



Maynooth Newsletter

Serving the people of Maynooth



Local News

November 2019

Issue No. 485

FREE

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

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



Tidy Towns Competition 2019 Adjudication Report

Centre: Maynooth - County: Kildare

Category: G - Ref: 377 - Mark: 337 - Date(s): 17-27/06/2019

Area	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2018	Mark Awarded 2019
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	60	54	54
Streetscape & Public Places	60	43	43
Green Spaces and Landscaping	60	47	50
Nature & Biodiversity in your Locality	50	39	39
Sustainability – Doing more with less	50	21	22
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	56	56
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	34	35
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	38	38
Total Mark	470	332	337

Community – Your Planning and Involvement / An Pobal - Pleanáil agus Rannpháirtíocht:

Cuireann an moltóir seo fáilte roimh Maigh Nuad/Maynooth chuig Comórtas na mBailte Slachtmhara SuperValu 2019. Maynooth is very welcome to this year's Tidy Towns Competition. At the outset you must be commended for having 30 members involved in your committee and they are well supported by a further group of 25 volunteers. Of course you have acquired a lot of experience because you tell us your participation in the Tidy Towns Competition goes back four decades. That's a great achievement and it reflects really well on the community spirit you have inspired. It's great also to hear that some of your committee members have been helping you for the past 25 years.

We appreciate the care you took in preparing the details contained in your application. It is certainly wide-ranging and the photographs tell us a good deal about your activities. Your colourful logo caught our attention as well. It emphasises the greener environment that you are pursuing. Thank you for the maps you sent us, with the location of the projects identified there. They were clear and bright and proved to be of great assistance to us on adjudication day.

You have built up a good relationship with the various residents' associations, business groups, Maynooth University, primary schools and secondary schools, amongst a wider list.

We agree with you that as a small group of volunteers you face a daunting task as Maynooth continues to grow at a pace. You have been very successful in maintaining such a high standard and completing new projects. Congratulations go to all those involved.

Streetscape & Public Places / Sráid-Dreach & Áiteanna Poiblí:

We see from your application that you have taken on board the previous year's adjudicator's comments and tried to deal with them one by one. You have been very pro-active in approaching individual owners of properties that require refreshing and have had some success in that area. St Mary's boys' National School was well maintained with its Green Flag flying proudly. Moyglare cottage-style nursing home was very nicely kept.

The ongoing construction and physical development of Maynooth was evident on adjudication day. Kildare County Council grounds are well kept beside the Harbour area. The Harbour was in full use as the sun had come out after a heavy rain shower. Maynooth is fortunate in having waterways surrounding it and such long-established trees. Maynooth business park was very impressive, with the lovely tree-lined entrance and well maintained banks. There was eye catching lavender planting around the car park.

On our walk around Maynooth we came across the Mall, an old narrow lane open at both ends, that opens up to give useful and central parking. We made good use of it, while enjoying a lovely snack at the Elite Café. We were also pleased with many of the shopfronts that have taken on board the more muted and elegant paint palette. The Amber Bistro was lively and bright. An Siopa Milseán, McCormack's Pharmacy, the Atelier, the Credit Union and The Avenue also caught our eye. The Ely wine restaurant was attractive, as was Picaderos and the Maynooth Bookshop. We were attracted by the new ESB shop with its fresh bright appearance. You are surely succeeding in turning around the look of Main Street. Well done to all involved.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The Sensory Garden to the side and back of St Mary's Church was an absolute delight. Your photographs showed all the stages of this development and the hard work that went into it. However, visiting it gave us the very experience of the quiet and peace that it was designed to deliver. We particularly loved the lavender-lined bed and the magnificent copper beech. The granite ball fountain set in an old trough was a marrying of the old with the new. The use of the mirror windows in the old Stonewall gave an impression of age and substance. We spoke briefly with Vinnie who was testing the water pump. Luckily it was successful. Well done to all involved in such a big project which you have brought to a wonderful realisation.

The round bed at St Mary's national school deserves some refurbishment. The roadside verge on the opposite side of the road required cutting. Moyglare Abbey stone plaque and the blue and white planting were very attractive. All we saw around The Harbour impressed us. That included the wild flower garden and the water's surrounds. It was being maintained by a group of men as we walked nearby. The Riverside Park beside St Mary's Church looked very well, with many people sitting out on the newly mown lawn.

Your second largest project of extensive planting also took a lot of man/woman hours. We applaud your dedication in avoiding the use of chemical spray. Well done on maintaining vigilance in regards to the Japanese knotweed.

Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality / An Dúlra agus an Bhithéagsúlacht i do cheantar:

This is a category where you have made progress and that was reflected in the extra marks you were awarded last year. You are making good connections with groups seeking practical advice and assistance, such as the Wild Kildare, Butterfly Conservation and the local bat group.

(Continued on page 18)

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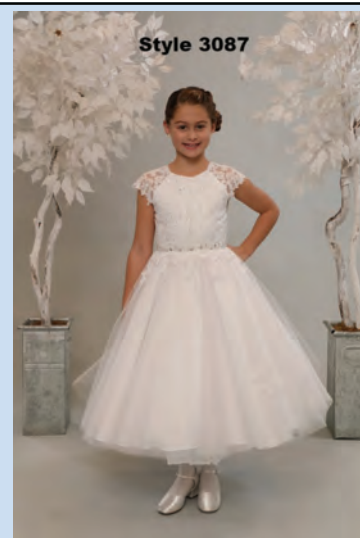
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Maynooth Newsletter

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

Registered as a Charity in Ireland RCN # 20100063 - CHY # 21086

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

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

Tel: 01-6285922

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

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor, for publication, should be sent by e-mail to: editor@maynoothcep.com

Mission Statement

The Maynooth Newsletter is a community focused publication available free to the people of Maynooth. It plays an important role in gathering together, recording and distributing community based news. We encourage all groups and individuals in the community to submit material to let us know about their activities and any upcoming events. The Newsletter exists for your enjoyment and we hope you continue to enjoy your monthly read and keep us informed of your activities.

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

- In the case of errors of fact we will publish corrections when we become aware of such.
- In the case of unwittingly or unfairly impugning the reputation of any person we hereby offer that person the right to reply.

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

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

Maynooth Newsletter Archives

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

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

Editorial Board - Maynooth Newsletter

Maynooth Newsletter

**Copy date for the next edition of the
Maynooth Newsletter will be
Tuesday 19th November 2019**

Editorial

I am sure that many readers of this publication are Brexit weary so I risk turning you away from reading the rest of this article by even mentioning the word. Brexit has divided the people and the political class in the United Kingdom. What you might not know is that the word Maynooth had a similar effect on the people and politicians in England in the 1840's and after much parliamentary debate in the House of Commons and public protests, the Maynooth College Act 1845 was passed into law. The main intentions of the act was to grant extra funding to the seminary which was originally opened fifty years earlier in 1795 and to keep moderate Catholics on side to limit the impact of those in favour of repealing the union.

One historian of the time argued that the Bill shattered the morale of the Conservative Party and that the damage done to the Party by the Bill was "incalculable" because it undermined the relationship between Church and State. In the course of passing the Bill three senior Conservatives resigned in protest against the Bill, the President of the Board of Trade, the Conservative chief whip in the Lords and a junior Treasury minister.

There was a resurgence of anti-Catholicism against the Bill, with petitions hostile to the proposals and public meetings against them held across Britain. An Anti-Maynooth conference was held at Exeter Hall where a committee was set up to fight the Bill. One commentator claimed that the whole of Great Britain overflowed with bigotry and fanaticism against it. In the end the Liberal Party supported the Bill with the Conservatives split on it but the Bill was eventually passed by a large majority. The existence of St. Patrick's College was also the foundation of what is now Maynooth University. One can only surmise if we would have the university we have to-day if the Maynooth College Bill of 1845 had failed to pass in the House of Commons. So welcome to Maynooth for our new student readers.

In the 2016 Census Maynooth was recorded as the town with the second youngest resident average age of 31.9 years behind Balbriggan where the average age was 30.8 years old. When asked about the general state of their health 91.8% of Maynooth residents indicated that it was either good or very good which is the third highest recorded in the census. There is no doubt that there is a correlation between being younger and being in good health. Statistics like this are not necessarily an advantage because census data is used as a guide to Government on where priority investment in services should be made. Many voluntary services will find it more difficult to get resources in areas where the general population are young and healthy. Maynooth also scored high in other indices of wealth and education. We must not forget that a community must look after the less fortunate who for reasons of economic or wellbeing circumstances need our support.

As a daily pedestrian between Moyglare and the centre of Maynooth, I along with many others have been without a footpath because the original surfaced footpaths were dug out in anticipation of the new footpath and cycle lane. Why were they allowed to remove footpath without a defined timeline to replace it? Parts of the footpaths on the Moyglare Road were removed between three and six months ago and we are left to walk on a surface of sand and tarmac patches. I have tripped on two occasions on clumps of tarmac where there are no lights to show where they are. I asked the workers and they said that they are waiting for the ESB to cable the new lights before they can put down the new surface. The worrying thing is that these works could continue for another four months. Who is supposed to be in charge of this work – they are not taking any interest in the hundreds of pedestrians who use the Moyglare Road every day?

**Paul Croghan
Editor**



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Cllr. Angela Feeney Maynooth Labour News

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Cllr. Feeney addressed Public Meeting on Traffic in Maynooth

Cllr. Feeney welcomed the opportunity to address this public meeting held in the Glenroyal Hotel on October 7th on the very important matter of traffic in our town. She stated that there was outrage in Maynooth that particular week and that many appealed to the Council to “fix our town” “our town is broken”. The current traffic problems, Cllr Feeney stated are a result of decisions to build thousands of houses before putting the required infrastructure in place first.

Added to that, the University is just back in action with more students than ever and as the University grows, more students need to be accommodated and inevitably then they will end up driving to college or being driven so the issues are interlinked. Cllr Feeney welcomed the decision to defer the closing of Parson Street as that was the last straw for the community of Maynooth. She also welcomed the fact that the Director admitted that some mistakes were made and that there would not be a reoccurrence. Cllr. Feeney agreed that the real solution is the ring road but in the mean time people have to live in the town and do their business in the town. More people might get out and walk or cycle and that can be a positive outcome. We need a partnership approach to solving the traffic situation.

Cllr Feeney also took the opportunity to update the attendees on the most recent Council MD meeting on October 4th at which the traffic situation was discussed at length. At that meeting, the Director for Roads, Transportation and Environment at Kildare County Council, addressed a meeting regarding extreme traffic congestion in Maynooth, informing councillors that an emergency meeting had taken place in KCC about the traffic in Maynooth. The Director stated that he is acutely aware of the traffic issues in Maynooth which reached its extreme that week and that there are things within the control of the Council such as the work on the Moyglare Road for the North-South corridor.

Money is being invested and there will be enormous benefits down the road with the focus on getting more people walking and cycling. They have had discussions with the contractor on the Moyglare Road. That particular week, for example, where the Kilcock Road meets the Moyglare Road there was only one lane in operation and this had not been approved by KCC. The Director apologised as it led to huge tailbacks. Also, the Council examined the sequencing of traffic lights and on Friday 27th there was a failure in communication to SCOOT and this led to back up of traffic. In addition, the Director referred to the works planned at LIDL saying these further works will improve this junction.

The real solution to the traffic congestion and the bigger solution is the ring road and with regard to this, the Director confirmed that the detailed design and CPO will happen at the same time, the design will be published possibly in November but certainly before Christmas, with a view to going to tender in March/April and an 18 month construction period.

Cairn will deliver a new inner relief road linking the Moyglare Road and the Dunboyne Road in the first quarter of next year. KCC will be working closely with Cairn and this will be a release valve for traffic. With the new schools in 2020 the aim is to provide cycling and walking facilities. With regard to the Moyglare Rd. to Dunboyne Road to Dublin Rd, the Part 8 judicial review at Rataoth MD will be overtaken by a planning application due to be submitted so it will be delivered much quicker and using private funding.

The Director stated that Maynooth is getting great attention -the North-South corridor, the Ring Road and in addition the M4 project team which is examining the possibility of a second interchange to serve Maynooth and that work is well underway. Parson Street works have been cancelled - to provide water main and that has a knock - on effect In trying to minimise the impact of the works, they will look at having them by night and will liaise with contractors.

The SCOOT traffic light system will be reviewed but there is no point in doing this until Moyglare Road and Mill Street are finished. Regarding the Fire Station, a new site has been purchased behind Lidl which will improve accessibility and this will free the current site for other use. Maynooth University has been proactive and this should be acknowledged and they work well with the Council, they have a traffic management plan in place.

Moyglare Hall and Safety Audit

Cllr Feeney requested the Council Engineers to confirm if the raised ramped platforms will be put in place at the junction of The Drive and The Avenue, and The Green and The Avenue in accordance with the planning permission that issued under PL.09.243724 - 14/73, prior to the carrying out of the Stage 3 Road Safety Audit. The Council confirmed that the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department will liaise with the Planning Department and Development Control Section to ensure the road-related planning conditions are complied with.

The R.S.A. will be required to be completed prior to the opening of the road. In relation to ramped platforms, there are two indicated, these were included on the Developer's plans and went through the approval process just as the houses did. They are meant to be built by the developer before the road is taken in charge, not after. Cllr. Feeney stated that in essence, these platforms have already been paid for by the home owners in Moyglare Hall because they are part of the whole infrastructure of the development. After the road related planning conditions are complied with, Cllr. Feeney welcomed the confirmation from the Council that the Road Safety Audit will be required to be completed prior to the opening of the road.

Moyglare Hall and Retrofitting

Given that the opening up of the through road in Moyglare Hall imposes new conditions on the existing residents of Moyglare Hall constructed under 02/2491, 10/551 and 09/978, Cllr Feeney asked what plans the Council has, as required by DMURS, where there is a retrofit situation to consult these residents.

Councillor Feeney asked for clarification as to whether this plan is a retrofit? Cllr. Feeney stated that according to DMURS, if new conditions are imposed on an existing community it is a retrofit and residents must be consulted. The Council responded stating that the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department is satisfied that the through road complies with DMURS. The Moyglare Hall Estate is not in charge and the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department has no plans to consult with residents.

Cllr. Feeney quoted from DMURS Section 3.3.3 where it speaks of retrofitting. It requires that “where local authorities prepare plans to retrofit areas, in order to create more sustainable neighbourhoods designers should engage closely with local communities and it also talks of “consultation sessions” Cllr. Feeney stated that there is concern among residents that the road through Moyglare Hall is intended to be an alternative route to and from the ring road.

Third level participation discussed at Clondalkin/Rathcoole Branch meeting

Cllr Angela Feeney addressed the Clondalkin/Rathcoole Branch on Education held this week. While participation rates at third level in Clondalkin has improved, it is still low compared with the national average and should be higher. Cllr. Feeney discussed measures to address this such as the different access pathways to third level including CAO, PLCs, FETAC, HEAR and DARE schemes and apprenticeships. Cllr Feeney also addressed the challenge in the teaching profession to be socially diverse with the increased costs of acquiring a teaching qualification. Other issues were discussed such as rent and accommodation costs, migrant education and how to support students in their transition to higher education and ensure completion of their programme of study.



Emmet Stagg Kildare North Labour General Election Candidate

Phone: - 01-627 2149 - E mail: emmet.stagg@votelabour.ie - Web: www.labour.ie/emmetstagg



Decision on Maynooth Swimming Pool Application Expected by End of Year - Stagg

Labour's Emmet Stagg was in contact with the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport in relation to the application by Kildare Co. Council for grant aid for the development of a Swimming Pool in Maynooth.

The Minister advised that 72 applications were received under the Large Scale Sport Infrastructure Fund and that work is underway in assessing applications, but in view of the detailed information contained in each application, it will take a number of months to have all the work completed. The Minister concluded that he expected that it would be towards the end of 2019 before any allocations are announced.

Commenting on the Minister's response, Labour's Emmet Stagg stated that he would continue to press the Minister to sanction the allocation of grant aid for the development of a Swimming Pool and sports complex in Maynooth in a joint venture between Maynooth University and Kildare Co. Council.

9 Groups Invited to Outline How they Would Deliver Primary Care Centre for Maynooth

Following on from the move by the HSE last May seeking Expressions of Interest from individuals and companies in providing accommodation for a Primary Care Centre in Maynooth, Labour's Emmet Stagg sought an update from the HSE on progress with the project.

The HSE placed ads in National Newspapers seeking submissions from individuals/ companies who are developing or were planning to develop health facilities in Maynooth, which would facilitate the delivery of primary health care in conjunction with local General Practitioners. The HSE would enter into fixed term leases with the providers of the proposals selected for the provision of public healthcare in the primary care facilities. This is the route that saw the successful opening of the Celbridge Primary Care Centre in Celbridge.

