



Maynooth Newsletter

Serving the people of Maynooth



Local News February 2020 Issue No. 487 FREE

This publication is produced by Maynooth Community Employment Project, supported by the Department of Employment Affairs & Social Protection, which is funded by the Irish Government. The views & opinions expressed in this Publication are those of the contributors.



Maynooth Town Ladies Football – Our Community playing its part in the giant shift in female sport



As we all know, there are many obvious benefits from being involved in sports including physical and mental well being, the ability to work in a team, goal setting, hard work and commitment. Currently there is a significant gap in the participation rates between men and women in sport which means that huge numbers of girls and women are missing out on these positive benefits. A recent survey has suggested that 75% of girls between the ages of 13 and 15 give up all sport. There are a number of reasons for this

but some of the key findings of the survey suggested this was due to a lack of female role models in sport and the fact that girls don't feel they are supported as much as boys.

Sport has the power to change lives and can be one of the great drivers of gender equality. There has been huge steps both domestically and internationally over recent years to address the gender imbalance in sport. On a domestic level Sport Ireland have launched their 20x20 initiative which is pushing a cultural shift in the perception of girls and women in sport in Ireland.

At Maynooth Town FC we are fully committed to supporting this cultural shift and have created an ambitious 5 year development plan for the ladies section of the Club. We have a number of exciting initiatives planned for the coming season that we hope will inspire and motivate girls to take up and keep playing soccer including

- Creating a strong identity for young women playing football in our community
- If She Can't See It She Can't Be It ambassadorial coaching sessions
- Support Your Club days
- Vertical Integration sessions
- Guest Coaches
- Trips to watch both national and international games

If She Can't See It Ambassadorial sessions

As mentioned, the shortage of female role models has been identified as a significant factor in the low participation rates in women's sport. In an attempt to address this MTFC have run successful Ambassadorial events with Rebekah Penco (Former Irish Soccer International & Powerlifting World Champion), Zelda Corcoran (Former Irish Soccer



International, inducted into the All American Hall of Fame while on a scholarship in the States) and Niamh MacEvoy (Dublin Ladies Senior Football Team). We had more than 80 girls at our last ambassador session run before Christmas with the event proving to be a huge success.



MTFC Ladies football are also currently engaged with a number of prominent coaches including ex Manchester United star Liam O'Brien, Gordon Ewing from Shelbourne FC Ladies as well and one of the most promising goalkeeping talents in the Premier League, local lad Mark Travers to hold coaching sessions within the club for young girls in the community.

Vertical Integration

While it is fantastic to have such an unbelievable line up of celebrity coaches to help inspire our girls we, at MTFC, believe that another key group that influence our kids behaviours are their peers and in particular the kids a year or 2 older than themselves. To this end we have a number of vertical integration sessions scheduled for the year. As part of this all teams will play/train with the team above them twice a year. We hope that these sessions will have many advantages including;

- Creating multiple positive peer role models
- Provide opportunities for the older kids to develop their leadership skills
- Create a greater sense of club as the girls develop relationships with the girls throughout the club and not just on their team



Support Your Club Days

Another reason for lack of participation in female sports is that girls don't feel as supported as their male counterparts. Another of our initiatives for this year is to host Support Your Club Days. We will arrange for all the girls teams to have a home game on the same day and invite all the girls parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters and friends to

come along and show their support. We would encourage people to support all teams by going a little earlier or hanging around a little longer. We hope to get more than 500 people there to support the girls on these days which would be a great achievement and really show the girls how much we are behind them.

Recruitment

One of the key objectives of our development plan is to have a team at every age from U7s to U19s. We also want to grow our current girls nursery. If your daughter would be interested in coming down to see what it's all about please contact Miriam Murphy on 086 1060654.



MAYNOOTH ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE 17th MARCH 2020

FÉILE LÁ FHÉILE PÁDRAIG MAIGH NUAD 17Ú MÁRTA 2020
Entry Form on Page 26



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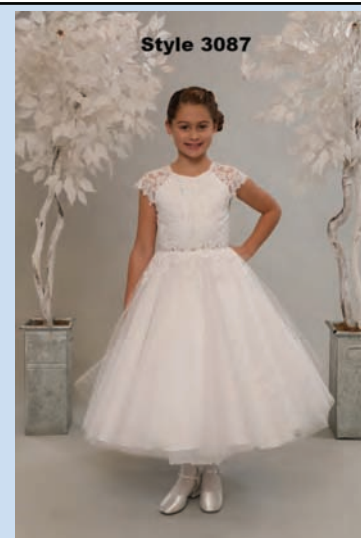
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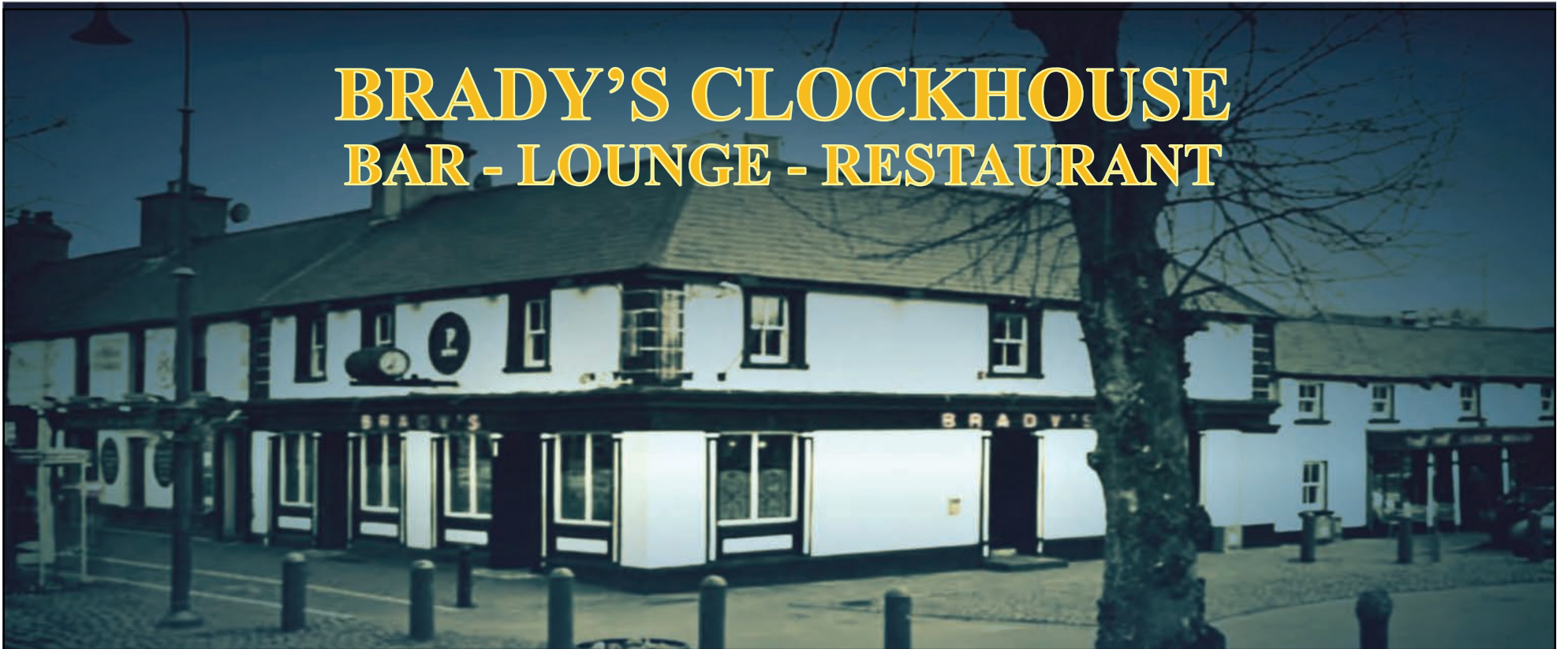
Programme for 2020

ALL MEETINGS TO BE HELD AT 8.00pm on 3rd TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH in
THE PASTORAL CENTRE, MAYNOOTH (except where otherwise stated)
Exhibits should be staged by 7.45 pm

	VISITORS WELCOME	REFRESHMENTS	RAFFLE
FEBRUARY:	Tuesday 18th	Demonstrator: Margaret Murphy	
MARCH:	Tuesday 24th	Garden Talk with Deirdre Kenny from Nurney Farm Organics	
	Saturday 28th	Day School with Richard Haslam for intermediate/advanced	
APRIL:	Saturday 18th	Annual Spring Show - Maynooth Post Primary School	
MAY:	Tuesday 19th	Demonstrator: Ann Clifford	
JUNE:	Tuesday 16th	Demonstrators: Roisin Graham and Marie Laird	
	Saturday 27th	Annual Outing – details later	
SEPTEMBER:	Tuesday 15th	Demonstrator: Sharon O'Sullivan	
	Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th	AOIFA FLOWER FESTIVAL in Naas - details later	
OCTOBER:	Tuesday 20th	Annual General Meeting	
NOVEMBER:	Tuesday 24th	Christmas Gala with Beatrice Hartog - The Glenroyal Hotel	
DECEMBER:	Tuesday 1st	Member's Party Night celebrating 40 years	
	Saturday 5th	A Christmas workshop for beginners/intermediate with Maureen Fagan	

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Know Your Rights has been compiled by Citizens Information Service
which provides a free and confidential service to the public.



PAYE income tax rates 2020

Question

I'm a PAYE worker. What income tax will I pay in 2020?

Answer

The amount of tax that you have to pay depends on your personal circumstances. Tax is charged as a percentage of your income. The amount that you actually pay depends on your income and on the tax credits and reliefs that you are eligible for.

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

If you have income above the standard rate tax band, it is taxed at the higher rate of tax, which is 40% (also called the marginal rate). The amount that you can earn before you start to pay the higher rate of tax is your standard rate cut-off point.

There were no changes to tax rates and bands in 2020. The standard rate of tax is 20% and the higher rate is 40%.

Personal circumstances	Tax rates and bands in 2020
Single person	€35,300 @ 20% - Balance @40%
Married couple/civil partners, one income	€44,300@ 20% - Balance @ 40%
Married couple/civil partners, two incomes	Up to €70,600@ 20% - Balance @ 40%
One-parent family	€39,300 @ 20% - Balance @ 40%

You may also be eligible for other income tax reliefs, credits or exemptions, which can reduce the amount of tax that you have to pay. Visit revenue.ie to find out more.

Voting in the general election

Question

Can I vote in the general election on 8 February?

Answer

To vote in an Irish general election, you must be an Irish or British citizen, 18 years of age or over and registered to vote. This means your name must be entered on one of the following:

- The main Register of Electors
- The Postal Voters List (people who can vote by post)
- The Special Voters List (people who are living in a nursing home or other institution)
- A supplement to one of these 3 lists

The 2019-20 Register of Electors and its Supplement will be used in the general election on 8 February. The 2020-2021 Register comes into effect on 15 February 2020, after the election.

To make sure you are on the 2019-20 Register, go to checktheregister.ie, or contact your local authority, Garda station, post office or public library.

If you are not on the Register, you can:

- Contact your local authority to check if you are on the Supplement to the 2019- 2020 Register. If you are on the Supplement, then you are registered to vote in the general election.
- If you are not on the Supplement, you can register to be included in the Supplement using form RFA2. If you have changed address you use form RFA3.

Forms must be received by your local authority before close of business on 22 January 2020.

Information is also available online at www.citizensinformation.ie and from the Citizens Information

Phone Service - 0761 07 4000 or Lo-call 1890777121

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

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Maynooth, Co. Kildare. W23 F9F7

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

Letters to the Editor

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

Mission Statement

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

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

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

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

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

Maynooth Newsletter Archives

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

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

Editorial Board - Maynooth Newsletter

Maynooth Newsletter

Copy date for the next edition of the Maynooth Newsletter will be Tuesday 18th February 2020

Editorial

When asked I never describe the "Maynooth Newsletter" as a newspaper but instead say that it is a "social record" of what is happening in Maynooth. For the past 35 years it has been published with the support of employment incentive schemes funded by what is known today as the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection and has given hundreds of local people the opportunity for work experience, gain valuable training, develop personal and technical skills as they seek future employment. However, it would not be possible to produce this publication without the ongoing financial support also provided by our advertisers. The material covered in the "Maynooth Newsletter" reflects just a proportion of the activities of the many community, sporting, musical and other social activities that are happening in Maynooth. An invaluable asset to a growing community such as Maynooth.

As our town continues to welcome new residents it is important that we highlight the activities open to people in Maynooth and if your group is doing something that you would like everyone to know about you should submit the information to the newsletter office. Limited in space to 32 pages the "Maynooth Newsletter" always gets more material than there is room to print each month but we always make sure to be fair to everyone in how the space is used.

This month I want to also highlight the fact that many people who call Maynooth their home are bringing credit to the town for their activities outside of Maynooth. I am going to mention just three young people that have come on the national and international radar in the past year. There is not enough space to give a full profile on each person in this edition and the purpose of mentioning them is that you can follow their progress yourself knowing that they are connected with Maynooth.

Starting with the youngest Aidan McCann was just nine years old last year when he shot to both national and international fame. The magician, actor, voice-over artist and presenter as he is described on his Facebook page won the hearts of so many people with his confidence and style. He progressed to the final stages of "Ireland's Got Talent" where he got to work with judge Jason Byrne (pictured). He also featured on the Ellen De Generes show in the US. Maynooth actor Paul Daly mentioned Aidan to me a few years ago as a young talent to watch and he is certainly right about that. Aidan comes from a talented family of actors best known in Maynooth for running the Brennan Acting Agency and Performing Arts School where many other young Maynooth children get the chance to develop their performing confidence and acting skills.



Aidan McCann pulling a trick on Jason Byrne

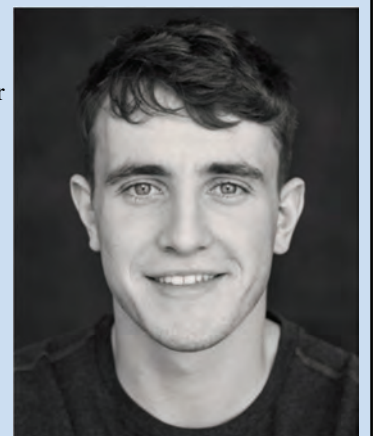
In sport, Mark Travers plays for Premier League club Bournemouth having been a goalkeeper for Ireland at youth levels including under 21s and made his senior debut in an international friendly against Bulgaria in 2019 an event that I was there to see as an Ireland season ticket holder.

Mark made a significant impression in the 2018/19 season with a man of the match performance against Tottenham. The departure of Arsene Wenger from Arsenal in 2018 made Eddie Howe, the Bournemouth manager the longest continuing Premier League club manager. Eddie Howe is known as a man well able to spot future talent and it is not surprising that the club have signed Mark Travers in a long-term contract. At just 20 years old Mark Travers should be a name that we will much more about in the coming years.



Mark Travers

I recently heard Paul Mescal being interviewed by Pat Kenny on Newstalk and at 23 yrs. old he has had a successful acting career. Already an established stage actor with roles in a number of the classic Irish plays such as "The Plough and the Stars" in London and a number of other plays in Dublin and London. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in acting from The LIR Academy at Trinity College in 2017 and was immediately signed to a UK based agent. In 2020 he will play the lead role as Connell in the HULU/BBC THREE series "Normal People" an adaptation of the novel by Sally Rooney. He is also set to play Matt in the comedy series "Bump". Aside from acting Paul has played GAA at under 21 level for Leinster and Maynooth as a defender so potentially we could equally have been mentioning him in a sports context.



Paul Mescal

We know of other people that we should give a mention to in the "Maynooth Newsletter" and we will do so from time to time. Many young lads and girls born in Maynooth are doing interesting things elsewhere. If you know of someone that you would like us to mention, please feel free to get in touch with us.

**Paul Croghan
Editor**



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Comhaltas Craobh Mhaigh Nuad



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

Lessons started on 15th January and a warm welcome to all starting out on their musical journey for the New Year. No better time of the year for tunes, with long, cold nights and the resolutions to stay away from Maynooth's hostels!

