

M^{aynooth} Newsletter

Serving the people of Maynooth



Local News

December 2020/January 2021

Issue No. 497

Online Version

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.



SHOP LOCAL - EAT LOCAL - SPEND LOCAL - ENJOY LOCAL

Support Local Jobs - Keep Maynooth Working



Keep your Business in Maynooth to Keep Maynooth in Business Christmas 2020

Christmas, the season of giving and receiving is upon us once again. This year in particular offers us perfect opportunity to support our local shops and businesses in Maynooth. Small in size but huge in character, Maynooth comes alive with festive atmosphere for Christmas. The support of the public and local businesses in contributing to the funding of extra Christmas lights is most welcome and is a beacon of hope, showing the goodwill and tenacity of those involved. It gives us all that extra incentive to get out and shop local to give back to the community and its economy.

Lets buy our Christmas presents from our local businesses and self-employed people. If the goal is for money to flow back into the local economy, we must commit to choosing wisely. Driving an hour out of our town or shopping online does not contribute to the community we live in. This beautiful town is packed full of specialised shops, pretty boutiques and a variety of restaurants and cosy cafés where you can drop in for a hot chocolate to warm chilly fingers. You will find exceptional value for money is to be had in the smaller local shops where you get a more personalised service and friendly atmosphere.

Maynooth is a lively town with plenty of heart and history– many would say it has more going for it than other places on the commuter belt. It is also a pretty place with family-friendly housing. It hosts many walkways canal side, University grounds, the Avenue and Carton, and a main street that hasn't been hollowed out by retail parks. There is ample car parking in Maynooth and customers can park (check parking fees and time allocated) while shopping in Carton Retail Park, Manor Mills, Glenroyal, Greenfield and Beaufield Shopping Centres. There is also ample customer car parking in the Aldi and Lidl stores. Pay Parking is also available within the town (don't forget that the 15mins leeway has been extended to 30 mins) enabling customers to enjoy the many retail shops, pubs and restaurants in and around the Town.

Maynooth has been described as the “Gastronomic Capital of Kildare” There are vast amounts of establishments in town that offer the most sophisticated cuisine and the most appealing food and beverages. Maynooth is also a “Purple Flag” destination which indicates that Maynooth has earned this award for a town where a well-managed and enjoyable night out can be had. Hopefully, there will be some lifting of restrictions to allow for a meal out with friends or to be able to sit and have a coffee.

Stay local this year and take the stress out of shopping, avoid the cost of travel and expensive parking fees. When all the shopping is done and hopefully when restrictions are lifted there is a multitude of restaurants, bars and coffee shops to visit and enjoy the gastronomic delights and Festive atmosphere of Maynooth. Walking to the shops and doing a little bit of your gift shopping at a time gives you time to think about the person and the gift and meeting people along the way is a bonus. As they say it is the thought that counts.

Christmas Shopping is important to small-town retailers. It's a great opportunity to focus on your own business and give your customers a pleasant experience. Retailers need to say, “**Stay in Maynooth**”, we have lots to offer. Support our community, our businesses, our schools, our organizations. Everyone working together will continue to make Maynooth a great place to live in.

Shop Local, Eat Local, Spend Local & Enjoy Local in Maynooth this Christmas 2020



Published by: Maynooth Community Employment Project, Unit 5, Tesco's S.C. Carton Retail Park, Maynooth. Phone - 01-6285922
email - office@maynoothcep.com Website: www.maynoothcep.com Registered as a Charity in Ireland RCN # 20100063 - CHY # 21086

We Remember Maynooth: A College Across Four Centuries

Edited by Salvador Ryan and John Paul Sheridan €50.00

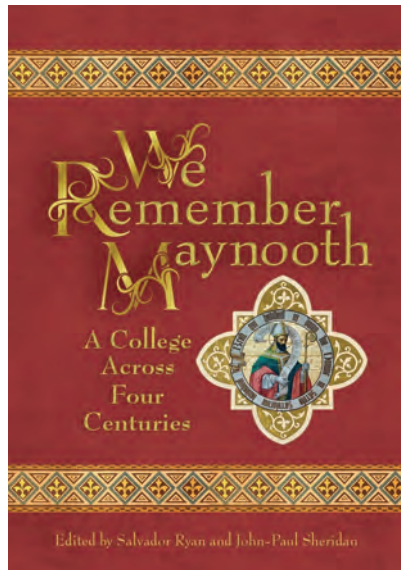
Maynooth College celebrates its 225th anniversary in 2020 and this beautifully-presented volume captures a multi-dimensional perspective of an institution that has held a singular place in modern Irish church history. We Remember Maynooth: A College Across Four Centuries, edited by Salvador Ryan and JP Sheridan is a collection of essays that paints a rounded picture of a unique college, through whose hallowed halls have passed both kings and popes.

This splendid book is part history, part folk-history, part aide-mémoire. For some, it will be an introduction to this historic centre of learning, for others it will be an evocation of memories, reminiscences and encounters, offering portraits of characters that passed through the college and the people that journeyed with them.

This publication is available from the Maynooth Bookshop and the Maynooth University Bookshop.

Also available through Irish Messenger publications

<https://www.messenger.ie/product/we-remember-maynooth-a-college-across-four-centuries/>



Maynooth Castle Keep Art Group

The Maynooth Castle Keep Art Group would like to let you all know that our planned online exhibition has been postponed until 2021.

We would like to thank Maynooth Newsletter Staff for their great work in producing this important publication, which is an invaluable record of community activity and development.

We wish our supporters and followers a Peaceful and Healthy Christmas and may 2021 bring us all a sense of Hope, Joy and Renewal.

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



Christmas Robin by Sharon Dunne

Safety tips for Shopping Online 2020

Black Friday and Cyber Monday sees company websites and auction platforms offering savings on every imaginable product and service. While most people will take care to use legitimate sites and research their purchases, some will rush to grab a cheap deal that looks too good to resist. If you're shopping online, take a few minutes to make sure its secure and safe to shop.

An Garda Síochána and Europol Promote Safe Online Shopping this Christmas

In the period from 1st January 2020 until 31st October 2020, 489 Online Shopping Frauds have been reported to An Garda Síochána. The average loss was €2,306 per incident representing an overall loss to Irish citizens of €1,127,972.

The business community are frequently targeted by fraudsters using stolen or compromised credit cards, bank accounts or payments, in what is called Card Not Present Fraud. Businesses who are victims of this fraud will suffer losses under the 'charge back' process.

In the first 10 months of 2020, 346 Card Not Present Frauds have been reported to An Garda Síochána in Ireland 2020 to date, representing an average loss of €1,083 or a total of €374,751.

As we enter this busy season, consumers and business will be particularly active online and An Garda Síochána and Europol advise consumers to follow the golden rules for online shopping.

1. Buy from trusted sources.
2. Understand risk and think twice before purchasing.
3. Check the seller's reviews and ratings.
4. Ensure data transfer is secure.
5. Save all documents related to online purchases.
6. If you don't make a purchase, don't leave identity or card details behind.
7. Check the website payment security.
8. Never send card details by email, text or other messaging methods.
9. Don't send money to someone you don't know – check first..
10. Use credit cards when purchasing online.

See further details at <https://www.europol.europa.eu/eCommerce>
Businesses are warned to protect their sales and revenues by identifying risks: know their product, know their customers, utilise safe means of payment and use reliable delivery methods. Consumers and Businesses must protect their personal data during transactions other than the normal data required to complete a transaction. This site provides advice on all aspects of online shopping.

#SellSafe

Details of the Europol #SellSafe awareness campaign can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/y4uflp3m>

Source: www.garda.ie



**Have a Healthy & Safe Christmas &
a Prosperous New Year
from the Members, Directors & Staff of
Maynooth Community Employment Project**



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

Due to the current restrictions in place to combat the spread of the COVID-19 Virus we are unable to print & deliver the normal edition of the Maynooth Newsletter. The hope going forward is to produce this Online Version to keep people informed. All the community of Maynooth are invited to submit relevant content to: office@maynoothcep.com. As we progress through these extraordinary times if we mind ourselves and each other we will get through this and come out the other side a stronger community & country. Please bear in mind as the situation progresses we may be unable to produce the Online version.

Copy date for the next edition of the Maynooth Newsletter will be Monday 25th January 2021

Editorial

This edition is the December 2020/January 2021 of the "Maynooth Newsletter" and at this time of the year we look backward for the ending year and forward to the New Year. For the record I need to mention Covid 19 as there is no doubt that because of the impact it had there will be a place for it in history. As I said in an edition earlier in the year that at Christmas 2019 we had no knowledge on how 2020 was going to turn out. As we look back we think of the impacts Covid 19 had and how it has impacted on our lives. For some it was the tragic loss of their loved ones, for others it was a loss of their job or at the least a cut in earnings. For others it was the postponing of family events and of course the impact on education and other life experiences. For local businesses it was the loss or reduction in trading and the risk of the future viability of very personal enterprises. The "Maynooth Newsletter" was impacted in terms of revenues that are needed to support the community employment project but so far thanks to the resilience of the voluntary team that are responsible for the management of the project, like hopefully many others will come out the other side of all the disruption. For 2021, it is a bit early to figure out how much will be different but the best thing that we can do for now is to do our part in minimising the spread of the disease until we can put it behind us.

As a resource for the entire community the "Maynooth Newsletter" is a record of the successes and tribulations of the people of the town. Behind every community organisation there are people who volunteer their time and skills for the greater good of others. On behalf of the entire community I would like to acknowledge all volunteers who have been involved in the ongoing community groups, new ones started in 2020 and of course the people who were involved in starting up or being involved in voluntary activity associated with Covid 19. Space does not allow me the opportunity to name any person or group here but the "Maynooth Newsletter" will be following up on this subject in 2021.

At this time of the year we take the opportunity to thank the many people that support the "Maynooth Newsletter". To our many advertisers, by supporting the production of this publication you are playing your part in the provision of employment and supporting many community groups to get their information out to the wider community of Maynooth, the care of our environment in Maynooth Harbour and the youth of Maynooth using Maynooth Town Soccer Club. Many thanks also to our many regular contributors with material and notes. Everyone involved in the management of the Maynooth Community Employment Project are unpaid so give of their time and skills to the service of the community.

At this time of year please look out for each other and if you have worries or concerns talk to someone as there has never been a problem that does not have a solution. Whatever your faith or none we wish you everything that you would want for yourself at Christmas and into 2021.

Paul Croghan
Editor

To buy tickets

www.scoutschristmasdraw.ie/maynooth

Buy Tickets

**Online
&**

Support

8th Kildare

Maynooth Scouts

**Twelve
DAYS OF
Christmas
Draw**



A GLENROYAL GIFT CARD
The Perfect Gift This Christmas

Glenroyal Hotel & Leisure Club
Maynooth, Co. Kildare
Telephone: +353 1 629 0909
Email: info@glenroyal.ie
www.glenroyal.ie

EST  1995
GLENROYAL
HOTEL
★★★★

Kildare-Meath Grid Upgrade

Upgrading lines



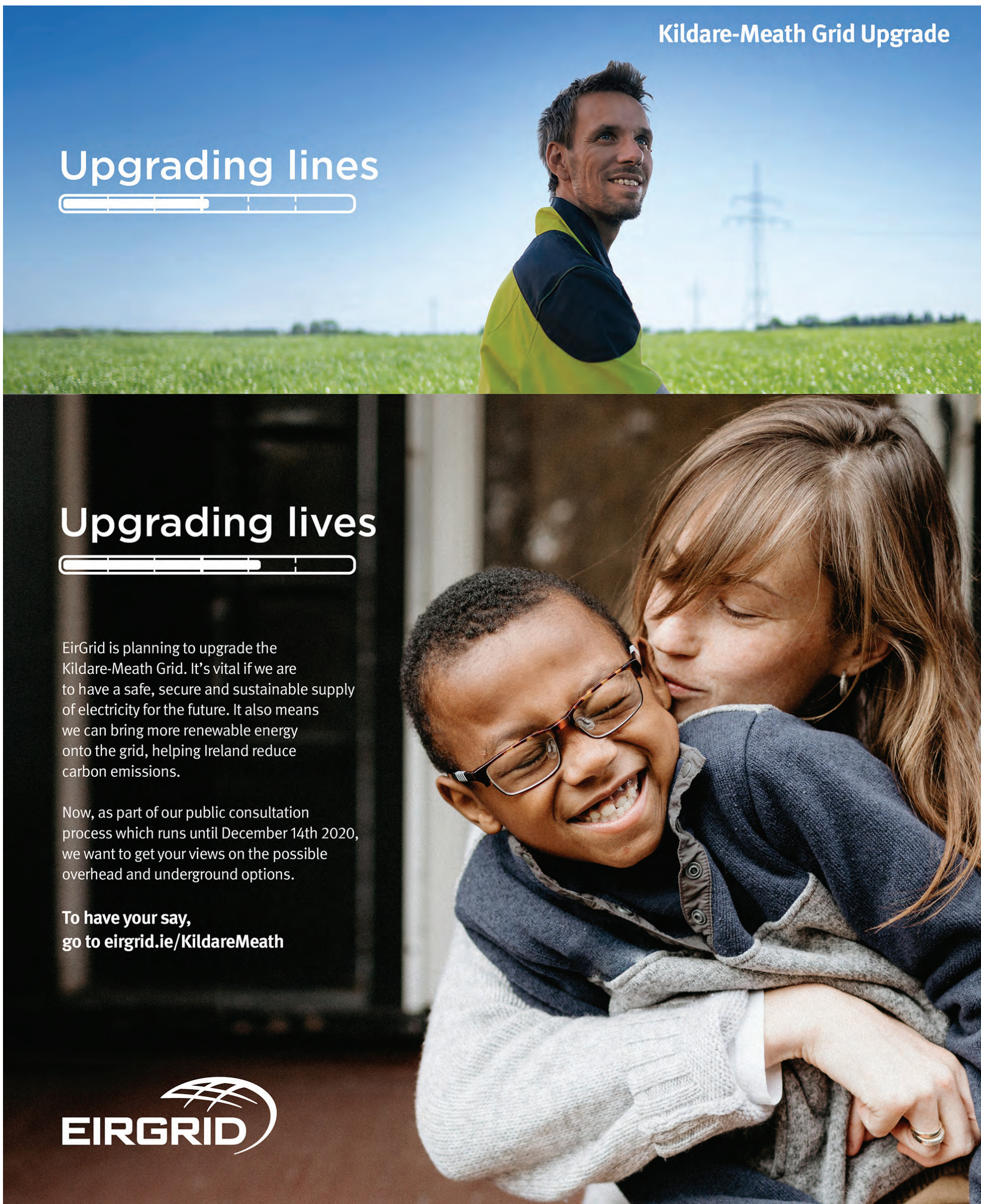
Upgrading lives



EirGrid is planning to upgrade the Kildare-Meath Grid. It's vital if we are to have a safe, secure and sustainable supply of electricity for the future. It also means we can bring more renewable energy onto the grid, helping Ireland reduce carbon emissions.

Now, as part of our public consultation process which runs until December 14th 2020, we want to get your views on the possible overhead and underground options.

**To have your say,
go to eirgrid.ie/KildareMeath**



MU congratulates Dr Lorna Lopez on receiving SFI Early Career Researcher Award 2020



The winners of the prestigious 2020 Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) Awards were revealed today by Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, Simon Harris TD, at the annual SFI Science Summit. Dr Lorna Lopez, a Lecturer and Assistant Professor at the Department of Biology and the Kathleen Lonsdale Institute for Human Health Research at Maynooth University, was awarded an Early Career Researcher Award 2020.



The Science Awards recognise key leaders in the Irish Research Community. Dr Lopez received the award for her work in leading human health research on discovering the genetic basis of neurodevelopmental disorders. Dr Lopez' research at Maynooth University uses genomic technologies to focus on understanding the genetic basis of mental illness and other brain- and medical-related traits. She is also a recent recipient of a prestigious ERC Starting Investigator Award.

