paper plates, cut off the outer rim, making a smaller plate.

Step Two



Punch a hole near the rim on both plates.

Step Three



Tie the two plates together, using the yarn (or ribbon).

Step Four

On black construction paper, draw and then cut out a top hat and two boots. On coloured construction paper (or gift wrap paper), draw and then cut out two mittens.

Step Five

Either glue on googly eyes or draw eyes. Draw a mouth. For the nose, cut a short length from an orange pipe cleaner. Stick the pipe cleaner through the plate to secure it (if the plate is too tough, make a tiny hole with the tip of the scissors). For the buttons, you can cut out shapes from construction paper, use round stickers, glue on real buttons, or simply draw them. You now have a cute snowman decoration!



Shooting Star Christmas Tree Ornament

A simple-to-make Shooting Star Christmas Tree Ornament.

Materials: A small piece of thick paper, felt, or other flexible, easy-to-cut material - one or two colours, * Scissors, *, Pencil, * Reinforcements (optional), * Glitter (optional), * Markers (optional), * Glue

Step One

Cut a circle from the paper, felt or other material. A good circle template is a coffee mug.



Step Two

Starting at the edge, cut a spiral going to the centre of the circle. Decorate with glitter or markers.



Step Three

Cut a small star, about 1 or 2 inches wide. Make a tiny hole in the star. The ornament will hang from this hole, so you might want to use reinforcements (these are doughnut-shaped pieces of plastic used to reinforce the holes in notebook paper and are available at stationery stores). Decorate the star with glitter or markers.



Step Four

Glue the star to the centre of shooting star



Brown Paper Christmas Stocking

Make a great Christmas stocking from a brown paper grocery bag. You can hang it from your mantle and stuff it with Christmas goodies.

Materials: Thick brown paper (like grocery bag paper) or brown felt, Pencil, Scissors, Glue, A holepunch, Yarn, Markers or crayons.



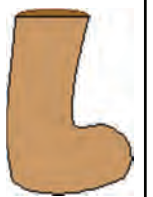
Step One

Draw a large stocking on thick brown paper (or brown felt). Cut out two copies of this stocking.



Step Two

Glue the two stockings together around the edges (make sure you don't put any glue along the top opening).



Step Three

Punch holes around the edges of the stocking. Weave yarn in and out of the holes. Leave a loop of yarn at one end, and tie it in a knot.



Step Four

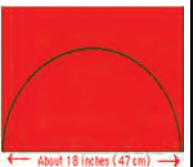
Decorate your stocking with crayons, markers, stickers, construction paper cut-outs, or glitter.

Santa Hat or Decoration

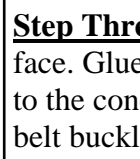
This cute Santa Hat is easily made from construction paper and cotton

Supplies : A large piece of red construction paper (one large, one regular size) [If you only have regular-size paper, you can use these hats as great decorations, but they will be too small to wear. You can also use a brown paper bag to make the hat, colouring it with tempera paint.] * Small scraps of black, yellow, and pink paper, * A pencil, * Scissors, * Hole punch, * Red crayon or marker, * Stapler, * Glue, * Cotton balls.

Step One: Draw and cut out a half circle from a large piece of construction paper about 18 inches wide.



Step Two: Twirl the half circle into a cone-shaped hat. Staple along the seams.



Step Three: Cut a small circle of pink paper for Santa's face. Glue it to the cone. Cut a strip of black paper and glue it to the cone as Santa's belt. Cut a small yellow rectangle for a belt buckle. Glue it to the belt.



Step Four: Glue a cotton ball at the top of the cone for the top of Santa's hat. Glue some cotton balls around the cone just above Santa's face this is the bottom of his hat. Glue cotton balls around the face for Santa's beard.

Step Five: Cut out 2 tiny black paper circles using a hole punch (these will be his eyes). Glue the eyes to Santa. Draw a mouth. Now you can wear your Santa hat for Christmas!



MPI ARTISTS PRESENTS



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SATURDAY APRIL 27TH 2019

GLENROYAL HOTEL MAYNOOTH

Tickets €30 From Hotel Reception 01 629 0909 & Ticketmaster.ie. Doors 7pm Show 8pm

SAVE CARTON AVENUE CAMPAIGN

On Wednesday 21st November, at Kildare County Council's Maynooth Eastern Ring Road consultation, a map showing KCC's plans for the Avenue was in the display. The map shows two additional cycle lane access points extending on to Carton Avenue. The Avenue's pedestrian path is also marked for a cycle lane. The cost of the three accesses plus the cost of the cycle lanes will exceed €127,000.00 and is therefore subject to planning permission. With your support we will object to this plan. This "change of use" of the Avenue may also require planning permission. It appears from the map below that the intention is to fully incorporate Carton Avenue into an integrated Cycle/Pedestrian network.



Our recent public meeting was attended by over 150 people with 60 people joining the campaign. We will be holding a meeting for the volunteers in early December, if you would like to get involved please leave a message on 0876485799. At the meeting we also announced our new petition which calls for a reduction in the width of the opening of the bridge from 4 metres to 2 metres. A 2 metre wide opening (wider than most paths in Maynooth) will allow wheelchair access to the Avenue. The original entrance to the Avenue from Main Street is 3 metres wide and the accesses at the Blacklion Road end are less than a metre wide. The pedestrian path on the Avenue is only 2 metres wide.



Carton Avenue Preservation Society Public Meeting

At the County Kildare Joint Policing Committee's annual public meeting held in the Glenroyal Hotel on the 22nd November, responding to a question from the floor, the Garda Authorities told the meeting they were not consulted by Kildare County Council about Garda resources for the policing of the new bridge and the planned new cycling lane on Carton Avenue. Also at the meeting a complaint was made about cyclists on Carton Avenue, a couple described how a group of 5 cyclists forced them off the pedestrian footpath on the Avenue. Another member of the public criticised the lack of joined up thinking in Kildare County Council's permeability plans and cited the Rockfield, Railpark, Parklands plan and the Lime Tree Hall, Carton Avenue plan as examples.

Carton Avenue Preservation Society

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Reelin in the year 2018



ATribute - Hilda Dunne (1937-2018)

Hilda was a person whose civic life revolved around the inter-connected themes of history, storytelling, community service and activism. Hilda enjoyed meeting new people and continued to widen her circle of new friends, she was loyal, dependable, fair and kind, a great communicator and an achiever who completed what she set out to do. **R.I.P. Hilda.**

As Maynooth recovered from the Beast from the East.

Nobody was expecting that St. Patrick's Day would be subject to even further snow showers. As unpredictable as the Irish weather is, we were forecasted snow! Early Saturday morning didn't look too well for the upcoming parade at 11am but however cold it was, thankfully the snow and rain held off. The St. Patrick's Day Parade is the largest community event in our town and massive crowds turned out once again to witness all of our local organisations and businesses take part.

The parade is organised by a committee of Maynooth Community Council CLG with help from the staff on the Community Employment Scheme as part of their training. Their help and assistance was invaluable to the organising committee and a big thank you is due to everyone on the scheme



Community Person of the Year 2018
Josephine Moore (Pictured above with Naoise O'Cearúil).

33rd Annual Maynooth St Patrick's Day Parade Parade Winners 2018

Best Portrayal of Theme: The Glenroyal Hotel

Best Commercial Float: Dino Experience / Reptile World

Best School Float: Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich

Environmental Awareness Award: Maynooth Tidy Towns & Zero Waste Maynooth

Best Band: St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band

Muireann NÍ Bhrolacháin Perpetual Trophy:

The Glenroyal Hotel

Best Shop Front Winners 2018

1st Place:

Maynooth Bookshop

2nd Place:

The Glassdoll

3rd Place:

NCBI Charity Shop



St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band

Maynooth Tidy Towns win Gold again at The National Tidy Towns Awards in The Helix Theatre, DCU for 2018.

We are absolutely delighted and thrilled with this win we would like to take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers, committee and sponsors who helped us out during the year.

Congratulations and well done to Maynooth University on being awarded the Green Campus Flag by An Taisce on behalf of the Foundation for Environmental Education. The Flag raising ceremony was on Tuesday 25th September.

FAI Intermediate Cup Final We are going to the Aviva 12th May 2018



Front row L/R: Stephen Mullins, Eoin Mc Dermott, Killian Duffy, Conor Mooney, Shane Harte, Jake Corrigan (Capt.) Daniel Burke & Dylan Kavanagh.
Back row L/R: Coly Maye, Malachy Tobin, Pouyan Farramand, Darragh Reynor, David Travers, David Sterio, Ciaran Whelan, Darragh Gannon, Conor Dunne & Youssef Balhout.

Panel Members not available for photo shoot: Gavin Kinsella, Tommy Illunga, Cian Hutchinson & Fionn Talbot

Maynooth Town Football Club reaches a milestone in club history, as it's senior team Maynooth University Town meets Firhouse Clover in the FAI Intermediate Cup Final at the Aviva stadium on 12th May 2018.

Established for intermediate football association teams outside the League of Ireland, the FAI Intermediate Cup is the second most prestigious national cup competition after the FAI Cup. It has a long history and tradition since the inaugural cup final in 1926 won by Drumcondra.

Come on the Town!

Gerry Folan - Chairman

Maynooth Town Football Club



Reelin in the year 2018



Maynooth Pastoral Centre Official Opening

The new Parish of Maynooth Pastoral Centre was officially opened by Archbishop of Dublin, Diarmuid Martin on Sat. May 19th. Canon Frank McEvoy welcomes Archbishop Martin to Maynooth.



Maynooth was well represented in the M18 EHF European championships which took place in Austria in August of this year.

Thanks to the passion, skill and hard work of Maynooth resident Olena Karpenko, Olympic Handball is now a well-established sport in the town.

Heritage Week got off to a flying start at Maynooth Castle on Saturday, August 18, 2018.

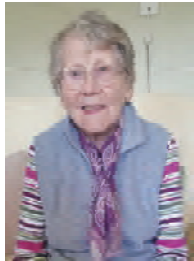
OPW guide Alan set the pace at 12 noon with a very informative and exciting recount of 'Silken Thomas' rebellion against the English crown in 1534. More than 25 people listened attentively as he recounted how cannon balls fired from Crew Hill damaged the castle roof but that the castle actually fell because of the bribe offered to the Castle Constable who got the garrison drunk on the FitzGerald family's Spanish wine stored in the undercroft.