Scór is the primary competition of the GAA for showcasing Irish culture and the branch. Many members involved in both organisations, had a very strong showing at this year's Maynooth finals and at the Kildare event in Allenwood.

Rita Doyle has been driving Maynooth's participation in Scór for many years and her dancers put on another great performance in the Kildare rounds.

The next set of performers were the Drim Tím who qualified for Maynooth hurling in 2019. All three played very well in the final round, finishing runner-up in both Maynooth and Kildare.

Róisín and Caoimhe were up next, with a polished performance that took the Kildare title – the third time the girls have qualified for the Leinsters. Maith sibh!

The Leinster semi-final in Oldcastle, Meath on 10th December went ahead with our qualifying musicians performing strongly, but not ultimately making the All-Irelands.

Maynooth had 2 quiz teams qualify also, which featured a number of familiar faces from the branch. The Maynooth football team went on to win at the Kildare level – a great achievement for the lads, Maith sibh!



Rita Doyle School of Dance



Seán, Róish and Rónán getting ramped up on stage in Allenwood.



Róisín & Caomihe Howley at Kildare Scór



Ronan, Roish, Tom and Sean, who qualified to represent Maynooth Hurling at Scór



Joe, Paul, Liam and Jerry, who had a fantastic win in Allenwood against older opposition, and went on to have a very credible showing at the Leinster finals in January

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



Group session on 5th Dec. Check out #CraobhClassSession for tune lists and pictures.

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

<http://www.ccemhaighnuad.com/> - <http://www.facebook.com/ccemaighnuad>
<http://twitter.com/CCEMaighNuad>

Derek Carroll, PRO, Craobh Mhaigh Nuad CCE

Maynooth Golf Society



Annual General Meeting

Sunday 9th February 2020
Brady's B2 (Upstairs)
12.00pm

New Members Welcome
8-10 outings per year

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Cycling without Age – the Right to Wind in your Hair

There has been a slight hitch with the purchase of a trishaw. Maynooth Cycling Campaign selected a trishaw model from the Cycling without Age website - one already in use at an Irish nursing home. However, since then the Cycling without Age organisers in Ireland have recommended a different model from the one we selected. As there is a funding shortfall of approximately €650, we are looking at ways to bridge this gap. We also need to discuss with the various nursing homes procedures involved in organising trips and confirm storage, insurances and such like but we expect to place an order for one of the two trishaws in early February.

Technology Company to Support Cycling Campaigners

In January, the information technology company Dropbox formally launched its initiative to support everyday cycling in Ireland at an event attended by Maynooth Cycling Campaign in its European Headquarters in Dublin. Dropbox has agreed to support the work of the Dublin Cycling Campaign and to help it develop as a stronger cycling advocacy force.

The guest speaker at the launch was Klaus Bondam, CEO of the Danish Cyclists' Federation, who attended Velocity in Dublin last June and who created quite a stir with his criticism of Irish cycling facilities. Other speakers were:

- Paulo Rodriguez, Dropbox's Director of Solutions for Europe, the Middle East and Africa
- Dr. Sabina Brennan, Neuro-scientist and Active Travel Advocate from Trinity College, and
- Dr. Damien Ó Tuama, National Cycling Coordinator with Cyclist.ie - the Irish Cycling Advocacy Network and Vice-President of the European Cyclists' Federation.

Speaking on behalf of Dropbox, Paulo Rodriguez said the following:

"We understand the importance of making cities and towns bicycle friendly, and are delighted to partner with Dublin Cycling Campaign. They are advocating to make cycling a safe aspect of everyday life. We have been very impressed with their unceasing work to effect change at national, local and community levels."

Dropbox is the first company in Ireland, as a Business Member, to formally support the work of a cycling campaign group. Maynooth Cycling Campaign hopes that it will be the first of many.

Celbridge Road Cycle Facilities

It appears that Kildare County Council proposes to recruit an additional engineer to redesign the cycle facilities on the Celbridge Road. It is unclear what standard will be proposed and what proposals, if any, there will be to acquire the necessary additional land take to provide a good quality scheme.

General Election GE2020

It is general election time and candidates will be canvassing for your vote. Ask the candidates if they have signed up to the principles of Cycling for All.

As part of Cyclist.ie, Maynooth Cycling Campaign has forwarded a wish list to political parties. Details are on our website. We are also supporting Stop Climate Chaos' One Future.

STAGG EMMET



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





Emmet Stagg Kildare North Labour General Election Candidate

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



Stagg Welcomes Opening of Phase 1 of Maynooth Educate Together School

Emmet Stagg has welcomed the move by the Pupils and Staff of Maynooth Educate Together School into their Permanent Building on the Celbridge Road on Thursday 9th January.

This is Phase 1 of the Project which saw the construction of 8 classrooms. Phase 2 of the project which will see a further 8 classrooms constructed will be completed in time for next September's new School Year.

Congratulations to the Pupils, Staff, Board of Management and Parents of Pupils on the success in having the New School constructed.

Accommodation Brief for Permanent Gaelscoil Ruairí Being Finalised - Stagg

Labour's Emmet Stagg contacted the Minister for Education enquiring when a Design Team would be put in place to progress the architectural planning for the Permanent School for Gaelscoil Ruairí in Maynooth, which is to be located at the Maynooth Education Campus on the Moyglare Road, Maynooth.

Currently, stated Mr. Stagg, Gaelscoil Ruairí is temporarily located at Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich on the Celbridge Road, Maynooth.

The Minister has now advised Mr. Stagg that his Department is currently finalising the accommodation brief for a permanent building for Gaelscoil Ruairí to facilitate the commencement of the architectural planning process.

Welcoming the Minister's response Labour's Emmet Stagg stated that it was important that the Department were engaging on this issue as the sooner the architectural planning commences the sooner we can seek funding for the permanent school. Concluding Mr. Stagg stated that he would continue to monitor progress on the issue with the Minister.

Stagg Welcomes Appointment of Arup to M4 Maynooth to Leixlip Widening Project

Emmet Stagg has welcomed the announcement by Kildare Co. Council and South Dublin Co. Council of the appointment of Arup to progress the Upgrade of the M4 between Maynooth and Leixlip, a project which will see the widening of the M4 from two lanes to three, in each direction.

The project, stated Mr. Stagg, is included in the National Development Plan 2018-2027 and is listed as a major road development to be prioritised. The project is approximately 10km in length, with 1.5km in South Dublin Co. Council and the remainder in Kildare Co. Council.

Welcoming the move to progress the project Mr. Stagg stated that the M4 at present suffers from serious congestion and the project would improve journey time reliability and improve connectivity. It will also look at capacity constraints at Junctions and in particular the need for a new Interchange at Maynooth to the West of the Town.

In conclusion Labour's Emmet Stagg stated that the delivery of the M4 upgrade is critical and he looked forward to Arup undertaking their work in 2020 with a view to presenting options for improvements for Public Consultation.

Contract Awarded for Team to Assist in Delivering DART to Maynooth - Stagg

Labour's Emmet Stagg has been in further contact with Iarnród Éireann in relation to the process of putting in place a Multi-Disciplinary Consultancy Team to support the Expansion of DART to Maynooth.

Iarnród Éireann have now advised Mr. Stagg that the Contract for the Multi-Disciplinary Consultancy Team for the Expansion of DART on the Maynooth Line and for City Centre Enhancements has been

awarded.

Welcoming the progress Mr. Stagg stated that the successful Multi-Disciplinary Consultancy Team will play a pivotal role in developing the design and tender preparation for the project. In addition to providing DART to Maynooth, the project involves development and enhancements to City Centre Stations and Network, resignalling from Maynooth to Connolly/Dockland and removal of the six level crossings along the Maynooth Line and provision of necessary bridge relief infrastructure.

Concluding Labour's Emmet Stagg stated that the award of the Contract means it is full steam ahead now on this vital project in delivering DART to Maynooth.

Progress on Setting up North Kildare Gaelcholáiste - Stagg

Emmet Stagg has continued to press the Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board to ensure that the North Kildare Gaelcholáiste in Maynooth opens next September as planned.

KWETB have now advised Mr. Stagg that following interviews in the week commencing 25th November last, a replacement Principal has now been appointed for the Gaelcholáiste, Micheal O'Ceonain, who currently works at Coláiste Cois Life in Lucan.

In addition KWETB advised Mr. Stagg that an 'Open Night' was held on Tuesday December 3rd for the new North Kildare Gaelcholáiste in Maynooth Post Primary School and KWETB indicated that the Open Night was well attended and application forms for enrolment to the school were distributed to parents.

Welcoming the progress on setting up the North Kildare Gaelcholáiste, Labour's Emmet Stagg stated that he looked forward to the opening of the school in Maynooth next September.

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In contentious business a solicitor may not calculate fees or other charges as a percentage or proportion of any award settlement

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Stationery
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Fax: 01 6291080**

E-mail maynoothbookshop@eircom.net

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Free Entry & free Car Park**

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www.dublinfairs.ie
dublinfairs@gmail.com**



We have 3 full time positions (40hrs per week) in an early years setting that caters for children from 6 months up 12 years of age. Must have a minimum of the equivalent of a QQI level 5. 1 year's experience in and early years setting desirable but not essential. Salary is depending on experience and qualifications. All mandatory training provided and paid for by the company. Travel expenses for staff that have to commute. An additional days holiday is included in Salary and a Christmas bonus.

Contact Jennifer on
generalmanager@happysteps.ie
for details

CHILDMINDER WANTED In Children's Own Home

**Monday to Friday
2.30-6.30 pm & school holidays.
Own transport required**

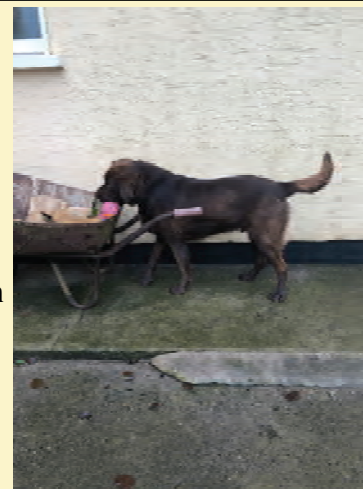
**Tel: 087 6535969
For further details**

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

Two almost impossible situations resolved by the Power of this Prayer.

DEAR Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask for this special one (mention favour). Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart where your Father sees it. Then, in His merciful eyes it will become Your favour not mine. Amen
Say this prayer for three days, promise publication and prayer & favour will be granted no matter how impossible.
Thanksgiving for favour received
Never known to fail

**This lovely
chocolate
Labrador named
Romeo is almost 4
years old. Romeo
is looking for a
new home as his
present owner is
unable to keep him
exercised due to a
change in
circumstances.
Contact:
045-869183**



THE MIRACLE PRAYER

Two almost impossible situations resolved by the Power of this Prayer.

DEAR Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask for this special one (mention favour). Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart where your Father sees it. Then, in His merciful eyes it will become Your favour not mine. Amen
Say this prayer for three days, promise publication and prayer & favour will be granted no matter how impossible.
Thanksgiving for favour received
Never known to fail EPL

Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee



Our Club is back in full swing now with exercise and bingo on Tuesdays and Art / Crafts on Thursdays, 10.30. – 12.30 in the Geraldine Hall. Any retired person out there who would like to learn to paint is very welcome along. Our next event will be our school musical which is a popular event on our social calendar. Our Valentine's tea-dance will take place on Sunday February 16th in GAA club. All Senior Citizens are welcome to this event.

**Josephine Moore.
Chairperson.**



The AGM of Maynooth Tidy Towns will be held on Thursday 13th February 2020 in the Glenroyal Hotel @ 7.30pm.



Gold Medal Winner 2019

We were presented with our Gold medal at a ceremony in Blackrock, Co Louth by Minister Michael Ring TD in November 2019. Thank you all for the nice comments made concerning our big Christmas tree placed in the Courthouse Square. Thanks to all who helped in any way with the above project.

We appreciate all who brought Christmas Trees for recycling to the KCC Maynooth yard in Leinster St. and the shredded material will be used locally. We hope to start back in March with our usual planting, clean-ups and general maintenance. WEEE Ireland collection will be held on Saturday 21st March more info in next Newsletter.

A number of Cafés in Maynooth are taking part in the Zero Waste Conscious Cup Campaign, further details on the Maynooth Tidy Towns Facebook page. If you have an hour to spare come along and help us retain our Gold Medal for 2020.

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

**Richard Farrell
PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns**





Frank O'Rourke T.D. Kildare North

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



Additional Services on Orbital Route 139 says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has welcomed the recent additional services on the Naas to Blanchardstown 139 Route, as further services were needed.

"Recently, additional services were added to the 139 Bus Route servicing Naas to Blanchardstown, via Clane, Rathcoffey, Maynooth and Leixlip.

One additional service at 7.00am departing Naas and one additional evening return service."

"This service is growing in popularity, students attending college, commuters linking to the train service, people going to work, hospital visits or using other public transport services are examples of the valuable contribution to the area."

"I campaigned for this Orbital Route and it is now in service for well over a year. We need to increase the number of services on the route and more commuters will use it. I will continue to raise the issue with the National Transport Authority to have the service improved."

"As we cater for increased demand for public transport, we need to improve the Bus and Rail Services for North Kildare. The Bus and Rail Service for Kilcock needs improvement.

Rail service on the Maynooth and Kildare Line need to be improved and we need a connection linking Maynooth to Tallaght via Celbridge and City West," concluded Deputy O'Rourke

Additional Home Support Hours Welcome but more supports needed – O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has welcomed the one million additional Home Support hours which was announced in Budget 2020, but stated that more needs to be done to tackle long waiting lists for Home Care hours.

"Leading up to Budget 2020, our Fianna Fáil negotiating team pushed hard to secure additional home help hours. The additional one million hours will go some way towards easing waiting times, but more is needed."

"Families seeking home care packages contact me on a weekly basis. There has been an increase in the number of people seeking home care packages and we need extra resources to meet the demand.

"Fianna Fáil introduced the Home Care Package in 2006 and fully appreciates its value. Enabling care for people in their own home is a win-win for everyone. It is generally the preferred choice for older people and their families and it saves the Government money. "

"A crisis in home care supports has escalated over the past year. The service has been unable to keep pace with the demand and while the additional hours announced in the budget is a welcome step in the right direction, we need to see more resources for home care packages," concluded Deputy O'Rourke

O'Rourke backs call for increase in state pension.

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has backed calls for a supplementary budget to be introduced to increase the state pension following the conclusion of the first phase of the Brexit negotiations.

"The pension increase deferred in the budget due to concerns about Brexit should now be introduced. I have spoken with our party spokesperson on Social Affairs, Willie O'Dea TD, who has renewed the call for an increase in the state pension following the conclusion of the first phase of the Brexit negotiations."

"There is no excuse for the Government not to increase the state pension. Older people need protection against the rising cost of living.

I continue to press for additional resources to be provided for Housing Adaptation Grants, Home care packages and Carers. We also need to support community groups and not for profit organisations assisting Older people."

"A supplementary budget should be introduced to legislate for increasing the state budget now. I understand from Deputy O'Dea that the necessary legislation could be fast tracked through the Houses of the Oireachtas."

"Looking after our older people must be a key priority and I will continue to work with my colleague Deputy O'Dea to maximise the pressure on the Government to implement the increase in the state pension by €5 per week." concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

2020 Must Be The Year to Bring Insurance Costs Down says O'Rourke.

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has said that this year must be the year we finally deal with the cost of insurance in Ireland. Recent years have seen unsustainable increases in the cost of insurance.

"Since getting elected, I have persistently raised the high cost of insurance, not just in relation to motor insurance, but also in relation to the cost of insurance for businesses, community and sport organisations."

"Before Christmas, we have seen from the findings of the Central Bank report, that Insurance companies' profits have increased significantly in the past decade. However, the costs of claims to them have gone down."

"The report also highlighted that premiums rose by 42% between 2009 and 2018, but costs of claims had actually fallen by 2.5% overall."

"Consumers will continue to suffer until there is meaningful reform from Government. Six months after the Oireachtas passed the Judicial Council Act, key parts of it have yet to be signed into law. The next government will have to focus on a programme of insurance reform."