Dr Lopez graduated from Trinity College Dublin with a BA (Genetics) Natural Sciences in 2002, and The University of Edinburgh with a PhD (Psychiatric Genetics) in 2008. In advance of Science Week, this year the Summit has transferred to a virtual platform allowing members of Ireland's research community to come together online to discuss the challenges and celebrate the significant contributions made over the past year to research and innovation in Ireland.

Professor Mark Ferguson, Director General of Science Foundation Ireland and Chief Scientific Adviser to the Government of Ireland congratulated the award winners, saying: "I am delighted to congratulate this year's award winners on their inspiring success and dedication. The Science Foundation Ireland Awards recognise the expansive contribution that scientists make to our society and economy through innovative breakthroughs, industry collaborations, entrepreneurship, public engagement, and mentorship of the next generation. This year has been an eventful and challenging one for our research community. I would particularly like to congratulate Prof Kingston Mills as our 2020 SFI Researcher of the Year. Well done to all, working closely together, the Irish research community continues to be impactful, inspirational and world-leading."

MU project on virtual labs for third-level students awarded almost €3m funding

An innovative project led by Maynooth University that will use virtual laboratories as a teaching tool for the experimental sciences has been awarded almost €3 million funding by the Higher Education Authority (HEA).



Led by Prof Denise Rooney, Head of the Department of Chemistry at Maynooth University, the project was awarded a total €2,971,700 under the Human Capital Initiative Pillar 3 programme. The ambitious and timely project will develop an innovative approach to teaching students in the experimental sciences through the use of virtual laboratories. The Maynooth-led initiative brings together five geographically spread Higher Education Institutes: Athlone Institute of Technology (AIT), Dublin City University (DCU), Dundalk Institute of Technology (DkIT) and University College Cork with education technology providers, to develop courses in which a virtual laboratory experience is complemented with a real laboratory experience, through a blended approach.

The project also will give students the opportunity to experience a real-work environment through virtual training and engagement with enterprise partners, and to help reinforce practical techniques and concepts, as well as management and project work. Prof Denise Rooney said: "By piloting the scheme across the five HEIs, we have the capacity to implement the virtual labs simultaneously in different year groups, different sub-disciplines and using different teaching methodologies. No one institution would have the capacity to carry out this project alone. "In a relatively short period of time, we will develop a road map for rolling out virtual laboratory teaching across the experimental sciences, enabling replication."

The target learners of the initiative are first to fourth year chemistry undergraduates, and taught M.Sc. students in the Chemical Sciences. Such a large scale trial, impacting over 2,500 students conducted through a well-managed collaborative project, will enhance the exchange of best practices and mitigate risks over the course of the project. The biopharmaceutical, pharmaceutical and chemical sector plays a massive role in Ireland's economy, producing 60% worth of Ireland's exports, directly employing more than 30,000 and supporting a further 30,000 across other industries.

The input of industry partners is central to the initiative. These involve education technology providers that develop virtual laboratory simulations for STEM students, and Mindconnex, an Irish SME developing digital learning software, who will give time to provide expertise on how students can best learn in a virtual environment. Industry partners who are employing chemistry graduates will work with the institutes to enhance the students' experience. Each institute has established enterprise contacts who will contribute to this initiative, including Analog Devices, Alltech, Avectas, Abbott

Diagnostics, Hovione and Janssen.

Speaking at the announcement of a total 22 projects to be funded under the Human Capital Initiative, Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, Simon Harris said: "These projects will develop and change teaching and learning. This global pandemic has reinforced the need for us all to be agile and diverse. "Crucially though it requires us to develop new skills and equip the next generation with the critical importance to the economy and the workplace of the future."

For more information on this and other projects awarded HEA funding under the Human Capital Initiative Pillar 3 programme see HEI website.

MU academics awarded funding under SFI Frontiers for the Future scheme

Two Maynooth University researchers, Dr Arman Farhang and Dr Brian Hennelly, have been awarded funding as part of the Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) Frontiers for the Future Programme. Maynooth University is among 71 recipients of grants to support frontiers research across 12 Higher Education Institutions through Science Foundation Ireland, announced today by Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, Simon Harris, TD.



The MU researchers who are based at the Department of Electronic Engineering and the Hamilton Institute are developing new data transmission and receiving technologies, to improve links for applications such as vehicles in future wireless networks, contributing towards a safer, smarter, and highly connected society. The research project of Dr Bryan Hennelly is titled, 'Label-Free Flow Cytometry using Broadband Coherent Anti-Stokes Raman Spectroscopy', and Dr Arman Farhang's project is titled, 'New Waveforms for Next Generation Wireless Networks (NEW WAVE)'.

Commenting on the overall programme, Minister Harris said: "Congratulations to all the researchers who have received funding today as part of the SFI Frontiers for the Future Programme. I am delighted to support this programme which funds individual-led research, with an emphasis on areas of high-risk, high-reward, which will help us build a better future for Ireland through discovery, innovation, and impact."

"I am pleased to see the successful outcome of the new gender initiative that sees 45% of the research grants announced today led by female researchers. The funding will support researchers who are already carrying out excellent work in Ireland, as well as those in the early stages of their research careers who hold incredible potential. It is through investment like this that Ireland will become an innovation leader and provide solutions and opportunities for our society and economy."

The 71 research grants will support areas such as spinal cord injury, novel materials, climate change, biodiversity in food production and waste, smart manufacturing, social connectivity, computer graphics, horse breeding, pharmaceutical manufacturing, and information security. Further information on the SFI Frontiers for the Future Programme is available here: <https://www.sfi.ie/funding/funding-calls/frontiers-for-the-future/>

The research will be undertaken in the following Higher Education Institutions - Dublin City University (DCU); Dundalk Institute of Technology (DkIT); Maynooth University; National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG); RCSI, University of Medicine and Health Sciences; Teagasc; Technological University Dublin (TU Dublin); Trinity College Dublin (TCD); Tyndall National Institute (TNI); University College Cork (UCC); University College Dublin (UCD) and University of Limerick

SFI Frontiers for the Future Programme - Funding Overview

Working across 12 Higher Education Institutes, 231 research positions will be funded including 95 Postdoctoral scientists, 101 PhD students and 35 Research Assistants/others across a variety of different areas. The programme also sought to provide opportunities to address gender imbalance in line with SFI's Gender Strategy, 45% of the research grants supported will be led by female researchers. The programme was run in collaboration with the Geological Survey Ireland (GSI) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). 38 industrial collaborators are engaging in the research programmes. The SFI Frontiers for the Future programme comprises two funding streams:

Projects – 45 high-risk, high-reward research projects will receive €25 million to facilitate highly innovative and novel approaches to research.

Awards - 26 larger scale innovative, collaborative excellent research programmes that have the potential to deliver economic and societal impact will receive €28m in funding.

MU researcher and Australian scientists publish findings on Antarctica's upper atmosphere

An important study on how the coldest place on Earth -- the Antarctica's upper atmosphere -- is responding to an increase in greenhouse gases has generated new discoveries and insights. Dr Frank Mulligan, Associate Professor of Experimental Physics at Maynooth University, has collaborated with the Australian Antarctic



Dr Frank Mulligan

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Division to assess how the Antarctica's upper atmosphere is responding to an increase in greenhouse gases.

A long-term study being carried out by the Australian Antarctic Division (AAD) will contribute to broader international climate work and research regarding the impacts of emissions. To date the research has yielded several new discoveries and insights, including:

The upper atmosphere is cooling 10 times faster than the average rate of global warming at the Earth's surface.

The temperatures change in response to both the solar activity cycle and carbon dioxide emissions from human activities. A new discovery is that temperatures also vary in the upper atmosphere on a cycle of roughly four years in a phenomenon dubbed the Quasi-Quadrennial Oscillation (QOO). The measurements being recorded at Davis research station in the Antarctic is part of a global monitoring program designed for early detection of changing climate signals coordinated through the Network for Detection of Mesospheric Change (<https://ndmc.dlr.de/>) and has a future goal of measuring throughout the Sun's next 11-year activity cycle.

The measurements provide new precise information on changes in the upper atmosphere to test climate models, and suggest that 'noctilucent' or 'night shining' clouds which form in extremely cold conditions in this region are likely to show particular variability in extent and brightness that has not previously been examined.

Scanning the airglow layer.

Dr Mulligan and scientists with the AAD have analysed more than 600,000 measurements over the last 24 years, 87 kilometres above Australia's Davis research station. The research is informed by NASA satellite data and as part of the overall research, Dr Mulligan analysed atmospheric temperatures and winds as part of the team's work.

Commenting on the research, Dr Mulligan noted: "The Davis research station record clearly shows long-term temperature variation in the upper atmosphere caused by the sun's activity cycle, but more importantly, overlying this is an unequivocal cooling trend that is consistent with the effect of increasing carbon dioxide emissions from human activities. "Every human being contributes a certain amount of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere during their lifetime, depending their diet, level of insulation in their homes, mode of transport, lifestyle, extent of foreign travel, etc. Most of the governments around the planet are introducing measures and incentives to reduce carbon emissions and to mitigate their effects, but each of us as individuals have a responsibility to contribute to this effort through the choices that we make in our daily lives."

Dr John French, AAD atmospheric physicist and study lead said: "These comprise one of the longest temperature records available for this region of the atmosphere." Known as the hydroxyl airglow layer, it contains molecules formed by the reaction of hydrogen and ozone and emits a continuous 'airglow' in the night sky. The measurements of the infrared spectrum from the airglow determine the layer's temperature and are recorded every seven minutes throughout the Antarctic night.

Conversely to the warming that occurs in the lower atmosphere, the upper atmosphere cools in response to greenhouse gases increases. The density of the upper atmosphere is so low, carbon dioxide actually radiates heat away into space, rather than trapping it. "The climate of the Antarctic upper atmosphere is particularly sensitive to changes in atmospheric composition," said Dr French.

"The hydroxyl airglow layer provides a natural means of sampling the upper atmosphere from the ground and enables us to monitor the rate of cooling induced by carbon dioxide increases."

The study's measurements date back to the early 1990s and have used the same, robust, precisely calibrated scanning spectrometer to scan the infrared spectrum produced by hydroxyl airglow. Dr French said the Davis research station measurements showed that cooling rate was 1.2 degrees Celsius per decade over the last 24 years, approximately 10 times the rate of average global warming (~1°C over the last century). "The upper atmosphere has already cooled 3°C in the 25 years since measurements began in 1995."

Dr French said when scientists were observing changes of one degree a decade, the calibration needed to be "absolutely precise".

"The duration of these continuous measurements and their location in Antarctica make them unique," he said. "There are many challenges in keeping the instrument operating, supported and well calibrated over a quarter of a century now, but it is something the AAD has done well."

The results match those from climate model simulations and satellite measurements and provide a more precise, complete picture of the long-term temperature trend.

A new temperature cycle is discovered

Another revelation from the study is that the polar atmosphere above Davis has been undergoing a roughly four-yearly temperature fluctuation cycle of three to four degrees Celsius.

AAD climate scientist Dr Andrew Klekociuk also contributed to the study and said the find was significant.

"This variation, which we call a Quasi-Quadrennial Oscillation or QOO, appears to be linked to interactions between the ocean and atmosphere in the Southern Hemisphere, and its effects are apparent in the upper atmosphere of both the Antarctic and Arctic," he said. "The QOO discovery further highlights how interconnected the global atmosphere is and

the importance of long-term and precise measurements for monitoring and understanding the climate system," Dr French said.

Dr Klekociuk said it was the first time the effects of the oscillation had been identified in the global upper atmosphere, and it had implications for scientists' ability to model climate processes, detect long-term change, and understand its effects on other upper atmosphere phenomena such as noctilucent or 'night shining' clouds.

Ice clouds that glow in the dark

At a height of 83 km, noctilucent clouds (also known as NLCs) are the highest in the atmosphere, on the edge of space. Composed of ice crystals, they need extremely low temperatures (around minus 130 °C) to form, and only become visible after the sun has set on the lower levels of the atmosphere. They appear to glow a pale blue, still illuminated by the sun, in a night sky.

The cooling in the upper atmosphere increasingly provides suitable conditions for NLCs to form, so they are expected to become brighter and more extensive in the years ahead.

With the cooling conditions linked to carbon dioxide emissions that drive warming elsewhere, these clouds, although spectacular, are also 'harbingers of change' and have been referred to as "the miner's canary of climate change."

The second of two papers on the research has just been published in the journal, Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic significantly affecting the work of AAD scientists this coming season, the automated long-term monitoring high above Davis can continue as normal.

MU Campus wins 2020 Green Flag Pollinator Project Award

Maynooth University campus has won the 2020 Green Flag Pollinator Project Awards, jointly run by An Taisce and the National Biodiversity Data Centre. The Pollinator Project Award was established for Green Flag parks or gardens that have made an effort to support the local pollinating insect populations, or to promote their importance.



Maynooth campus retained its prestigious Green Flag accreditation for 2020 and was specially identified as "a site that features not only pollinator friendly planting and gardening, but also makes a great effort to educate the public and to promote these efforts through its website and social media."

The 2020 Green Flag Awards were announced on Wednesday (16 September) for Ireland's top parks and best gardens. The 2020 awards were available to public town parks, country parks, gardens, cemeteries, nature parks, and green spaces from across the whole country. This year's awards saw 84 Irish Parks and Gardens from across the Republic of Ireland receive their 2020 Green Flags. Among 15 countries whose parks met the standard this year, there were again more Green Flag Awards secured by Irish Parks and Gardens than by any country, other than the UK where the scheme originated in 1996.

Ireland achieved a significant increase in urban park Green Flag accreditations across Dublin, Galway, and Waterford Cities. There was a further expansion of the scheme to include new types of public green spaces. In Waterford, the country's first Greenway was accredited, and in Cavan, a UNESCO Global Geopark become a Green Flag Award Site for the first time. Dr Joe Larragy, Chair of Maynooth Green Campus, said: "This is a truly impressive achievement and is a credit to Stephen Seaman, the grounds supervisor and his remarkable team. This achievement further enhances the reputation of Maynooth campus as a top performer in the promotion of sustainability. In addition to the Green Parks and Pollinator award, the campus also holds the Green Campus Flag, awarded by An Taisce, in association with the Copenhagen-based Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) for its work on the themes of Energy, Waste, Water, Travel & transport, Biodiversity and for its pioneering work on Climate Justice."

The Minister of State for Community Development and Charities, Joe O'Brien TD, noted the importance of parks and green spaces. "This year we have appreciated the importance of the public parks and gardens within our communities probably more than at any other time. They have supported us all in maintaining a significant quality of life during restrictions, uncertainty, and upset. Without our public parks and gardens our lives would have been much further reduced and confined. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the hard work put in by park staff, and community volunteers, across the country." The Green Flag Award is the mark of a quality park or green space and is recognised throughout the world. Participating countries include: Australia, Belgium, Finland, Germany, Mexico, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, Republic of Ireland, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

MAYNOOTH DRESSES

**Maynooth Dresses will re-open our New Shop on Tuesday 1st December
Unit 3 San Feliu, Fagans Lane, Maynooth, (Behind EBS on the Main St)**

We have added some extra gift ideas, to Buy on Line, as we head towards Xmas.

**ABBACINO DESIGNER HANDBAGS, PURSES AND SCARVES.
IRISH HANDCRAFTED PALM FREE SOAP from Killaloe from €4.30 in different scents.
IRISH SCENTED Candles and Diffusers from Carlow from €8.90
POWDER ACCESSORIES for Kids, Ladies and Gents Hats, Gloves, Socks.
FRENCH SCENTED SOAP from La Savon du Marseillaise in many different Scents,
Lavender, Citrus, Jasmin, Honey, Aloe Vera, Raspberry, all priced at €2.90 each.**

GIFT HAMPERS with your favourite Soap Scents and Candles with an extra 10% OFF!

