



Local News

October 2018

Issue No. 473

FREE

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



Maynooth Strike Gold “Again” in National Tidy Towns Awards 2018 (See Page 17)

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



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

Chairperson of Maynooth CFR and Sinn Féin Councillor Réada Cronin said: “We know that 5,000 people die each year from cardiac arrest in Ireland. That is almost 100 people each week, which is a shocking figure and one that is all too real for many families in our community. We started this group to ensure that every effort can be made to save lives by providing early access to CPR and an AED (automated external defibrillator) – which can change the outcome in these kinds of emergencies.”

According to CFR Ireland, for every minute that passes after a cardiac arrest, the chances of recovery are reduced by 7% to 10%. Effective CPR and the use of an AED within the first 3-5 minutes of cardiac arrest can produce survival rates as high as 49% – 75%. Community First Responders are trained, as a minimum, in basic life support and the use of an AED, as well as dealing with incidents of suspected stroke, chest pain and choking, all of which are potentially life-threatening. **Upon receipt of a 999/112 call for one of these emergencies, Community First Responders are dispatched, along with the National Ambulance Service.** The responder’s role is

to deliver an emergency and urgent care response. “CFR groups are entirely voluntary and have to fundraise for all the equipment needed. We are currently undergoing training, certification and fundraising for AEDs and other equipment so that we can get up and running in the next couple of months,” said Réada.

Maynooth CFR held a CPR demonstration day in SuperValu Maynooth on Saturday 8th September to help raise awareness of the group and of the importance of CPR. Fundraising got off to a great start, with €650 raised on the day. They will hold similar events over the next few months in a bid to be up and running and able to provide 24/7 cover as soon as possible.

Two members of Maynooth CFR – Cathy Lawlor and Maggie Lawler – will run the SSE Airtricity Dublin Marathon next month and are raising funds

for the group through their GoFundMe Page, <https://www.gofundme.com/Cathy-and-Maggie-take-on-Dublin-marathon-for-MaynoothCFR>. If you’d like to find out about more Maynooth CFR email: maynoothcfr@gmail.com or find them on Facebook @maynoothcfr.



Above: Presentation of the prize for designing the Maynooth CFR logo to winner Ruth Hickey by Conor Mortimer, General Manager of the Glenroyal Hotel, who kindly donated 4 month’s gym membership. Pictured l-r are: Sandra Nugent, Marella Coleman, Conor Mortimer, Ruth Hickey, Cathy Lawlor, Trish Traynor, Réada Cronin and Sinead Reynolds from Maynooth CFR.



CFR volunteers Maggie Lawler and Anthony Harlow with Hugh Gorman (front) and Fionnuala Murphy with Ciarán Gorman at the back.



Gardaí from Maynooth stopped by to meet Maynooth CFR.



Garreth Kelly with Sophia Sykes (left) and Robyn Lawlor (right).



Padraic ‘Foxy’ Fox from SuperValu Maynooth brushes up on his CPR skills with volunteer Cathy Lawlor.



Cathy Lawlor shares some tips with Adam Sykes from Maynooth.

Donatello's

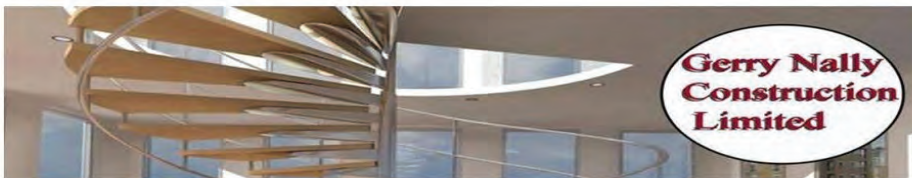
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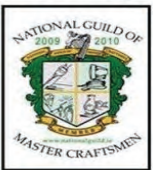
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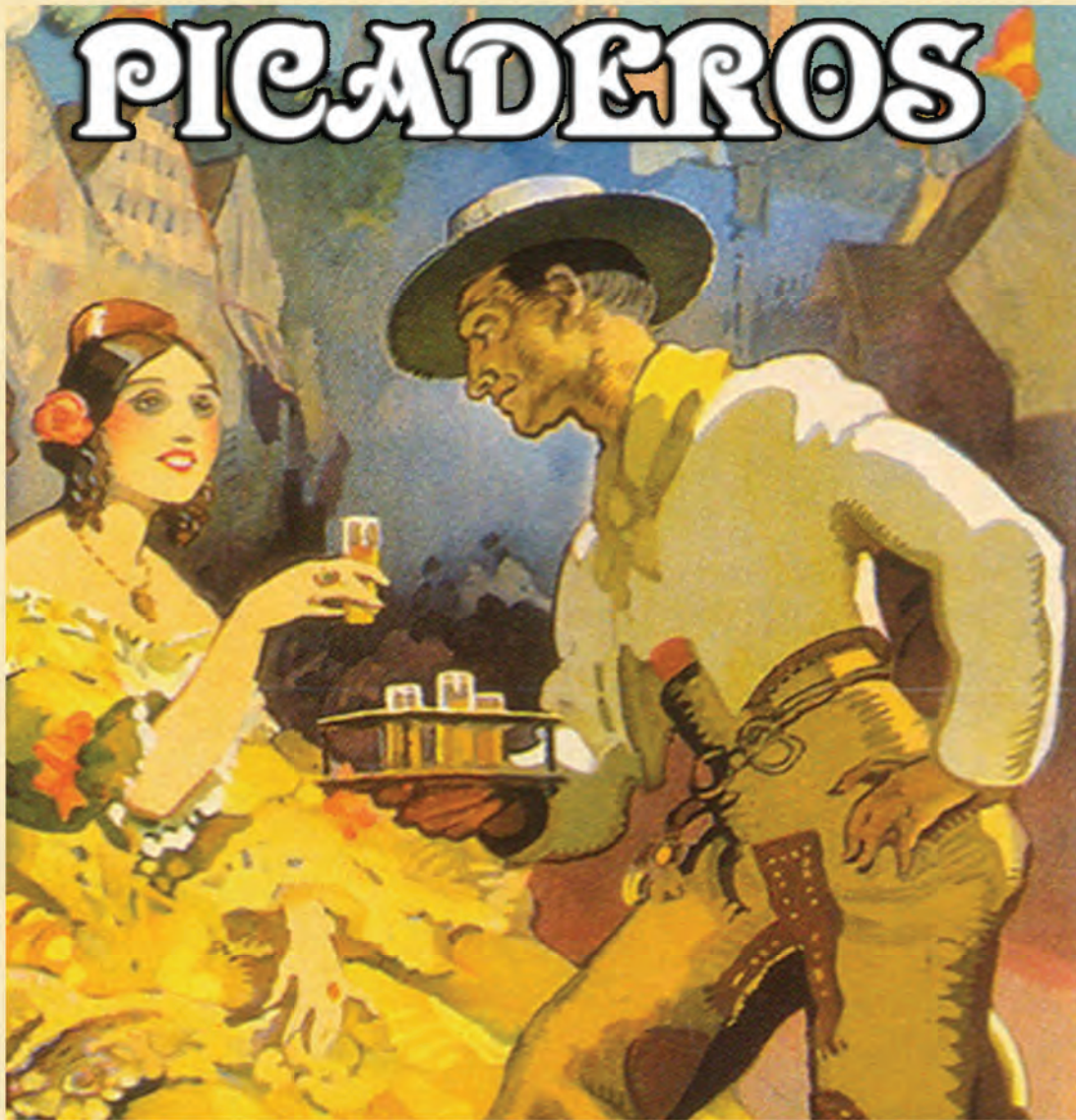


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Panto Time and Children's Competition

Believe it or not we are fast approaching Panto Time again. Oh yes we are! An Nuadha Players pantomime offering this year is **'Jack and the Beanstalk'** and rehearsals are well underway with loads of new faces and new talents.

It has been about 18 years since we last did **'Jack and the Beanstalk'** and we are all looking forward to getting to grips with the story again – mind you the story has not changed that much but we might just put a different twist to it! It will be worth checking out.

It is fabulous to be part of such a creative activity which brings together young and old, on staggers and off staggers, artists, dancers, singers and chancers! We all do it because we get such a buzz and a sense of community from it. We hope that you will join in with us and come along to support us – guaranteed fun and right on your doorstep.

'Jack and the Beanstalk' will run from 29th Nov. to 2nd Dec (evening performances at 7.30 29th Nov., 30th Nov., 1st Dec. and matinees at 2.30 on 1st and 2nd Dec) in the Aula Maxima in St. Patrick's College, to whom we are ever grateful for the use of their venue.

In order to prepare for the Panto, Jack has been out and about in Maynooth and has put together a children's competition to give away 2 free tickets to the show.

Kids, just look at the picture of Jack and his Beanstalk and see if you can guess where this picture was taken. If you can just answer this simple question: How many steps does it take to get to Jack and the Beanstalk? Put your answer along with your name and contact details on a card and put it in a special box for this competition in Maynooth Bookshop on the Main Street.

The winner will be drawn from all the correct answers at the end of October. If you can't figure this one out, don't worry because there will be another competition next month!

Get guessing and get those entries in!!



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Maynooth Labour News

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



Cllr. McGinley Calls for the Bad Corner on the Dunboyne Road, Maynooth, to be removed

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 7 September:

"In light of the decision by An Bord Pleanála to grant planning permission for 462 dwellings and student accommodation at Mariavilla/Moyglare Road and Dunboyne Road, Maynooth, and given the increased traffic that the development will generate on the Dunboyne Road, Maynooth, what plans do the council have to remove the bad corner on the Dunboyne Road, Maynooth near Pebble Hill House, as it constitutes a serious traffic hazard if the road is not straightened at this point?"

John got the following useless response from the Council Engineers:

"As part of the planning process, Kildare County Council requested that An Bord Pleanála include a condition that the applicant make a financial provision for road safety improvements. This request was not included in the conditions"

Cllr. McGinley made the following response:

"The reply given by Roads Section makes no effort whatsoever to answer my question.

I specifically asked "what plans do the Council have to remove the bad corner on the Dunboyne Road, Maynooth, near Pebble Hill House" as a result of planning permission being given for 462 dwellings here? Again I ask what are the plans?"

The Maynooth MD engineer stated that the Council had no plans.

Cllr. McGinley pointed out that:

"Condition 28 of the Planning Permission calls for development contributions to be paid to KCC prior to the commencement of the development. This financial contribution is in respect of providing public infrastructure and facilities benefiting development in the area. Cllr McGinley stated that the No 1 priority in the area must be the removal of the bad corner. He asked that a proper report be given to our next meeting on 5 October."

Update on the Taking in Charge of Meadowbrook Estate

Cllr. John McGinley got the following highly unsatisfactory reply from the Council on 11 September:

"The builder is no longer trading and there is no bond in place. When the developer has requested an estate to be taken in charge, they provide all necessary documentation and are prepared to remedy any defects identified, however when the residents request that the Council commence the procedure to take an estate in charge, Development Control are tasked with providing all the necessary documentation/CCTV and ACD's as required by Irish Water.

To this end Development Control have been liaising with Irish Water and the Area office in order to progress the taking in charge. Development Control are currently putting together a tender package for CCTV of the Foul and Surface Water to identify any defects. This is a large estate and the CCTV alone is a costly exercise, even before the defects identified are repaired. This is being funded from our limited budget for unfinished housing estates.

There are other snags that the MD Area Engineer would require to be complete prior to the estate being taken in charge, and for which funding would need to be identified. We are unable to give a time line for when the estate will be taken in charge."

Cllr. McGinley stated *"that it is now 4 years since the residents in Meadowbrook submitted a petition to the Council to have the estate taken in charge. It is intolerable*

that the Council have not taken the estate in charge since then. As you know I have raised the issue at numerous meetings of the Maynooth MD."

Cllr. McGinley has raised this very serious issue directly with the Director of Services in the Council, as well as the similar highly unsatisfactory delay with the taking in charge of Castle Dawson.

Cllr. McGinley Calls for a New Footpath to the Maynooth Playground

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 7 September:

"That a footpath be constructed from the new footpath/cycle path at the bottom of The Harbour Field to where the footpath ends at the adult exercise equipment, so that parents do not have to push buggies through the grass."

John got the following highly unsatisfactory reply from the Council:

"There are no current plans to do further works in the Harbour field until agreement is reached on an overall vision and direction for improvements to this amenity facility.

Cllr. McGinley responded as follows:

"I have asked for this 50m of footpath at the Straffan Road side of the field as people who live in Leinster cottages and other houses in the town and to the east of the town have already created a path through the grass to get to the playground.

We don't have to wait for an overall vision for the field as it is blatantly obvious that the path is needed now and nothing else could go there anyway as it is at the side of the field.

On the 29 May last I asked for Capital Funding be provided for improvements to the playground and its environs. I'm now asking for the support of my fellow Councillors for enough Capital Funding be provided in the 2019 Capital Programme to also provided this much needed short footpath."

Cllr. McGinley Calls for Reduced Speed Limits in Parklands and Silken Vale

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 7 September:

"That 30kph Slow Zone signs be erected at the entrances to Parklands/ Castlebridge and Silken Vale/The Arches estates, similar to those already erected in other housing estates in Maynooth."

John got the following reply:

"It is proposed to include all housing estates, in charge, in the forthcoming Draft County Wide Speed Limit review. Subject to funding, slow zone signs will be erected in all housing estates on a phased basis. The members will be updated on the Draft County Wide Speed Limit review at a meeting scheduled to take place on 05 October 2018, in advance of the municipal district meeting."

Cllr. McGinley responded as follows:

"The reply to my motion is good news in that all housing estates in the county will be getting the Slow Zone signs. I'm asking the members to agree that Parklands and Silken Vale be the first estates to get them as they are very badly needed in these two estates."

