

Maynooth Newsletter



Serving the people of Maynooth

Local News February 2018 Issue No. 465 FREE

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



A Tribute - Hilda Dunne (1937-2018)

Hilda was a person whose civic life revolved around the inter-connected themes of history, storytelling, community service and activism. She also had a strong sense of social justice and carried out her endeavours with an innate sense of leadership and with no small amount of good will and humour.

Social justice, history and the local were her touchstones. As Michael Quinn has outlined, Hilda's sense of fair play and justice was very evident in her involvement with the Winchester Three support group, the Maynooth Miscarriages of Justice Group and the Maynooth branch of Reclaim the Spirit of Easter 1916 that honoured Maynooth men involved in the 1916 Rising. All of which saw the development of the Maynooth History and Civic Forum which later became Maynooth Local History Group. Hilda was there for the long haul, taking on the role of treasurer and was central in organising many outings and talks for the group through her valuable local knowledge and connections.

Hilda also vigorously campaigned for retention of the Nuns' Cemetery at the Presentation Convent where her beloved aunt Philomena Mooney was buried. She considered that the proposed plan to reinter the nuns in another cemetery a disrespectful act. Through her endeavours the Nuns' cemetery remains at the Convent to the present time. Hilda could be a rebel when the occasion called for it. Hilda was later to introduce people to the cemetery as part of the Maynooth Festival programme.

When we met for a meal or coffee Hilda would recall fond memories from her past. Her love for her family, her father and mother was very evident and for people that she had known when she was growing up. She delighted in people who had individuality. This storytelling was clearly evidenced in her close involvement with the production *Book of Maynooth* in 2000. The book now held in the Maynooth Community Library is a unique manuscript written on vellum.

The concept for the book originated with the late Stuart Lane of Kilcock. Hilda was a prominent committee member on this project. Based on the idea of the Great Book of Ireland (1991), it contains poems and prose from local writers. Hilda's poem *A last ride through the Hill Field, 1904* is a poignant piece about her aunts last journey from Ladychapel to Maynooth before she entered the Presentation Convent at Maynooth as Sr. Imaculata. Her work in the Community Council was very evident and much appreciated.



She worked on the Maynooth Festival Committee and on the Editorial Board of the *Maynooth Newsletter*. As part of the Festival celebrations, she single-handedly organised the music, poetry and prose event which became known as Maynooth Sunday Miscellany in St. Mary's Church of Ireland over the last number of years. This has proved to be one of the most steadfast events of the Festival and one of Hilda's lasting legacies.

Hilda's leadership skills were the best, she could organise with a word here and a phone call there, and it would be all done in the blink of an eye. There was no taking over, just doing. She did not hog the limelight. Her organisation of the scheme to secure and preserve Ladychapel Cemetery is a case in point.

She achieved so much in the Festival through her network of friends and associates in various groups in the local area, such as members of the Nuadha Players, Maynooth Writers' Group, Maynooth Local History Group, 1916 Commemoration Group and Maynooth's St. Mary's Church of Ireland custodians. She was a joy to work with.

As part of the editorial team she was always mindful of local groups and the inclusion of their submissions to the *Newsletter*. She would be most careful that people were thanked for their work and contribution in any articles that she contributed herself. She was a delight to have on that board.

Hilda was very welcome in the Maynooth Community Council Office. She would arrive at five minutes to five on some business to do with keys or an article for the *Newsletter*. This gave rise to good humoured banter with the office staff about time of her arrival just when people were about to go home. She loved the to and fro and she continued to arrive at that time, just to stir it up.

Hilda enjoyed meeting new people and continued to widen her circle of friends. She made new connections with her involvement with the 1916 Commemoration Committee and again she was pivotal in bringing the old and new together. She was very proud of the work that was carried out by the group during 2016. As one of her Community Council Colleagues described her "Hilda was a trailblazer and a true Maynooth Community Councillor". One of her friends from the Nuadha Players commented that when he thought of Hilda it was her sense of humour that came to mind. It was the witty retort or parting quip.

Hilda was loyal, dependable, fair and kind. She was a great communicator and had the capacity to both lead and follow. She was an achiever who completed what she set out to do.

We will miss her greatly. Our condolences to her family who were very dear to her heart.



MAYNOOTH ST. PATRICK'S DAY FESTIVAL 17th MARCH 2018
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SEE APPLICATION FORM ON PAGE 14

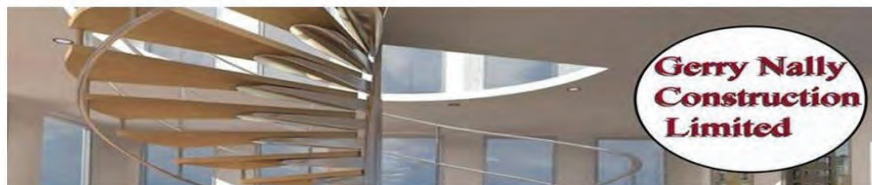


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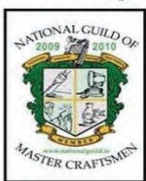
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Maynooth Labour News

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

Cllr. McGinley Demands that the Proposal to put a Car Park in The Harbour Field, Maynooth be Opposed

Cllr. McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD Meeting on 5 February:

“That any proposal to develop a car park in the amenity of the Harbour Field, Maynooth, must go on Public Display so that the Maynooth Community can join Cllr. John McGinley in their opposition to the proposal.”

Cllr. McGinley Demands Action on Flooding in Maynooth

Cllr. McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD Meeting on 13 December:

“What can the council do to reduce the risk of the Meadowbrook stream overflowing in Maynooth as nearly happened on 22 November 2017? “

John was given the following response by Council Officials:

“The Meadowbrook Stream in Maynooth was cleaned this summer as part of the Drainage Channel Maintenance Programme. There are further works proposed to alleviate flooding in this area in the Office of Public Works (OPWs) Eastern Catchment Flood Risk Assessments (CFRAMs) draft flood risk management plan. The plan should be finalised and sent to the local authorities for adoption early in 2018. Following this Kildare County Council will apply to the OPW for funding to carry out these works. In the meantime, the Meadowbrook Stream remains on the Drainage Channel Programme and will be cleaned as regularly as possible, subject to the usual constraints.”

Cllr. McGinley responded as follows:

“The Office of Public Works (OPW) Eastern Catchment Flood Risk Assessments (CFRAMS) is certainly taking a long time to be approved by the Department. They don’t seem to care that houses are at risk of flooding. It is over a year since we were presented with their Draft Flood Management Plans.

The Plans propose Hard Defences, either walls or embankments, between Brookfield Avenue and Meadowbrook Court and at Parson Street. It is essential that these defences are carried out ASAP in order to alleviate the fears of the residents. According to CFRAMS there are 90 houses at risk of flooding here. The Meadowbrook Stream or Roosk tributary to give it its official name, was very close to overflowing on 22nd Nov. I was there on the day and it was very scary. That is the first time this happened since the houses flooded in 2000. As far as I can see CFRAMS does not address the flooding of the M4 or the choke point under the road and houses at Parson Street.

The drain from the Motorway is a 4” pipe which under normal circumstances is fine for the M4. But it was not sufficient on 22 November when the M4 closed. For flood conditions such as the 22 Nov. it was proposed previously that an attenuation tank be put in the sterilised waste ground at the M4, but this never happened. It should be done now and Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) should be asked to do so as it seriously impacts on the Meadowbrook Stream. At Parson Street the medium solution is to create a flow diversion, a by-pass culvert, but CFRAMS does not even mention it as far as I can see. I would like the finalised CFRAMS plan for Maynooth to

come to the MD Committee early in 2018 for our comments and approval.”

Cllr. McGinley Calls for Safety Measures on the Dublin Road at TESCO

Cllr. McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD Meeting on 13 December:

“That recognition be given to the new housing estates, Carton Wood and Carton Grove on the Old Dublin Road, Maynooth, by introducing traffic calming and/or a crosswalk between the estates and Tesco/McDonalds’ entrance and by asking Dublin Bus to provide stops to service the estates.”

John was given the following response:

“The Maynooth Municipal District Engineer confirms that a full set of traffic lights, including pedestrian crossing, are to be installed by the developer as conditioned in his planning permission. “

Cllr. McGinley pointed out that the Developer needs to carry out this work now and not wait until the estates are finished. The Director advised Cllr. McGinley that Development Control will be the responsibility of the Roads Department from 1 January 2018 and that they will follow up with the Developer to ensure that Planning Conditions are met. The MD Engineer stated that Dublin Bus had agreed to erect two Bus Stops to facilitate the new houses.

Cllr. McGinley Calls for The Boreen, opposite TESCO to be Re-opened

Cllr. McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD Meeting on 13 December:

“That whatever arrangements necessary be put in place to open the Boreen (opposite Tesco), Maynooth to pedestrians and cyclists and that the council land between the Boreen and Carton Avenue be landscaped generally in line with the Carton Avenue Action Area Plan of July 2006, over the next two years.”

John was given the following response:

“The Maynooth Municipal District Engineer confirms that the developer is conditioned to restore the Boreen to its original condition and following completion of this work it will be open to pedestrians and cyclists.”

Cllr. McGinley again asked that the Council ensure that the work is carried out now and he welcomed the fact that €400,000 has been allocated in the Capital Budget for the landscaping between The Boreen and Carton Avenue.

Cllr. McGinley Calls for Action on the Flooding at Laurence Avenue, Maynooth

Cllr. McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD Meeting on 13 December

“When is the Council going to carry out the required work on the surface water drain pipes in Laurence Avenue, Maynooth, in order to eliminate the flooding that occurs regularly? “

John was given the following response:

“The Maynooth Municipal District Engineer confirms that remedial works were carried out to the surface

water pipes in the southern end of Laurence Avenue. The Greenfield end of Laurence Avenue will now be examined.”

Update on the Meadowbrook Link Road/Straffan Road Junction

Cllr. John McGinley was advised by the Director of Services at the MD Meeting on the 13 December that the traffic lights at the junction will be in place no later than the end of March.

Stagg Urges NTA to Prioritise €300 Million Electrification of Maynooth Line

Kildare North Labour General Election Candidate Emmet Stagg has urged the National Transport Authority to reactivate the Design and Planning of the Electrification of the Maynooth Rail Line to try and get the project delivered earlier than recently announced which would not see construction commencing until 2021.

Mr. Stagg stated that this was a critical piece of Public Transport Infrastructure for North Kildare and funding was provided in the Mid Term Review of the Capital Plan to progress the project. The NTA have indicated that they intended to reactivate the design and planning work during 2018 with planning approval likely to be sought in 2020 and construction likely to commence in 2021.

In his submission to the NTA Mr. Stagg urged them to reactivate the design and planning work as a matter of priority to see if it is possible to deliver the project earlier than outlined by the NTA. Everything possible should be done to bring the project forward faster.

The Project would involve the electrification of the line from Connolly Station to Maynooth, together with the removal of level crossings and resignalling. In conclusion Kildare North Labour General Election Candidate Emmet Stagg stated that the Electrification of the Maynooth Rail Line would provide an enhanced service to existing commuters and attract more commuters to Public Transport which is in the interest of everybody.

Stagg Critical of Failure to Fund Quiet Resurfacing of M4

Kildare North Labour General Election Candidate Emmet Stagg has criticised the failure of Transport Infrastructure Ireland to include the resurfacing of the M4 with quiet surfacing in their National Roads Allocation to Kildare Co. Council for 2018 announced recently.

The M4 stated Mr. Stagg as it passes Leixlip, Maynooth and Kilcock is defined as a major road under the Environmental Noise Directive and Environmental Noise Regulations and has traffic volumes 5 times the threshold. The Noise from the constant traffic has a serious impact on residents living near the motorway.

The surface of the M4 dates from 1994 and quiet surfacing would have a major impact in reducing Noise Levels as would noise barriers. Kildare North Labour General Election Candidate Emmet Stagg stated that he would contact the CEO of Transport Infrastructure Ireland to try and establish a timeline for quiet resurfacing of the M4 from Leixlip to Kilcock and at a minimum to get noise barriers erected in the short term.

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

Accessing healthcare abroad

Question

There is a long wait for a medical procedure that I need. Can I get my medical costs refunded if I have the procedure done in another European country?

Answer

If you are entitled to public health services that are available in Ireland, you can access these services in the European Economic Area (EEA). You will be repaid the cost if you meet the requirements.

This is provided for by the Cross-Border Healthcare Directive. The Directive covers services that are publicly funded and available in Ireland. These include acute hospital services and community-based outpatient care. Other services covered include physiotherapy, ophthalmic, psychology, disability and mental health services.

Occupational therapy services and dental and orthodontic services are also covered, but with some exceptions. The Directive doesn't cover treatments that qualify for the Treatment Abroad Scheme (in general, treatments that are not available in Ireland).

You must be referred to the health service abroad in the same way that you would be referred to public health services in Ireland. This referral may be by your GP (family doctor) or public hospital consultant, for example. They may also be able to tell you whether the service you require is covered by the Directive. You can also check with the National Contact Point (details below).

If the treatment involves an overnight stay in hospital, it will need to be authorised in advance by the Health Service Executive (HSE). For other treatments, you should check whether prior authorisation is required. You pay the costs of treatment and then apply for a refund when you return to Ireland. The amount repaid is either the amount that the treatment would cost in Ireland, or the cost of your treatment abroad, if that is less. It does not include other costs such as travel. The HSE has published refund amounts for different treatments. To get a refund of treatment costs, you and your healthcare provider abroad must complete a HSE form. You then submit it with the healthcare provider invoice and receipt. The HSE provides an invoice format that it recommends using for the invoice to make sure it includes all the required details.

To find out more, contact the National Contact Point: phone (056) 778 4546 or email crossborderdirective@hse.ie.