"We have seen competition in the insurance market reduce significantly, as almost 250 insurance companies left the Irish market over the past six years. Less competition and choice means consumers end up paying more for insurance"

"Creche facilities, businesses, sporting and community groups throughout the country are threatened with closure due to increased costs of insurance. Replies to Parliamentary Questions put down by my colleague Michael McGrath TD, show that not one senior Minister from Departments of Finance, Business, Enterprise & Innovation, Justice and Children have had a single meeting with individual insurance companies or with the industry body since coming into office in 2016."

"This demonstrates the lack of focus by this Government at a senior level in taking ownership of this problem. I will continue to press for action in relation to this issue." concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

Over 3,600 Children Waiting for Healthcare in Kildare-West Wicklow – O'Rourke

Fianna Fáil TD for Kildare North, Frank O'Rourke has said it is unacceptable that 3,664 children and adolescents are waiting for primary care services in Kildare and West Wicklow.

He was commenting as information compiled by Fianna Fáil paints a shocking picture of 90,000 children waiting for primary care treatments across the country.

New information from the HSE also shows that 117,000 children across the country are waiting for hospital treatment.

Deputy O'Rourke said the Occupational Therapy list for Kildare - West Wicklow was particularly bad with 917 children waiting, including 614 who have been waiting for more than one year for an assessment.

He said, "The primary care lists which we have refer to vital treatment which greatly aides a child's growth and development. That there are 3,664 children waiting for psychology, audiology, ophthalmology, dietetics, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy and physiotherapy, is simply unacceptable.

"Research has shown that when children receive delayed interventions, it negatively affects their quality of life, and increases their risk of not making progress or a full recovery in some circumstances. They are quite literally deteriorating and regressing as they wait.

"In recent weeks, a number of families have contacted me to say that even though they cannot afford it, they are trying to source private services for their children. They are putting themselves into debt in order to get treatment for their child, but for many they still have to wait months because services are so stretched.

"Access to basic healthcare should not be this difficult, parents should not have to fight so hard for it," concluded Deputy O'Rourke.

More support for SME sector needed says O'Rourke

Local Fianna Fáil TD, Frank O'Rourke, has called on the Government to provide more support for the Irish SME sector given its importance to the Irish and indeed local Kildare economy.

"Two recent reports have cited rising costs as a main concern for 50% of Irish SMEs. The SME sector is the backbone of the economy. We need to support them and help them create and sustain jobs. Rising costs, such as rates and Insurance, is a big problem for many SMEs and it needs to be addressed."

"The two recent reports prepared EY-DKM Economic Consultants and Bibby Financial Services, have both highlighted rising costs, cashflow management and Government regulations are key concerns for SMEs."

"Despite many Government announcements on tackling prompt payments for SMEs, two in every five respondents stated that payments collection is the principal challenge to cashflow."

"Over recent years, I have consistently raised the cost of rates and insurance as being a key element of rising cost for businesses. The cost of both motor insurance and business insurance remains stubbornly high for households and businesses across the country.

The average annual cost of motor insurance now stands at €750 compared with €450 in 2014, an increase of nearly 70%."

"We need to address the rising costs, for business and for families, if we are to protect our jobs for the future." concluded Deputy O'Rourke.



Maynooth University Town Football Club Results



The season is gathering pace once more after the mid-season break.

Recent results include:

L.S.L Senior Div. Sun.

Town 3 - Liffey Wdrs 1

Town dominated proceedings in this easy victory over Liffey. Town attacked from the start and were rewarded in the opening minutes when a Cillian Duffy corner was slotted home by Darragh Gannon.

Only minutes later a corner from the opposite side was expertly placed above and beyond the Liffey defence for a direct strike by Dylan Kavagh.

Liffey reduced the deficit midway through the second half but Town quickly regained control and Jack Bagly sealed the points with an expert strike following another Cillian Duffy corner.

L.S.L Major Div. Sat

Cherry Orchard 4 - Town 2

Town came up short in this game which was closer than the score line suggests.

Despite excellent goals by Dean Barrett and Francis Ilunga they were not enough to rescue the points.

L.S.L Div 3 Sunday

Town 6 - Rivervalley Rgrs. 1

Town put on their best performance to date in running out easy winners in a one side game.

Flynn's hat trick was the highlight of the game

and further goals by Flaherty, Hartnett and Toderic made up a very impressive score line.

L.S.L Major Div. Sat.

Town 3 - Liffey Wdrs 1

Despite conceding an early goal Town quickly gained the initiative and turned in an impressive performance. Sven Biensumbo got Town back on terms to boost confidence before Gavin Kinsella increased our lead. Martin O'Connor closed the scoring for Town to record an impressive victory.

Metropolitan Cup 3rd Round

Town 2 - Portmarnock F.C. 0

Making a number of changes from previous games our strength in depth was emphasised in no uncertain fashion. We never looked in danger of being overcome by a Portmarnock side who seldom threatened Shane Fagan in the Town goal. Town made several changes for the 2nd half in order to give some experience to our fringe players who performed admirably. Conor Foley and Cillian Duffy were the marksmen who propelled us into the next round.

L.S.L Major Div. Sat.

Colepark Utd. 0 - Town 2

Town kept themselves in the hunt for honours in this hard fought game against a stubborn Colepark side. Goals by Dan Reynolds and Youcef Belhout secured the points for a deserved home win.

Cahill Cup

U.C.D 0 - Town 2

We took a right battering in this Cup game at Belfield. The opposition had nothing to do with this fact. Rain, sleet and a near gale force wind battered both sides for most of the game making good football almost impossible. Even with an 11:00 am kick-off it became so dark that it was necessary to switch on the floodlights at 11:35. Town handled the conditions best and an excellent brace of goals Darragh Deegan capped an excellent win.

L.S.L Senior Div. Sun.

St. Mochta's 1 - Town 1

Town kept pace with league leaders St. Mochta's in this match of the day.

Town took the lead inside the 1st minute when Cillian Duffy sent a cross into the home area which was turned into net by a St. Mochta's defender. Town kept up the pressure but good fortune and excellent goalkeeping by the home keeper made life difficult for Town. An injury to Cillian Duffy took some of the sting out of the Town attack. St. Mochta's looked as if they might snatch a late winner but a resolute defence and excellent goalkeeping by Shane Fagan held firm to earn a deserved point.

League Tables & Full Results on Page 12



While this may seem a little far-fetched, if you aren't prepared, pre-holiday stress can make you forget even the most obvious and important items.

So, to help you if you're jetting off soon, here is a handy checklist to make sure you've got everything covered. Then all you need to worry about is whether to hit the beach or the sights when you arrive.

member or a trusted neighbour to regularly check on the house and remove any mail from behind your front door. It may also be worth considering investing in light timers. Remember that if you were to suffer a break-in while you were on holiday and you had not secured your home properly, your insurance could be deemed invalid – so taking the time to do this really is important.

Take out travel insurance, and get an E111 form if you are travelling within Europe Then E111 scheme is not the equivalent of private health or travel insurance, however, it is only intended to ensure that EU citizens can receive emergency treatment while in any other EU country.

Check out your accommodation on Google Earth.

Dig out your passport and make sure it's in date.

It might sound simple but there is nothing that dampens your pre-holiday excitement quite like the realisation that you can't find your passport or that it's out of date. Checking it a couple of months in advance is something few of us would think about doing, yet it's imperative you do – otherwise your holiday could be over before it's even started.

Be aware that there are also some countries that require your passport to be valid for a particular period from your date of arrival. For example, the United Arab Emirates, Kenya and Turkey all require a minimum period of six months to be left on your passport from your date of entry. To check regulations for the country you are visiting, simply go to the [Foreign and Commonwealth Office website](#).

Make sure you know your luggage allowances – even if you have flown recently

Over-packing and being stuck at the check-in desk with luggage that's too heavy can really start your holiday off on the wrong foot.

In this situation, you'll either have to try and disperse some of the weight by putting it into your hand luggage (if you have room) or pay extra. So before you go, make sure you have weighed your case. You can buy handheld digital luggage scales for just a few euro. If you do decide you are going to need to **take extra luggage**, pre-book it in online in advance. All airlines have different regulations so make sure you look at the fine print in their baggage policies.

Make your home secure

Nothing will snap you out of your post-holiday high like coming home to discover you've been broken into. Double and triple check doors and windows. Ask a family

ESTA

Apply for ESTA no later than 72 hours before departing for the US. Arriving at the airport without a previously approved ESTA (which normally lasts for two years) will likely result in being denied boarding. Check websites for ESTA applications (Prices varies).

Travel Money

While on some occasions you can get away with just travelling with cash and your debit card, there are many destinations where a credit card is essential. The **United States**, for example, requires you to have a credit card to check in to most **hostels**. You will also need a credit card (with a pretty large credit allowance) to **rent cars** in the US. They will block up to \$1,000 for the duration of your rental.

Keeping a spare credit card with you in case of emergencies is also a smart idea.

Especially in cases where your debit card gets blocked, eaten by the machine or gets stolen. Using a credit card instead of a debit card or cash is also great for fraud protection when you travel abroad. Credit cards are carefully monitored by the credit company, meaning they can report unusual activity if they suspect someone's stolen your card, or even block it if they see lots of suspicious activity. If you lose your card or it's stolen, you can get a replacement sent to you within a few days. Be sure to let your bank or Card Company know that you plan on travelling and the countries you plan to visit to avoid the risk of your card getting blocked accidentally.

Sort out pet care / Pre-book car hire

Source: [smarttravel.com](#)



Maynooth University Town Football Club

Leinster Senior League Tables

Tables & Results courtesy of Leinster Senior League (www.lsl.ie)



Leinster Senior League Senior Division Sunday										Leinster Senior League Major Saturday									
#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1.	St. Mochtas FC	13	8	4	1	25	10	15	28	1.	Crumlin United FC	11	8	3	0	32	9	23	27
2.	Malahide United	13	8	3	2	29	11	18	27	2.	Cherry Orchard	12	8	2	2	34	16	18	26
3.	Bangor GG FC	12	8	1	3	32	22	10	25	3.	Bluebell United	9	8	0	1	32	11	21	24
4.	Maynooth University Town FC	14	7	3	4	27	17	10	24	4.	Maynooth University Town FC	11	6	4	1	26	14	12	22
5.	Killester Donnycarney FC	11	7	1	3	24	11	13	22	5.	UCD AFC	12	6	1	5	31	20	11	19
6.	Bluebell United	11	4	4	3	30	29	1	16	6.	Bangor GG FC	10	5	2	3	22	21	1	17
7.	Edenderry Town	14	4	4	6	21	26	-5	16	7.	Booth Road Celtic	10	5	1	4	28	24	4	16
8.	Liffey Wanderers	11	4	3	4	24	21	3	15	8.	Liffey Wanderers	8	3	0	5	12	21	-9	9
9.	Crumlin United FC	10	5	0	5	20	18	2	15	9.	Swords Celtic FC	10	3	0	7	11	29	-18	9
10.	Cherry Orchard	13	4	2	7	20	39	-19	14	10.	Ballymun United	12	3	0	9	19	39	-20	9
11.	Newbridge Town FC	14	3	4	7	24	38	-14	13	11.	St. Patrick's CYFC	13	2	1	10	29	42	-13	7
12.	Portmarnock AFC	12	3	0	9	23	38	-15	9	12.	Colepark United	12	1	0	11	15	45	-30	3
13.	Ballymun United	12	2	2	8	13	25	-12	8										
14.	Wayside Celtic	10	2	1	7	13	20	-7	7										

Senior Division Sunday Results			
Date	Home	Result	Away
10/01/20	Maynooth University Town FC	3 : 1	Liffey Wanderers
05/01/20	St. Mochtas FC	1 : 1	Maynooth University Town FC
13/12/19	Maynooth University Town FC	3 : 0	Portmarnock AFC
17/11/19	Cherry Orchard	2 : 2	Maynooth University Town FC
10/11/19	Bangor GG FC	4 : 3	Maynooth University Town FC
25/10/19	Maynooth University Town FC	4 : 0	Crumlin United FC
11/10/19	Maynooth University Town FC	3 : 0	Edenderry Town
04/10/19	Maynooth University Town FC	2 : 0	Newbridge Town FC

Leinster Senior League Division 3 Sunday									
#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1.	Confey FC	12	10	1	1	45	17	28	31
2.	Verona FC	13	7	4	2	48	20	28	25
3.	Maynooth University Town FC	13	8	1	4	40	25	15	25
4.	Dingle United	13	6	2	5	33	24	9	20
5.	Loughshinny United	10	5	1	4	34	28	6	16
6.	Wayside Celtic	9	4	2	3	14	15	-1	14
7.	Woodfarm Football Club	12	4	2	6	17	22	-5	14
8.	Ayrfield United	8	4	1	3	25	16	9	13
9.	Edenderry Town	10	3	4	3	17	19	-2	13
10.	Esker Celtic FC	11	4	1	6	26	35	-9	13
11.	Tymon Bawn AFC	11	3	0	8	20	51	-31	9
12.	Shankill FC	9	2	0	7	20	43	-23	6
13.	Spartak Dynamo FC	6	1	1	4	8	15	-7	4
14.	River Valley Rangers AFC	7	1	0	6	13	30	-17	3

Leinster Senior League Major Saturday Results			
Date	Home	Result	Away
16/01/20	Maynooth University Town FC	3 : 1	Liffey Wanderers
11/01/20	Cherry Orchard	4 : 2	Maynooth University Town FC
14/12/19	Booth Road Celtic	2 : 2	Maynooth University Town FC
30/11/19	Colepark United	0 : 2	Maynooth University Town FC
16/11/19	Crumlin United FC	1 : 1	Maynooth University Town FC
09/11/19	Maynooth University Town FC	3 : 2	Ballymun United
19/10/19	Maynooth University Town FC	1 : 1	UCD AFC
12/10/19	Maynooth University Town FC	5 : 2	Colepark United

Leinster Senior League Division 3 Sunday Results			
Date	Home	Result	Away
12/01/20	Maynooth University Town FC	6 : 1	River Valley Rangers AFC
08/12/19	Maynooth University Town FC	0 : 2	Confey FC
01/12/19	Verona FC	2 : 0	Maynooth University Town FC
17/11/19	Maynooth University Town FC	2 : 1	Ayrfield United
27/10/19	Maynooth University Town FC	1 : 4	Verona FC
20/10/19	Maynooth University Town FC	5 : 4	Shankill FC
13/10/19	Edenderry Town	1 : 1	Maynooth University Town FC
06/10/19	Maynooth University Town FC	2 : 4	Esker Celtic FC

OCCASIONS HAIRDRESSING



Welcome to Occasions Hairdressing
New Year New You
Your one stop shop for Hair, Nails and Beauty.

A blend of superb cutting, beautiful colour work, flawless finishing and a personalised client service means you can rest assured that you are in the hands of true experts. We deliver ongoing training in the latest trends and techniques to all of our team members to ensure you consistently receive a high level of service.

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Carton Retail Park
Maynooth,
Co Kildare
01-6291805

SugarDolls NAIL BAR & BEAUTY



One of Ireland's top Beauty Salons with 12 stores across the country and more to come.

Sugar Dolls Nail and Beauty is definitely the coolest place to get glamorous! Their Nail bars and Beauty salons provide professional and friendly service, by highly qualified nail and beauty therapists.

You can get exceptional treatments in a fun and enjoyable atmosphere. From the moment you enter Sugar Dolls, you will get star treatment.

They offer all varieties of nail treatments: Shellac/Gelish, classic manicure, gel/acrylic nails, pedicure and nail art.

Their beauty services include waxing, tinting, and Dermalogica facials.

Naas : Tesco Shopping Centre
Monread Road,
Naas, Co. Kildare

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€10 OFF

MINIMUM SPEND €50
 VALID UNTILL THE END OF FEBRUARY

This promotion is not valid in conjunction with other promotions or discounts.

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ST. VALENTINE'S DAY

Valentine's Day, when lovers express their affection with greetings and gifts.