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

Cllr. John McGinley submitted the following Motion for the consideration of the Maynooth MD meeting on 7 September:

"What developments in Maynooth in the past ten years have failed to provide creches as per their planning permission and what enforcement action are the council going to take on the matter?"

John got the following reply:

"The Planning Authority will review the various planning permissions for these developments and provide a detailed report for the October Municipal District Meeting."

Cllr. McGinley responded as follows:

"I welcome the reply and I appreciate that it would have been difficult to have a full report for this meeting. I raised the issue because parents in Maynooth have to take their children to creches in Kilcock as there are no places available in Maynooth. This arises because planning conditions for creches in Maynooth have not been met in most of the housing estates constructed in the last 10 years."

Update on the Provision of Proper Footpaths at Newtown Road, Maynooth

The Maynooth MD engineer advised the MD meeting on 7 September that the council is currently in negotiation with a number of residents on this road and hope to commence on site in October in improving the existing footpath. Cllr. John McGinley and two other Councillors have made funds available for the work. Cllr. John McGinley asked the MD engineer if he was aware that residents were looking for a footpath on the northern side. The engineer advised John that he had been contacted by some residents about a footpath on the northern side, but not all residents were agreeable to make land available.

Cllr. McGinley suggested that the Council do a leaflet drop to the houses in the area.

Cllr. McGinley Proposes Changes to the New NTA Bus Schedule

Cllr. John McGinley has proposed the following changes to the Dublin Area Bus Network Redesign:

1. That the new C3 bus (present 66) to/from Maynooth terminates at the Newtown Road, Maynooth, instead of the Straffan Road, as agreed by Dublin Bus over 5 years ago. This change would facilitate the customers of 1,200 houses on the extended route.
2. That the 323 express buses from Maynooth, to and from Dublin, by-pass Lucan Village

Cllr. John McGinley has Proposed the Following Amendments to the Proposed Amendment No 1 to the Maynooth LAP 2013-2019, to be decided on at the MD Meeting on 5 October:

AMENDMENT 1.

Page 15 - Connectivity & Movement.

That the second paragraph be changed :

From: The development of the MERR will unlock the potential for the residential development of the lands. No through vehicular routes into the neighbourhood estates to the west are proposed but to encourage a modal shift and the use of sustainable forms of transport, the feasibility of providing pedestrian and cycle connectivity should be investigated at key access points on the western boundary of the site, and if feasible, across the canal and railway. This will facilitate integration of the new neighbourhood with the existing town and its facilities. In addition, pedestrian and cycle access should be provided into the school and education lands to the south of the site.

To: The development of the MERR will unlock the potential for the residential development of the lands. There shall be no vehicular routes into the estates of Parklands or Rockfield to the West of Key Development Area Railpark. In addition to encourage pedestrian and cycle use within the new area, connectivity shall be provided to the canal greenway. To ensure that residential amenity is not reduced there shall be no pedestrian or cycle

(Continued on page 7)

Maynooth Labour News (Cont.)

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



(Continued from page 6)

connectivity at either Rockfield Park, Parklands Lodge or Parklands Lawns to the west of Key Development area Railpark.

AMENDMENT 2.

Page 17 - Key Development Area Indicative Design

That the following be removed from Indicative Design Strategy:

Pedestrian/Cycle access points at Parklands Lodge, Parklands Lawns, and Rockfield Park.

The Potential Access Point to the Celbridge Road between the Rockfield Exit and the Schools

AMENDMENT 3.

Page 17 - Key Development Area Indicative Design

That the following indicative cul de sacs be put in place:

(a) As Internal Vehicular Route approaches boundary with Parklands Lodge.

(b) As Internal Vehicular Route approaches boundary with Parklands Lawns.

(c) As Internal Vehicular Routes approach boundary with Rockfield Park.

AMENDMENT 4.

Page 19 - Movement & Transport - Road Objectives.

That Transport Road Objective TRO 8 be removed.

AMENDMENT 5

Page 17 - Key Development Area Indicative Design

That the Indicative Design be amended to ensure that the Neighbourhood Park does not commence North of Railpark Lane and instead commences South of the Lane.

AMENDMENT 6

Page 16 Built Form

After the first sentence remove "Landmark buildings of a very high architectural quality and proportionate scale will be supported where appropriate." That the following be inserted instead:

"Where development adjoins established housing in Parklands and Rockfield Estate, and Railpark Lane, the building height shall not be higher than the adjoining buildings. In addition, rear garden boundary walls and side boundary walls adjoining open spaces throughout the development shall be concrete block walls which shall be a

minimum of 2 metres in height and shall be suitably capped and rendered on both sides.

Other than where development adjoins the existing residential areas of Parklands Estate, Rockfield Estate and Railpark Lane, the maximum building height of units shall be 2 storeys throughout the development."

Amendment 7

That the following be inserted:

That there shall be a phasing requirement in relation to Creches. When 100 houses are built a creche must be opened and operating, prior to occupancy of next 100.

8 Contractors Express Interest in Completion of Maynooth Education Campus

Kildare North Labour General Election Candidate Emmet Stagg has been in further contact with the Minister for Education in relation to progress on the re-tendering for the completion of the Maynooth Education Campus, following the liquidation of the Sammon Group.

The Minister has advised Mr. Stagg that Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board received 8 expressions of interest from contractors for the completion of the Maynooth Education Campus by the deadline of Monday July 23rd. The Minister further advised that the expressions of interest will inform the pre-qualification process that is underway and that the project remains on target to issue tender documents to the relevant contractors on 8th November, which is the date that had been identified in the agreed programme for the completion of the projects.

Welcoming the interest in the project from contractors, Mr. Stagg stated that it was important that the actual tender invite date was met so that a contractor could be on site in March, 2019, and the Education Campus completed by June 2020.

The Maynooth Education Campus, stated Mr. Stagg, is the largest ever school building project undertaken in the State which will see two 1,000 pupil secondary schools and a Shared Sports Facility built on the Moyglare Road in Maynooth.

In conclusion Kildare North Labour General Election Candidate Emmet Stagg stated that he would keep the pressure on the Minister for Education and Skills so we can complete this most important Education Campus in

Maynooth by June 2020.

Planning and Design Work Commencing for Maynooth DART - Stagg

Labour General Election Candidate Emmet Stagg was in contact with the National Transport Authority with a view to progressing the planning and design work for the Electrification of the Maynooth Rail Line, given its importance for Public Transport Commuters, and given the substantial amount of work which needs to be undertaken to bring forward the project to fruition.

Funding, stated Mr. Stagg, for the Electrification of the Maynooth Line was included in the 2018 National Development Plan. The estimated cost of the project is €300 Million and given its complexity, it is likely to be 2021 before actual construction commences. Before all of that, stated Mr. Stagg, planning consent has to be sought, and it's vital that work commences on this as soon as possible, because without the planning clearance, nothing can happen.

The NTA have now advised Mr. Stagg that in collaboration with Iarnrod Eireann, they are currently reviewing all previous work relevant to the Electrification of the Maynooth Rail Line. The NTA also advised that they are commencing new planning and design work in preparation for the planning process. The NTA concluded by stating that it was their intention to progress and develop the design process as the planning stage progresses over the next 12-24 months.

Mr. Stagg stated that the Electrification of the Maynooth Line was included in the National Transport Integrated Implementation Plan 2013-2018 but the present Government has allowed the project to slip in priority, which means that the planning and design is only commencing now, and we are still left with a construction commencement date of 2021.

Kildare North Labour General Election Candidate Emmet Stagg stated that he was pleased that the planning and design work on the Maynooth Rail Electrification was commencing, albeit delayed by the short-sightedness of the Government, and he indicated that he would continue to press the Minister and the NTA, to do everything possible to bring the project forward faster.

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL PROPOSED TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES SECTION 38 OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC ACT 1994

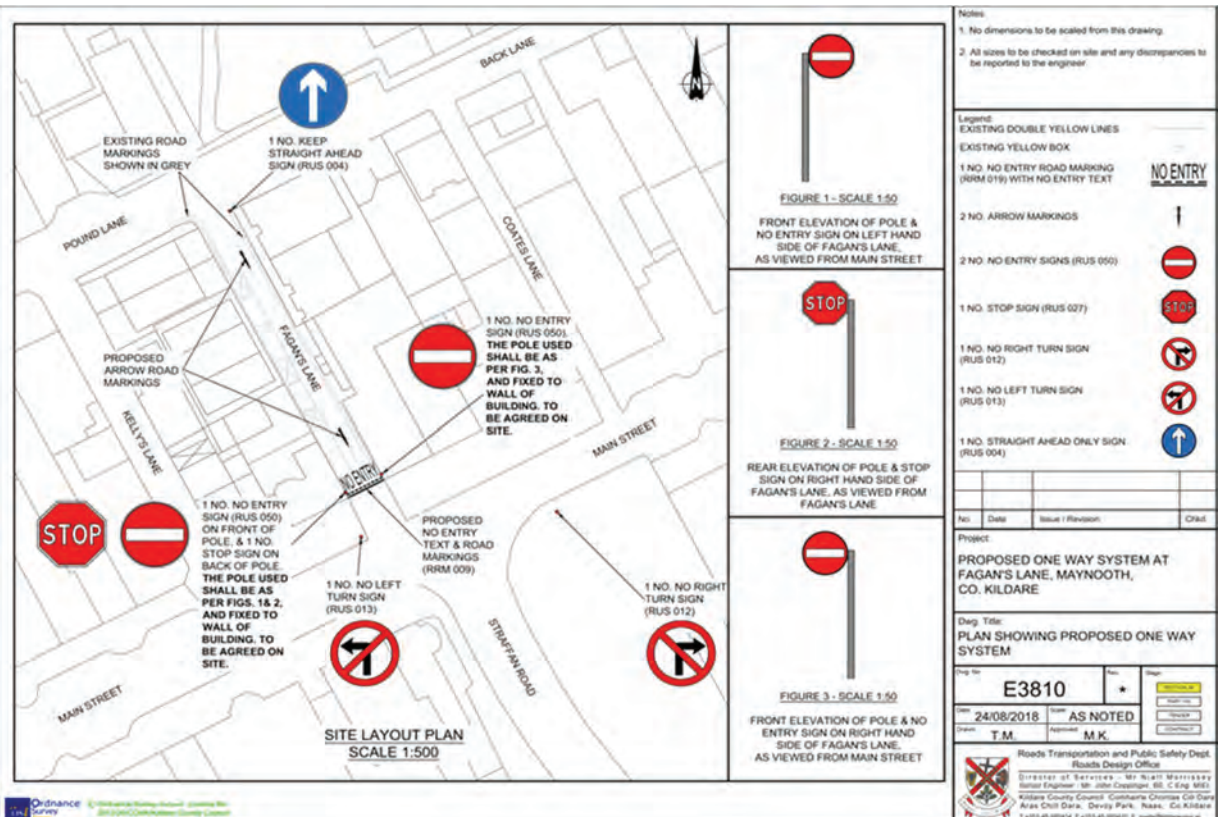
In accordance with the provisions of Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994, Kildare County Council hereby gives notice of its intention of :

Proposed one way system at Fagan's Lane, Maynooth.

Drawings showing the proposed works may be inspected during normal opening hours from Monday 24 September 2018 to Monday 22 October 2018 at the following locations:

**Kildare County Council, Roads,
Transportation and Public Safety Department,
Level 4, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas,
Co. Kildare W91 X77F**

**Maynooth Library
Main Street, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 ND79**
and will also be available to view on Kildare County Council's website. www.kildarecountycouncil.ie/roadsandtransportation
Representations relating to the above mentioned proposed works may be made in writing to the: **Senior Executive Officer, Roads,
Transportation and Public Safety Department, Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare** or emailed to roadssubmissions@kildarecoco.ie including your Eircode. The latest date for receipt of such representations is 12 noon on **Friday 26 October 2018**





James Lawless T.D. Kildare North

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



Bus Connects Public Information Meeting

I am hosting a public information meeting in the Courtyard Hotel, Leixlip on Thursday 27th of September at 8.30pm regarding the potential changes following the announcement of Bus Connects.

Bus Connects will see changes to the routes serving Maynooth and the neighbouring towns of Leixlip and Celbridge. One interesting new route will be a service starting on the Moyglare Road with its final destination Dublin City Centre.

At the moment residents affected have the opportunity to have their say on the new changes. A submission can be made to Bus Connects. Please feel free to attend my public meeting as I will be assisting residents with their submissions on the same.

Business competitiveness under attack from unrelenting pressure on wages from rent inflation

Business competitiveness is under attack from rocketing rent costs and a lack of affordable housing. New figures show an unrelenting pressure on private rental costs across the country, but especially in cities and large urban areas.

As rents continue to rocket and private home building remains sub-demand, this crisis is only going to get worse. Employees are seeing their wages being swallowed by up fixed costs such as rent and insurance costs.

With rents continuing to rise, workers will require pay rises just to pay rent and live. This will depress the competitiveness of Irish businesses, and businesses located in Ireland.

We have seen queues of students, young couples and overseas workers outside apartments and homes to rent. The craziness has started again, and unless we nip it in the bud, we risk damaging our competitiveness even further.

This cannot continue. The housing crisis is risking our economy's very viability, and unless the Government accepts the basic economic principle that until supply matches demand, rents will continue to rocket.

There is simply a lack of capacity in all areas of the residential housing market. Until more units are built for rent or for sale, we will continue to see queues of people clambering to get a foot on the housing ladder.