**See All Our Product Ranges Online
Communion Dresses, Accessories, Shoes,
Christening Gowns, Accessories Candles,
New for 2020 Confirmation Dresses,
Boys Suits, Flowergirl, Bridesmaids & Debs Dresses.**

**Are all in stock and ready for our 2021 Seasons to Begin!
All our products can be Viewed and bought on our websites**

www.maynoothcommuniondresses.ie also www.maynoothdresses.ie

**BUY OVER the Phone , Ring Antoinette: 086 8260825 and then collected from our Shop by Appointment Only.
We look forward to Welcoming All our Customers back to see Us after Dec 1st!**

**Thanking All Our Customers for your Continued Support
for Maynooth Dresses since 2005!
Antoinette - Maynooth Dresses**



Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee

As I write on this pleasant November morning we are looking forward, with some trepidation, to exiting Level 5 and hopefully as you read this article, we will have done so with an air hope for the future. With renewed confidence we dare to see on the horizon a new year, a new vaccine and a new way of life. As for Christmas, let us not worry too much about one day, unlike Halley's Comet, it will come around again next year.

Normally at this time I would be telling you all about our "Sale of Work", our shopping at SuperValu and our Christmas lunch, but as you know by now, none of these are possible in this present climate, so we just chalk it up to experience and move on.

Many of you have been in contact with me expressing your concerns regarding the lack of fundraising and indeed we have received some donations, for which we are most grateful. Due to the cancelation of events we have not had the opportunity to spend too much money this year, however, we will feel the "pinch" in 2021 and so to that end we will be setting up a "gofundme" page and we will keep you informed in this regard. Meanwhile, I would like to thank Cole Kavanagh, Barney Boyd and Maynooth people in general for the collective initiative in producing the "Old Maynooth" Calendar, the proceeds of which, I understand, will be donated to "Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee". We appreciate the goodwill and effort behind this project and judging by demand, it has proven very popular indeed. All monies received will be spent wisely for the benefit of our older people.

All I can do now is wish you all a happy but quiet and uneventful Christmas, as we are not there yet. Stay safe.

Finally, our sincere condolences to the families of Margaret Nolan, Pat Corrway, Noel Power, Fergal Flynn and Sarah Burke.

Suaimhneas agus Siochain Doibh go Leir.

Josephine Moore.



LIFFEY MEMORIALS

- ◆ Headstones
- ◆ Grave Cleaning
- ◆ Additional Inscriptions

**SERVICING
LARAGHBRYAN
CEMETERY
MAYNOOTH**

01-8237710

**See our large range of stones on
www.liffeymemorials.ie**

Seasons Greetings to all





Stockists of:
Environ Skincare, Advanced Nutrition Programme, Jane Iredale, Heliocare and Skin Formulas.

This lockdown, shop local from the comfort of your own home via our website CelebrateSkin.ie.

Christmas sets now available to purchase online. Click and Collect or nationwide delivery available.

Are you looking to start your skincare journey, or looking to gift someone with the gift of skincare?

Book a virtual consult with us via our website: www.celebrateskin.ie

A 45 minute consultation will lead you towards the correct skincare for your needs and is complimentary with the purchase of product

We invite you to visit our Superior Christmas Trees at Buckley's Yard
 (Rear of Garda Station, across from the Castle)



Choose Quality

Support Local

Looking forward to meeting you between the 1st - 20th December

Christmas Trees / Wreaths / Christmas Planters

Entry limited to three customers at a time.
 All must wear a mask.
 Sanitising provided.
 Social distancing essential.

McCormack's Pharmacy

Main St, Maynooth
Tel: 01-6286274 Fax: 01-6290538



**SEASONS GREETINGS TO ALL
OUR CUSTOMERS**

Full Range of Christmas Gifts & Fragrances

Free Customer Carpark at Rear

Free Blood Pressure Check

Passport and ID Photos

Ear Piercing

"Your Medicine is our Business"



Coláiste Naomh Eoin
An Ghaeltacht sa Bhaile

26 Bliain Ag Fás

SPRING ONLINE IRISH WEEKEND COURSES 2021

7 HOURS ONLINE REVISION/PREPARATION COURSES

FOR LEAVING CERT. - JUNIOR CERT. - 1st & 2nd YEAR STUDENTS
FRIDAY 6pm - 8pm + SATURDAY 10am - 3pm

COURSE DATES: Cúrsa A. FEBRUARY 12th, 13th (Midterm)
Cúrsa B. MARCH 26th, 27th (Easter)
Cúrsa C. MAY 14th, 15th (Final Exam Prep.)

LIMITED PLACES: COURSES ARE EXAM FOCUSE WITH SPECIALISED NOTES PROVIDED

BOOK ONLINE
WWW.ColaisteNaomhEoin.com
FÓN (01) 2985287

Now also booking for Summer Gaeltacht Courses 2021

VISIT WEBSITE FOR DETAILS.



Celbridge Further Education and Training Centre

☎ 01-6275673 ✉ celbridgefetc@kwetb.ie 🌐 celbridgefetc.ie

Increase your employment prospects by upskilling or retraining

Enrolling now for courses beginning in January 2021

Full-time courses in

eBusiness Studies
General Studies (University Access)
Business Studies
Computer Studies
Healthcare Support

Part-time courses:

Computer Studies (including Microsoft Office)
Career Preparation
Communication Skills
English as a Second Language



Who is eligible: People who are over 21 years of age and in receipt of (or a dependent spouse in receipt of) an eligible social welfare payment.

Free course: The courses are free. There is no charge for books or materials. You will not lose any of your social welfare benefits.

Working: Limited part-time working is permitted in line with the demands of the course.

Extra financial supports: You may be entitled to meal and travel allowances. You may also be eligible to child care support.

Other supports: Free access to career guidance and counselling service.

Adult education: Learn new skills in a supportive adult education environment.

Unit A11, M4 Business Park, Celbridge

Facebook: @CelbridgeVTOS



EUROPEAN UNION
Investing in your Future
European Social Fund



Ireland's European Structural and Investment Funds Programmes 2014-2020
Co-funded by the Irish Government and the European Union





QUICK AND EASY ONLINE LOAN APPLICATION.
APPLY AND GET YOUR MONEY WITHOUT VISITING A BRANCH!

GOODBYE DEBT !



Reduce multiple high interest payments
into one smarter, single payment.

5.5%

(5.64% APR)

ON ALL LOANS
TRANSFERRED
TO LIFE CU BY
31ST DECEMBER 2020

*Lowest rate
on the market*



AVERAGE SAVING ON €8,000
CREDIT CARD BALANCE

= €5,600

*Plus paid off 14
months earlier!*

Apply online in minutes at www.lifecu.ie today!

Credit Card example based on BOI Classic Credit Card at 22.1% APR with a balance of €8,000 and monthly payment of €200. Total Amount Payable €14,800. Length of time to clear card 6 years, 2 months. Source <https://www.cccp.ie/consumers/money-tools/creditcard-comparisons/> Life Credit Union loan of €8,000 at 5.5% over 5 years. APR 5.64%. Total Amount Payable €9,199.61 Length of time to clear card 5 years.

Loan example for illustrative purposes only. Loans are subject to approval. Terms & Conditions apply. If you do not meet the repayments on your loan, your account will go into arrears. This may affect your credit rating. Changing your loans may result in you paying over a longer term and/or paying more interest over the life of your loan. Life Credit Union is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland

Life
credit union



Writers' Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

Christmas Jangles

Dan turned onto his back to listen. There it was, a brief infuriating chirp. The smoke alarm! This was his third night without a proper sleep. He waited for the next chirp, one minute, two minutes... No sound. Maybe the damn thing had settled down? Sometimes an hour could pass before it repeated its insidious warning. He had replaced the battery after the Friday power-cut that plunged the town into darkness, erasing festive lights and winking Christmas trees as if by magic – black magic – and waking the smoke alarm from its year-long slumber.

As he lay there tensely expectant, the barking of Gilmores' Alsatian pierced the night like baying of a hellhound. What was bothering the stupid animal now? How could the Gilmores allowed that brute to upset their neighbours? At least the horrible singing Santa beside McNamaras' driveway had shut up for the night. Tomorrow evening, however, he would be at it again, warning everybody till well past midnight that they'd better watch out because he was coming to town. Between the Alsatian, the Santa and the smoke alarm he was at the end of his tether. The situation had already freaked Janice out. Yesterday, she had gone to her mother's in Dundalk, vowing not to return till he got an electrician to mend the alarm.

What irked him about his wife's departure was that she had implied he was largely the cause of their problems. First there was his snoring – or rather his 'death rattle' as she put it – then his refusal to approach the Gilmores or the McNamaras to complain and, lastly, his insistence on dealing with the offending smoke alarm by himself. It was no use his pointing out that he understood exactly why the gadget was chirping; it was simply warning them that the battery needed to be replaced. When he had carried out this delicate operation – standing on a stack of phone books placed on a chair while she held his legs – the plastic cover of the battery compartment had broken. Nevertheless, he had managed to slot the alarm back into its base on the ceiling.

"Now, that wasn't so hard," he observed, relishing his success. "If we had sent for the electrician we'd be paying him an arm and a leg."

"Are you sure it's alright?" She looked doubtful.

"Sure?" He grinned: "It's as safe as a house on fire."

"That's what I'm afraid of," she said ruefully.

No sooner were they in bed that evening than the singing Santa and barking Alsatian were joined by the alarm as if it were a gentle triangle note being added to some mad symphony. Ears plugged with cotton wool, they waited hour after hour for respite. Finally, exhaustion overcoming him, he dozed off. When he awoke he was alone. He found Janice sitting on the lounge sofa, holding a cushion over her head.

"That's it!" she sobbed. "I can't take this any more. I'm going to Mam's."

"What about the girls?" he objected. "If they're flying back from Toronto they'll expect to find you here."

"You can look after them," she snapped. "After all, you fixed the alarm all by yourself! The Christmas cooking and washing-up should be a piece of cake."

The upshot was that, despite his attempts to make her see reason, she had packed a bag and left. Still, he had to admit that she was lucky not to have to endure this new assault by the smoke alarm. With her hearing ten times more acute than his, it would have driven her completely bonkers. Cheep! There it was again! Maybe the battery he put in was faulty? Should he remove it? No, that would make no difference since the alarm would still get power from the electric wires and if he pulled those loose he might cause a short circuit that would set the whole house on fire. Of course he could turn off the electricity but then the water pipes might freeze. Such being the case, was there something else he could do to regain Janice's respect?

What would her old man, that super-competent architect who had warned her against marrying a mere bank clerk, have done? He had it: desperate times called for desperate measures.

Getting out of bed he switched on the bathroom light and looked at his watch: five to three, the dead of night. With half the street lamps not working because of a dispute between the Council and the developers, the estate would be in semidarkness. Dressing quickly, he went to the kitchen, took a packet of sleeping tablets from the medicine box, crushed six of them with a spoon and mixed the powder into a handful of minced meat. Next he cut eye, nose and mouth holes in an old woollen cap, which he pulled down over his head, donned a dark overcoat, located a torch and Janice's rolling pin. Then having fortified himself with a large brandy, he let himself out the back door.

As he approached Kiernans' the Alsatian's barking deepened to a bloodthirsty frenzy. Tiptoeing nearer, he lobbed the doctored meat over the wooden garden fence and beat a hasty retreat. The barking maintained its pitch then suddenly subsided. Great! The brute must have found the meat. Once out on the street he headed back past his own house and, moving quietly as a cat, made straight for McNamara's. A glance at the windows showed no one was watching.

Lifting the rolling pin, he brought it down on the Santa's glowing head. Instead of going black it burst into a rasping "You'd better watch out;/ You'd better not pout..." Heart pounding, he took to his heels and racing up the street, turned into an alleyway leading to the green. Using the torch, he made a wide detour across the frosted grass before swinging round to rejoin the street well below Kiernans'. On passing that house with his torch switched off the Alsatian burst into a frenzy of barking. Oh no! Between him and jolly-voiced Santa every family in the estate would be roused from sleep. Luckily the street lamps on either side of his-own home were out. Cutting across the lawn he groped his way to the back door. By the time he got into bed he found that the night's exertion had brought on an attack of tinnitus, so that, apart from the loud buzzing in his ears, he could hear nothing. At first he feared that this buzzing would keep him awake but while trying to figure out if anybody might have spotted him he must have dozed off because on opening his eyes he found it was late morning. The tinnitus had subsided enough to allow him to hear the alarm chirping but no sounds from the street outside.

Instead of the sizzling fry Janice would have prepared, breakfast was just burnt toast and tea. He wondered if he should phone her but decided that after making such a botch of things it might be best to call the electrician first. He was opening a can of beef stew for his dinner when Kevin, the electrician, rang the doorbell. Mounting a stepladder he had brought with him, Kevin deftly removed the alarm from its base. Then he tugged the electric wires and a plastic plug connecting them to the device popped out.

"You didn't push the battery in far enough," he observed while correcting the fault. "That's what caused the beeping."

"Damn it! If only I'd been more careful," Dan said ruefully. "I broke the cover of the battery compartment too."

"Not to worry," Kevin told him. "I'll put some tape over it."

"How much do I owe you?" Dan expected he would ask at least forty.

"Fifteen euro," Kevin told him.

Gratefully, he handed him twenty and, when Kevin had driven away, decided to mend fences with his neighbours – that's if they weren't past mending?

When he rang McNamaras' doorbell, Mrs McNamara, a big confident blond, opened the door.

"Don't say a word!" she commanded. "I know all about it. Some drunken lout must have kicked our Santa. The damn thing kept poor little Gerry awake all night and his father and I never heard a thing – Our bedroom's at the back. Won't you come in? I was just having a cuppa."

Hardly daring to believe his luck, Dan thanked her and soon the two of them were chatting away in the kitchen. She told him her name was Joan and they used to live in Dublin. Gerry was settling into the local school but he still missed his Dublin friends. That was why they had got the singing Santa. But after what had happened she was certainly getting rid of it.

"Why not just disconnect the recording?" Dan said. "I know an electrician who'll do it for next to nothing. Here, I'll give you his number."

Half an hour later he was saying goodbye to Joan, having invited her to drop around for tea with her husband and Gerry after Christmas. Now while he was on a roll he might as well call to the Kiernans. When he approached their house, girding himself to face a threat of legal action, the Alsatian didn't begin his usual frenzied barking. Maybe he had finally eaten the doctored mincemeat? Gingerly he rang the doorbell. When there was no response he rang it again – Still no movement inside.

Puzzled he walked back to his own house, and was heating the canned beef when the doorbell rang.

"Did you hear about Kiernans' dog?" Liam, the postman, asked as he handed him half a dozen envelopes, that from their size and colour obviously contained Christmas cards. "What about him?" Dan tried to hide his unease.

"They found him collapsed this morning – They were just coming back from the vet's when I delivered their mail."

"And the dog?"

"Oh, he's fine." Liam grimaced. "More's the pity; that animal drives the heart crossways in me."

After his dinner, Dan went back to Kiernans'. Their son, James, a burly young man whose eyebrow and nose were adorned with steel rings, came to the door.

"I know you may not be aware of it," Dan blurted out before he could lose his nerve, "but that dog of yours keeps my wife awake. Maybe –"

"Was it you tried to poison him?" James demanded.

"No!" Dan protested. "What do you take me for?"

"Sorry," James put up his hands contritely. "It's just that last night somebody threw poisoned meat into our garden. Anyway, whoever it was did us a favour. When we brought Biff to the vet he found that he had an ulcerated tooth. It seems that's why he's been barking so much. If it's not, he'll give us something to calm him."

"That's great news," Dan said. "I wouldn't have called except that Janice is such a light sleeper. Tell your father and mother that if they feel like dropping round after Christmas for a cup of tea or a glass of wine they're more than welcome – of course that invitation includes yourself."