Maynooth Remembers WW1 Armistice Centenary

Flashback to 2018

Dympna (Dee) Farrelly Clifton – Exciting Life and Times

Dympna (Dee) Farrelly was born in Buckley's Lane, Maynooth in 1921. Her parents were Florence (Flo) Melia and Ned Farrelly. Ned came from the Straffan Road. Florence's family came from the Naas area. Ned was a telegraph boy and his brothers Joe and Tommy were mechanics in Dawson's Shop on the Main Street. The family moved from Buckley's Lane to No.1 Pound Lane which was the house overlooking the Pound. It was the biggest house of those set of houses but had the smallest garden. Dee's grandmother lived at number 8 Pound Lane which was the smallest house with the biggest garden. Her grandmother later moved to a house on the Main Street where the chip shop currently stands. Around the age of 26 Dee decided to go to England to gain work and widen her experience. She went to Manchester, but did not like it as it was a dismal place after the War and was in the process of being rebuilt. She went to London and got employment with LMS British Railway in their office at Euston Station. Her uncle worked for this company as well. She lived in the Staff House attached to the firm.



Maynooth Town Soccer Club U16 Clean-up Carton Avenue

Maynooth Town Soccer Club U16 boys were very busy Sunday morning 11th February helping to make Carton Avenue a better

recreational area for all our residents to walk. Thanks to George Kellett for getting in touch and supervising the boys. With some help from our Chairman John Kavanagh. Tidy Towns Volunteers in the making. In their picture you can see some of the proceeds from the clean up. A lot more than just litter. We really appreciate the hard work and effort.



Members of The L.D.F. Maynooth taken in 1942

Back Row: L/R : Sergeant Rossitor, Jack Keys, Phil Brady, Laurence (Lar) Keely, Matt Weafer, Des Caulfield, Dick McKenna, Ned Smyth

Middle Row: L/R : Stephen Keane, -?-, -?-, -?-, Paddy Freyne, Davie Lawlor

Front Row: Dick Bean, Mick Kelly, Joe Leonard
May they all rest in peace

Going back in time Photos courtesy of Mrs Margaret Bean



Gardaí from Maynooth stopped by to meet Maynooth CFR.

New First Responder Group to Offer Life-Saving Support in Maynooth

Maynooth Community First Responders (CFR) was established in May 2018 to create a group of trained volunteers who will respond to cardiac medical emergencies in the town and surrounding areas. Early intervention is key in cases of heart attack, cardiac arrest, stroke and choking and having a First Responder group locally will ensure that a trained team is dispatched and on the scene within 10 minutes, providing life-saving assistance while the ambulance is on its way.

Upon receipt of a 999/112 call for one of these emergencies, Community First Responders are dispatched, along with the National Ambulance Service



5K runforoisin raises €4,000

On Sunday morning 22nd April 2018, a larger than expected number of runners, joggers and walkers took part in the Anam Cara 5K 'runforOisin' held in the grounds of St Patrick's College Maynooth. Over 200 had registered online and the same again registered on the day. On a nearly dry day the community of Maynooth turned out to show their support for Gordana Quigley and her family and to contribute to the cause of Anam Cara.





MAYNOOTH ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE 17th MARCH 2019

FÉILE LÁ FHÉILE PÁDRAIG MAIGH NUAD 17Ú MÁRTA 2019



34th Annual Maynooth St Patrick's Day Parade 2019

It's time to start preparing once again for Maynooth's biggest event, the St. Patrick's Day Parade! This is the 34th Annual parade and we are extremely excited for what's in store.

The Committee have been meeting over the past few months to start preparations and we are planning on the biggest parade to date. We are very excited about 2019's parade and we hope you are too. We can reveal that the Theme for 2019 is... **"The Town and The Gown"**.

Maynooth is unique as the only town in Ireland as a University town and is seen by many as the academic capital of the country. In celebrating our unique identity we are asking participants to think of floats and costumes that reflect the academic and student life of the town. Think gowns and books but also feel free to have fun with the Theme. Being a University Town brings its difficulties but this theme is to celebrate all the positive aspects.

Application forms can be emailed to maynoothparade@gmail.com or can be posted/dropped into the Maynooth CEP office beside the Post Office.

The Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Parade committee work on a voluntary basis and we are constantly on the lookout for new volunteers and if you have some spare time to assist, we would love to hear from you. If you would like to help or if you have any queries, please email us or call (086) 728 0050.

Le meas,
Naoise Ó Cearúil (Chair)
 On behalf of
Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Committee.

~ Have Fun While Advertising Your Organisation ~

Maynooth St Patrick's Day Parade

Application Form 2019

This Year's Theme: **"The Town & The Gown"**

Closing Date for Entries: 5pm Friday 8th March 2019

Name of Business/Group:	
Address:	
Contact e-mail:	
Contact Person:	Telephone:

- All vehicles entering **must have a float**, preferably a **live band** with **traditional, rock or pop music**.
- HGV's, lorries or cars **without a float will not be accepted**.
- Entry Fee does not include Insurance cover. All participants/Floats should have suitable Insurance cover.

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

Entrance Fees: (Cheques should be made payable to "Maynooth St Patrick's Day Parade")

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	6 Best Portrayal of Environmental Awareness	Trophy

Applications with entry fee to be sent to: Maynooth St Patrick's Day Parade Committee
 c/o Unit 5, Carton Retail Park, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.

Organised by: Maynooth St Patrick's Day Parade Committee
 E-mail: maynoothparade@gmail.com
 Naoise Ó Cearúil (Chair) Mobile - 086-7280050

FraudSMART

Protect yourself from fraud. Think A....B....C.....every time

Anyone can be a victim of financial fraud, at any time and through many different channels. FraudSMART, a fraud awareness initiative developed by Banking & Payments Federation Ireland (BPFI), is raising awareness of the types of fraud and scams that older people are being targeted with. One such fraud is currently on the increase is a phone scam known as 'vishing'.

'Vishing is a sophisticated phone scam where a person receives a call from someone claiming to be from their bank, telling them that there is an issue with their account and requesting certain details be shared to rectify the issue. This can ultimately lead to a loss of funds from the person's account. Fraudsters are operating ever more sophisticated techniques therefore consumers need to be one step ahead by education and empowering themselves with the right information and advice to protect themselves.

FraudSMART is urging people to protect themselves using three simple ABC steps:

1. **Always** be alert to unexpected calls. Do not give personal/financial information.
2. **Bide** your time. Tell the caller you will need to verify their identity and take the time to do so.
3. **Contact** your bank. Check in with your bank by calling the number on the back of your bankcard.

Cards with the ABC steps are available in Age Action charity shops across the country.

Follow the ABC steps and be wary of any unsolicited calls asking for banking details. Fraudsters will attempt to create a sense of urgency, take your time, do not be rushed and contact your bank directly if you have any concerns.

For more information on fraud and tips for protecting yourself, visit www.fraudSMART.ie where you can find a host of information, resources and can sign up for fraud alerts.

For further information on the FraudSMART campaign, please contact info@FraudSmart.ie

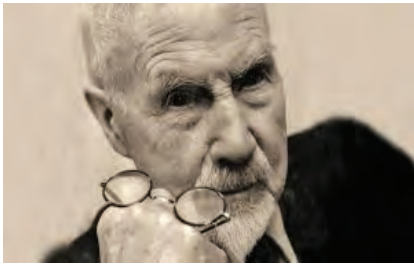
FraudSMART was created by



Supported by



Domhnall ua Buachalla
A Maynooth man that we should remember



Domhnall ua Buachalla (1866-1963)

As part of my research for this article I read “Domhnall ua Buachalla, Rebellious Nationalist, Reluctant Governor, by Adhamhnān Ó Súilleabháin who was a grandson of Domhnall ua Buachalla. This book gives a full insight into the revolutionary, political and family life of his grandfather and I highly recommend it as a very accessible read. I would hope that after this article

that you will want to read his book to get more insight into the life and times of this great local patriot and have a better understanding as to why I think we should honour his achievements. Domhnall ua Buachalla died in October 1963 having lived for over 97 years. He was granted a formal State Funeral which was attended by President de Valera, Irish Government and political leaders of the time as well as many other dignitaries of State and Church at his burial in Laraghbryan Cemetery in Maynooth. From his first election in 1918 to the First Dail Ua Buachalla went on to have a political career in national politics. The years that followed were eventful in Ireland with the War of Independence (January 1919 – July 1921) and the Irish Civil War (June 1922 – May 1923) and Ua Buachalla was on the Anti-Treaty side. He was also elected on a number of occasions to Kildare County Council and held the position of Chairman.

To understand why he took the anti-treaty position requires us to look back to the last years of the previous century and the beginning of the twentieth century and the issues that occupied his interests. In his book Ó Súilleabháin outlines his grandfather’s background and how the family came to settle in Maynooth where Ua Buachalla was born in 1866. He was 50 years old when he was an active volunteer as one of the Maynooth 15 that went to Dublin to take part in the 1916 Easter Rising. At that stage he had a family business in Maynooth which was started by his father Cornelius at 25 Main Street in 1853 and continued in the family until the retirement of his grandson Joe Buckley in 2005. It was Domhnall ua Buachalla’s involvement with the Gaelic League since 1893 in Maynooth that seems to have been the first steps on his journey into becoming a rebellious nationalist. His desire to support the Irish Language is well documented and his own legal case was significant in the fight for the language.

While Ua Buachalla started to use the Irish version of his name in 1901 it was illegal not to display your name in English on your business vehicles. Represented by Pádraig Pearse (in one of only two cases where he acted as a barrister) having been charged at the Celbridge Petty Sessions in 1906 for having his name in Irish on his delivery cart, the matter was taken to the Kings Bench Division 1 where the court decided to confirm the decision taken in the Petty Session. While the penalty was a fine having lost the case, Pearse called it as a victory for the Irish as the decision effectively declared the use of the Irish language to be illegal. Ua Buachalla had already taken another stand for the use of the Irish language when his delivery men were turned away by Captain Tuthill of Moyglare House because his cart displayed the heathen language and Ua Buachalla refused to make future deliveries and declined any more of Captain Tuthill’s business.

There was clearly a good relationship between Padraig Pearse and Ua Buachalla. His son Joe (who himself would play his own role in the fight for Irish freedom) attended St. Enda’s the school run by Pearse in Dublin. I recently took the Glasnevin Cemetery tour where we were treated to the delivery (by an actor) of Pearse’s oration at the funeral of O’Donovan Rossa in 1915. If Ua Buachalla was present that day he would have been encouraged to continue his part in the struggle from Pearse’s famous words that day. The sacrifice of Pearse and the other friends in 1916 was a setback but despite going a political route from the 1918 election Ua Buachalla continued to support the physical force route as well. During the War of Independence Ua Buachalla asked the IRA to burn his home in Maynooth in case it would have been occupied by the Black and Tans. Ua Buachalla also spent a number of periods in prison including in the infamous Frognoch prison in Wales after the 1916 events. As an anti-treaty supporter he became closer to Eamon de Valera and while they fell out for a number of years they both had the same vision for the future of Ireland. Like De Valera he took the political route and served as a member of Dail Eireann until he lost his seat to a competitor (Tom Harris) from his own party Fianna Fail. Ua Buachalla was always willing to do whatever was asked of him in the national interest.