Although there were several Christian martyrs named Valentine, the day may have taken its name from a priest who was martyred about 270 ce by the emperor Claudius II Gothicus. According to legend, the priest signed a letter "from your Valentine" to his jailer's daughter, whom he had befriended and, by some accounts, healed from blindness. Other accounts hold that it was St. Valentine of Terni, a bishop, for whom the holiday was named, though it is possible the two saints were actually one person. Another common legend states that St. Valentine defied the emperor's orders and secretly married couples to spare the husbands from war. It is for this reason that his feast day is associated with love.

Formal messages, or valentines, appeared in the 1500s, and by the late 1700s commercially printed cards were being used. The first commercial valentines in the United States were printed in the mid-1800s. Valentines commonly depict Cupid, the Roman god of love, along with hearts, traditionally the seat of emotion. Because it was thought that the avian mating season begins in mid-February, birds also became a symbol of the day. Traditional gifts include sweets and flowers, particularly red roses, a symbol of beauty and love.

The day is popular in the United States as well as in Britain, Canada, and Australia, and it is also celebrated in other countries, including Argentina, France, Mexico, and South Korea. In the Philippines, it is the most common wedding anniversary, and mass weddings of hundreds of couples are not uncommon on that date. The holiday has expanded to expressions of affection among relatives and friends.

Source www.britannica.com



Valentines Day Symbols & Flowers



Hearts, Roses, Cupids' Bows & Arrows, the color Red – are all the main symbols of Valentine's Day.

The day centers around love, romance, thankfulness, commitment, and friendship. Before wishing your loved one a Happy Valentine's Day, you must know which flower color to choose and the meaning of each Valentine Day flower color.

Valentine Day Red Flower – Gifting Red flowers on Valentine's Day, is used to communicating love for somebody. A red rose or an entire bunch of red flowers, the message is simple: I Love You. Red Rose is most appropriate for young girls and boys.

Valentine Day White Flower – White flowers on Valentine Day represent purity and honesty. These roses are most appropriate for recently hitched couples. A bundle of white roses can likewise be sent to a companion, with whom you had a heated argument before, as a sign to end the cold war and be good friends once again!



Valentine Day Yellow Flower – Yellow Flowers on Valentine Day is ideal if you are celebrated Valentine's Day with best friends and cousins. Yellow flowers reflect inspiration and delight and are a best Valentine friendship gift.

Valentine Day Pink Flower – Gifting pink flowers on Valentine Day is used to offering thanks and expressing gratitude to someone special. If you need to thank somebody for something exceptional they have done for you, gift them pink flowers on Valentine's Day.

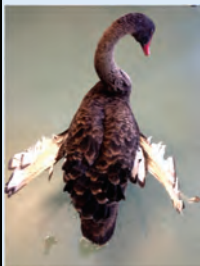
Valentine Day Orange Flower – Orange flowers represents energy and excitement. If you are glad and proud of someone, bless them with orange flowers.

Source <https://dayfinders.com>

FEEDING DUCKS & SWANS

'What's the best food for swans?' It definitely isn't bread. Bread is not good for any species of bird. Their digestive system is not designed to metabolize refined flour, preservatives, yeast or refined sugar. And yet bread to a swan is like lollies (candy) to a kid. They'll gollop it down. Same is true for ducks.

Bread displaces the natural foods these birds should be eating. It's very high in protein compared to a swan's natural diet of water weeds. If they eat too much bread, for too long, they become weak and breed unhealthy young. If cygnets (baby swans) eat a lot of bread (or grains) they can experience a growth spurt causing their body to develop too quickly for their legs. They become plump to a point where they can barely stand or walk. Some develop a condition called 'angel wing' (pic at left) where the feathers on one or both wings grow out sideways. Birds with angel wing will never fly and are often bullied and shunned by fellow swans.



Swans, ducks, other water birds and domestic poultry can all develop angel wing from eating bread or being fed grains. If mouldy bread is fed to swans or ducks it can kill them. You'll notice that in the wild swans dip their head underwater. They do this to feed on the stems and roots of water weeds. These 'green foods' are a swan's natural diet, supplemented by grasses on the land, plus the occasional bug or insect.

I know that bread is very convenient and clearly swans and ducks love it, but to maintain good health they have to eat a natural diet, or foods that are close to their natural diet.

Try the following mixture Rip up or shred some lettuce and toss it into shallows where the swans can reach it (don't throw it onto a sandy beach). You can also sprinkle sweet corn kernels from a can into the shallows. They love corn.

Alternatively, fill a low bowl with clean water (direct from the tap, not from a hose) and drop in handfuls of lettuce and garnish it with sweet corn from a can. Be sure to leave the bowl in the shade. If in direct sun only leave it for a few minutes or the water will get hot and the food become unpalatable. If you're really keen also add a little chopped spinach, grated carrot and some peas.

This nutritious 'swan soup' is good for swans and ducks. However, don't feel disappointed if they turn up their nose and give you a look that says, 'OK, where's the bread?' Persist because they will get used to it. You can even add a small handful of millet or mixed grains (from a pet store), but remember the less grains the better. It's preferable not to feed wild birds at all and so it becomes your responsibility to do the right thing and only provide food which is 'as close to natural' as possible. This will help them to grow into beautiful, healthy birds.



Source: wildbirdrescues.com

This Mad, Mad World!

Can Christians be happy with the world as it is? Wars, slavery, exploitation of the most pernicious kinds, world leaders carrying on as if the national and international spheres were their private playgrounds where they strut and display their egotism and ignorance instead of serving the needs of the people to whom they owe a sacred responsibility. Is all that carry-on acceptable to followers of Christ who perfectly modelled how leaders should care for their people? Are Christians not bound by their union with their founder to try in every way they can to further the Reign of God on earth?

Was Christ talking nonsense when he announced the kingdom of God amongst us? Maybe he was mad as his family appeared to think? But if he wasn't he should be taken seriously by his followers. When the Baptist sent his disciples to ask him if he was the one whom Israel awaited, he told them to tell John what they saw with their own eyes: the blind see and the lame walk, the poor have the good news brought to them. In other words, God has shown his compassion to the most downtrodden and the weakest and already life was becoming better for them.

That is the calling of every Christian, to model the compassion of Christ by looking out for the lost, the last and the least. To hate the sin, yes, but to love the sinner. Judge not and forgive everybody and do the best you can to have people governing us who promote the welfare of every single person under their care, particularly the weakest, and the most sick, from the oldest to the youngest. And apropos the youngest, Bill Bryson, in his most entertaining and informative book,

The Body, when describing conception writes: "The sperm passes through an outer barrier called the zona pellucida and, all being well, fuses with the egg, which immediately activates a kind of electrical force field around itself to stop other sperm from getting through. The DNA from sperm and egg are combined into a new entity called a zygote. A new life has begun." The unborn is perhaps the weakest of all!

But all need to be cared for and surely it's the mission of all Christians to do what they can to help the needy in their everyday lives and to hold elected representatives and all in positions of power to account for their actions and omissions.

Gabriel Martin.

NoodFood Makes Plant-based diets Deliciously Simple

***NoodFood has launched Ireland's first and only
plant-based meal kit delivery service.***

Two young Maynooth entrepreneurs launch Ireland's first plant-based meal kit delivery service. NoodFood offers a variety of plant-based meal options that allow customers to choose from their changing weekly menu. Meal kits include simple to follow recipe cards, and pre-portioned ingredients so that customers can quickly cook delicious meals, removing the need for planning, shopping, or unnecessary preparation.

NoodFood prides itself on being zero-landfill. The meals are hand-delivered to customers in reusable tote bags and all of the meal packaging is compostable.

NoodFood's founders and friends, Thomas Dempsey and Darragh Lynch started a plant-based diet last year and were blown away by the health and environmental benefits. Many of their friends told them they would also like to try a plant-based diet, but they didn't know how. They decided to start NoodFood, a service aimed at making it very easy to follow a plant-based diet, so that others could also reap the health benefits.

Every year, hundreds of thousands of people participate in Veganuary. Veganuary is an international campaign that encourages people to try a plant-based diet for the month of January and to celebrate this,

NoodFood are offering customers a special introductory offer which makes it incredibly easy to follow a delicious plant-based diet.

***Sign up at www.noodfood.ie with the code
VEG50 to get 50% off your first order.***

Customer Testimonials

"Can't recommend this service enough for so many reasons. Firstly, just to highlight, we're not actually a vegan household. But like many, we've decided to try to cut down our meat and dairy intake to a couple of times a week. With that in mind, this service has the added benefit of improving the variety of our meat and dairy free meals (as well as the obvious convenience of having the ingredients for 4 meals arrive to your door every week)!"

"The food is delicious and being meat free, it's fantastic value. One thing I have to add is how brilliant their customer service is. They're so open to feedback and have already taken on some suggestions we submitted."

"They're super responsive and really care about their customers. Thanks for a great service! Three very happy customers here."

"I love noodfood! it is so convenient and they provide delicious creative meals every week. The price is also relatively cheap for what you get from it 10/10."

"Great service and recipes, been enjoying trying out new recipes every week."



ZERO WASTE MAYNOOTH

What to ask election candidates and canvassers about climate change

We Need Faster and Fairer Climate Action

Much Faster: We need to be cutting our climate-polluting emissions by at least 8% a year, not 2% as planned, to make sure we achieve the Paris Agreement

Much Fairer: We need a substantial increase in government investment in public transport, warmer homes and community energy to make zero carbon options available for everyone.

Deliver MUCH FASTER action to prevent complete climate breakdown

• **Will you do enough to reduce our climate pollution by at least 8% a year over lifetime of the next Government?** The current plan is only 2% a year, but the United Nations says the global average needs to be 7.6% a year from now to 2030. Richer countries should actually be doing much more.

Deliver MUCH FAIRER action to ensure no one gets left behind

Ensure affordable and accessible transport for all

• **Will you invest 2/3 of the transport budget in public transport, cycling and walking?** It's only 1/3 now, but the Citizens' Assembly recommended 2/3. And only 2% on is spent on cycling and walking, whereas the UN recommends 20%.

Deliver warmer homes for all to help reduce energy use and save money

• **Will you make it much easier for me and my community to get help to upgrade our homes** to save money and reduce our energy use? I hear great things about how the Tipperary Energy Agency does it. Will you make that kind of support, along with grants and low-cost finance, available nationwide?

Support communities to own renewable energy projects

• **Will you do much more to enable schools, clubs, parishes etc., to start their own renewable energy projects?** There's almost no community-owned energy here, but community energy makes up 50% of all renewables in Germany. Lots of groups in Ireland are keen to do it but it's made really difficult. Will you start by promising to put solar panels on every school by 2025?

End support for new fossil fuels exploration and infrastructure

• **Will you promise not to issue any new licences to look for fossil fuels in Irish waters?** If they ever found anything it wouldn't be used until the 2030s, locking us into fossil energy long after when we can afford to pollute like that.

• **And will you promise not to import fracked gas from the US?** We banned fracking here because of its impacts on local communities. It's hypocritical to let communities in Pennsylvania suffer instead. So will you say no to terminals to import LNG gas at Shannon and Cork?

Restore and protect nature

• **Will you set up a Citizens' Assembly on biodiversity loss?** The Dáil voted to do that when it declared a climate and biodiversity emergency in May 2019. Will you reverse

the cuts to the budget of the National Parks and Wildlife Service to protect habitats and nature for wildlife and people?

These questions are thanks to www.stopclimatechaos.ie –please check out their website to read their full list of questions and please ask these questions when the candidates come knocking!

One last question we would like you to consider asking is what are the candidates **doing to make Maynooth a green sustainable town** –we want to keep local independent shops thriving, not closing due to rent pressures, we want people able to shop in Maynooth without having to drive elsewhere, we want food with low air miles. Ask the candidates what they are doing to improve our town.



Free Event

2pm to 4pm

Saturday, 8th February 2020

Maynooth Community Space

Carton Retail Park

(beside the post office)

Beauty and the Beets

At 2.30pm

Demo with Molly from Bare Necessities on how to make your own beauty products





*Package free food *Toy, Clothing & Book swap *Cloth Nappy info & tips
* Complimentary tea and treats



Writers’ Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

Molly from Chicago

When Phil Casey, who lived six doors down from him, began to tell Joe about a book he was reading he didn’t pay much heed, that is until Phil hinted he might feature in it.

“Who wrote this book?” Joe demanded.

“Molly O’Connor.” Phil waited for the reaction.

“Molly Who?” Joe was genuinely puzzled.

“Don’t you remember the Yanks who were living beside you about twenty years ago?” Phil grinned crookedly. “You and they didn’t always see eye to eye.”

“Oh, that Molly!” Joe exclaimed as an image of a chubby-cheeked redhead flashed into my mind. “Did she really write about her stay in Ireland?”

“Did she ever!” Phil grinned. “It seems her interactions with the natives were quite hilarious. Is it true you reported her to her college co-ordinator?”

“Is that what she wrote?” Joe was beginning to feel alarmed.

“Well, I may be jumping to conclusions,” Phil was becoming cagey, “but I felt that Jack, the guy who lived next door, bore a certain resemblance to yourself – of course, she changed the name of our street. Anyway, I’ll bring the book round in the morning.”

Joe was about to ask why he couldn’t let him have the dammed thing right away but didn’t want to appear too concerned. Phil would enjoy seeing him squirm.

That night as he lay awake beside his sleeping wife, Nora, Joe recalled their first encounter with Molly. She was one of four Americans, confident, casually dressed undergrads, all excited by their chance to spend a year studying in a college of the National University. The previous year there had been a group of Irish students next-door, loutish guys who seemed to spend all their time boozing and partying. The landlord seldom visited, and Joe’s telephoned complaints that Nora and he were near breaking point didn’t seem to bother him. Nevertheless, when Joe, on his way home from the office one Friday, ran into him in the supermarket he said, “I’m having four nice Catholic girls from Notre Dame in this time so you and the missus should have no more complaints.”

“That’s great,” Joe told him. “If those yobs came back again we were seriously thinking of moving.”

To get off to a friendly start, Nora decided that they should invite the Americans round for dinner. Consequently, one evening after they had put the children to bed, the girls arrived bearing a bottle of Blue Nun. Before long the initial awkwardness gave way to pleasant chatter as Nora’s Chicken Casserole and the wine helped everyone to relax. The girls were warm and outgoing, telling them about their Irish connections, in all cases fairly remote except for Molly’s. She had an aunt and uncle living in Galway and cousins on her mother’s side in Cork. Pop, as she called her father, had encouraged her to learn Irish dancing and her account of various adventures on the competition circuit in Chicago and New York kept them all in stitches.

“You’ll have to do a jig for us,” Joe joked and without more ado, Molly had obliged. When she finished, eyes sparkling and cheeks glowing, everyone applauded with genuine enthusiasm. The encounter with the girls had got off to a flying start.

It didn’t take the newcomers long to settle in and soon other students, mostly American guys, were calling next door. Joe and Nora’s children, still in primary school, also began to visit, attracted by popcorn and candy. When Nora told them that they weren’t to bother the girls, the children protested that they weren’t bothering them. In fact, Molly thought they were really ‘cute’.

“They have fellows in there with them,” Nora pointed out, “and, anyway, I don’t want you eating all that junk and destroying your teeth.” She didn’t want to admit her real concern was that the music and hilarity at night was getting steadily worse. Could it be that she and Joe were going to be reliving their nightmare?

Spurred on by Nora, Joe eventually called on their neighbours. As he mumbled apologetically about the noise keeping them awake, Molly’s beaming smile faded. She explained that while they had come to Ireland for a year’s study that would earn them credits towards a degree, they were also permitted to enjoy themselves.

“But not at our expense,” Joe reminded her. “I have to be up for work by 6.30.”

“I’ll tell the others what you said,” Molly promised before closing the door.

The following nights things were quieter but on Saturday music and outbursts of revelry went on until the early hours. Exasperated, Joe phoned the landlord only to find that he had changed his number. Since he didn’t know where the landlord lived, Joe marched round to upbraid the girls. A note, “Please Don’t Disturb Before 2 PM”, was pinned on the door.