The process of building housing in this country is simply too bureaucratic. We need to actively look at the planning process to speed up the delivery of housing. It's true that the Irish economy is growing. However, unless the lack of availability of affordable housing is addressed, it will stop growing. It's time we got on top of it. Otherwise, we risk losing jobs and thereby limiting the ability of our State to invest in vital public services.

Maynooth Constituency Office

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

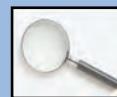
Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

Planning Applications received from 21/8/18 to 20/09/2018 Information from Kildare County Council Website

App Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	App Date
181155	Kildare County Council	Colm O'Rourke	Laragh Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare,	20/09/2018
181158	Kildare County Council	E.S.B. d.a.c.	corner of Fagan's Lane and Main Street, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	20/09/2018
181151	Kildare County Council	Westerwood Global	Unit H2, Maynooth Business Campus, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	19/09/2018
181121	Kildare County Council	CDS (Superstores International) Ltd.	The Range, Carton Retail Park, Dublin Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	12/09/2018
181097	Kildare County Council	Sean Skidmore	Clonagh, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	07/09/2018
181088	Kildare County Council	Daryl and Claire McLoughlin,	9 Straffan Place, Straffan Wood, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	04/09/2018
181069	Kildare County Council	Mary Mullen,	9 College Green, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	31/08/2018
181073	Kildare County Council	Maynooth University	Arts Building, North Campus, Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	31/08/2018
181061	Kildare County Council	Sherif Seddik,	Site No. 32, Temple Wood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	30/08/2018
181052	Kildare County Council	Brian Keogh & Emma MacBride	24 Brookfield Avenue, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, W23 E9P0	29/08/2018
181045	Kildare County Council	Alan Leamy & Barbara Ann Coogan Leamy	24 Leinster Wood South, Carton Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	27/08/2018
181034	Kildare County Council	Three Ireland Services (Hutchison) Ltd.	The Newtown Inn, Meadowbrook Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	24/08/2018
181035	Kildare County Council	Maurice & Ann McQuillan	Dunluce, 4 Leinster Mews, Leinster Park, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, W23 P9R0	24/08/2018



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THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

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

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

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Co.Kildare



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Frank O'Rourke T.D. Kildare North

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



More action needed by Government to address cost of Insurance – O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD and Deputy Finance Spokesperson, Frank O'Rourke, has said that the Government needs to move quickly and deal with the insurance industry as the upward pressure on the cost of living and cost of doing business in this country is unsustainable.

"Insurance costs in Ireland remain stubbornly high. The average annual cost of motor insurance now stands at €750 compared with €450 in 2014, an increase of nearly 70%. Any reduction in the USC is being taken up by increase costs, such as motor insurance."

"The Government must give greater priority to reducing the cost of insurance. My concern is that the elevated motor insurance costs, that we now have, will become the norm. Since getting elected, I have persistently raised the unacceptable rise in the cost of motor insurance. I pressed the Government to partner with other EU countries to fight the rising costs, and to-date we received a deafening silence. I called for the action plan on Motor insurance to be implemented."

"For instance, a mechanism to set up an anti-fraud unit within An Garda Síochána was to be approved by the third quarter of 2017, this has yet to be achieved and no solid timeline has been put in place for the approval of such a mechanism, much less the establishment of a unit."

"The Government should back Fianna Fáil's bill, the Civil Liability and Courts (Amendment) Bill 2018, which seeks to make people think twice about making fraudulent insurance claims which have been shown to lead to increased insurance premiums for all consumers."

"Citizens are seeing their wages being put under more and more pressure, and businesses are seeing their cost of doing business grow. This cannot continue. We need businesses to be competitive and we need our people to have more disposable income to spend in the local economy, rather than giving it to the insurance companies" concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

New Round of Sports Capital Grants For 2018

The Minister for Sport has announced that €40 million is being made available under a new round of the Sports Capital Programme for 2018.

Applications can be made online from 9am on Friday the 7th of September until 5pm on Friday 19th October, 2018.

For the first time Schools will now also be eligible for the Capital Grant Scheme as long as they do so in conjunction with a local sports club. This is a great opportunity and I would encourage all interested schools and clubs to apply.

Clubs who wish to register on the Department's online system can do so now at www.sportscapitalprogramme.ie.

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me on frank.orourke@oireachtas.ie or phone my Leinster House office on 01 618 3109.

Energy Efficiency for Public Buildings needs focus says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has stated that Public Buildings can play an important role in improving our country's energy efficiency and reducing our emissions. Deputy O'Rourke made the comment following a Parliamentary Question which he put down to the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment.

"I believe that public buildings, such as schools and local authority premises can play a more significant role in reducing the country's emissions and bringing energy efficiency centre stage to reduce our country's energy bills."

"For example, following my Parliamentary Question, we have established that under Ireland's National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP), the Schools Pilot Retrofit Project saw 10 schools undertake medium to deep energy retrofit which reduced energy costs by 36% on average."

"The NEEAP has a particular focus on public buildings with a target of a 33% efficiency target. If we want to reduce our emissions, and improve our energy efficiency, we must accelerate this plan and I feel that a particular focus on schools is appropriate. Partnering with schools has the added advantage of highlighting the importance of energy efficiency at a young age."

"We have over 4,000 schools throughout Ireland. If we installed renewable energy

sources, such as Solar Panels, we could reduce the cost of providing energy for our schools and have the added advantage of instilling a culture of energy efficiency for our children to observe. It is a more sustainable and clean sources of energy."

"I recently criticised the motion that is before the Dail at the moment in relation to the outright ban on Oil and Gas exploration in Ireland on the basis that it has the potential to destabilise our country's energy supply. Encouraging more sustainable modes of energy is a smarter way to contribute to reducing our carbon emissions."

"The most recent SEAI report on energy efficiency achievement by public sector bodies to the end of 2015 shows almost 21% energy efficiency was achieved.

However more can be done, I am calling on the Government and the Minister for Education to focus on schools, in particular to start with, in relation to the provision of more sustainable energy sources."

Older people must get priority in Budget – O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has stated that older people must get priority in the forthcoming budget. Deputy O'Rourke was speaking after meeting with Fianna Fáil Finance Spokesperson Michael McGrath and Mary Butler Spokesperson for Older People.

"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 and we need progress on this in the budget."

"Extra resources are needed for Home Adaptation Grants to make homes safer through the installation of ramps, railings and bathroom changes. Making homes more suitable for older people brings many benefits not least for older people themselves but also enables older people to live independently in their own homes."

"Recent figures around waiting list show that over 718,000 people are waiting for either outpatient or inpatient appointments in our public hospital system. More than 100,000 older people are waiting for appointments and procedures."

"In last years budget, we did secure resources for increased pension allowance, Fuel allowance and the telephone allowance was partially restored. We campaigned for these items under the Supply and Confidence agreement with the Government."

"Supports for Older people is critical. I have highlighted the need for increased resources for Housing Adaption Grants, Fair Deal Scheme, Phone Allowance, Pension, Home Care Packages and Carers.

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 and also care for our children. Caring for our older people must always be centre stage when considering our social affairs budget" concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Extra capacity needed on Maynooth Line says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has called on the Government to provide additional resources to increase the capacity on the Maynooth Line.

"The Maynooth Line needs extra capacity to deal with the increased demand on the line, whether by providing increased frequency or increased numbers of carriages."

"I appreciate that future plans for Electrifying the Maynooth line will increase the capacity. However, we need to deal with the increased demand that we are seeing now."

"Trying to drive into Dublin and negotiate the traffic is becoming impossible and public transport is becoming the only practical mode of transport to travel into Dublin. We must improve the capacity on the line"

"Modest improvements have been made on Route 115 serving Kilcock with the increased frequency on the route promised for some time now being put back to the end of September."

"Bus Connect proposals, with some positive proposals linking Maynooth to Celbridge and Tallaght, however also include reduced direct services from Celbridge which I am campaigning to have reversed."

"I intend raising again with the Minister for Transport the requirement for increase public transport services for North Kildare commuters." concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth
Know Your Rights has been compiled by Citizens Information Service
which provides a free and confidential service to the public.
Information is also available online at www.citizensinformation.ie and from the
Citizens Information Phone Service - 0761 07 4000 or Lo-call 1890777121



Farm Assist

Question

I have a small farm that I work on full-time but the profit margins are very low. I am married with two children. Is there any State support available?

Answer

Farm Assist is a means-tested social welfare payment for farmers aged between 18 and 66, paid by the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection (DEASP).

To qualify, you must satisfy a means test.

To qualify for Farm Assist, you must show that your means are below a certain level.

Your means include:

- Any income that you and your spouse or partner have (including income from farming, other forms of self-employment and from schemes)
- Any property that you and your spouse or partner have (except your home)
- Other asset(s) that could provide you with an income

When you apply for Farm Assist, a social welfare officer visits you to carry out the means test.

Different assessment rules apply to different types of income. For farm income, 70% is assessed but there is an annual disregard of €254 for each of your dependent children. (The disregards for your children are applied first and 70% of the balance is assessed.)

Your means from all sources are added together to get a total assessed weekly means. If your weekly means are less than the maximum rate of Farm Assist (that is, the maximum amount your family could get if you had no means), you will be paid the difference between your means and the maximum rate.

You can apply by filling out form Farm 1 which you can download from welfare.ie. You can also get forms from your local Intreo Centre or Social Welfare Branch Office.

Getting married abroad

Question

My partner and I are planning to get married abroad next year. What do we need to do?

Answer

You should contact the civil registration office in the country in which you plan to marry to find out what you need to do. The legal validity of your marriage depends on the laws of the country in which you marry. The legal formalities abroad are usually different to those in Ireland. For example, a church marriage abroad is usually a purely religious ceremony with no legal effect. You may decide to have a civil marriage in Ireland followed by a religious ceremony abroad.

Although you must meet the requirements of the country you are marrying in, you are still bound by Irish law in relation to the capacity to marry. For example, if you ordinarily live in Ireland and one or both of you is aged under 18, you must have a Court Exemption Order to marry. If you marry abroad without this, your marriage will not be recognised under Irish law.

Marriages that take place outside the State are not normally registered in Ireland. They are usually registered in the country where they take place. Your foreign marriage certificate will usually be accepted for official purposes in Ireland if you need to show evidence that you are married. If the certificate is in a foreign language, you must provide an official translation or a translation from a recognised translation agency.

You may require a Certificate of Freedom to Marry to get married in some foreign countries. This may also be called "Certificate de Coutume" or "Certificate of Nulla Osta". You apply online to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for a Certificate of Freedom to Marry. You should apply at least four months before the date of your marriage. It normally costs €60 per person. However, if you apply 28 days or less before the date of your marriage, the fee rises to €120 per person.

Making a will

Question

I would like to make a will. Do I need to go to a solicitor or can I draw up the will myself?

Answer

It is important for you to make a will because, if you do not, the law on *intestacy* decides what happens to your property in the event of your death.

Writing a will can ensure that proper arrangements are made for your dependants and that your property is distributed in the way you wish after your death (subject to certain rights of spouses or civil partners and children).

You can draw up a will yourself or you can hire a solicitor to help you. All of the following legal requirements apply:

- The will must be in writing.
- You must be over 18 (unless you are or have been married).
- You must be of sound mind.
- You must sign or mark the will or acknowledge the signature or mark in the presence of two witnesses.
- Your two witnesses must sign the will in your presence.
- Your two witnesses cannot be people who will gain from your will and they must be present with you at the same time for their attestation to be valid. The witnesses' spouses or civil partners also cannot gain from your will.
- Your witnesses must see you sign the will but they do not have to see what is written in it.
- The signature or mark must be at the end of the will.

If any of these requirements are not met, the will is not legally valid. If you want to change your will after you make it, you can add a *codicil* (amendment or change) to your will. This *codicil* must meet the requirements set out above.

You should keep an updated list of your assets. You can use a form to record where your possessions are kept. This makes it easier to identify and trace your assets after you die. You should keep the list in a safe place.

Tax relief on tuition fees

Question

My daughter is repeating a year at college and both the Student Contribution and tuition fees are due this year. Can I claim any tax relief for her third-level course?

Answer

You may be able to claim tax relief on tuition fees (including the Student Contribution) that you pay for your daughter's course.

Tax relief is given at the standard rate of 20%. You can claim it as long as you have actually paid the fees, either for yourself or for another person. There is no limit on the number of people you can claim for.

The maximum amount of fees (including the Student Contribution) that qualify for tax relief is €7,000 per person per course. However, there is no tax relief on the first €3,000 spent on tuition fees, including the Student Contribution (€1,500 for part-time students). If you are claiming for more than one student, you get full tax relief on tuition fees (including the Student Contribution) for the second and subsequent students.

For both undergraduates and postgraduates, the approved course can be full or part-time in a private or publicly-funded third-level college in Ireland or in any other EU member state. (Postgraduate students can also claim for approved courses in non-EU countries.)

Undergraduate courses must be of at least two years' duration while postgraduate courses can be between one and four years. For postgraduate courses, students must already have a primary degree or equivalent. Tax relief may also be available for approved foreign language and IT courses that are less than two years' duration and which result in the award of a certificate of competence (the fees paid must be over €315 and under €1,270).

Lists of courses and colleges approved for relief each year are published on the Revenue website.

You can claim tax relief on tuition fees using Revenue's myAccount service. Alternatively you can download an application form from revenue.ie and return the completed form to your Revenue office.