The HSE have now advised Mr. Stagg that 9 groups have been invited to progress to Stage 2 of the Process which is the engagement of the developers with GP practices. Once this stage is complete and submissions are evaluated, the HSE are confident that a tender for the successful group should be awarded in the first quarter of next year.

Welcoming the progress Labour's Emmet Stagg stated that the delivery of a Primary Care Centre for Maynooth was a priority and he looked forward to more progress early next year.



Stagg Calls for Dangerous Bend on Dunboyne Road, Maynooth To Be Dealt With Now

With work on the Cairn Homes Mariavilla Development proceeding at pace, Labour's Emmet Stagg has stated that Kildare Co. Council need to address the Dangerous Bend on the Dunboyne Road, Maynooth now.

Mr. Stagg stated that part of the Mariavilla Development will see a Link Road constructed from the Moyglare Road to the Dunboyne Road and work on the Link Road is progressing well and it should be opened to the Public early next year. Once opened, this will substantially increase traffic on the Dunboyne Road as people living in the Moyglare area of the town take the opportunity of avoiding the Main Street to access the M4 via the Celbridge/Intel Interchange.

That would be fine, stated Mr. Stagg, if the Dunboyne Road was up to standard, but there is a very dangerous Bend on the Road near Pebble Hill House, which is treacherous, and the increased traffic volumes will only make things worse.

Regrettably stated Mr. Stagg, An Bord Pleanála, when granting planning permission for the Mariavilla Development did not impose a condition requiring the removal of the Bad Bend. However a condition was imposed providing for development contributions of €3.6 million in respect of Public Infrastructure and Facilities benefiting the development of 462 dwellings and student accommodation.

Mr. Stagg stated that Kildare Co. Council must act now to resolve the issue of the Dangerous Bend and he has requested his colleague Cllr. Angela Feeney to table the following motion for the next Maynooth Municipal District Meeting:

'Given that the Link Road from the Moyglare Road to the Dunboyne Road, Maynooth, through the Mariavilla Development, will open early next year, that the Council now use the Development Contributions of €3.6 Million derived from the Mariavilla Development, to remove the dangerous bend on the Dunboyne Road near Pebble Hill House, in the interests of traffic safety, and that a footpath be provided from Castlepark Housing Estate to the roundabout on the Blacklion Road'.

In conclusion Labour's Emmet Stagg stated that the Council must act now on this dangerous situation before it is too late. Should the Motion succeed we will also seek the provision of table top ramps either side of Pebble Hill House to slow traffic as it approaches Castlepark Estate and other Estates on the Dunboyne Road.

Pre-Qualification Process for New Maynooth Boys' NS Completed - Tender Stage Next - Stagg

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

The Minister has now advised that the process of Pre-Qualification of Contractors to compile a short-list of suitable candidates is now complete. The next step for the project will be Tender Stage. In that context, the Department will shortly be in contact with the school and Design Team to update them on further progression of this major building project.

Labour's Emmet Stagg stated that he would continue to monitor progress with the project until we get it to actual tender and construction.

St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band

Our Joint Concert with the Garda Band last month was an unqualified success and sincere thanks to everyone who came out to support us despite Storm Lorenzo. The two Bands gave brilliant recitals and we were in no way overawed by the presence of the fulltime musicians in the Garda Band and we made a small profit on the night which was in aid of our trip to Germany next September.

One of the most important events of the Band's year is our Annual Mass for deceased members which this year takes place on Sunday 3rd November at 1 p.m. when it offers us the opportunity to remember those who have passed on, through the medium of music that was their life as members of the Band. In particular we will think of some who passed away in the recent past including Cornet players Mick Dempsey and John Curran as well as Bass player Mick Murphy. We will also think of our President Micheal Dempsey who cannot, for health reasons, be with us at the Mass.

Our Christmas CD, recorded last year, will be on sale in the lead up to the Festive season. It proved a real success last year, particularly with those who had relatives living abroad, to remind them of Maynooth at this time of the year. The CD is available from Maynooth Bookshop Main Street, Donovans Centra Greenfield, the Parish Centre beside the Church and the Maynooth Newsletter Office beside the Post Office in Carton Park. All proceeds from the sale of the CDs will be going towards the sizeable travelling costs of our trip to Germany in September, more of which you will hear in the New Year.

We extend a warm invitation to any musicians living in Maynooth and the surrounding areas to feel free on Monday nights (bank holidays excepted) to join us in the Band Hall on Pound Lane between 7.45 pm and 9.45 pm where you will be made most welcome. In recent months we have had players from Lucan, Celbridge and Mullingar come to join us. We are a very welcoming band, we have an excellent conductor and we have a very busy programme over the next year.

You can call Paddy on 087 2537 906 if you need any further information



St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band Christmas CD

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information article to our good friend and
volunteer Tina Drury (RIP)***

Tina came to live in Woodlands, Maynooth from Australia in 1991. Our first records of Tina having volunteered with Tidy Towns would be 10 years ago in 2009. Tina was very involved even though she already had a diagnosis of MS. She helped with bulb planting, litter picking, watering and if we had a problem Tina was a great listener. She celebrated with us ever since we won our first national title in the Tidy Towns Competition in 2013 and would have been ecstatic that we won Gold Medal again in 2019. Unfortunately that was the same day, the 30th September, that Tina passed away surrounded by her family in Carton Square.

The Council Car Park and the bottle bank were Tina's designated areas to clean and boy did she take pride in her work. She even enquired from her sick bed if we remembered her spot. While Tina was with us she took part in many mini-marathons to raise funds for MS Ireland. She always completed the 10K, armed with her Oxygen. Tina also won the Tidy Towns Local Hero Award 2017 at the Helix for her contribution to the town of Maynooth.

Saturday the 14th September was the last day Tina joined us in the Square. She was full of the joys and wanted to buy all of us coffee after our clean up. Thankfully we took some pictures that day. Tina loved the Environment and Ireland. She joined us on many Walks/Talks on campus in MU and on Carton Avenue with Professor Gail Maher. Tina you will be missed and remembered by all at Tidy Towns.

Condolences to her daughter Alison, Dad Tommy, her two brothers and all Tina's extended family.

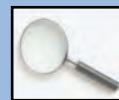
Ar Dheis De do raibh a h-anam dilis.

Mary Molloy - Maynooth Tidy Towns





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The Alzheimer Café Leixlip Co Kildare



Alzheimer Cafe Leixlip -
2nd Wednesday every month 7-9pm

Join us at our next Alzheimer Cafe,
in "The Conservatory",
Ryeval Nursing Home, Leixlip
Wednesday November 13th 7-9pm

Attendance is free of charge and there is
plenty of parking available
www.alzheimercafeleixlip.ie -
Phone: 087 7418512



Join us if you have an
hour to spare!

Meet Courthouse Square:

Saturday Mornings @ 10am
Wednesday Evenings @ 7pm.

All equipment provided.



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.

Thanksgiving for favour received

Never known to fail C.D.

Maynooth Golf Society Presidents Cup

Sponsored by Pat Connolly
Carton House Golf Club 19th October 2019



1st	Paul Farrelly	36pts
2nd	Derek Murray	34pts
3rd	Joey Edwards	34pts
4th	Eamonn Murphy	32pts
5th	Norman Kavanagh	31pts
6th	Barry Farrell	30pts
7th	Tom Coffey	30pts
F9	Liam Farrelly	17pts
B9	Mick Flynn	16pts
NP 1	John Nolan	
NP 2	Paul Farrelly	
Visitor	John Nolan	
Longest Drive	Niall Murphy	

Next outing is the Charity Scramble in November

Carton Avenue Preservation Society

GENERAL MEETING

A general meeting of Carton Avenue Preservation Society
will be held on Monday 11th November at 8pm
in the Maynooth Community Space
Tesco Shopping Centre

AGENDA

1. Ombudsman Report
2. The Next Steps



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



Bus Connects enters next phase of consultation process says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has called on commuters to consider the revised bus connect plans which were announced today and see what bus services need to be provided in addition to the proposals on the table now.

"Bus Connects proposal attracted 50,000 contributions from the public in the last public consultation process and while we have seen that our submissions have had some impact, we need to ensure that we utilise the next public consultation process to secure the remaining services we need for Kildare."

"The National Transport Authority (NTA) has agreed to increase the number of bus routes in the Bus Connect plans by 22%".

"Bus Connects involves seven super frequency spine routes with buses at high frequency rates. The original proposal had 11 connecting orbital routes".

"We are now entering a second round of public consultation. This is our opportunity to make submissions to capture any loss in service associated with the current proposals. Bus Connects will be gradually rolled out up to 2022."

FF introduce Bill to prevent families from entering homelessness – O'Rourke

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare-North, Frank O'Rourke, has introduced a Bill to prevent families from entering homelessness.

The Fianna Fáil Housing (Homeless Housing Assistance Payment) (Amendment) Bill 2019 makes it a requirement that a Local Authority would assist a family eligible for the Homeless Housing Assistance Payment from the time they receive a notice of termination from their current accommodation.

Deputy O'Rourke explained, "The period of notice which a family is served with varies and is dependent on the length of their tenancy. As it stands, a family must wait until the last month of their notice before they can even apply for Homeless HAP. This gives little or no time to find alternatives and results in a lot of families entering homelessness".

"Given the state of the current rental market, finding alternative accommodation in less than four weeks is impossible, even more so if a landlord knows they will have to wait weeks or even months for HAP payments to kick-in".

"If a family seeking alternative accommodation are armed with the Homeless HAP payment earlier in their notice period, which provides for a deposit and two months rent, then they are much more likely to find a place to live and therefore avoid homelessness. The landlord too will be much more receptive to taking on new tenants once they know they are guaranteed a deposit and rent in less than two weeks".

"There needs to be a logical approach taken here. A family in homelessness costs the state significantly more than a family in stable accommodation being assisted by HAP. Aside from that, the worry, stress and strain that impending homelessness causes is immense and we know from many expert reports that this has negative physical and mental health implications, especially on children".

"It would make much more sense for the family to be able to apply and get Homeless HAP from the date their notice of termination is issued. At the very least they would have comfort in the knowledge that they can get looking for alternative accommodation at an earlier stage and avoid homelessness," he concluded.

17% decrease in overnight respite in Kildare – O'Rourke

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North, Frank O'Rourke, has criticised a 17% decrease in the number of respite nights available in the Kildare – West Wicklow area.

Deputy O'Rourke was commenting as new figures provided to Fianna Fáil show that in Kildare - West Wicklow there were 7,064 respite overnights in 2015 but just 5,808 in 2018 – a drop of over 1,200.

He said, "Nationally there has been a drop of some 26,523 respite overnights for people with disabilities between 2015 and 2018 – representing a 14.3% decrease. This comes as the numbers requesting overnight respite continues to rise."

"Every week I hear from people in Kildare who are fighting for respite overnights for their loved ones. Many are carers and they are desperate for some overnight support. Their own health is deteriorating as they try to care for their loved one."

"As it stands the figures for 2019 don't look as though they will be any better. From the beginning of the year to the end of June there were just 2,376 respite overnights in Kildare – West Wicklow. At best any increase will be modest and will still be significantly behind what was delivered four years ago."

"The Government need to realise that carers save the state huge amounts of money each year so overnight respites are a small ask considering", he concluded .

Better alignment needed between assessment of need and school support applications – O'Rourke

Unacceptable delays in getting assessment of needs

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare-North, Frank O'Rourke has said there needs to be a better alignment in the assessment of need process.

Deputy O'Rourke made the comments during a recent Fianna Fáil Private Members Motion highlighting the shortfalls in special needs education and said, "One of the greatest problems when it comes to special needs education is the assessment of need."

"There is a significant waiting time, often more than two years for these assessments and every day that passes is another day when a child does not have the supports that they need to excel in education".

"This is of particular concern when it comes to the assessment of children starting school at primary level, going up to post-primary level or even moving within primary or post-primary classes, who need further assessments carried out as part of their development to ensure they are getting the proper supports and services."

"There is no alignment between the assessment of need and the school making an application to the Department of Education. Essentially the assessment of need is sometimes not carried out until the child has started school or is halfway through the school year meaning the school does not have the necessary supports in place."

"When the child's need is then identified, he or she has lost valuable time. The school can of course make another application for additional supports, but this can take a long time and can even be refused by the Department."

"The Department need to examine prioritising the assessments of needs for schoolchildren so that when Principals are making their applications to the Department for school supports they will be able to take all their pupils into account and not have to make supplementary applications as the results of assessments of need come in throughout the year."

"I understand this will not be possible in all situations but if the system were more streamlined it would result in better outcomes both for the child and the school", he concluded.

Increased supports for older people needed says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has pressed the Government for additional resources to support older people. Deputy O'Rourke made the comments following a meeting with his Party colleague and Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on Social Affairs, Willie O'Dea TD.

"I know from my weekly clinics, the lack of home care packages and inadequate resources for the Fair Deal scheme among other issues are a real concern for older people."

"In addition to an increase in the Old Age pension that our party spokesperson, Willie O'Dea, has called for, it is important that the Government provide adequate resources for other areas associated with older people in the forthcoming budget."

"Winter can be a very challenging time for older people and their families. It's also a period that puts hospitals under pressure. As I established last year, the Kildare Wicklow region has a significantly higher waiting list for Home Care Packages than other areas."

"From my clinics, I come across people who are recovering from strokes, dealing with cancer and older people who need additional home supports, all requiring Home Packages."

"It makes little sense to delay giving home care supports to people that need them and have been approved by the HSE to get them. It goes against the Government's stated aim of ensuring people can continue living in their home if they so choose to do so and it is also leading to unnecessary overcrowding in our hospitals."

"There are many older people in hospitals that are ready to be discharged but are unable to return home as the necessary home care supports have not been put in place."

"I am also calling for more resources for house adaptation grants as well, these grants are there to assist with independent living for older people. We should make progress on this issue in the forthcoming budget."

"We all know that there are limited resources available, but providing resources for Older people is an important policy issue for me," concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Government must press the EU for better Irish Mortgage rates says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has again called for Government action in relation to the high mortgage rates in Ireland as compared to the average EU rates and has called on the Government to enlist the support of the EU.

"Irish banks are charging their customers double the EU mortgage rates. At a time when interest rates across the EU are falling, Irish Banks have increased the cost of taking out a mortgage."

"My understanding from the Central Bank is that Irish mortgage rates are the second most expensive in the EU. The average interest rate on a new mortgage is around 3.pc compared with the average rate for the euro area of 1.7pc."

"To put this in real money terms, the average first-time buyer is paying an extra €154 a month for their mortgage, based on a loan of €225,000 paid back over 30 years. Parents and working families are in much need of this extra income to cater for their day to day expenses. In addition, as Brexit brings uncertainties, having this extra €154 per month available for the local economy will bring benefits to local businesses."

"With our spokesperson on Finance, Michael McGrath TD, I continue to put pressure on the Government to deal with this inequality. I have repeatedly called on the Government to address the rising cost of living issues such as Mortgage Rates and Insurance rates and they must get support from the EU to deal with this imbalance."

"We also have a situation, whereas the Taoiseach says our mortgage lending rules are "very tough" when he cited situations where couples are trying to save for a deposit to buy a house but have to pay as much €2,000 in rent. We need to provide support to assist young couple buy their home," 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



Question

I got the seasonal flu vaccine last year. Do I need to get it again this year?

Answer

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

The flu viruses that are circulating change every year. This is why you need to get a new vaccine each year. Vaccination is free if you are in one of the following groups:

Are aged 65 and over.

Have a long-term medical condition such as diabetes, heart, kidney, liver, lung or neurological disease.

Have an impaired immune system due to disease or treatment.

Have a body mass index (BMI) over 40.

Are pregnant.

Live in a nursing home or other long-stay institution.

Are a carer or a healthcare worker.

Have regular contact with poultry, water fowl or pigs.

This year the flu vaccine is available from October 2019 until the end of April 2020. You should get your flu vaccination from early October to be protected for flu season. You can get the vaccine from your GP (family doctor), pharmacist or Occupational Health Department. Children can get the vaccine from a GP.

While the vaccine itself is free of charge if you are in one of the recommended groups, doctors and pharmacists may charge a consultation fee when they give you the vaccine.

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

Question

My brother and I have started in third-level College this year. Can my parents claim any tax relief on our fees?

Answer

Your parents may be able to claim tax relief on both tuition fees, including the student contribution (sometimes called the registration fee) for the following approved courses:

Full-time and part-time undergraduate courses in both private or publicly funded third-level colleges in approved colleges in Ireland or in any EU member state. The course must be for at least two years duration.

Postgraduate courses in private and publicly funded colleges in Ireland as well as universities and publicly funded colleges in other countries (EU and non-EU). Postgraduate courses must be between one and four years in duration and students must already have a primary degree or equivalent qualification.