"Thanks," James gave him a friendly grin. "I'm sure they'll be chuffed."

When Dan phoned Janice with the news about the smoke alarm, the Alsatian and the Santa she was delighted, though she felt he was wrong not to have made a clean breast of everything to the neighbours.

"How are you coping with the cooking?" she enquired.

"Not very well," he confessed. "Do you think you can come back, now that things have improved on the noise front?"

"Oh, yes," she said. "As bad as your snoring is it's nothing compared to mam's; I didn't sleep a wink last night and, anyway, we have to get the girls' rooms ready – You know they'll both be arriving this Saturday."

"We'll have the CD player blaring then!" Dan reminded her, grinning happily.

P.G. Nerney



Gold Medal
Winner 2019

At the time of writing Maynooth Tidy Towns Volunteers have been in lockdown since the 17th October, our last day of organised clean ups, due to government restrictions because of Covid 19. Due to weather conditions in December we may not be able to organise any other clean up until 2021.

In November we planted 50,000 bulbs, Daffodils, Tulips, Camassia and Allium on the Straffan Road and Meadowbrook Link Road. We hired a machine in order to get all bulbs planted in the one day, Kildare Co Council paid for the hire of the machine. We also planted Crocuses, Tulips, Muscari and Anemones outside St. Mary's Boys' School and in the green space outside the entrance to St Patricks College. Looking forward to all that colour come Spring 2021.

Our Christmas Tree was delivered to Courthouse Square on Saturday November 14th by Hyland Recovery. Thanks to John Kavanagh for organising the delivery and collection with Colin Hyland and Moyvalley Garden Centre. Thanks to Mark Nolan for organising a gofundme page so that locals could donate money towards the Christmas Lights on Main Street and the Square. I also believe that Mark has organised a Crib which will be erected close to the Christmas tree.

Thanks to Intel for donating 60 Bird Boxes to Maynooth as part of their Biodiversity programme on the Intel campus. Boxes will be distributed to different housing estates around the town. We will also help with the installation of boxes on the trees with help from residents.

Christmas Trees can be recycled in the Council yard from the 4th January - 21st January 2021. They will be turned into Mulch to be distributed around the County to our Parks and Playgrounds to keep them dry.

We have 3 recycling Banks in Maynooth at Aldi, Tesco and SuperValu shopping centres, please remember to recycle all your cans, bottles and clothing in a respectful way. We are very disappointed with the level of Graffiti around the town at present. We would like to wish a Very Happy Christmas and a litter free New Year to all our followers especially the Editorial team and Staff at Maynooth Newsletter and to all our Volunteers who religiously turned out every Saturday when requested.

You can Like us on Facebook or Follow us on Twitter. If you would like to be one of the many Tidy Towns Volunteers please call or message us on 0873153189.



Christmas Events 2020

ADVENT SERVICES

"An Unexpected Christmas"

Sunday Mornings Dec 6th, 13th & 20th

During Covid-19 restrictions, our Sunday Worship Services are available on YouTube from 10.15am. Find our link at www.maynoothcc.org or search on YouTube for 'maynoothcc'.

CAROLS ON THE SQUARE

Thursday 24th Dec @ 6.00pm

Covid-19 restrictions permitting, we'd love you to join us for some Carols by Candlelight on Maynooth Square on Christmas Eve from 6.00pm-7.00pm on the 24th. Just wrap up warm and bring your voice!

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE on ZOOM

Friday 25th December @ 10.30am

To join us on Christmas Morning, please visit our homepage www.maynoothcc.org and click on the link provided.

Happy Christmas Everybody!



MAYNOOTH
COMMUNITY CHURCH
Eaglais Phreispitéireach in Éirinn

www.maynoothcc.org
office@maynoothcc.org





Maynooth Cycling Campaign December 2020



New Year Wishes

Maynooth Cycling Campaign's Wishes for 2021

- At the end of last year, our hope for 2020 was for the Celbridge Road Maynooth - that preliminary designs, Compulsory Purchase Orders, Part 8 Public Consultation and detailed design would be completed in 2020 (with construction following on in early 2021). Well, that did not turn out too well but it remains our No. 1 target for 2021.
- The other key scheme is the Rathcoffey Road/Meadowbrook Road /Newtown Road cycle route linking Castledawson Estate to the Town.
- The third wish is for a coherent transport strategy for the town.

KCC Needs To Radically Change Direction On Cycling

The *Programme for Government* includes a commitment to substantially increase funding for cycling. However, Maynooth Cycling Campaign is alarmed at the lack of progress on cycling in Kildare County Council and its inability to take advantage of the available funding.

- According to the NTA Annual Report on STMG (Grants), in 2019, Kildare County Council was one of the worst, if not the worst, performing of 11 local authorities of the Greater Dublin Area and Regional Cities.
- In 2020, the NTA allocated Kildare County Council €2.2 Million of which over €1 Million was for the Royal Canal from Maynooth to the Dublin Boundary and work on Mill Street, Maynooth. Neither project commenced on site in 2020 so it appears that approximately 50% of the allocation will be underspent.
- In 2020 under the July Stimulus, the government announced allocations of €88 million, of which Kildare County Council received €1.8 Million. Kildare only applied for half of what comparable counties such as Meath, Fingal and Wicklow received.
- Out of over 30 Irish local authorities, Kildare was among the group which spent the least proportion of its July Stimulus on cycling.
- In urban areas, a number of the proposed July Stimulus measures, such as work on Main Street Maynooth, will actually worsen conditions for cyclists and pedestrians.
- Among the rural schemes listed was resurfacing the front of Killina and

Rathcoffey National Schools which was justified on the basis of “encouraging” cycling. The chance of parents wanting their children to share regional roads with traffic is remote.

- In Maynooth and Naas, although millions of euros have been spent on walking and cycling, the facilities which Kildare County Council provided on the Straffan Road, Moyglare Road and Kilcullen Road are substandard.
- The government has indicated that Safe Routes to School will be one of its priorities. In Athy, Kildare Town and Monasterevin, Kildare County Council carried out work around a number of schools but none of the schemes include dedicated facilities for cyclists.
- In 2020, Kildare County Council went to public consultation on “transport strategies” in Naas and Kildare Town. The strategies lack targets and credibility and the ambition for active travel is nowhere near where it needs to be.
- In his position as PPN Community Representative on the Transport SPC, the Chair of Maynooth Cycling Campaign has submitted 12 policy papers to the Council – six since last June. We await a response.

In 2019, KCC's performance was among the worst performing local authority for cycling; in 2020 all the indications are that it will again be bad; and in 2021 the Council's main focus appears to be progressing legacy projects which have been knocking around for a number of years. Instead what is needed is progress on additional high quality urban cycling schemes which offer people a choice of how to travel – especially for short urban journeys such as to school, to shops etc.

Despite promoting cycling since 2000, there has been no significant change in the level of cycling in the county. Maynooth Cycling Campaign welcomes the appointment of a new Senior Engineer and Director of Services for Transport but unless there is a radical change in the way that cycling is treated, there will be no change in the level of cycling in the next twenty years with worse congestion, worse pollution and worse health outcomes for communities across Kildare.

“Roads Department” vs “Transportation Department”

Kildare County Council has recently change its website. The changes included the renaming of the “Transport” department to “Roads”. While on one level it is a minor amendment, on another level, it is quite a major change. In the 1990s progressive local authorities changed the title of their department from “Roads” to one incorporating “Transportation” or “Streets” in order to indicate that it was not all about cars but included public transport as well as walking and cycling. It is not known if the name change was deliberately harking back to 1970s when transport was all about roads.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. We are members of Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cyclist Advocacy Network, and through it to the European Cycling Federation.

Conradh na Gaeilge Mhaigh Nuad.

Tá craobh den Chonradh i Maigh Nuad ó bhunaíodh an eagraíocht i 1893. B'é Dónall Ó Buachalla a bhí ag feidhmiú mar rúnaí ar an gcrabhadh go dtí na seascaidí sa chéad seo caithe.

I mbliain an chéad 1993 d'éagraigh an craobh imeachtaí chomórada le béim ar an tAth. Eoghain Ó Ghrámaigh duine de bhunaitheoirí Chonradh na Gaeilge. Bhí dlú bhaint aige leis an mbaile mar Ollamh le Gaeilge san Ollscoil, údar 'Simple Lessons in Irish', lámhleabhar ranganna Gaeilge an Chonradh i ré na hAthbheochana.

Ag an am sin rinneamar chíoradh ar obair na craoibhe agus na dúshlán romhainn sa chéad chéad eile. Chuirge sin, chuireamar plean ghearr, mhéan is fad théarma le chéile.

Shocraigh muid ainm nua a chur ar an gcrabhadh mar ábhar speagadh don obair romhainn i leith chur chun cinn na Gaeilge sa cheantar. Rinne chinneadh ar Craobh Chrom Abú Mhaigh Nuad mar an ainm nua. Bé seo rosc catha na nGearthaigh agus glacamar leis mar omós don Tiarna Éadard Mac Gearailt Teach Cartúin, duine de cheannairí Éirí amach na hÉireannaigh Aontaithe i 1798. Ghlac Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Mhaigh Nuad leis an rosc mar mana an chlub le fada is ghlachamar le sin.

Chuireamar Ranganna Gaeilge is imeachtaí Gaelach ar siúl i gclub teach CLG Mhaigh Nuad. Bhronn an tAth. Pádraig Ó Fiannachta, Ollamh le Gaeilge plaic le stair an rosc ar an CLG ar son na craoibhe mar dearbhú den gaol eadrainn. Mar chuid den plean mhéan téarmach chuireamar chuige, comhoibriú le na grúpaí deonacha eile ar an mbaile. Ina meas Cumann Mná Tíre na Tuaithe, Comhaltas Ceoltoirí Éireann, Comhairle Pobail Mhaigh Nuad agus Cuallach Cholmcille na hOllscoile. Rinneamar nasc fresin le Leabharlann Mhaigh Nuad, Comhairle Chondae Chill Dara, Coiste Ghairm Oideachais Chill Dara agus Bord na

Gaeilge.

Chuireamar chuige caidreamh a chruthú leis an dhá bunscoil is an iar-bhunscoil ar an mbaile, trí chómortais Gaeilge agus díospóireachtaí a neagrú.

Bhí sé mar chuid den plean Gaelscoil a bhunadh agus Gaelcholáiste sa todhcaí. Ranganna Gaeilge agus ciorcal comhrá a chur ar bhun. Ainmneacha na sráideanna a bheith go dhá teangach. Comhoibriú le choiste Gaeilge Comhairle Chontae Chill Dara. Nascadh baile le baile eile that lear trí Gaeilge.

Sa ré comhaimsirithe leathnaigh ár gcomhoibriú le grúpaí nua ar an mbaile ar nós an Chomhairle Mhúinteoireachta agus An Foras Pátrúnachta Tá ról lárnach againn i gcur chun cinn na Gaeilge go leanúach i Maigh Nuad.

Thar na blianta déirigh linn formhór dár n aidhmeanna a bhaint amach. Tá Gaelscoil Uí Fhiach ag soláthar Gaeloideachais ar an mbaile ó 1995. Mar freagra ar an éileamh do Gaeloideachais ar an mbaile bhunaigh an Roinn Oideachais is Scileanna Gaelscoil Ruairí i 2018. Bhunaíodh sruth Lán –Ghaeilge in iar-bhunscoil Mhaigh Nuad. Tar éis tréimhse rathúil mhéidigh an sruth chuig Aonad Lán –Ghaeilge taobh istigh den scoil. Ar deireadh bhunaíodh Gaelcholáiste Mhaigh Nuad i 2019.

Tá caighdeán ard Gaeilge sa trí bhunscoileanna eile ar an mbaile. Tá caighdeán ard Gaeilge in iar-bhunscoil Mhaigh Nuad agus Coláiste Phobal Mhaigh Nuad. Go deimhin is campas dhá theangach é Ollscoil Mhaigh Nuad.

Tá ainm na sráideanna ar an mbaile go dhá theangach. Tá an Ghaeilge i réim sna eastát thithíochta ar an mbaile. Tá Maigh Nuad nascaithe le Canet en Rousillion le chairt i nGaeilge Francais agus Catalónais. Tá na Comharthaí

bóthaire go dhá theangach ar an mbealaí isteach sa bhaile.

Tá súil againn go gcuirfear tús arís leis an gciorcal comhrá sa leabharlann nuair a thiocfaimid slán ó na srianta de dheasca an ghéarchéim sláinte.

Idir an dhá linn bíonn ciorcal fíorúil ar siúl ó Leabharlann Mhaigh Nuad.

Ciorcal Comhrá / Irish Language Conversation Group Every Wednesday at 11am / Gach Céadaoin ar a 11 a Chlog.

Join us online every Wednesday morning at 11am for an informal chat as Gaeilge. If you have a log of Irish or the cúpla focal, this an opportunity to practice your Irish and learn some Irish all from the comfort of your own home. To register, please call Maynooth Community Library on 01 628 5530 or email maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie

Tá súil againn go mbeidh muid ag comhoibriú lenár gcairde i craobh Chuallacht Chomhcille tar éis an ghéarchéim.

Bíonn fáilte roimh baill nua agus tá páirt ann i saol na Gaeilge do gach éinne i gcrabhadh Chrom Abú de Chonradh na Gaeilge i Maigh Nuad.

Tagaimid le chéile gach oíche Dé Mháirt ar a 8.00 i dteach Brady nó i dTeach Uí Néil agus bíonn seisiún ceoil ina dhiaidh ar a 9.30 le ceoltoirí na Chuallachta.

Nollaig Shona agus ath bhliain faoi mhaise,

Colm Ó Cearúil,
Rúnaí
Craobh Chrom Abú
Maigh Nuad.

M^CCARTAN'S

PHARMACY

Tesco Shopping Centre Maynooth

LANCÔME
PARIS

01-6286081

CLARINS
PARIS

**Ask in store for all your
Health care and beauty needs**

Our pharmacists are available 7 days a week for healthcare advice.

All HSE schemes are dispensed.

NUXE
PARIS



Opening hours

Monday 9am to 7pm

Tuesday 9am to 7pm

Wednesday 9am to 7pm

Thursday 9am to 8pm

Friday 9am to 8pm

Saturday 9am to 6pm

Sunday 11am to 5pm

VICHY
LABORATOIRES

GALWAY
IRISH CRYSTAL



LA ROCHE-POSAY
LABORATOIRE DERMATOLOGIQUE

**Stockists of: Lancome - Clarins - Newbridge Silverware - Chanel
Nuxe - Galway Crystal - La Roche-Posay - Vichy - Moogoo**



Royal Canal Notes

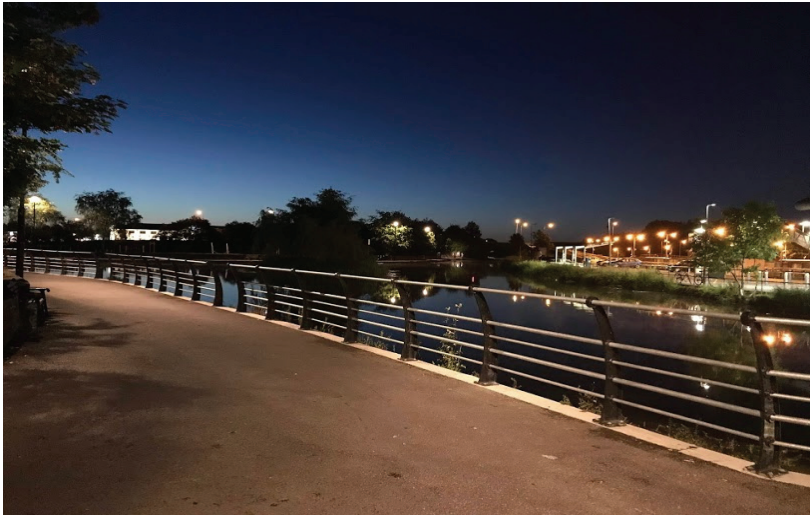
December 2020

Education ~~ Heritage ~~ Recreation

YEAR END

As we approach Christmas, we look back at a very unusual year indeed. The pandemic put paid to all planned functions and trips but, with more leisure time during lockdown, an enormous increase in canal usage.