Ua Buachalla was asked by De Valera to take the vacant post of Governor-General and he became the last person to hold that post. The position which was to represent the English monarch in Ireland was abolished by the Irish Government when Ua Buachalla signed the Constitution (Amendment no.27) Bill 1936 into law. He succeeded with De Valera in their aim to remove the impact of the UK on Ireland. A campaign that he had started over forty years earlier when he joined the Gaelic League in Maynooth. In writing this piece I talked to Joe Buckley his grandson who made the point to me that in those turbulent years in Ireland there were many others like his grandfather. However, I contend that not many achieved as much as Domhnall ua Buachalla and we need to do more to remember this great man.

Buckley’s House

Since moving to Maynooth almost thirty years ago I have seen his original home next to Maynooth Garda Station closed up and empty having changed ownership a number of times. While we all refer to it as Buckley’s House the original name of the house was Leinster Lodge (later changed to Gleann Ailighe). Ua Buachalla served for many years on Kildare County Council and was a former Chairman. I would urge that Kildare County Council should take ownership of the house and that it could be converted into a museum. The Ua Buachalla papers are in a number of other museums and I think that it would be fitting tribute for Maynooth that his house be restored as a local museum and that all his papers be displayed here. There is already a Ua Buachalla collection that could be displayed there. The space available here would never be enough to tell the full story of the life and motivations of Domhnall ua Buachalla but I hope that you like me realise that a person of his importance in the fight for Irish Freedom should have a pride of place in their local community.



By Paul Croghan

**One Hundred Years on from the 1918 General Election –
The Election that changed everything**

December 14th marks the centenary of the 1918 General Election which of course was an election which changed elections and the results in Ireland changed the path on which the political future of our country was to move. The 1918 General Election was called just after the British Government signed the Armistice with Germany which ended World War 1 and it had been eight years since an election as the previous election was held in December 1910.

On several fronts the events of the years since the 1910 General Election meant that it was an eagerly awaited opportunity to effect political change. While little political change happened from the result of the election in the UK, there were changes in who voted in that election and in Ireland the result of the election was dramatic. The 1918 General Election was the first election where the provisions of the Representation of People Act 1918 came into effect. It was thus the first election in which women over the age of 30, and all men over the age of 21, could vote. Previously, all women and many poor men had been excluded from voting. While women had been granted the vote in other countries such as New Zealand in 1893, the campaign for a vote for women in the UK got more focus when Emmeline Pankhurst formed the Women’s Political and Social Union, later known as the Suffragette Movement which led a campaign of civil disobedience and targeted political leaders. The start of World War I meant that the suffragettes campaign was suspended and while women over 30 years old voted for the first time in the 1918 General Election it would be another ten years before women gained electoral equality with men when the Representation of the People (Equal Franchise) Act 1928 gave all women the vote at age 21 in the UK. In Ireland, equal franchise was secured in 1922 under the Irish Free State.

As mentioned before the 1918 General Election results were dramatic and changed the course of our history. The 1910 General Election in Ireland (remember this was a 32 County Ireland at that time) returned 73 Irish Parliamentary Party members under the leadership of John Redmond out of the 103 Irish seats in Westminster. Their campaign for Home Rule for Ireland

was the reason for their success and it is the case that this would have been achieved except for the unexpected outbreak of World War 1. By the 1918 General Election the emphasis had changed in Ireland where the campaign for independence for Ireland was now the more popular objective of the people. The events of Easter 1916 and the aftermath in Ireland had changed the expectations so that when the people of Ireland got the first opportunity to pass judgement on the UK policies in Ireland in the 1918 General Election they responded by replacing the Irish Parliamentary Party with the more radical Sinn Fein and elected 73 Sinn Fein members out of 105 seats.

Kildare North, like much of the rest of the country returned a Sinn Fein candidate. Maynooth general trader, Domhnall ua Buachalla celebrated his first electoral success against his only opponent the outgoing member John O’Connor. The total electorate was 13,274 (8,887 men and 4,387 women) There were sixteen polling places in the North Kildare constituency. Maynooth was part of the Celbridge polling district where there was a total of 2,832 registered voters of which Maynooth had 1,131.

However there was another factor that influenced the 1918 Election. In Ireland 20,057 people were reported as having died of influenza (known as the Spanish Flu) in 1918 and 1919. In addition, an increase in deaths caused by related illnesses, most notably pneumonia (from which over 3,300 died above what would usually have been expected), can be attributed to the flu epidemic. Votes in Maynooth College would have been important as most seminarians had votes and there was a strong belief that most of these would have gone to Sinn Fein but the College could have been closed in an effort to reduce the potential impact of the Spanish Flu. On the day 8,701 total votes were cast in Kildare North. Domhnall ua Buachalla was elected securing over 68% of the vote on his first electoral outing. Of course the newly elected Sinn Fein members refused to take their seats in Westminster and instead set up Dail Eireann in Dublin which met for the first time on 21st January 1919 less than one month after the declaration of the election result. Among those in attendance was the newly elected Domhnall ua Buachalla from Maynooth.

By Paul Croghan



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

Constituency Office ph: 01-6156625 Dáil Office ph: 01-6183099 - e-mail: catherine.murphy@oireachtas.ie

Clarity Needed on North Kildare Gaelcholáiste

Social Democrats TD Catherine Murphy has called for clarity from the Department of Education regarding the practical arrangements for parents of children hoping to enrol when the school opens as anticipated in 2019.

A parliamentary reply from the Minister for Education Joe McHugh to Catherine Murphy shows that the Department has once again satisfied itself regarding the demand for a Gaelcholáiste in North Kildare. Catherine Murphy said parents are now understandably anxious about arrangements for children who are coming close to finishing in Gaelscoil and thinking about their second level options.

“The school year 2019-2020 is not all that far away and parents of children coming to the end of primary cycle in local Gaelscoileanna are anxious to know what options will be available to them and what they should do regarding the planning of secondary education. Those parents of students who wish to continue their education through immersion in Irish deserve to know if they can do so locally in North Kildare and if so, what arrangements will be in place to facilitate that in the coming months.”

Three New Educate Together Schools for North Kildare

Social Democrats TD Catherine Murphy has received confirmation from the Minister for Education, Joe McHugh, that three new schools will be established in North Kildare with the likelihood that they will be Educate Together schools. According to the Minister's response to a question tabled by Deputy Murphy; Educate Together schools in Maynooth and Leixlip will be established in 2019 with the Naas school to be established in 2021. Deputy Murphy said that while the Minister's reply indicates the willingness to create Educate Together schools, it is important that parents engage in the patronage process when it opens for submissions.

Catherine Murphy TD welcomed the news saying:

“There has been a clear demand amongst parents for both non-denominational and multi-denominational school options in North Kildare and it was clear that the previous model of patronage divestment wasn't releasing enough schools to meet that demand. The reply to me from Minister Bruton shows that the Department have carried out numerous assessments of the areas and concluded that there is both the desire for the Educate Together model and the population to serve the schools and as a result they will be provided to meet the demand.

There will be a process to formally agree the patronage model for the schools and I would urge parents to engage in that process to ensure that we get agreement on the Educate Together model of patronage.”

“Parents now need a lot more detail regarding exactly where these schools will be located and what the likely enrolment policies will be so that families can begin planning their education arrangements. The Department must provide a lot more practical information for those families hoping to enrol children in 2019. They need clarity and assurances that the buildings will be agreed and in place so that parents know the details of the choice they are making regarding their children's future education”

Royal Canal Cycleway Rolls On

Social Democrats TD for Kildare North Catherine Murphy tabled a series of questions to the National Transport Authority regarding the progress of the proposed cycleway from Maynooth to the Dublin Docklands along the Royal Canal. In response, the NTA has confirmed that Fingal and Kildare County Councils are currently working on the development of the route and design options for the project. It is envisaged that the project will be completed by 2020.

Meanwhile, in a welcome development, Iarnród Éireann and the Commission for Railway Regulation have indicated that they do not have any objections to Phase 2 of the Royal Canal Cycle Scheme which will allow for a full cycle route between the city-centre and Maynooth.

Catherine Murphy TD welcomed the reply, saying:

“Greenways and cycleways have proven to be extremely popular and have worked very well in the areas where they are established - from both a tourist and a commuter perspective. The development of this route would give people the option to cycle directly between Maynooth and the city-centre without facing the usual concerns of road cycling and traffic.

“In addition, we are awaiting the outcome of a feasibility study by South Dublin County Council regarding the extension of the cycleway from the Newcastle Road to the Hazelhatch Road. This would further extend the safe cycling options available to people in North Kildare.”

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Now Taking Christmas Party Bookings

Choice of Menu from Finger Food

to á la Carte

Live Music



Great Food Served 7 Days



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 Vinny Mulready by the Mayor of Kildare Sean Power for winning our third Gold Medal.

Speaking of which Maynooth Tidy Towns will be presented with our third National Gold Medal at the Regional Awards on 6th December in Abbeyshrule, Longford.

Congratulations to Moira Baxter who was presented with a cake to celebrate her 70th birthday.



At time of writing Maynooth Tidy Towns will finish all our planting of bulbs and we plan to resume in early 2019. We thank all who volunteered and supported us during 2018.

After Christmas please recycle your Christmas 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 in March 2019 in the Tesco Shopping Car Park date to be advised.

On behalf of Maynooth Tidy Towns we wish Staff, Editorial Board 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



St Mary's Brass & Reed Band

The big event of last month was the launch of the Christmas CD in the Band Hall on Saturday 19th November which was recorded only five weeks previously. The CD has a great mix of well known Christmas pieces featuring the Band and special guests the Parish Choir and the Choir from the Presentation Girls' School. Considering we produced 12 tracks in only seven hours the finished product sounded really well.

The CD is now on sale in The Maynooth Bookshop on the Main Street, Donovan's Centra in Greenfield and The Parish Centre, They are also available in the Girls' School for parents with children there. The Band will also be selling in Supervalu in the Glenroyal Shopping Centre on Saturday 8th December with grateful thanks to the Supervalu Management. If you have any problems getting a copy of the CD call 0872537906.

Our next public appearance is our annual Christmas Concert on Sunday 9th December at 7.30pm in the Glenroyal Hotel where we hope to get everyone in to the Christmas spirit with lots of festive numbers. Our Junior Band, which is the future of the Maynooth Band, will also be making an appearance under the baton of Daniel McGonagle and they are working hard to make an impression on the night.