Foreign language and IT courses that are less than two years duration and which result in the award of a certificate of competence. The course fees paid must not be less than €315 and not more than €1,270.

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

The maximum amount of fees, including the Student Contribution that can qualify for tax relief is €7,000 per person per course. For a full-time student for the 2019/2020 academic year, there is no tax relief on the first €3,000 spent on tuition fees, including the Student Contribution. There is no tax relief on the first €1,500 spent on tuition fees for part-time students. If you are claiming for more than one student, you will get full tax relief on tuition fees for the second or subsequent students.

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

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

Budget Information

Budget 2020 was announced on 8 October 2019. The main points include:

Taxation

- An increase in the Home Carer Tax Credit from €1,500 to €1,600
- An increase in the Earned Income Tax Credit for the self-employed from €1,350 to €1,500
- An increase in Group A Capital Acquisitions Tax threshold from €320,000 to €335,000

Social welfare

- An increase in Jobseeker's Allowance (JA) and Supplementary Welfare Allowance (SWA) for people aged 25 from €157.80 to €203 from January 2020.
- An increase in JA and SWA for people aged under 25 living independently and in receipt of a State housing support from €112.70 to €203 from January 2020.
- An increase in the earnings disregard for the One-Parent Family Payment and the Jobseeker's Transition payment from €150 to €165 per week from January 2020.
- An increase in the weekly rate for a qualified child under 12 from €34 to €36 from 6 January 2020.
- An increase in the weekly rate for a qualified child 12 and over from €37 to €40 from 6 January 2020.
- An increase in the Living Alone Increase from €9 to €14 from 6 January 2020.
- An increase in the weekly rate of Fuel Allowance by €2 from January 2020.

Health

- A reduction in the prescription charge for medical card holders by €0.50 from July 2020
- A reduction in the monthly threshold for the Drugs Payment Scheme from €124 to €114 from September 2020.
- An increase in the medical card weekly income for people over 70 of €50 for a single person to €550 and €150 for a couple to €1,050 from September 2020.
- An additional one million home care hours will be provided in 2020.

Housing

The Help to Buy Incentive for first-time buyers or people building their first home is extended to the end of 2021.

Parent's Leave and Benefit

The Parent's Leave and Benefit Bill has been published. The Bill will provide for 2 weeks' leave and benefit for each working parent of a child who is born or adopted from 1 November 2019. The benefit will be paid in the first year of the child's birth or adoption, at the same rate as maternity and paternity benefits and it is available to both employees and the self-employed.

Changes to divorce

RTÉ reports that Cabinet has approved proposals contained in the draft Family Law Bill 2019 to:

- Reduce the separation period for couples seeking divorce to two years out of the previous Three.
- Reduce to one year, the minimum "living apart" period of three years that applies to judicial separation applications, in cases where the respondent does not consent to such a decree being granted.
- Recognise divorces, legal separations and annulments granted under UK law so that UK decisions will be recognised under similar rules to those granted within the EU in the event of a no-deal Brexit.

JobPath extended

The Job Path programme has been extended by 12 months. Client referrals were due to cease on 31 December 2019. JobPath supports people who are long-term unemployed to secure and sustain full-time paid employment.

Money Tools

The CCPC have launched new Money Tools to help compare the costs and benefits of a range of financial products including mortgages, personal loans and current accounts.

New primary schools supply panel scheme

A new initiative creating six regional panels of substitute teachers for primary schools is being rolled out for the 2019/2020 school year.

Student Grant Scheme

Maintenance grant payments for PLC students will start from the 18 October 2019.

Cost of childcare

Department of Children and Youth Affairs has published new data on the cost of early learning and care and school-age childcare to families in Ireland.

Education social media campaign

The Government has launched a social media campaign #TeachMeAsMe to promote individuality in schools.

Brexit

Budget 2020

Budget 2020 included measures to respond to a no-deal Brexit. The funds announced include €410 million for social protection spending on unemployment supports and helping people return to employment. The measures also include €220 million to support the most affected sectors and to provide grants, loans and investment to firms that are vulnerable but viable in the event of a no-deal Brexit.

NI access to healthcare and childcare post Brexit

The Government has published draft legislation that will allow eligible residents of Northern Ireland to access EU emergency health care and the National Childcare Scheme, in the event of a no-deal Brexit.

UK driving licence exchange

Opening hours at National Driver Licence Service offices will be extended until October 31st to accommodate drivers who need to exchange their UK licence for an Irish licence.

Brexit news

Keep up-to-date with Brexit news and developments on citizensinformation.ie.

Capital Acquisitions Tax (CAT)

The deadline to return and pay CAT due on gifts or inheritances where the valuation date arises between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019, is on or before 31 October 2019. The deadline is extended to 12 November 2019 for those who pay and file online through ROS.

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



MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN

Permeability at Moyglare Hall

Residents at Moyglare Hall who walk or cycle have been shabbily treated for years by Kildare County Council. At the planning stage, Kildare County Council prioritised the access road for cars but overlooked the needs of walkers and cyclists who for more than ten years have faced an unnecessary length of journey to access the town. As a result, people can be seen on a regular basis climbing over the fence /hedge on the Moyglare Road. There is a potential alternative route between the GAA pitch and Moyglare Nursing home but the short distance between the end of the existing cul-de-sac and Moyglare Road will have to be constructed. The developer has agreed to the work but it will not be carried out until December.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign welcomes and supports the increasing opposition to the through road between Moyglare Road and the roundabout at the Schools Campus. As the residents rightly point out such a road will turn into a rat-run. As it had been intended for local traffic and filtered permeability, it was constructed with no dedicated facilities for cyclists.

Widening of M4

One of the projects included in Ireland 2040 by the Government is the widening of the M4 in Kildare. The issue arose at a meeting of the Community Council when it was said that part of the justification for the scheme was the need to reduce noise by reducing congestion. Reducing congestion by building or widening roads is like reducing obesity by loosening your belt. Even in a country as car dependent as the USA, most Departments of Transport accept that building more roads results in more traffic due to Induced Demand.

Budget 2020

This government talks the talk about climate action but most of its activities promote increased emissions of CO2. Maynooth Cycling Campaign through Cyclist.ie has sought the allocation of 10% of transport spending on cycling. From the budget announcements, this amounts to €194 Million. Shane Ross, Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, announced that he had allocated €114 Million but based on its analysis, Cyclist.ie estimates that the spend on cycling will only be in the region of €42 Million. Minister Ross also claimed in the Dáil that he had allocated 3.1% of his capital budget to cycling in 2018 but Cyclist.ie also challenges this and estimates that the Minister is spinning the results and had spent only 1%.

Climate Change

October has seen the spread of Extinction Rebellion to Dublin. Greta Thunberg was overlooked for the Nobel Peace Prize and the campaigner and author Naomi Klein was welcomed to Dublin where she discussed her new book On Fire and climate change in the National Stadium with Maynooth's own Lorna Gold.

Width of Estate Entrance

Last month, an item in the Campaign Notes considered whether or not the width of reconstructed entrances to estates on the Moyglare Road would be in accordance with the Irish standard - the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS). Work has also been carried out on the Celbridge Road entrance to Railpark. The entrance there was reconstructed with a width which appears not to be in accordance with DMURS.

Space for Bicycles on Trains

Earlier this year, the EU parliament passed a requirement that from 2021 any new or refurbished rail carriage will have to provide a minimum of 8 spaces for bikes. As part of its climate action, the Polish rail operator Stadler Flirt has announced that from now any new carriages will include the space for bikes which is two years earlier than required. Meanwhile, Ireland has ordered new carriages but no-one seems to know if any space for bikes are included.

Cyclist.ie Council Meeting

Finally, Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cycling Advocacy Network, held its bi-annual meeting in Dublin recently. Cyclist.ie has expanded with another two groups making twenty five in total across the country. One of the key policy changes was that Cycling Officers in local authorities should be appointed at Director of Services level and should be responsible for ensuring that targets on increased level of cycling are met. We will wait and see if this is taken up by the political parties.



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*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*





EST



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CHRISTMAS
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Sunday November 17th
10.00am - 3.00pm

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Maynooth University
Supports Scholars at risk
of Persecution



Maynooth University was unveiled as the European base of a new EU-funded initiative to support scholars at risk of persecution.

Launched at Maynooth University by ten European partners, **InSPIREurope** is a Europe-wide alliance for academics who are at risk due to discrimination, persecution, suffering or violence.

The project is coordinated by **Scholars at Risk Europe** and funded under the European Commission's **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions**.

From September 2018 to the end August 2019, over 580 scholars and researchers sought the assistance of Scholars at Risk. The organisation successfully placed 115 scholars at universities globally. The highest rate of applications came from Turkey, Syria, Iran and Yemen. Over 1,000 applications have been received from Turkey alone since January 2016.



Photo: (l-r); Robert Quinn, Founding Executive Director, Scholars at Risk Network; Sinead O’Gorman, Director, SAR Europe; Prof Linda Connolly, Director, Maynooth University Social Sciences, Prof Philip Nolan, President, Maynooth University

Prof Philip Nolan, President of Maynooth University, said: “Maynooth University recognises the central importance of academic freedom in scholarship, research and teaching for the promotion and protection of democracy. Together with our European partners, we recognise our shared responsibility to support scholars who are at risk due to discrimination, persecution or violence.”

“With this ambitious Europe-wide initiative, we hope to make a difference.”



Zero Waste
Maynooth

2-4pm Sat 9th
November
Maynooth
Community
Space
Free event

*Bare Necessities * Package free food

*Nu Wardrobe * Ladies clothing exchange

Cloth Nappy Library Ireland Info & tips

Toy Swap Bring one,take one

Book Swap All categories welcome

HOUSEHOLD PLANT CARE 101

Moira from Maynooth Flower Club will discuss
tips & ideas on how to care for our plants









St. Laurence O'Toole Pipe Band / Maynooth Youth Pipe Band



You may have heard the sound of bagpipes and drums ringing around the town of Maynooth over the last year or so. That's because the world renowned pipe band St. Laurence O'Toole Pipe Band (SLOTPB), formerly of Dublin City Centre have taken up residence in Maynooth Town and have been practicing between Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich and Maynooth Town Football Club over the summer months. For those who are not aware of who they are, SLOTPB are the premier pipe band of the Irish Pipe Band Association and the only Grade 1 band in the South of Ireland. Founded in 1910 in Dublin's Seville Place, Sean O'Casey, Arthur Griffith, Padraig Pearse, Douglas Hyde & Thomas Clarke were all present at the band's inaugural meeting and some even held roles on its first committee. Now a competitive band who travel regularly to the North of Ireland and more frequently to Scotland to compete at the highest level and more often than not, bring home the titles!!

Pipe bands are a dying tradition in the South of Ireland and as a result, St. Laurence O'Toole have had to look further afield to recruit players of a high enough calibre to continue to compete at the top level. Some of the current members of the band come from as far away as Canada, Denmark, and San Francisco along with a group from Scotland and Northern Ireland. The total membership of the Grade 1 band stands at 50 competing members in 3 sections of the band, Pipe Corp, Drum Corps and Bass & Tenor Section.

The main body of the band are local to the South of Ireland while the leadership of the band reside in Maynooth and Newbridge. Alen Tully, a local to Maynooth is the Pipe Major (or leader of the band) who has 2 kids in school in the Gaelscoil, while Stephen Creighton the Drum Sergeant (or head of the drum section) lives in Newbridge.

Due to the declining nature of pipe bands, SLOTPB have embarked on a project to find a new home for the band.

The reason for this is to protect the future of this great organisation and keep it at the top of the pipe band world for years to



UK Pipe Band Championships (Stormont)



St. Laurence O'Toole Pipe Band (SLOTPB)

come. The band have tried on numerous occasions to become self-sufficient by teaching kids which have usually been relatives of current members. This has proved successful to a point but the lack of a community support has hindered progress. Relocating to Maynooth is now the primary goal of the organisation and this process began last year by starting pipes and drums lessons in the Gaelscoil and more recently the establishment of a new youth band in the town, Maynooth Youth Pipe Band.

To date the band have 9 children from the local area, coming to practice each week on a Thursday night to learn pipes and drums and the ambition is to eventually use the youth band as a feeder band to the Grade 1 band.

With regard to tuition, both Alen Tully along with his father Terry (the previous Pipe Major of SLOTPB for 30 years) are the primary piping instructors while Stephen Creighton is the primary drumming instructor. Alen and Terry have both led the band to a combined 10 Major Championship titles in Scotland including the World Pipe Band Championships in 2010, while Stephen has won over 20 Major titles including 6 World Championship titles with the Drum Corps. In short, the level of tuition is WORLD CLASS!

The band are still on the lookout for a suitable practice venue when practice resumes in late November and would appreciate any assistance with their efforts, while they also hope to take part in some small outdoor concerts in the coming months along with St. Patricks Day parade in the town.

If you would like to read more about the history of the band please visit their website www.slotpb.com. Alternatively if you would like to find out how you can support the band while they settle into the town or even get your kids involved with the Maynooth Youth Pipe Band you can contact us directly at admin@slotpb.com.

Be Winter Ready

You, Your Health and the Winter

Keeping well and warm:

Keep warm and eat well. Eat regular hot meals and drink plenty of fluids. Ensure you have sufficient supplies of your prescription medicine. Keep active indoors and avoid unnecessary travel. Have sufficient fuel supplies to maintain adequate heating in your home. Keep the telephone numbers of your GP, relatives and friends to hand.

Personal Safety – staying safe

In icy weather, wear well-fitting shoes with non-slip soles but try to avoid walking outside during the cold weather where possible. Consider wearing a personal alarm so that family or neighbours are alerted if you fall.

Fall prevention in your home

Leave a low energy light on at night. Use a non-slip shower or bath mat. Make sure wires or cords do not trail where you walk. Arrange furniture so that you can easily move around all of your rooms.

Cold and Flu

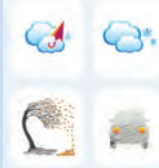
Symptoms of a cold include a sore throat, sneezing, blocked or runny nose, cough and feeling unwell. While symptomatic with a cold you should drink plenty of liquids, get lots of rest at home and eat healthily. Most adults will start to feel better after 3 or 4 days and be fully recovered by 7 days.

Flu is a virus that comes on suddenly and makes you feel quite unwell. Symptoms of Flu include sore throat, fever and muscle aches, which develop quickly, along with feeling very unwell. You should start to feel much better after 5 to 8 days although a cough and general tiredness may last for 2 to 3 weeks.

Most Flu can be treated at home by drinking plenty of liquids, getting lots of rest and eating healthily. Contact your GP by telephone if you don't improve or if you start to improve and then get worse.

Flu can be prevented by vaccination. Flu vaccine is a safe, effective way to help prevent Flu infection, avoiding hospitalisation, reducing Flu related deaths and illnesses.

Visit www.winterready.ie for further information.



Remember:

- Know your Eircode
- Know your GP's contact details
- Get the Flu Vaccine
- Wear a personal alarm
- Keep warm, eat well and avoid unnecessary travel

LIFFEY MEMORIALS

- ◆ Headstones
- ◆ Grave Cleaning
- ◆ Additional Inscriptions

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See our large range of stones on
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Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee

Our Halloween Tea-Dance on October 20th was a most enjoyable event, with a great crowd from all the surrounding areas as well as Maynooth, great music from "Unity" and great food from our own committee. Thank you Pam for all the goodies. Well done to all who entered into the spirit of the evening with some scary outfits. This winds up our tea-dances for 2019. Many thanks to Martin and all the staff at the GAA club and we will do it all again in 2020, Le Cuinaimh De. Our next social event will be our Christmas shopping and party, courtesy of SuperValu Maynooth on December 1st, and our Christmas Lunch on December 15th in The Glenroyal Hotel.

However, before all of that we have to make some money, and we do so through our annual "Sale of Work" which, this year, will be held on November 17th in the Post Primary School. Our committee members and helpers will be dropping fliers in your post boxes and if we miss you when we call you can deliver items to the school hall on Saturday afternoon on November 16th or Sunday morning November 17th.

We will be selling tickets for our "Monster Hamper" at SuperValu on November 7th / 8th & 9th and this draw will take place on the day of our "Sale of Work". Please note, regrettably, we cannot take large items of furniture or "Soft Toys", due to health and safety....who knew. We value your support.

Finally, may I extend our sincere sympathy to the family of Anne Doyle who passed away recently.

Ar Dheis De go raibh a Anam.

Josephine Moore,
Chairperson



MAYNOOTH SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE

ANNUAL SALE OF WORK



will take place in
Maynooth Post Primary School, Moyglare Road.
On Sunday November 17th 2019



DOORS OPENING 3pm



SOMETHING TO SUIT EVERYONE

**WHEEL OF FORTUNE
BOTTLE STALL**

**WHITE ELEPHANT
BOOK STALL**



CHRISTMAS FARE ETC.