They have some neck, Joe reflected, thumbing the bell button hard. After repeated ringing, a tousled-haired Molly dressed in pyjamas opened the door. She listened yawning to his complaints then said something about it being the birthday of one of the girls. She would tell the guys that in future they weren’t to come by after dark. She may have tried to keep her word because now a new irritant arose, fellows ringing the bell late in the evening and banging on the door. When there was no response they would throw pebbles at the upstairs’ window. This would continue until somebody let them in. Afterwards there would be sounds of carousing followed by the creaking of beds.

By now Joe and Nora were desperate. They phoned the Gardaí but other than calling next door and requesting that the students keep down the noise, they did nothing. They complained to the college but the lady in charge of student accommodation said that without photographs or other such proof of misconduct, her hands were tied. Week after week went by with the American fellows buzzing like wasps around jam tarts. One of

them even arrived one morning with his guitar and began to serenade Molly from the front garden with a loud rendition of “Happy Birthday”. Of course, his enchantress admitted him.

Finally, Christmas brought respite as the girls disappeared, either back to the States or to friends’ houses. As if re-energised by their vacation, however, the noise levels in the New Year soared. It was at least 11 o’clock each day before Molly or her friends emerged to stroll down to lectures. Nora’s nerves grew ragged from lack of sleep and Joe’s boss started to remark on his bleary-eyed appearance. Then, unexpectedly, things quietened down. Molly called to the house one evening asking to borrow the vacuum cleaner and when Nora enquired why she needed it, Molly revealed that her parents were flying over for Saint Patrick’s Day.

Armed with this information Joe and Nora considered informing the parents about their daughter’s high jinks but decided that such a move would be unfair, especially as there was the possibility that Molly had turned over a new leaf. The noise of vacuuming was now the only sound emanating from next door and when the parents, a pleasant, well-dressed couple, arrived, the four tearaways were transformed into little angels preoccupied with their studies. On Saint Patrick’s Day, however, the respite ended as two hulks with aerosol cans romped through the front garden, spraying each other and the house emerald. When paint splashed on her wall Nora went out to remonstrate and, admitted by Molly, the fellows disappeared indoors. Nora begged Joe to report this vandalism to Molly’s parents but he balked. After all, was Molly really to blame?

No sooner had the parents left than Joe regretted his leniency. The noise quickly reached stratospheric levels, so that he and Nora were at their last straw. They had just contacted an estate agent about selling the house when their luck changed. Nora met a woman in the hairdresser’s who knew a neighbour who had also been plagued by American students. This woman had contacted the Irish co-ordinator for Notre Dame, who had warned the students that if they didn’t mend their ways they would get no credits for their year in Ireland. After that there was no more noise.

In due course Nora met with the co-ordinator, a pleasant, cultured lady, who informed her she would have a little talk with Molly and her companions. She was as good as her word and, as if by magic, the revelry next door ceased. Now the girls became quiet and studious, if more aloof, barely nodding to Joe whenever he passed them.

About a month later Joe was heading off for work. On approaching his Volkswagen, which was parked by the footpath, he found the door on the passenger side staved in. Some joy rider must have misjudged the corner? As he examined the damage in near shock he became aware of movement and looking up saw Molly in a dressing gown standing at her bedroom window. She quickly closed the curtains but not before he detected a grin on her face.

When he eventually read the memoir, Emerald Interlude, which Phil brought him he recalled that incident. In it Molly crowed about how her boyfriend had paid back a neighbour who had made her Irish sojourn a misery: “Kenny phoned and told me to watch Old Sourpuss getting into his Beetle in the morning,” she had written, “I asked him why but he just told me Ato set the alarm. Next morning I could have wet myself to see the look of dismay on Jack’s face...”

What she hadn’t mentioned was that she had sent a cheque from Chicago to pay for a holiday for Joe and Nora. No doubt such an admission would have spoiled the book’s Bad -Girl tone, a bad girl who afterwards, according to the blurb, had spent ten years working as a medical volunteer in Africa. Yes, Molly was really something!

Note: This short story is based on actual happenings, but names etc have been changed

P.J.Nerney

In Search of Xanadu

China’s magnificence dazzled me: magnetic trains, spaghetti junctions, headlong city traffic, skyscrapers washed by ever-changing lights, international hotels where tourists dined on gourmet food, high-rise flats replacing hutongs...

An expat Dutchman told me how the Shanghai system works: ‘People swapped bicycles for motorbikes, then those were banned so that cars spewing out pollution could make a fortune for the auto trade.’ But though I’d seen coal-fired generators and locals wearing breathing masks, I scarcely gave a second thought to the dullness of the sky, the greyiness of the rivers, the scarcity of birds...

A damsel with a dulcimer sat among bright-costumed girls

playing stringed instruments in the Tang Palace Dance Show and, enchanted by such visions, as well as artistry in silk and jade, I blanked out careworn faces of passing rickshaw cyclists, low income hutong dwellers, workers hurrying along footpaths, and didn’t protest when one tourist mocked a woman hawking plastic gliders...

Yes, I was focused on this construction of China’s ultramodern buildings, set to out-top the tallest in the world, I who had queued impatiently to gape at terracotta warriors moulded to serve their Emperor Ch’in, and walked by that vast throng queuing for Mao’s mausoleum, and I had joined those climbing the Great wall, conscious that Mongol hordes had breached it – progenitors of Kublai, the mighty Khan who built that Xanadu ‘pleasure-dome’.

Colin Scott

**Social
Democrats**

Catherine
MURPHY

Priority Areas

- **A fair distribution** of resources and services for Kildare
- **Affordable Housing** options to buy and rent
- **Adequate school places** and smaller class sizes
- **Child care** and parental supports
- Sustainable and **proper planning**
- **State Pension Reform** including the Stop 67 Campaign
- Access to and provision of **healthcare**
- Reliable, high capacity, fully accessible **public transport** and full utilisation and upgrades to cycling and walking infrastructure

Vote 1

About Catherine

Catherine Murphy is a TD for Kildare North and was first elected to Dáil Éireann in the 2005 by-election. Catherine was re-elected in the 2011 and 2016 general elections.

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/catherinemurphytd



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Round of 16



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Sun 9th Feb 2020

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K.O. 2 o'clock



Country Men, New York

Ireland had too much decay:
rain on potholed roads,
water soaking tillage fields,
new-mown meadows rotting in the swathe,
thatch stain on white-washed walls.

From low, cloud-muddled skies
we turned on many an evening
to our local pub for reassurance,
feasting our eyes on peat-brown porter,
grateful for its froth's uprising promise.

Would we return despite such memories?

Who knows?

Back then we coped in our own way,
though, forced by wind and rain to look
beyond the shifting face of things,
we knew 'twas death to stay.

Colin Scott

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

Two almost impossible situations resolved by the
Power of this Prayer.

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

Thanksgiving for favour received
Never known to fail

Apology

In a recent article published in the Maynooth Newsletter dated May 2019, references were made to Mrs. Teresa Murray a former Councillor of Maynooth Municipal District Council. It is accepted that the said article as published was offensive and hurtful to Mrs. Murray. It is accepted that the article should not have been published.

It is fully accepted without reservation that Mrs. Murray at all times acted with good faith and integrity as an elected representative in relation to the Motion put before the Maynooth Municipal District Council meeting on the 12th April, 2019, regarding the Maynooth Summer Festival.

This statement is being made in order to apologise to Mrs. Murray for the assertions made in the recent article which contended that she acted selfishly and for self-serving reasons. Those assertions were incorrect and are withdrawn unreservedly.



ST. MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND

Last year was one of the most successful years ever for St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band. The year got off to a great start with St. Patrick's Day Parades in Maynooth, Kilcock and Clane which was closely followed by a joint concert with the Parish Choir in St. Mary's Church on Palm Sunday. April saw a joint concert with the Ballymore Concert Band in aid of McAuley Place in Naas while May brought

the Band to Castletown House in Celbridge for a recital that received great feedback from the audience. In June the Band headed for Prosperous to entertain spectators at the recreation of an attack at a GAA match in the 1900s, very exciting with old cars, gunsmoke and all the rest.

The month of July brought great success in Limerick when the Band won first prize in the qualifying competition for the World Concert Band Championships to be held in Germany next year which we are all looking forward to. The competition will be tough but it's all about getting there and putting on a good show and winning a prize will be a bonus.

In August we were very happy to be asked to supply some entertainment when Maynooth Town met Waterford United in the first round of the FAI Cup, a great achievement indeed. September brought us back to play to a very appreciative audience in Farmleigh House and we were delighted to be a part of Culture Night 2019 in the Church of Ireland.

October saw us joining with the Garda Band for a very successful concert in the Glenroyal Hotel while November brought our Annual Mass for Deceased Members, again a lovely occasion really appreciated by the large congregation. November 30th was another red letter day when we recorded our second CD which will be available shortly and will be on sale at all our events during the year.

The final event of the year, our Christmas Concert, was held in the Aula Maxima in St. Patrick's College. It was a fitting finale to a very successful year with a standing ovation at the end of the evening.

We would particularly like to thank all those who supported our collections over Christmas, the proceeds from which go towards to high cost of running the Band for the year. We never cease to be amazed by the generosity of the people of Maynooth, both young and old, who love supporting "The Band" and it is why so many of our members work so hard to ensure that there will always be a Band in Maynooth.

Finally, as a result of the growing profile of the Band we have had a number new members joining us over the past year, so if you or anyone you know can play a musical instrument and would like to join us in the Band Hall any Monday night you would be more than welcome.

Contact Paddy on 087 2537 906 if you need to know more about us.

The poster above, which is being used by the organisers of this year's Bad Orb International Music Festival, shows a member of the Maynooth Band, Nora Anne, playing the French horn at the last Festival in 2018. Great tribute to Maynooth Band to have one out of the 1,300 musicians taking part being shown on the poster.



Junior Band at Christmas Concert



Senior Band at Christmas Concert

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facebook.com/KildareCountyLibraryService



twitter.com/kildarelibrary

Library Open Day

Saturday 29th February

Come along to join the library, meet the staff, find out about our e-services and the range of items we have on offer to borrow. Check out our 3D printer in action and get a taste of the range of events we run throughout the year.

Children's Events

(all events are free but call us to book your place!)

Children's Art and Craft for Chinese New Year

Saturday 8th February

2.30pm – 3.30pm

6-9 years

To mark the end of the Chinese New Year Celebrations for 2019 which celebrates the year of the rat, children will make a Chinese New Year lantern displaying a rat motif.

Booking required.

Kids Secret Cinema

Saturday 15th February

2.30pm – 4.00pm

Rated PG

Kids Choice! This month, children will be able to choose between three different films. **Rated G. All Welcome!**

Valentine's Day Art and Craft

Friday 14th February

2.30pm – 3.30pm

5-8 years

Children can make a colourful Valentine's card using straws and coloured card. **Booking required.**

3D Printer Workshop

Saturday 22nd February

11.30am – 1pm

11 – 15 years

This workshop will provide participants with an introduction to 3D printing and choosing a 3D design using the websites thingiverse.com and tinkercad.com. **Booking required.**

Library Events

German 'Stammtisch' at Maynooth Library

Thursday 27th February

6.30pm – 7.30pm

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

All levels from learners to native speakers are welcome.

Local Enterprise Office – Business Advice Clinic

Wednesday 19th February – all day

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

"Let's Talk about Parenting"

Free series of talks open to everyone. **Booking required**

Baby Sign Language

Wednesdays 19th February – 11th March 10.30am

(4-week course)

For babies up to 1 year of age. Aimed at parents to connect with other parents and teach your baby some basic signs through nursery rhymes and poems.

Expression of interest:

Maynooth Podcast Club

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

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

(Similar to a book club, we will listen to and then discuss a selection of podcasts.

Help and advice on using your smart-phone or tablet, with the various podcasts apps, can also be provided.)

DiVerse Poetry Collective (to begin 1 April 2020)

A new poetry collective will meet monthly in the library on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 11am, starting on 1 April 2020. People are encouraged to bring along a selection of their favourite poems to read and share with other fans of the format, in a relaxed atmosphere. Register your interest with the library, if necessary, specifying an alternative day/time to meet.

French Language Group

To reflect the interests of our borrowers, Maynooth Community Library are considering establishing a French language conversation group to informally chat ('bavarder') and practice their French. Please contact the library if you would be interested in attending, specifying days/times which would suit you.

Regular Events

Boomerang Bags

Tuesday 25th February

6.00pm – 7.30pm

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

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

Booking Required – materials supplied

Craft Club

Every Monday from 11.30am – 1pm

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

Different short demonstrations will take place during the year.

Who knows – maybe a new craft will grab your fancy...

No Booking Required

Family Board Games

Saturday 1st and 15th February

10am – 12pm

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

All welcome

FitLine

Thursday 13th and 27th February 10:30 am - 12 noon

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

For more information call 1800 303 545.

Make Time

Thursday 6th and 20th February, 6pm – 7:45pm

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

Maynooth Women's Group

Saturday 1st and 15th February, 11am - 1pm

New members welcome.

Contact the library for further details.

Ciorcal Comhrá / Irish Language Conversation Group

Tuesdays 11am – 12 noon

This is an informal group for adults who would like to meet on a weekly basis to use and practice their conversational Irish.

No booking required. All welcome.

Maynooth Creative Writing Group

Tuesday 4th and 18th February 6:15pm

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

No booking required.

Spanish Conversation Exchange

Thursdays, 6:30pm – 7:30pm

An informal meeting where people can practice and converse in Spanish. All adults welcome from novice to expert.

No booking required.

Relocation to Ireland: Women's Meet Up

Saturday 1st and 15th February 3pm – 5pm

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

Returning expat women are also welcome to share their experiences.

All Welcome

Drop In-Story Time

No Booking Required

Rainy Day Story Time

Friday 7th February 10am – 10:45am for 2-5 year olds

Valentine's Day Story Time

Friday 14th February 10am – 10:45am for 2-5 year olds

This week's stories are all celebrating love, Valentine's Day and all things heart!

Join in with some rhymes and songs fun as well!

Colouring pages will be provided.

Under the Sea Story Time

Friday 21st February 10am – 10:45am for 2-5 year olds

Things that Go! Story Time

Friday 28th February 10am – 10:45am for 2-5 year olds

This week's stories are all about trains, planes and all things that go! Join in with fun rhymes and songs as well.

Colouring pages will be provided. **All Welcome**

Book & Film Clubs

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

The Village Book Club

Monday 17th February 10.30am – 11.30am

Ex Libris Book Club

Wednesday 26th February 11am

Readers of the Lost Ark Science Fiction Book Club

Tuesday 11th February 6.30pm- 7.30pm

Read & Catch-up

Thursday 13th February 11am – 12pm

Jane Austen Book Club

Thursday 27th February 11am- 12 pm

U3A Book Club

Monday 10th February 11am- 12 pm

Reel Good Film Club

Tuesday 25th February: Screening 5pm Discussion 7pm

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



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

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

Hope for Better -Vote for Better -Vote Social Democrats

Making housing affordable and eradicating the scandal of homelessness - SocDems launch Housing Policy

The Social Democrats co-leader Catherine Murphy today launches the Party's housing manifesto for the general election. Called 'Homes within Reach: Making housing available, making housing affordable' the manifesto outlines a comprehensive plan to radically rethink public policy to address the housing crisis Ireland faces.

Speaking ahead of the launch, **Catherine Murphy** said:

"The key focus in our housing plans is to **deliver good quality housing at the lowest possible cost to purchasers and renters, rather than the highest possible profit to developers and land speculators.**"

"There is a **failed political ideology** at the heart of the last governments approach to housing, one which relies on 'the market' to deliver the housing so urgently needed. This Fine Gael government did not want the state to compete with private developers and so in a blatant disregard of one of their primary responsibilities as a government, has consigned thousands of people to the highest rents ever, homes that are just unaffordable to buy and over 10,000 people to homelessness.

"Our policies launched today aim to **radically shift the balance back to the State as a key provider of housing that is affordable to buy or rent and of social housing.** We expect the State to intervene in the market on behalf of its people – and we set out how that can happen. And we expect the State to be a vital player in making housing affordable for people – affordable to buy and affordable to rent.