We will also be taking part in the Church of Ireland Ecumenical Service on Sunday evening, 16th December which has been a regular part of our December programme for many years and it will be quite different from our last Ecumenical Service in Bad Orb Germany last September. We will end 2018 with our annual carol playing outside the Church after 11.30 Mass on Christmas morning, a tradition that has survived through rain, snow and frost for decades,

The past year has been exceptional for the band with our first recital in St. Patrick's College Chapel in February, the Bad Orb Music Festival in September and the CD recording in October, just wondering how on earth we can top that in 2019. Finally may we extend a sincere thank you to all those who have been of great support to the band this year and every year, your help is really appreciated and can we wish you and all your family and friends a very happy and peaceful Christmas. Oh and don't forget the CD.



Brady's Clockhouse presents

CHRISTMAS 80'S NIGHT

MAYNOOTH

29TH
DEC



COMMUNITY
FIRST RESPONDERS

- **Sat 29th December – 9pm til late**
- **Live Band & DJ**
- **Tickets €10**

Tickets at: Brady's / The Maynooth Bookshop

Fionnuala: 087 411 6925

Cathy: 087 982 1034

fundraising.maynoothcfr@gmail.com

Maynooth Community First Responders Fundraising Night

Maynooth Community First Responders (CFR) are holding an 80's night in Brady's Clockhouse Maynooth on Saturday 29th December. The group has raised almost half of the €10,000 need to purchase life-saving equipment so it can get up and running in the new year.

Live band and DJ on the night. Tickets are €10. To support contact Fionnuala on 087 4116925 or email fundraising.maynoothcfr@gmail.com



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Comhaltas Craobh Mhaigh Nuad



Oíche Shamhna is over and the march to Nollaig commences! The branch lessons are well under way with the term making good progress. Membership has grown again this year & it's always great to look at our set of players and think how far they've come in a few short years.



Trad for Trocaire at Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich saw many of our local branch member playing for worthy global causes.

Up to 2,000 Trad for Trócaire events have taken place across Ireland and also in the UK and USA since 2010 and Comhaltas members continue to be prominent events organised. The money raised is now supporting communities in many countries across the developing world who are struggling daily with extreme poverty and injustice. Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich has a proud record in this respect, have raised an amazing 35,000 Euro since its inception. This year was continued this proud record and Wed 17th saw all-day events at the school, culminating in a

fantastic evening concert. Special call out to Caoimhe and Seán K for their solo performances at the event. Maith Sibh agus go raibh maith agaibh do na múinteoirí agus na daltaí!

Sult na Sollán is a community group set-up in Sallins, North Co. Kildare to promote the Irish language and traditional Irish music and culture. Every October they hold celebration of culture across all its dimensions and it typically draws a fantastic attendance from musicians from right across North Kildare. A session was held in the Railway Inn on Saturday afternoon which allowed our members to share tunes with the other branches around the county. Thanks again to "na Sultai" for a wonderful weekend.



Róisín, Kirsten, Caoimhe and Caoimhe lashing out the tunes in Sallins.



Saturday Session in the Railway Bar in Sallins.

The first event up was the quiz, with quiz master Aiden Minnock running the show. Hotly contested by all, Parents and Juniors alike, this round was won by "The Trad Lads" pictured right **Seán, Riobáird, Tom, Iarla and Conor.**

The winning Scor team of **L to R – Conor, Iarla, Tom Riobáird and Seán**



Next up was the dancing competition, where the dancers from the Rita Doyle school of dance once again dazzled.

The Girls in Blue shown qualifying in the Maynooth heat – they will go on to represent the club in Allenwood at county level.



The singing competition was next up, and here, the crowd were delivered a real treat with powerful performances from all contestants. Róisín qualified for Maynooth Football while Áine claimed the berth for Maynooth hurling. These sweet voices will be worth the trip to Allenwood alone and both are very well placed to take County and maybe Leinster honours, so fingers crossed!

The musical group were up next where a number of barnstorming appearances were delivered. In this category of events, we again had 2 winners. The Comhaltas group featuring Caoimhe, Aoife, Róis, Róisín and Conor delivered a polished performance to claim first prize for Maynooth football, while the Trad Lads pumped out two stirring tunes, The Rolling Wave and The Rookery Reel, to take the spot for Maynooth Hurling.



Maynooth Football winners on the podium – **Left -Aoife, Caoimhe, Róis, Róisín and Conor**, while the Maynooth Hurling winners – **Iarla, Riobáird, Tom and Seán** look on



Áine and Róisín will represent Maynooth GAA in the Kildare county singing competition.

This last event wrapped up proceedings and left the crowd thoroughly entertained and gasping for more – so best of luck to all competitors in the county's and beyond perhaps.

Last year, Kildare Comhaltas' five branches met up for an evening's music and seisúin that was such a resounding success that it is threatening to become an annual event. Compered by Tom Dillon, the Kildare County Chairman, all Cill Dara's five branches put together 20 mins of music, bringing young and old, beginner and seasoned musicians to the stage for performances. The program was kicked off by Leixlip and followed by our own team, Clane, Kilcock and finished by Kiltel / Eadestown, hosts of this year's Fleadh Chill Dara. Our own Craobh performed a set of jigs, reels, hornpipes and a polka and



Róisín got up for one of her trademark serenades. Overall a really wonderful night of music from Kildare musicians which was followed up by a session and (ahem) refreshments in the bar of Kilcock GAA afterwards.

Craobh squad at the Kildare Comhaltas get together consisted of Róisín, Tom, Katie, Seán, Kirsten, Caoimhe, Conor, Seán, Aoife and Derek.

Our lessons started for the autumn term in September and will start again for Term 2 in January so if you've any

unfulfilled hankering to take up an instrument, then please drop down for a term – lessons are lots of fun and unbeatable value.

Also – if you're stuck on an idea for a Christmas present, why not a gift on an instrument and a term of lessons in the January term. We've lots of adult members – both returnees to playing as well as novices. We've even an instrument bank put together with support from KBC, if you just want to give a particular instrument a lash for one term.

As usual, keep an eagle eye on our Facebook or Twitter feeds for more information on upcoming workshops, pop-up sessions and performances. We'll be also in attendance at those kids sessions in Springfield Hotel organised by Leixlip. Our adult session group continue to motor on with their sessions – PM us for detail on same if you're interested in joining a welcoming improvers session.

Outside of this if you are looking to enjoy traditional music in the town, the Maynooth University Trad Soc have a nice session on Tuesday evenings in Brady's bar; The Newtown Inn has a nice session on Thursdays, as does Brady's lounge, while MJ and friends are ever present in The Roost Bar on Friday evenings. Míle Buíochas

<http://www.facebook.com/ccemaighnuad>
<http://twitter.com/CCEMAighNuad>

Derek Carroll,
PRO, Craobh Mhaigh Nuad CCE

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Cllr Naoise Ó Cearúil - Maynooth Fianna Fáil Notes

Mobile: 086-728 0050 e-mail: cllrnaoise@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/naoiseoceanuil/www.votenaoise.ie



Footbridge Over the Lyreen River at Manor Mills

Naoise has been working on this for some time and the council are in land take discussions at the request of the National Transport Authority. This means that the footbridge is on track.

Castledawson taking in charge

In order to take Castledawson Estate in charge, Newtown Hall must be firstly taken in charge, as the pump station serving Castledawson is in the control of the developer of the Newtown Hall Estate. Newtown Hall is in the process of completing the snag list as issued by Kildare County Council Development Control Section.

Conolly’s Folly/The Obelisk

Cllr. Ó Cearúil has asked that the fencing around the Obelisk is changed and that a more appropriately aesthetic fence is put in place. A letter from the council has been issued to the Office of Public Works (OPW).

Childcare places in Maynooth

Naoise has raised the lack of childcare places and has asked that a review is carried out of the current and projected demand. He is awaiting a response from the county childcare committee.

Newtown / Rathcoffey road capacity and safety.

At the last meeting of the Maynooth MD, Naoise raised the issue of the capacity of this road and the need for a pedestrian crossing. The council responded by saying “This will require examining by the Road Design Section as part of the Technical Assessment Advisory Group (TAAG) projects currently awaiting assessment and a source of funding would need to be identified for any traffic calming measures and pedestrian crossing facilities, if deemed warranted.”

Public Footpath through Hayfield Estate

Cllr. Ó Cearúil asked why the public footpath outside the Hayfield Estate on the Straffan Road been removed and if the council could confirm that all pedestrian traffic is now expected to go through Hayfield. The council said that the footpath is in accordance with a 2010 planning application and that pedestrians would have to go through the estate. Cllr. Ó Cearúil argued that a decision such as this, that has a drastic impact on the residents of Hayfield and the public in general, should never have gone ahead. He also said that an application from 8 years ago with such a condition should have been highlighted to prospective buyers of homes in Hayfield and the community.

Ó Cearúil calls for new Local Area Plan for Maynooth

Cllr. Ó Cearúil called on the the council to proceed with preparing a new Local Area Plan (LAP) for Maynooth as the current plan runs until 2019 and preparations should begin now. He continued saying that the current LAP is not fit for purpose considering the increase in population in Maynooth and the drastic impact traffic is having on the town. The council said that the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy will necessitate a variation in the Kildare County Development Plan and that they are currently preparing the LAP. Naoise raised concerns that the LAP would not be dealt with during the lifetime of this council and that there should be more urgency in developing the plan.

Carton Wood Bottle Bank

A number of residents from Carton Wood contacted Naoise after learning of plans to put a bottle bank in the estate beside the proposed playground. Naoise created a petition, with the residents, to stop this from happening and succeeded in stopping the bottle bank from going ahead.

Carton Avenue debacle continues

Naoise has been battling the council alongside local residents and his council colleagues. At the most recent meeting of the Maynooth MD he asked what action the council has taken to enact the democratic motions enacted by councillors in relation to Carton Avenue. The council responded by saying that the works which had been carried out were in compliance with a valid planning permission (condition 6 of Planning Permission 14/660 refers) and that the planning condition had been included because of an objective in the Maynooth Local Area Plan. Naoise was infuriated by this as the planning application never encroached onto the Avenue as has happened in reality. He is committed to reinstating this historical amenity to its prior condition.

New Primary School

The Minister for Education announced that Maynooth is to receive a new primary school as places at all present schools are extremely limited and the population of the town has grown drastically. Potential patrons are asked to submit applications to the Department.