HOME PRODUCE

CAKES

JAMS ETC

**As always proceeds from above provides for
fuel and social outings for our older people**

**WE KNOW WE CAN RELY ON YOUR
SUPPORT**

Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

Planning Applications received from 27/09/2019 To 21/10/2019 Information from Kildare County Council Website

App Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	App Date
191165	Kildare County Council	Ann Travers	Main Street, Maynooth, Co. Kildare,	21/10/2019
191155	Kildare County Council	David Tracey	279 Old Greenfield Road, Maynooth, County Kildare.	18/10/2019
191134	Kildare County Council	Tesco Ireland Limited,	Unit 22, Carton Park Retail Campus, Dublin Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	14/10/2019
191114	Kildare County Council	Shaun and Elaine Iredale	20 Parklands Crescent, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	08/10/2019
191110	Kildare County Council	William Holmes & Maurice Cowhey	Railpark, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	07/10/2019
191102	Kildare County Council	Shane McKenna & Aisling Conlon	32 Silken Vale, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	04/10/2019
191072	Kildare County Council	Maria and Colin Cunningham	19 Leinster Wood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	27/09/2019

**Copy date for the next edition of the Maynooth Newsletter
will be Tuesday 19th November 2019**

November Events at Maynooth Community Library

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

For further information contact: www.kildare.ie/library maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie Ph.: 01-6285530



facebook.com/KildareCountyLibraryService



twitter.com/kildarelibrary

Now open from 10am Monday to Saturday!
(Events are Free but Booking is required!)

Children's Events

Fizz and Chips Drama Workshop

Saturday 16th November

10am – 11am (5-7 years)

11.30am – 12.30pm (8 – 10 years)

1pm – 2pm (10 – 12 years)

Fizz and Chips Theatre Company are running bilingual drama workshops as Gaeilge agus Béarla for children. In this one hour workshop, explore movement, sound, and voice in a fun and friendly environment through Irish and English. The Company are working on a new theatre show for children and will introduce some scenes and themes to play around with. Orlaith Carr, Eoin O'Dubhghaill and Orla Ní Thiobraide are theatre-makers and actors who have worked on many Irish language productions including Ros na Rún on TG4 and they are sharing their love for the Irish language through exciting theatre workshops for children. The workshop is open to all young drama enthusiasts, regardless of their level of Irish. Tá an compántas drámaíochta Fizz and Chips Theatre ag rith ceardlanna drámaíochta dhátheangach as Gaeilge agus Béarla do pháistí. Beidh na páistí ag úsáid gluaiseacht, fuaim agus glórtha i dtimpeallacht spreagúil le cabhrú leis an gcompántas dráma nua a chruthú. Beidh na páistí ag obair le radhairc agus téamaí an dráma nua.

Is aisteoirí agus ealaíontóirí iad Orlaith Ní Chearra, Eoin Ó Dubhghaill agus Orla Ní Thiobraide a bhfuil taithí faoi leith acu a bheith ag obair trí Ghaeilge, ar Ros na Rún agus tograí eile do TG4, agus tá siad ag roinnt a gcuid taithí agus a ngrá don Ghaeilge trí na ceardlanna spreagúla seo do dhaoine óga. Tá an ceardlann oscailte do chách, fiú mura bhfuil líofacht Gaeilge acu.

Make a Picture Book – “My Little Book of...”

Saturday 9th November

11am – 12pm

7 – 10 years

Join illustrator Tarsila Kruse on a drawing journey through your favourite theme or topic! Prompted with images from Tarsila's latest book My Little Album of Dublin (co-authored with Juliette Saumande, published by The O'Brien Press) children are invited to contribute with their own ideas and create an 8-page Little Album of their own to bring home!

Owl Babies Art and Craft

Saturday 30th November

2.30 - 3.30pm

5 – 7 years

Inspired by Martin Waddell's story of 'Owl Babies' children will use coloured card, glue, large pom-poms, glitter and paper plates to create their very own owl babies!

Peat lands – Irelands Climate Change Heroes

Saturday 23rd November

Irish Peatland Conservation Council

2PM, 3PM and 4PM (40 minutes each).

Family workshop on how peat lands act as carbon stores, exploring the variety of values of peat lands. Some live invertebrates will be brought along and a demonstration of how peat land plants store water will also be included.



Tek Central Ozobots Workshop

Saturday 30th November

Paper Programming: 10am – 11am (6+ years)

This is a really good way of getting younger kids coding without screens. Ozobot Bit uses sensors to follow lines and read Colour Codes you make with markers (or stickers!). Choose from Speed, Direction, Cool Moves codes, and more. Have great fun making your own tracks and courses for ozobots to use.

Laptop Programming: 11.30 – 12.30pm (8 – 10 years)

Ozobots are robots that can be programmed in two ways: on paper or on screen.

Each person will have their own laptop for ozoblockly or markers and stickers for paper programming.

Ozobot can be programmed using a block like drop and drag language called ozoblockly and Ozobot is programmed directly from the screen.

Library Events

Make Create Innovate Workshop – Make Music Using Codes (for adults)

Saturday 9th November 2-5PM

During this music-making workshop participants will tap into their own experience with music. Using Sonic Pi software, they will learn coding basics in order to make sound, composing beats with a baseline along with other melodies to create a finished loop!

Booking Required

Chair Yoga with Katherine

Thursday 7th 14th, 21st and 28th November

10.30am – 11.30am

Stretch, breathe and relax in this four week seated yoga course, suitable for all levels of ability and fitness. Designed to gently stretch and move your body, Katherine will ensure you leave the class feeling energised and relaxed

Booking Required

Pre-Puppy Talk

With Catherine Clarke

Tuesday 12th November at 7pm

Thinking about getting a puppy for Christmas? Come along to this talk and find out all you need to know about your new pet – before it arrives!!

Pop-up Gaeltacht !

Dé Máirt 19ú Lá déag Mí na Samhna / Tuesday 19th of November

6.45 pm - 7.45 pm

Fáilte roimh chách / All welcome !

Art and Poetry Exhibition “Flying on Clipped Wings”

Launching on 14th November at 7pm and running through until 27th November

Flying on Clipped Wings is the debut collection of Mal Shine's poetry, accompanied by Roisin Murdock's illustrations. Mal's poetry is about their memories, their experiences, their feelings and reference points. Roisin's art is her attempt to depict her experiences and feelings, inspired by funny moments, awkward moments, discomfort and alienation. Her illustrations are the ways in which she related to Mal's poems and an exploration of their differences. At the exhibition we will debut copies of our zine, Roisin's original illustrations and Mal will perform a reading. We hope you will all get something out of it.)

German ‘Stammtisch’ at Maynooth Library

Thursday 28th November 6.30pm

An informal, German conversation meet-up, for anyone with an interest in the language and culture in German speaking countries.

All levels from learners to native speakers are welcome.

First Meeting on 28 November 6.30pm.

Maynooth Podcast Club

Maynooth Library Podcast Club

Are you a podcast addict? Do you need help finding and downloading podcasts? Don't know what a podcast is but dying to find out?

We are seeking expressions of interest from anyone who would like to join a Podcast Club, starting in early 2020.

(Similar to a book club, we will listen to and then discuss a selection of podcasts. Help and advice on using your smart-phone or tablet, with the various podcasts apps, can also be provided.)

Local Enterprise Office – Business Advice Clinic

Wednesday 20th November – all day

For anyone seeking business advice. To book an appointment, applications are available through LEO office. Please contact 045 980838

Young Adult Creative Writing Group

Interested in joining a creative writing group aimed at teens? We would love to hear from you! Contact the library and register your interest – We would hope to set up a monthly meeting to develop and expand your love of writing. All levels welcome.

“Let's Talk About Parenting”

Parent and Toddler Yoga

With Yo-Yo Yoga

Wednesday 13th November 10am

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

Healthy Sleep Habits in Babies and Children

Presented by Erica Hargaden of Babogee Sleep Solutions

Thursday 21st November 7pm

In this seminar Erica will cover why sleep is so important, what happens when we sleep and what constitutes healthy sleep in babies and children. Guidelines will be given on how to recognise sleep issues versus healthy sleep habits. Overviews will be given on why such sleep issues arise and practical advice given on how to resolve them. There will be an opportunity to ask questions at these sessions.

Booking Required

Regular Events

Give it a Go Box Set Club

Thursday 14th November 6.30 – 7.30pm

Got Netflix/NowTV/Amazon Prime and don't know what to watch next?

Let Maynooth Community Library help!

A New Box-set Club meeting monthly to discuss different series'. Call into the library now and collect your box set today.

Items limited so registration required.

Boomerang Bags

Tuesday 26th November

6.00pm – 7.30pm

A new eco produce bag-making group, meeting the last Tuesday of every month, Boomerang Bags is open to sewers and non-sewers! Based on a worldwide community movement called Boomerang Bags the idea is to make and sew bags that people can use instead of plastic, for fruit, vegetables and bread.

The concept is to use pre-loved cotton material like bed sheets, pillowcases etc. and to make these into simple cotton bags – the main aim being inclusive and to educate people on a more eco way of living. Starting with making bags for yourself or friends, the overall aim would be to make enough to do a bag drive and hand them out at local schools, farmers markets and supermarkets to convert more people!

Booking Required.

Craft Club

Every Monday from 11.30am – 1pm

Bring along your various crafts to inspire and to be inspired – or just to work on!

Different short demonstrations will take place during the year. Who knows – maybe a new craft will grab your fancy...

No Booking Required

Family Board Games

Saturday 2nd and 16th November

10am – 12pm

(Continued on page 17)

November Events at Maynooth Community Library (Cont)

(Continued from page 16)

Chess, Draughts, Cluedo and Boggle will be available – or feel free to bring along a family favourite!
All welcome

FitLine

Thursday 14th and 28th November 10 am -12 noon

Go for Life FitLine is a free telephone service for people over 50 giving you the information and encouragement you need to get more physically active. (In association with The National Programme for Sport and Physical Activity for Older People).
Please note this is a telephone service only. For more information call 1800 303 545.

Make Time

Thursday 7th and 21st November, 6pm – 7:45pm

A time and space to craft and chat on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evening of each month. Get together with like-minded makers to work on your latest project and swap tips over tea.
No booking required.

Maynooth Women's Group

Saturday 16th November, 11am

New members welcome.

Contact the library for further details.

Ciorcal Comhrá / Irish Language Conversation Group

Tuesdays 11am – 12 noon

This is an informal group for adults who would like to meet on a weekly basis to use and practice their conversational Irish.
No booking required. All welcome.

Maynooth Creative Writing Group

Tuesday 5th and 19th November 6:15pm

A bi-monthly meeting for writers in the Maynooth area.

Beginner writers always welcome.

No booking required.

Spanish Conversation Exchange

Thursdays, 6:30pm – 7:30pm

An informal meeting where people can practice and converse in Spanish. All adults welcome from novice to expert.
No booking required.

Relocation to Ireland: Women's Meet Up

Saturday 9th and 23rd November at 3 pm

A gathering of women who have moved to Ireland and would like to meet up with other women who have also made this country their home. The library is a meeting place to chat, make new friends and share stories – good and bad – about their transition from their native land to their present address. Returning expat women are also welcome to share their experiences.

All Welcome

Drop In -Story Time

No Booking Required

Witches and Wizards Story Time

Friday 1st November 10am – 11am for 2-5 year olds

Take a ride on a broomstick and listen to stories about friendly witches and other magic characters.

Friends Story Time

Friday 8th November 10am – 11am for 2-5 year olds

Stories about friends and friendships, and what makes them special to us.

Story Time

Friday 15th November 10am – 11am for 2-5 year olds

Story time with Leigh –come along to listen, sing and join in!

Owl Babies Story Time

Friday 22nd November 10am – 11am for 2-5 year olds

Enjoy the classic 'Owl Babies' and other stories, including 'Bears, bears bears!' and 'The Big Big Sea' from the much

loved author Martin Waddell.

Join in some fun rhymes and songs as well.

Rainy Day Story Time

Friday 29th November 10am – 11am for 2-5 year olds

Stories for a rainy day - all about the weather and more!

Book & Film Clubs

The following book & film clubs meet regularly at Maynooth Community Library. Please contact us if you are interested in joining a book club or starting one.

The Village Book Club

Monday 18th November 10.30am – 11.30am

Ex Libris Book Club

Wednesday 27th November 11am

This book club is now fully booked but please register your interest in book clubs with library staff if interested.

Readers of the Lost Ark Science Fiction Book Club

Tuesday 12th November 6.30pm- 7.30pm

Read & Catch-up

Thursday 14th November, 11.00 am

Jane Austen Book Club

Thursday 28th November 11am- 12 pm

U3A Book Club

Monday 11th November 11am- 12 pm

Reel Good Film Club

Tuesday 26th November: Screening 5pm Discussion 7pm

All are welcome to come watch the film at 5pm and discuss it at 7pm. Adults Only



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

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

Maynooth Harbour Project

Deputy Catherine Murphy welcomes the update received from the Minister for Culture; Heritage and the Gaeltacht in respect of the status of the redevelopment of the Maynooth Harbour project and related works. Catherine Murphy TD had asked about the amount of funding committed to this project for 2019 and 2020.

The response received is as follows:

The redevelopment of Maynooth Harbour is part of a larger proposed re-development of the Maynooth Harbour area by Kildare County Council. Waterways Ireland is aware of plans being advanced by Kildare County Council and has met with Council officials in this regard. The plans incorporate improvements to the Harbour area that is within the control of Waterways Ireland. The plans are subject to the Council obtaining planning and funding approval. Waterways Ireland is supportive of the plans and will continue to work with the Council to support their delivery. As a funding application has yet to be made by Kildare County Council, there is currently no committed funding for 2019 or 2020.

Maynooth Traffic

Following a public meeting in the Glenroyal Hotel Maynooth recently, I contacted Kildare County Council to discuss a number of the issues that had been raised at the meeting. A major issue of concern was the lights at Lidl on the Straffan Road and the dangers there with people regularly running the red lights. It was highlighted that there is a problem with the red filter arrow and people would prefer to see this changed to a standard red light. In addition there is a pole in the way of the lights and the stop line is far too close to the junction.

In relation to the entrance of the new estate, on Moyglare Road people had highlighted the need to open the pathway from the new estate to the Moyglare Road in order to improve access to schools without any further delays. In addition to contacting KCC about this I also made contact with the developer who came back to me to say they have examined the request and will endeavour to open the footpath within the next 4 weeks and the road will be opened in Mid-December. I will keep an eye on this and follow up if required.

People also raised concerns regarding a number of other road and traffic issues around Maynooth which I raised with KCC including:

- The pedestrian lights on main street not giving enough time for pedestrians to cross safely.

- The need to reinstate the coach parking bays at the Boys' National School.
- The inadequate size of the bus pull-in bays on Maynooth Main Street and the knock-on traffic issues caused. The Council have assured me that they will take this on board.
- The need to repaint and refresh the yellow box traffic management system at the Roost on Main Street.
- There is also significant concern regarding pedestrian safety on the Celbridge Road along Laurence Avenue with people afraid to let their kids walk to school.

Changes to Dublin Bus Network with Bus Connects Project.

In June 2017, the NTA released the Choices Report, an examination of the existing bus network, the levels of demand and need for public transport services throughout the greater Dublin area, and possible paths forward to improve service. The Choices Report release was followed by a public survey which gathered the priorities of over 11,000 respondents. In July 2018, the Public Consultation Report detailed the initial network proposal. The public consultation followed from July to September 2018. This consultation yielded over 30,000 comments and submissions and the outcome for the network redesign is now published.

Deputy Catherine Murphy urges the public to look at the detail of the new Bus Connects Proposals. The second round of proposed changes are open for public consultation until 3rd December 2019. It is important for our communities and those impacted by the changes to give feedback and there are a number of ways to do so. Feedback can be submitted online, by giving your comments electronically using the feedback form on www.busconnects.ie Alternatively you can send your comments in writing to: Dublin Area Bus Network Redesign, National Transport Authority, Dún Scéine, Harcourt Lane, Dublin 2, D02 WT20 or email: consultations@busconnects.ie

Catherine Murphy TD will be organising activity to gather responses and will present them to Bus Connects before the deadline. If you would like any further information please feel free to get in touch with the constituency office on 01 615 6625. Each home will receive a brochure detailing the route changes and there is an on-line map where you can plan your journey and see how it impacts you. The new bus network will be introduced in phases. The first phase is expected to be introduced in early 2021 and the network roll out could take up to two years.