"We would **radically scale up the planned number of houses being built by the State, on public lands**, to an average of 20,000 a year, 100,000 over the lifetime of the next Dáil, as capacity increases. This would need the government's weak Land Development Agency to be re-established as a powerful Housing Delivery Agency with teeth and targets to deliver on this ambitious housing programme."

Also speaking on our housing manifesto launch, **Carly Bailey, the candidate in Dublin South West, said:**

"The **level of homelessness is an affront to us and to Irish people** and is one of the most disgraceful legacies of this Fine Gael government, supported by Fianna Fáil. We believe that the homelessness crisis is entirely predictable, following government policies. The next Dáil can **eradicate homelessness by following a 'Housing First' model** and by building the social and affordable housing that is needed. It just needs political will and courage. We will not be found wanting."

Some of our key proposals are:

- Introduce a nationwide rent freeze
- Legislate to stop land hoarding
- Eliminate tax breaks for REITS and Cuckoo Funds
- Introduce legislation to reserve 20% of all private developments for housing that is affordable to buy or rent, in addition to the current 10% for social housing
- Further measures to protect renters
- A new Land Commission to challenge our relationship with Land and develop a strategy for the next decades
- Constitutional change to provide a right to a home, and to reshape the balance between the common good and private property rights.
- Specific measures to support housing for older people

One of the most basic functions of a republic is to put in place the necessary services to keep people well and treat them when they are sick. As Irish citizens, it's not too much to expect decent healthcare. Yet the sad reality is that we just can't depend on our public health service. It has been broken for quite some time.

Our health service is not set up to best meet the needs of Irish people. The system is far too dependent on hospitals and much of the care that could take place in local health centres happens in hospitals where it is more expensive and waits are longer. The different parts of the system don't work well together and this creates huge gaps and inefficiencies. And there is too little accountability for managers, senior medics, and ministers.

Developing Sláintecare

The old excuse was that there was no plan. That excuse no longer stands up. The Sláintecare report was agreed by an all-party committee and launched in May 2017, based on proposals from the Social Democrats, for the development of a national public health service, available to everyone.

The Social Democrats are proud to have led the way to agreement between all the political parties on the way forward for our health services. This means that, for the first time, a change of government shouldn't mean chopping and changing the vision and direction for the health service, allowing for long term strategic planning for health needs.

Sláintecare sets out a road-map to move from a crisis-driven approach to one that focuses instead on community care, prevention, and equal access for all.

The Social Democrats are proud to have led the way to agreement between all the political parties on the way forward for our health services.

Sláintecare will mean: • Free health services in our communities. • Quicker access to public hospitals. • Community care teams for older people and those with mental health and addiction needs. • Diagnostics like x-rays and scans provided locally. • Thousands more doctors, nurses, speech therapists, and public health nurses. • An increase in hospital bed capacity and an end to the trolley crisis.

It will turn our healthcare system around. When Sláintecare is implemented, we will finally have a health system that is comparable to other European countries, based on need and not on ability to pay.

Specific actions within Sláintecare

The Social Democrats' priorities for action are: □ A lower cost, more effective model of care: ▪ Abolition of Home Care waiting lists through investment in providing home care packages and step down facilities. This is a vital aspect of ensuring patients' needs are met and maximising hospital efficiency. At any given time there around 700 people in hospital who are ready to be discharged if the necessary home care support was available. A further 6,000 people have been approved for home care packages but they are not currently being provided access to those services.

- Expanding diagnostic services, such as x-rays, in local Primary Care Centres to make services more accessible to patients and cheaper to provide.
- Investment in Primary Care Centres and Urgent Care Centres with diagnostic facilities.
- The phased extension of free GP Care including a new GP contract and the recruitment of salaried GPs by the health service.
- Additional funding for dementia and Alzheimer's services and for palliative care.
- Improvements in a range of supports for people with disabilities including extra personal assistant hours and an assistive technology passport plus set aside funding to allow for the full monitoring of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities.
- Investment in neurological services.
- Providing health services that prevent illness and intervene early when symptoms emerge: ▪ Roll-out of chronic care programmes such as for asthma and arthritis.
- Additional funding for mental health including counselling, community programmes, and adult mental health teams. ▪ Extra funding for addiction and dual diagnosis services beginning with the restoration of Drug and Alcohol Task Force funding to pre-austerity levels, creating an emerging needs fund, and dealing with the developing crack cocaine epidemic.
- Improved funding for housing adaptation grants.
- Funding for improved maternity services, and resourcing for a full sexual health strategy including affordable contraceptives, abortion services and a period poverty initiative.
- Recruitment of extra psychologists for the National Educational Psychology Service.
- Building capacity in Primary Care: ▪ Massive investment in new primary care staff, including public health nurses, speech and language therapists, physiotherapists, general nursing, dieticians, occupational therapists, GPs, Child and Adolescent Mental Health services, psychology services, neurological services, and case managers for acquired brain injury.
- Immediately expedite the recruitment of 1,000 therapists and other front line healthcare workers.
- Political commitment to a long term vision for the health service provided by Sláintecare will give confidence to health professionals at home and abroad and improve recruitment and retention.
- Greater resources for community eyecare based on the recommendations of the Primary Care Eye Services Review Group report.
- Improvements in dental care

Other reform measures:

- Reducing the cost of medication to the health service through reform measures.
- Reducing prescription charges for patients.
- Removing hospital inpatient charges.

Please see our other General Election documents on children and families, mental health and disability for further proposals on Health and Social Care.

"**Biodiversity loss** is one of the most urgent challenges Ireland faces. If we don't meet this challenge head on, there will be catastrophic consequences, in particular for our entire food production system.

"Ireland, despite its image of a green country, is one of the most deforested countries in Europe. Our insect population is declining at an alarming rate with, for example, our bumblebee and butterfly populations declining at more than the global rates.

"But there are solutions where there is the political will to lead on a radical reimagining of our relationship to the natural world. Our environment and our wildlife are robust, as long as they are given the time and support to recover. Working with farmers, who are guardians of much of our land, we can be a country where nature thrives again.

"We need joined up thinking and action from national and local governments, working with our farmers and local communities, to implement a series of ambitious measures that will reshape how we work with our environment and restore our biodiversity.

"Our proposals include a voluntary purchase of unprofitable farmland for converting to

(Continued on page 25)



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

(Continued from page 24)

native woodland; the doubling of our protected nature reserves; new legislation to eliminate pesticides; new measures to improve urban biodiversity and the promotion and expansion of wildlife corridors across the country.

“The biodiversity crisis is now. The time for action is now. The consequences for ourselves and for future generations are too severe not to act.”

The Urgent Biodiversity Challenge

Biodiversity loss is one of the biggest challenges that Ireland faces. This is not a crisis that has just come upon us, but has been years in the making. For far too long, we have relied on the false narrative that Ireland as a green country, is also an environmentally friendly one.

In 2019, The Intergovernmental Panel on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Service (IPBES) published its global assessment on the state of the world’s biodiversity and ecosystem services. The report shows that nature is declining globally at rates unprecedented in human history. Ireland is not immune from that grave assessment. One in every five of the species assessed in Ireland is threatened with extinction and the conservation status of one third of our protected habitats dis-improved between 2007 and 2013.

We must meet this challenge head on. The outcomes of not doing so will be quite catastrophic. But all is not lost. Nature, our environment and our wildlife are robust, as long as they are given the time and support to recover.

The Dail declaration in 2019 of a Climate and Biodiversity Crisis was very welcome. It must now be followed by action. There must also be the acknowledgement that the climate crisis and biodiversity loss are intrinsically linked and that both must be addressed in tandem. And since the Dail declaration, while there has been much Governmental talk about climate change, there has been little focus on the equally important issue of biodiversity. In fact, biodiversity improvements and nature-based solutions need to be a key tool to tackle climate change.

Farmers are guardians of much of our land in Ireland and often have connections going back centuries to that land. We need to work with farmers and farm families to ensure that our biodiversity is restored. Combined with political will to act, we can reverse the decline in our biodiversity.

Our Natural habitat

Ireland is the most deforested country in Europe, and one of the most deforested in the world. While reforestation is ongoing, most is with non-native sitka spruce plantations used for commercial forestry. These forests are poor habitats for wildlife (and less effective carbon sinks), and our focus should be on preserving and expanding our natural biome of primarily deciduous forest.

In 2018, according to the Department of Agriculture, only 28% of our forest was broad-leaved, and only 27% of new planting was broad-leaved in that year. With modern knowledge of ecology, this is simply unacceptable.

We propose that a percentage of agricultural land be gradually ‘rewilded’ back to natural forest. Partly owing to our high degree of deforestation, Ireland has a huge amount of pastoral land and produces twice as much food as we need for our population.

While it is important to remain food secure and a strong food exporter, there is a significant minority of farms which have low productivity and are not profitable, and there is a large amount of farmland lying idle.

We propose a scheme in which the State would work closely with farmers and offer to buy the farmland of some of these unprofitable farms at attractive rates, with the aim of planting native forest.

Ultimately, the goal would be to connect these areas together and vastly increase the size of our National Parks. This would be a long-term and ambitious project, but it would provide vital habitat for our native species, and for potential reintroductions of extirpated species.

Our Fauna

We are undergoing unprecedented insect loss, nationally and globally, with habitat loss and pesticide use suspected as the main culprits. Recent research from elsewhere in

Europe suggests a staggering 75% decline in insect numbers in the past 26 years, with an annual decline of 2.5%. Recent research in Ireland has shown that our butterfly and bumblebee populations are declining at rates greater than the global averages. This immense loss threatens the total collapse of the food chain if the trend continues, so we must do everything in our power to halt or reverse it. Recent research in Ireland has shown that our butterfly and bumblebee populations are declining at rates greater than the global averages. This immense loss threatens the total collapse of the food chain if the trend continues, so we must do everything in our power to halt or reverse it.

If we wish Ireland to be a country where nature thrives once again, we must also continue to fund conservation for our vulnerable and endangered larger animal species, on land and in water, and, where suitable habitat exists, endeavour to reintroduce species which have become extinct on the island due to human activity.

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To address these problems, the Social Democrats propose:

- A voluntary purchase scheme for unprofitable farmland, to be converted into protected native woodland.
- Incentives for the practice of agroforestry, for example silvopasture (grazing livestock amongst woodland).
- Incentives for the planting of native trees on private land, and for sustainable felling and harvesting practices (reducing clear-cutting).
- A doubling of the area of protected nature reserve by 2040.
- The promotion, and expansion, of wildlife corridors across the country. This would recognise the potential of rivers, canals, and the road network as potential nature corridors.
- To require state bodies to first examine upstream natural based solutions when considering works required to deal with flood relief and protection.
- Reintroduction of extirpated species where research has established feasibility. This would include a compensation scheme for any agricultural losses, and harsh penalties for illegal killing of reintroduced animals.
- Significant state funding for the conservation of endangered and vulnerable native species.
- Fund Councils and Inland Fisheries to map and remediate barriers to fish migration within their riverine systems.
- National legislation to significantly reduce or eliminate the non-agricultural use of pesticides and herbicides outdoors, and continued review of agricultural practices relating to pesticides, herbicides and fertilisers.
- State funding for the monitoring and eradication of invasive species.
- Require Councils map areas of local environmental importance, in consultation and cooperation with the local community and include them in County Development Plans as areas to be protected.

- In urban areas, the government would work with local councils and An Bord Pleanála to prioritise the planting of trees and flowers in existing and new developments, and on streets. It is healthier for people (mentally and physically) and wildlife alike to have as much planting and green space as possible in urban and suburban areas.
- To fund Councils to undertake Trap, Neuter and Return programmes for feral cats.
- Encouraging local councils to create native Woodland Walks and Wildflower Meadows in existing and new parks.
- Making the creation of wild picnic bench spots in office developments and (where practical) the creation of rooftop gardens in offices and apartments a vital part of ABP urban planning regulation. This would reduce the prevalence of ‘concrete deserts’ and have amenity and quality of life benefits.
- Ensuring all local authorities and planning authorities have all hedgerows assessed while making planning decisions and that priority is given to maintaining and protecting existing hedgerows and trees. Where additional or replacement planting takes place native species should be used.
- To establish a Wildlife Crime Unit in an Garda Síocháin to assist in the prevention and detection of wildlife crime.

Please see our other General Election policy and manifesto documents (forthcoming) on the environment and climate change.



Congratulations to Tom Mc Mullen (Mack) on the occasion of his recent 80th Birthday. Tom is well known around Maynooth for his involvement in the local community for more than 40 years. Family & friends joined Tom to celebrate this momentous occasion. Marie Gleeson presented Tom (Pictured right) with a token of appreciation for his years of service to the Maynooth Community Employment Project, of which Tom is the Chairperson.



35TH ANNUAL MAYNOOTH ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADE 2020



It's time to start preparing once again for Maynooth's biggest event, the St. Patrick's Day Parade! This is the 35th Annual parade and we are extremely excited for what's in store.

The Committee have been meeting over the past few months to start preparations and we are planning on the biggest parade to date. We are very excited about 2020's parade and we hope you are too.

We can reveal that the Theme for 2020 is... "Climate & Me".

The world as we know it is changing drastically due to climate change and that includes our community. We are fortunate to have climate action groups in the town and academics that are experts on the subject.

For floats please consider recycling material, using chants calling for climate action and pull inspiration from the Global Climate Strikes around the world and in Maynooth on Fridays.

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

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

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



~ Have Fun While Advertising Your Organisation ~ Maynooth St Patrick's Day Parade



Application Form 2020

This Year's Theme: "Climate & Me"



Closing Date for Entries: 5pm Monday 9th March 2020

Name of Business/Group:

Address:

Contact e-mail:

Contact Person:

Telephone:

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

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

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

Commercial Float ~ €60 Club/Organisation ~ €30

First Time Entry ~ €10 Bands ~ Free

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

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

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

Applications with entry fee to be sent to:

Maynooth St Patrick's Day Parade Committee
c/o Unit 5, Carton Retail Park,
Maynooth, Co. Kildare.

Organised by:

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

Maynooth 10k 10th Anniversary Launch

2020 marks the 10th Anniversary of the Maynooth 10k. To celebrate, the committee would like to invite all who have supported us over the years, in any capacity, to a Launch Event in Maynooth Education Campus on Tuesday 11th February at 7.30pm (RSVP maynooth10k@gmail.com). The evening will feature an exhibition of photos and memorabilia spanning 10 years of the race and the town.



This year's Maynooth 10k/5k will take place on **Sunday 26th of April at 10.30am**. Everyone taking part will receive a special 10th Anniversary medal and a Snood. We'd like to thank Pearl Dental for sponsoring the medals again this year and Specsavers who are sponsoring the Snood.

On-line entries to the race are already open at:
<https://www.popupraces.ie/race/maynooth-5k-10k-2020/>

The Maynooth 10k/5k is organized by Maynooth Education Campus Parent Teacher Association (MEC PTA) and is a fund-raiser for a new Multi-Use Games Area to be located on the new school Campus and for the upkeep of the existing playing fields shared with Maynooth GAA at Mariaville on the Moyglare Road.

We are very grateful to St Patrick's College and Carton House Hotel for allowing the use of their very beautiful grounds. We'd like to thank all the businesses who have sponsored and supported us and all the participants and volunteers who make the day special. Looking forward to welcoming you all to the Launch on Tuesday 11th February at 7.30pm!