Gaelcoláiste

The campaign for a gaelcoláiste in Maynooth and in the North of the County has continued for many years. Minister Bruton announced in 2016 that the Gaelcoláiste was to open in September 2019 under the patronage of the KWETB and an Foras Pátrúnachta. While both patron bodies have met, further progression and a timeline for the opening is needed. Naoise’s fear is that the delay in the Maynooth Education Campus could have a knock on effect on the opening of the Gaelcoláiste and this should not be allowed to occur.

Register to Vote

You can obtain the forms to register or change your address on the www.checktheregister.ie You can also check if you are registered on this site.

Join the Team

Are you interested in local issues or would you like to help Naoise continue his work in Kildare County Council? We’re preparing for next year’s local elections. We need people to help with online communications, canvassing, leaflet dropping and strategy. If you’ve read the leaflet this far, you’re probably who we’re looking for! So please reach out.

Representations

As always if you require any personal assistance or advise, please feel free to get in touch with Naoise on (086) 728 0050 or cllrnaoise@gmail.com. All correspondence is confidential.

Nollaig Shona agus Ath-Bhliain faoi Mhaise

I’d like to wish everybody a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Years. I hope everyone enjoys the Christmas Lights organised by the Maynooth Business Association and would encourage you to contribute with as little or as much as possible.

To: The Editor, Maynooth Newsletter.

*Don't it always seem to go,
That you don't know what you've got
Till it's gone
They paved paradise
And put up a parking lot..."*

This verse from the old Joni Mitchell classic 'Big Yellow Taxi' (1970), perfectly sums up for me the reasons why we should, indeed we must 'Save Carton Avenue'. Whilst there is no suggestion at the moment that Carton Avenue is to disappear forever, (or to vanish under tarmac?) the fact is that the works already carried out on the Avenue, and the future works planned, will irrevocably and irredemingly change the nature and character of this wonderful amenity for good. Or rather, not for good.

The town of Maynooth is changing and growing constantly. As someone who has lived here for almost all of my 56 years I have witnessed many of these changes and have welcomed most of them. But growth, and change, must be planned and managed carefully. It cannot simply be a case of 'out with the old, in with the new'. If we do that ,we are at real risk of throwing out the baby with the bathwater. OK, that's enough clichés for now!

We are blessed in Maynooth with the historic artefacts and built heritage that abound here. To name a few there are the Geraldine Castle, St. Patrick's College, Conolly's Folly, the Royal Canal and Harbour, Carton House and grounds, and of course, Carton

Avenue itself. This beautiful, historic tree-lined pedestrian walkway dates back to 1751 and is absolutely essential to the unique character of Maynooth and indeed contributes massively towards the quality of life in the Town. It has always been thus, find me one person in Maynooth who disagrees with this sentiment and I would be very surprised!

Let me explain what I mean. Carton Avenue has always been there for the people of Maynooth. Essentially unchanged, for almost two and three quarter centuries. A green oasis of peace and tranquillity in an ever changing, ever expanding and increasingly busy town. It was our adventure playground as kids, our courting ground as teenagers, and the place where we brought our wives, kids and pets after that. Still do, in fact. We walk or jog there for exercise, go there to paint, take photos, meet people, spend quality time with an elderly parent or relative, or simply to get a much needed break. Carton Avenue was and is a destination in itself, rather than a route by which to get to somewhere else.

Most importantly, it was always a pedestrian walkway. The clue is in the entrance off the Main Street. Look at the pedestrian stiles, each side of the main gates, (which are themselves only three metres wide). These narrow , 'V' shaped apertures were clearly not designed with any kind of vehicles in mind, other than 'Shank's Mare'! The gates themselves were always kept locked up to recent years, but they were then opened to facilitate wheelchair users and mobility aids for the elderly or infirm. The pathway on the Avenue itself is only two metres wide, just

enough for two people to walk side by side. The linear nature of the Avenue, with no official lateral access (up to now), meant that one did not have to worry about cross-flowing traffic of any kind entering from the sides. The continuous, uninterrupted tree-lined visual aspect of the Avenue is one of it's strongest features and should always be retained.

Now the Avenue is imminent danger of, if not actual destruction, then grave and possibly irreparable damage . A four metre wide tarmac road and bridge threatens it on one side, with more planned for the near future. It appears from recently viewed maps that the intention is to incorporate the entire walkway (only two metres wide, mind), into a cycling/ pedestrian network, all in the interests of "permeability". Already complaints have been received from pedestrian users on the Avenue about overly assertive cyclists looking to claim 'their' space. If Carton Avenue and surrounding areas were being designed today from scratch, rather than being part of our historic legacy and built heritage, then perhaps the people of Maynooth would accept what is being foisted upon them. This is not the case however. Carton Avenue is the only public, pedestrian walkway in North Kildare, something it has remained for hundreds of years. It is not something we will relinquish easily, or without a fight.

Michael O' Reilly,
(Committee member),
Carton Avenue Preservation Society.

Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee

No Tea-Dance to report on, this month because, as you know by now, November is all about fundraising. I say you know, because you responded so well it is almost overwhelming. You bought up all our tickets for our monster draw, you welcomed our people who called to your doors, you delivered hundreds of items to the hall and then you came in droves to buy it all back. Where else would you get it only in Maynooth. So take a bow people, this is community spirit at its' best. Many thanks to you all for your continued support. I also thank our sponsors, Maynooth Post Primary School, Thornton's Recycling, Sean Donovan, SuperValu, Manor Mills, Frank Walsh, Willie Kiernan, Ger McMyler, Gerry & Pam Flood and Barton's Transport.

Many thanks to all who came along on the day to help the sale, especially the young scouts who were magnificent and of course Johnny and Tony who harnessed their energy, and not forgetting all those people who came from our neighbouring towns, all of which helped to raise €10,720.31. As there are some outstanding donations this figure will rise after this item has gone to print. All monies raised will be spent, in its' entirety, for the benefit of our older people. It is also worth mentioning here that this money will go back into the community as it is our policy to support local businesses. Once again many thanks, we do appreciate your support and if I have left anyone out, it's not because your contribution is insignificant, It's because my memory isn't as good as it used to be.

Speaking of which, our committee is getting older now and so we would love to see younger members joining and bringing some new ideas. There is always room for a fresh pair of eyes. Do give it some thought.

Congratulations to all who won prizes especially Nora McMahon, Muhussey, Monster Hamper. Eabha McLoughlin, Maynooth. €200. Lucy Sherlock. Maynooth. €100. Mathew Carrol. Maynooth. Philips 32" TV. And numerous other prize winners ,well done to all.

Our next event will be our Christmas shopping and extravaganza afternoon, courtesy of SuperValu, dancing in the isles....if you will. This will all happen at 3pm on Sunday December 2nd.

Our Christmas Dinner will take place on Sunday December 16th at 3pm in the Glenroyal Hotel. Please note the time as it is an hour earlier this year. All names of those attending should be in by December 4th.

Our morning club will close from December 6th until January 8th 2019.

In the meantime may I wish you all a very happy and joyful Christmas and peace throughout the coming year.

Josephine Moore. - Chairperson.



Kildare County Council
Library and Arts Services
Comhairle Condáe Chill Dara
Seirbhís Leabharlainne agus Ealaíon

Christmas Children's Events at Maynooth Library

Christmas Puppet Show with No Strings Attached Puppet Theatre

Friday 7th December, 10- 11am

No Strings will present their Christmas puppet show for the library called the "The Little Lost Bear"

Contact library to book

Carnation Theatre presents "Turkey" the musical.

Saturday 8th December 2pm

Featuring live music, puppetry and a choir of turkeys. Come to see the Carnation Theatre perform their Christmas musical.

Booking required.

Horrid Henry Art & Craft

Saturday 15th December 2pm- 3pm

Enjoy the hilarious antics of the infamous Horrid Henry, Miss Battle- Axe and Peter Perfect with this art and craft where children will create their own Horrid Henry felt puppet using felt and fabric glue.

For ages 6-9 years

Booking Required.

Kids' Christmas Secret Cinema

Tuesday 18th December 6.00pm- 7.45pm

All board this festive season and get in the holiday spirit with a classic family film.

No booking required. This film has a universal rating.

Christmas tree decoration painting art & craft

Friday 21st December 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm

Get ready for the festive season with this fun craft where children will paint beautiful wooden Christmas tree decorations to make their Christmas tree extra special this holiday season .

For 7- 11years.

Booking required

Story time

Winter Tales Story time

Friday 14th December 10am- 11am

This week's stories are all about winter scenes and animals in winter. Come and listen to some winter tales to celebrate this magical time of year. Listen to (and join in with!) some fun rhymes and songs and spend some quality reading time with your toddler.

No booking required

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Happy Holidays Story Time

Friday 21st December at 10am

Come listen to and enjoy stories to celebrate the holiday season. Listen to and join in with some fun rhymes and songs as well and spend some quality reading time with your toddler. Colouring pages will also be provided.

Booking required

Parent and Toddler Yoga with Nicola Foxe

Thursday 8th and 13th December 9.30- 10.30 am

Join Nicola from Yo-Yo Yoga for a fun-filled and beneficial yoga session for toddlers and their parents or caregivers. Sessions are lively with an emphasis on spending time together doing yoga through song, stories, games and cuddles. Suitable for little yogi's from 1 year (crawling) to 4 years of age. Sessions are child led and very relaxed.

Booking required

Smart Tech Classes

The Smart Way To Use Technology: To Connect With Loved Ones

Begins 10th January 2pm

10th Jan 2pm iPhones (week 1 of 2)

17th Jan 2pm iPhones (week 2 of 2)

24th Jan 2pm iPads (1 week only)

31st Jan 2pm Android Phones (week 1 of 2)

7th Feb 2pm Android Phones (week 2 of 2)

14th Feb 2pm Android Tablet (1 week only)

Your smart phone and tablet provide an amazing way to feel connected to the people you love! You can stay in touch by text, create a shortcut to your favourite contacts so you can phone them quicker, and see photos/videos of your family/ friends. So to ensure your smart phone/tablet makes your life better, come along to these easy-to-follow classes and learn through a step-by-step process. The trainer Fiona Ashe would be delighted to answer all of your questions!

Fiona is a filmmaker and journalist, who specialises in how to communicate effectively. She is looking forward to helping you to use technology to connect and communicate.

Contact library to book.

Ukulele workshop for beginners and all ages

Saturday 1st and 8th December 3pm

If you have a ukulele and are interested in learning or improving your skills Maynooth Community library has a beginners and improvers workshop for you.

Contact the library to book.

Introductory Irish Classes with Pat Lonergan

Final class Thursday 6th December (Final Week) 10:30am - 12pm

Looking to improve your Irish since you left school or just needing to brush up on your pronunciation and conversational abilities? Pat Lonergan is running the class for you!