For more information see Bus Mapper: <https://routemapper.busconnects.ie/>

(Continued from page 1)

Tidy Towns Competition 2019 Adjudication Report Cont.

We commend your initiatives with the local school pupils, especially where the projects involve a pollinator plan, working with identification of the essential insects. You mention bumblebees and they are certainly central to that work. Maynooth occupies an exceptional position, in having its university campus and it is great to see your work progressing there on the green campus. The work done on the college grounds is most impressive. That’s especially true of the major programme of tree planting. The number of trees there has trebled over the past decade and a half.

For us, what really stands out is the emphasis placed on native trees that enrich the eco system. Above all, they are the oaks but also include hazel, ash, holly and birch. We paused at the Harbour to admire a pair of swans sitting out on the grass along with two good sized cygnets. There were Grey Wagtails in the river and Swallows flying low. Well done on the Slade riverside enhancement and the installation of the Swift boxes. We look forward to hearing about the success of that project over the next year. You are very active in organising various events throughout the year, including National Tree Week, Biodiversity Week, bat walks and the nature outing for children. All of these activities raise the profile of the Tidy Towns work in Maynooth. Ar feabhas.

Sustainability – Doing more with less / Inmharthanacht - Mórán ar an mbeagán:
You mentioned that this is a category that you find difficulty with. We would suggest that you look to other participants who are using best practice in this category. However, having said that you are doing well with the various activities to raise local awareness about sustainability. Amongst these are the ‘bare necessities’, the clothes swap shop. Your support for the eco bricks project is admirable and this adjudicator was fascinated by it. You have also listed some businesses in the town which had taken on environmental issues proactively. Congratulations to all those concerned.

You sent us numerous photos of the local volunteers engaged in collecting litter and waste. This is the hard side and the less glamorous part of being involved in the Tidy Towns. We acknowledge that this constant and consistent work brings a benefit across the entire community. The workers went to great trouble, even wading through watercourses. The evidence of their success is there for all to see. It seems too that this exercise helped in introducing people to each other. Ni neart go cur le chéile.

It is remarkable how much work you have carried out on recycling of electrical goods. You gave a figure 43 tons of mixed electrical waste goods. That’s a great achievement. We note also the good work you do to removing items discarded in hedgerows. Hopefully, that type of waste disposal will peter out over the next while.

Maynooth is fortunate to have three charity shops. They might be regarded as part of the wider recycling network. We note with interest what you say about balloons and the local initiatives in reducing the release of balloons out into the environment. That’s commendable.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:
Following on from last year’s adjudicator’s report there seems to be a lot less clutter on Main Street from advertising boards. We only saw one premises which had two outside it. This change makes for a much neater appearance and less of a hazard for the elderly or incapacitated. We were disappointed to see litter discarded in the river at Mill Street. It was also a pity to see graffiti on the wall opposite The Harbour opposite the Glen Royal Hotel. We take on board what you say about how these graffiti can appear overnight no matter how diligent you are. We have seen how CCTV has been a deterrent in other centres. The general appearance of Maynooth on adjudication day was neat and tidy and litter free. Well done.

Residential Streets & Housing Areas / Sráideanna Cónaithe & Ceantair Tithíochta:
Moyglare Abbey has a generous proportion of open space which is marvellously well maintained. The tree-lined avenues are maturing nicely and a lovely asset to the estate. The gardens and common areas are maintained to a very high standard. Is breá na radharc iad anois.
Meadowbrook estate was nicely presented. It is unusual in that it had a stream running through it. The well-kept green open spaces are a lovely amenity for the community. Beaufield looked well as did the Straffan Way. Your engagement with the residents associations is definitely paying off. There is a social dividend for all to enjoy as a result of the residents’ hard work.

Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes / Bóithre Isteach, Sráideanna & Lánaí:
As mentioned by last year’s adjudicator the approach roads, road surfaces and markings were in good condition. Again there is a lot of construction of roadworks on entry from Kilcock and that poses a challenge to Maynooth Tidy Towns to maintain a good impression on entry to the town. We found the stone plaque on the Kilcock road required cleaning and the sign on Moyglare road was obscured by sprouting bushes.

There was the lot of advertising clutter before the Business Park access. The roses planted in front of the sign were blocking views on the Straffan Road. The roundabouts were nicely kept. Generally the access roads were litter-free which is a great achievement given the continuous traffic into Maynooth. Bhaineamar an-taitneamh as ár dturas go Maigh Nuad agus is áit deas slachtmhar í. Good work.

Concluding Remarks:

Second Round Adjudication:
Maynooth as always is a pleasure to visit and adjudicate. The tree lined streets with historical buildings appearing over the trees at both ends, as one looked up and down the street is certainly unique. Carton House with its magical wildflower meadows was a joy to visit as the sun shone through the magnificent trees. At the other end, St Patrick's College looked pristine with its cared for grounds and an array of colourful planters at the entrance. The heritage remains of what was once Maynooth Castle was also admired. The well painted facades of the buildings along main street was admired. The businesses in some cases had colourful window boxes and hanging baskets brightening up the streetscape. The houses along the streets off main street were bright and colourful, a lovely area to ramble away from busy Main Street. Accommodation development in Maynooth is ongoing with the building at the College and new housing developments in progress. Landscaping in Maynooth is of a very high standard. Planting at roundabouts, Dublin Road and the planting at Glenroyal Hotel is superb.

The use of good ground planting was noted at different locations, along with areas of tree planting which is the way groups are encouraged to go. The new Sensory Garden is a delight, just magical. This type of garden is great therapy to help one gather their thoughts and just relax. Let’s hope that it has many visitors. This is a project that should be celebrated and embraced with a walk organised from the community. All roads have good entrance signs with good landscaping. The entrance road from Kilcock has an old development sign just before the 50km sign that needs to be removed. The Car Park near the Fire Station needs to be enhanced as it looks untidy. The children’s play area is a lovely amenity for the community to enjoy. There are also good walks throughout the town that can be enjoyed by everyone.

You are doing good work trying to reduce on waste in the town. This in ongoing and needs the wider community to do their bit to reduce and recycle where possible. The same applies to litter and keeping the town neat and free of litter. The committee are doing good work in this area as they are very visible out and about on the streets. The committee gives good encouragement to people to get involved, making the work more enjoyable by having that cuppa afterwards that is enjoyed by all present.

Well done on your work and you are wished continued success.

An Nuadha Players Panto Time!

Yes – it is hard to believe but it is that time of the year again! After an exciting year celebrating our 20th anniversary we are now back in rehearsal for *Beauty and the Beast*, this year’s panto offering.

Earlier in the year we presented a brand new musical, *Twisted*, from the pen of Martin Higgins to mark our 20th year in existence. It was a great success and reunited many former members of the group, who combined with the present membership to create an evening of magic and laughter.

In September we held a Sunset Boulevard Ball in the Glenroyal Hotel, an evening of glitz, glamour, fun and dance: lots of red carpet arrivals and flashing cameras – Hollywood eat your heart out.

Now we are back to learning a new script and new dance routines – those of us with two left feet are having to face a feat comparable to climbing Everest but, no doubt, we will get there and keep smiling in the process. Meadhbh Fitzgibbon Moore, as our choreographer, certainly keeps us on our toes and gives us a complete workout with each rehearsal. Catriona Higgins, as director, makes sure that we all know where exactly we are supposed to be and what we are supposed to be doing – and most of the time we do remember! Colin Sloane keeps all the music on track and loves coming up with challenging harmonies for us to learn. We won’t feel November slipping by with rehearsals and before we know it we will be on stage again.

Beauty and the Beast opens on Thurs. 28th Nov. and runs until Sun. 1st Dec. Evening shows on Thurs. to Sat. start at 7.30 and matinees on Sat. and Sun. start at 2.30. The show will run in the Aula Maxima, St. Patrick’s College and we are eternally grateful to the College for their continued support.

Tickets are available from Maynooth Bookshop and online at buytickets.at/annuadhplayers.

We are also having a fundraising Table Quiz in Brady’s (upstairs) on Fri. 8th Nov. at 8.30. If you enjoy brain teasers then do come along!

If you are new to the area and are interested in any area of theatre or stagecraft you can find us on Facebook or contact us at annuadhplayers@gmail.com – we are always looking for new members.
See you at the Panto – please support your local talent!





Writers’ Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

Belfast Visit

As the packed Enterprise train from Dublin glides slowly towards Belfast’s Central Station I recall the late November day that I, with a college pal, hitchhiked from University College Galway to this city. In the intervening fifty-one years I haven’t been back once, no doubt subconsciously deterred by the image of dour, southern-hating Loyalists. What sort of reception will my wife and I receive now that power sharing has finally been achieved?

The station is modern, its long corridor reminiscent of an airport terminal. After making enquiries, a friendly attendant advises us to take a local train back to Botanic Station, near which there are a number of guesthouses. It is excellent advice and we are soon ringing the bell of a corner B&B on Botanic Avenue. The Lebanese student who greets us is informative and welcoming. She regrets that there is no ensuite empty but we can have a room for three at a little extra cost, payment in advance. The room is somewhat cramped but as we are now within walking distance of the city centre we decide to accept. It turns out to be a wise choice.

After a cup of tea in the lounge, we walk up to Great Victoria Street, surprised to see a mountain ridge above houses to the west. On one gable a mural in large print proclaims that the district beyond is Loyalist territory but apart from this there are no obvious tribal markers. Most people we pass look open and relaxed and one man we speak to informs us that the mountain is called Black Mountain. The street, while busy, is not as crowded as a Dublin street would be on an August afternoon and there are almost no non-Europeans to be seen.

We pass the much bombed but now unblemished Europa Hotel and the ornate Grand Opera House before eventually turning right into Wellington Place and walking to Donegall Square. This square is dominated by the City Hall, an impressive building that with its surrounding lawn gives the city centre a sense of space and grandeur. People are strolling about inside the railing, two lovers are reclining on the grass and tourists are resting on benches.

We make enquiries about a good place to eat and are directed to the Basement Restaurant on the east side of the square. After a tasty meal of lamb chops with mash and red berry sauce, accompanied by a glass of Shiraz, all for the reasonable price of £14 each, we walk east to the recently developed Waterfront area, a lovely addition to the cityscape. Here the Hilton Hotel and Waterfront Hall facing the broad Lagan capture our attention but what strikes me especially is a gleaming metal-tube statue of a girl holding a hoop in her up-stretched hands. Does she symbolise the new spirit of freedom pervading this city? Further up there is another imaginative work of art, a beautiful large fish covered with ceramic tiles showing well-known local images. Despite the attractiveness of this whole area, however, it is, except for five or six boys with skateboards, almost deserted, perhaps because the Waterfront Hall is closed for renovation.

We retrace our steps down Great Victoria Street, passing The Spires, an ornate former Presbyterian church turned into a shopping mall, and the popular Crown Liquor Saloon, where good-humoured couples are standing on the pavement with glasses of beer – hardly the image of a kill-joy city! Back in our B&B we have an interesting discussion with the Lebanese girl about the unequal position of women in Muslim countries and she points out that despite having a female monarch here, some professions such as pharmacy - for which she is doing a postgraduate course at Queens University – do not have equal pay for men and women: “Why doesn’t the Queen do something about that?”

After a cup of tea we watch BBC2 in our room before taking an early night’s rest. As I pull the duvet over me I recall how half a century previously my friend and I, notwithstanding our conspicuous display of UCG scarves, would still have been hitch hiking at this hour, it being 10pm by the time we managed to reach Belfast. On that occasion we stayed at the Union Hotel and the following day, a Saturday, joined spectators in Casement Park for the intervarsity Sigerson competition. Queens put on a grand display of Gaelic football but, to the best of my recollection, UCD won the cup by defeating UCC.

Back in the 21st Century my initial impressions of Belfast are confirmed next morning when we take a sightseeing bus tour. Our young female guide has a wicked sense of humour that spares neither Loyalist nor Nationalist. We are taken past the great landmarks such as Harland and Wolff with its two giant cranes, the popularly renamed George Best Airport and Stormont with its magnificent mile-long approach, then past the first ‘peace wall’, a reminder that, despite power-sharing, old rivalries still fester. This fact is reinforced later when we drive down the Shankill with its angry murals and remains of a massive 12th of July bonfire, though two small boys we pass call out a friendly greeting.

Maybe it’s my Southern bias, but the Falls Road seems less paranoiac: there is a reverential mural of Bobby Sands – which counterpoises one of the Queen Mother in the Shankill – and various signs written in Gaelic, including Cultúrlann McAdam Ó Fiaich. Our guide informs us that each night the gate in the peace wall separating the Shankill and Falls is locked and does not reopen till 5a.m. She then tells a joke about the Mater Hospital, which the Loyalists pronounce ‘Mayter’ and the Nationalists ‘Máter’: “If you went to the hospital with a gash in your head, it wouldn’t mayter or máter so long as you got it fixed!” Further on we pass a grammar school that President Mary McAleese attended as a teenager while I endeavour to snap another photo before we head east towards Queen’s Quarter.

The tour is over, we take a No1 bus to Belfast Castle on the slopes of Cave Hill. Public

access to this wonderful amenity is free and there are various walks, one leading up to MacArt’s Fort on the summit, where in 1791 Theobald Wolfe Tone, Samuel Neilson and other Protestant radicals formed the United Irishmen. Lack of time precludes a visit to the summit so we content ourselves with enjoying the bird’s eye view of the city and, after lunch in the bistro, taking in the various exhibits. While waiting for the bus back to the city centre we photograph Cave Hill, its outline resembling a man’s head – Could it be the profile of one of our Mesolithic ancestors or, if you prefer legend, of Finn Mac Cumhail, who built the Giant’s Causeway?

Back in Botanic Avenue this evening we are able to transfer to an ensuite that costs less than our first room. The landlady, a warm, gregarious Armagh woman, confides that she only explains the facts of cultural divisions to her children, avoiding all emotional bias. In this part of Belfast there is none of the intertribal feuding that persists in some of the outlying estates, a view that our observations so far confirm.

Next morning we walk to Queens University, where, in the visitor’s centre, Seamus Heaney’s picture is prominently displayed. An attendant allows us to view the Great Hall, though its tables are laid for a wedding dinner, and a cabbie reverses unasked so that I can photograph the facade. In the Botanic Gardens we encounter the same spontaneous courtesy, men and women smiling an acknowledgment as they pass. This pattern is repeated throughout the day, whether it is the greeter in St. Anne’s Church of Ireland cathedral entering into a long discussion that ranges from Dan Brown’s Da Vinci Code to his dislike of the cathedral’s new metal spire or the young deacon in St. Patrick’s R.C. church who helps us find information about Sir John Lavery’s beautiful painting of “The Madonna of the Lakes” on display in the side aisle.

Of course there are less pleasant images – the small group of winos sitting in an alleyway, the fortified police barracks with its massive gates opening onto a blast wall, the Orange Hall encased in wire-mesh on the northern fringe of the Shankill – but these are few and far between. What is more obvious is the quiet confidence of this city, a confidence that for me is epitomised by that new gleaming spire on St. Anne’s or even, perhaps, the motor cyclist zooming up Great Victoria Street with his front wheel in the air!

In the city centre we visit another famous landmark, the Albert Memorial Clock, the Northern equivalent of Nelson’s Pillar. Despite efforts to strengthen the foundation the pillar now leans 1.25 metres off vertical, causing it to be nicknamed “Belfast’s Leaning Tower”. City Hall’s interior affords, among other delights, a spectacular view of the great dome and a number of stain glass windows, one commemorating the Great Famine and a more recent one Jim Larkin and the Irish labour movement. Obviously the city authorities are making an effort to emphasise traditions common to both communities.

Over roast beef dinner in The Spires I tell my wife about a wild night in the Union Hotel following the Sigerson Cup when drink-fuelled renditions of rebel songs such as “Kevin Barry” led to the RUC being called. It was on that occasion also that a student climbed a hotel flagpole to remove a Union Jack that was later burned in Dublin’s O’Connell Street. Thankfully things have moved on since those fractious times with former adversaries such as Ian Paisley and Martin McGuinness working amicably together in Stormont. Today’s Belfast is a rapidly changing city, open and friendly, a vibrant young girl dancing with a hoop. We shall certainly return.

P.G. Nerney

Goldfinch Nest

It’s just a compact, blackish lump
cradled in a forking branch
of our cherry-blossom tree
stripped by heedless winds and rain,
its bright-winged ménage flown.

I see in it my natal home
left derelict and barren,
the college where I came of age
among lighthearted classmates
shabby now, deserted.

It could even be the semi-detach
in which we raised our bright-eyed brood
or this nurturing planet earth
threatened by overexploitation,
its former grandeur lost.