Such is the enthusiasm about walking /orderly cycling along the refurbished canal paths that we have been asked could we encourage Waterways Ireland to look at doing the same on our sister canal 'The Grand', but that is another story.



Maynooth Harbour by night (© Royal Canal Runner)

ANNUAL MASS

Each November the committee organises a mass for those who lost their lives in a canal boating accident during the active business days of the canal. A wreath is also laid at the bridge which is close to the accident site. This mass, which usually takes place at Porterstown church near Clonsilla in Dublin, is also affected by the pandemic and will be virtual.

The wreath will be laid in full compliance with Covid 19 regulations and because of social distancing will only be attended by a few members.

May they all rest in peace.



RCAG members at Portertown church where the mass normally takes place

ALOCADER

The Chairman, Committee and Board of Directors would like to extend thanks to a number of people and groups for their help and support during the year.

First up is the 'Maynooth Community Employment Scheme' staff who tidy the harbour, trim the grass and carry out minor maintenance.

We would also like to thank the Tidy Towns Committee who also do some cleaning in the harbour area. They also provide additional bins and assistance when we run functions in the harbour

We also appreciate the efforts, assistance and kindness shown by the "MAYNOOTH NEWSLETTER" staff with regards to publishing matters.

Finally a huge vote of thanks to you the communities along the canal and reads of this auspicious publication, who have supported us from the start and continue to support our endeavours.

FROM A LOYAL SUPPORTER



The five arches of Jacksons Bridge (© Royal Canal Runner)

Maynooth Christmas Lights 2020

Please Support Maynooth Christmas Lights 2020 on www.iFundraise.ie

2020 has been a tough year for everyone, we will NOT be looking for funding from the businesses towards the Christmas Lights. We are reaching out to everyone to donate a few Euro. We have got a pre-approved Grant of €8,000 from Kildare County Council towards the Christmas Lights and we have to raise the balance of €5,000, this will allow us to receive the Grant and have Christmas Lights this year. Please share and Donate.

Stay Safe, Thanks, Mark Nolan

https://www.ifundraise.ie/5601_maynooth-christmas-lights-2020.html



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



Changes to medical card income limits for over 70s, prescription charges and Drugs Payment Scheme

The following changes came into effect on 1 November 2020:

- Medical card prescription charges are reduced by €0.50, with the monthly limit reduced by €5
- The over 70s medical card means test limit for a single person/couple increased by €50/€150 (to €550/€1,050)
- The monthly Drugs Payment Scheme threshold reduced by €10 to €114

Grants for disability services

The Strengthening Disability Services Fund will provide once-off grants to reform disability services, build capacity of disability organisations and improve the quality of life for service users. The closing date for applications is 18 November 2020.

Temporary ban on evictions

The Residential Tenancies Act 2020 was enacted on 24 October 2020. It introduced:

- A ban on evictions while Ireland is at Level 5 of the Plan for Living with COVID-19
- An automatic eviction ban for other periods when a 5km restriction on movement is in place
- A number of very limited reasons where an eviction is possible during an eviction ban, such as for anti-social behaviour
- A 10-day grace period after an eviction ban has expired, when evictions are not allowed
- A pause on the time accrued towards Part 4 and Further Part 4 tenancies during an eviction ban

Homeless services

The Dublin Regional Homeless Executive has activated its Cold Weather Strategy 2020/21 in the Dublin Region. The strategy includes additional emergency accommodation for homeless people over the winter months and enhanced outreach services on the streets.

Electricity and gas disconnections

The Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU) has put in place a moratorium on all electricity and gas disconnections of domestic customers from 24 October 2020 to 1 December 2020. A second moratorium will apply from 10 December 2020 to 12 January 2021. There is no change to the emergency credit level for prepaid (Pay As You Go) gas meters.

Local Property Tax

On 22 October 2020, a Ministerial Order was made to defer the valuation date for LPT until 1 November 2021.

VAT reduction

As previously announced in Budget 2021, the VAT rate for the hospitality and tourism sector decreased from 13.5% to 9% on 1 November 2020 to 31 December 2021.

Online shopping warning

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) has issued a warning in relation to a website selling to consumers in Ireland called irelandsstore.com. Consumers who have difficulties with this website should contact the CCPC.

Healthy Ireland Survey 2020-2021

The Healthy Ireland Survey 2020-2021 has been launched. Letters will be issued to randomly selected households across the country, inviting them to take part. The letters ask those selected to call the Survey number and to complete a questionnaire by telephone.

Tidy Towns 2021

The Minister for Rural and Community Development has announced that the SuperValu TidyTowns competition will proceed in 2021.

Christmas Bonus

The Christmas Bonus is an extra payment for people getting a long-term social welfare payment.

The Christmas Bonus is 100% of your normal weekly long-term social welfare payment (the minimum payment is €20).

The Christmas Bonus 2020 will also be paid to people getting the COVID-Pandemic Unemployment Payment (PUP) and jobseeker's payments for at least 4 months.

The bonus will be paid in early December 2020.

In 2020, the Christmas Bonus will be 100% of your normal weekly payment (including the Living Alone Increase, the Island Allowance and the Over-80 Increase). The Christmas Bonus does not include Fuel Allowance. The minimum Christmas Bonus payment is €20.

If an Increase for a Qualified Adult is paid directly to your dependent spouse, civil partner or cohabitant, the Christmas Bonus is also paid directly to them.

Government department name changes on citizensinformation.ie

Departmental name changes are underway on citizensinformation.ie. Departments completed include:

DEASP - now Department of Social Protection (DSP)

DCYA - now Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY)

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade - now Department of Foreign Affairs

COVID-19 enhanced Illness Benefit

If a worker is told to self-isolate or diagnosed with COVID-19, they can apply for a COVID-19 enhanced Illness Benefit payment of €350 per week.

Both employees and self-employed people can qualify for the COVID-19 enhanced Illness Benefit.

On 6 August 2020, the Government announced that workers who live in direct provision who have been diagnosed with COVID-19, or who have been advised to self-isolate, can access the COVID-19 enhanced Illness Benefit.

If you are ill for another reason or self-isolating because you are medically vulnerable, you should apply for standard Illness Benefit.

COVID-19 Enhanced Illness Benefit will remain in place until the end of March 2021.

You can read more about your employment rights during COVID-19 restrictions and social welfare payments and COVID-19.

You can apply for enhanced Illness Benefit, if you:

Are suspected of having COVID-19 and are told by a doctor or the Health Service Executive (HSE) to self-isolate or

Are diagnosed with COVID-19

To qualify for COVID-19 enhanced Illness Benefit, you must:

- Be aged between 18 and 66
- Have a medical certificate called a 'Certificate of incapacity for work' from a doctor or have a text or letter notification from the HSE to support your application
- Be employed or self-employed and have worked in the 4 weeks before the date of your medical certification
- Have a current contract of employment, if you are an employee

To get the payment, you must have a medical certificate called a 'Certificate of incapacity for work' from your own doctor or have a letter or text notification from the HSE telling you that you have been identified as having contact with someone who has COVID-19.

If you are diagnosed with COVID-19 or if you are medically required to self-isolate, there are no waiting days for payment of enhanced Illness Benefit.

COVID-19 enhanced Illness Benefit is a temporary measure during the public health emergency. It will be in place until 31 March 2021.

Travel Plans & Covid 19

Under current public health advice, you should only travel abroad if you have an essential reason for doing so.

If you are travelling to another country in the EEA, or to the UK or Switzerland, you may have to self-isolate or restrict your movements upon arrival. You can check the combined indicator map to see how prevalent COVID-19 is in the country you are going to.

You can check the website Re-open EU for real-time information on borders and available transport and tourism services in Member States.

Part-Time Job Incentive Scheme

The Part-Time Job Incentive (PTJI) Scheme allows certain people getting Jobseeker's Allowance (JA) to take up part-time work and get a special weekly allowance instead of their jobseeker's payment. It is intended to be a stepping stone to full-time work. You must be available for and seeking full-time work while you are on the Part-Time Job Incentive Scheme.

COVID-19 Part-time Job Incentive for the Self-Employed

There is a special COVID-19 Part-time Job Incentive for the Self-Employed. You may qualify for this payment if you are self-employed and on the COVID-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment (PUP) or if you are on a jobseekers payment in the week immediately before you apply.

On this scheme, you can return to self-employment for up to 24 hours per week. There is no limit to the amount you can earn – see scope@ciboard.ie for further details.

Further information is available from the Citizens Information above
Also available on scope@ciboard.ie

Oliver Reilly

Leinster Street, Maynooth,
Co. Kildare
Mobile 086 8105581 - 01 6289452
24 Hour Service



**Undertakers and
Complete Funeral Furnishers
Wreaths, Headstones,
Mourning Coaches
Undertakers to
Maynooth Mortality Society
(Funeral Parlour Free to Society Members)**

Main Office, Naas Tel: 045 868230
Paul Reilly Mobile: 086 8105581

*Funeral Home
The Harbour
Leinster Street
Maynooth*



01-629 0370
Unit 3, Fagan's Lane, Maynooth
Main Street, Kinnegad
info@gildeasopticians.ie
f Gildea's Opticians
www.gildeasopticians.ie

FREE SIGHT TEST and SPECTACLES
(or allowance towards upgrades for spectacles or contact lenses)
with Medical Card or PRSI



Appointments Monday - Saturday
Late Night - Friday 9:30am - 8:00pm
Opening hours 9:30am-6:00pm Saturday until 5:30pm
Closed for Lunch 1pm - 2pm

MULLIGAN'S GARDEN SHEDS KILCOCK

**ALL TYPES OF TOP QUALITY
TIMBER GARDEN SHEDS
ALL TYPES OF HEAVY DUTY
TIMBER FENCING,
DECKING, & SIDE GATES
SUPPLIED & FITTED
KENNELS, POULTRY HOUSES,
BIRD TABLES & GARDEN
BENCHES**

Opening Hours

Mon - Fri 8:30 - 18:00
Saturday 8:30 - 15:00

**01-6287397
085-2846781**

Seasons Greetings to all our Customers



Thinking of replacing your PVC Windows?

WHAT TO DO NEXT

Download Your Free Guide Book:

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

In this book you will learn:

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

**It's easy to download,
Simply visit www.keanewindows.ie
Showrooms open 7 days a week**



Call 01-6203232



Hegartys Solicitors

Derroon House

(beside Citizens Information Centre)

**Dublin Road,
Maynooth**

**Buying or Selling Property
Re-mortgaging
Wills - Family Law
Debt Collection**

**Tel: 01-6293246
Fax: 01-6293247**

**Also At: 29 Eaton Square
Terenure
Dublin 6**

Email: info@hegartyssolicitors.ie
Website: www.hegartyssolicitors.ie



Cllr. Angela Feeney Maynooth Labour News

E mail: angelaemfeeney@gmail.com - Phone: 0872381962



LED Lighting Upgrade in Maynooth

Cllr Feeney called on the Council inform members as to the status of the public lighting upgrade, low pressure sodium lights being replaced by LED's in the municipal district. Cllr Feeney put this question to find out what is holding up the installation of these energy efficient public lights in Maynooth which the Council agreed to install throughout the county almost five years ago years ago now. LEDs are extremely low maintenance and will have a major cost benefit over the long term. The Council informed Cllr Feeney that Region 2, which includes Kildare will go to tender in Quarter 1, 2021 with a two-year installation period.

Accessibility Issues on the Celbridge Road Footpath

Cllr Feeney submitted a motion calling on the council to request Eir, Virgin and ESB to move the remaining poles on the Celbridge Road arguing that this section of footpath is almost useless as it currently stands. Cllr Feeney informed the meeting that the footpath is narrow to start with and then added to those parents with children in buggies and wheelchair users have to navigate around these poles or have no option but to move onto the busy road at that section. Cllr Feeney added that there are hundreds of children and parents going out that road to the primary schools and that it is an issue of public safety.

The Council responded saying that the moving of poles and boxes will be considered in the overall design for the planned revamp of the Celbridge Road. Seeing as it is a matter of public safety, it is really important to get this done and Cllr Feeney asked when these works for this road would be happening. The area engineer confirmed that they are planned for early in the New Year.

Update on the vacated MPPS



Following the successful motion Cllr Feeney submitted to the Council with regard to exploring the possibility of using the vacated KWETB school for Maynooth Community use and the favourable response to this request from KWETB, a formal letter has been issued from KCC to KWETB about progressing the proposal. KWETB has confirmed that a consultant is to be appointed to examine the best use of the available space. Cllr Feeney is

hopeful that the process will involve input from all interested community groups and organisations so as to have the best possible outcome for Maynooth.

Request to extend Double Yellow Lines in Silken Vale/The Arches

At the November Council MD meeting, Cllr Feeney requested the Council to extend the existing double yellow lines in Silken Vale/The Arches. Cllr Feeney explained that the current yellow lines were installed in 2017 and that the problem is that they do not cover the entire length of the main through road of the estate, only part of it.

The council responded saying that the existing double yellow lines were put in place at that stage to remove parking that was causing a traffic hazard or preventing the free flow of traffic not to control commuter parking. Cllr Feeney believes the two are interlinked in this case. The area engineer examined the situation and has the view that these parked cars are not causing a traffic hazard or preventing free flow of traffic, In fact he suggests that they are acting as a traffic calming measure and reduce the speed of traffic. Cllr Feeney disagreed with that view, as do, she is informed, the residents of Silken Vale/The Arches because this is a real problem for them and she added that parking cars in blind or dark spots on the road, forcing cyclists and motorists to go to the wrong side of the road is a traffic hazard.

The very reason the current double yellow lines were installed in the first place was the problem with cars left at or near the entrance of the estate. Given that Silken Vale is the nearest housing estate to the train station, the measure taken back in 2017 has been effective in ending that dangerous behaviour in that part of the estate,

Cllr Feeney argued that the same reason exists for the remainder of the estate. In her view, the problem has just been moved further down into the estate. Under standing orders Cllr Feeney is not allowed to bring up the same motion within 6 months but suggested that when the current works on extending the car park at the train station are completed, Cllr Feeney agreed to review the situation with the area engineer to find solution that works.

COVID-19 Testing Centre Needed in Maynooth

Cllr Feeney asked if the Council has been in communication with Maynooth University to consider setting up a COVID-19 testing centre.

Cllr Feeney stated that her motivation for this is that not only Maynooth, but Celbridge, Kilcock and Leixlip all have very high populations and have experienced high numbers of cases and yet we have no testing centre this side of the county. Cllr

Feeney added that it is not easy to get to the current county testing centres from this MD especially without a car and public transport is not a realistic option. Maynooth University seemed to Cllr Feeney to be the ideal location as it has plenty of space and parking for pop up centres, with one way in and one way out.



In addition, the students have been informed that, for the remainder of the current academic year, they will not be back on campus, online teaching continues, with the exception of a small number of international students/residents or students who have to attend practical's for science or music and so on.