Consumer rights during sales

Question

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

Answer

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

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

If you are entitled to a refund because there is a fault with goods that you bought at full price, you should be refunded the amount you paid even if they are now on sale at a reduced price.

Shop notices such as "No Refunds" or "No Exchanges" do not limit your rights, if you have a complaint about faulty items. Some shops display these notices, particularly during the sales, but this does not take away your rights under consumer protection law if the goods are faulty.

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

If you buy goods at full price but change your mind about them, and they are now on sale at a lower price, you may only be offered the reduced amount (if the shop is willing to offer a refund).

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

For more information, visit the website of the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission at ccpc.ie.

Income tax bands and rates

Question

I'm a PAYE worker. What income tax will I pay in 2018?

Answer

Changes to income tax bands were announced as part of Budget 2018. The amount of tax that you have to pay depends on your personal circumstances.

Tax is charged as a percentage of your income. The percentage that you pay depends on the amount of your income.

The first part of your income, up to a certain amount, is taxed at 20%. This is known as the standard rate of tax and the amount that it applies to is known as the standard rate tax band.

The remainder of your income is taxed at the higher rate of tax, which is 40%. The amount that you can earn before you start to pay the higher rate of tax is known as your standard rate cut-off point.

For 2018 the standard rate of tax remains at 20%, but the standard rate tax bands have been increased as follows:

| | 2018 € | 2017 € |
|---|---|---|
| Single person | 34,550 @ 20% Balance @ 40% | 33,800 @ 20% Balance @ 40% |
| Married couple/civil partners, one income | 43,550 @ 20% Balance @ 40% | 42,800 @ 20% Balance @ 40% |
| Married couple/civil partners, two incomes | Up to 69,100 @ 20% Balance @ 40% | Up to 67,600 @ 20% Balance @ 40% |
| One-parent family | 38,550 @ 20% Balance @ 40% | 37,800 @ 20% Balance @ 40% |

There is a range of income tax reliefs available, which can reduce the amount of tax that you have to pay.

Prescription charges

Question

I have a medical card but I seem to be paying more than the monthly cap for prescription charges for my family. Why would this happen and how can I get a refund?

Answer

If you have a medical card, there is a charge for each prescription item you receive. From 1 January 2018, the prescription charge is reduced from €2.50 to €2.00 per item, up to a maximum of €20 per month per person or family (previously, the maximum was €25 per month).

Usually your pharmacy keeps records of how much you have paid in prescription charges and makes sure that you do not pay more than the limit each month. However, you may use different pharmacies in the same month, or your family members may not be set up as a family group, and you may end up paying more than the maximum.

If this happens, the Health Service Executive (HSE) will issue a refund without the need for you to apply for it. This is done on the basis of the information received from pharmacies.

You can set up your family as a family group on medicalcard.ie and print off a family certificate to give to your pharmacist. This will show all of the members of your family so that your pharmacy will not collect charges above the monthly limit. Your family is defined as you, your spouse or partner, any children under 16 years of age and any children between 16 and 21 years of age who are in full-time education.

If you do not have access to the internet, you can ask your Local Health Office to help with setting up a family group. You can also call the HSE on 1890 252 919 or ask your local pharmacist, who may be able to help you.

James Lawless T.D. Kildare North

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

Maynooth office open for business in 2018

Happy New Year to all the readers of the community newsletter! The Dáil has returned with business on community employment schemes, the upcoming referendum, teachers pay, and committee business. I have also been in my Maynooth office every Monday and occasionally on Fridays by appointment. I would be delighted to meet with individuals, community groups, or other committees in my Maynooth office any Monday from 10am to 4pm or Friday by appointment. Don't hesitate to call me on 01 618 3587 to arrange an appointment.

Train Station car park extension

I have met with Irish Rail both in Leinster House and in the constituency regarding the urgent need to increase the parking capacity at Maynooth train station. I know from my own experience and the residents I have met who have raised this matter with me, that a major improvement in parking facilities is needed. Often by 7.30am the station is full. I can confirm that Irish Rail is looking at expanding the parking. Sites are being investigated near the station. I understand Kildare County Council are also looking at sites in Maynooth for a Park & Ride. I have met council officials on this matter and will be working in conjunction with local Maynooth area councillors on this potential site.

Community Employment Schemes need support

I debated with the Minister for Social Protection the urgent need to enable Community Employment Schemes fulfil their mandate of dignified, productive employment to the individuals on them and great benefits to the host organisations. Changes are required to support those who may not secure gainful employment in the commercial sector but are of huge benefit to their local GAA team, Parish Council, Tidy Towns, or other local organisations. The Minister must change the rules of the schemes to prevent haemorrhaging to JobPath which is not always a suitable outlet, I have called on her to

urgently address the discrepancies with the current scheme.

Maynooth Garda Station set for renovations in 2018

The Garda Station in the town is set for renovations in 2018 as part of a wider plan to improve the facilities of Garda stations across the county. I can confirm the news having put pressure on the Minister for Justice to invest in both personnel and the facilities of An Garda Síochána in the constituency. Works to Maynooth Garda station will consist of the public office, enhancements to welfare facilities, as well as general maintenance. Similar renovations will be carried out at neighbouring stations in Kilcock and Leixlip.

Long term plan needed to support our teachers

My party and I have increased the pressure on the Government to ensure they provide a long term plan that all of our schools have enough quality teaching professionals educating future generations of citizens. It has been apparent for some time now that our schools are finding it more and more challenging to obtain the right teachers, with the right subject combinations to ensure that all students can take the subjects of their choosing. Ongoing pay inequality has resulted in a recruitment and retention crisis for teachers and there are also major difficulties for schools in securing substitute teachers when required.

Despite the fact that there are just six physics teachers expected to graduate in the next two years and a reported collapse in numbers applying for teacher training courses. It is clear that these are major problems, and everyone working in education knows it except, it would seem, the Minister for Education. These issues will undoubtedly have an adverse impact on our education system unless directly tackled soon.

The Department of Education must establish a body to work with education partners in coordinating policy matters concerning teacher supply. It's absolutely critical that we deal with this emerging crisis.

Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

From 17/11/17 to 26/1/18 - information from Kildare County Council Website

| App-Num | Authority | Applicant Name | Development Address | Application Date |
|---------|------------------------|---|---|------------------|
| 1860 | Kildare County Council | Tom and Cliona O'Connor, | 27 Temple Wood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth | 23/01/2018 |
| 1838 | Kildare County Council | Eoin Carew, | 34 Newtown Court, Maynooth, Co. Kildare | 16/01/2018 |
| 171460 | Kildare County Council | Martin Hayden, | Unit 3, Block K, Maynooth Business Campus, Maynooth | 21/12/2017 |
| 171449 | Kildare County Council | Clive & Suzanne O'Hagan | Barrogstown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare | 20/12/2017 |
| 171447 | Kildare County Council | Daryl & Claire McLoughlin | No.9 Straffan Place, Straffan Wood, Maynooth | 19/12/2017 |
| 171419 | Kildare County Council | Declan and Caitriona Foley, | Crannog, Leinster Park, Maynooth | 14/12/2017 |
| 171413 | Kildare County Council | Deirdre Ward, | Barrogstown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare. | 13/12/2017 |
| 171400 | Kildare County Council | Southport New Homes Limited, | Mariaville, Dunboyne Road, Maynooth | 12/12/2017 |
| 171382 | Kildare County Council | Steve & Maria Farrow | 44 Leinster Woods, Carton Demesne, Maynooth | 06/12/2017 |
| 171370 | Kildare County Council | Maynooth Business Campus Owners Management Company Limited by Guarantee | Moneycooly, Maynooth, Co. Kildare | 05/12/2017 |
| 171357 | Kildare County Council | Peter Murphy & Laura Reidy | No.24 Temple Wood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth | 30/11/2017 |
| 171356 | Kildare County Council | Saffron Property Limited | Site No 31. Temple Wood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth | 30/11/2017 |
| 171358 | Kildare County Council | Saffron Property Limited | No.32 Templewood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth | 30/11/2017 |
| 171338 | Kildare County Council | Shajib Islam, | 6 Buckleys Lane, Main Street, Maynooth | 28/11/2017 |
| 171336 | Kildare County Council | Ann-Marie and Myles Burke, | 12 Parklands Court, Maynooth, Co. Kildare. | 28/11/2017 |
| 171310 | Kildare County Council | Laura Grashorn, | 23 Castlepark Avenue, Dunboyne Road, Maynooth | 23/11/2017 |



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Maynooth Town Football Club Christmas Draw Results

1st Prize €1000.00 Winner - Kathy Morrissey

2nd Prize €500.00 Winner - Daniel Geoghan

3rd Prize €500.00 Winner - Arina Tzotenko

4th Prize €250.00 Winner - Bridie O'Neill

5th Prize €250.00 Winner - Sandra Keane

6th Prize €250.00 Winner - Larissa Ciobanu

7th Prize €250.00 Winner - Noel Dempsey

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Maynooth Educate Together NS, Celbridge Rd,
Maynooth Co Kildare by 1st April 2018.

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

DEAR Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for
many favours. This time I ask for this special one
(mention favour). Take it dear Heart of Jesus and
place it within your own broken heart, where your
Father sees it, then, it will become Your favour not
mine..

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

Thanksgiving for favour received.

Never known to fail KW

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Thanksgiving for favour received.

Never known to fail



Frank O'Rourke T.D. Kildare North

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

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

Maynooth Wins Purple Flag

Congratulations to all involved in having the Purple Flag awarded to Maynooth for the second year in a row.

The Purple Flag marks Maynooth out as a 'must visit' destination for its quality restaurants, pubs, night life and general high standards, and is the equivalent of a Blue Flag awarded to a beach.

A Great Achievement for all the stakeholders involved, who've worked tirelessly to make Maynooth an appealing destination for a night out. Congratulation and well done to all.

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North Frank O'Rourke TD says the Government needs to focus on making additional home care packages available to older people in order to resolve the hospital overcrowding crisis.

Deputy O'Rourke made the comments after receiving new information which shows that 589 people over the age of 75 were stuck on trolleys in Naas General Hospital in 2017. Deputy O'Rourke said, "One of the key problems in hospitals right across the country is the lack of home care supports to help older people to return to their own homes. Many older people are stuck in hospital wards and are unable to return home after receiving the all-clear from their consultants due to the delays in sanctioning home care packages. This is a serious problem which is exacerbating the overcrowding crisis in our hospitals.

"The Programme for Government has a commitment to increase home care packages and home help hours, but Fine Gael have failed to set out how they are actually going about achieving this. The HSE's Service Plan for 2017 failed to put in place any additional home help hours and this put severe pressure on families and led to increased level of overcrowding in hospitals.

"Fianna Fáil raised this in the Dáil before Christmas and highlighted the need for additional home care supports to be put in place for older people. Demand for home help hours is projected to increase by between 38% and 54% by 2030. Additional investment will be required in home help care to meet the needs of a rapidly growing and ageing population.

"There is also a problem with the processing of Home Adaptation Grants. Many older people who are ready to leave hospital are unable to do so as their home is not suitable for them to live in. Often works need to be carried out to make their home safe for them to return to, such as putting in place ramps and handrails to make the home more accessible along with bathroom changes to make them safe to use. The current delay in processing grants for these adaptation works need to be resolved.

"Fine Gael need to get to grips with the overcrowding crisis in our hospitals. It's clear that additional home care supports are needed to help people return to their own homes. Fine Gael need to put in place a plan to achieve the rollout of additional home care packages," concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Supports for Older People in 2018 up – a key requirement under Confidence and Supply Agreement says O'Rourke.

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has welcomed the supports for older people that are coming into effect this year as a result of Budget 2018, a key requirement of the supply and confidence agreement with the Government.

"Medical Card holders are charged for prescribed medicines and other items that one gets on prescription from pharmacies. From 1 January this year, the prescription charge is €2.00 for each item that is dispensed under the medical card scheme, up to a maximum of €20 per month per person or family."

"Older people are highly dependent on the state pension

and the vast majority rely on social welfare payments to protect them from poverty. I welcome the proposed € increase to the weekly state pension, from end of March next, and we must continue our campaign to ensure that further improvements are provided."

"The Fuel allowance was increased and the telephone allowance was partially restored. All these items we campaigned for under the Supply and Confidence agreement with the Government."

"Supports for Older people are critical. I have highlighted the need for increased resources for Housing Adaption Grants, Fair Deal Scheme, Phone Allowance, Pension, Home Care Packages and Carers. Recent figures show that older people are now fulfilling, in many cases, the role of the State in providing care to those living with illness or disability. Caring for our older people must always be centre stage when considering our social affairs budget" concluded Deputy O'Rourke

More Action Required to Tackle High Motor Insurance Premiums – O'Rourke - Vital reforms needed

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has called on the Government to step up its efforts to tackle the high motor insurance premiums in Ireland.

"We are now at the first anniversary of the publication of the Cost of Insurance Working Group Report and the progress to-date on the cost of motor insurance is very modest."

"Since being elected, I have campaigned to have the cost of motor insurance reduced. In the Dáil, I have called for the Competition Authority to investigate the activities of insurance companies and also to have a quarterly review of the implementation of the Oireachtas action plan to reduce motor insurance. I have also called for increased competition in the sector and a tax credit for workers to assist with the cost of motor insurance" stated Deputy O'Rourke.

"The Working Group on Motor Insurance was set up in 2016 following a Fianna Fáil Private Members' motion in the Dáil on the spiralling cost of motor insurance. The government seemed to have no interest in halting the dramatic hikes in premiums experienced by motorists for the preceding few years, until we put forward the private members motion."

"Over the past three years, motor insurance premiums have risen by over 50% and the government has failed to take decisive action to stem these rises. While we have seen modest improvements on the cost of insurance, more needs to be done." "Greater progress is needed on the key issues of award levels, insurance fraud and transparency around industry data. We need a more aggressive approach to the implementation of the action plan."