Colin Scott

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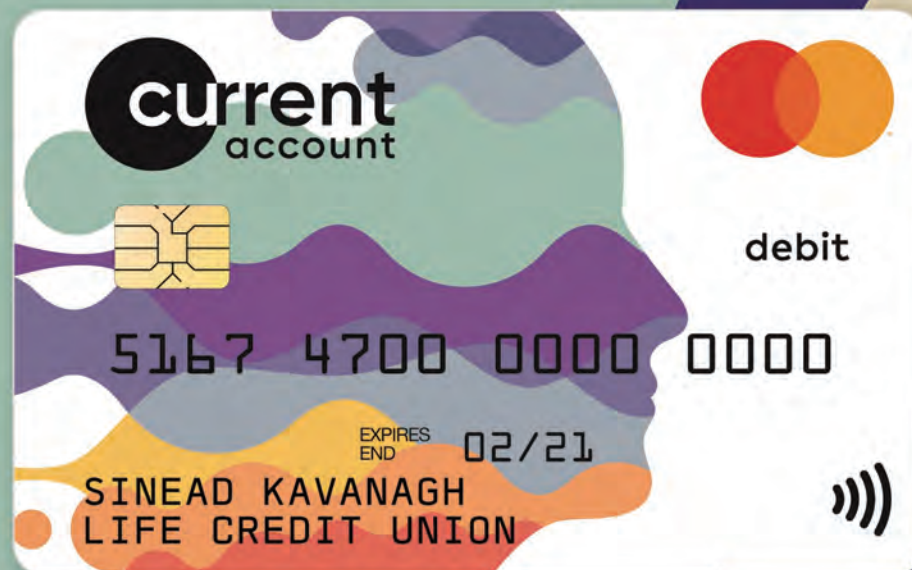
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Peter Hamilton Green Party Councillor

Mobile: 087 2316308 - e-mail: Peter.Hamilton@greenparty.ie



Traffic Chaos in Maynooth

During the last weeks of September the growing traffic problems in Maynooth tipped into critical levels. Some residents experienced one-hour delays to travel less than 2 miles across town. Drivers became frustrated leading to potentially dangerous situations. Our pedestrians and cyclists felt very unsafe in this hostile and unfriendly environment.

The factors that led to this were partly due to a normal September/October surge as schools, college students and work commuters are all back to their normal patterns. However, a number of other factors contributed to make a bad situation worse and gave us the worst traffic the town has ever experienced. Roadworks and construction, faults in traffic light control systems, along with poor planning and traffic management in the Moyglare roadworks created a worst ever situation.

“Residents who have lived in Maynooth for up to 50 years reported having never seen worse conditions, even before the town was bypassed by the motorway.”

Give us our town back

Maynooth Community Council called a public meeting on Monday October 4th attended by about three to four hundred people. Fergal Barton from Barton’s bus company described two new records with buses taking one hour ten minutes to get across town, and 50 minutes just to get out of the gate of the Post Primary School on the Moyglare road. Angela Treacy from Treacy buses and the Community Council said they are losing valuable business as people cannot count on the buses to get children to school on time.

Contributors said that our growing traffic levels are “preventing people living their lives”. A 25-year Maynooth resident said “we are losing our town”. Parents are being forced to put kids back into cars for the school run because it is too unsafe to walk.

Designated Growth Hub

Maynooth and Kilcock are designated growth hubs for the greater Dublin area. The population of Maynooth is heading for 16,000 with a further 13,700 students enrolled in Maynooth university. The population of Kilcock is heading for 7,000 and there are new housing developments in progress or planned for both towns.

“We are in a housing crisis; people need affordable places to live and we are one of the most important computer belt areas supporting the greater Dublin metropolitan area”

This development plans will see Maynooth and Kilcock together grow to a total population of over 30,000 within the next 5 years, as the two towns merge to become a single urban area. We are supporting the economy of the wider Dublin metropolitan area and playing a significant part supporting the strong national economy we have benefited from over the past decades. We are also in the middle of a housing crisis and we do need to show compassion towards people who cannot find affordable housing or get onto the first rung of the housing ladder. Our strong national economy has benefited most of us with employment and prospects for us and our children, close to the highest levels of wealth in Europe though many in our society do not experience this. However, it is now essential that we plan and manage this growth of our towns very carefully over the next few years. There are important balances to be found between our economy, environment and climate considerations, quality of life, and also the type of education, health, affordable housing and other services a strong economy should be able to provide to more of us.

Developer first planning

A policy of market-driven developer first planning has created many of our problems including 35 years of plans for a ring road that is not completed yet. We finally have clear plans to complete most of the ring road. The planning for the Maynooth Eastern bypass route is progressing in record time, partially due to the housing and traffic challenges and needs of a growth hub. The northern bypass route is in advanced stages of planning and the connection from the Celbridge Road to the Meadowbrook junction is being completed by the developer.



Last April this 67 bus waited for 4 light changes at the Celbridge road junction with two other buses in the line of traffic behind it.

A second motorway interchange is in early stages of planning as well as plans for a third lane on the motorway. This could turn out to be a very mixed blessing by simply attracting more car traffic locally and from further out. This has been proven in other countries where roads are prioritised over efficient public and other forms of transport. We could simply be digging a deeper and deeper hole in terms of our quality of life and what we need to face up to in order to address the climate emergency. We cannot keep building while ignoring this.

“2-3 Tough Years”

We now have the prospect of 2-3 very tough years in Maynooth completing the school

campus on the Moyglare road, completing the Moyglare road improvements and the bypass routes, planning the long overdue improvements to the Celbridge road, and the housing construction in progress through our towns. Where are the plans for quality bus routes, cycling infrastructure and rail electrification and improvement in all this?

Short-term improvements

The Directors in Kildare County Council and the engineering team have started to pay very close attention, listening to the councillors and the output from our public meeting. Immediately they have put in place closer roadwork and construction monitoring. Mistakes were made by leaving only a single lane open on Moyglare road in peak times. The Parsons Street water mains work has been deferred and the council have asked Irish Water for a very clear justification, public consultation and a plan to complete the works at a quiet time of the year. With the amount of growth and other work in our town these short-term measures will only prevent the worst problems.

The traffic lights on the Straffan road have several problems. The smart timing system at the Meadowbrook junction failed over a 3-day period which caused some of the worst gridlock. The traffic lights at LIDL is to be replaced with smarter lights synchronised with the rest of the lights. This is the responsibility of the developer as well as the

connecting ring-road as part of the ‘developer led’ approach. KCC cannot control the timing of this but promised me they are speaking to the developer to get this work done as early as possible. Meanwhile there are quite serious safety risks caused by the visibility of lights at this junction which have caused some serious accidents and near misses. The Garda superintendent has already addressed this with the council and they are working on short- and medium-term solutions to make the light more visible.

There is a different way – Active Travel and Liveable Cities

There is a different way – we can get out of this downward spiral with a different kind of planning to reclaim our town and quality of life. It will take courage and good planning to create a different kind of community. Most of all it takes looking forward instead of backwards looking at very positive models that are working very effectively in Denmark, the Netherlands and Germany. We don’t have a ‘magic wand’ for this so it will take a multi-year and very strategic approach to development planning.

- Planning for much more pedestrian and cycle friendly routes and lifestyles.
- Support for ring roads and services for cars on the ring including parking and good connections.
- Lifestyles less dependent on commuting – discovering different ways of working and different economic models – with work hubs for small local business and schools right in the community.
- Significantly better rail and bus links with line electrification and double tracks to Kilcock and Enfield for much greater capacity and quality of service.
- In the medium term plans for more express buses linking major commuter centres similar to those in Swords and Fingal.
- Public transport planning that supports much faster carbon reduction for each journey than can happen with private cars through the electrification of our trains and buses.

As a daily commuter to Dublin I know our rail line at near full capacity and can be a very bad experience at peak times. Electrification will increase this with much faster times between stops. An electrified double line to Kilcock and Enfield will bring thousands more commuters and students to work faster with significantly less environmental impact and cut into the continuously lengthening tailback on the M4 every morning.

“Reclaim our town centre by making it less necessary or attractive to bring cars and delivery vehicles into town”

Well-designed ring-roads help us reclaim our town by making it less necessary or attractive to bring cars and delivery vehicles into town. This is why I supported the ring road development in my election campaign despite some criticism from environmental groups. I have supported this consistently in the Council chamber since the election for the same reason helping the rapid progress of the Easter bypass plan.

All of these things will help towards the ‘modal shift’ that will be necessary as we ‘wake-up’ and start to work more urgently towards the climate and carbon emission targets being set for 2030 and 2050. I appeal to everybody in the town to look beyond the logjam of our car culture and the result of decades of sprawling developer first planning. We need to be courageous in starting to make changes for many reasons.

(Continued on page 23)



Tailback at the Meadowbrook junction earlier this year

Peter Hamilton Green Party Councillor Cont/...

(Continued from page 22)

And now for something completely different

€1m for Royal Canal Greenway

New funding was announced on October 10th to complete the Royal Canal Greenway from Maynooth in County Kildare via Mullingar to Cloondara in County Longford. When completed hopefully by spring or early summer 2020 the Royal Canal Greenway will be the longest in Ireland at 130km. Minister Kevin 'Boxer' Moran TD together with Waterways Ireland and representatives of Westmeath, Kildare and Longford county councils announced a funding €1m for Phase 2 of the Royal Canal Greenway, provided from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport Budget 2020 allocation for greenways.



Photo: Minister Kevin 'Boxer' Moran TD with Sharon Lavin, Waterways Ireland; Pat Keating, Westmeath County Council; Cllr Peter Hamilton, Kildare County Council; and Barbara Heslin, Longford County Council. Photo courtesy Westmeath Examiner

The Green New Deal – moving from the 'gig and dig economy'

Our local hero from Maynooth Lorna Gold chaired a stimulating talk by world-renowned climate action champion and author Naomi Klein. A crowd of almost 1,500 people came to the National Stadium on Friday Oct 18th. Naomi Klein showed us clearly that government and industry had clear knowledge of climate warming risk going back to 1980, how the carbon industry lobbied and funded agencies spreading misinformation while at the same time taking measures to protect themselves from the impacts.

Her new book 'On Fire' shows how a new approach to economic and social thinking with creative financing similar to wartime bonds and the post-war 'New Deal' can help us move to the new sustainable and equitable economic model.

Maynooth was well represented at the event by our Zero Waste Team, MU Climate Action Group, Maynooth Cycling, the Maynooth and Clane SEC Groups and of course the Green Party.

Our Green Party Team in North Kildare

Peter Hamilton: Green Party Councillor for the Kilcock-Maynooth LEA

Vanessa Liston: Green Party Councillor for the Celbridge LEA

Vincent P Martin: Green Party General Election Candidate and Green Party Councillor for Naas LEA



Lorna Gold and Naomi Klein at the National Stadium 18th October.
Photo courtesy Naomi Klein



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Maynooth University Town Football Club

Leinster Senior League Results & League Tables



Congratulations go to our top class winger Cillian Duffy on his call up to the Republic of Ireland Junior International team. Just reward for his consistency over the past few seasons. A great honour for himself and the team.

Our season continues to move along at a fast pace with some excellent results of late.

L.S.L. Senior Division Town 3 Ballymun Utd 1
Town produced an excellent performance to outclass a Ballymun side who were intent on smothering the game with a packed midfield. Town soon unlocked the combination and Daniel Burke opened the scoring with a close range effort. Cillian Duffy increased the lead when smashing home from the edge of the area. Ballymun reduced the lead midway through the second half. Town upped their game once more and Cillian Duffy closed the scoring to secure an excellent win for Town.

L.S.L. Senior Division Town 2 Newbridge Town 0
Town grabbed the bragging right in this first Kildare derby in many years. The experience of Newbridge helped them settle early but Town soon got to grips with the game and matched the visitors in every aspect of the game. Goals by Cillian Duffy and Conor Foley ensured the points in an impressive performance .

L.S.L. Senior Division Town 3 Edenderry Town 0
Town proved the masters in this grudge match against old foes Edenderry Town. Cillian Duffy proved to be the star of the show when setting up Jackson Ryan for an early opening goal. Duffy then smashed a free kick off the upright. The torment of Edenderry continued with Duffy scoring twice more in the second half

to cap an excellent personal and team performance.

F.A.I. Intermediate Cup 2nd Round
Town 1 - Bluebell Utd 0
This was a game where strength in our panel paid handsome dividends in a workmanlike performance. Five times winners Bluebell Utd fancied their chances going into this game. Town tore up their script and put up a superb performance to grind out a hard fought win.
An evenly matched ninety minutes failed to produce a goal with both defences in top form.
Extra time seemed to be going the same way as the previous ninety minutes until the tenth minute when Conor Foley found room for himself twenty yards out and placed his shot wide of the Bluebell keeper much to the delight of the home fans. With tiring legs beginning to tell the introductions from the bench added extra impetus and Town held out for an excellent win.

L.S.L. Major Div Saturday - Town 1 U.C.D. 1
A Darragh Deegan goal helped Town to share the points in this hard fought game.

L.S.L. Major Div Saturday - Town 5 Colepark Utd 2
Town were excellent value for this win with a top class win over Colepark Utd. A Dean Barrett hat-trick and a couple from Dan Reynolds were the highlights.

L.S.L. Div 3 Sunday - Edenderry Town 1 Town 1
A youthful Town side were unlucky not to take all three points against an experienced Edenderry side. A Ross Banahan goal helped Town share the points.

Leinster Senior League Senior Division Sunday									
#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1.	St. Mochtas FC	7	5	2	0	14	7	7	17
2.	Liffey Wanderers	7	4	2	1	16	7	9	14
3.	Bangor GG FC	5	4	1	0	15	4	11	13
4.	Maynooth University Town FC	8	4	1	3	11	9	2	13
5.	Newbridge Town FC	10	3	3	4	18	25	-7	12
6.	Malahide United	7	3	2	2	11	8	3	11
7.	Edenderry Town	7	3	2	2	10	9	1	11
8.	Bluebell United	6	2	4	0	15	12	3	10
9.	Crumlin United FC	5	3	0	2	11	7	4	9
10.	Killester Donnycarney FC	5	2	1	2	8	6	2	7
11.	Cherry Orchard	5	1	1	3	9	15	-6	4
12.	Portmarnock AFC	6	1	0	5	11	19	-8	3
13.	Wayside Celtic	6	0	1	5	4	12	-8	1
14.	Ballymun United	6	0	0	6	6	19	-13	0

Senior Division Sunday Results			
Date	Home	Result	Away
11/10/19	Maynooth University Town FC	3 : 0	Edenderry Town
04/10/19	Maynooth University Town FC	2 : 0	Newbridge Town FC
22/09/19	Wayside Celtic	1 : 2	Maynooth University Town FC
18/09/19	Maynooth University Town FC	3 : 1	Ballymun United
06/09/19	Maynooth University Town FC	1 : 2	St. Mochtas FC
01/09/19	Bluebell United	2 : 0	Maynooth University Town FC
23/08/19	Maynooth University Town FC	0 : 0	Killester Donnycarney FC
16/08/19	Malahide United	3 : 0	Maynooth University Town FC

Leinster Senior League Division 3 Sunday									
#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1.	Maynooth University Town FC	8	6	1	1	31	15	16	19
2.	Confey FC	7	5	1	1	26	10	16	16
3.	Verona FC	9	4	3	2	32	17	15	15
4.	Loughshinny United	6	4	1	1	24	7	17	13
5.	Ayrfield United	6	4	0	2	23	13	10	12
6.	Edenderry Town	7	3	3	1	12	11	1	12
7.	Woodfarm Football Club	10	3	2	5	11	17	-6	11
8.	Dingle United	8	3	1	4	21	17	4	10
9.	Esker Celtic FC	9	3	1	5	20	30	-10	10
10.	Tymon Bawn AFC	8	3	0	5	17	41	-24	9
11.	Wayside Celtic	6	2	1	3	8	13	-5	7
12.	River Valley Rangers AFC	5	1	0	4	11	18	-7	3
13.	Shankill FC	5	1	0	4	13	30	-17	3
14.	Spartak Dynamo FC	4	0	0	4	2	12	-10	0

Leinster Senior League Major Saturday									
#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1.	Bluebell United	7	7	0	0	27	7	20	21
2.	Crumlin United FC	6	4	2	0	13	4	9	14
3.	UCD AFC	6	4	1	1	15	3	12	13
4.	Maynooth University Town FC	5	3	2	0	13	4	9	11
5.	Booth Road Celtic	5	3	0	2	11	11	0	9
6.	Cherry Orchard	6	2	2	2	12	8	4	8
7.	Bangor GG FC	7	2	2	3	13	18	-5	8
8.	Swords Celtic FC	7	2	0	5	6	19	-13	6
9.	Ballymun United	4	1	0	3	6	8	-2	3
10.	Liffey Wanderers	3	1	0	2	3	9	-6	3
11.	St. Patrick's CYFC	6	0	1	5	8	16	-8	1
12.	Colepark United	6	0	0	6	6	26	-20	0