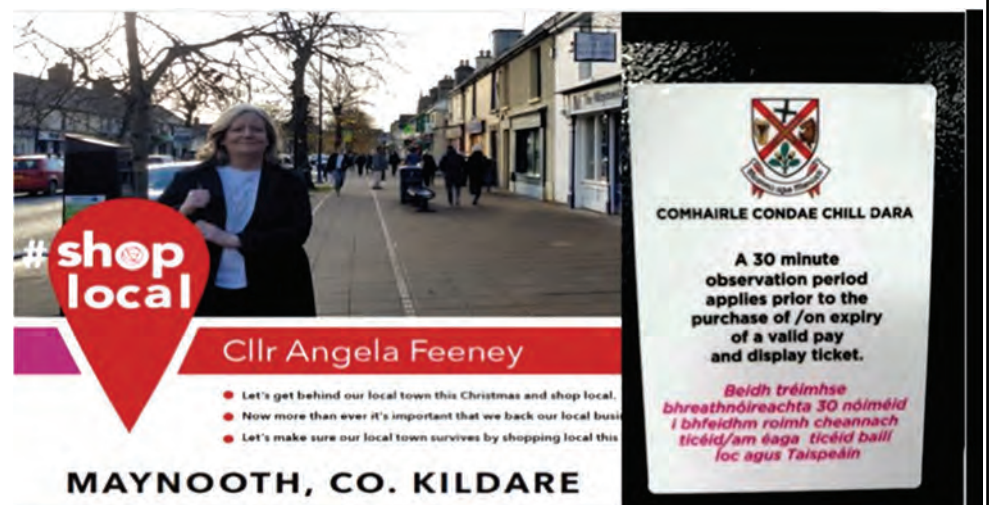
The Council responded saying it has had discussions with the HSE regarding sites in the Council's ownership being used for testing centres however, it does not have any sites suitable. Cllr Feeney has been in communication with the University and while it is not something their management team is going to do at the moment, they will keep an open mind on the matter. Cllr Feeney has pursued the matter with the HSE and awaits a reply.

Public Lights at the Canal

Cllr Feeney contacted the council and their Public Lighting Team enquiring why the three Public lights on the town side of the canal, from Bond Bridge to the Harbour, have never been switched on. Cllr Feeney said it is very dark and unsafe, all the more so because the car park side has been closed for works and the winter train users have to use the unlit pedestrian walkway on dark evenings and nights. The council confirmed it is liaising with the ESB to resolve the issue and once resolved, the lighting will be energised.

Meetings attended by Cllr Feeney since last Newsletter:

November 4th: KWETB Audit and Risk Committee at 2 pm online
 November 5th: Joint Policing Committee at 11.30 am. Online
 November 5th: Strategic Policy Committee on Transportation, Safety and Emergency Services at 2.30pm in Council Chamber
 November 6th: Council MD Meeting at 10 am in Council Chamber
 November 10th: KWETB Board Meeting at 10 am. Online
 November 12th: MPPS BOM at 5 pm Online
 November 13th: Finance Committee at 11.15 am. Online
 November 16th: Budget Briefing at 3 pm in Newbridge Town Hall
 November 23rd: Council Meeting to consider Budget Approval at 3 pm in Newbridge Town Hall
 November 26th: Briefing with Coillte at 9.30 am Online
 November 26th: National Housing Conference Online
 November 30th: Council Plenary Meeting at 3 pm in Newbridge Town Hall



**Clinics are still on-going within health guidelines,
 simply text or email me:**

**087 2381962 and angelaemfeeney@gmail.com to
 arrange meeting/zoom.**

Stay Safe Everyone and Have a Happy Christmas.

Carbon has become demonised

The soil is very much like our stomach, teeming with life. In one handful of fertile soil there are more living creatures than there are people in the world and the same is true for our stomach. Zach Bush said it nicely – we shouldn't view ourselves as individuals but as an ecosystem. The same is true for soil – everything is interconnected. I'm getting increasingly frustrated with the majority of environmentalists who completely focus on carbon and climate change while neglecting so many other pressing problems. Carbon – an important nutrient that cycles in various forms through the Earth - has become demonised. Yes - there is too much carbon in the atmosphere and I'm obviously not denying that climate change occurs, but I totally disagree with this reductionist approach.

“we have only about 60 harvests left”

This focus on carbon and carbon taxes reduces the vast complex world and the problems the world faces into a simple formula. I know people like these simple formulas and these common enemies – they are calculable and we can have clear targets but the complexity of the world is not that simple and there may be equally pressing problems.

Have we suddenly forgotten that our soils are dying? The UN put out a warning that we have only about 60 harvests left if we continue with the way we farm? What about all the chemicals – pesticides, herbicides and fertilisers that contaminate our soil, food and wildlife? What about the disturbing loss of biodiversity? What about our fish and oceans? What about our trees? Probably all our ash trees will die within the next decade – and have you heard many environmentalists voice their anger and sadness about this? Why don't they calculate the amount of carbon when 5 million ash trees no longer sequester carbon? Even worse – a dying tree will even release carbon into the atmosphere. Do you think the carbon tax will go to replace these trees on farmlands throughout Ireland? Probably not, because hardly anyone is aware of this mass extinction of one of our most loved and most common trees in the Irish landscape.

We need to try and overcome this reductionist theory on climate change and the single focus on carbon emissions and instead we need to re-connect with the soil and the land to get a deeper feeling and understanding of it all. We need to find the bigger picture and find out everything is interconnected. We should go to organic farms, gardens and grow some vegetables and fruit and fall in love with the Earth again. Because only what we love we can protect. And I'm sure this will lead to a proper solution to slow down climate change.

“what people don't often know is – 50% of organic matter is carbon”

I mentioned that our soils have become degraded to the extent that we have already lost 30% of the agricultural land area. The reason for this is mainly due to industrial farming methods. What we have done is using up the organic matter in the soil and never replenishing it. The organic matter content is usually between 5 and 7% of the soil and consists of everything that is and once was alive. You could see it like the soil's bank account – the soil's reserves. But now in most arable soils throughout the world this organic matter content has dwindled down to about 1 or 2% and farmers themselves know that there are no more birds following the plough because there are no longer worms in their soils.

Now what people don't often know is – 50% of organic matter is carbon. Soils are by far the largest carbon sink (twice more than all the vegetation and the atmosphere combined). We have taken the carbon out of the soil and put it into the atmosphere. So don't blame the poor carbon any longer. Put it back to where it belongs - into the soil. Once that carbon is back in the soil we will be able to produce food, clothing building materials for many more thousands of years. Klaus Laitenberger.

Klaus was born in southern Germany and with some detours ended up in the West of Ireland in 1999. He worked as the Head Gardener at the Organic Centre in Rossinver for 7 years before moving on to the position of Head Gardener in Lissadell House in Co. Sligo to carry out an extensive garden restoration project.

Together with his wife, Joanna, they have published a number of gardening books aimed specifically at the Irish gardener and they also run a successful seed company – www.greenvegetableseeds.com.



Klaus Laitenberger

COMMUNION DRESSES

Exquisite & Exclusive for 2021 At



MARIAN GALE



8 The Mall, Donnybrook, Dublin 4

T: 01 269 7460 • www.mariangale.ie

Our Exclusive Royal Collection
of Holy Communion Dresses

Now in Store

(Open every Sunday in December 1pm – 5pm)

Please phone for Appointment 01 269 7460

• We list your school •

A Christmas Meditation!

Why the "Sword of Sorrow"?
Was not the angel's prophecy crystal clear?
"And now, you will conceive in your womb
And bear a son and he will be called
'The Son of the Most High',
And the Lord God will give him
The Throne of his ancestor David.
He will reign over the house of Jacob
for ever,
And of his Kingdom, there will be no end."
Had you forgotten?

Were there not great signs at his birth?
A host of Angels and adoring
Shepherds?
Three Kings from the East brought him
gifts?
Did not Simeon see him as God's
salvation?
And warned you of this soul-cleaving
sword?
Did not Anna greet him as the
"Redeemer"?
Was he not the perfect child, like no
other?
No "terrible two's", no tantrums?
But obedient in all things?

Did he not astound the wise men in
Jerusalem?
You alone knew All these things!
Stored them away in your heart!
And yet his death was for you a
"Sword of Sorrow"?
Yes, I too, pierced my mother's heart,
And caused her many a lesser grief!
But no angel touched the casual cant
Which defined her distaff thralldom!

No, Mary, your "Sword of Sorrow"
Was knowing what you knew,
As you watched in a wayward world!

GM



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

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

Dail Question No: 309

To ask the Minister for Transport if he and or his predecessor have conducted a costing regarding the doubling of the rail line from Maynooth to Kilcock, County Kildare; if not, if he plans to do so; if consideration has been given to the idea of doubling the section of line if in the context of the DART+ plan; if not, the reason; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Answer

As Minister for Transport, I have responsibility for policy and overall funding in relation to public transport. The National Transport Authority (NTA) has statutory responsibility for the planning and development of public transport infrastructure in the Greater Dublin Area including, in consultation with Iarnród Éireann, development of rail in the GDA and implementation of the DART+ Programme.

Noting the NTA's responsibility in the matter, I have referred the Deputy's question to the NTA for a more detailed reply. Please contact my private office if you do not receive a reply within 10 days.

Response from NTA

Catherine Murphy, T.D.

Dáil Éireann

Kildare Street

Dublin 2 - D02 A272

17th November 2020

Dear Deputy

I am writing to you concerning the matter you raised in Parliamentary Question No. 309 on 3 November last to the Minister for Transport, which has been referred to the National Transport Authority (NTA) for reply.

The DART+ Programme, which is in development, will provide frequent, modern, electrified services to Drogheda on the Northern Line (DART+ Coastal North), Hazelhatch - Celbridge on the Kildare Line (DART+ South West), Maynooth and M3 Parkway on the Maynooth/Sligo Line (DART+ West), while improving DART services on the South-East Line as far south as Greystones (DART+ Coastal South).

The extent of the current DART+ Programme was informed by the NTA's Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016-2035 as approved by the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport. The Transport Strategy sets out the integrated transport network required to serve existing and future demand for travel in the Greater Dublin Area taking account of existing and future population and employment centres. The Transport Strategy has considered the appropriate modes to serve existing and future demand along all corridors.

The DART+ Programme will create a network of high frequency, high capacity public transport spines. The Strategy identifies opportunities for other modes to cater for demand further along these corridors including enhanced bus connectivity along with complementary measures such as park and ride providing access to the high capacity, high frequency rail network. Page 2 of 2

Iarnród Éireann recently undertook a public consultation process for the DART+ West project. As part of the public consultation on the DART+ West project, a number of submission regarding extension of the service to Kilcock or Enfield were received. These submissions will be given due consideration as part of the process of identifying the preferred route for DART+ West. The feasibility of potential extensions would be considered from an engineering and operational point of view.

Yours sincerely

Hugh Creegan

Deputy Chief Executive

Catherine Murphy (Kildare North, Social Democrats)

4. To ask the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport his plans to expand the DART+ programme beyond the plans announced in view of the fact that significant commuter populations are already living outside the geographical areas that will be provided for; if costings have been undertaken in respect of doubling rail lines west of Maynooth, County Kildare and south of Bray, County Wicklow, to increase frequency of services; and his plans to include Sallins and Naas, County Kildare in plans to further expand the electric rail network. [35958/20]

Catherine Murphy (Kildare North, Social Democrats)

The DART expansion is very welcome, but I am trying to find out whether there are plans beyond that because there are significant populations beyond the area that is due to be expanded. Indeed, they are not just along that line; they are along the Kildare line as well. For example, the combined population of Naas, Newbridge, Sallins and other towns is in excess of 60,000, which puts pressure on the N7. A more sustainable type of transport is required. Has this been costed?

Eamon Ryan (Dublin Bay South, Green Party)

As the Deputy stated, DART+ represents the key current investment programme in commuter rail services in the greater Dublin area, and will likely be the largest ever investment in our rail network in the history of the State. It is important to set out what it will deliver. It will double the capacity of the network in the greater Dublin area; it will

mean approximately 70% of all journeys on the entire national rail network will be on electrified track and it will enable sustainable, transport-orientated development at key locations along the network. These are all hugely ambitious and important outcomes and I know the Deputy recognises and welcomes the benefits DART+ will bring to the greater Dublin area, and I am glad that she supports it.

DART + has its origins in the transport strategy for the greater Dublin area, which sets out the geographic scope of the programme and the high-level strategic rationale. The development of transport strategies is a fundamentally important part of how we can improve transport in Ireland. They allow us develop an evidence-based and plan-led approach to transport infrastructure and transport services and, importantly, integrate with land-use planning to shape the location of housing and commercial development.

I think we can agree on two further points. First, we need to deliver on the strategies and not just develop them, and that means delivering the likes of DART+. Second, we need to keep requirements under review and, where necessary, consider whether additional projects and programmes are needed. That means we should push ahead with delivering DART+ as set out, while consulting people as is currently under way, and refining issues that may be raised during those consultations. We also need to think about whether additional projects and programmes might need to be considered, and that is where the review of the transport strategy for the greater Dublin area and, indeed, the review of the national development plan, NDP, have a role to play.

I look forward to seeing DART+ progress and, likewise, I look forward to the review processes in respect of both the strategy and the NDP, where some of the additional measures that the Deputy has mentioned could be considered.

Catherine Murphy (Kildare North, Social Democrats)

I will provide an example. Kilcock is not as far from the city centre as Balbriggan, and there can be a mindset in relation to counties and geography. The population there is growing. The turning circle is 450 m away from that town, and it would seem obvious that the doubling of the line there is going to be a prerequisite to ultimately delivering the electrification project.

There is a more difficult scenario in Greystones from an engineering perspective, but there is a sizeable population in the area. It is about thinking beyond the announcement, which is very welcome, and I concur that public consultation is required on the detail, particularly in respect of bridge lifts and how they are carried out. I am absolutely supportive of the project. It needs to be even more ambitious than it currently is. It is the next phase that I am trying to expand on.

Eamon Ryan (Dublin Bay South, Green Party)

In the public consultation there have already been a number of submissions suggesting, as the Deputy has, the double tracking to Kilcock, and there may well be merit in that suggestion because it is a very large and growing town, with a large part of the population that commutes, and will still commute, even in post-Covid times. As the Deputy mentioned, a similar expansion of the section from Bray to Greystones has more complexities because of the geography, the tunnel and the coastal aspect. There may be mechanisms, for example, using short sections of double track, or others that could be used. We could increase the frequency to have a DART running every 20 minutes, using some of those interim measures.

There is a wider review that needs to be done of that entire route because of the need for coastal defences against sea erosion. That is a bigger issue for the southern route from Greystones, but the whole line requires significant review, arising, first and foremost, out of the coastal defence issues.

Catherine Murphy (Kildare North, Social Democrats)

The strategic housing development at Woodbrook in Shankill will suck up some of the increased capacity. I understand the intention is to increase capacity but not frequency. In regard to costs, people living in Kilcock, for example, seeing that there is a much better service from Maynooth, will choose to drive there to access public transport. That puts pressure on car parking spaces and involves making part of the journey in a less sustainable way. The totality of costs must be looked at and that should include, for instance, the cost of providing surface space for car parking. That space must be provided when people are required to travel to access a service. The totality of costs needs to be considered when looking at the cost of doubling the line.

Eamon Ryan (Dublin Bay South, Green Party)

Another issue that arises in looking at the totality of costs is that we really need to change our entire housing, planning and transport systems at the same time as we are doing these DART+ projects. I hope to do the same in Cork, Galway, Waterford and Limerick.

We want to move towards transport-led development that would see new housing being built within a walk or short cycle of the major public transport infrastructure in which we are going to invest. One of the main reasons we are making that investment is the benefits it will give in terms of improved quality of life, shorter commuting times, more sustainable, lower-emissions transport, better local environments and an improved public realm. The reality is that we have been going in completely the other direction. Half of new housing in the State in recent years was built in the counties surrounding Dublin and not located close to public transport nodes or other sustainable transport options. At the

(Continued on page 23)



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

(Continued from page 22)

same time as we undertake the DART+ project and start implementing the other investments, the local authorities need to start reviewing their development plans in order to ensure that, instead of new development spreading out everywhere, we start building closer to the public transport nodes we are going to implement. It is in this context that investment in an upgrade to the Kilcock service could make real sense.