"The message must go out to all, that we are determined to get fairer motor insurance premiums for Irish motorists. Many Kildare motorists have made contact with me in relation to their rising costs, and I am determined to keep a focus on this important issue for Kildare motorists," concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Housing Assistance Payments (HAPs) needs to increase says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has called on the Government to increase the Housing Assistance Payments, even on a temporary basis, as the costs of renting increases.

"The low level of the supply of the housing units, is fuelling the rising cost of renting a home, and means that the current level of HAP funding is not enough, in many cases, for those seeking accommodation."

"I know from my weekly clinics that our social housing list is rising most months. Kildare County Council's housing waiting list has increased by nearly 1800 people

in the last 12 months. The Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) is a form of social housing support for people who have a long-term housing need. However, the level of funds under this scheme is not enough."

"Under the HAP scheme, local authorities pay landlords directly and 805 households were helped with rent repayments through the HAP scheme last year." "I know that many seeking accommodation under the scheme are not being successful as the level of funding is too low, as rents rise. So long as the supply of housing units are at a low level, rents will continue to rise as supply does not meet demand. I am calling for an increase in payments under the HAP scheme, so that we can get more people housed in Kildare."

"As supply of housing units increases, and rent costs reduces, we could then reduce the HAP funding. Social Housing supports needs to be improved, and I will continue to raise this issue in the Dáil to ensure that it secures Government attention" concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Additional Off-Peak Services on Maynooth Line welcomed by O'Rourke

Additional Off- Peak Services on the Maynooth Line will be provided during 2018 according to Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke. "The National Transport Authority has confirmed that additional off-peak services will be provided on the Maynooth Line during 2018. This is welcome news and comes on the back of better connectivity for the users of this line, as the Maynooth Line is now linked with the Luas via Broombridge."

"As travelling by car is becoming almost impossible into the city centre, we need to improve the public transport services. Service improvements are on the way for Kilcock Bus Commuters, I have pressed for improved services on Bus Routes 66 and 67 and for improved services on the Kilcock rail line."

"We are seeing overall growth rates of more than 7% from 2016 to 2017 in public transport users. This trend will continue. We are seeing increased population in Maynooth, Celbridge and Kilcock which will increase the demand on public transport."

"As I have said in the Dáil, we must provide services in line with development rather than trying to retro fit services post development. We must see continued improvement in public transport for North Kildare users and I will continue to work to ensure that additional services are provided" concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Additional Bus Service for Celbridge, Maynooth and Leixlip says O'Rourke.

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has been informed by Dublin Bus following his ongoing representations that it is going to provide additional Bus services for Celbridge, Leixlip and Maynooth. "I have been informed that there will be an additional bus service on Route 67 leaving Maynooth and servicing Celbridge going to Dublin at 6.20am. In addition, there will also be an additional bus service on Route 66 leaving Merrion Square at 7.40am going to Leixlip and Maynooth."

"On Route 66, there will be another service leaving Merrion Square at 3pm for Leixlip and Maynooth. There will also be an additional service leaving Maynooth at 16.25 heading to Dublin via Leixlip."

"I have made representations to have these additional services provided which will come into effect on 29th January and I welcome this announcement. We must continue the work of improving our bus and rail transport to North Kildare towns. We are making progress and I will continue to make representations to have further improvement" concluded Deputy O'Rourke.



Improvement works at Maynooth Community Library

Exciting news that the Library Service is in a position to undertake some improvement works at Maynooth Community Library. An allowance of accessibility funding has been made available to upgrade the library entrance, to include accessible porch and automatic door. This work is badly needed to improve access to the library, for persons with mobility impairments and parents with young children. The library will also undergo some upgrading through the creation of a dedicated space for young adults, re-aligned public access computers, new carpeting, new soft seating and internal painting. This will result in an overall improved library experience for our very dedicated library users in Maynooth. Essential Health and Safety works will also be completed in conjunction with other works.

In order for these works to take place it will be necessary to close Maynooth Library to the public for one week, **Monday the 5th February to Saturday 10th February inclusive**. During this period our borrowers will be given extended loan periods and allowances, and we will waive fines over the closure period. Library borrowers can continue to avail of library services at our other North Kildare Libraries at Celbridge, Leixlip and Kilcock, and via our online collections and services. A full listing of libraries, including opening hours and contact details, can be found on our website, www.kildare.ie/library

February Events at Maynooth Community Library

All of our events are free of charge and open to everyone

For further information contact:

www.kildare.ie/library
maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie
 Ph: 01 6285530

What you need to know about Millennials

Friday 2nd February 11am-11.45am

A presentation explaining and unravelling the generation of the minute, millennials. This talk covers who millennials are, what they think about the world and how best to approach them from a business perspective. It also touches on the next 'big' generation – the iGen.

Presenter: James Gillespie, Client Services Manager Intel Ireland - Booking essential.

Friday 9th February 11am-11.45am

The Brexit Impact: An Irish Perspective

In November 2017 Intel published the first research report on Brexit from an Irish perspective. This presentation explores the economic and consumer impacts of what is happening and what potentially will happen as a result of the UK's decision to leave the EU.

Presenter: Brian O'Connor, Senior Analyst Intel Ireland - Booking essential.

Market Research for Start-ups

Friday 16th February 11am-12.30pm

This workshop covers all the basics of effective market research and its application for small businesses and start-ups. Over the course of the session, all key topics will be covered for small businesses, from effective planning to how to action findings and enhance business plans. Overall, this session should provide any start-up or entrepreneur with some useful market research skills.

Presenter: Brian O'Connor, Senior Analyst Intel Ireland - Booking essential



facebook.com/KildareCountyLibraryService

twitter.com/kildarelibrary



Kildare County Council Grant Schemes 2018

We are now inviting applications for the following grants administered by Kildare County Council.

Community/Local Property Tax and Festival Grants

Application forms and details for these grants are available on our website; <http://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/Community/GrantSchemes> or by emailing grants@kildarecoco.ie or telephone: 045 980538.

Heritage Grants

The objective of the grant scheme is to promote interest, education, knowledge and enjoyment by facilitating an appreciation of the heritage of County Kildare. We invite applications for community heritage projects which will benefit or relate to at least one of the aspects of heritage as set out in the Heritage Act 1995. Application forms and details for this grant are available on our website; <http://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/Heritage/Grants/> or by emailing heritageofficer@kildarecoco.ie or telephone: 045 980791.

Residents Association Grants – Local Authority Estates

Applications forms for grant aid to assist Residents Associations in Local Authority Housing Estates to maintain their open spaces are available on our website; <http://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/Community/GrantSchemes> or by emailing grants@kildarecoco.ie.

Residents Association Grants – Private Estates

Application forms and further information for this grant are available on our website; <http://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/Community/GrantSchemes> or by emailing grants@kildarecoco.ie

CLOSING DATE FOR ABOVE GRANTS IS TUESDAY 13th MARCH 2018, 5PM

Arts Service Arts Grants & Bursary Award Opportunities

Artists and arts collectives and community groups may apply for the following grant and award opportunities

- Arts Act Grant scheme
- Artists in Schools Residency Bursary Award
- Artistic Entrepreneur Bursary Award

- Denis O'Driscoll Literary Bursary Award
- Drama League of Ireland Summer School Bursary Award
- Emerging Artist Solo Exhibition Award 2018
- Film Bursary Award
- Local Publishing Award
- Recording Bursary @ Platform4 Recording Studio
- Tyrone Guthrie Centre Residency Bursary Award
- Youth Arts Residency Bursary

Information sessions on 'how to apply for an arts award' will be held in Leixlip, Newbridge and Athy during February 2018.

Application forms and further information are available from Kildare County Arts Service, Riverbank, Main Street, Newbridge, Co Kildare. Tel: 045-448328; Email: arts@kildarecoco.ie, or on our website: <http://www.kildare.ie/ArtsService/Grantsandopportunities/>

CLOSING DATE FOR THE ABOVE AWARDS IS TUESDAY 20th MARCH 2018, 12 noon.

Kildare Creative Ireland Bursary Awards

As part of Kildare's 2018 Creative Ireland programme, we invite applications for bursary awards that will develop bodies of work with a public interface/engagement. We invite applications from individuals and groups to creatively explore themes of

- Well being
- Sense of place
- Heritage (which may include historical exploration)
- Music
- STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics)
- Irish language

Application forms and further information are available from Kildare County Council Creative Ireland Programme, Riverbank, Main Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare. Tel: 045-448318,

Email: creativekildare@kildarecoco.ie or on the website at <http://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/Community/GrantSchemes>

**CLOSING DATE FOR THE
ABOVE AWARDS IS TUESDAY
20th MARCH 2018, 12 noon.**



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St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band

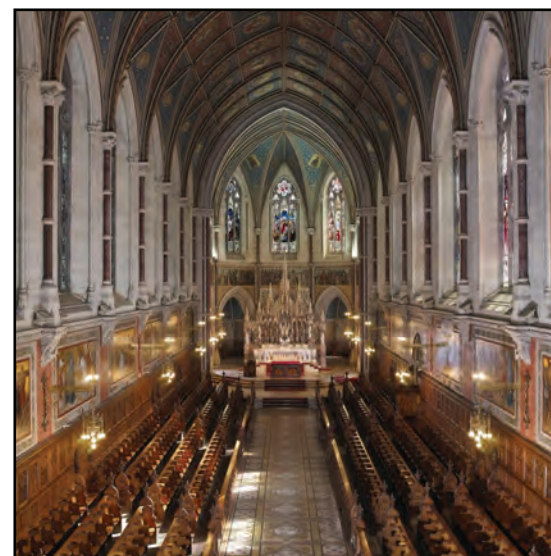
We would like to thank most sincerely all those who contributed so generously to our Christmas Collection which is one of our main means of funding the band for the coming year and we wish all of you a very happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.



The Band are back to work and busy rehearsing for our upcoming concert in St. Patrick's College Chapel on Sunday 18th February where we will be joined by the Maynooth Parish Choir. It promises to be a very entertaining evening and it is a special occasion for the band as, as far as we know, it is the first time for the band to play in the Chapel.

The concert begins at 7pm and tickets can be purchased at the Maynooth Bookshop on the Main Street.

As always we invite musicians living in the area who would like to play with the band to drop in to the Band Hall in Pound Lane between 8 and 9.30pm any Monday night (except Bank Holidays) where you will receive a very warm welcome.



Maynooth Brass and Reed Band

Directed by Jon Clifford

'Festival of Brass'

With Guest Choir - Maynooth Parish Choir

In the College Chapel of St Patrick's College, Maynooth, under their new director, St Mary's Brass and Reed Band, Maynooth come together with Maynooth Parish Choir to present a festival of brass of choral music. Works include music by R.V. Williams, Holst, Schubert and John Rutter.



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7:00PM (PLEASE BE SEATED BY 6:40PM)

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Maynooth Newsletter

Copy date for the March edition of the Maynooth Newsletter will be Tuesday 20th February 2018

Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee

Christmas is well and truly over but as the December edition of the Newsletter went on sale before our Christmas Dinner took place I would like to remind you that it was held in the Glenroyal Hotel on December 17th. It was attended by 156 people and was a most enjoyable event. Thank you to the management and staff of the Glenroyal Hotel for their courtesy and kindness to our people on the day.

Many thanks to all our sponsors throughout the year, Barton Transport, Seán Donovan, Thorntons, Supervalu, Manor Mills, Tesco, McMyers, Post Primary School, William Kiernan, Bernard Durkan, Eugene O'Reilly and Frank Walsh.

Our morning club is now in full swing and all senior citizens in the area are welcome along. By the time you read this article we will have attended our first outing of 2018 which is the Maynooth Post Primary School Musical, "Beauty and the Beast". We look forward to this event every year and these young people never fail to entertain.

Our next event will be our Valentine's Tea-Dance which will take place on Sunday February 18th at 3pm in the GAA Club, Moyglare Road and seniors from all areas are welcome. The Tony Smith Memorial walk which is organised by Maynooth Branch of the Labour Party will also take place on the day.

Our AGM will be held on March 6th at 8pm in the Geraldine Hall. This is an open meeting to which all are welcome. We would like to see

some new faces on our committee so to those of you who have expressed an interest in what we do this would be a good time to come along and get involved. We not only have an ageing population but we have an ageing committee. While we are not defined by our age, it would be nice to see some younger people coming along to take the committee to the next level. Our Annual Church Gate Collection will take place on March 10th / 11th and we welcome your support.

Finally may I extend our sincere sympathy to the families of Seamus O'Flaherty, William Donnelly and Noel Garrahy who passed away recently.

Ar Dheis De go Raibh a Anam.

Josephine Moore
Chairperson.



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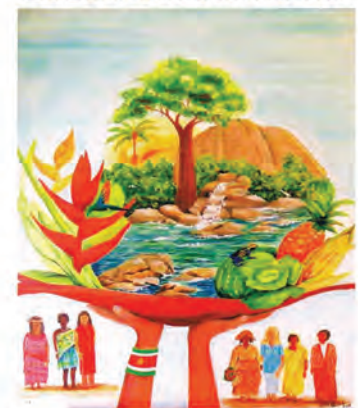
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Women's World Day of Prayer
2018 from Suriname



Date: Saturday 3rd March

Time: Refreshments: 10.45am

Service: 11.15am

Venue: Pastoral Centre
(beside St. Mary's Catholic Church)

EVERYONE WELCOME





MAYNOOTH ST. PATRICK'S DAY FESTIVAL 17th MARCH 2018

FÉILE LÁ FHÉILE PHÁDRAIG MHAIGH NUAD 17Ú MÁRTA 2018



As we enter into a new season, we can now look forward to one of the biggest events in the Maynooth Calendar – the St. Patrick's Day Parade. This is the **33rd annual parade** to take place in Maynooth and we are continuing with the tradition of having a theme.