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Maynooth Newsletter

Copy date for the next edition of the Maynooth Newsletter will be Tuesday 23rd October 2018



**MAYNOOTH
PLANNING
ALLIANCE**

WEB: maynoothplanningalliance.com

EMAIL: maynoothplanningalliance@gmail.com

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/Maynooth-Planning-Alliance>

Maynooth Planning Alliance has been working relentlessly on all the issues that were addressed by the Community at the public meeting they held. We use social media to contact the community but we also understand that not everyone uses this forum. Here is some information on the work we have been doing

- We launched our Social Media Group and our website
- We have completed an online Community Survey of what you the Community would like to see in our town. We have issued these results to Mr J Deane (district engineer) and Mr S Wallis(head of parks and recreation Kildare Co. Co.).
- We met with our local Maynooth Municipal District Councillors on a one to one basis and highlighted your issues. Some councillors brought these issues to the Municipal District Meetings which are available to view online on Kildare Co. Co. website.
- We have met with MU to discuss its future plans and how we can all work together to make Maynooth an even better town.
- We engaged with our local T. Ds James Lawless and Frank O'Rourke. Both representatives are willing to help in any way they can.

Information passed on from Frank O'Rourke to the Maynooth Planning Alliance answered the questions of many parents whose children attend St Mary's Boys' school. The proposal for the new school building has all the authorisations required to go to the pre-qualification stage; and should hopefully enter the tender stage within the next 12 weeks. This tender stage will take up to 8 months to complete.

- Our Group attended the public Local Area plan Amendment meeting
- Our Group prepared and submitted some observations to be considered for the LAP Amendment Plan.
- We have prepared an observation and submitted views for The Lyreen View Apartments in Mill Street.
- We have attended and participated in all of the Kildare County Council's Town Health Checks.
- We attended the Bus connects meeting and this is some of the basic information we got out of it.

Based on information from www.busconnects.ie. The proposal of the new Maynooth route C3 shows there will be more buses than currently servicing Maynooth. Furthermore, Maynooth will still have a direct connection to Celbridge with the new W8 with the same frequency as currently.

Route C3 from Maynooth to Ringsend (Docklands) will replace the existing Route 66 and reach the city centre faster by making use of the Chapelizod Bypass. It would terminate at Ringsend in the South Docklands. This will have a frequency of every 25 mins Monday to Friday and rising to every 10 mins in peak hours. Saturday service would see a bus every 30 minutes from Maynooth (9am-7pm) and Sunday every 40 minutes (10am-6pm).

All C Spine routes will not pass through Chapelizod and will instead use the Chapelizod Bypass. This is expected to reduce the journey times slightly. Any passengers for Chapelizod should change to number 14 bus at Liffey Valley.

There are also 3 express buses (323) from Maynooth to Heuston, St Stephens Green and onwards to UCD between 7am and 8am and returning between 16:30 and 17:30.

Maynooth will be connected to Celbridge via a new route W8 which starts in Maynooth and connects to Tallaght. This would run every 30 mins. This route replaces the existing Route 67 between Maynooth and Celbridge, but it extends further by starting near Maynooth University, and continuing from Celbridge to Hazelhatch, Newcastle, Greenogue Business Park, Citywest and Tallaght.

We hope you all had a lovely summer and we look forward to continuing to work with the Community.

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Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee

With the evenings fading and our morning club in full swing, Autumn is well and truly here. It was nice to see all the familiar faces back with us and some new ones as well and of course Tony and Johnny who prepare the hall for us week in week out. Our next event will be our Valentine's Tea-Dance, so why not join us on Sunday October 21st in the GAA club and dance the blues away in the company of Philip English.

November is our fundraising month and yes you guessed it our "Sale of Work" is just around the corner, on November 18th to be precise, in the Post Primary School. We will be selling tickets for our "Monster Raffle" at Manor Mills on November 2nd and at SuperValu on November 8th/9th/10th.

As usual our committee members and helpers will be knocking on your doors on the run up to our "Sale" so now would be a good time to clear out the attic or declutter that spare room, remember "one person's trash is another's treasure". A word of caution though, by now you should know our regular people who call to you each year. If you are in any doubt ask for ID or call me on 087 9002296. I take this opportunity to thank Eddie at SuperValu, Grainne at Manor Mills and Johnny Nevin, Principal at PPS, for their continued support

December will bring our shopping afternoon and Christmas Lunch, but more about that anon.

Finally, may I express our sincere sympathy to the families of Sr. Patricia Murphy, Kevin Galligan and Peter Twomey who passed away recently. Suaimhneas agus Siocáin Dóibh go Leir.

Josephine Moore. Chairperson.



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Going back in time Photos courtesy of Mrs Margaret Bean



This Photo was taken back in 1950 in the school yard.....

Back row: *R/L:* Mgt Keely, Ray Cassidy, Marve Waldron, Maureen Boucher, Ena Weafer, Kitty O’Flaherty, Dinah Nolan, Ita O’Reilly,

Middle row: *L/R:* Bernadette Lawler, Mary Murray (girl from Leixlip) Kathleen Keely, Flor Sullivan, Bridie Flanagan, Marie Cary, Kathleen Bracken, Ann Doyle

Front row: Angela Mulready, Doreen Reilly, Sr. Gerard, Sr. Carmel, St. Antonio, Mary Keenan, Sheila Toomey



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

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

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

Front Row: Dick Bean, Mick Kelly, Joe Leonard

May they all rest in peace

**Dympna (Dee) Farrelly Clifton –
Exciting Life and Times**

Dympna (Dee) Farrelly was born in Buckley’s Lane, Maynooth in 1921. Her parents were Florence (Flo) Melia and Ned Farrelly. Ned came from the Straffan Road. Florence’s family came from the Naas area. Ned was a telegraph boy and his bothers Joe and Tommy were mechanics in Dawson’s Shop on the Main Street. The family moved from Buckley’s Lane to No.1 Pound Lane which was the house overlooking the Pound. It was the biggest house of those set of houses but had the smallest garden. Dee’s grandmother lived at number 8 Pound Lane which was the smallest house with the biggest garden. Her grandmother later moved to a house on the Main Street where the chip shop currently stands.



Dee the eldest, had 6 siblings – two sisters Maureen and Rebecca and four brothers Liam, Paddy, Eddie and Richard. Both sisters and one brother are since deceased. She attended the local Presentation Convent. Girls came from all over to the Convent - Leixlip, Confey, Dunboyne and Straffan. The Convent was strict but looking back it produced a very high standard of education. Irish, English, Arithmetic, Geography and History were taught. Music and Dancing were also taught. One of the nuns who taught dancing came from the Kennedy Bakery Family in Dublin. Dee took piano lessons which her aunt secured for her. First Confession, Communion and later Confirmation were the big events in our lives.

First Confession meant entering a dark box which was a bit

daunting for young children. Communion involved the purchase of communion dresses and there was a breakfast for the whole class after the ceremony. Girls usually wore dresses and veils for Confirmation but Dee was disappointed that she did not get to wear a veil but had to wear a hat instead. There were only about 13-15 pupils in the class at this point. A lot of girls died of TB during this time. Dee expressed her appreciation of Dr. Noel Brown for the work he achieved all over the country. Dee started her working life in Buckley’s shop as an office assistant when she was seventeen years of age and stayed there for nine years. It was a prestigious position in a time when there was very little employment of that calibre. She was interviewed by old Joe Buckley for the post.

She had a great time as a teenager with little or no worries. There were dances to attend in the Leinster Hall at the end of the Main Street (now Brady’s Auctioneers). There was a 4d. hop on the Sunday Night in the hall which began around 9pm and ended between 11pm and 12. Dee was not allowed to attend. Every so often a band would come from Naas to play live and that would be more expensive. Girls usually had their dresses made in those days. Cassidy’s in Dublin was the place to shop and Alice Maguire made dresses locally.

Around the age of 26 Dee decided to go to England to gain work and widen her experience. She went to Manchester, but did not like it as it was a dismal place after the War and was in the process of being rebuilt. She went to London and got employment with LMS British Railway in their office at Euston Station. Her uncle worked for this company as well. She lived in the Staff House attached to the firm. In 1952 she married John Clifton, a Londoner. John was an only child. As was usual in those days the wedding ceremony was a modest affair followed by a wedding breakfast. Dee wore a suit and hat for the occasion. They went to Cornwall on their honeymoon.

John was a wool appraiser and worked in the Wool Exchange in London. The Wool Exchange relied heavily on the importation of wool from New Zealand and

Australia but this practice changed as those countries began to build up their own industry. The Wool Exchange eventually closed down. The couple decided to move to America. John got a job in office administration. There were no opportunities for wool appraisers as nylon took its place. They stayed in New York for about three years but Dee missed London and they decided to return for a holiday where John was offered a job in a bank. Years after and looking back Dee wonders if they shouldn’t have stayed in the US. They were both disappointed that they did move back. After 27 years of marriage, John died in 1977.

Dee had to rethink her life without John and found she could not settle and so undertook temping work. She worked in an administrative capacity in many leading companies including the BBC Unsolicited Correspondence Department, where part of her responsibility was to select the letters that would be read out – according to the news items of the day. She also worked in Marks & Spencer Head Office and the Royal Ballet Company.

She came back to Ireland for a holiday initially and then for good where she settled on Dublin Road, Maynooth for 8 years. She then moved to Bishopstown, Cork City and became immersed in life there and volunteered with the Royal British Legion which supported the Irish families of army men who died during the War. Dee returned to Maynooth on the advice of her good friend Imelda Delaney who sadly died shortly after. This move back was a difficult transition. As anyone who goes away for a number of years and returns, realises things have changed in the meantime and the network of friends has diminished greatly as one has gotten older.

In Maynooth now Dee is currently involved with the ICA, the Public Library Book Club and Maynooth Senior Citizens’ Group where she attends many of their functions. She has a great interest in reading and needle point work. Our thanks to Dympna for sharing her story with us.

Susan Durack



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MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN

#Allocate4Cycling

Cyclist.ie members, including Maynooth Cycling Campaign, have forwarded a strong budget submission addressed to Minister for Finance & Public Expenditure Paschal Donohue, outlining the deficiency in government funding for cycling. Essentially we are calling for 10% of Land Transport Capital Funding to be allocated to cycling, to enable the government to meet its own target of 10% of trips by bike. The current modal share stands at approximately 3% of trips and funding is estimated at €18M which is less than 2% of Land Transport Funding of €254M.

Hayfield Estate, Straffan Road

Road works have been carried out at the junction of Straffan Road adjacent to the Hayfield estate. The Design Manual for Road and Streets (DMURS) established a hierarchy of road users with pedestrians at the top, followed by cyclists and then car drivers. Pedestrians and cyclists were prioritised as their mode of transport benefits society whereas car dependency causes congestion, is harmful to the environment and imposes costs on society. It is obligatory on Kildare County Council to design roads in accordance with DMURS.

So what has happened at Hayfield? Kildare County Council has removed a footpath and grass verge in order to provide additional road space for motorised vehicles – yet there is no space for cyclists and pedestrians are diverted into the estate.

Kildare Cycle Forum

Maynooth Cycle Campaign was invited to the September meeting of the Kildare Cycle Forum. This was the first invitation to attend the Forum for almost four years. The meeting reviewed the Forum Programme of Work but no update on current progress and no indication of future projects were available.

Lock It or Lose It

Gardaí have recently commenced a 'Lock It or Lose It' Campaign urging cyclists to ensure that they lock their bikes. This follows on from the news that 14,112 bicycles were stolen between 1st January 2016 and 30th June 2018. By far, most bicycles were stolen in Dublin but 368 were stolen in Kildare during that period. The Gardaí strongly recommend that cyclists record the serial number on the bike frame, take a photograph of the bike and email them to themselves so that they would have a record of their bike in the event of it being stolen and recovered. However, it would also be beneficial if the Gardaí set up a database of serial numbers so that cyclists would check if their bike has been recovered.

Bicycle theft is unfortunately a frequent occurrence when bike use increases. It explains why many Dutch people cycle old bikes and are not too worried about securely locking them.

Happy Birthday Cyclist.ie

Happy Birthday! Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cycling Advocacy Network is 10 years old. In that time it has grown to over 30 cycling advocacy groups spread across the country. As one of its founding members, Maynooth Cycling Campaign will be joining in the celebrations at the bi-annual Council Meeting in October.

Fianna Fail Cycling Policy

Fianna Fail has recently published a new policy document on cycling. The main elements include an increase in physically segregated cycle lanes, a National Cycling Champion and provision of cycle training to all primary school pupils – all of which will be warmly welcomed by cycling advocacy groups. While Maynooth Cycling Campaign has reservations about the lack of detail on funding, we warmly welcome the new policy as it sets a high bar for other parties to follow.

Climate Action

The Dáil has set up a special Joint Oireachtas Committee on Climate Action calling it a 'new departure' for climate change policy in Ireland. Among the Committee's core tasks is consideration of the recommendations made by the Citizens' Assembly on 'How the State can make Ireland a Leader in tackling Climate Change'. The Committee's first witness was the ESRI and Justice Laffoy, the former Supreme Court Judge who chaired the Assembly process.

Minister Naughten has admitted that Ireland's current national climate action plan (the National Mitigation Plan) is not working and requires radical revision. This is abundantly clear with Ireland's polluting emissions continuing to rapidly increase, and given the likelihood of significant fines due to the Government's knowing failure to deliver on its 2020 international climate action obligations.



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



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

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



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

BIODIVERSITY:

As part of our Biodiversity Action Plan for Maynooth we asked Wild Kildare (Paddy Sheridan) to survey the town for swifts in the 2017 breeding season, and Kildare Bat Group (Anna Collins) to survey the town for sites suitable for bat boxes.

SWIFTS:

The population of this wonderful bird, (which spends practically all its life in the air, only landing when it needs to breed) has declined by more than 40% in just the last 20 years. Loss of natural nest sites due to the renovation of older buildings where they breed is a major factor in their decline. Swifts are site faithful meaning that they return to the same nest every year. The survey identified 28 nests but all are concentrated in Renehan Hall on the South Campus MU. While our population is quite healthy it is not good having all of our swifts on one building in one location. In order to redress this situation and working jointly with Paddy Sheridan of Wild Kildare, nest boxes and call systems sponsored by Maynooth Tidy Towns were installed by Paddy on Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich on Saturday 29 September. The planned nest boxes and future collaboration between our two groups should help safeguard the future of this fabulous bird in Maynooth.