Catherine Murphy (Kildare North, Social Democrats)

343. To ask the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the amount the OPW spent on maintenance to Maynooth Castle and Castletown House in each of the years of 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020, in tabular form; and his plans for further funding of projects at these sites for 2021. [34845/20]

Patrick O'Donovan (Limerick County, Fine Gael)

The Office of Public works is charged with the care, operation and maintenance of almost 800 National Monuments nationwide, including Maynooth Castle and a further 31 National Historic Properties, including Castletown House. Funding within the OPW vote is provided for the day-to-day maintenance of the properties and for the interpretation and presentation of this National heritage estate to visitors to engage with and enjoy. The tables below provide the expenditure on maintenance at Maynooth Castle and Castletown House for 2018, 2019 and 2020 to date.

The expenditure for Castletown House relates to routine maintenance of the House and ancillary buildings, landscape and gardens and public realm at the estate including paths, roadways, railings and entrances. The National Historic Properties Division of the Office of Public Works continues to work on plans for the historic farmyard at Castletown where it is hoped to create new, additional visitor facilities in the coming years, subject to the availability of funding.

Regarding Maynooth Castle, OPW undertakes routine maintenance on an annual basis. It is intended, resources permitting, to carry out high-level vegetation removal in the coming months. There are no plans for additional capital investment in Maynooth Castle at this time.

Maynooth Castle	2020 YTD	2019	2018
Routine Maintenance	€6,366.25	€7,624.87	€11,717.51
Castletown	2020 YTD	2019	2018
Building & amp Landscape Maintenance Costs	€108,200	€101,577	€59,271

Catherine Murphy (Kildare North, Social Democrats)

To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the amount due to be spent on major refurbishment works being carried out at both Naas and Maynooth community colleges; and when works will be completed on both colleges. [26824/20]

Norma Foley (Kerry, Fianna Fail)

The Deputy will be aware that new building projects for the schools to which she refers have been devolved for delivery to Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board (KWETB)

It is expected that the Naas Community College building will be completed in August 2021 at a total cost of approximately €25 million including the provision of temporary accommodation.

I am pleased to inform the Deputy that the Maynooth Community College building has achieved partial handover today and elements of the building are available for use in that context. It is anticipated that the remaining elements of the main school building will be completed towards the end of the year. The project is expected to be fully completed in February 2021 once the PE facility shared with Maynooth Post-Primary School is available for occupation.

As Maynooth Community College is being delivered as part of a campus development with Maynooth Post Primary School, including the shared PE facility, it is not possible to separate out costs specific to Maynooth Community College. However, I can inform the Deputy that it is anticipated that the total cost of delivering this campus project including expenditure on previous contracts will be approximately €51 million.

Government declines to guarantee gift vouchers ahead of busy Christmas period

On behalf of the Government, Tanaiste Leo Varadkar has declined to guarantee gift vouchers ahead of the busy Christmas retail period.

The Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment was asked by Social Democrats TD Catherine Murphy whether his Department would consider introducing a consumer-focused gift voucher guarantee scheme to boost consumer confidence ahead of the Christmas shopping period and into 2021.

In response, Mr. Varadkar thanked Ms. Murphy for her proposal, which comes at a 'very difficult time for both consumers and businesses', as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to make its economic impact felt. While the Fine Gael leader acknowledged that the aim of such a scheme is 'understandable', he went on to say that a Government-issued guarantee on gift vouchers would 'raise substantial practical and policy issues', particularly in the context of vouchers issued by businesses that have since gone into liquidation or ceased trading.

Citing the example of travel agents and tour operators who provide security for the refund of payments for packages that are not fulfilled due to insolvency, Mr. Varadkar stated: 'Introducing a similar insolvency protection regime for the large number of gift vouchers issued by businesses would be a significant regulatory undertaking. 'It would also be costly, and so is not a step that could be taken quickly or without detailed consideration or consultation.'

The Tanaiste went on to say: 'If the State were to guarantee gift vouchers then there would be a considerable liability on the State as well as a costly and substantial regulatory and administrative workload perhaps requiring the details and registration of every gift voucher issued by every business in the State.

'A State guarantee for gift vouchers would also privilege gift vouchers over other types of prepayments made by consumers such as deposits for goods, annual subscriptions for services such as gyms, or payments to savings and Christmas clubs.

'It is reasonable to ask why gift vouchers would be protected against insolvency while other, and in many cases, larger prepayments made by consumers would not enjoy similar protections.'

Insisting that he has 'no plans to introduce such a scheme', Mr. Varadkar added that he does not know of any jurisdiction that guarantees gift vouchers in this way.

A Spa Day at Home

With the current news constantly on the covid pandemic it's all too easy to feel overwhelmed, anxious or stressed on a daily basis. As we navigate the new normal of staying at home and practicing social distancing, there's never been a better time to relax and pamper yourself with a well-deserved at-home spa day.

You can do a steam treatment and face mask, a foot soak, deep condition your hair, take a detox bath, or even drink fruit infused water... the options are endless!



From lighting aromatic candles to nourishing your complexion with a new or favourite skincare product, there are endless ways to pamper yourself from head to toe. Here's how to unwind without ever stepping foot outside of your home. Declutter and dim the lights and create an inviting space. Turn on some relaxing music and light your candles. Slip on your comfy slippers and robe and you are ready to start your day.

Listen to the calming music and focus on your breath. Take a couple of deep breaths and release them slowly. Do some simple stretches and listen to your

body. Start with washing your hair and leaving in a deep conditioning treatment or just leave your usual conditioner in. Next clean and exfoliate your face. Apply a face mask of your choice and also place some cold cucumber on your eyes and sit back and soak in these precious minutes. Finish off your face time with a good moisturizer that leaves your skin well hydrated.



If you have the time why not opt for a detox bath, they can help in pulling toxins out of your body. Add some essential oils and salts and relax for half an hour. Enjoy a detox tea or fruit infused drink and totally de-stress.

Give yourself a manicure and pedicure.

Next turn your attention to your hands which are likely very dry from excessive hand washing. Soak your hands in warm water with your favourite oil. Dry and rehydrate with a nourishing cream. Then while giving your nails a manicure you can soak your feet in a foot spa or a basin to remove any dead skin hanging on which will make your feet super soft. Now they are ready to paint with your favourite colour.

Enjoy your inexpensive spa day right from the comfort of your own home

Fraternal Strife

You'd think they were an aberration,
Those accounts in Genesis
Of Cain and Abel, Esau and Jacob,
Except the bitter strife goes on,
Not in every family
But frequently enough in those
With two boys to warrant notice;
The eldest, if just by minutes first
In exiting the womb, thinks, 'I'm

the one
That should inherit, or at least
Be given the financial head start.'

The younger, favoured by one
parent,
Sometimes by both, accepts the
gift
Of personal advancement offered
And does not pause to contemplate
The hurt that this may cause his
brother,

Who sees it as a virtual knife-
thrust;
Sometimes he metes out bloody
justice,
As Cain did to his gentler sibling;
Sometimes the perpetrator kills
himself;
But in either case this tragedy
Seems innate to flawed humanity.

Colin Scott

HEADSUP

KILDARE
supporting U and
your mental health

Are you?

- Lost, confused, down
- Male and over 18
- Motivated to change
- Willing to engage

Learn to build your mental and
physical fitness, set goals and
take action

Next Programme:
Maynooth
January 2021

If you would like to know more, please contact;
Niamh@countykildarelp.ie 085 2845871
Lorna@countykildarelp.ie 085 8421347

www.heads-up.ie



Kildare Roofing & Guttering Services

Free Quotations Provided

Roofing Problems?

Call our emergency roofing care line:
085 7379394

Our Services:

- ✓ New Roofing
- ✓ Lead Valleys
- ✓ Emergency Repairs
- ✓ Attic Insulation
- ✓ Fascia Soffits
- ✓ Flat Roofs
- ✓ Guttering/Downpipes
- ✓ Chimney Repair
- ✓ Ridge Pointing
- ✓ Roof Cleaning

www.kildareroofingandguttering.com

**Jameswell Court Block 1,
Newbridge, Co. Kildare. W12 VX96
CALL: 045 834291**

Moulin Rouge

Established since 1976

Moulin Rouge Boutique
Dunboyne Road
Maynooth

Phone: 01 6286618

Stockists of:

Bianca - Frank Lyman
Oui - Olsen - Taifun

Thank you for your custom in 2020

Happy Christmas and New Year
Looking forward to seeing
you in 2021

MON/FRI 10AM - 5.30PM
SATURDAY 10AM - 5.00PM
Closed Sundays



How to make Snow Globes

Have fun making Snow Globes with the children. This is fun, easy and a great craft for kids. It will delight kids of all ages who will want to make a snow storm over and over and over again

Supplies you will need:

- Clean empty jars
- Super glue
- Plastic or ceramic toys
- Water
- Glitter
- Glycerin (available from chemists)



Make sure the toys fit inside the jar before you start!

- Wash your glass jars with warm water and soap and dry thoroughly. If there are any labels on the jars, remove them.
- If you want to paint your lid, lightly sand it and apply several coats of paint.
- Decide on what you want to put in your jar, glue it to the inside of the lid and let dry thoroughly.
- Fill the main jar with water and just a little bit of snow (you can always pour some out if you start with too much).
- Add a dash of glycerin to the water and a pinch or two of glitter. The glycerin makes the water gloopy so the glitter falls slower – like snow. Give it a stir and then screw on the lid..



Snow Globes make great Christmas Gifts for all your friends.

Please stay at home and continue to take care of each other.

Continuing to support the people of Maynooth-Clane in these difficult times.

Thank you to all our frontline workers.



Cllr Angela
Feeney

M: 087 2381962

E: angelaemfeeney@gmail.com

Facebook: [cllrangelafeeney](https://www.facebook.com/cllrangelafeeney)

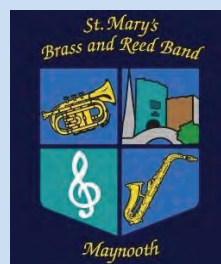
LABOUR

Seasons Greetings to All



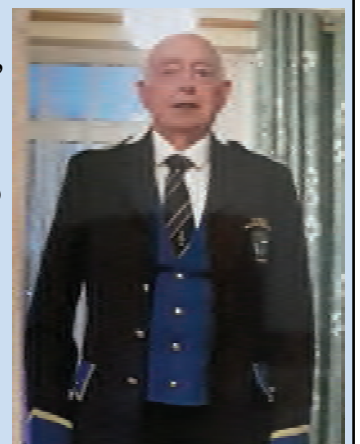
St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band

In common with many others St. Mary's Band have gone through a torrid time financially over the past year. The cancellation of four St. Patrick's Day Parades, three fundraising concerts and two Collection Days has meant that the Band has had no income whatsoever since last December while costs totalling almost 4,000 euro still have to be met. Fortunately the Band has a Christmas CD entitled "Musical Memories from Maynooth" which is an ideal present for family and friends who cannot get home for Christmas due to the current Covid restrictions. As the Band are not a commercial concern they are unable to sell online but they do have Band members who are willing and able to DELIVER to your door in the greater Maynooth area but we can also make arrangements to get them to anyone living outside that area. The cost of the



CD is only 10 euros and if you are interested please text your contact details to Paddy (087 2537 906) or Kevin (087 2760 782) and they will be in touch for your address details. For those who may already have the CD but would still like to support the Band they can make their donation to our Bank in Maynooth IBAN reference IE25 ULBS 9860 9548 2080 09 giving their contact number so that we can express our appreciation. Next year the Band will be marking 90 years since it's reforming in 1931 and hopefully we will be in a better place by then.

We are sad to report the passing of the second Band member this year. Tom Corbett, an 86 year old clarinet player passed away suddenly on Sunday 15th November and will be a great loss to the Band. He was a brilliant musician and a real Gentleman and he was so looking forward to our trip to Germany next year if it goes ahead as he missed out on going in 2018. Due to level 5 Coronavirus restrictions we were unable to travel to his Funeral Mass in Palmerstown but he will certainly be remembered at our Deceased Members Mass next year.



Wishing You and Your Family a Safe and Happy Christmas and All the Best for 2021



**The office is operating daily
and is available remotely**

**For service:
Telephone: 089 2444 793**

**Email:
Catherine.Murphy@oireachtas.ie**



**Catherine Murphy, Your Kildare North
Social Democrats TD**
Honest Politics, Strong Economy, Fair Society

Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

Planning Applications received from 29/09/2020 to 27/10/2020 Information from Kildare County Council Website

Covid-19: Arising from the Covid-19 pandemic, the Planning and Development Act 2000 was amended on 29 March 2020 resulting in the extension of certain timelines in the planning process including submission and decision dates. The Online Planning system does NOT take account of the revised dates.

App #	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	App Date
201406	Kildare County Council	Paul Byrne and Olivia Speight,	Newtown Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 D9K5.	23/11/2020
201400	Kildare County Council	Damien and Louise Lee,	12 Lyreen Close, Mariavilla, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	20/11/2020
201363	Kildare County Council	Damian and Noreen Kirwan,	15 Newtown Court, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	13/11/2020
201352	Kildare County Council	Jason Burke and Daniel Burke,	508A Newtown Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 Y1R9.	11/11/2020
201354	Kildare County Council	Cormac and Marianne Ashe,	20 The Steeples, Moyglare Abbey, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	11/11/2020
201324	Kildare County Council	Cormac & Marianne Ashe	20 The Steeple, Moyglare Abbey, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	04/11/2020
201296	Kildare County Council	Department of Education & Skills - Gaelscoil Ruairi Maynooth	Moyglare Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	30/10/2020
201287	Kildare County Council	Derek and Maresa Cormican,	29 Parklands Lawns, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 N9Y0.	29/10/2020
201264	Kildare County Council	Neil and Clara Jordan,	29 Limetree Hall, Dublin Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	27/10/2020
201243	Kildare County Council	Sandra Darcy,	Taghadoe, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	20/10/2020
201193	Kildare County Council	Neil and Clara Jordan,	29 Limetree Hall, Dublin Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	13/10/2020
201181	Kildare County Council	Andy and Deirdre Doyle,	53 Maynooth Park, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 D5W4.	09/10/2020
201170	Kildare County Council	Laia Cusell,	12 Greenfield Drive, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	08/10/2020
201146	Kildare County Council	Authorized Property Company Limited,	Glenroyal Hotel, Straffan Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	05/10/2020
201138	Kildare County Council	David and Siobhan O' Connor,	36 Moyglare Village, Maynooth, County Kildare	02/10/2020
201133	Kildare County Council	Kieran Duffy and Annette Murphy,	Clonfert South, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, W23K8X7	30/09/2020

LIAM DUFF
CRASH REPAIRS

 **Call (01) 628 7434**
e-mail: info@liamduffautos.ie
web: liamduffautos.ie

VEHICLE RECOVERY	CRASH REPAIR	TYRE SERVICES
24 Hour Vehicle Recovery 087 257 9400 087 929 1719	Crash Repairs CSS Approved Complimentary Ozone Sanitisation before & after repair.	Tyre Fitting Service Laser Wheel Alignment Puncture Repairs

Liam Duff Crash Repairs, Gragadder, Kilcock, Co. Kildare



Seasons Greetings to all our Customers

Mary Cowhey & Company Solicitors

Suite 2/3 Manor Mills
Maynooth
County Kildare

Motor & Work-Related Accidents

House Purchase/Sale
Wills, Probate
&
Administration of Estates
Family Law, Divorce, Separation

Telephone: 6285711
Fax: 6285613

E-mail: info@marycowhey.com
www.marycowhey.com

Seasons Greetings to all our Clients

BRADLEY Plumbing & Heating

No Job too Small

Showers Replaced
Showers Installed - Triton, Mira etc.
Kitchen Taps/Basin Taps
Outside Taps Fitted

Boiler Installation
Cylinders, Immersions, Radiators
Attic Tanks, Basins
Baths & WC Replaced etc.