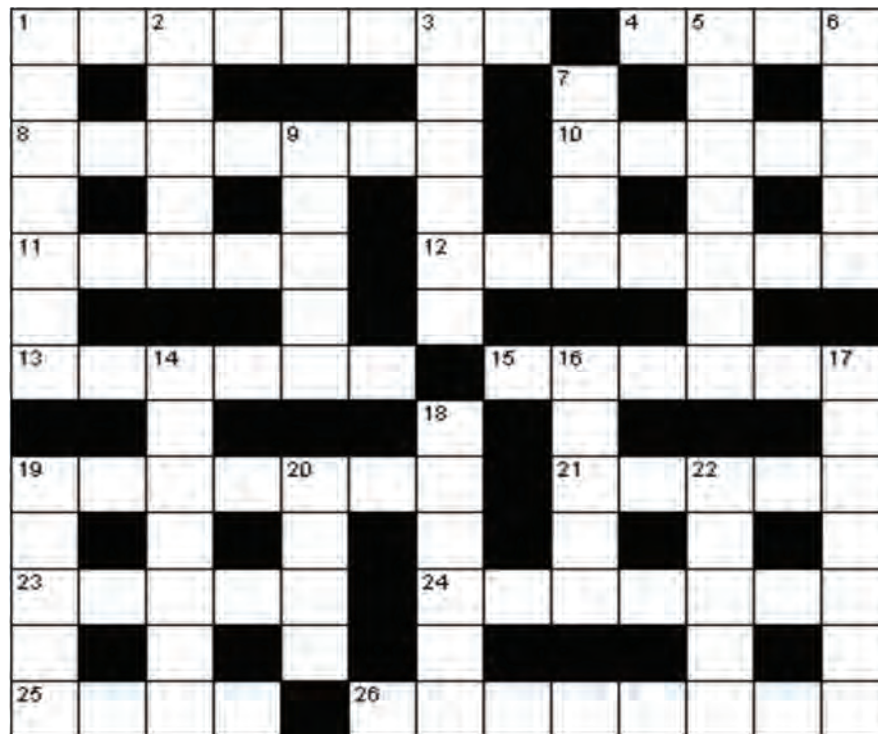


Clues Across

1. Anteater (8)
4. Parts of a play (4)
8. Unfathomable (7)
10. Declare invalid (5)
11. Permit (5)
12. Mariner (7)
13. Denunciation (6)
15. Polar region (6)
19. Amalgamated (7)
21. Publish (5)
23. Din (5)
24. Aromatic herb (7)
25. Hazard (4)
26. Edible snail (8)



February 2020 Crossword - No. 487



Clues Down

1. Intransigent (7)
2. Majestic (5)
3. Gusto (6)
5. Devise or invent (7)
6. Storage towers (5)
7. Cab (4)
9. Darned (5)
14. Dried grapes (7)
16. Salary increase (5)
17. Cigar (7)
18. Detestable (6)
19. Relating to an arm bone (5)
20. Notion (4)
22. Vernacular (5)



Solutions to Crossword No. 486

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

Special Prize Book Voucher

Give yourself the luxury of browsing and choosing the book/books which take your fancy from the wide selection available in the store of our sponsor:

**The Maynooth
Bookshop
68 Main Street,
Maynooth**

Entries in before: Tuesday 18th February 2020

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Winner of Crossword No. 486

**Bernadette Duffy
Kingsbry
Maynooth**

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

Collect prize from
**The Maynooth Bookshop
68 Main Street, Maynooth**

Difficult

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

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

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

Sudoku Challenge 2020

Entries must arrive to
**Newsletter Office before:
Tuesday 18th February 2020**

**Congratulations to
Last Month's Winner:**

**Dylan Kiely
Parsons Hall
Maynooth**

Collect prize from
Newsletter Office

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

Super Difficult

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____



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



Name: _____

Age: _____

Address: _____

Phone No: _____

Last Month's Winner:

Simran Phillips
Castle Park Square
Maynooth

Prize of a Free Family Meal for
Colouring Competition can be
collected at:

Maynooth Newsletter Office
Unit 5, Tesco Shopping Centre.

Entries must arrive before
Tuesday 18th February 2020

Junior Puzzle Corner

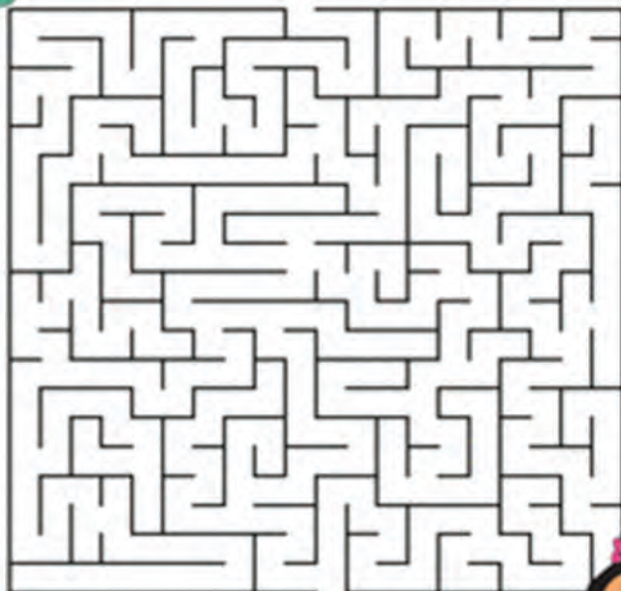


Valentine Maze

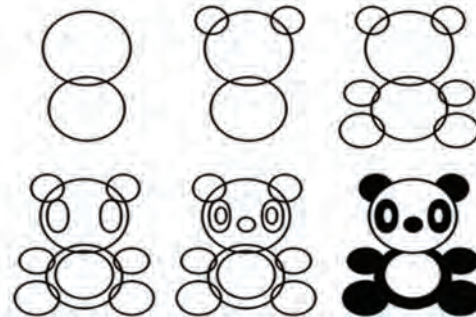


Can you help Sean find his way through the
maze so that he can give Sophia her Valentine

Start →



HOW TO DRAW A PANDA STEP BY STEP



Valentine's Day Word Search



love
cupid
valentine
heart

candy
cards
flowers
kindness

caring
February
red
kiss

hugs
pink
gifts
roses



Cllr. Angela Feeney Maynooth Labour News

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



Motion on Childcare Shortage in Maynooth

Given the growing crisis in childcare provision for parents in Maynooth, Cllr Feeney submitted the following Motion at the December 6th 2019 Municipal District Council Meeting: That the Council carries out a review of childcare provision in Maynooth to assess if it meets the current and projected demographic growth of the town. A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department of the Council informing the members that the Community Department did not have the in-house information or expertise to carry out a review of childcare provision in Maynooth or to assess future needs. The Council could however contact the County Childcare Committee of the Clane-Maynooth Municipal District if the members so wished and put this question to them.

Cllr Feeney informed the meeting that reports produced by the Childcare Committee and Pobal data showed there were 10 childcare providers in Maynooth and that all were full to capacity until 2024. Crèches were not being built in some developments even though it is a condition of the planning permission. Cllr Feeney asked that the Council enforce action where developers were in breach of the planning conditions and that solid policies on crèches needed to be incorporated in the Local Area Plan (LAP) and the County Development Plan (CDP). The matter was referred to the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) and the Planning Section to review the matter when reviewing the CDP. Cllr Feeney is a founding member of Maynooth Community Crèche Action Group which aims to address this very important issue for families in Maynooth.

Trimming Back of Trees

Cllr Feeney submitted the following motion at the December 6th 2019 Municipal District Council Meeting: That the Council undertakes to trim back trees obstructing public lighting in the estates in Maynooth as a matter of public safety. The Council responded stating that the annual Programme of the Tree Works Programme involves the pruning and removal of trees where they are causing issues with public lights and that the programme for 2020 has been tendered. The Council added that while it is unlikely to have flexibility to add to this, if there are particular locations of concern, the Council may consider these for the next programme. Councillor Feeney will bring particular estates and areas of concern to the attention of the local area engineer and Parks Department as this is a matter of public safety.

Community Space

Cllr Feeney asked the Council to confirm if Maynooth Community Space had been taken over by Kildare County

Council and if so, what planning or consultation for the particular takeover took place with the current management of that facility? Cllr Feeney added that this space is used by many voluntary groups such as Mothers and Toddlers, Third Age Walking Group and all were concerned at the abrupt nature of the closure as well as the requirement for insurance cover. The Council responded confirming that the Community Space in Maynooth had been taken over by Kildare County Council and that the previous management had been informed in person approximately a month in advance and that this was followed up with emails to confirm the Council would take over management, including dates and times.

Greenfield Road Repairs

Cllr Feeney asked the Council to provide an update on the road resurfacing for the main access road in Old Greenfield Maynooth? The Council stated that this section of roadway is currently not on any programme. The main access road would involve an inlay of approximately 500 metre length and the replacement of a number of ramps at an estimated cost of €75,000. Cllr Feeney reminded the Council that at the MD on the 8th November 2017 on this very matter regarding the road ramps in Old Greenfield which are in very poor condition at present, a motion was proposed by her predecessor Councillor McGinley and the report from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department at that stage informed the members that Irish Water had plans to lay a new water main the length of Old Greenfield and that the ramps would not be repaired until this work is completed. The then District Engineer informed the members this would be carried out in 2018. Move forward to 2019, in Cllr Feeney's recent communication on this to progress the matter to Irish Water, she was advised that there are no immediate plans to replace pipes in Old Greenfield but that they would liaise with the Council to see if works can be carried out during the road replacement. Cllr Feeney stated that the matter is being sent from Billy to Jack with nothing happening so she is raising this as it looks as if the Council and Irish Water have put off the badly needed new Water Mains. Cllr Feeney intends to pursue this matter as an issue of public safety.

Community Centre and Hub for Maynooth

Cllr Feeney submitted the following motion at the January 10th Maynooth Municipal District Council Meeting: That the Council use the Fire Station vacated site for a Community Centre for Maynooth incorporating a Community Crèche. The Council stated that the fire station site is part of the larger Area Office site. Both sites are currently still in use and there is currently no timeline for the vacation of the overall site. When there is a definite

timeline for the vacation of the site a decision will be made about the future use of the overall site. Cllr Feeney emphasised that Maynooth is long overdue a Community Centre and it was promised in the last Local Area Plan but has not been delivered. Cllr Feeney added that this site would be perfect given the accessibility and proximity to the playground. It was agreed by all members that this is an important issue for Maynooth and will be added to the Public Realm discussion to be had in the near future.

Upcoming Motion at Plenary Council on January 27th 2020

Cllr Feeney has submitted the following motion: That Council carries out a review of its policies and procedures to ensure there is regard to gender representation. Update to follow in next edition.

Talk on Gender and Politics Maynooth University

Cllr Feeney was invited by Maynooth University Politics and Sociology Society to participate on a panel on Gender and Politics on December 12th. Other speakers included MEP Maria Walshe and MU Student Union President Katie Deegan.

Meetings and events attended since last Newsletter:

December 2nd: Community Crèche Action Group, Maynooth University, 8pm
 Dec 3rd Kildare County Council Shop Front Awards, KCC, 6.30pm
 Dec 6th Maynooth Municipal District Council Meeting, KCC, 10am
 Dec 9th Maynooth Community Council, Community Space, 8pm
 Dec 10th KWETB Audit and Risk Committee KCC, 2pm
 Dec 10th Board of Management, MPPS, 5pm
 Dec 12th Talk on Gender in Politics at Maynooth University, 6pm
 Dec 16th Council Plenary KCC, 2pm
 Dec 28th Celebrity Bainisteoir Maynooth GAA
 Jan 10th Maynooth Municipal District Council Meeting, KCC, 10am
 Jan 13th Maynooth Community Council, Community Space, 8pm
 Jan 14th KWETB Board Meeting, Athy Community College, 9am
 Jan 20th Community Crèche Action Group at Maynooth University, 8pm

I also meet individuals regularly to assist in any way I can with their personal issues so feel free to get in touch. Thank you!

Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

Planning Applications received from 03/12/2019 To 17/01/2020 Information from Kildare County Council Website

App Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	App Date
2032	Kildare County Council	Colin Moane and Irene Kearney	15 The Avenue, Newtown Hall, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	17/01/2020
2031	Kildare County Council	Karol Quinn	2 Beaufield Drive, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, W23 R2T8	17/01/2020
2017	Kildare County Council	Richard Bielenberg	No. 11 Leinster Wood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	13/01/2020
206	Kildare County Council	Tesco Ireland Limited,	Carton Park Retail Campus, Dublin Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	08/01/2020
191422	Kildare County Council	Michael and Karen Enright,	19 Griffin Rath Manor, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	20/12/2019
191417	Kildare County Council	Authorized Property Company Ltd.	Glenroyal Hotel, Straffan Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	19/12/2019
191411	Kildare County Council	Eoghan Kennedy & Natalie Kennedy	Ard Rossa, Ballygoran, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 P5K3	19/12/2019
191379	Kildare County Council	David Collins,	Hawthorn House B & B, Old Greenfield, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	13/12/2019
191380	Kildare County Council	David Carty and Lorraine Nolan,	4 Moyglare Abbey, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	13/12/2019
191383	Kildare County Council	Dave and Anne Mahoney	Elm Lodge, Moyglare Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	13/12/2019
19306068	Kildare County Council	Ladas Property Company Unlimited Company	Lands adjoining and to rear of St. Mary's Church, Mill Street, Maynooth	03/12/2019
191334	Kildare County Council	Dave & Anne Mahoney	Elm Lodge, Moyglare Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	03/12/2019



Just because it's colder, doesn't mean you have to give up on your **herb garden**. Growing fresh food should be a thing you can do 365 days a year. So, here are some herbs that do a little better in chilly weather—the perfect winter herbs to grow and eat



Rosemary is a perennial herb, which means that it can be grown year-round, and sturdy enough to defend itself against icy temperatures. This herb will bloom throughout the year, and is one of the more affordable ones to grow and replace in the event that your plant kicks the bucket. Rosemary pairs well with heartier meats like lamb and beef, and stands up to pungent flavours like garlic. On top of packing a punch in flavour, rosemary—particularly its oils—has been used to treat things like poor memory, migraines, digestive issues, and other such ailments.

Parsley don't underestimate the ubiquitous **parsley** plant; it's more resilient than you might think. In harsher (cold) climates, parsley will hide underground to keep itself safe, but don't worry—it's still growing, however slowly. In milder winters, it will continue to bloom to provide a nice fresh kick to any dish. A good tip is to grow lots and lots of parsley to counteract its slow growth over the winter. Because parsley self-seeds, it means that more plants will grow even if you stop planting new ones.



Thyme, like sage, **thyme** is also a great accompaniment to sage, as well as pork. These sturdy little shrubs will add brightness to your dishes few other herbs do thanks to its lemony tones. They will survive over the winter with little to no up-keep, though there will be very little growth as well.

Having said that, you should be careful not to cut all of your thyme shrub's old growth, as that will prevent it from growing new leaves, taking away all of the plant's reserves.

Thyme has also proven to serve medicinal purposes over history. Some studies suggest that the thyme oil can decrease inflammation and airway constriction caused by pulmonary diseases.

Mint is a strong herb just like thyme. If you've ever grown mint, then you know that it's imperative for it to be grown in a separate pot as it will take over the entire planter; those who plant their own herbs are never short of mint! Think of mint like a weed. They grow wild, and they are hard to get rid of. Mint's like that, except you want it to grow wild. Needless to say, this tough, resilient herb will continue to grow throughout the winter. It's a great herb to have around, as it is chockfull of vitamin C and iron. Mint has also proven to reduce digestive problems like irritable bowel syndrome due to its antibacterial, anti-inflammatory, and anti-fungal properties.



Winter savoury, this one is pretty self-explanatory. Winter savoury has a similar flavour to thyme, but leaves more of a tang. It's great in many comfort meals great for the winter, like beef stew.

Basil, like parsley, **basil** is one of the most popular herbs in the world. While every country seems to have their own variety (e.g. Thai basil), is common in world cuisines—from Italy (it's the primary ingredient in pesto sauce) to Thailand—and it can add a kick to many salads.

Rich in vitamin K, A, potassium, and calcium, it's no wonder it's so popular. It helps to reduce inflammation, and studies have shown that it may help with symptoms of arthritis. Basil also contains a lot of anti-oxidants and antibacterial properties, which can help with cardiovascular health and inhibition of the growth of bad bacteria.

Start basil, oregano, parsley and dill indoors in February. Other herbs that do well when started indoors include mints, thyme and sage. The seedlings transplant well into containers that sit on the porch or patio. Health and inhibition of the growth of bad bacteria, respectively. **(Please get more information if using Herbs for medicinal purposes, herbal remedies may not be suitable for everyone)**



February Growing Guides

Still winter, isn't it? But spring is just around the corner, so there's lots to do in the polytunnel. If you're planning your first polytunnel this year, a sunny day in February is a great time to put the cover on in time to get early spring plantings up and running far earlier than you could outside.