Major Saturday Results			
Date	Home	Result	Away
19/10/19	Maynooth University Town FC	1 : 1	UCD AFC
12/10/19	Maynooth University Town FC	5 : 2	Colepark United
21/09/19	Liffey Wanderers	0 : 3	Maynooth University Town FC
07/09/19	Bangor GG FC	1 : 1	Maynooth University Town FC
31/08/19	Maynooth University Town FC	3 : 0	Swords Celtic FC

Division 3 Sunday Results			
Date	Home	Result	Away
20/10/19	Maynooth University Town FC	5 : 4	Shankill FC
13/10/19	Edenderry Town	1 : 1	Maynooth University Town FC
06/10/19	Maynooth University Town FC	2 : 4	Esker Celtic FC
22/09/19	River Valley Rangers AFC	1 : 5	Maynooth University Town FC
15/09/19	Maynooth University Town FC	4 : 0	Edenderry Town
08/09/19	Woodfarm Football Club	2 : 3	Maynooth University Town FC
27/08/19	Maynooth University Town FC	8 : 1	Tymon Bawn AFC
25/08/19	Ayrfield United	2 : 3	Maynooth University Town FC

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Maynooth Monthly Diary Planner

Community Library	Maynooth Multiple Births	Bridge Club
<p><u>*NEW OPENING HOURS*</u></p> <p>Monday 10am – 5pm Tuesday 10am – 8pm Wednesday 10am – 5pm Thursday 10am – 8pm Friday 10am -5pm Saturday 10am – 5pm</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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p><i>Crafts every Monday night at 8.00pm. New members welcome</i></p>	<p>Maynooth Local History Group Meets Last Thursday of each Month in The Glenroyal Hotel</p> <p>New Members Welcome Contact: MCEP Office for more details (Unit 5 Tesco's S.C.)</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.</p> <p>New members welcome Drop in for a cuppa & chat if interested</p> <p>Contact Mary: 0861662910 or Lena: 0876717062</p>	<p>Maynooth Parent & Toddler Group meet on every Thursday during term time.</p> <p>Drop in, €5 per family - refreshments and kids entertainment.</p> <p>Maynooth Community Space 09:30 till 11:30am</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.</p> <p>For further information contact Bernadette at 01-6286288 or Lena at 01-6285128.</p>	<p>1st Floor Manor Mills (entrance next to Chill) Service times every Sunday morning from 10.30am www.maynoothcc.org Everyone most welcome</p>
Maynooth Senior Citizens	Zero Waste Maynooth	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>Free Community Event 2nd Saturday of the month</p> <p>Maynooth Community Space: 2-4pm Everyone welcome to pop in for a wander around a cuppa & chat.</p> <p>Learn how to reduce your waste - save money while looking after our planet</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.</p> <p>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

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

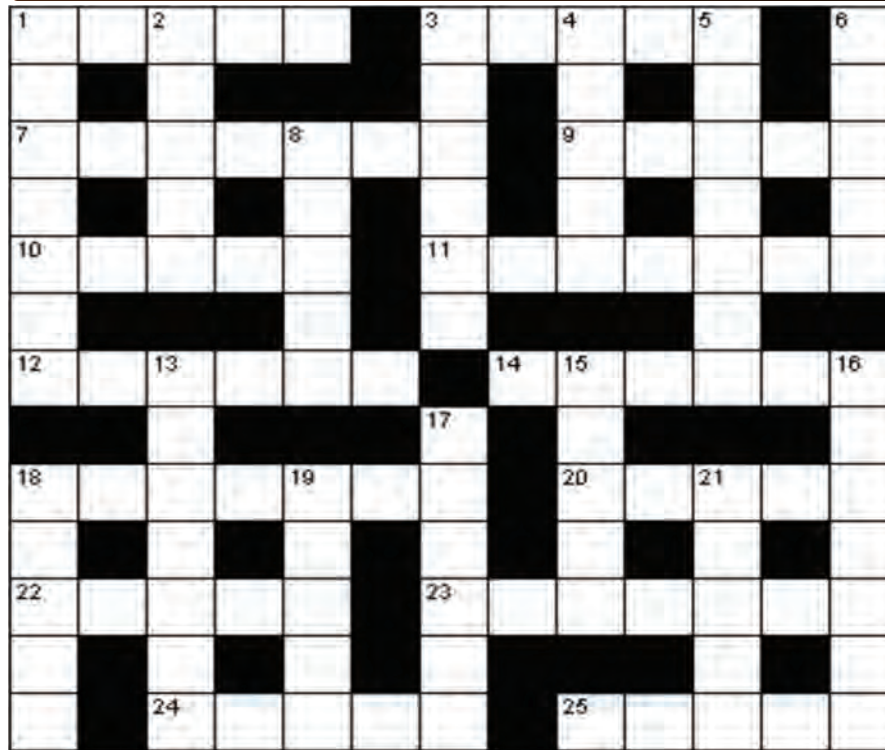
Clues Across

Across

1. Utensil (5)
3. Path (5)
7. Disregarded (7)
9. Send out (5)
10. Military command (5)
11. Mythical beast (7)
12. Taste (6)
14. Movie house (6)
18. Bet (7)
20. Deduce (5)
22. Unsuitable (5)
23. Roamed (7)
24. Finished (5)
25. Small boat (5)



November 2019 Crossword - No. 485



Clues Down

Down

1. Mariners (7)
2. Possessed (5)
3. Boredom (6)
4. Legal excuse (5)
5. Svelte (7)
6. Beer mug (5)
8. Relating to country life (5)
13. Tycoon (7)
15. Dialect (5)
16. Condense (7)
17. Worshipped (6)
18. Forgo (5)
19. Graded (5)
21. Criminal (5)



Solutions to Crossword No. 484

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

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Entries in before: Tuesday 19th Nov 2019

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Winner of Crossword No. 484

Joanna Branagan
Middle House
Celbridge Road
Maynooth

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

Collect prize from
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Difficult

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

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 2019

Entries must arrive to
Newsletter Office before:
Tuesday 19th Nov 2019

Congratulations to Last Month's Winner:

Eileen D'Arcy
Castlepark Drive
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

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

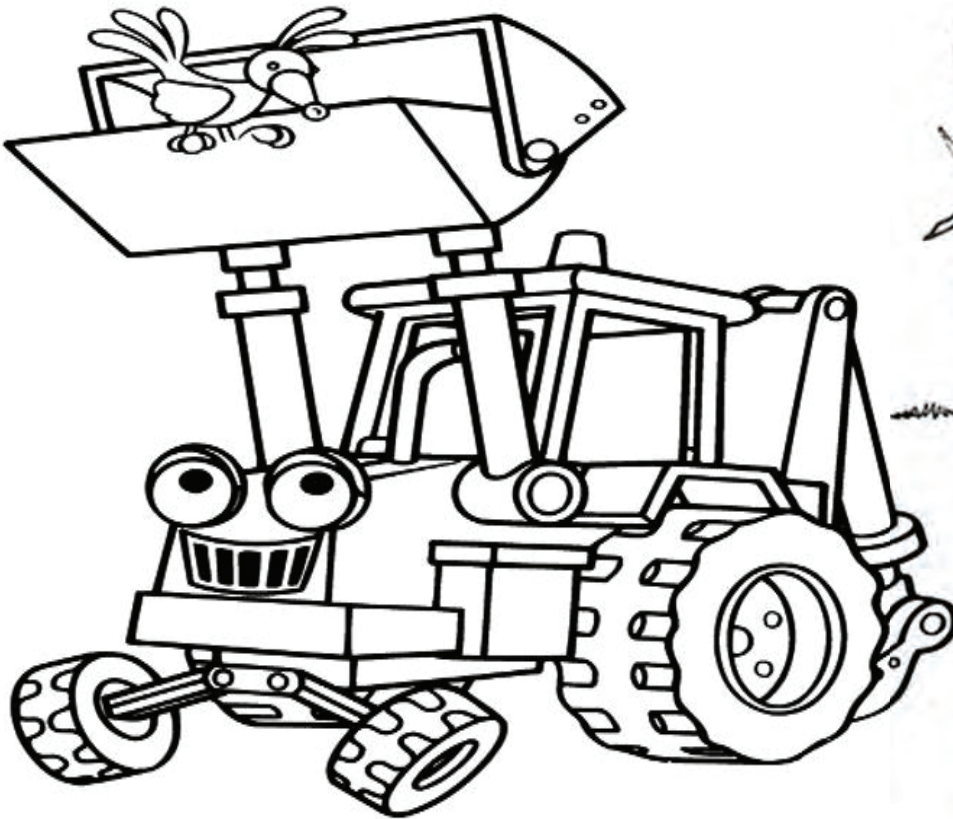
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Last Month's Winner:

Dylan McLoughlin
Newtown Hall
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Prize of a Free Family Meal for
Colouring Competition can be
collected at:
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Unit 5, Tesco Shopping Centre.

Entries must arrive before
Tuesday 19th November

Junior Puzzle Corner

Shoe		X	K	C	O	L	B
Duck		L	N	E	E	R	G
Doll		L	G	L	O	B	E
Globe		O	Q	N	C	W	C
Block		D	N	S	H	O	E
Green		U	W	K	C	U	D

November

Word Search

I	D	J	S	O	Y	L	E	L	L	E	N	V	E	ALVIN
E	E	I	I	I	N	M	J	Y	A	O	E	M	T	SIMON
R	L	M	V	H	M	E	C	I	R	T	A	E	B	THEODORE
N	E	E	C	A	A	O	B	E	Y	N	T	B	O	DAVID
O	B	L	A	N	D	R	N	S	T	S	S	A	L	BEATRICE
T	D	S	E	N	I	A	H	J	N	I	E	T	A	BRITTANY
R	L	T	E	T	O	N	N	B	E	E	V	N	R	JEANETTE
S	T	L	T	R	E	R	E	L	I	I	I	I	E	ELEANOR
E	Y	A	T	T	I	Y	E	L	V	T	L	N	L	LILY
A	N	R	L	O	R	I	R	H	R	E	L	A	L	SEVILLE
Y	E	E	R	O	D	O	E	H	T	C	E	T	I	MILLER
H	R	L	T	N	Y	B	I	L	R	E	C	O	M	
N	I	V	L	A	T	I	D	L	I	L	Y	I	L	
T	A	M	L	V	H	A	L	A	J	T	L	V	B	

What Happens in November?

Hibernation occurs when an animal becomes inactive, or "sleeps," during the short, cold days of *winter*. Hibernating and dormant *mammals* include **bears, squirrels, groundhogs, raccoons, skunks, opossums, dormice, and bats.**





Writers' Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers Cont/....

Gem on the River Neisse

Last year I had the pleasure of visiting Gorlitz which is the most easterly city of Germany. This City is located on the river Neisse about 110 km east of Dresden. Following the Second World War, all the German territory east of the Oder-Neisse rivers was ceded to Poland in accordance with the Potsdam conference of 1945. The new border between Germany and Poland divided a number of German cities in two, Frankfurt / Oder and Gorlitz to name but two.

The eastern part of Gorlitz was now renamed Zgorzelec, all the streets were renamed in Polish and the German population were expelled by the Polish authorities. The main part of the city lay on the western (German) side of the river and today has a population of 58,000, where as the eastern side (Polish) has 32,000 inhabitants.

Gorlitz is an architectural gem and is sometimes referred to as Dresden's little sister. With a heritage stretching from the 11th to the 20th century and with over 4,000 monuments and buildings spanning a wide range of architecture from late Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, to the Industrial age (Grunderzeit) and Art Nouveau (Jugend stil), I would describe it as an out door art gallery.

Fortunately Gorlitz suffered no damage during the war, the German army held the city before evacuating on May 8th 1945, the day the war ended. Before that they blew up the two Bridges in the City to slow up the Russian advance.

Since 1995 an anonymous donor has contributed a half million Euro per year towards the restoration of the beautiful facades that are so numerous in this City. The East German government were in no position financially to do much during their existence to look after these buildings and many of them became dilapidated.

Gorlitz is a very walk-able city since the vast majority of the most noteworthy sites are within a two kilometre radius of the City Centre (Alt Stadt) which is comprised of the Upper Market (Ober Markt) and lower market (Unter Markt). These two areas of cobbled stone streets and squares are full of nice restaurants, pubs, shops, churches, museums including the City Hall. It would be difficult to single out any particular sight that that would take preference such is the array of interesting sights to see here. If I were pushed I would say visit St Peter and Paul the land mark Gothic Church on the river bank in the lower market, The Schlesischen (Silesian Museum) which houses priceless documents and artefacts going back over one thousand years.

The Heilige Grab (Holy Sepulchre) which is a copy of the one in Jerusalem AND was instigated by the Mayor of Gorlitz Georg Emmerich in gratitude for his safe return following his pilgrimage to Jerusalem in 1465.

Because of its beautiful buildings Gorlitz has become a very popular place for the film industry with such blockbusters as "The Grand Budapest Hotel" and "Inglorious Basterds" among the many films that have been shot here over the years, so much so that the city has been tagged as "Gorliwood". The scenes for The Grand Budapest Hotel were filmed in the Strassburger Passage which is an Art Nouveau shopping mall, this is situated about a ten minute walk from the train station.

Gorlitz prospered in the middle ages due to its location on the "via Regia" (Royal Road) which was a trade route that ran from the Rhine in the west to Krakow in the east. It became an important centre for the linen and brewing industry.

The main bridge over the river to Zgorzelec which carries road rail and pedestrian traffic was restored following the treaty of Gorlitz between Poland and East Germany (DDR) in 1950. This bridge was named the Bridge of Peace, despite its name, it was a very tightly controlled bridge even though Poland and East Germany were supposed to be fraternal socialist allies, both being members of the Warsaw Pact. In 2004 a pedestrian bridge was opened which connects the lower market in the old town with the Polish side. Walking across this bridge today is just like walking across O'Connell Bridge in Dublin. What is immediately noticeable when you cross to the Polish side is obviously all the signs are in Polish with street names like Wroclawska and Lubanska etc. The only exception were the signs for cheap beer and cigarettes which were in German.

On one of my ventures into the Polish side (Zgorzelec), I noticed a few well appointed Polish restaurants along the river side displaying menus in Polish and German which were considerably cheaper than back in Gorlitz. Further along this street I noticed a plaque on

the wall which stated that this was the house of Jakob Boehme. He was a Luthern theologian and mystic who was born in 1575. Boehme came from a modest background and served his apprenticeship as a shoe maker before he became engaged in philosophy and theology. This house which has been tastefully restored, is today a museum with all the tools of the trade that Boehme would have used as a shoe maker on display.

Further along the river I noticed a stone monument with Greek and Polish inscriptions which was situated in a narrow linear park between the street and the river walk. As I do not understand Greek or Polish with only the dates being clear to me, I saw a Polish couple approaching and I asked them if they spoke English or German, they replied that they spoke English. They read out the inscription in English for me - it was to commemorate the arrival of Greek communists who following, their defeat in the Greek civil war 1946-48 were given refuge in Zgorzelec by the Polish government. The young lady told me that her grandmother remembered them coming. They had their own schools and an orthodox church. Most of them returned to Greece some years later. Today that Greek presence is celebrated with a Greek festival every year. Having complimented the young man on the excellence of his English, he told me that he had worked in Ireland for three years.

There is not a lot to see in Zgorzelec as it is an industrial city with Stalinist type blocks of apartments which were necessary to house people in a hurry following the second world war. There are some tastefully restored or new builds which have preserved the character of the streets especially near the river. The stand out building in Zgorzelec would be the Dom Kulturyi which is a neo- Baroque building erected in 1904. This serves as an exhibition centre for various civic and cultural events.

Gorlitz has been described by many people including Nobel prize winners and prominent cultural figures as the most beautiful city in Germany and was also declared a world heritage site, yet I have met many Germans who have never been there. There is great cooperation between the two cities. Gorlitz/Zgorzelec market themselves for tourism and culture as one City (Europa-Stadt) and there is a festival of culture every year in August which takes place on both sides of the river. It entered the competition for European capital of culture a few years ago and received runner up status.

Besides the pedestrian bridge, there is a bus and train which links the two cities together. Gorlitz / Zgorzelec is a great example of what being members of the EU is all about even though Poland still has the Zloty as their currency.

Gorlitz itself has three Tram lines which all pass through Demiani Platz in the City Centre. These lines, about 15 kilometres long run to the suburbs in the northern suburb which is very industrial, one can see the legacy from the DDR (East Germany) as there are huge apartment Blocks (Plattenbau) which were built for the workers. I also came across another relic from the past which was in a street where the buildings appeared to have been renovated except for this faded old building with a sign over its entrance which read VEB, this would have been a peoples cooperative state run factory of some sort during the Socialist DDR era.