Bathroom Renovations
Shower Doors, Shower Screens Fitted

Paul Bradley
087 959 8840



Wishing all my customers a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

Watkins Tile Centre Main Street Leixlip

*"We have you covered
for all your ceramic
wall & floor tiles"*

Opening Hours:
Monday to Friday
9.00 am - 5.00 pm
Saturday
9.00 am - 3.00 pm

Closed during the week for lunch 1pm -2pm

**One Stop Tile Shop with a huge
selection of wall & floor tiles**

Catering for everyone with a personal touch!

Telephone: 01-6245560



Kennels, Grooming And Day Care

Animal Physio & Hydro Therapy

Cooldrinagh Lane
Weston, Leixlip,
Co. Kildare

Tel: 087 8046168
Email: topdogsgroom@yahoo.com
www.topdogsgroom.com



- Supply and Installation of Blinds
- Roller Vertical Venetian Roman Velux
- Home Consultations
- Professional Service with Competitive Prices
- Over 14 years experience in Window Blinds

ART CLASSES BY NINA PATTERSON Dec 20 / Jan 21

**ADULTS ONLINE COURSE
VIA ZOOM**

Thursday Evenings / Friday Mornings
BEGINNER / INTERMEDIATE / ADVANCED

FOR FULL DETAILS SEE
www.ninapatterson.com
M:087 2977797
E:ninapattersonart@gmail.com

CABINET MAKER FITTED WARDROBES

PROBLEMS WITH YOUR
WARDROBES / KITCHEN
WORKTOPS – DOORS CHANGED
SHELVING



General Wood Work
Wall Fixtures, Side Gates

For Fitting - Repairing
Call Val O'Flynn

email: vofcabinetmaker@gmail.com
Telephone: 01- 6275872
Mobile: 087- 6235078

- **Mobile: 085 7338847**
- **Phone: 01 - 6210100**
- **Email: gerardmaloneblinds@gmail.com**
- **www.gerardmaloneblinds.com**
- **Follow me on facebook**

Devotion to the Divine Mercy
Jesus I trust in You
Will you help me
"Where if not in the Divine Mercy can the world find refuge and
the light of hope"
Saint Pope John Paul 11

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

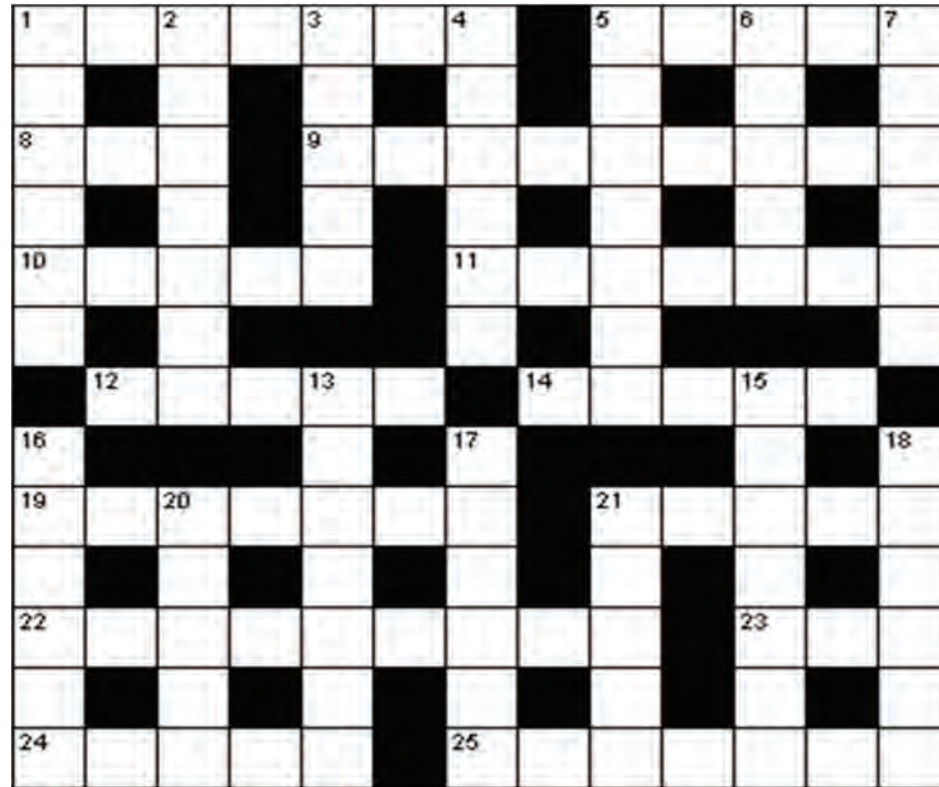
DEAR Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask for this special one (mention favour). Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart where your Father sees it. Then, in His merciful eyes it will become Your favour not mine. Amen
Say this prayer for three days, promise publication and prayer & favour will be granted no matter how impossible.
Thanksgiving for favour received

Clues Across

1. Meteorological conditions (7)
5. Accolade (5)
8. Conclusion (3)
9. Submersible warship (9)
10. Task (5)
11. Alphabetic character (7)
12. Guide (5)
14. Square root of forty-nine (5)
19. Tableland (7)
21. Hoard (5)
22. Disregarded (9)
23. Small vegetable (3)
24. Happening (5)
25. Sincere (7)



December 2020 Crossword - No. 497



Clues Down

1. Twist (6)
2. Gruelling (7)
3. Overly eager speed (5)
4. Burrowing mammal (6)
5. Greed (7)
6. Exculpation (5)
7. Resides (6)
13. Component (7)
15. Fugitive (7)
16. Parazoan (6)
17. Chelonian reptile (6)
18. Leave (6)
20. Slant (5)
21. Aromatic wood (5)



Solutions to Crossword No. 496

S	I	E	S	T	A		A	V	E	N	U	E
A		A		A	C		A	O		N		
L	O	G	I	C	A	L		U	T	T	E	R
V		L		T		U		L	I		O	
A	C	E		I	D	E	N	T	I	C	A	L
G			L	S							E	
E	A	S	I	E	R		B	A	N	D	I	T
	E				W		T				H	
E	S	T	A	B	L	I	S	H		E	M	U
X		T		I		S		L		X		N
T	A	L	E	S			E	L	E	C	T	E
R		E		O		R		T		O		E
A	R	D	E	N	T		C	E	L	L	A	R

Entries for the Crossword & Sudoku Competitions have been suspended until further notice.

If you have access to a printer and wish to complete the Crossword and/or Sudoku for fun you can print the single page by going to File -> Print and print the single page number only.

Difficult

Sudoku Challenge

Super Difficult

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

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



Entries for the Colouring Competition have been suspended until further notice



Entries for the Colouring Competition have been suspended until further notice.

If you have access to a printer and wish to complete the colouring or Puzzles for fun you can print the single page by going to File -> Print and print the single page number only.

Be sure to avoid printing ALL the pages of the Newsletter unless you intend to do so.

Junior Puzzle Corner



Get Santa to his Presents



M E R R Y C H R I S T M A S

Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2021 from the Maynooth Newsletter Gardening and Cookery Team

Christmas Gardening



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

December sees *the* shortest day of the year and the duller grey weather with biting cold winds so it can seem like we could all do with hibernating for the month. But even though the flora and much of the fauna are fast asleep, we gardeners have a long list of chores to keep us busy.

December is the month that we generally want to put an end to all the little niggling chores that we've been meaning to do and to start the New Year on a clean slate.

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

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

Tips on the Care of The Poinsettia Plant

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

Heat - To keep the poinsettia in bloom as long as possible, maintain a temperature of 65 - 75 degrees F. during the day. Dropping the temperature to about 60 degrees F. at night will not hurt the plant. However, cold drafts or allowing the leaves to touch a cold window can injure the leaves and cause premature leaf drop. If you've ever seen a gangly poinsettia in bloom, with only a couple of sad looking leaves hanging on, it was probably exposed to temperatures that were too cool or extreme shifts in temperature.

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

Christmas Ideas from the Garden

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

Christmas Pot Pourri: Use dried garden herbs and cupboard ingredients. Mix juniper sprigs, dried rosebuds, bay leaves, rosemary sprigs, cinnamon chips, cloves, and assorted pine cones together until it smells great and looks interesting.

You can also add essential oils for extra scent to help retain the aroma.

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

Continue to feed your birds. High energy feeds such as suet balls, fat balls or peanuts will help provide the essential nutrients in their time of greatest need

If you can cover over your compost pile, do so now
Clean paths, decking & patios to prevent the build-up of moss and moulds which can create slippery surface.

Simply by changing our thoughts, we can sow the seeds of happiness in the garden of our minds.

Gardening:
JUST ANOTHER DAY
AT THE PLANT

Christmas Fun in the Kitchen



Cooking with Christmas Leftovers



Turkey Satay Vegetables Noodles

Ingredients:

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

Method:

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

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

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

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

Christmas Cake Trifle

Ingredients:

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



Method:

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

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

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

Remove the trifle from the fridge and spoon the cherry jam over the custard.

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

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





FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

Christmas Movie Classics



It's the most wonderful time of the year again. In the past few years, the Christmas movie has made a big comeback. Festive movie seasons make up the schedules at *The Light House* and *Irish Film Institute* cinemas annually. These movies have become a popular holiday ritual, just like eating mince pies and drinking mulled wine. Of course, Christmas 2020 comes with the caveat that it will be season unlike any other in recent living memory.

Christmas markets, fun-fairs and pantos are most likely off the cards in the *Covid-19* era. So, movies online or via TV/DVD are especially important for getting in the Yuletide spirit this year! With that in mind, here's a selection box of Christmas movie treats and options for your viewing pleasure!

LOVE ACTUALLY (2003)



Love it or hate it, Richard Curtis's all-star festive ensemble piece has become a perennial Christmas favourite. It's the perfect Christmas movie to get you in the mood actually. Hugh Grant and Martine McCutcheon make for a sweet if unlikely romantic pairing. Grant's Blair-like Prime Minister's hilarious impromptu dance moves around the corridors of Downing Street is a genuine highlight. Not every strand of the multi-layered stories format works well, but Curtis can be forgiven when so much of *Love Actually* does work. Both Colin Firth and Liam Neeson are effectively charming and moving in their respective roles as lovelorn writer and widowed father. However, the movie is stolen outright by a wickedly funny performance from Bill Nighy in his role as an ageing, irreverent rocker. *Love Actually* is also quietly devastating betimes: Emma Thompson and Alan Rickman's marriage-on-the-rocks plot will leave you reeling. A great soundtrack, - including Mariah Carey's 'All I Want for Christmas' - the sharp humour and sheer feel-good factor of *Love Actually* ultimately win out over its tendency to descend into sugar-coated schmaltz at times.

WHITE CHRISTMAS (1954)



White Christmas is probably the most famous festive movie of all time. Director, Michael Curtiz (of *Casablanca* fame) harnessed the immense talents of Crosby, Danny Kaye and Rosemary Clooney (Aunt of George) for this charming showbusiness musical. The movie has attained its classic movie credentials because of Crosby's iconic rendition of one of the most popular Christmas songs of all time. *White Christmas* was filmed in glorious Technicolour and notable as the first film ever released in Vista Vision. It is the most Christmassy of movies with snow, gorgeous festive fare and classic Irving Berlin songs in abundance. A huge festive box office hit in 1954, *White Christmas* has become a perennial Christmas favourite ever since. Just the tonic to get you in the holiday mood!

PLANES, TRAINS AND AUTOMOBILES (1987)



Planes, Trains and Automobiles involves a familiar plot formula: two guys are thrown together on a spur-of-the-moment road trip. The story revolves around these two characters' desperate rush to make it in home in time for the Thanksgiving holidays. Uptight, snobbish businessman Steve Martin and John Candy's annoying/sloppy salesman are polar opposite personality types, thrown together on the trip from hell. In this hugely popular comedy, the two men barely conceal a mutual sense of loathing from the word go. This explosive premise makes for several hilarious situations and moments on screen. Thanks to fabulous performances from Martin and Candy (a particular standout performance from the late actor) John Hughes's heart-warming comedy starts out uproarious but builds to an intensely moving finale. A Christmas classic in every sense of the word.

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (1946)

It's a Wonderful Life is considered one of the greatest films of all time and was nominated for five Oscars, including Best Picture. Although the subject of the film is difficult, it's also a Christmas favourite. In fact, legendary director Frank Capra revealed that it was his favourite among his



films, and that he screened it for his family every year. Its central story of a depressed, down on his luck character in small-town America has lost none of its power in the ensuing decades since 1946. After his WW2 military service, James Stewart's persona was particularly suited to this edgier type of role. Stewart excels as the troubled dogooder, a man who discovers the meaning and value of life

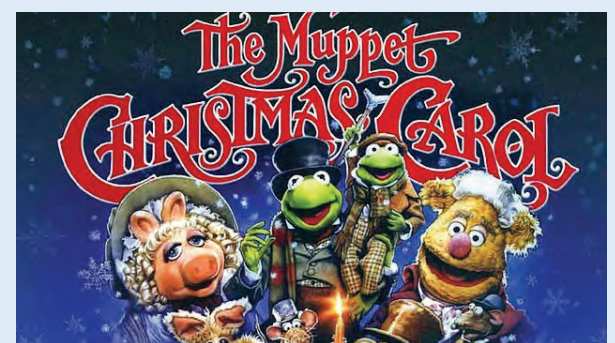
thanks to the intervention of his guardian angel. Donna Reed and Henry Travers's charming angel, Clarence, make up an impressive supporting cast. *It's a Wonderful Life* is wonderfully life-affirming and inspirational. A classic story and film which resonates powerfully in the Christmas of 2020.

NATIONAL LAMPOON'S CHRISTMAS VACATION (1989)



Harold Ramis's *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation* is a festive comedy classic and well-loved movie. As we all know, Christmas family get-togethers can be fun but also stressful at the best of times. This film pushes this premise to frankly manic levels. The Griswolds headed by Chevy Chase are preparing for the annual Christmas festivities. However, things never seem to run smoothly for the beleaguered family head. Much of the hilarity of this movie is in watching Clark Griswold and his family suffer a series of unfortunate, disastrous setbacks in their attempt at creating the perfect, 'fun, old-fashioned' Christmas. Clark's never-ending bad luck is worsened by his obnoxious Christmas guests, but he gamely blunders on with the prize of a Christmas bonus in sight. Slightly painful to watch at times, *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation* is nonetheless hilarious, mad-cap fun. Chevy Chase is at his brilliant comic best, with his farcical speech at the Christmas dinner table a particular gem. Light a fire, put up your feet and enjoy the mayhem of this Christmas cracker of a movie!

THE MUPPET CHRISTMAS CAROL (1992)



It seems an unlikely combination, but Michael Caine as Scrooge, Gonzo the Great (narrating as Charles Dickens) and Kermit the Frog as Bob Cratchit contribute to the witty delight that is *The Muppet Christmas Carol*. Brian Henson directs this musical fantasy film based on Charles Dickens's classic novel, *A Christmas Carol*. The film is surprisingly faithful to its original source too. Despite it being a Muppet movie, Michael Caine was determined not to play his Ebenezer Scrooge for laughs. The English actor set out to perform in his words, 'as if it is an utterly dramatic role and there are no puppets around me'. It results in an ultimately moving performance by Caine as the miser. *The Muppet Christmas Carol* is funny and touching with the appealing Henson muppet characters at the heart of the movie. A perfect Christmas confectionary treat for all ages then.



Wishing you all a safe,
Happy Christmas & New Year!



BRADY'S CLOCKHOUSE BAR - LOUNGE - RESTAURANT



Brady's Bar, Lounge & Restaurant



Brady's will open in line with Government guidelines

We hope to see you all in December

Wishing Everyone a Safe & Happy Christmas

e-mail: info@bradysbarmaynooth.ie Web: www.bradysbarmaynooth.ie - Tel: 01-5054725



<https://www.facebook.com/BradysClockhouseB2/>