This year's theme is – **Medieval Maynooth**.

The town that we all know and love was once the capital of Ireland during Medieval times under the Fitzgerald Clann on behalf of the British Crown. What's most interesting about the Fitzgerald's was that they were apparently *"more Irish than the Irish themselves"*.

The biggest landmark in our town is Maynooth Castle and over recent years it has become more of a focal point for the local community with our Summer Festival and free tours provided by the OPW.

In preparing for this year's parade, we ask that all groups consider dressing up in Medieval costumes and really taking the theme to heart. There is an award for the best portrayal of the theme along with other awards, such as Best Commercial Float and Environmental Awareness.

The organisation of the parade is done by a committee of Maynooth Community Council CLG and by the office staff as part of their training on a Community Employment Scheme. While the preparation for the event takes months of behind the scenes work, we always need some extra hands on the day. The average attendance at our annual parade is approx **5,000 people** and with this we need people to volunteer as stewards. If you are available for two hours on the day, please get in touch with the office.

Events such as this cost money and we are very lucky to have sponsorship from Kildare County Council and our local businesses, without which we could not operate. We are thankful for every donation we receive and we encourage people to support these local businesses.

As always, the parade starts at Greenfield Shopping Centre at **11am**, making its way towards the Main Street and finishing in Tesco car park. The awards ceremony takes place afterwards at **1pm** in Manor Mills Shopping Centre where there is a Family Fun Day organised by the centre with dancing, face painting and music.

I look forward to seeing you on the day.

Beir Bua, - Naoise Ó Cearúil - Parade Organiser



~ Have Fun While Advertising Your Organisation ~



Maynooth St Patrick's Day Parade

Application Form 2018

This Year's Theme: Medieval Maynooth

Name of Business/Group:

Address:

Contact e-mail:

Telephone:

Contact Person:

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

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

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

Commercial Float ~ €50 Club/Organisation ~ €20

First Time Entry ~ €10 Bands ~ Free

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

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

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

Applications with entry fee to be sent to Community Council Office

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



or Naoise Ó Cearúil – Mobile - 086-7280050

Grant aided by Kildare County Council



Invitation to all

Veterans of the Defence Forces & The International Military Community in Ireland

This is an open invitation for Military Veterans to join and take part as the colour party and marching body in the Maynooth 2018 St Patrick's Day parade

Forming up on Saturday 17th March at 10:30 hrs at the Greenfield Shopping Car Park

maynoothveteransgroup@gmail.com



Run for Oision

Anam Cara 5K

**Sunday April 22nd @11am
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Anam Cara provides safe and comfortable settings where bereaved parents can be among others who understand and care because they know what it is like."

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Maynooth

Tidy Towns
Caring for our environment

We were presented with our Gold medal at a ceremony in Skerries by Minister Sean Kyne TD on the 4th of December we were also presented with a certificate for our work on pollination.

Thank you all for the nice comments made concerning our big Christmas Tree placed in the square.

The lights were switched on the tree and the street Christmas lights by guest of honour Senior Citizen Ellen Leavy on the 10th of December thanks also to Pat Kehoe and team of Kildare County Council who ensured our tree was safe and secure following the storm prior to Christmas.

Thanks to all who helped in any way with the above project. We appreciate all who brought Christmas Trees for recycling to the KCC Maynooth yard in Leinster St., and the shredded material will be used locally.

Our Volunteer Night was held on 19th January in the Glenroyal Hotel with music from the Junior Section of Maynooth Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann and Danny Carthy who sang a number of songs.

Ted Robinson General Manager of the Glenroyal Hotel provided and sponsored the finger food for the event. Ted spoke about the great work of MTT and how proud they were of us winning the Gold Medal. John Kavanagh, chair of MTT thanked Ted and staff for their support to us during the year.

Mattie Callaghan was presented with a certificate from Kildare County Council to mark over 30years volunteering with Maynooth Tidy Towns.

We are taking part in a one day planting of 1 million Trees nationwide on Saturday 10th February @ 8.30am in the Courthouse Square. We hope to start back in March with our usual planting, clean-ups and general maintenance. WEEE Ireland collection will be held in March date to be decided more info in next Newsletter.

A number of Cafe's in Maynooth are taking part in the Zero Waste Conscious Cup Campaign, further details on the Maynooth Tidy Towns Facebook page. If you have an hour to spare come along and help us retain our Gold Medal for 2018.

Further information on 0873153189 or see us on Facebook or contact us on Twitter.

**Richard Farrell -
PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns**



ROYAL CANAL AMENITY GROUP (RCAG)

THE CHRISTMAS RECOVERY WALK

The weather stayed fine and there was a good turn out who enjoyed the refreshments served at Pike Bridge. Thanks to all the attendees for their donations.

ROYAL CANAL GREENWAY FESTIVAL 2018

This will be on Sunday 27th May 2018 and based in Maynooth Harbour area. Kildare Animal Foundation will hold a Dog Show in the Harbour field. We plan to have barge trips on the canal and also a kayak demonstration. We will have a Fair in the Maynooth Scouts Hall. If you, or if you know anybody who is interested in renting a space and table please contact Declan at 086-8636249. If you or any friends, are interested in showcasing their musical talent (for free) on that afternoon, again please contact Declan at 086-8636249. We have a few other events under planning for that day.

MAYNOOTH HARBOUR AREA

The Information Smart Tag which we located at Maynooth Harbour had a very short life, about two weeks, before it was stolen. It was one of many which we have located at intervals along the stretch of the Royal Canal. The information Smart Tag contained lots of information about Maynooth and the services available and was accessed via contact with a smart phone.

You may have noticed the newly erected steel barriers on the town side of Maynooth Harbour. The problem is that the space between the barrier and the water edge is not wide enough to allow safe disembarking from a canal boat-barge.

WATERWAYS IRELAND PLAN 3 HUBS ON THE ROYAL CANAL (140KM – 90 MILES)

Two were planned for Richmond Harbour, Clondra, Longford (the terminus) and the other at Mullingar. We have made the case that the last Hub be located at Maynooth as it is an obvious choice – access to the Motorways, a reinforced boat slip, a large launch area and all services. Maynooth has the potential to be the “Carrick-on-Shannon” of the Royal Canal and we need your help in pressing this case also.

THE 2018 WORLD CANAL CONFERENCE

This is a major international event and is being held in Athlone from 10th-12th September next. There will be delegates from Canada, China and South America. RCAG plans to be one of the keynote speakers. Conference delegates will be visiting the Royal Canal. RCAG has very serious concerns about parts of the Royal Canal “returning to nature” and we have communicated these concerns to the TDs whose constituencies adjoin the length of the Royal Canal.

SUMMER OUTING TO LOUGH NEAGH - Saturday 16th June

We will visit Rams Island which is a 10 minute boat ride from the eastern shore of Lough Neagh where the nearest town is Lisburn. Our trip will take place on Saturday the 16th June with the bus leaving Maynooth at 8.30am. The fare has not been fixed yet. If you would like to provisionally book a place please send an email to chairman@royalcanal.ie or phone 01-6877034.

royalcanal.ie

This is our website and we want you to visit it regularly where you will be kept up to date with news about the Greenway and planned events. Our contact email is chairman@royalcanal.ie and the contact phone number is 01-6877034



Top International Stars lined up for the Glenroyal Hotel

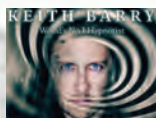
As one of the major event venues nationally the Glenroyal Hotel's program of entertainment for 2018 is a star studded extravaganza with a line-up of top international artists. With pre-show dinner and overnight accommodation packages available the Glenroyal Hotel is the perfect venue to celebrate that special occasion.



Johnny McEvoy
Thursday, 8th February 2018.
Tickets €30.00 each



Keith Barry
Friday, 9th March 2018.
Tickets €30.00 each



Foster & Allen
Saturday, 10th March 2018.
Tickets €30.00 each



Neil Delamere
Sunday, 18th March 2018.
Tickets €25.00 each



High Kings
Saturday, 31st March 2018.
Tickets €30.00 each



Tommy Tiernan
Saturday, 28th April 2018.
Tickets €30.00 SOLD OUT



Tickets on Sale at Hotel Reception - Tel: 01 6290909

Tickets can also be purchased online : www.ticketmaster.ie or www.tickets.ie
Additional admin cost applies with payment by Credit/Debit Card at Hotel Reception.

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MAYNOOTH

Sunday 18th February

From 12.00pm - 4.00pm

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Writers-in-Residence Spring Series 2018

Maynooth University Writers-in-Residence **Rob Doyle** and **Sarah Maria Griffin** are delighted to host a series of talks and readings in Maynooth Community Library and on Maynooth University campus. All are free and open to the public.

Rob Doyle's acclaimed debut novel, *Here Are the Young Men*, was followed by *This Is the Ritual*, a book-of-the-year in the *New Statesman*, *Irish Times* and *Sunday Times*. The *Sunday Independent* called it 'a masterpiece in experimental short fiction brimming with ideas, vulgarity and intelligence.' Doyle's writing has been published widely, in the *Guardian*, *Vice*, BBC World Service, & elsewhere. He edited *The Other Irish Tradition* (2018) for the Dalkey Archive.

Sarah Maria Griffin's first novel, *Spare & Found Parts*, was published by Greenwillow Books in October 2016 and is published in Ireland & the UK in Feb. 2018 by Titan. Her nonfiction has appeared on BuzzFeed, The Rumpus, Guts and *Winter Pages*. Her collection of essays about emigration, *Not Lost*, was published by New Island Press in 2013. She was the recipient of the European Science Fiction Awards Chrysalis Award in 2017.

Readings by Rob Doyle and Sarah Maria Griffin

Wed. 7 February, Maynooth University, Iontas Bldg, 4pm

Readings by Rob Doyle, Sarah Maria Griffin and their MU workshop students. For further information, contact Dr. Oona Frawley: oonafrawley@mu.ie

Contemporary Irish Writers

Tues. 13 February, Maynooth Community Library, 6pm

Readings and discussion with June Caldwell, Oisín Fagan, and Peter Murphy. The *Guardian* described **June Caldwell's** acclaimed debut, *Room Little Darker*, as 'banshee bold', while **Oisín Fagan** has been described as 'the most exciting young writer in the country'. **Peter Murphy's** novels have garnered multiple award nominations, including for the IMPAC and the Costa.

This event is free and open to the public. Booking is required in advance: please contact the library on 01-6285530 or maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie. For further information, contact Dr. Oona Frawley: oonafrawley@mu.ie

Publishing in Ireland

Wed. 21 February, Maynooth University, Iontas Bldg, 4pm

Discussion with Brendan Barrington (Penguin Ireland), Laura Cassidy (*Banshee Lit*), and Declan Meade (*The Stinging Fly*).

Maynooth University Writers-in-Residence **Rob Doyle** and **Sarah Maria Griffin** host a discussion with **Brendan Barrington**, editor at Penguin Ireland and founding editor of *The Dublin Review*; **Laura Cassidy**, founding editor of *Banshee Lit*; and Declan Meade, founding editor of *The Stinging Fly*.

This event is free and open to the public. For further information contact Dr. Oona Frawley oonafrawley@mu.ie

Contemporary Irish Writers

Wed. 7 March, Maynooth University, Iontas Bldg, 4pm

Readings and discussion with Sara Baume, Gavin Corbett, and Sinéad Gleeson.

Maynooth University Writers-in-Residence **Rob Doyle** and **Sarah Maria Griffin** host readings and discussion, with Sara Baume, Gavin Corbett, and Sinéad Gleeson.

Sara Baume is the multi-award-winning author of the acclaimed *Spill Simmer Falter Wither*. **Gavin Corbett's** *This is the Way* won the Kerry Group novel of the year in 2013. **Sinéad Gleeson's** first book will be published in 2019; her anthologies won Irish book awards in 2015/16.

This event is free and open to the public. For further information contact Dr. Oona Frawley oonafrawley@mu.ie

Writing and the Internet

Tues. 13 March, Maynooth Community Library, 6pm

Discussion with Roisin Kiberd, Ian Maleney, and Mark O'Connell.

Maynooth University Writers-in-Residence **Rob Doyle** and **Sarah Maria Griffin** host a discussion with **Róisín Kiberd**, **Ian Maleney**, and **Mark O'Connell**.

Róisín Kiberd's journalism has appeared in *The Guardian*, the *Independent*; she writes regularly for Motherboard, Vice, Lovin Dublin, and Totally Dublin. Her work focuses on technology and culture and their intersection.

Ian Maleney's writing on the arts, politics, and technology has appeared in *The Irish Times*, *Gorse*, and elsewhere. Ian is the founder of Fallow Media, a creative space exploring ways in which the internet affords challenges and innovation to artistic forms.

Mark O'Connell is a journalist whose work regularly appears in *Slate*, *The New Yorker*, and *The New York Times Magazine*, among others. His book *How to be a Machine: Encounters with a Post-Human Future* (2017) was described by *The Guardian* as 'captivating'.

This event is free and open to the public. Booking is required in advance: please contact the library on 01-6285530 or maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie. For further information, contact Dr. Oona Frawley: oonafrawley@mu.ie



**ZERO WASTE
MAYNOOTH**

Zero Waste Maynooth

The foundation of Zero Waste is based on the 5 Rs – Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rot (compost). The order of these Rs is important as it tackles waste from the beginning rather than just focusing on how to dispose of it.

At our launch in November, Timi Nicholson, of simplenowastelife.com, gave a great outline of each of them. Our articles in the coming months will be looking closer at each of these Rs and giving you hints on how to implement them in your life.