BATS:

Our bat population is also in decline, again due to the loss of natural roosting sites and a reduction in the number of insects as a result to our overuse of pesticides. Bats are not harmful but are very beneficial. A bat can consume up to 3,000 insects in one night, which reduces our dependence on harmful insecticides.

Anna Collins of Kildare Bat Group, accompanied by Tidy Towns volunteers surveyed Maynooth in 2017 and identified a number of sites in various locations around the town suitable for bat boxes. Bat boxes provide alternative roosts for our bats.

Having identified the sites Maynooth Tidy Towns applied for and secured funding under the Local Agenda 21 Environmental Partnership Fund to finance the purchase of 15 bat boxes of various types. Anna and MTT volunteers erected these bat boxes in the selected sites on Saturday 29th September.

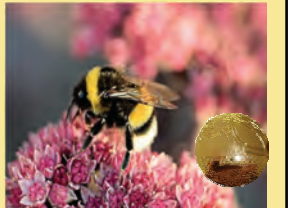
Bats are a protected species under the Wildlife Act 1976 (as amended). It is an offence to intentionally kill, disturb, handle, sell or offer for sale a bat without a licence. Anna will monitor the bat boxes on our behalf on an ongoing basis.



BEEES:

This is bulb planting time and we would urge you to spare a thought for our hard pressed bees and other pollinating insects as you make your bulb purchases. Resident pollinating insects need a steady supply of nectar and pollen as they emerge from their winter hibernation in early spring and go in search of food. Include bulbs such as crocus, snowdrops, muscari (grape hyacinth) and native bluebell (*Hyacinthoides Non Scripta*) in your purchases. Plants such as hellebore (Christmas/Lenten Rose) lungwort (*Pulmonaria*) and flowering currant (*Ribes*) will also provide much needed food for our foraging bees in the lean months of early spring. Plant a combination of both bulbs and plants and you will be delighted with the results!

Any plants/bulbs bearing a BEE symbol are perfect for pollinators.



CLEAN UPS:

Our Wednesday evening clean ups are finished now until Spring 2019. Saturday mornings continue as usual until further notice. Meet in Courthouse Square at 10am.

A big thank you to all our volunteers who helped out during the summer months, especially watering our plants and tubs during the very hot spell.

New Volunteers are always welcome, so if you have an hour to spare give us a call on 087-3153189 or just show up in Courthouse Square on Saturday morning at 10am.

To keep up to date with the group please LIKE us On Facebook or FOLLOW us on Twitter.

Maynooth Tidy Towns Association.



Zero Waste Maynooth

Plastic Free Halloween

Halloween can be a scary time for people who are trying to avoid plastic! Hopefully these hints will help your Halloween party feel less scary!

Refuse:

- Say no to the party “essentials” such as straws and balloons – you will be pleasantly surprised by how little these items are missed!

- Make the decision to have plastic free party bags. Make paper bags from old newspapers or get paper lunch bags. A packet of pumpkin seeds as a gift would let the child grow their own pumpkin for next year!

Reduce:

- Cut down on your plastic party packaging by bringing your own containers when you go shopping! Get package free sweets from An Siopa Milseán and loose pastries and cookies are available from most supermarkets.

Reuse:

- Use proper Delph and glasses rather than disposables. If you are afraid of breakages, use plastic tumblers. If you don't have enough, ask your guests to bring some!
- Reuse old decorations – if you pack them away carefully each year they will last and last.
- Look up Pinterest for ideas of turning sheets, jars and milk cartons into decorations!

Recycle:

- Make sure all recyclables are clean, loose and dry!

Rot:

- Make sure all food leftovers are put in the compost bin.

This ideas can be applied to any occasion to make it a plastic free party!

Zero Waste Events:

Our first event after the summer was a great success. Mark of the **Rediscovery Centre** held an Introduction to Bike Maintenance workshop where people got to learn the basics of bike maintenance and work on their own bikes to gain hands-on experience. The Community Space was busy as **Bare Necessities** were selling loose, dried goods and **Green Outlook** were also present selling zero waste essentials. **The Cloth Nappy Library** were also on hand, offering advice to anyone interested in using cloth nappies. A huge thanks to everyone who attended the workshop, shopped at the stalls or popped in for a cuppa and a chat!



Our next event is on **Saturday, 20th October** in the Community Space from 2-4pm. Bring along your own containers to do your package free shopping from Bare Necessities. There will be a spooky hands-on workshop for kids of all ages. Follow us on Facebook to stay informed!!



St Mary's Brass & Reed Band

Amazing Experience at German Music Festival

St Mary's Brass and Reed Band was one of 34 Bands from all over Europe taking part in the International Music Festival in Bad Orb near Frankfurt in Germany from 7th to the 9th September

The Festival began with the Welcome to the Nations Night in the 2,000 seater marquee where the National Anthems of all the participating nations were played and sung followed by a piece of music chosen by the bands.



The Festival continued on Saturday with recitals by the bands in venues throughout the town. On Saturday afternoon there was a magnificent Ecumenical Service held on a hill overlooking the town with the music provided by 6 bands specially selected for the occasion which included St. Mary's Band which was indeed a signal honour. The



music for this Service was conducted by the world famous Band Composer Jacob de Haan which was something really special for the members of the Maynooth Band.

Sunday, the final day of the Festival began with morning recitals again in various venues followed by the highlight of the Festival, a Massed Band Recital with the entire 34 bands, almost 1,400 musicians, playing pieces composed and conducted by the aforementioned Jacob de Haan. This was followed by a parade of all 34 bands through the streets of Bad Orb to bring to an end what was the most amazing experience ever for the members of St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band, Maynooth none of which would have been possible without the tremendous support of the business people and residents of Maynooth and the surrounding areas of the town. Thanks a million for your generosity.



At present we are working on a Christmas CD which we hope to have more news on in the next issue. Our annual Mass for deceased members is at 1pm and our Christmas Concert is in the Glenroyal on Sunday 9th December at 7.30 pm so very busy few months ahead.

The German trip has produced a great level of interest in the Band and we have already had some new players joining us so if you can play an instrument we would love to see you in the Band Hall on Pound Lane any Monday night, Bank Holidays excepted, between 7.45pm and 9.45pm.

We hope to begin new band classes after Christmas so if you have any children interested please contact us at sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie and we will be in touch with you.

The Galway Cycle Raises €106,000 for The Coombe Hospital

The Galway Cycle is an annual fundraising event run out of Maynooth University. 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 €1.6 million for a host of charities close to the hearts of cyclists and their families. They are having their AGM on 2nd October where cyclists and support crews will receive presentations from the 4 shortlisted charities for 2019 and vote on who next year's charity partner will be.

On Thursday 20th September, Ciara Keogh, Galway Cycle President, presented a cheque to Sharon Sheehan, Master of the Coombe and Ailbhe Gilvarry, Chairperson of the Friends of the Coombe, for €106,000. This money is going towards developing three ensuite bereavement suites within the Coombe Hospital to provide hospice-style care by creating a family-friendly home away from home to afford bereaved parents both comfort and dignity. Over 240 cyclists and

support crew left Maynooth for Galway on 6th April and returned to Maynooth on the 8th April after spending a day shaking buckets, busking, and, parading in fancy dress, all in order to raise funds to provide this essential service in the Coombe.

GC18 President, Ciara Keogh, said, "We are delighted to have raised this fantastic amount of money for such a worthy cause and I look forward to getting a tour of the three bereavement suites when they are equipped. We are also very grateful to our sponsors especially Declan Kennedy of Brady's who has so generously supported us for a number of years ". Dr Sharon Sheehan, Master of the Coombe Women & Infants University Hospital said "We are completely overwhelmed by the amount raised by the Galway Cycle - an incredible €106,000 which will be used to help the Coombe Women & Infants University Hospital develop hospice-style bereavement suites to create a family-friendly home away from home for bereaved parents. Heartfelt thanks to each and every single cyclist, collector and member of the support team as well as the very many people who worked behind the scenes to raise this transformational sum of money."



Ciara Keogh, President, with the framed GC18 Jersey presented to Declan Kennedy of Brady's.



Ciara Keogh, President presenting the cheque to Sharon Sheehan, Master of the Coombe.



Steven McCarthy, Vice President; Ciara Keogh, President; Anne Marie Brennan, Food Committee; Bill Wilson; Training Committee.



Sharon Sheehan, Master of the Coombe with Ciara Keogh, President.

Maynooth University Research Week 2018

Public invited to hear about the impact of world-class research of Maynooth academics and students



Save the week of 8 – 12 October for **Maynooth University Research Week 2018**, which will showcase world-class public lectures, workshops, music and a host of dynamic events.

Maynooth University invites the public to seven days of high-profile keynote speakers and dynamic events on topics ranging from Ireland's treatment of women past and present to, Brexit, the history of medieval medicine to the future of democracy. Other events include concerts, rapid-fire competitions, student research displays, a drone demonstration, and a workshop on practical uses for GIS.

A keynote speech by Prof Linda Connolly, Director of the Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute, on the topic: 'Ireland: No country for women?' will pose questions on the state's treatment of women past and present; the referendum to repeal the 8th Amendment; and the forthcoming referendum on women in the home – all set against this year's centenary of the vote for women.

Renowned philosopher and cultural commentator Professor AC Grayling will deliver the Dean's Lecture on 'The Meaning of Brexit and the Future of Democracy.' The country's foremost expert in drone technology, Maynooth's Dr Tim McCarthy, will discuss the latest innovative tests conducted by his team.

Other highlights include a "Three-minute Thesis" competition for postgraduate students and a session with postdoctoral researchers featuring fun, 5-minute talks in which presentation slides advance automatically.

Maynooth University Research Week 2018 is an opportunity for the public to see the extraordinary value and impact of Maynooth University research up close, with many exciting and creative events running throughout the week.

Full programme of events: <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/research-week>

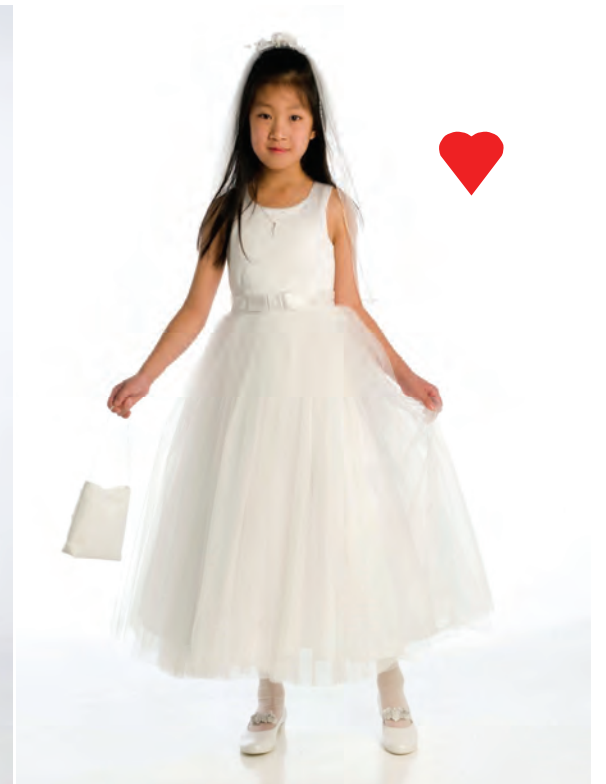


Prof Linda Connolly, Director of the Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute

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MAYNOOTH CASTLE'S AUTUMN FAREWELL

by Moira Devery (OPW Guide)

The long warm days of summer are over. The children have gone back to school, leaves are fast falling to the ground or being swirled around by autumnal winds; the sun sets so early that we are often left surprised and sometimes wistful.

CULTURE NIGHT

Amidst graduation ceremonies at the College, the OPW guiding team at Maynooth Castle prepare for Culture Night (21st Sept.) the only chance to see the Castle illuminated for our late opening and our last big event before the Castle drifts off into a long hibernation of eight months on September 26. All moveable objects will be packed and stored away safely until May 2019, safe, that is, from the dust that falls from the over 800 year old walls of the undercroft.

What a season it's been - the best ever in the recent history of the Castle! In 2018 we've so far welcomed in excess of 22,000 visitors from places as far apart as Alaska, New Zealand, South America, India and Myanmar. That's quite some figure when you remember that there was no Community Festival this year and no performance by the Maigh Nuad Players. Hopefully both will return next year to put our beloved Castle back on the map as a treasured venue for Maynooth and environs.

We've met some very interesting people since opening on May 18 including a New Yorker called Conn who speaks fluent Irish (see photo) and two ladies from Myanmar, one an MP and the other a lecturer in Gender Studies. Both attended a conference in Dublin Castle on Women's Caucuses on 9-10 September, a world premiere. Like many of our visitors, they told us they loved the Irish climate because you can be more active when temperatures are moderate and not excessively hot.



Conn Mac Aogáin of CUNY Graduate Centre with Moira Devery (OPW Guide)



Visitors from Myanmar

BATS IN THE BELFRY

We also met Charlotte Quinn (local) and David Hamberg (Sweden) who helped rescue a cute little bat which had flown into the keep. Charlotte's gentle hands carried him to the Solar Tower where we released it and were relieved to see that it was able to fly.