Booking Required.



Writers’ Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

Berlin Visit

In former times, on reaching manhood, one took the Grand Tour but I was twenty-eight when I ventured alone into Europe. The year was 1965. Back then the Cold War was flourishing and divided Berlin was its most potent symbol. Only two years previously JFK had made his famous speech, ‘Ich bin ein Berliner’ (I am a Berliner) in front of the infamous wall. I had flown from New York to London in June, from there to Amsterdam then on to Copenhagen. After spending a few days in the last two cities, I sailed to Oslo, from where I took a steamer up the coast of Norway to the Lofoten islands, north of the Artic Circle. While there, in the ‘Land of the Midnight Sun’, I fell in with two German fellows and together we climbed a mountain, which was partly covered in snow, then attended a midsummer bonfire.

Afterwards, I travelled south again via Stockholm to Hamburg and on to Wolfsburg, close to the East German border. In Wolfsburg I picked up a new Volkswagen Beetle in the factory and, to familiarise myself with its performance, drove to Hanover, about 40 miles away. Now I was ready to venture into Berlin. At Marienborn I had to pass a West-Allied checkpoint and then an East German one before getting onto the hundred mile long autobahn through the Deutsche Demokratische Republik that led to the capital. While driving merrily along I was overtaken by a patrol car. On halting, the policeman, pointing to a symbol in his traffic book, indicated that I had overtaken another vehicle, something that was verboten. Naturally I drove carefully after that but on approaching the East German checkpoint at Drewitz, outside Berlin, I was told to pull into an area where my car was checked thoroughly, a trolley with a mirror even being shoved under the chassis. Once nothing was found I proceeded through the British Sector checkpoint into West Berlin, which also had a French and an American sector.

Following that dramatic entry I drove to a hostel crowded with Western students and backpackers and got accommodation. Afterwards, while I was walking abroad, the sky darkened and soon an electric storm engulfed the city. Never till then had I experienced such thunder and lightning. It seemed as if nature was dramatising the dangers that threatened this free enclave in a communist world.

Next morning the hostel supervisor began to bawl out a fellow he had caught smoking. While the smoker was obviously at fault, the Hitlerian fury shown by this martinet was excessive and I expected someone in our free-spirited, multinational group to protest but we all stood speechless like a flock of sheep. Is it possible that if we were there in Der Fuehrer’s time we would have acted no differently?

That day I decided to visit Dahlem museum to see the bust of Nefertitti. Well, that was the plan but while driving and simultaneously checking a street map, I made a left-hand turn and was struck by an oncoming car. My head hit the roof and when I got out I found that the front of the Beetle had been driven against the tyres. Now I saw the usual, helpful face of the Germans. A young man tied one end of a rope to my bumper and the other end round a tree trunk then reversed the car, freeing the wheels. After that, a friendly policeman drove ahead of me while we made our way to a VW garage. Having dictated a statement for insurance purposes, I was now, apart from a severe head pain, free to explore this divided capital.

Well, I did visit Dahlem and various other attractions, including a nightclub where one could phone or send written messages via a metal tube to any girl at another table that caught ones fancy. Did this place feature later in Cabaret? Anyway, it had the slightly risqué atmosphere of that musical, which was set in the time of the Nazis’ rise to power. In general, I found that a beleaguered, though friendly, atmosphere prevailed in Berlin, as if the inhabitants were reassured by the presence of us ‘Free World’ visitors.

After seeing major attractions such as the Brandenburg Gate, the zoo, Checkpoint Charlie and the infamous wall, it was time to venture into East Berlin. To do this I travelled on the S Bahn, the over-ground train system, from a station near the Tiergarten. The official exchange rate was one Deutschemark for one Ostmark but since the West German mark was, in reality, worth about four East German marks there was a temptation to do some private trading. This, however, the East Germans sought to prevent by making one declare how many Deutschemarks one had on entering. Should the number be less when returning one could be detained.

I will never forget the atmosphere in the station when I disembarked from the train; it had that sense of hidden menace found in a James Bond movie. There was a nervous-looking man who seemed anxious to speak to me, while a cold-eyed individual in a trench coat, probably a member of the Stasi, watched us from a corner. What did the nervous fellow want? A map? News from the west? Maybe he just wished to exchange some Ostmarks for Deutschemarks? I was tempted to greet him but with Trench Coat watching I decided that discretion was imperative. Feeling decidedly unheroic, I set off into the Communist East.

At that time apologists for Marxism were still extolling the soviet system but the shabby appearance of East Berlin compared to thriving West Berlin gave the lie to their views. I remember in particular visiting a recently built skyscraper whose rattling elevator proclaimed the shoddy workmanship in the entire building. At an upper-storey restaurant I was served a forgettable Wiener schnitzel. When I had finished eating I decided to see if my waiter would frown on the decadent capitalist custom of tipping. Needless to say he didn’t!

Apart from that meal and seeing Unter den Linden Avenue and some buildings that still bore marks of the 1945 Russian bombardment I remember little of my visit to this bastion of the communist world. No wonder that a wall had to be erected to keep its inhabitants from bolting! Grateful for my own liberty to travel freely, I took the S Bahn back west.

Next day a German friend showed me the bell tower of the Kaiser Wilhelm Church on Kurfurstendamm; it was a stark reminder of the relentless bombing of Berlin by the RAF and U.S. air force during World War 2. This imposing ruin with the modern church erected alongside seemed to symbolise the resilience of Berliners, who only sixteen years previously had also endured the Soviet blockade, a threat that was overcome by the Allied Air Lift.

Since it would take another fortnight for my car to be repaired I travelled south through Bavaria and Austria to Italy. There further adventures, including climbing a mountain beside Lago di Garda and narrowly avoiding disaster on the descent, awaited me but that part of my ‘grand tour’ will be recounted later.

P.G. Nerney

Maynooth College Revisited

Returning with my grownup children
to these august, walled-in grounds,
from high-up in an evergreen
an unseen raven croaks
an intermittent, guttural warning.

Past austere, cut-stone buildings,
autumn has transformed the trees
into a glowing, magic canopy,
spread leaf carpets on tarmacked paths
to welcome our return,
but in the midst of this munificence
I can’t forget our former walks,
my children racing eagerly ahead,
adult angst undreamt of still.
Now lively talk keeps cares at bay,
while I am grateful for this interlude,
the dying season’s kindness.

We come back by the cloistered garden,
my old retreat when cares beset;
today the place is bleak and drear -
its flowerbeds dormant promises ?

Colin Scott

A piece from Matthew's Gospel

Ná bígí ag ceapadh gur chun síocháin a
chur ar an talamh a tháinig mé. Ní síocháin
a tháinig mé a chur ann ach claíomh. Óir
tháinig mé chun duine a chur bunoscionn
lena athair agus an iníon lena máthair agus
bean mhic le máthair a chéile, agus is iad
lucht a theaghlaigh féin is naimhde do
dhuine.

An té arb ansa leis athair nó máthair ná mé,
níl sé diongbhála dom; agus an té arb ansa
leis mac nó iníon ná mé, níl sé diongbhála
dom; agus an té nach nglacann a chros agus
mise a leanúint, níl sé diongbhála dom. An
té a fhaigheann a anam, caillfidh sé é; ach
an té a chaillfidh a anam mar gheall ormsa,
gheobhaidh sé é.

Matha, 10, 34-39

Gabriel Martin

THE UNMARKED GRAVE

Your comrades lie in the murdering
ditch at Ovidstown,
unnamed, we know the place,
You, Citizen Norris, lie at Ladychapel Graveyard
in an unmarked grave,
Brought there for burial by your family.
Two hundred perished at the Battle,
armed only with Pikes,
bravely facing horses and cannon fire.

II

You, Citizen Norris, escaped after the slaughter
but were taken prisoner at Kilcock
Your wife pleaded with the Col. of the Yeos
To spare you, suddenly a volley was heard
from the shrubbery, ending your young life.
On hearing this the Col. replied,
By God woman, I fear your pleas are too late
Two hundred years later we still strive
for your ideals.

A poem by the late Hilda Dunne From the book 1798 and Maynooth by Liam Chambers
Published by Maynooth 1798 Commemoration Group
“from this town all is confusion...”

Maynooth Newsletter

This publication is produced by Maynooth Community Employment Project, supported by the Department of Employment Affairs & Social Protection, which is funded by the Irish Government.

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The opinions and statements expressed in the articles are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the Editorial Board. All materials to be included in the next edition of the Newsletter should be sent by e-mail or addressed to:

The Editor, Maynooth Newsletter,
Unit 5, Tesco S.C. Carton Retail Park,
Maynooth, Co. Kildare. W23 F9F7

Tel: 01-6285922

E-mail: office@maynoothcep.com - Website: www.maynoothcep.com

Mission Statement

The Maynooth Newsletter is a community focused publication available free to the people of Maynooth. It plays an important role in gathering together, recording and distributing community based news.

We encourage all groups and individuals in the community to submit material to let us know about their activities and any upcoming events.

The Newsletter exists for your enjoyment and we hope you continue to enjoy your monthly read and keep us informed of your activities.

The Editorial Board endeavours to ensure independence and balance in the Newsletter content and reserves the right to omit/edit or abridge material which in its opinion might render the Newsletter as a promoter of sectional interests.

In addition we undertake the following:

In the case of errors of fact we will publish corrections when we become aware of such.

In the case of unwittingly or unfairly impugning the reputation of any person we hereby offer that person the right to reply.

Any contributor seeking further guidelines in this matter is invited to contact the Editorial Board.

Copy date for receipt of articles is published in the Newsletter. We must stress that material submitted after the copy date cannot be accepted.

Maynooth Newsletter Archives

The management and staff of the Maynooth Community Employment Project started a project in March 2011 to acquire and digitise all available issues of the Maynooth Newsletter dating back to 1975. These back issues along with current issues are available by following the archive link on our webpage - www.maynoothcep.com.

The Newsletter Archive can be viewed and searched in pdf format. In addition, there exists the capability to be able to search an entire year. Please be aware the single files associated with the year are larger and will take a little longer to load. The Archive provides an important historical footprint of the Town and records the community profile of Maynooth from the mid-seventies to the present day. We hope you enjoy using it and that it brings back memories of people, places and times and that it equally provides an interesting insight to the development of the town and university for newly arrived members of our community.