Refuse is the first R as it starts you thinking about your habits. Refusing items is a way of preventing waste from entering your house (or from being created) in the first place.

Bea Johnson, a leading figure of Zero Waste, says that when you accept or buy something you are creating a demand, no matter how small, for that product. Companies and organisations will continue to create promotional items and offer special deals if people keep taking them. If they receive feedback which shows that this method of advertising no longer works, then they will have to re-think their approach.

Refuse is also about looking at your needs and wants. Becoming more Zero Waste in your life can help you save money and clear clutter/unnecessary belongings from your house. Refusing what you do not need can result in some uncomfortable questions –

- Do I need another X/Y/Z?
- Is the one I have at home not working or am I just bored with it?
- If I don't buy this, what could I put this money towards?

Having this conversation with yourself in the shop may draw some strange looks but will be worth it when your piggy bank is stuffed!!

Here are some steps to implement “Refuse” in your life:

- Get a “No Junk Mail” sign for your letter box.
- Say no to offers in shops that include a bottle of water/crisps that you actually don't need/want. Perhaps suggest to management that a piece of (unwrapped) fruit would be a good substitute.
- Take pictures of business details instead of accepting brochures/cards.

Think before you buy – could you borrow instead? Could you buy second hand? Do you really need the item at all? Sometimes it helps to write the item on a list and leave it for 24 hours (or longer). When you come back to the list the desire for the object may be gone.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter: @zerowastemaynooth.

Conscious Cup Campaign in Maynooth

Did you know that **most takeaway cups are not recyclable??** And it is estimated that over 200 million of these cups are thrown away every year in Ireland!!

Maynooth is lucky to have some great businesses willing to tackle this environmental problem head-on. The following eight cafes are offering a discount to those that use their own reusable cup for takeaway rather than a disposable cup. It is a win-win situation for all – less waste being produced, less money spent on cups by the cafes and more change in the consumers pocket! So be sure to support these fantastic businesses!!

Discounts offered:

Willow and Wild (20c) L'Art du Chocolat (20c) Emma's Place (20c) Café Bon Bon (20c) Coffee Mill (50c) The Coffee Lounge (50c) Beetroot (20c) The Brewery (20c)

If you are interested in joining the Conscious Cup Campaign, please message Zero Waste Maynooth on FB or email zerowastemaynooth@gmail.com for more information.





Comhaltas Craobh Mhaigh Nuad



Hello again, and a Happy New Year to all our branch members and all readers of our monthly Craobh Mhaigh Nuad journal.

Lessons started on 10th January and a warm welcome to those brave souls starting out on their musical journey for the New Year. Great time of the year it is too to start with the warm evenings and the resolutions to stay away from Maynooth's hostels!

Our annual outing at Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich for their Christmas Fair went down smashingly as always. The team played for an hour and a half until the big man in the red suit appeared to a rousing version of Jingle Bells.



Craobh Mhaigh Nuad performing in Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich on 26th Nov.

Scór is the primary completion of the GAA for showcasing Irish culture and the branch, many of whose members are involved in both organisations, had a strong showing at this year's competition in Allenwood.

Rita Doyle has been driving Maynooth's participation in Scór for many years and her dancers were successful in Kildare and went on to put up a strong showing in Wexford.



Rita Doyle School of Dance

The next set of performers were Drím Tím who were competing in 2017 for the first time. Great things are to be expected from this outfit which included Riobard, Fionnuala, Katie, Caoimhe and Seán.



Drím Tím on stage at Kildare Scór

The eventual winners of the music group completion were Team One featuring our branch stalwarts Kirsten, Tom, Killian, Keelin and Caoimhe



Team One collecting their prize at Kildare Scór in Allenwood



Róisín Howley was next up with a beautiful song at Kildare Scór

The Leinster Final in Oulart, Wexford on 10th December was disrupted due to the poor driving conditions, but it eventually went ahead with our qualifiers performing strongly, but not ultimately making the All-Ireland's.

For our Cúinne an Cheoltóra this week, we're chatting with Matt "The-Masher" Meehan, who joined the branch 2 years ago and is one of our stellar percussionists.



Name: Matt Meehan

Age: 13 years old

Instruments & how long have you been playing?

I play the bodhrán, drums and guitar. I have been playing the guitar for one and a half years. I have been playing the bodhrán and the drums for two years.

What is your best memory of playing music?

My best memory of playing my main instrument the bodhrán is when I was at the annual Traddrummers Clinic in The Venue in Ratoath last year. Myself and four others had to put a piece

together. We had to rehearse together in the weeks running up to the event and then perform to all who attended the clinic.

Who is the biggest influence on your musical career?

The biggest influence on my musical career by far is Aimée Farrell Courtney, my Bodhrán teacher. Aimée is a World Bodhrán Champion and I am so lucky to have her as my teacher. Not only is she a fantastic bodhrán player, she is a kind and patient teacher as well.

Who is the best musician you know?

I have an interest in lots of different types of music. I love Punk Rock and would consider Billie Joe Armstrong (lead vocalist and guitarist) and Tré Cool (Drummer) from Green Day to be really good musicians. I was lucky enough to see them in concert this year at the Royal Hospital Kilmainham. With regards to traditional Irish Music, I would have to say Aimée Farrell Courtney.

What do you like best about playing music?

I love playing music with the group from Comhaltas. It makes me happy and everybody else feel happy around me. When a person or a group play music, people gather around – it brings people together.



Group Session on 28th Nov. Check out #CraobhClassSession for tune lists and pictures

Our class sessions are still going strong – they're 1 lesson in 4 and offer a great change from the classroom environment, while being a super learning platform for collaborative playing.

We're usually in Maynooth GAA the last Sunday of the month, and our adult slow session runs every 2 weeks, so get in touch if you'd like to participate in these even if you're not a branch member. All are welcome!

<http://www.ccemhaighnuad.com/>

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

<http://twitter.com/CCEMaighNuad>

**Derek Carroll, PRO,
Craobh Mhaigh Nuad CCE**

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Saturday the 10th of February at the historic Barberstown Castle Hotel, Straffan, Co. Kildare.

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**Copy date for the March edition of the Maynooth Newsletter
will be Tuesday 20th February 2018**



Celebrating 10 Years of Maynooth Educate Together National School



In September Maynooth Educate Together National School kicked off the celebrations of their 10th anniversary with a visit to the school by Paul Rowe, the CEO of Educate Together. Paul spoke about the increasing importance of the ethos of Educate Together and about the wonderful success of Maynooth Educate Together, which started with just one Junior infants class of 17 pupils and now has grown to an enrollment of 230 and will soon be starting on a new permanent building. The event was attended by parents, past and present and all previous BOM members.



The pupils also enjoyed the celebrations with a visit by an ice-cream van. The PTA gave each child a sports bag which had a special 10th Anniversary logo to commemorate the event. It was great to see all their happy faces.



On Monday 22nd January the PTA had the pleasure of hosting John Lonergan, former Governor of Mountjoy Prison. The invited audience of 120, had representatives from all of the local schools and the wider

Maynooth community, as well as parents and staff from METNS. John has a wonderful insight into parenting and he shared his own parenting philosophy with the group with enthusiasm and a great deal of humour. He emphasised the importance of communication with children of all ages, consensus and acceptance. His 2013 book *Parenting: Raising Your Child In Ireland Today* published by Orpen Press goes into more detail than he was able to cover at the talk and all the author's royalties are donated to Barnardos and Barnardos Northern Ireland. The talk was held in Maynooth University and the PTA would like to thank the Maynooth Campus Conference & Accommodation office for facilitating the group.



The celebrations will continue for the rest of the school year, and will include a week long Cultural festival in April, where parents will join classes to share their culture and heritage. The week will end with a school family day to celebrate all of the amazing and vibrant cultures within our school community.

They will finish off the year with the preparation of a time capsule filled with items voted on by each class representing the 10 year history of the school which will be buried on the site at what promises to be their "biggest and best Family Fun Day and Summer Fair".



Registration open for Annual Galway Cycle in aid of Friends of the Coombe.

As has been the tradition for the past 30 years, Maynooth University students, alumni, friends and supporters will once again make the journey from Maynooth to Galway and back in aid of a worthy cause.

On Friday 6th April up to 350 cyclists will leave from the gates of Maynooth University in a bid to raise €20,000 for Friends of the Coombe to enable it to help the Coombe Women & Infants University Hospital provide hospice-style care by creating a family-friendly home away from home to afford bereaved parents both comfort and dignity.



Since it was first established in 1987 by a group of students at St. Patrick's College, the annual Galway Cycle has covered more than 12,000 kms of road and raised in excess of €1.5 million for a host of charities close to the hearts of cyclists and their families.

President of the Galway Cycle, sociology and geography student at Maynooth University, Ciara Keogh said that this year's cycle promises to be the biggest yet. "This year we are hoping to recruit 300 cyclists, 100 collectors and 100 additional volunteers who will form a support crew," she said. "We are delighted to partner with Friends of the Coombe this year. Theirs is a project with a national reach that really touched the hearts of past cyclists, all of whom play a part in the annual charity nomination and voting process."

The Galway Cycle is a volunteer led initiative to ensure that costs are kept to an absolute minimum. This year they have set themselves an ambitious fundraising target of €20,000 and hope that with the help of cyclists, friends and supporters, that target will be reached by the time they leave Galway for home on Sunday 8th April.

The Galway Cycle will take place between Friday 6th April and Sunday 8th April and is open to anyone who would like to take up the challenge. Full information, including a pre-Galway Cycle training schedule and online registration, is available at www.galwaycycle.ie.

A special online fundraising page has been set up for people who would like to make a once-off donation. It can be found at <https://give.everydayhero.com/ie/galway-cycle-in-aid-of-friends-of-the-coombe>.



Comhairle Contae Chill Dara
Kildare County Council

Council Launches 2018 Campaign Against Dog Fouling

Kildare County Council today (24th January) announces its campaign to ask dog owners to act responsibly when it comes to dog fouling. Dog fouling has become more of an issue in the last few years, for the public in general, as well as residents' associations, Tidy Towns and other community groups. To assist in this, the council has identified a number of areas in each of the Municipal Districts where many people walk their dogs.

These areas will have a temporary audio warning device installed to remind dog owners of their responsibilities, and some additional signage with the "Any Bag any Bin" message will also be installed. The first area to be chosen is the path linking Kill and Johnstown, a route frequented by many dog owners.

Dara Wyer, Environment Awareness Officer with the council said:

"Most dog owners are aware that dog fouling is against the law and that they are responsible for cleaning up after their dog when in public areas. However, some still think it is not an issue, so we are asking all dog owners to remember "Any Bag any Bin"- in other words, if you bring the dog for a walk, bring a small bag with you to clean up after it, and put the bag either in a litter bin or bring it home. Not only is dog fouling an offence under the Litter Pollution Act, it is also a public health issue as dog waste carries pathogens that are harmful, particularly for children who come into contact with it."

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

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

Gift Vouchers Bill

In December 2017 I introduced a Bill in the Dail on behalf of the Social Democrats The Consumer Protection (Gift Vouchers) Bill to the Dáil. The purpose of this Bill is to increase the protections for people who are buying and receiving gift vouchers. Many vouchers come with conditions (these are often well hidden) which mean that if not used within a specific time frame they expire or the balance starts reducing as a result of fees being applied to them.

This means that people aren't really being given the flexibility they should be when using their vouchers at a time that suits them. We are hoping that this Bill will be debated in the Dáil soon and will attract cross party support. The gift voucher industry is valued at €300m per year with an estimated €70m of vouchers going un-redeemed. Until the law is changed I urge anyone who has a voucher to check the terms and conditions.

Pension Inequality

One of the biggest issues being brought to my attention at the moment is the scandal of the pension's inequality. Some of this relates to changes made to pension entitlements in 2012 which I

opposed at the time. More than 60% of those affected are women, many of whom had to take time out of the workforce during their working lives. Those affected are being unfairly punished by way of reduced pension payments which I believe is very unfair.

Many people only realise they are being affected by the changes when they apply for their pension payment for the first time. There is therefore an onus on Government to start an information campaign on this issue to make people fully aware of how it might affect their pension. I was happy to join the protest outside the Dáil last week with many of those campaigning for pension equality and it was great to see so many local women there.

I will continue to raise this issue and I welcome contact from anybody in the area who may have concerns or questions about this issue. Several organisations have combined their efforts to build a campaign to reverse the 2012 changes these include Age Action; The ICA; The National Women's Council; The IFA; SIPTU and FORSA all of these organisations welcome contact from those affected.

Maynooth Community Council CLG Secretarial Services

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Maynooth

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Email: office@maynoothcc.com

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Eulogy for Hilda Dunne (née Mooney), 1937-2018

A dhaoine uasail go leir, Is é mo onóir roinnt focail a chur ós do chóir as son comhghleacaithe Hilda sa phobal.



On behalf of Hilda's colleagues, it's my honour to present a short tribute to her contribution to civil society.

Hilda had a powerful sense of local and national history, of community activism, and justice.

It was of a justice for Irish prisoners issue that Hilda became involved in Maynooth community when the Winchester Three Support Group was formed in 1989. The Three – who had been unjustly tried and sentenced to 25 years imprisonment in Britain on conspiracy charges – included a young man from Maynooth, Finbar Cullen. Hilda immediately joined in the Group's work to help create a public awareness about the case, and to support legal efforts around a court appeal. This was a time, prior to the release of the Birmingham Six and the ceasefires in Northern Ireland, when it took a strong sense of moral conviction to speak out on such issues. In the event the appeal judge quashed the original verdict and sentences on the Three, and Hilda was proudly to the fore in organising the Fáilte Abhaile celebration in the town for Finbar.

Thereafter, Hilda and a number of us from the Group, set out on a journey of successive local initiatives, which included the establishment of: Maynooth Miscarriages of Justice Group, which supported the international campaign to release the Birmingham Six.