Charlotte Quinn and David Hamberg



THE ITALIAN CONNECTION

This summer we had so many young language students from Italy visit the Castle that we actually learned some Italian like *il pozzo* (the well), *il gran salone* (the Great Hall) and *Arrivederci ragazzi* (goodbye children). However, there is another Italian connection which fascinates many visitors. The Geraldines attempted to trace their ancestors back to an Italian branch of the Normans and to the Gherardini family, of whom the Mona Lisa is the most famous member. While the claim of descent has been refuted by most academics, what is undisputed are the many contacts between the FitzGerald and Florence.



As early as 1413, a priest named Maurice from the parish of Ardfert was granted an audience with the Gherardini when he told them the story of three of their family members who had fled Florence and settled in Ireland. He claimed to be their descendant. In 1440, the Chancellor of Florence wrote to the Geraldines. Gearoid Mór corresponded with the Gherardini family in Florence in 1507. It also appears that Gearoid Og visited them. After the execution of Silken Thomas and his five uncles, Thomas' younger brother Gerald, aged 12 at the time of the rebellion, was smuggled out of Ireland by the women of the family, notably Lady Eleanor Mac Carthy. After travelling via Scotland, France, and Belgium he remained with the Medici in Florence for some years before returning to Ireland in the 1550s.

BLIAIN NA GAELIGE

Finally, as Bliain na Gaeilge enters its last four months, we intend to continue efforts made this year at the Castle, not just to welcome guests in Irish, and to offer a tour in Irish but to use our native language more often, even after Bliain na Gaeilge. It was the language spoken in Ireland at the time of the Norman invasion and up until it was dealt a near-death blow by the Penal Laws and the Famine. Let us be inspired by Iarla Gearoid, the third Earl of Desmond, who is said to have composed 39 poems in Irish including the lovely poem *Mairg adeir olc ris na mnáibh* ("Speak not ill of womenkind"). If the French-speaking Normans could learn Irish, then surely we can (re)learn ár dteanga dúchas.

OUTLOOK FOR 2019

We hope to organise an art exhibition in May with the Castle Keep Art Group and to attract it and another art group called Strokes of Genius into the Castle Grounds on May 21, International Drawing Day, to draw or paint the Castle. Watch the Castle's FB page. Thanks to all our visitors for stopping by, taking a tour, reading the panels, participating in our special Heritage Week tours and competitions, and enjoying the grounds. We've loved having you and hope to see you all again next year.





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

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

Social
Democrats

Kildare Rail Commuters Continue to Face Overcrowding

I recently asked the Minister for Transport Shane Ross if he has any plans to increase capacity on commuter trains for the regions surrounding Dublin. I also asked if he was satisfied that Irish Rail are using their full complement of rolling stock at peak times and if he has any plans to increase the amount of rolling stock available to Irish Rail.

In his reply Minister Ross stated that the operation of the day to day rail network including the use of rolling stock is solely a matter for Irish Rail and for that reason he confirmed that he had sent my question on to Irish Rail.

I must say it is getting very tiring to hear Minister Ross say he has no function when it comes to any questions regarding public transport. In fact I have now asked him to supply a list of what he does have a function in. Anyone who travels on the commuter lines from Kildare to Dublin and return during peak times will be well aware of the significant crowding and the very obvious need for increased capacity. I believe the Minister for Transport should take a proactive approach to ensuring that public transport works for the public.

However, having submitted queries to Irish Rail directly and engaging with them on the matter, I am happy to reveal that in relation to the Phoenix Park Tunnel services it is proposed to introduce an hourly off peak service between Hazelhatch & Grand Canal Dock in December 2018 and it is proposed to introduce weekend services on the route at the end of 2019/start of 2020.

In addition, on the Maynooth line, it is proposed to increase weekday off peak, Saturday & Sunday service to a half hourly frequency between Maynooth & Connolly in December 2018.

It has been confirmed that some off-peak weekday services and all weekend services will now operate between Dublin Connolly and Maynooth, instead of Dublin Pearse.

Social Democrats TD Catherine Murphy has told the Oireachtas Transport Committee that there is a serious lack of detail regarding the full implications of the recently announced Bus Connects plan. She said people in her own area of North Kildare were already expressing concern regarding what the changes would mean for commuters in the area and it appears that the changes may well make the use of public transport less attractive and therefore generate more car traffic on roads.

Speaking during the last sitting of the Oireachtas Transport Committee prior to the recess, Catherine Murphy said:

“On first impressions of BusConnects it seems to me that the real losers in this plan are those on the fringe of the city – places like North Kildare, Fingal, Bray etc. There is a huge dependency on

the bus network which is not really comparable to other cities which have much better connectivity links between other transport options. Under the proposed Bus Connects plan someone who currently gets the 66A from Confey will potentially face a situation where they now might need to take 3 separate buses to make the same journey as the current 66A – for many people they will see it as an easier option to just take the car and this is not conducive to encouraging people to use public transport.”

“I don’t think enough consideration has been given to the areas on the fringe of the bus network – including in relation to traffic management and the ability of some of the junctions to deal with feeder buses etc. The upcoming information sessions will be crucial to ensure that people’s concerns are heard and that the detail of the plan is fleshed out so that when people are making submissions to the public consultation they can do so with the benefit of the detail of all the proposals in the plan and how it might affect them.

The public consultation process is open until 28th September and I would encourage people to engage with the process.” The last information session takes place in Busaras on 20th September from 3pm to 7pm. Sessions were already held in Celbridge & Maynooth.

Please send in your own submission to Bus Connects to ensure they gauge the opinions of members of our local community.

By email to: consultations@busconnects.ie or send it by post to:

BusConnects Network Redesign, National Transport Authority, Harcourt Lane, Dublin 2, D02 WT20

It’s vital to remind you that at the moment, BusConnects is still just a proposal while a public consultation phase continues during August and September. The public consultation process is open until 29th September 2018.

Locally, some of the proposals include that the 66a and 66b routes are to be deleted, the 66b is set to be replaced by C4 route which means higher frequency Celbridge Buses coming down Celbridge Road to Leixlip and on into the village through town with the terminus in Ringsend.

The 66a is set to be replaced by a bus between Confey and Hazelhatch Stations. Scrapping the 66a would be a real problem. The 66 to Maynooth will be called C3 and will continue terminating at Ringsend instead of Merrion Square. Maynooth, Leixlip and Celbridge

The Bus Connects plan proposes an introduction of a C –Spine to service bus routes from Lucan to Maynooth, Leixlip and Celbridge. It proposes the introduction of some new local routes to connect rail stations, at Hazelhatch & Leixlip, Confey, Celbridge, Maynooth, and Leixlip stations.

Maynooth and Celbridge gain a new orbital service to Citywest and Tallaght.

Maynooth

The proposed network provides both radial service to Lucan and Dublin city centre, and orbital service to Celbridge and Tallaght.

Route C3 from Maynooth to Ringsend (Docklands) replaces the existing Route 66 and reaches the city centre faster by making use of the Chapelizod Bypass. It would terminate at Ringsend in the South Docklands. Service would be every 25 minutes all day and every 10 minutes in peak hours.

Route W8 from Maynooth to Tallaght would operate every 30 minutes. This route replaces the existing Route 67 between Maynooth and Celbridge, but it extends further by starting near Maynooth University, and continuing from Celbridge to Hazelhatch, Newcastle, Greenogue Business Park, Citywest and Tallaght.

Your Vote is your Voice - Use It!

The 2018/19 Register of Electors came into force on 15 February 2018 and will be used at any poll that may be called in the period to 14 February 2019.

A draft of the 2018/19 Register was published on 1 November 2017 and, as part of our public information campaign, was made available for examination in post offices, community libraries and Garda stations as well as online at www.checktheregister.ie until 25 November.

If your name is not entered on the 2018/2019 Register, you can apply to have your name entered on the supplement to the Register up to approximately 17 days before a poll. The Presidential Election will take place on Friday 26th October.

The closing dates for receipt of application forms are Monday 1st October for entry to the Supplement on Postal and Special Voters List and **Tuesday 9th October** for entry to the Supplement on the Register of Electors.

Forms for this purpose are available on the sidebar on the left, or at your local post office, community library or Garda Station. You can also obtain one by phoning Kildare County Council on 045-980201 or by email at: regelectors@kildarecoco.ie

Please note that those included on the register of electors as other than Irish citizens, and have now become Irish citizens, must complete a RFA5 form in order to have their entry updated. This form may be downloaded from the side-bar on the left.

If you have any query concerning the register, please either ring 045-980201 or e-mail regelectors@kildarecoco.ie



Writers’ Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

Meeting Mariga

When I joined the Carton Preservation Committee in the late 1970s I didn’t know that my most memorable experience would be meeting Mariga Guinness. We were hoping to persuade the government to purchase this magnificent house and grounds, former seat of the Dukes of Leinster, for the nation and as Mariga had lived there with her husband, Desmond, in the 1950s she was naturally interested.

Born in London in 1932 and christened Hermione Marie-Gabrielle von Urach, Mariga (as a teenager she had shortened her first name) was of German nobility. In 1930 her mother Rosemary Blackadder, a beautiful Scotswoman, had married Albrecht von Urach, a Catholic prince, soon after they met in Paris. He had been raised in the family castle, Schloss Lichenstein, south of Stuttgart.

Despite her titled background Mariga’s upbringing was far from idyllic. While still a child her parents took her to Japan, where her father was attached as a photographer to the German embassy. This was just a few years before the outbreak of World War 11. When in 1937, after the Japanese invasion of China, her mother, accompanied by Mariga, impulsively entered the imperial palace to tell Emperor Hirohito that his generals were misleading him she was forcibly removed. Sedated, Rosemary was sent back to Britain, where she sank into depression and was eventually given a lobotomy. Soon afterwards Mariga, without her father, returned from Japan and went to live with her mother’s friend, Hermione Ramsden, in Norway. Deprived of both parents while still a child, it is probable that, deep down, Mariga always had a little-girl-lost streak.

Nevertheless, possessed of good looks, intelligence, spontaneity and a title, Mariga won the heart of Desmond Guinness when they met in Oxford, where both were studying. Married in 1954, they moved to Ireland soon afterwards and rented Carton House as their first residence. In 1958 they purchased Leixlip Castle, which they lovingly restored. Two children born to them, Patrick and Marina, did not dampen their habit of providing lavish hospitality for connoisseurs, conservationists and pop idols such as Mick Jagger and Marianne Faithfull.

There were stories told that while living at Carton Mariga used to walk barefooted into Maynooth, but being a beautiful German princess one was allowed to flout convention. Before they moved from Carton to Leixlip she and Desmond founded the Georgian Society to preserve Ireland’s built heritage and it

was by its efforts that Mountjoy Square as well as iconic buildings such as Conolly Folly, Castletown House and Tailors’ Hall were rescued from neglect – there is a 1967 photograph of Mariga with Jacqueline Kennedy taken during restoration work in Castletown House.

By the time I met her, Mariga’s marriage was in trouble. She had also lost her youthful bloom but not her cut glass accent and gracious mannerisms. Even when she attended our meetings in Carton, though her cardigan might have torn elbows, she had an indefinable air of breeding. While we were figuring out ways to persuade the government to cough up three million, she would talk about Capability Brown, the Franchini Brothers or paper panels in Carton’s Chinese Room. One’s heart went out to this fragile person, who was obviously expecting to be installed as custodian now that her days in Leixlip Castle were numbered. Hopefully she would live in Carton, just as she had done as a newlywed, enjoying its spacious rooms with their stuccowork and furnishings, the great house surrounded by 1,100 acres of unspoilt parkland.

Unfortunately, our plans for Carton proved fruitless; Powerscreen Ltd. purchased it and in time it was converted into a luxury hotel and the grounds into a golf course. In the meantime Mariga went to live in Tullynisk, the Dower House of Birr, Co. Offaly, where she continued, on a much-reduced scale, the entertaining that had been a feature of her life in Leixlip. After her departure for Birr I never saw her again, but I did attend her burial in 1989 under Conolly Folly; this obelisk is within a short distance of her beloved Leixlip, Castletown and Carton. Soon afterwards I wrote a poem to commemorate her passing, the last stanza of which reads:

Dear life-bewildered princess
sleep quiet beneath your folly,
with May-time beauties that you loved
piled here in fresh-cut splendour:
I lay this cottage-grown rosemary
beside the stately arum lilies.

Twenty-nine years later, despite rumoured plans by the OPW to remove it, her grave is still there under the Folly, an unconventional resting place for a most unforgettable and talented lady.

P.G.Nerney

Smaointe

In an ecstasy of malice and cunning,
They urged their victim along –
An everyday event, but like David's sling,

Capable of destroying the mighty;
A Wooden Horse, fit to bring Troy down;
A drinking binge and scissors, enough
To ruin the invincible Samson!

They took her in adultery, a heinous sin.
Moses' law decreed "Death by stoning";
But what would He say?
This champion of mercy and forgiveness!
Either way his cover was blown –
Law or mercy He must disown.

But what a rout was in store for them,
Those enemies of God and men!
"You asked my judgement! Well here it is.
Stone her but let the stoning begin
By him among you who has no sin".

Consternation! Confusion!
The hadn't thought of that!
They'd have to think again.

Gabriel Martin

Maynooth University
Town F.C.



Following our Cup exploits and League promotion to Division One in 2017/18 we now embark on a new quest for further honours. We have commenced our league campaign in impressive fashion and hope to maintain our good early form for the remainder of the season.

Results to date:
L.S.L. Division One – Town 2 Home Farm O
Eoin McDermott was the star of this game with two typical “Macker” strikes in a solid home performance.

L.S.L. Division One – Town 2 Glenville F.C. O
Another double strike in this impressive display against a tough uncompromising Palmerstown side. Captain Darragh Reynor grabbed the honours this time with both goals.