Editorial Board

Maynooth Newsletter

Maynooth Newsletter

**Copy date for the next edition of the
Maynooth Newsletter will be
Tuesday 22nd January 2019**

Editorial

Personally 2018 was one of the years that I will remember with sadness because of the death of my father in his 96th year and my aunt who was ten years younger both passing in October. Without mentioning names I am very conscious that we lost many good people in Maynooth this year so in reading this please take a few minutes to think about people you know that passed away in 2018. Of course this is the time of the year that families get together and a time when we can reach out to people who do not have family to spend Christmas with. There can be many reasons as to why people are alone. Remember not everyone can be in the Christmas spirit but connections made to people now will last well into the future. Elsewhere in this issue one of the editorial team takes a look back at some of the stories covered by the "Maynooth Newsletter" during 2018.

Another thing that crosses our minds as 2019 approaches is to review what we are doing and consider changes for the future. While I am loath to make general statements on politics or finance, there is no doubt that the economic state of Ireland has continued to improve based on statistics of jobs growth and domestic spending. Of course it does not mean that everyone is better off than they were at the start of 2018. As you will know the "Maynooth Newsletter" is produced by Maynooth Community Employment Project who provide employment and training experience for people who want to update their skills so that they improve their chance of getting full-time employment. It is great to be able to report that people leaving the project in 2018 were able to secure employment elsewhere. While it has never been difficult to find new people to fill the places on the project it is getting harder because of the low level of unemployment in the area at this time. The project will adjust to make sure that, in as much as possible, there will continue to be places for people to join us so that they can benefit from the range of training and work experience that we can provide.

Having the Community Employment Project is a great resource for Maynooth and aside from the "Maynooth Newsletter" the employees are involved in other activities in the community. While being often confused with others our team based in Maynooth Harbour are there to keep the towpath of the Royal Canal clean and tidy. I can remember in the past when we closed for summer holidays the harbour area would be covered in litter in a couple of days. As is often said about someone – you are never noticed until you are not there. We also have a team working in the Maynooth Town Soccer Club where they maintain the sports grounds in excellent condition so that the club volunteers can focus on other aspects of club activities.



The Harbour area in Maynooth

More needs to be said about the value of the "Maynooth Newsletter" as a resource to the people and businesses of the town. As well as charting the social history of Maynooth it still retains the role of highlighting the very valuable work done by over fifty different community groups whose activities cover a large spectrum from sporting, cultural, environmental and social activities. On average we cover forty different active community groups in each edition of the "Maynooth Newsletter". In addition, we provide the space for a similar number of local businesses to advertise to the local community. Of course without their support Maynooth Community Employment Project could not raise the funds that they must provide to financially support the project. Government funding is provided by the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection but is mainly used to pay wages and paying the ongoing bills is mainly funded by Maynooth Community Employment Project activities.

The project staff also provide support for other activities in Maynooth even though the wider public may not be aware of the fact that they are key to these activities being a success. The Maynooth St. Patrick's Day parade receive administrative support from the Maynooth Community Employment Project. Also the Maynooth Community Space, based close by the office in Carton Retail Park, is also supported by the project. This facility is used on an ongoing basis by over thirty community groups who provide activities covering all ages from toddlers to the active aged and many others. This important facility for the town is provided through a partnership arrangement between Tesco Ireland, Kildare County Council and Maynooth Community Employment Project. It is unquestionable that Maynooth Community Employment Project is an invaluable resource to Maynooth. The changing economic conditions particularly in terms of the Irish economy reaching close to full employment means that the projects such as this must continue to evolve and continue to be able to provide employment and training as well as so many community resources.

Being involved in such positive organisation as editor of the "Maynooth Newsletter" is a privilege. My thanks to all my colleagues for their support in 2018. On their behalf and mine we wish you a Happy Christmas season and if you can please support local Maynooth businesses this year because part of the money spent locally makes its way back to you.

Paul Croghan - Editor

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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 Glenroyal Hotel New Members Welcome Contact: MCEP Office for more details (Unit 5 Tesco's Carton Retail Park)</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>We meet on Fridays between 11am & 1pm in Maynooth Community Space Tesco SC</p> <p>Activities vary to include social, cultural & educational interests of group & new members. New members welcome Drop in for a cuppa & chat if interested Contact Mary: 0861662910 or Lena: 0876717062</p>	<p>Every Thursday from 9.30am to 11.30am 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	St Joseph's young Priests Society	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>St. Joseph's young Priest's Society meet monthly on the second last Wednesday between 8pm and 9pm in Parish Centre, Maynooth. For further information contact Bernadette at 6286288 or Lena at 01 6285128.</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	DIARY ENTRIES	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. Contact Josephine on 087 9002296</p>	<p>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@maynoothcep.com Phone: 01-6285922</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 non-fee paying Community Groups.
The content of the Monthly Planner Diary is published in good faith. All details should be checked with groups in advance*

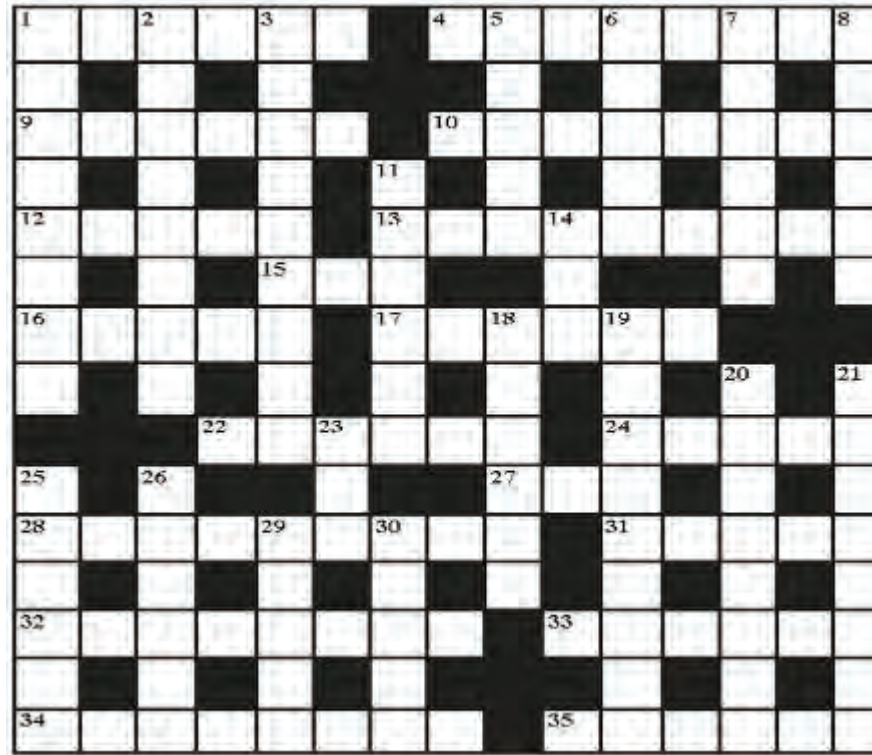
Clues Across

ACROSS

1. Specialised piece of equipment or tool (6)
4. Raised flooring or stage (8)
9. Not faint or feeble (6)
10. Holiday (8)
12. "I will... and go now (Yeats) (5)
13. Be present at (9)
15. Uncooked (3)
16. It's as strong as its weakest link (5)
17. Untie a relative (6)
22. Counsel (6)
24. Hasten (5)
27. Soluble substance for staining (3)
28. Capacity to become something (9)
31. Relative magnitudes of two quantities (5)
32. Soaks, douses (8)
33. Gluey, adhesive (6)
34. Daisies (8)
35. Fully developed animals (6)



December 2018 Crossword - No. 475



Clues Down

DOWN

1. The space between two places (8)
2. Perpendicular (8)
3. Feeling or showing worry or solicitude (9)
5. Lowest or smallest (5)
6. Coach, develop (5)
7. Where something begins (6)
8. Social unit living together (6)
11. The 50th US state (6)
14. Take food (3)
18. Annoy, tantalise (6)
19. Received from an ancestor (9)
20. Urgent or carping (8)
21. Interchangeable words (8)
23. Animal doctor (3)
25. Prised out the 8-legged creature (6)
26. Mental or emotional strain (6)
29. More pleasant (5)
30. Part of the small intestine (5)



Solutions to Crossword No 474

Across: 1. Stack, 4. Charm, 10. Tango, 11. Revenue, 12. Eastwood, 13. Silo, 15. Little, 17. Ganges, 19. Jail, 20. Misnomer, 23. Crucial, 24. Beast, 25. Melee, 26. Flesh.

Down: 2. Tongs, 3. Cromwell, 5. Hove, 6. Running, 7. Steeplejack, 8. Crook, 9. Remonstrate, 14. Hannibal, 16. Tribute, 18. Villa, 21. Means, 22. Wine.

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**Entries in before:
Tuesday 22nd January 2019**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

**Winner of Crossword
No. 474**

**Patrick Healy
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**

Difficult

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

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

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

Sudoku Challenge December 2018

**Entries must arrive to
Newsletter Office before:
22nd January 2019**

**Congratulations to
November Winner:**

**Fergus Ryan
Meadowbrook Crescent
Maynooth**

**Collect prize from:
Maynooth Newsletter Office**

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

Super Difficult

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____



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



Name: _____
Age: _____
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Last Month's Winner:
Paul Mc Cusker
Clonfert
Maynooth

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

Entries must arrive before
Tuesday 22nd January 2019

Junior Puzzle Corner

EASY CHRISTMAS TRIVIA

Perfect for the little ones!

1. How many ghosts come to visit Scrooge?

- ☐ four ☐ three
☐ two ☐ one

2. What ran over Grandma on Christmas Eve?

- ☐ a sleigh ☐ a train
☐ a reindeer ☐ a truck

3. Why didn't the other reindeer like Rudolph?

- ☐ his shiny nose
☐ his good looks
☐ Santa liked him best
☐ he was the fastest

4. What sound did Frosty make as he ran through town?

- ☐ Bumpety-bump-bump
☐ Thuddety-thud-thud
☐ Slippety-slip-slip
☐ Thumpety-thump-thump

5. What should children not do when Santa Claus is coming to town?

- ☐ lie or cheat
☐ sing or dance
☐ cry or pout
☐ run or jump

6. In the movie A Christmas Story, what does Ralphie want for Christmas?

- ☐ a puppy
☐ a Red Ryder bb gun
☐ a baseball
☐ a cap pistol

7. What color Christmas do people dream of in the famous song?

- ☐ red ☐ green
☐ silver ☐ white

8. How many horses pull the sleigh in Jingle Bells?

- ☐ two ☐ four
☐ one ☐ eight

9. How many reindeer pull Santa's sleigh?

- ☐ eight ☐ four
☐ twelve ☐ ten

10. What is the another name for Santa Claus?

- ☐ the tooth fairy
☐ the Easter bunny
☐ St. Nicholas
☐ St. Francis



Q: Which Christmas carol do parents like the most?