Maynooth Peace, Reconciliation and Justice Group, which supported the unfolding peace process in Northern Ireland Maynooth branch of Reclaim of the Spirit of Easter 1916, that marked the 75th anniversary of the Rising in 1991, and honoured the Maynooth contingent that fought in 1916.

The 1798 Bicentenary Commemoration Group. Hilda was really in her element in this group, as its events dovetailed with her earlier work with the ANCO team that restored Ladychapel Cemetery – the cemetery that holds her own Mooney family plot, and the remains of two soldiers from the ranks of the United Irish who had been killed at the battle of Ovidstown in 1798. Hilda's poem 'The unmarked grave' was included in the Group's booklet 1798 and Maynooth. Thereafter, we launched the Maynooth Local History & Civic Forum, which continues to this day to operate as the Maynooth Local History Group, and Hilda also went on to work on the Community Council and a other groups until very recently.

Hilda's style on committees was not to push her views or herself forward, but rather

she knew how best to get things done, with a quiet word, and the best approach. Yet, she could act decisively! Perhaps her finest achievement was one that she largely undertook herself – to thwart plans to transfer the remains of the Presentation Sisters from their Cemetery located behind their school in Convent Lane to another graveyard – to make way for building development. Now, Hilda cherished a special pride for her Aunt, Sr Philomena Mooney, who was buried there in 1958. She embarked upon a one-woman publicity offensive in the print and radio media, and suffice it to say the graveyard remains untouched and intact to this day.

A chairde uilig, tá bean cróga, bean láidir, bean dílis cailte againn anois. Maynooth society has lost a favourite daughter. Hilda, we bid you a fond farewell - may the good earth of Mainham Cemetery rest lightly upon you!

Michael Quinn

Rathcoffey Church Funeral Mass

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..."*

Editorial

As the previous edition of the Maynooth Newsletter covers December and January we are well into the New Year by the time you get the February edition. However, we cannot forget Christmas 2017 without thanking the Maynooth Business Association and Maynooth Tidy Towns for the wonderful Christmas lights and Christmas tree in the centre of the town. While some funding was provided by Kildare County Council we have to acknowledge that both local groups are totally voluntary and it takes a significant amount of effort to put up Christmas lights. Also Maynooth Tidy Towns gave us our first Christmas tree in Maynooth Square. There was certainly a feeling of "Christmas Wonderland" in the town so well done to everyone involved.

Of course we have a lot of ongoing works in the Harbour area and the Straffan Road over the Christmas period and into the New Year. Work on the upgrade of the Royal Canal towpath in Maynooth Harbour have been completed. The new railing is modern and is in keeping with the modern aspect of this area which is dominated by the hospital, playground area and the railway station. These works are connected to the other project to create the Maynooth North/South cycle and pedestrian route. Work in Leinster Street is nearly complete and the markings have been made on the Moyglare Road. So many more months of traffic cones and lane restrictions still ahead in 2018.

The link road between the Straffan Road and Maynooth Harbour is almost complete. While pieces of infrastructure like this can link and open up new area, this road will not be available to traffic as it is to improve access to the Fire Station. There is good reason to ensure that emergency services can

respond faster to emergencies particularly with the general traffic congestion in the centre of the town. There is no doubt that this road opens up the Harbour field area which will help access to the gym equipment and the playgrounds. Future roads in the plans include a road opposite the secondary schools linking the Moyglare Road and the Dunboyne Road. I always remember my geometry from school – the shortest distance between two points is a straight line. This road will take traffic out of the Main Street and this can only help to improve traffic and reduce congestion.

Well done to Maynooth Educate Together for organising the talk by John Lonergan on "Children and modern technology – parenting in Ireland today" The event was open to parents and guardians from all of the Maynooth schools. Talks like this are important to remind us that our children need to be protected and that while we are conscious of the physical dangers around us we are often less involved in our children's safety in cyberspace.

While elsewhere in this publication there are fitting tributes to Hilda Dunne, I cannot end without giving my personal experiences of working with Hilda. No matter what the project that she was involved in she always had that "can do" attitude. Gently persuasive to make sure things happened and her legacy will be with us for a long time. For me she ranks among a small number of people who I have worked with over many years that was easy to work with, was never negative or self-promoting, just wanted to achieve her goal for the good of all. She is missed already.

Paul Croghan
Editor

Cllr Naoise Ó Cearúil - Maynooth Fianna Fáil Notes

Mobile: 086-728 0050 e-mail: cllrnaoise@gmail.com - Facebook: www.facebook.com/naoiseoceanuil

Maynooth Library Closed for Essential Building Works

Due to essential building works, Maynooth Library will be closed from **Monday February 5th until Saturday February 10th inclusive**. Please note that your membership extends to any public library during this time. A full list of Kildare libraries' contact details and opening hours are available on our website **www.kildare.ie/library**. You are welcome to return your books to any Kildare Library should you wish to.

Ó Cearúil calls for speed reduction at Moneycooley

Cllr. Naoise Ó Cearúil has once again called on Kildare County Council to reduce the speed zone at Moneycooley from 80km/h to 60km/h. Ó Cearúil was previously told that this proposal was to be considered by the County Speed Review Committee but no action has occurred to date. Locals in the area have contacted him concerned over the unnecessary speed and Ó Cearúil has pushed once again for this adoption.

Update on local works

The boreen at Carton Avenue is to be restored by the developer
The Council is looking at installing CCTV into Maynooth Playground
Yellow boxes are to be installed at the top of Doctor's Lane and at Tesco Roundabout
Additional public lighting is to be installed by Waterways Ireland at the Canal
Footpaths at Beaufield have been upgraded and improved

Council proposes underground car park at the Harbour Field

Kildare County Council have notified councillors that it is considering proposals for an underground car park at the Harbour Field to deal with the lack of parking in the town. Any proposal will go on public display for the community to comment on. Cllr. Ó Cearúil has highlighted his concerns with such an idea until he sees concrete plans of how it would look. "My biggest concern is that the Harbour Field is made any smaller. It is the most important green space we have in the town and it belongs to the people of Maynooth. While there is a need for additional parking in Maynooth, I wouldn't like to see us impeding on one of the greatest assets we have as a town.". The proposed area for the car park would be the portion of the field that is gravelled.

Ó Cearúil calls for a Kildare County Council Mobile App

Cllr. Naoise Ó Cearúil has proposed that KCC develop its own mobile app that could be used as part of its customer service model. With people using smart technology now more than ever, Ó Cearúil believes that this is an excellent way for the council to engage with the public but also make it easier and more accessible to deal with the council. Naoise hopes that this type of app would allow people to report issues such as public lights not working, issues with footpaths and arrange appointments with the housing department.

Maynooth Retains its Purple Flag Status

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

This award which recognises Maynooth as a 'must-visit' location and will continue to be beneficial as a marketing and promotional tool, placing the town amongst a small number of towns and cities to have achieved this standard. Maynooth will continue be marketed locally, nationally and internationally as a town of excellence with a rich mix of dining and cultural venues and a vast range of events and festivals.

Cllr. Naoise Ó Cearúil spearheaded the initiative to apply for this award and received widespread support for his proposal in 2016. Once adopted by the council, the County Kildare Chamber and KCC managed the application and the retention of the project.

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.

MAYNOOTH FLOWER AND GARDEN CLUB

www.maynoothflowerandgardenclub.com

Programme for 2018

February 20th:

Demonstrator: Elizabeth Murray

March 20th:

Garden talk on Roses by Assumpta Broomfield.

April 21st:

Annual Spring Show - Venue: Glenroyal Hotel.

May 15th:

Demonstrator: Maureen Fagan

June 19th:

Demonstrator: Bernadette Palminteri

September 18th:

Demonstrator: Paula Dowling

October 16th

AGM: Garden Talk Details later

November 20th:

Christmas Gala with Christopher White

December 4th:

Demonstrator: Suzanne Kenna "Ideas for the Home"

Contact: Moira Baxter - Phone: 086 4041927

"The views and opinions expressed in the Public Statement by Maynooth Community Council clg should not to be interpreted as reflecting the views and opinions of the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection."

A Big Happy 2018 to all the folk who like a bit of drama in their lives. The Hills of Kildare are alive with the sound of actors and dancers treading the boards and getting their acts together for 2018. Our pantomime 'Sleeping Beauty' was a great success, a BIG THANK YOU you to all who took part and to our supporters over the year.

Our Spring productions are at the planning stage and it looks like Oscar Wilde and the 'Importance of Being Earnest' is coming to Maynooth. Look out for Jack's Handbag. Not to be missed. Up in Celbridge Insight are staging 'Alone it Stands' by John Breen – a play about Munster's Rugby win over New Zealand in 1978. Directed by Rian Glynn followed by 'Tuesday with Morrie' from the famous book of the same name by Jeff Hatcher and directed by Miriam O'Brien. Check Facebook for all information.

Major congratulations to Martina Reilly and Down at Heel Productions for a great production of Martina's play 'A Tale of the Expected' From The Mill, Dundrum to Ballina and venues in-between, It's safe to say Martina's play is a hit. Bring it back again Martina – it's a winner.

You should check out the new RTE Archive - it's a treasure trove of news clips and a fascinating view of a world that is long gone. I loved the Cadburys advert that showed all the things you can get for a one pound note. It jogged my memory. You meet your girlfriend at her front door, she looks great in her new twinset - I'm wearing my father's gabardine coat with belt optional.

Get the bus into O'Connell St and over to The Metropole Cinema where Doctor Zhivago is on – it was always on. I get the tickets and purchase a box of milk tray – showing I have class. - still have change left from my one pound note. After the show, we head into the Rainbow Cafe for a knickerbocker glory. Love is in the air and I still have change from my one pound note. Home on the bus and I leave her back at her front door. A little snog and its good night – I check my change and I have enough left to go back into town, and meet a quare-one

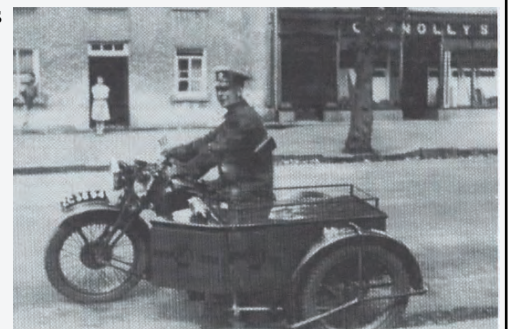
1 pound note for all that – I calculated that in today's money - 167 euro and 37cent
Ah the good ol days.

Good News or Bad - The telegram boy comes to Maynooth

You might know who these people are . It would be nice to hear from you . Contact: 086-8068068

Mind the trams : Terry Nealon

**An Nuadha Players
Community Theatre
Maynooth**



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**The Copy Date for the March Edition of the Maynooth
Newsletter is Tuesday 20th January 2018**

Maynooth Monthly Diary Planner

| Community Library | Maynooth Multiple Births | Bridge Club |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Opening Times Mondays & Fridays 2pm to 5pm Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm to 8pm Wednesday 9.30am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm Sat 9.30am to 1pm</p> | <p>Maynooth Multiple Births playgroup (twins triplets or more) meets the last Thursday of the month in Leixlip library between 10 & 12 noon. This is a great opportunity to meet parents just like you. For further details email: maynoothmultiplebirthclub@gmail.com</p> | <p>Open for new members. If you would like to play in a friendly club with purpose-built facilities in the centre of Maynooth, please see our website at maynoothbridgeclub.com. Contact Katherine Cooney 086 8205910</p> |
| I.C.A. | MAYNOOTH LOCAL HISTORY GROUP | Arthritis Ireland |
| <p>Monthly meetings take place every 1st Thursday of the month at 8.00pm in the I.C.A. Hall in the Harbour. Crafts every Monday night at 8.00pm. New members welcome</p> | <p>Maynooth Local History Group Meets Last Thursday of each Month in the Maynooth Community Space (Tesco Shopping Centre) New Members Welcome Contact: MCC Office for more details</p> | <p>Arthritis Ireland Walking Group (Maynooth) Meeting Mondays 12 - 2pm in the Maynooth Community Space</p> |
| University of Third Age (U3A) | Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group | Maynooth Men's Sheds |
| <p>Weekly meetings on Friday at 11am in Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth New Members Welcome Contact Ger : 0874133505</p> | <p>Every Thursday from 9.30am to 11.30pm Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth</p> | <p>Weekly meetings take place every Wednesday at 11am at the Maynooth Lodge Fisheries Dunboyne Road Maynooth. For further details contact John Fleming - 087 2041334</p> |
| Maynooth Tidy Towns | ALZHEIMER CAFÉ LEIXLIP | Maynooth Community Church |
| <p>Volunteers required to help with this work. Contact Number 087 3153189 Meet every Saturday at 10.00am in the Square</p> | <p>Join us at the next Alzheimer Café, Wednesday February 14th in the "The Conservatory", Ryevale Nursing Home, Leixlip from 7-9pm. Our speaker this month will be Dr. Louise Hopper, a Lecturer in Dementia Studies. Call 0894933533 Email: alzheimercafeleixlip@gmail.ie www.alzheimercafeleixlip.com</p> | <p>1st Floor Manor Mills (entrance next to Chill) Service times every Sunday morning from 10.30am www.maynoothcc.org Everyone most welcome</p> |
| Maynooth Senior Citizens | Craobh Mhaigh Nuad C.C.E. | ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND |
| <p>Our morning club continues on Tuesday and Thursday and new members are always welcome. Perhaps you are new to the parish or new to the age bracket, why not come along you might enjoy it. You will find us in the Geraldine Hall on Leinster St, or contact Josephine on 087 9002296.</p> | <p>Classes are held on Wednesday 7pm to 9.30pm in Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road. Our classes are very good value, great fun and we promise you plenty of craic also !! Bígí linn!!! Contact Sean at 086 2225540 or email craobhmaighnuad@gmail.com.</p> | <p>Rehearsals are held in the Band Hall on Pound Lane each Monday night (except Bank Holidays) from 7.45pm to 9.30pm and musicians living in Maynooth and the surrounding areas are most welcome. E-mail: sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie Website: www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie</p> |