L.S.L. Division One – Dublin Bus 1 Town 2
Town forged out a thrilling win in this trip to Clondalkin . A Conor Foley shot came off the post in the 22nd minute but “Macker” was on hand to hit home the rebound. Bus got on terms in the 54th

minute following slack Town marking. The game seemed destined for a draw until Killian Duffy smashed home to winner in the 82nd minute for Town.

L.S.L. Division One – Glebe North 1 - Town 3.
It was nip and tuck in this game until Darragh Reynor lubbed the home keeper in the 35th minute to open the scoring for Town. Glebe drew level on 55th minutes with a well worked free kick. Darragh Reynor put Town back in front when finishing off a Killian Duffy cross. Shortly after Eoin Donnellan split the home defence before passing to Conor Foley who sealed the win with a sublime finish.

F.A.I. Intermediate Cup 1st Rd. Town 2 - Mid Sutton 0
In the first game in defence of our Intermediate title we had to battle hard for a deserved win. Town were not their usual free flowing self and could have gone behind on a number of occasions Town went in front in the 55th when Conor Foley hit home a Cian Byrne rebound. Jake Corrigan ensured the win in the 82nd minute with the goal of the season so far.

We extend sympathies to the families of Conor Mooney, Martin O’Connor and Tommy & Gary Daly on recent family bereavements.

Maynooth Newsletter

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

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

Tel: 01-6285922

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

MISSION STATEMENT

The Maynooth Newsletter is published as a service to the people and organisations of the neighbourhood. It is an 'open access publication and will generally carry any material submitted to it, subject to available space, the law of the land and to editorial judgement. This judgement is exercised by the Editorial Board in order to preserve the independence and balance of the Newsletter.

NOTE TO CONTRIBUTORS

We request all our contributors to make sure their material is legible. If possible, material should be typed, but as not everyone has access to computers, the best way to present material is to use either neat legible writing or block letters, on one side of the paper. Letters to the Editor must have the writer's name and address available for publication. We emphasise that material submitted after the copy date will not be accepted.

e-mail us at office@maynoothcep.com

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RIGHT TO REPLY

In fairness to our readers and given that this magazine is not insured against libel damages or cost, we undertake the following:
In case of errors of fact we will publish corrections when we become aware of such.
In the case of unfairly impugning the reputation of any person we hereby offer that person the right to reply.

LETTER TO OUR READERS

This is just a note to remind you all that the Newsletter exists for your enjoyment and that we welcome all contributions from our readers. We would like to hear from any organisation or indeed from individuals with something to say or suggest. We hope you continue to enjoy your monthly read and keep us informed of your activities.

**Maynooth Newsletter
Editorial Board**

EDITORIAL

"October's poplars are flaming torches lighting the way to winter" is how author Nova Bair describes this month. Showing the brightness that nature provides in one of some people's least favoured months of the year. Around Ireland we have some well-established festivals in October such as the Jazz in Cork and the Opera in Wexford as well as a food festival and a film festival in Kerry. Also in Wexford but less well known is Wexford Spiegeltent Festival which began in 2012, which claims to be one of the biggest and most successful multi-genre festivals in Ireland. For 2018, they have an eclectic programme of events that awaits you which includes contemporary music, comedy, theatre, burlesque, and more.

One festival that I think is unique is Baboró International Arts Festival for Children in Galway which celebrates eighteen years this year. They bring Galway city to life in October with a week filled with theatre, dance, literature, music, puppetry, workshops and visual art for all ages. Performances are age targeted, so Baboró makes it easy for you to choose the best shows to attend.

Back in late 1990s I was a founding member and Chairperson of the "Maynooth Arts Forum" where different groups involved in the arts worked together and we held a number of events in Maynooth for a couple of years. Maybe it is time that I restart this group as I pose the question should we have a festival in Maynooth in October?

In October we have a Presidential Election and no matter what the outcome there is no doubt that as all elections do we can expect some interesting moments during the campaign. Unrelated but potentially equally interesting, the newly established Electoral Geography Group (EGG), Maynooth University, will host its second academic conference titled: 'A Century of Elections: Past, Place and Politics' on Wednesday October 3rd 2018. This conference will celebrate the Centenary of the historic 1918 election, featuring papers which have a strong focus on the importance of place, or places, throughout the past century of elections on the island of Ireland.

This month the "Maynooth Newsletter" gives front page prominence to the Maynooth First Responders Group. I have mentioned the work of this group before as the group is now well established but like all other groups they are fund-raising. That is a thing that people often forget is that nothing is free and while people give their time for free there are costs to everything that happens be it the need for insurance to the cost of renting space and paying for ongoing costs. I encourage you to support this group because when a medical emergency happens we automatically expect that we will hear an ambulance in a few minutes. It is good to know that there are people here in our community that can also help at that critical moment.

As the Newsletter goes to print news has just come in that Maynooth has retained it's Gold Medal Award in the National Tidy Towns Competition 2018. Congratulations to all involved in this tremendous achievement.

Paul Croghan - Editor



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ART CLASSES BY NINA PATTERSON

AUTUMN 2018

ADULTS

**MAYNOOTH GERALDINE HALL - MON/FRI MORNINGS
BEGINNER / ADVANCED**

CHILDREN

JUNIORS-SENIORS & 1st-6th CLASS

**MAYNOOTH P.G.S. WEEKDAYS
JOHNSTOWNBRIDGE G.A.A. SATURDAY MORNINGS**

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Maynooth Monthly Diary Planner

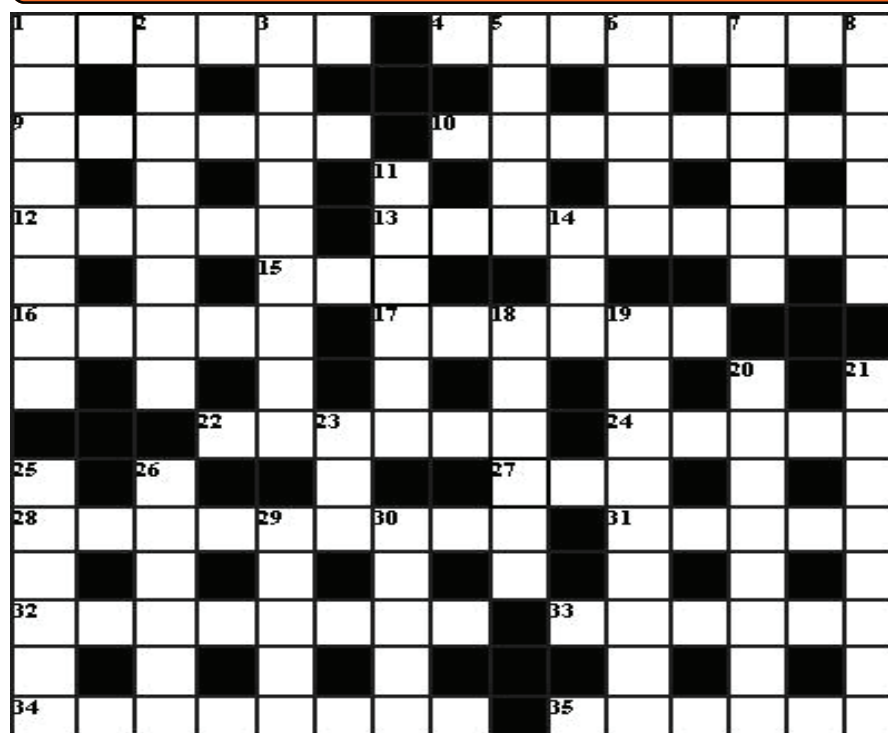
Community Library	Maynooth Multiple Births	Bridge Club
<p>Opening Times Mondays & Fridays 2pm to 5pm Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm to 8pm Wednesday 9.30am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm Sat 9.30am to 1pm</p>	<p>Maynooth Multiple Births playgroup (twins triplets or more) meets the last Thursday of the month in Leixlip library between 10 & 12 noon. This is a great opportunity to meet parents just like you. For further details email: maynoothmultiplebirthclub@gmail.com</p>	<p>Open for new members. If you would like to play in a friendly club with purpose-built facilities in the centre of Maynooth, please see our website at maynoothbridgeclub.com. Contact Katherine Cooney 086 8205910</p>
I.C.A.	MAYNOOTH LOCAL HISTORY GROUP	Arthritis Ireland
<p>Monthly meetings take place every 1st Thursday of the month at 8.00pm in the I.C.A. Hall in the Harbour. Crafts every Monday night at 8.00pm. New members welcome</p>	<p>Maynooth Local History Group Meets Last Thursday of each Month in The Glenroyal Hotel New Members Welcome Contact: MCEP Office for more details (Unit 5 Tesco's Carton Retail Park)</p>	<p>Arthritis Ireland Walking Group (Maynooth) Meeting Mondays 12-2pm in the Maynooth Community Space</p>
University of Third Age (U3A)	Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group	Maynooth Men's Sheds
<p>We meet on Fridays between 11am & 1pm in Maynooth Community Space Tesco SC</p> <p>Activities vary to include social, cultural & educational interests of group & new members. New members welcome Drop in for a cuppa & chat if interested Contact Mary: 0861662910 or Lena: 0876717062</p>	<p>Every Thursday from 9.30am to 11.30am Maynooth Community Space Unit 11/12 Tesco SC Carton Park, Maynooth</p>	<p>Weekly meetings take place every Wednesday at 11am at the Maynooth Lodge Fisheries Dunboyne Road Maynooth. For further details contact John Fleming - 087 2041334</p>
Maynooth Tidy Towns	St Joseph's young Priests Society	Maynooth Community Church
<p>Volunteers required to help with this work. Contact Number 087 3153189 Meet every Saturday at 10.00am in the Square</p>	<p>St. Joseph's young Priest's Society meet monthly on the second last Wednesday between 8pm and 9pm in Parish Centre, Maynooth. For further information contact Bernadette at 6286288 or Lena at 01 6285128. Next meeting is Wednesday Oct 24th 8pm</p>	<p>1st Floor Manor Mills (entrance next to Chill) Service times every Sunday morning from 10.30am www.maynoothcc.org Everyone most welcome</p>
Maynooth Senior Citizens	DIARY ENTRIES	ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND
<p>Our morning club continues on Tuesday and Thursday and new members are always welcome. Perhaps you are new to the parish or new to the age bracket, why not come along you might enjoy it. You will find us in the Geraldine Hall on Leinster St. Contact Josephine on 087 9002296</p>	<p>E-mail details of your event before the copy date (2nd last Tuesday of each month) to be included in the next months edition. E-mail: office@maynoothcep.com Phone: 01-6285922</p>	<p>Rehearsals are held in the Band Hall on Pound Lane each Monday night (except Bank Holidays) from 7.45pm to 9.30pm and musicians living in Maynooth and the surrounding areas are most welcome. E-mail: sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie Website: www.stmarysbandmaynooth.ie</p>

*Diary entries are published free of charge for all non-fee paying Community Groups.
The content of the Monthly Planner Diary is published in good faith. All details should be checked with groups in advance*

Clues Across

- 1 Ungainly or awkward (6)
- 4 Fouled made unclean (8)
- 9 Chronicle or log (6)
- 10 Speaks or writes about briefly or in passing (8)
- 12 An extended stay in bed (3-2)
- 13 Existence beyond the grave (9)
- 15 Performance (3)
- 16 Chide or reprimand (5)
- 17 A pill for battle (6)
- 22 Stares at bright flowers (6)
- 24 Praise, laud (5)
- 27 Equip with weapon (3)
- 28 Gradually, little by little (9)
- 31 Poems about English racing venue (5)
- 32 Cancel or repeal, say in law (8)
- 33 Puts away for a tosser (6)
- 34 Gulding and directing, say a car (8)
- 35 Give out light-like some worms (6)

October 2018 Crossword - No. 473



Clues Down

- 1 Inattentive and negligent (8)
- 2 Owner of Harriet Beecher Stowe's Fictional Cabin (5,3)
- 3 Love songs under fair lady's window (9)
- 5 Open and unconcealed (5)
- 6 Not now, in a while (5)
- 7 Cancer is one, Capricorn another (6)
- 8 Crockery in general (6)
- 11 Baby's noisy toy (6)
- 14 A sea snake (3)
- 18 Dark rock of volcanic origin (6)
- 19 Like the forces of nature (9)
- 20 "A drowning man will clutch" (2,1,5)
- 21 Caught a brief view of (8)
- 23 TV audience ratings (3)
- 25 Long stabb weapons (6)
- 26 Official order of ruling (6)
- 29 Avid, enthusiastic (5)
- 30 "..... Bread is soon forgotten" (5)

Solutions to Crossword No. 472

A	R	R	A	S	S	T	I	T	C	H	E	S
B	A	O	A	I	E	H						
U	N	I	Q	U	E	W	I	S	T	E	R	I
N	L	N	I	N	L	O	G					
D	O	I	N	G	D	I	T	H	E	R	I	N
A	N	S	H	I								
N	I	G	H	T	L	I	M	P	E	D		
T	S	E	L	A	L	O	P					
			P	R	I	S	O	N	E	R	R	O
C	A	L	A	R	C	G	O					
L	A	B	E	L	L	I	N	G	T	O	A	D
I	R	I	D	E	R	N	P					
F	R	O	N	T	I	E	R					
F	A	R	A	N	S	C						
S	U	D	D	E	N	L						
			A	S	S	E	N	T				

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Winner of Crossword No. 472

Patrick Devaney
Virginia
Co. Cavan

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Difficult

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

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

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

Sudoku Challenge October 2018

Entries must arrive to
The Newsletter Office before:
23rd October 2018

**Congratulations to
September Winner:**

Ita Smyth
Parklands Place
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

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Entries must arrive before
Tuesday 23rd October 2018

Junior Puzzle Corner



Sona Oíche Shamhna

Halloween Word Search

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

Broom	Cat	Spell	Eat	Mummy
Treat	Witch	Bat	Apples	Ghost
Mask	Grave	Halloween		

There Once Was a Witch



There once was a witch,
Believe it if you can!
She tapped on the window,
And she ran, ran, ran.
She ran helter skelter
With her toes in the air,
Cobwebs flying from the witches hair.
Meow, goes the cat;
Plop goes the toad
Sitting on her hat.
Whee! Chuckle! I, What fun, what fun!
Halloween night when the witches run!