Gorlitz has a wonderful city park which would be about half the size of the Phoenix Park and contains a wide selection of trees, a rose garden, several monuments and walkways. This is within a ten minute walk from the Alt Stadt and is located along the river. To the North of the City there is an artificial lake which was formerly a disused ignite mine but it has now been transformed into a wonderful amenity for water sports, cycling and jogging paths. For those interested in football, Michael Ballack who was the German Captain around 2000-2003 also played in England with Chelsea.

Gorlitz location on the 15th Meridian makes it the Centre of Europe for time, CET. There is a monument to mark this at the Bridge of Peace.

While there is no Airport in Gorlitz, it is 90km from Dresden, it can also be reached from Berlin by train in ca 3 hours 50 mins via Dresden. Another option would be to fly from Dublin to Wroclaw (Breslau) in Poland and take the Bus from there to Zgorzelec which works out cheaper except that the journey time varies depending on which bus you take. The train is another option but make sure you book to Zgorzelec and not Gorlitz otherwise you will be charged international fare.

Paul Connolly

Clann an tSolais

Agus de bhrí go dtuigeann sibh an uair atá ann, is mithid daoibh dúiseacht as bhur gcoladh, mar is gaire dúinn ár slánú anois ná nuair a ghlacamar leis an gcreideamh. Tá sé i bhad amach san oíche agus ní fada uainn an lá. Caithimis oibreacha an dorchadais uainn, mar sin, agus cuirimis orainn cathéide an tsolais. Mairimis go béasach mar dhaoine atá faoi sholas an lae, gan ragairne gan meisce, gan striapachas gan drúis, gan achrann gan éad. Agus cuirigí oraibh and Tiarna Íosa Críost mar éide agus ná bígí ag déanamh cúraim den cholainn d'fhonn a hainmhianta a shásamh. (*Rómh. 13.*)

Cad is brí le "cuirigí oraibh an Tiarna Íosa Críost mar éide"? Aithris a dhéanamh ar Íosa, ar ndóigh. Agus conas? Trí shíúil mar a shíúil seisean : i gcónaí i láthair Dé, san airdeall ar na hothair agus ar na bochtáin. Agus má déantar sin leanann gach rud eile, maith, go réidh slachtmhar.

Aguisín: Críostaithe! Cad chuige nach gcreideann ach a mionlach? Fiú amháin i measc na cléire? "... nuair a thiochfaidh Mac an Duine, an bhfaighidh sé creideamh ar an talamh?" (*Lúcás, 18*).

GM

November in the Garden



The Bare Root Season has started – It's time to plant Laurel and beech hedging plants as bare rooted plants now for a strong well rooted hedge for next spring. Laurel and beech can be planted two plants per meter for a solid dense hedge.

Take cuttings from your favourite plants. Use rooting powder on the base of the cutting stem to ensure strong roots for next spring. Hydrangeas, fuchsia, dogwoods, Spiraea, and all common garden plants can be propagated now from cuttings.



Winter flowering shrubs including Mahonia Charity, Viburnum eve price, Christmas roses, sweet box and Witch hazel can be planted this month for some welcome colour during the winter and spring months. Blue bells, Snowdrops and Crocus Orange bulbs need to be planted in the next two weeks to ensure good rooting and a good show of colour in January and February.

November is also fruit planting time in the garden, Dwarf Apples, pear, plum and cherries can be planted this month. Remember to add organic compost when planting and to stake all newly planted trees to ensure strong rooting during the winter. Rhubarb and strawberries can be planted this month, remember to add plenty of organic farm compost to the planting hole and enrich the soil with fertiliser when planting.

It's time to clean out your poly tunnel and greenhouse of old tomato, pepper and cucumber plants. Remove and store all fruit and simply remove to the compost heap, any of the summer fruiting glasshouse crops. Wash the glass or polythene with easy clean treatment it cleans old moss, algae, pests and diseases from your greenhouse or tunnel. Manure seed can be sown during November on bare patches of soil in your veg and fruit garden. The green manure seed will germinate during the winter months producing a green carpet of organic fertiliser that you simply dig in next spring before planting your summer vegetables. A packed of manure seed will cover approx. 50 sq. meters on bare soil. Green manure also helps to prevent weeds from growing.



Autumn is often treated as a time to hack everything back for a big tidy up before winter really sets in. However it's actually not a good time to prune many trees and shrubs – you are better to do this late in winter, or in early spring. Cherries, if pruned, are very vulnerable to silver leaf disease. And evergreens are usually tackled in early spring, or after flowering.

Saying this, there are some plants that should be pruned in the autumn – these include beech, hawthorn and hazel trees. As well as climbing and shrub roses. Vigorous growers like buddleja, dogwoods and lavatera can be reduced by half to lessen problems of wind rock over the winter. The most important part of autumn pruning is removing dead, diseased, or misplaced branches. Always aim to make a clean cut, either back to a bud on living wood, or back to the stem it's growing from. After pruning, scatter a few handfuls of bonemeal around the root area of shrubs to stimulate root growth over winter, and mulch with garden compost.

As long as the ground is not frozen or waterlogged, keep planting out pot-grown hardy climbers, shrubs and trees – and, you must remember to water them through the winter. It's also a good time to plant bare root specimens which are usually cheaper to buy. It's your last chance to plant some tulip bulbs! By planting them this late in the year you'll have a much better chance of preventing the bulbs being infected with the fungal disease, tulip fire. Just don't leave it too late – if you can get them planted right at the start of the month. They'll be best to plant in a lightly shaded spot that gets more sun as spring progresses.

Encourage hungry birds into your garden by investing in bird feeders. Our feathered friends will keep pest numbers down and bring joy on a bleak winter's day.



Insulate your outdoor containers from frosts, using hessian or bubble wrap held in place with garden twine. Raise pots off the ground for the winter by using bricks or 'pot feet', to prevent waterlogging. Protect roses from wind rock by pruning them by one-third to half their height. This will stop them swaying in strong wind and prevent roots coming loose in the soil.

Mediterranean style stuffed peppers

Cook time: 50 min.

Yield: 6 stuffed peppers

Ingredients:

- ◆ 1 small yellow onion, chopped
- ◆ 1/2 lb ground beef
- ◆ Salt and pepper
- ◆ 1/2 tsp allspice
- ◆ 1/2 tsp garlic powder
- ◆ 1 cup cooked or canned chickpeas
- ◆ 1/2 cup chopped parsley, more for garnish
- ◆ 1 cup short grain rice (soaked in water for 15 minutes, then drained)
- ◆ 1/2 tsp hot or sweet paprika
- ◆ 3 tbsp. tomato sauce
- ◆ 2 1/4 cups of water
- ◆ 6 bell peppers, tops removed and cored
- ◆ 3/4 cup chicken broth (or water)



Method

1. In a medium heavy pot, heat 1 tbsp. of oil. Sauté the chopped onions until golden. Now add the meat and cook on medium-high heat, stirring occasionally until deeply browned. Season with salt pepper, all spice and garlic powder. Stir in the chickpeas and cook briefly.
2. To the same pot, now add the parsley, rice, paprika and tomato sauce; stir to combine. Add the water and bring to a high simmer until liquid has reduced by one half.
3. Turn the heat to low. Cover and cook for 15-20 minutes or until the rice is fully cooked and no longer hard or too chewy.
4. While the rice is cooking, heat a gas grill to medium-high heat. Grill the bell peppers for 10-15 minutes, covered. Be sure to turn the peppers occasionally so that all sides get charred. Remove from the grill and let cool briefly.
5. Preheat the oven to 150° C.
6. Assemble the bell peppers, open-side up, in a baking dish filled with 3/4 cup broth or water. Spoon in the cooked rice mixture to stuff each of the peppers to the very top.
7. Cover the baking dish tightly with foil and place it in the oven at 150° C. Bake for 20 -30 minutes.
8. Remove from the oven and garnish and garnish with parsley, if you like. Serve immediately with your favourite salad and a side of Greek yogurt.

French toast

Serves: 4

Ingredients:

- ◆ 1 egg
- ◆ 75 ml milk
- ◆ 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon
- ◆ 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ◆ 1 pinch salt
- ◆ 4 slices bread



Method:

1. Beat together egg, milk, cinnamon, vanilla and salt.
2. Heat a lightly oiled frying pan or flat griddle over medium heat.
3. Soak bread slices in egg mixture for 20 seconds on each side or until thoroughly coated. Cook bread until browned and crisp.

Serve hot!!

Eggy bread is always popular for breakfast or brunch at the weekend, plus it's something the whole family can enjoy! But if you fancy these for dessert instead, give them a light sprinkle of icing sugar and serve with toffee sauce and vanilla ice-cream and a selection of berries.



FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

JOKER (2019)



The positive word of mouth about *Joker* was flagged for months before its recent screening at the 69th *Venice Film Festival*. The movie received an impressive 8-minute standing ovation from the assembled audience and scooped the top prize at the Festival. It went on to break Box Office records worldwide in its October weekend opening and has divided critics ever since. So is all the hype justified?

Joker and The Marvel Universe

If you're a *Marvel* movie/*DC* fan, *Joker* might not be quite the movie you're expecting and you could be a tad disappointed with your cinema outing. It's a film that stands completely apart from the rest of the *Marvel* and *DC* Universe franchise. CGI effects, typical of these blockbusters, are in short supply in *Joker* as a character driven plot takes precedence over special effects. *Joker*, directed by Todd Phillips is an imagined origin story set some time in 1980s Gotham City. The movie traces the story of the popular *DC Comics* clown prince of crime and Batman's arch enemy in totally original terms. At its core, *Joker* is a hyper-violent, slow-burn psychological case study with few commercially-appealing elements.



The Plotline

The universe presented in Phillip's *Joker* is bleak and unrelenting. Humour is certainly in short supply. In Gotham city, the searing divide between the rich and the poor is strikingly evident. Rats rummage in piled up trash and parts of the city are no better than slums. Gotham is a place of grimy despair and festering lawlessness, teetering on the brink of collapse. You can almost smell the gloom in the air.

In the midst of all this filth, squalor and chaos, Arthur Fleck (Joaquin Phoenix) lives with his sickly mother (Frances Conroy) in a cramped, run-down apartment block. Arthur is one of life's losers and 'freaks', on the margins of society. He's beaten up, mocked and abused as he tries to eke out an existence as a unsuccessful party clown. If all this wasn't bad enough, Arthur also struggles with mental illness, and is prone to maniacal, uncontrolled laughing fits in the most inappropriate of situations. When his medication and counselling support system is cruelly taken away from him, the slippery slope into madness and decline is inevitable. Arthur gradually morphs in to the *Joker* persona we are all so familiar with.



The Scorsese Factor

Todd Phillips of *The Hangover* comedy films series might have seemed an unlikely choice for the director of *Joker*. However, he has proven ideal for this dark, gritty tale. The influence of Martin Scorsese is deliberate in the script. Phillips had hoped to get the renowned director on board as producer for his movie. This didn't happen as Scorsese was filming *The Irishman* at the same time as *Joker*. Apart from Robert De Niro in the role of the smug chat

show host that Arthur Fleck idolises in *Joker*, there are clear parallels with classic DeNiro/Scorsese movies like *Taxi Driver* and *The King of Comedy*. The ghosts of Travis Bickle and Rupert Pupkin are clearly hovering in Joaquin Phoenix's disturbed loner and aspiring stand-up-comedian. Director Todd Phillips' *Joker* presents a Gotham City that is obviously a stand-in for the hellish, crime-ridden, corrupt New York City of the era. The film correspondingly has a nightmarish 80s feel, look and production design to match.



Joaquin Phoenix's Joker

If *Joker* already feels like a hard sell, you haven't reckoned with the acting force that is Joaquin Phoenix. The three-time Oscar nominee is one of the greatest actors of his generation.

We first witness Phoenix sitting in front of a mirror, slowly painting his face. He attempts to smile and resorts to holding the corners of his mouth up in a grin that stretches from ear to ear. A single tear rolls down his cheek unnoticed. The scene is reminiscent of Chaplin's classic clown-themed film, *Limelight*. In fact there are several references to Chaplin in Todd Phillips' *Joker*.

In *Joker*, Joaquin gives an electrifying performance of a man on the edges of society and insanity. It is a radically different interpretation to any other version of the *Joker* character that you have seen on screen to date. Arthur is a man who has never had a good break or happy day in his life. Phoenix's intense, powerful performance perfectly embodies the utter despair of his character's hopeless situation. The actor lost a staggering 52 pounds in preparation for the role. Consequently, his body is painfully thin, so thin that when he strips to the waist and bends, his spine and shoulder blades jut out grotesquely from the skin. Arthur's strange habit of contorting his body is equally agonising to watch. Misery is etched in every crevice of his tortured face.



Phoenix's Arthur Fleck is a tragicomic nightmare, a persecuted sign-twirling clown who suffers from a medical condition that turns his internal screams into cackling laughter. His eyes are thick with pain and anguish as yet another unnerving laughing fit overcomes him. Arthur dreams of becoming a stand-up comic but tragically has no idea what other people find "funny". He finds a degree of consolation when he strikes up a relationship with his single Mum neighbour played by Zazie Beetz. But *Joker* is not always what it appears on the surface...

Todd Phillips' camerawork is often claustrophobically tight on Phoenix, who carries practically every scene of the movie. The actor digs deep with a fully realised performance, forever struggling to find hope but failing. Phoenix expertly captures all these tiny nuances in Arthur and his interactions with others that reveal so much about this disturbed individual's inner life. The character's desperate search for connection and engagement in an increasingly hostile society has devastating consequences.

Audiences will find themselves empathising with Arthur's tragic predicament as Joaquin Phoenix brings layers of humanity and depth to Arthur Fleck.

It is an intensely physical performance by Phoenix. The way he walks, runs, sits, shrinks, slouches, smokes or dances is truly remarkable. His movements alternate from balletic, graceful turns to wild, flailing, flapping motions in the blink of an eye. The physical effect is even more striking when Joaquin Phoenix stops being down-trodden Arthur and transforms into his confident, narcissistic alter-ego. His whole body straightens up as he fully embraces the liberating madness and violence of the *Joker*. The bright colours of the *Joker*'s clown make up and outfit offer a strange relief from the previous tragedy of Arthur Fleck's joyless existence. Arthur's dramatic change in persona can either be viewed as an unravelling or awakening depending on your point of view. Some may be uncomfortable and even repulsed by the *Joker*'s uninhibited violent excesses as the movie progresses.



Controversial Joker

Joker has divided critics since its record-breaking release. It has been attacked for its treatment of mental illness and seeming condonement of extreme violence. Opponents of the movie fear copy-cat crimes. Others see *Joker* as a plea for humanity, empathy and the better treatment of people on the margins of society. The film is a clear indictment of society and the callous disregard that might let an individual slip between the cracks. *Joker* is a fictional period piece but it is undeniably reflects our own troubled, violent modern world.

Phoenix versus Ledger

With the release of the *Joker* trailer last summer, the comparisons with the late Heath Ledger were inevitable. The actor had set the bar high after his justly praised Oscar-winning portrayal of the violent, psychopathic, anarchist with delusions of grandeur in *The Dark Knight*. Heath Ledger brought in the madness and the chaos, but Phoenix delivers the depression, darkness and the whole trauma that lies behind the character of *Joker*. Joaquin Phoenix bring out the melancholy and makes the audience actually feel sorry for the *Joker*, which is something that hasn't been seen on screen before.

Joker is strangely beautiful but deeply unsettling too. It won't be to everybody's taste, but in my opinion it's one of the most original and stunning films I have seen in a long time. See it for the sharp direction of Phillips, fantastic, edgy script and fabulous cinematography. Most of all, see *Joker* for the amazing, supremely physical and mind-blowing performance of the brilliant Joaquin Phoenix. He's on the road to Oscar glory next year.



Halloween Movie Quiz Answers


- | | | | |
|--------|-----------------------|--------|-------|
| 1 (d) | 2 (b) | 3 (c) | 4 (a) |
| 5 (c) | 6 (b) | 7 (b) | 8 (b) |
| 9 (d) | 10 <i>The Shining</i> | 11 (d) | |
| 12 (b) | 13 (c) | 14 (c) | |





Frank O'Rourke TD

KILDARE NORTH

**Dáil Éireann, Leinster House,
Kildare Street, Dublin 2.**

 **01 618 3109**

Main Street, Celbridge, Co Kildare.

 **01 630 3736**  **087 255 5257**

 **frank.orourke@oireachtas.ie**

 **www.frankorourke.ie**

 **/Frank O'Rourke**



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www.maynoothcc.org
office@maynoothcc.org