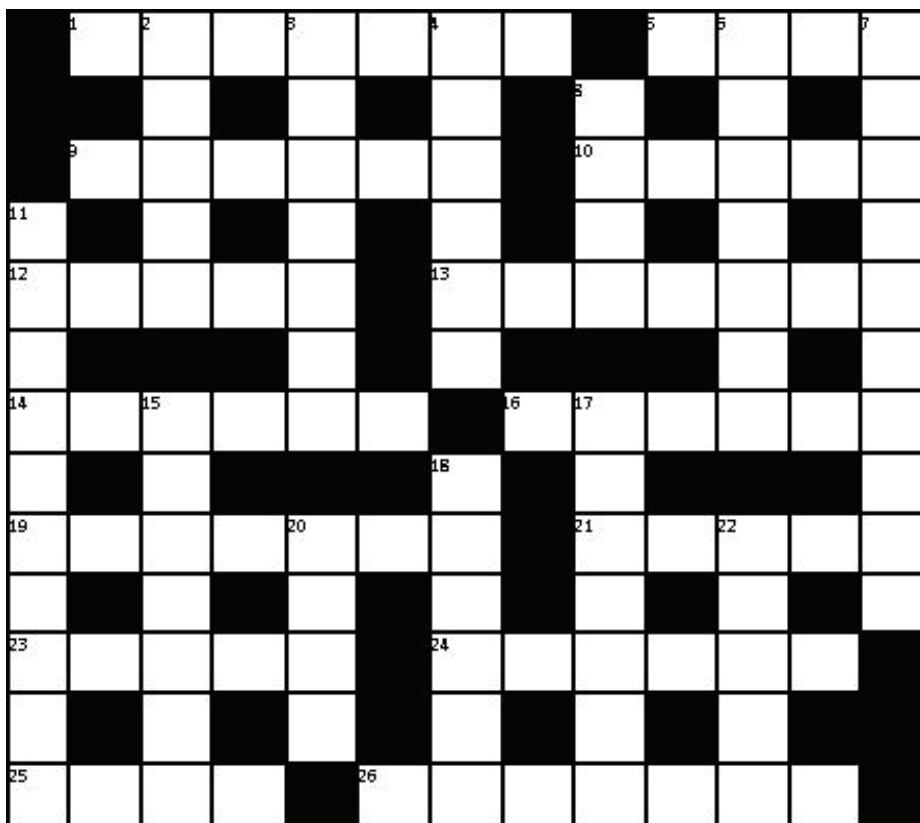
Diary entries are published free of charge for all Community Groups. E-mail details of your event before the copy date (2nd last Tuesday of each month) to be included in the next months edition. E-mail: office@maynoothcc.com. Phone: 01-6285922
(The content of the Monthly Planner Diary is published in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

Clues Across

1. Composer of "The Blue Danube" (7)
5. Small nail (4)
9. Bad tempered (6)
10. Desert water hole (5)
12. Internal (5)
13. Gun carriage? (7)
14. Crib (6)
16. Agency (6)
19. Large jug (7)
21. Refuse (5)
23. Expression (5)
24. Ball game (6)
25. Watched closely (4)
26. Forecast (7)



February 18 Crossword - No. 465



Clues Down

2. Italian car city (5)
3. Naval officer (7)
4. Grass-cutting tool (7)
6. Show jumping prize (7)
7. Frantic with worry (10)
8. Young horse (4)
11. Chastise (10)
15. Fred _ _ , late US song and dance man (7)
17. Peter _ _ _ , British actor/director (7)
18. Volcano cavity (6)
19. Bulge (4)
22. Get up (5)



Answers to Crossword No 464

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | R | E | H | O | U | S | E | 9 | P | U | S | H | I | N | G |
| 2 | A | A | N | P | Q | U | N | 10 | I | N | C | U | R | | |
| 3 | T | A | L | L | I | S | H | 11 | E | L | E | C | T | | |
| 4 | T | F | Q | | | | | 12 | R | A | W | U | S | | |
| 5 | A | | | | | | | 13 | I | B | E | R | I | | |
| 6 | P | O | T | | | | | 14 | S | A | D | D | E | | |
| 7 | | | | | | | | 15 | C | S | E | Y | | | |
| 8 | | | | | | | | 16 | | | | | | | |
| 9 | | | | | | | | 17 | R | A | I | N | W | A | T |
| 10 | | | | | | | | 18 | E | L | S | V | | | |
| 11 | | | | | | | | 19 | | | | | | | |
| 12 | | | | | | | | 20 | | | | | | | |
| 13 | | | | | | | | 21 | B | U | T | | | | |
| 14 | | | | | | | | 22 | | | | | | | |
| 15 | | | | | | | | 23 | A | Z | A | L | E | | |
| 16 | | | | | | | | 24 | P | E | B | B | L | E | |
| 17 | | | | | | | | 25 | | | | | | | |
| 18 | | | | | | | | 26 | | | | | | | |
| 19 | | | | | | | | 27 | L | E | A | | | | |
| 20 | | | | | | | | 28 | O | R | G | A | N | | |
| 21 | | | | | | | | 29 | N | E | H | R | U | | |
| 22 | | | | | | | | 30 | O | P | I | N | I | | |
| 23 | | | | | | | | 31 | E | O | S | E | | | |
| 24 | | | | | | | | 32 | U | N | A | E | | | |
| 25 | | | | | | | | 33 | R | E | T | R | E | | |
| 26 | | | | | | | | 34 | S | C | I | E | N | | |
| 27 | | | | | | | | 35 | C | E | | | | | |

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Entries in before: Tuesday 20th February 2018

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Winner of Crossword No. 464 Dec/Jan

Fergus Ryan
32 Meadowbrook Crescent
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

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

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

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

Sudoku Challenge FEBRUARY 2018

Entries must arrive before:
20th February 2018

**Congratulations to
Dec/Jan Winner:**

Dylan Kiely
Parson's Hall
Maynooth

Collect prize from
Newsletter Office

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

Super Difficult

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____



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Age: _____

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Last Month's Winner:
Kate Whitty
The Green
Moyglare Hall
Maynooth

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

Entries must arrive before:
Tuesday 20th February 2018

Junior Puzzle Corner

Kitty cat rice cakes



Ingredients

- 2 Sun Rice Original Rice Cakes
- 1 small tbsp smooth peanut butter
- 1/4 carrot, thinly sliced then trimmed into triangles for ears
- 1/2 banana, sliced for cheeks
- coconut thread, for whiskers
- 4 currants, for eyes
- 2 raisins, for nose



Method

1. Spread Sun Rice Original Rice Cakes with peanut butter.
2. Place the carrot and banana slices onto the peanut butter.
3. Arrange the coconut, currants and raisins to make the face.
4. Serve.

Q: What has a face and two hands but no arms or legs?

A: A clock

Q: What has a thumb and four fingers but is not alive?

A: A Glove

Q: What has a neck but no head?

A: A bottle



Word Search

blue



bird



rain



panda



glove

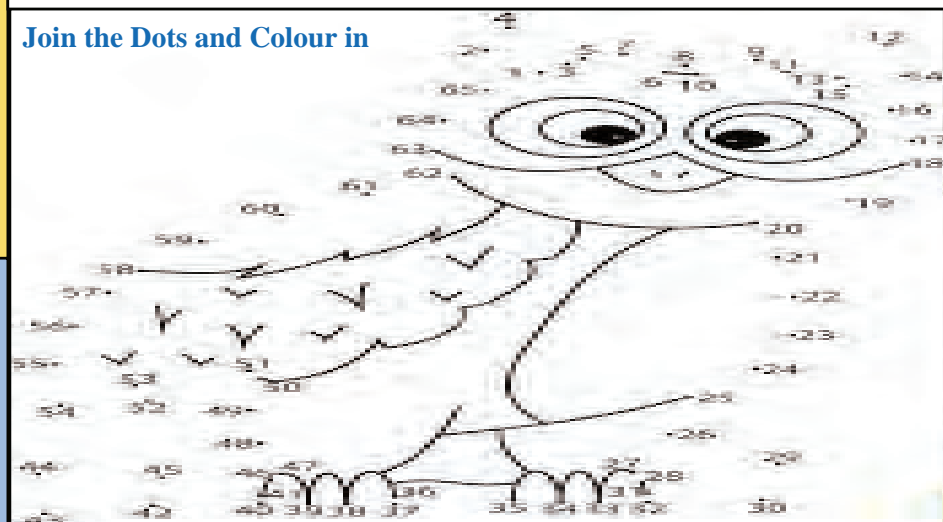


shark



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Join the Dots and Colour in



MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY NEWS



Maynooth Labour Economist Wins Prestigious Research Prize



Pictured is Dr Aedin Doris, Department of Economics, Finance and Accounting at Maynooth University, accepting the Gold Medal from Colm Kelly, Chairman of the Foundation for Fiscal Studies. Dr Doris has been awarded the 2017 “Miriam Hederman O’Brien Prize,” recognising outstanding contributors to matters relating to fiscal, economic and social policy. Dr Doris is a labour economist, whose research focuses on issues related to labour supply, labour market policy evaluation and the economics of education. She received the Prize, along with her co-author Dr Bruce Chapman, for their research on “Modelling Higher Education Financing Reform in Ireland.”

SFI Research Investment of €2.5m in Maynooth University

Photo: Prof Ray O’Neill, Prof Mark Ferguson, Director General of Science Foundation Ireland, Minister John Halligan TD, Prof Paul Moynagh and Dr Joost Slingerland



Prof Paul Moynagh, Department of Biology, is awarded €2m for a research project which will discover and exploit novel regulatory pathways in inflammation for therapeutic advantage. Dr. Joost Slingerland, Department of Theoretical Physics, is awarded €500,000 for research in quantum computation; exploring Topological Order, Entanglement and Quantum Information Processing. The investment is part of €43 million announced for 26 research projects including mathematical modelling, nanoscience, inflammatory diseases, cancer, materials, cattle breeding, seismology, communications and climate change. Professor Mark Ferguson, Director General of Science Foundation Ireland and Chief Scientific Adviser to the Government of Ireland said: “The Science Foundation Ireland Investigators Programme funds outstanding individuals performing excellent, impactful research. The standard of applications for the SFI Investigators Programme was exceptionally high. The quality and quantity of excellent projects on the reserve list is clear evidence of the increasingly high standard of research in Ireland. I have the highest expectations for the projects funded today, and look forward to seeing the benefits to Ireland’s society and economy.”

Bord Bia and Maynooth University Collaboration



Pictured are students of the new MSc Design Innovation (Food), at their induction in November: Richy Whelan, Danny Uzice, Julie Kenny, Sarah O’Sullivan, Gwen Gould, Kate Holland, David Donnelly, Orla Brady, Christina Furlong and Richard Cooper with David Cullen, Bord Bia Programme Manager and the Library team from Bord Bia. Winning an open EU tender from Bord Bia, MU’s new MSc in Design Innovation (Food) is a unique collaboration that combines coursework with a two-year food industry placement. Their induction was diverse, with everything from formal training and immersion in the Bord Bia organisation to milking cows, yoga and visits to leading Irish food organisations.

Gradam TEG bronnata ar Chomhairle Contae Chiarraí

Aisling Ní Bheacháin, Lárionad na Gaeilge; Roibeard Ó hEartáin agus John Kennelly, Comhairle Contae Chiarraí; agus Siuán Ní Mhaonaigh, Stiúrthóir TEG. Ba le linn Oireachtas na Samhna 2017 i gCill Áirne a bhronn Ollscoil Mhá Nuad teastais de chuid Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge (TEG) ar iarrthóirí rathúla ó Chontae Chiarraí a rinne scrúduithe cainte TEG le déanaí. Sa mhullach air sin,

bronnadh gradam nua, Gradam TEG, ar Oifig na Gaeilge, Comhairle Contae Chiarraí, chun aitheantas a thabhairt don obair mhór atá déanta ag an eagraíocht an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn sa láthair oibre agus ar fud an chontae.

Tá sé i gceist ag an Lárionad an gradam seo a bhronnadh ar institiúidí, ar eagraíochtaí, nó ar dhaoine a chuireann Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge agus an Ghaeilge chun cinn sa phobal agus sa láthair oibre. Le linn na hócáide, mhínigh Anna Ní Ghallachair, stiúrthóir Lárionad na Gaeilge, tábhacht chóras TEG mar go dtugann sé spriocanna cinnte foghlama don fhoireann sa láthair oibre. Tá dátaí scrúduithe TEG 2018 socraithe anois agus is féidir teacht ar thuilleadh eolais ar www.teg.ie.



Seimineár tugtha ag an Dr Lára Ní Mhaoláin



Ar an 24 Samhain, thug an Dr Lára Ní Mhaoláin ó Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge seimineár ar an eagrán criticiúil nua den scéal Rúraíochta dar teideal Táin Bó Fhlíodhaise atá á réiteach aici faoi láthair. Pléadh comhthéacs liteartha agus traidisiún scríofa an téacs, maille le haois an scéil.

Maynooth Academic Guest at Canadian Celebrations.

Pictured is Dr Julie Rodgers with Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada. Dr Rodgers was recently invited by Taoiseach Leo Varadkar to attend the State dinner at Dublin Castle in honour of the Canadian Prime Minister’s official visit to Ireland. Dr Rodgers is a specialist in Quebec literature and the current President of ACSI (Association of Canadian Studies, Ireland). During her meeting with the Prime Minister, Dr Rodgers spoke about the strong presence of Quebec Studies within the French programme at Maynooth and the cultural links between Quebec literature and Irish literature.