A: Silent Night

Q: Who delivers presents to baby sharks at Christmas?

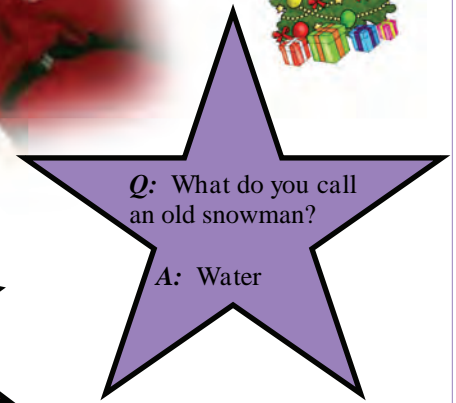
A: Santa Jaws

Q: What do you call an old snowman?

A: Water

Q: What kind of music do elves listen to?

A: Wrap





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December Garden Tips 2018

"The gardening season officially begins on January 1st, and ends on December 31st."

It's **December** already, and we can't believe how fast the year has gone! Throughout the year you have **seen your garden transform** from being covered in frost, to the colours of spring, the blooms of summer and the fabulous autumnal leaves. The days are shorter, the weather is really taking a wintery turn and chances are, you don't want to be out in your **garden in December** too much. We definitely can't blame you! And, the good news is, there isn't a huge amount to do in your garden in December. You'll need to take care of, and protect, anything that is growing at the moment and think about the frosts that may be coming regularly now.

Cover your compost heap with old carpet, or black plastic sheeting, to keep the temperature up. This will make sure decomposition can continue even when it is very cold. Keep turning, it is possible, and watch out for any animal life that may become trapped by your insulating layer. Whilst talking about **compost**, store at least one bag of sowing compost, one potting-on compost and one multi-purpose now in warm dry conditions. When needed quickly it will not be frozen or waterlogged. Plants and seeds do not do well in sodden, cold compost. Leeks, parsnips, winter cabbage, sprouts and remaining root crops will be **ready to harvest**. Use them to make some nice warming soups!

Keep feeding those **hungry birds**, they will be very grateful!

Continue to **remove fallen leaves** from your lawn and beds. And, avoid walking on your lawn as much as possible as not to damage the grass underneath. **Pot on any summer cuttings** that have taken well, showing root growth through the base and healthy top growth. If you're planting them into the ground, the good news is that the soil is still warm enough to encourage roots to take. **Move any containers** with shrubs, or beddings plants into a more sheltered spot. Placing them all together helps protect the root systems from suffering frost damage. Other plants may need to be **protected from the frost**, so make sure you keep an eye on the weather so you know when cold spells are coming.

Clean pots, seed trays and service tools ready for the new season's work. Cover a sheltered area of veg. garden with clear polythene to warm it up for early spring sowings. Winter wash dormant fruit trees, using Winter Tree Wash, for a clean start next spring.

Start winter digging on the veg. garden but keep off very wet soil – it ruins the structure. If snow is expected encircle vulnerable evergreen shrubs with hoops of wire to hold branches in place that could, otherwise, be bent outwards by heavy falls.

Christmas Trees: Look for a tree with a full well branched shape, even branches spaced from top to toe. The colour of the foliage should be deep green and carry a fresh pine scent. Make sure there is a clean stem to make it easy to place into the stand. **Nordmann Christmas trees**-These trees have better needle retention and a more consistent shape from top to bottom. The foliage is deep green with a pine fresh scent.. We recommend a sturdy wide based heavy duty resin stand – large enough to slide the base of the tree into. Ensure there are a number of fasteners to grip the tree securely and a base to hold some water in to help keep the tree fresh.

Tips to get the very best from your tree.

1. Cut 4 cm off the base of the stem.
2. Use a water holding stand and keep the base of your tree in water
3. Keep it away from direct heat – above 20°C is too high
4. Treat it like fresh flowers – water daily



Wishing you a warm, merry flower-brightened Christmas Day with family and friends...and the promise of good things to come in 2019

Christmas Tree Brownie

Preparation: 30 min

Total: 2h 40 min

Servings: 15

Ingredients:

- 1 box (1lb 6.25-oz) Betty Crocker Supreme original brownie mix .Add water, oil and eggs.
- 2 or 3 drops of green food colouring.
- 2/3 cup Betty Crocker Rich & Creamy vanilla frosting (from 16-oz container).
- Red and green candy sprinkles or miniature candy-coated chocolate baking bits.
- Miniature candy canes (2 inch), unwrapped .

Method:

- * Heat oven to 350°F (325°F for dark or non-stick pan). Line 9-inch square pan with foil so foil extends about 2 inches over sides of pan. Grease bottom only of foil with butter or cooking spray.
- * Make brownie mix as directed on box for 9-inch square pan. Cool completely, about 1 1/2 hours. Remove from pan by lifting foil; peel foil away. To cut brownie into triangles, cut into 3 rows. Cut each row into 5 triangles. Save smaller pieces for snacking.
- * Stir food colour into frosting. Spoon frosting into small resalable food-storage plastic bag; partially seal bag. Cut off tiny bottom corner of bag. Squeeze bag to pipe frosting over brownies. Sprinkle with decors.

Break off curved end of candy cane; insert straight piece into bottoms of triangles to make tree trunks.





FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

MARY POPPINS (1964)



Rethreading a tried-and-tested movie formula is always a risky proposition. This Christmas, one of the most popular musicals ever made will be re-invented for a new generation of cinema-goers. Emily Blunt is set to fill Julie Andrews's shoes as the 'practically perfect' nanny in the eagerly anticipated sequel to **Mary Poppins**. Purists will undoubtedly shake their heads in dismay at the temerity of director Rob Marshall daring to take on this old and beloved children's classic.

With **Mary Poppins Return** in the offing, it's a timely opportunity to revisit the original 1960s musical classic.



The Disney Producer and the Children's Writer

The story behind the making of *Mary Poppins* is nearly as fascinating as the movie itself. It took magnate Walt Disney nearly 20 years to persuade *Poppins* creator, P.L. Travers to relinquish the rights to her children's books. The English-Australian author resisted the producer's persistent overtures to her. Travers feared her work becoming, in her words, 'Disneyfied'. Whereas the prickly novelist was cautious, Disney was shrewd and saw the potential for cinematic gold in the *Mary Poppins* stories.

P.L. Travers continually stalled any cinematic adaptations, fearing that Disney would sand the hard edges off of her curt English nanny, and introduce a dollop of saccharine into the proceedings. In the advent, she was right. But the film was made anyway. The author cried at the premiere of **Mary Poppins**, seeing it as a betrayal of her original darker interpretation of her lead character. However, in later years, Travers softened somewhat, saying she had 'learned to live with it'.

One Nanny, A Banker, Two Children and a Chimney-Sweep



Stuffy Edwardian father and banker Mr Banks (David Tomlinson), and his suffragette wife (Glynis Johns) advertise for a 'no nonsense' nanny for their disobedient children, Jane and Michael. In due course, mysterious **Mary Poppins** (Julie Andrews) and her magical umbrella literally float into their lives to help the rather uptight Mr Banks with the task in hand.

This sets in place a chain of events that impacts on the family dynamic in surprising ways. Along the way, Poppins takes the children on madcap, magical adventures (with the help of her chimney-sweep friend Bert) variously jumping into pavement drawings, dancing on London rooftops or levitating on ceilings.



The Julie Andrews Factor

Julie Andrews was born to play the 'practically perfect' nanny. **Mary Poppins** was her consolation prize for losing the part of Eliza Doolittle to Audrey Hepburn in the big screen version of **My Fair Lady**. Warner Brothers had snubbed Andrews for the role of the Cockney flower girl (even though she had made the part her own on Broadway) on the basis that she was an 'unknown' quantity. The English actress/singer had sweet revenge though, when she scooped an Oscar for her cinematic debut performance as the quirky nanny in 1965.

Andrews's straight-laced, aloof but charming character transforms the dysfunctional Banks' family life in 'spit-spot' fashion. The actress invests the nanny with a subtle anarchic edge underneath a mask of respectability. Her energy is captivating throughout, whether twirling around, sliding up bannisters, administering 'just a spoonful of sugar' or shooting disapproving looks at children and adults alike. The prim and proper English persona of Julie Andrews suited this role to a tee. Andrews nails the no-nonsense but playful qualities required to bring this beloved character to life. The actress also uses her beautiful singing voice to thrilling effect and gives poignant resonance to classic songs like *Feed The Birds*.



The American Cockney

Dick Van Dyke had established himself on American TV by the time he landed the role of the cheerful Cockney chimney-sweep, Bert in **Mary Poppins**. His character is a composite of several from Travers's books. Despite a wobbly English accent, Van Dyke's energy is infectious.

He exudes joyful vitality, physicality nimble foot work, and sheer fun as Poppins's loyal sidekick. The talented Van Dyke was at the height of his powers as a physical comic performer. In particular, he excels (leaping around London rooftops) in the lively *Chim Chim Cheree* and *Step in Time* dance and musical numbers of the film. There is much entertainment value to be had for the viewer in these rousing sequences.

Production Values

Mary Poppins was Walt Disney's crowning achievement in an illustrious career. It was one of the studio's best loved movies and has enjoyed lasting and popular appeal to the present day. The musical won five of the 13 Oscars it was nominated for.

What's not to like about **Mary Poppins**? It is easily one of Disney's best experiments in combining spirited live-action and animated sequences together. **Mary Poppins** won an Oscar for its special visual effects. A timeless, enchanting story, stunning sets, clever special effects and excellent performances combine to create a movie that doesn't need a 'spoonful of sugar' to go down well with viewers from 9 to 90! The catalogue of memorable songs by Richard and Robert Sherman include: *A Spoonful of Sugar*, *Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious*, *Jolly Holiday*, *I love to Laugh*, *Let's Go Fly a Kite*. The haunting *Feed the Birds* was said to be Disney's own personal favourite.



Saving Mr Banks

The personality clash of wills between Disney and P.L. Travers formed the basis for the moving 2013 film **Saving Mr Banks**. The author utilised elements of her own personal life in the *Mary Poppins* stories. The character of Mr Banks is loosely based on her troubled father. Watching the modern film makes a really interesting companion piece to the older musical. It isn't the children that Poppins comes to save - it's Mr Banks. The wonderful English actor David Tomlinson is excellent in this role. He brings unexpected emotional depth to his characterisation of the stern father.

Mary Poppins was seemingly Walt Disney's favourite of the many films he produced. It has effortless charm and optimism in abundance. The lengthy running time of the movie rarely drags and allows for richer character development. Certainly the passage of time hasn't dimmed the special magic or hold of this classic family film.





Frank O'Rourke TD

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