Q: Why didn't
the skeleton
go to the
Halloween
party?



A: Because he didn't
have any BODY to go
with!



Q: Why did the
monster eat
the light bulb?

A: Because he needed a
light snack!





Are you hosting a Halloween party for your kids this year? Here are some fun games that you can set up at your child's party that are sure to be a childhood memory for your guests.



Bowling with pumpkins is a fun game to play at your Halloween party that will be sure to induce many giggles. It is best played outside or with plastic bin bags covering your floor and possibly walls. Line up to 10 empty plastic bottles as you would with bowling pins at the bowling alley. Have the child stand back at a distance appropriate for their age and let them bowl a small pumpkin into the bottles.

When your guests arrive at the party, start the games as they enter. Set a bowl of plastic bats with numbers on the bellies near your door and when guests arrive have them choose a bat at random. Tell them to hold onto their bat for a prize sometime during the party. Later, pull a number out of a hat and that child will win a special door prize.



Musical Graves is based off the game Musical Chairs and works the same way. Play fun Halloween music like Monster Mash and have the children circle the chairs. When the music is shut off everyone has to find a chair and the child who does not is then out. With younger children it is sometimes nice to have a small prize for them when they are out.

Halloween is the perfect for a good old fashioned witch hut. Have an adult or older child volunteer to be the witch. Have them hide and ask the guests to find the witch. This game can be played multiple times if the witch happens to get away.



A classic child party game is Pin the Tail on the Donkey. With a little creativity you can turn this game into Pin the Wart on the Witch. Blindfold the child, spin them around three times, and see if they can get the wart on the witch's nose. Your guests will burst out in laughter at this Halloween game when they see all the funny places that the wart was pinned.



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Don't forget to check out the Free Halloween Events and Workshops at the 3 National Museum of Ireland sites, Collins Barracks, Merrion Square and Kildare Street. Including – Sacred Spells, Mummy Riddles, Val-halloween Mask Making, Spooky Stories and Something Wicked!



Halloween Jokes

- | | |
|---|--|
| Q: What do ghosts eat for supper? | Q: Why didn't the skeleton cross the road? |
| A: Spooketi | A: He didn't have any guts! |
| Q: What do you do when 50 zombies surround your house? | Q: Why did the skeleton cross the road? |
| A: Hope it's Halloween!! | A: To get to the body shop. |
| Q: What is the most important subject a witch learns in school? | Q: Why didn't the skeleton go to the ball? |
| A: Spelling. | A: Because he had no BODY to go with. |
| Q: Why didn't the skeleton want to go to school? | Q: What room does a ghost not need? |
| A: His heart wasn't in it. | A: A living room! |
| | Q: What kind of dessert does a ghost like? |
| | A: I scream! |



As Autumn draws in on the garden, the days shorten and the garden begins to wind down. October is still a very busy time of the year preparing for spring as well as carrying out a range of general tasks and garden maintenance. What you do now will determine your success in spring.

The following are the main Garden jobs for October

Cut back perennials once the foliage has died down and add to compost heap. Lift and divide poor flowering or overcrowded perennial plants. Lift and store tender bulbs, corms and tubers once foliage has died down such as dahlias, tuberous begonias etc. Continue to plant winter and spring flowering bulbs such as daffodils, tulips, crocus, etc. in borders or patio containers. As a rule of thumb most bulbs should be planted at approximately three times their own height with a few exceptions. Plant wallflowers, forget-me-not, sweet william, violas, myosotis, cyclamen and other spring bedding plants in borders or patio containers. Late autumn is a great time to plant shrubs and perennials for plants to “settle in” before the new season. Autumn is the ideal time to plant **Clematis**



An excellent time to plant fruit trees and a range of soft fruits such as blackcurrants, gooseberries and raspberries. Enrich the soil before planting with a good compost such as **Erin Excel Multipurpose Compost**. A good time to scarify established lawns and spike the surface with fork or lawn aerator to help drainage. Apply an autumn lawn feed such as **Evergreen Autumn 2 in 1** which contains mosskiller if it has not already been applied.



Start putting root vegetables such as carrots and beetroot into storage. Sow broad beans for early crop next year. Prepare soil for next season by adding organic manure at the same time as digging. Do not leave soil exposed too long before covering with black polythene, sheeting or mulch. Now is a good time to clean algae, moss, etc. off driveways and footpaths with a product such as **Goulding Path and Patio Cleaner**.

Herbs such as **Basil, Dill, Chives** and **Parsley** can be sown now for growing on your windowsill throughout the winter.



From your armchair take stock of this years garden and make a few notes or sketches for next spring, a digital camera has become an invaluable garden companion taking snapshots of where herbaceous plants are located before they die back so you don't damage their roots during a winter dig, capturing images of borders you'd like to replicate at home or simply just a memory jog so you remember which areas of the garden look like they need improving. Why not keep a photo diary of your garden with pictures taken each week? Reflect on what grew well, what failed miserably, and what changes you will make next year. You will be surprised at how useful these notes can be when you start ordering seeds and plants for next year!



How to make a simple leaf mould bin

If your garden has trees it is worth saving the leaves to make leaf mould which is an excellent mulch for the garden. It is easy to make a pen; just mould chicken wire into a bin with stake in each corner to give structure. Rake up and pile the leaves in and they will rot down over the gardening year ready to spread on borders as mulch following winter/spring. You can tell when its ready as it will be well rotted, and crumbly.



Life began in a garden



Halloween Recipes



Quick and Easy Tea Brack

- Ingredients:**
300g luxury mixed fruit (or any mixture sultanas and raisins)
50g glacé cherries (halved)
1 lemon, zest and juice of
225ml cold brewed tea
1 egg lightly whisked
100g soft brown sugar
250g self raising flour
½ tsp baking powder
2 tsp mixed spice
Optional: 2 tbsp whiskey



Method:
In a bowl, combine the mixed fruit, glacé cherries, lemon zest and juice. Pour over the cold tea then cover and leave to soak overnight (or at least 4 hours). When ready to bake, preheat the oven to 190°C and line a 2lb loaf tin with baking parchment. Stir the egg through the soaked fruits followed by the sugar, mix well to combine. In a clean bowl, sieve together the self raising flour, baking powder and mixed spice, then add to the fruit mix and stir until all the dry ingredients are moistened (don't worry if it seems a little stiff, but avoid squashing the fruit as you stir). Transfer the mixture into the lined tin, level the top and bake in a preheated oven for 50 minutes (reducing the temperature to 180°C after the first 30 minutes to avoid the sultanas on the top crust burning). It is cooked when a skewer inserted into the loaf comes out clean. While still warm, prick a few holes and spoon a little whiskey over the upper crust which will keep the brack moist. Allow to cool fully in the tin.

Scream-a-Colada

- Ingredients:**
200ml coconut milk
500ml pineapple juice
1 whole fresh pineapple
100g fresh and frozen strawberries or raspberries



Method:
Blend the strawberries or raspberries into a smooth coulis. Twist the leaves off the pineapple and reserve for decoration. Cut the rind off the pineapple and cut the remaining fruit into 6 wedges. Mix the coconut milk and pineapple juice together. Drizzle the red fruit coulis around the inside of the glass. Blend the coconut milk and pineapple juice in a jug and mix well. Divide between the glasses. Add a pineapple wedge to each glass and decorate with the leaves.

Cobweb Cheesecake

- Ingredients:**
600g full fat soft cheese
150g icing sugar
200g digestive biscuits
60g butter
100ml double cream
150g white chocolate
100g milk chocolate



Method:
Blend the biscuits into a fine crumb in a food processor, melt the butter and add to the biscuits. Pack the biscuits into the bottom of a 20cm round springform tin to make a base. In a bowl, mix the cream cheese, icing sugar, double cream and melted white chocolate. Whisk well to ensure all the ingredients are well-mixed. Pour over the base and spread evenly. Melt the milk chocolate, then using either a piping bag or a spoon, use half of the chocolate to make parallel circles on the cheesecake. Start from the outside and work into the middle, about 5-6 circles should be plenty. With a cocktail stick drag lines from the inside of the chocolate circles to the outside, repeat for each circle to create webs. Use the other half of the chocolate to make spiders on a piece of grease proof paper. Set the cheesecake and the spiders in the fridge for a minimum of 5 hours before serving. Use the chocolate spiders to decorate the sides of the cheesecake.



FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

CLASSIC HORROR MOVIES



Autumn is upon us once again. The leaves are falling fast and the autumnal colours are vivid in their copper and gold richness. Our mornings have that Autumnal bite and the days are shorter. Americans call it 'The Fall' and it really is the season of transition between the light of summer and the dark of winter. As Halloween is nigh, this is the perfect opportunity to look at how cinema has treated the subject of spooks, ghouls, goblins and horror through its visual medium.



THE EXORCIST (1973)

This horror classic has spawned many offshoots from it and its fair share of parodies, but it stands alone in its sheer sense of menace and spine-tingling chills. It may well be the greatest horror movie ever made. Linda Blair is the young girl possessed by a particularly vile, foul-mouthed, bile-spewing demon. Swedish legend Max Von Sydow plays one of the priests trying to exorcise Blair's disturbed character. The atmosphere of the film is truly terrifying and the horrific special effects will leave you cowering in your seat or running for the nearest exit! **The Exorcist** is cleverly done and probably the most frightening movie on this topic ever made! Bizarrely, the chill factor extended outside the confines of the film's story. It is well documented that many people associated with the making of **The Exorcist** died in mysterious circumstances. This led people to speculate that the set of **The Exorcist** was cursed. Who knows...



HALLOWEEN (1978)

Jamie-Lee Curtis will be in Dublin this month for a discussion of her new movie, **Halloween**, which is a follow up to the original 1978 film in which she starred. **Halloween** is not as scary as **The Exorcist** but runs a close second in the horror stakes. A six-year old boy commits murder and is put away. Fifteen years later he escapes and initiates a further killing spree, at Halloween, on the street the original crime took place. Female babysitters are his particular targets. Jamie-Lee Curtis pulls out all the stops as the one babysitter who bravely sets out to stop the maniac Michael Myers in his tracks. It's a strong performance from Curtis and you are rooting for her all the way. Director John Carpenter's dark, intensely creepy movie will keep you glued to the edge of your seat. It's not for the faint-hearted!

ROSEMARY'S BABY (1968)

Roman Polanski's **Rosemary's Baby** was the seminal horror movie of the late 1960s. It played on the imagination of its audience. Polanski utilises the tool of the mind rather than explicit gore or violence to get his message across. Terror exists vividly in the mind of a young woman (Mia Farrow) who goes into meltdown when she begins to believe that her unborn baby is the spawn of the devil. Farrow is living in an apartment block with her husband (played by John Cassavetes) where not all is as it seems on the surface. **Rosemary's Baby** is excellent at hiking up the suspense. It's full of ambiguity and strong, often deeply sinister characters. Strangely, Polanski's personal life would prove even more horrific than his film. His heavily pregnant wife, Sharon Tate was brutally murdered by the Manson gang.



ALIEN (1979)

Ridley Scott's sci-fi horror classic has acquired cult status. **Alien** set the benchmark for the films that followed and the numerous take-offs. The film made Sigourney Weaver (**Ghostbusters**) an overnight star. She plays Ripley, the courageous crew member of a spacecraft invaded by an extremely frightening alien monster. This was a great kickass role for an actress at a time when male lead actors mostly dominated action-orientated films. **Alien** is dark, violent and chock full of suspenseful, jolting moments. The infamous, unexpected highlight of the movie involves a particularly gory scene with English actor John Hurt. Let's say you will need a strong stomach to swallow that one! Nothing that came after the first **Alien** film has ever quite managed to match it for its pure shock value.



INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS (1956)

This 1950s black and white film was genuinely revolutionary in its day, despite its B-movie credentials. Don Siegel's story of alien pods colonising the earth, inhabiting the bodies of humans and dispensing with them was a classic study in paranoia. Cleverly, it played on the paranoia of contemporary Americans as this was the era of the McCarthyite witch-hunts. Even with its modest budget and B-list actors, **Invasion of the Body Snatchers** is still miles ahead of any of the subsequent remakes. It's a thrilling, frightening and ingenious classic.



FRANKENSTEIN (1931)

In this classic 1931 version of the **Frankenstein** story, we see the creature develop from an innocent being, given miraculous life to the vengeful killer, misjudged and victimised by society. The great Boris Karloff is outstanding in the role of Frankenstein. There have been many interpretations of the creature in cinema history. Hammer films saw both British actors Peter Cushing and Christopher Lee take on the mantle of Mary Shelley's tortured character at various points in the 1950s. However few actors can match the pathos and terror of Karloff's performance as the monster. James Whale's film is perhaps the most intelligent and strangely beautiful reading of the famous horror story to date.

Film Seasons

The Lighthouse Cinema in Smithfield is showing an Alfred Hitchcock season of films during the month of October. Classic thrillers like **North By Northwest**, **Psycho** and **Dial M For Murder** will get the big screen treatment.

The Irish Film Institute will be running a **Horrorthon 18** season from 25th to 29th October.

For further information, check the website and Facebook page for the IFI.








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