Froebel Department a Partner in AgroCycle

The Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education at Maynooth University, is a partner in the European Commission funded Horizon 2020 project, AgroCycle.

AgroCycle is an €8 million (€7 million from the European Commission, €1 million from the Government of The People’s Republic of China) Horizon 2020 research and innovation project addressing the recycling and valorisation of waste from the agri food sector. Maynooth University is one of 26 partners from eight EU countries, with two partners from mainland China, and one from Hong Kong. The project takes a holistic approach to understanding and addressing how to make best use of the full range of waste streams associated with the agri-food industry. It will deliver the AgroCycle Protocol, a blueprint for achieving sustainable Agri-food waste valorisation.

The Froebel team is creating a novel programme for primary school education, designed to introduce the ‘circular economy’ concepts in Europe and China. They will work with Chinese partners at the China Agricultural University, Beijing on developing complementary projects for the Chinese education system. Laoise Ní Chléirigh is undertaking her PhD in the translation of a circular economy concept through an arts based narrative in primary school. Laoise Ní Chléirigh and Dr Máire Nic an Bhaird participated in the Agri-Food Waste Day conference at the AgroCycle meeting on 18 October in Brussels. Maynooth University will develop AgroCycle



Kids – an online stakeholders’ platform for access to schemes, lesson plans, games, videos, etc. For further information see: www.agrocycle.eu/

Dr Máire Nic an Bhaird and Laoise Ní Chléirigh at the AgroCycle meeting in Brussels

Extracts from the “Maynooth University News” courtesy of the Communications Office of Maynooth University.

Warm Desserts

Plum Pie

Ingredients:

200g/7oz cream plain flour
1 tbsp sugar
1 tsp baking powder
125g/4oz butter
170ml carton fresh cream
2 eggs
Plums (halved and pitted)
75g/3oz caster sugar
1tsp vanilla essence

Method:

Preheat oven to 180°C/350°F/Gas 4. Lightly grease a tin or pyrex dish 25cm x 18cm/10" x 7" inch approx. Put the flour, sugar and baking powder into a mixing bowl. Rub in the butter until mixture resembles breadcrumbs. Stir in two tablespoons of the cream and 1 egg. Bring together to form a dough. Press into bottom of prepared tin and arrange plums over the top. Bake initially for 25 minutes. While cake is baking, in a bowl combine the remaining cream, caster sugar, vanilla essence and egg together. Beat well. Pour liquid over the plums and bake for a further 20 minutes until custard is set.

Serve warm or cold. Store in a fridge.

Rhubarb & Fruit Crumble

Ingredients:

6 stalks rhubarb (cleaned and chopped)
2 apples (peeled and chopped)
175g/6oz mixed berries (strawberries etc)
125g/4oz brown sugar
1 tsp cinnamon

Topping:

175g/6oz porridge oatflakes
125g/4oz cream plain flour
125g/4oz brown sugar
1tsp cinnamon
125g/4oz margarine (melted)

Method:

Preheat oven to 180°C/350°F/Gas 4. Lightly grease an oven proof dish. Put rhubarb and apples into a pan with the sugar. Stir over a low heat for about 10 minutes to par cook. Mix all the dry ingredients together, add to the melted margarine and mix to a crumble.

Mix the par cooked fruit with the berries and cinnamon.

Spread half of the fruit mixture into the prepared dish. Spread half of the crumble over this. Next pour remaining fruit on top of the crumble and finally finish with the remaining crumble. Bake for approximately 20 minutes until golden brown. Serve hot with cream.

Bread & Butter Pudding

Ingredients:

1 loaf fruit soda bread
50g/2oz butter, softened
600ml/1pint milk
4 eggs
150g/5oz golden caster sugar
100g packet chocolate chips

Method:

Preheat oven to 180°C/350°F/Gas 4. Grease an oven proof dish with butter. Slice fruit soda bread into slices and butter each slice. Whisk the milk, sugar and eggs together in a bowl. Place a single layer of the bread in the dish, pour 1/3 of the milk mixture over then sprinkle 1/3 of the chocolate chips on top. Repeat another layer of the bread, milk mixture and chocolate chips. Then finish with a final layer and bake for 50 minutes until golden brown and crunchy on top. Serve warm with cream.



February Gardening 2018

Sort seeds Sort your seeds into the months in which they need to be sown. A box with dividers is helpful: just slip the part-sown packet into the following month's section and you will come across it just when you need to sow again.



Prune clematis It is time to prune those Clematis that flower in May and June (known as group 2) and those that flower in late summer (group 3). Group 2 flower on short new growths arising from older wood, so shorten last year's growth back to a pair of healthy buds. This will stimulate side shoots. Group 2 flower on new growth, so they can be cut back almost to the ground. I find that they can be susceptible to slug attacks if so, choose a pair of buds a couple of feet from the ground and prune them.

Trim your vines Cut back ornamental vines such as **Virginia Creeper** and **Boston Ivy** now, particularly those climbing house walls and heading for windows and gutters. They are vigorous, so you can hack back hard. **Epicedium** Foliage has served us well all winter, but if you take the shears to it now you will make space for the flowers to emerge unhindered, followed quick on their heels by the lovely new copper spring foliage.

Tidy up pansies Winter *pansies* and *violas* often shut up shop over the darkest and coldest spells of winter, but should start flowering in earnest again now that light levels are increasing. Check them over and get rid of dead flowers to prevent rots from setting in and to promote the formation of new flowers.



New Jasmine As *winter jasmine* finishes flowering, prune back some of the flowered stems, right back to the main branches from which they arise. This is also a good time to layer longer, trailing branches to make new plants. Dig up a little scoop of earth, lay a branch along it, then bury it again. Pin it down with a tent peg or stone and water it. This time next year you will be able to sever the little rooted section and pot it up to make a new plant.

Hydrangea heads. The time has come to remove them. Cut back to just above the first pair of healthy-looking buds. It is not a bad idea to remove a third of the oldest stems completely too tight to their base. **Hedge check** If your deciduous hedges are untidy this is your last chance to give them a trim before nesting time.

If you have any suspicions that birds might be building in there, stay your hand and leave them straggly. All of last autumn's pruning and cuttings back will be starting to rot down on the your **compost heap**. Give them a turn now and the compost may be ready for spring spreading.



Chit for chips Chit your potatoes now. Place them in a single layer somewhere cool, light and frost free where they can start to sprout, and so hopefully start growing more quickly once they are planted. Start early sowings of **brassicas** under cover.



Try Brussels Sprouts, Summer Cabbage and Cauli all the year round. Though St Brigid's Day (Feb 1st) is considered the start of spring, it's really still winter outside in the veggie patch, February is our chance to get some preparatory work done before everything starts to kick off in

March and April. If you have a poly-tunnel or greenhouse a mini tunnel is invaluable inside the main tunnel to create a double glazing effect for extra warmth to bring seedlings on.

On to the fruit and veg - February sees leeks and cabbage at their very best but there are lots of other good things in season this month. The old favourites – apples and pears and that winter staple – kale!

When mapping out your garden you should also consider **companion planting**. Companion planting is the practice of planting vegetables or flowers that complement each other and produce higher yields and quality when planted in closer proximity. For almost any garden vegetable, marigolds are a good companion plant because they deter pests like beetles. Plan on including marigolds in your garden layout!

Houseplants hate winter, but spring offers more light and fresh air. They respond to these small mercies with tentative new growth. Tidy them up a little, pull off dead stuff, and start giving them a little more water.

Watch out for cold snaps, be ready to **protect tender plants**.



Gardening is the work of a lifetime you never Finish



FILM MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

2018 FILM NEWS & PREVIEW



AWARDS SEASON

The New Year always kicks off the serious award season in the entertainment industry. Irish artists frequently punch above their weight in nominations for these events. This year is no exception. We feature heavily in many categories. Our own Saoirse Ronan (fresh from her Golden Globe success) has been nominated for an Oscar for her role in *Lady Bird*.

Saoirse Ronan has managed the hat-trick of being a three-time Oscar nominee. No mean feat for this talented, young Irish actress. She will battle it out with the likes of Globe winner Frances McDormand and Meryl Streep come Oscar night. Costume designer, Consolata Boyle has also secured a third nomination for her fabulous designs.



London-based, Irish writer-director, Martin McDonagh's latest film *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing Missouri* has been nominated in the Best Picture category. The film has also garnered nods in several other areas with McDonagh regulars, Sam Rockwell and Woody Harrelson both up for acting awards. *The Breadwinner*, produced by an Irish animation studio has a shot in the Best Animated Feature category. Fingers crossed for the Irish contingent come Oscars night on Sunday 4th March.

MOVIE PREVIEW

There's a lot to get excited about for movie-buffs in 2018. It's going to be bumper year with franchises kicking off or finishing, sequels and reboots of classic films galore. Here is just a taste of the film highlights wending your way in 2018.

Phantom Thread

Period fashion drama, *The Phantom Thread* is supposedly Daniel Day-Lewis's swansong to the cinema world. The acclaimed British actor, and three-time Oscar winner, announced recently that he was retiring from acting roles after *Phantom Thread*. Paul Andersen's brooding romantic drama centres around the London fashion industry in the 1950s. Daniel plays a fabulously successful dressmaker to royalty and stars, who finds his carefully structured life unsettled by a love affair with a much younger woman. *Phantom Thread* has picked up 6 Oscar nominations including one for Best Picture and Best Actor. Will Mr. Day-Lewis leave on a high come Oscar night?

Fifty Shades Freed

Just in time for Valentine's Day, *Fifty Shades Freed* is the third and final instalment of E L James' notorious story of erotic romance and love. Wedded bliss for

Christian and Anastasia comes at price as an old enemy resurfaces and threatens to spoil their new-found happiness. Jamie Dornan and Dakota Johnson reprise their respective roles of the kink-loving pair. Will this final film in the franchise improve on its decidedly lacklustre predecessor, *Fifty Shades Darker*? All will be revealed on 9th February.

Red Sparrow

Red Sparrow is a spy thriller based on a novel by Jason Matthews and directed by Francis Lawrence of *Hunger Games* fame. Jennifer Lawrence plays a Mata-Hari style spy, trained by Russian Intelligence Services to use her body and mind as weapons against the enemy. When Lawrence targets a CIA operative, (Joel Edgerton), things become a tad complicated. Seemingly, this is the start of a three-film franchise. The brilliant Matthias Schoenaerts and veteran actress Charlotte Rampling make up the ensemble cast. Jennifer Lawrence is always highly watchable so mark this in your diary of must-see films in 2018.



The Spy Who Dumped Me

The Spy Who Dumped Me is an American action-comedy film set to hit Irish cinemas in August. The plot revolves around two best friends, Mila Kunis and Kate McKinnon (of *Ghostbusters* fame). The two women unwillingly get caught up in espionage when Kunis discovers her ex-boyfriend's spy past. Handsome Scottish actor Sam Heughan (*Outlander*) will add debonair charm to proceedings. McKinnon has comic pedigree with her *Saturday Night Live* appearances and Hilary Clinton impressions. All the signs are good for an entertaining film.



Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again

Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again is the sequel to the hit film *Mamma Mia* of 2008. Based on the Abba musical of the same name, it smashed box-office records worldwide. Meryl Streep and Amanda Seyfried reprise the roles of mother and daughter. Pierce Brosnan, Colin Firth and Stellan Skarsgård are also back as Streep's former suitors. The plot doesn't really matter. What made the original film so joyous was the exuberant

energy of the players, songs and dances. Sequels have a tendency not to be as good. It remains to be seen if the new film in the anniversary year can recapture some of the spirit of the original classic.

Mission Impossible 6

The 6th instalment in the *Mission Impossible* film series sees Tom Cruise reprise his role as intrepid spy Ethan Hawke. Hunt and his IMF team regulars, played by Simon Pegg, Alec Baldwin, Ving Rhames and Rebecca Ferguson return to fight another day. Christopher McQuarrie is back in the director's seat following his excellent work on *MI: Rogue Nation* in 2015. These films combine spectacular high-tech thrills and Cruise's trademark stunts in exotic locations all over the world. Tom Cruise is always worth the price of admission. With Henry Cavill along for the ride, this could well be the blockbuster highlight of 2018.



Autumn / Winter Releases

From September onwards, the emphasis is on remakes or reworkings of standard classic films. Produced by Leonardo DiCaprio and shot on location in Hungary, *Robin Hood* hits screens in September. Can Taron Egerton and Jamie Dornan breathe new life into the oft told tale of Robin Hood and his merry men? Bradley Cooper directs a remake of the 1937 classic film, *A Star is Born*. It is the fourth screen retelling of the story of a fading actor and an aspiring singer/actress. The Judy Garland/James Mason 1954 classic is still the one to beat. The year will end in style with the Christmas release of *Mary Poppins Returns*, the sequel to the 1964 ever-green classic. This time around, Emily Blunt takes on Nanny and sugar duties while legendary Dick Van Dyke will appear in a cameo role.

Christmas Film Quiz Answers

- 1) Scrooged
- 2) Joe Pesci and Daniel Stern
- 3) Clarence
- 4) White Christmas/Holiday Inn
- 5) Frank Capra
- 6) Buddy
- 7) New York
- 8) Billy Bob Thornton
- 9) Now I Have A Machine Gun. Ho-Ho
- 10) Macaulay Culkin
- 11) Will Ferrell
- 12) Michael Caine
- 13) City power outage.
- 14) Walking in the Air
- 15) Jingle Bell Rock.
- 16) Charles Dickens



Frank O'Rourke TD

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- Bear Grylls
host of "Man vs Wild".

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For more details please visit www.maynoothcc.org