Plastic is more flexible when warm, but as long as the sun is out – even if it's a cold day – as soon as you pull the cover up over the hoops you'll be amazed how quickly it warms up inside. After just a few minutes, the cover will be flexible enough to tighten down, and you won't need to re-tighten it later in the year. As well as continuing to sow broad beans, garlic/ elephant garlic, peas (round-seed varieties) and turnips you can also start sowing aubergines, peppers, strawberries, sweet potato and tomatoes. And yes, I know, you're thinking 'Aubergines, peppers and tomatoes in February?' In a regular vegetable garden this would be a complete waste of time. But not in a polytunnel.

Sowing:

Get some 'first early' seed potatoes and start 'chitting' them - set them out in egg boxes near a bright window so they begin to sprout. When the sprouts are about an inch long, plant the spuds in the tunnel. You'll be rewarded with the earliest of earlies sometime in the second half of April.

Five beautiful bulbs to plant in February, for masses of summer flowers.

Lilies. Eucomis. Liatris. Agapanthus Galtonia.



Garlic Steak and potato foil packs

Servings: 4

Prep. Time: 10 minutes

Cook time: 20 minutes



Ingredients:

- ♦ 2– 2 1/2 pounds top sirloin steak, trimmed of fat and cut into 2 1/2 inch pieces.
- ♦ 1 pound baby yellow potatoes quartered (or halved if they are already less than 1 inch in size)
- ♦ 3 tablespoons of olive oil
- ♦ Salt and pepper, to taste (I use about 1 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon black pepper)
- ♦ 1 tablespoon minced garlic
- ♦ 1 teaspoon onion powder
- ♦ 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- ♦ 1 teaspoon dried parsley
- ♦ 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- ♦ Fresh thyme or parsley for topping (optional)



Method:

- I. In a large bowl combine steak, potatoes, olive oil, salt and pepper, garlic and seasoning and toss to combine.
- II. Divide steak and potatoes between four 12x12 inch sheets of foil, then wrap the foil tightly around the contents to form your foil packs. Grill over high heat for about 10 minutes on each side or until steak and potatoes are cooked through Or bake at 220° C for about 20-25 minutes until cooked through to desired doneness.
- III. Garnish with fresh thyme or parsley and serve immediately.

Tips:

- ⇒ Be sure to cut your steak into pieces that are at least 2x2 inches and potatoes into pieces smaller than 1 inch. This ensures even cooking.
- ⇒ For medium doneness on the steak, boil the potatoes first for five minutes before adding to the bowl and proceeding with the rest of the recipe. This will help them to cook faster once in the foil pack.
- ⇒ If you prefer a char on your steak, you can open up the packets at the end and cook for a couple of minutes directly on the grill, or for baking you can switch oven to broil for a few minutes (with packets open).
- ⇒ You can use chicken or pork for this recipe.

Pasta with mushrooms and spinach

Ingredients:

- ♦ 1/2 Tbsp. unsalted butter
- ♦ 2 cups (about 1/2 pound) thinly sliced button mushrooms
- ♦ Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper
- ♦ 2 garlic cloves, minced
- ♦ 1/3 cup chicken or vegetable broth
- ♦ 2 Tbsp. cream cheese
- ♦ 3 Tbsp. grated parmesan cheese
- ♦ 2 cups fresh baby spinach
- ♦ 4 oz dry pasta, cooked according to the package directions and drained.



Preparation:

- I. Melt the butter in a large skillet over medium heat, then add the mushrooms and season with salt and pepper. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the mushrooms are browned and soft and any moisture they've let off has evaporated, about 5 minutes. Add the garlic and cook, stirring often, just until the garlic is fragrant, about a minute.
- II. Turn the heat down to medium-low and add the broth, cream cheese and Parmesan. Cook, stirring, until the cheeses have melted and a uniform sauce has formed and thickened slightly, 2-3 minutes. Add the spinach and toss everything to wilt the spinach, then add the cooked pasta and toss to combine. Serve immediately, topped with extra Parmesan.

Nutella stuffed strawberries

Ingredients:

- ♦ 12 large fresh strawberries
- ♦ 1/4 cup Nutella
- ♦ 1 cup milk chocolate chips, melted
- ♦ 1/4 chopped hazelnuts
- ♦ Powdered sugar



Directions:

- I. Remove stems from strawberries Using a knife, cut out centres.
- II. Pipe Nutella into strawberries.
- III. Insert a toothpick into the side of each strawberry. Holding toothpick, quickly dip stem end of strawberry into melted chocolate; allow excess to drip off. Sprinkle with hazelnuts; place strawberries on a waxed paper-lined baking sheet, point side up. Remove toothpicks; refrigerate strawberries until set. Just before serving, dust with powdered sugar.

FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

OSCARS 2020 SPECIAL



The 92nd Academy Awards takes place on February 9 in Los Angeles, and it's undoubtedly the hottest ticket in the Hollywood calendar. The Oscars is the biggest party of the year, where glamorous stars shine just that little bit extra, as they show off their fashion house wares on the red carpet. Audiences worldwide can look forward to a spectacular evening of gowns, awards, tears and lengthy speeches.



BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS



With *Golden Globe*, *Critics Choice* and *SAG* awards under her belt, Laura Dern (*Blue Velvet*, *Wild at Heart*) seems to be the odds-on favourite to take home the Oscar for *Best Supporting Actress* of the year. 2019 was good to Dern with impressive turns in films such as *Little Women* and *Big Little Lies*. However, it is her role as the divorce lawyer in Noah Baumbach's emotional *Marriage Story* that has nudged her ahead of the competition in the Oscar race. Dern's closing speech in this movie is of the memorable kind, and Oscar voters just love these grandstanding moments in movies. A possible upset could come in the form of Scarlett Johansson (double nominated this year) for her strong work as the anti-fascist mother in *Jojo Rabbit*.

Who Will Win: Laura Dern
Who Should Win: Laura Dern
Possible Upset: Scarlett Johansson

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR



As with the award for *Best Actor*, the *Best Supporting Actor* award has traditionally gone to seasoned actors in past ceremonies. There are a lot of heavy hitters in the nominated category this year. The man in front, Quentin Tarantino regular, is Brad Pitt who has never won an accolade in this particular category. It could well be Pitt's year for his charismatic performance as the stuntman in Tarantino's tribute to the golden age of cinema, *Once upon a Time...In Hollywood*. However, hot on Pitt's heels come acting legends and former Oscar winners Joe Pesci (emerging from a long hiatus) and Al Pacino. Both veteran actors prove they can still deliver the goods with stand-out performances in Scorsese's Mafia character-driven study, *The Irishman*. It's all to play for...

Who Will Win: Brad Pitt
Who Should Win: Al Pacino
Possible Upset: Joe Pesci

BEST LEADING ACTRESS



The *Best Actress* category is especially strong this year. The hot favourite to take home gold is Renée Zellweger for her amazing and moving performance in *Judy*. The talented actress has already swept the boards at other awards shows including *The Golden Globes* and *SAG*. Renée has experienced her own troubled path in the entertainment industry of late, so it is especially fitting that she has taken on the mantle of the tragic and legendary songstress, Judy Garland. And doesn't Hollywood just loves a comeback kid!

Zellweger surely deserves to be crowned for her electric and transformative performance as Judy Garland. Though the ubiquitous Scarlett Johansson is also a strong contender for *Marriage Story*. Like Renée, she has never won an Oscar despite several impressive screen performances to date. Of Irish interest is the consistently brilliant Saoirse Ronan who has yet again been nominated for her superb role in *Little Women*. Ronan has an impressive array of nominations and screen roles under her belt for one so young. Could this be her year at last?

Who Will Win: Renée Zellweger
Who Should Win: Renée Zellweger
Possible Upset: Scarlett Johansson

BEST LEADING ACTOR



The winner of the Best Actor Oscar is such a foregone conclusion this year, that the other competitors needn't bother turning up. It's not just because Joaquin Phoenix has been cleaning up at all the pre-Oscar award shows (which he has for the record); it's quite simply because his stunning performance in *Joker* was hands down the best of 2019 or any year. Indeed, halfway through a viewing of *Joker* last year, I was already visualising him collecting the Best Actor gong at this year's ceremony. Nobody in this category can touch Phoenix for his tortured take on the *Joker* character.

The hugely talented actor has been gaining in stature since his *Gladiator* days. Phoenix is easily the greatest actor of his generation, and certainly the De Niro of this era. If you're a betting person, you can put your house on Phoenix coming home with gold. The rest of the competition (DiCaprio, Pryce, Driver and Banderas) might just have to 'smile and put on a happy face' as Joaquin Phoenix ascends the podium to collect his well-deserved *Joker* crown.

Who Will Win: Joaquin Phoenix
Who Should Win: Joaquin Phoenix
Possible Upset: Won't happen

BEST DIRECTOR



This is an interesting category and it's a wide open field for the nominees involved. Remarkably, the maverick Quentin Tarantino has yet to win the Oscar for *Best Director*. *Once upon a Time...In Hollywood*, his love letter to the golden era of cinema could work the Oscar magic and make him the man to beat. If not, he may have to settle for yet another *Original Screenplay* award.

Celebrated director, Martin Scorsese has been hitting the campaign trail hard this season. *The Irishman* is an excellent movie about old white men, and as the Academy is full of them, this might just bode well in Scorsese's favour come Oscars night. Though British director, Sam Mendes is also looking like a strong contender for his experimental and remarkable WWI movie, *1917*. Add in Todd Phillips to the mix for his terrific work on *Joker*, and we have an exciting contest on our hands.

Who Will Win: Quentin Tarantino
Who Should Win: Todd Phillips
Possible Upset: Sam Mendes

BEST PICTURE



This is the most coveted prize of the night. It can bring in millions of bucks and prestige for the winner. Although it's a category that has increasingly become a hard one to predict. A directing nod for a movie does not automatically guarantee *Best Picture* success, although it was a good predictor in the past. *Joker* has the most nominations with 11 nods, but can it take home the top prize? Most likely the controversial nature of the movie, specifically its treatment of mental illness, will negate against it winning gold. That's a shame as *Joker* deserves the award. Scorsese could triumph with *The Irishman* considering its powerhouse cast of legends. But Mendes' *1917* has been gaining momentum and Oscar voters love big, epic, prestigious movies. Though the entertaining motor racing film, *Ford v Ferrari* could just pip all the others at the post. It's not over till the fat lady sings...

Who Will Win: 1917
Who Should Win: Joker
Possible Upset: The Irishman








Frank O'Rourke TD

KILDARE NORTH

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

 **01 618 3109**

Main Street, Celbridge, Co Kildare.

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

 **frank.orourke@oireachtas.ie**

 **www.frankorourke.ie**

 **/Frank O'Rourke**



**Dáil
Éireann**

Advice Clinic held in Maynooth every Monday at 3pm, in Glenroyal Hotel

Maynooth Educate Together NS move to new school building



On December 19th the keys of the new school building were finally handed over to the school management after a longer than expected phase one building period. With works outside of the main contract such as the installation of IT and other services still needing to be completed the school was only ready to be occupied by staff and pupils on January 9th. School Principal, Marie Hand said that the entire school community are excited about the move to the



Representatives of the all the parties involved at the hand-over of the keys

permanent building and that having the delay was better than discovering any problems at a later date. The next stage is that the temporary building will be removed by the end of January and work starts on phase two where an additional eight classrooms will be built.

Paul Croghan, Chairperson of the Board of Management acknowledges that for the rest of this school year that the overall site of just under 3 acres will be congested as we continue to reduce the area to provide for the building work to continue. We are asking all our families to be patient with the disruption for the next nine months. At the end we will have a much superior school building with additional facilities not possible when we were in a temporary building. There is good ongoing communication between everyone involved and the target is that we will have the entire site back by September 2020. We are also grateful to our neighbours for their patience and understanding during the construction work.

Paul Rowe, CEO Educate Together stated that this is the 90th school at where he has received the keys of a school building from the Department of Education and Skills and that he was

delighted with the development of the school in Maynooth in just ten years. He was present at the opening of the original temporary building in 2008 where there was just less than twenty pupils to today when there are close to three hundred students with state of the art facilities for all classes. Paul Croghan confirmed that a formal school opening will take place later but for now the school community will settle into their new surroundings.



Paul Rowe, CEO Educate Together presenting the keys to Marie Hand and Paul Croghan



Maynooth newsletter



Serving the people of Maynooth



Local News March 2020 Issue No. 488 FREE

This publication is produced by Maynooth Community Employment Project, supported by the Department of Employment Affairs & Social Protection, which is funded by the Irish Government. The views & opinions expressed in this Publication are those of the contributors.



Maynooth Community First Responders Demonstration Day

Shoppers in Manor Mills Shopping Centre had a chance to learn life-saving skills on Saturday 15th February, as Maynooth Community First Responders spent the day offering CPR demonstrations to passers by. Anyone interested could learn basic CPR skills and how to use an AED (automated external defibrillator).

“Our aim was to increase familiarity with CPR and how to use an AED,” said Fionnuala Murphy, PRO of the group. “We have had great support from the community since we formed in May 2018 and these kinds of demonstrations are a chance for us to give something back. Our members were on hand throughout the day and people had a chance to try CPR on a manikin and to use a training defibrillator, which works exactly like a real one. While people may be aware of the theory of CPR, many who we spoke to had never tried it before and you can’t beat that hands-on experience.”

The group also had leaflets on CPR and stickers for people to write their Eircode and keep somewhere safe at home. “Eircodes really are vital to the National Ambulance Service and to first responder groups,” continued Fionnuala.



The group, which responds to chest pain, cardiac arrest, choking and stroke, has received 60 calls since it went live with the National Ambulance Service in May 2019. Once a call is made to 999 that meets these criteria, Maynooth CFR will be automatically dispatched, along with an ambulance.



Free Certified CPR Training

When: Saturday 21st March

Time: The course will begin at 11am sharp. Registration at 10.30am.

Where: Maynooth Post Primary

Details: Maynooth Community First Responders will offer FREE certified CPR training to the public. You will be certified in adult and infant CPR and AED (automated external defibrillator) and choking. Certification lasts for two years.

Registration: Although the event is free, registration will be required. The course will last for approximately 3.5 hours. You will find the event on Eventbrite at:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/certified-cpr-course-tickets-95480752501>

If you would like more information please email maynoothcfr@gmail.com.



MAYNOOTH ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE
17th MARCH 2020 STARTING @ 11AM
FÉILE LÁ FHÉILE PHÁDRAIG MHAIGH NUAD 17Ú MÁRTA 2020
SEE ENTRY FORM ON PAGE 26



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Deposits Welcome



ST. MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND

January and February are what we call the windup months when we spend our Monday nights planning and preparing for the many events we have lined up for the coming year. 2020 promises to be a remarkably busy year for the Band with four St. Patrick's Day parades, Dunboyne, Maynooth, Kilcock and Clane, to prepare for and at the time of writing we are all hoping for a rain free day.

If we all survive those parades we will be presenting another Pre-Easter Concert in St. Mary's Church on Sunday 5th April at 7.30pm, which was really appreciated last year, where we will again be joined by the Parish Choir and Rev. Eugene and Joanna Griffin. We should mention that the Choir, Eugene and Joanna joined with us when we recorded our second CD recently which will be on sale at the Concert.

For those unable to make the Church Concert we will be returning to Castletown House in Celbridge on Sunday 31st May where we gave a very successful recital last year with so many of the visitors to the monthly market there really getting involved with our rendition of Sweet Caroline.

As you probably know by now we have been invited back to the International Music Festival in Bad Orb Germany next September and as part of our fundraising two members of our band, Oliver Beirne and Michael Brophy, have offered to donate the proceeds of their Percy French Show in the Riverbank Theatre in Newbridge on Saturday 20th June but more about this next month.

The Band rehearses in the Bandhall on Pound Lane every Monday night (excluding Bank Holidays) from 7.45 to 9.45 and we would be delighted to welcome musicians playing all instruments, including percussion, from all areas to join us.

***We are a very welcoming Band and you can
call 087 2537 906 if you need any further information.***

Prelude to Easter Concert

**St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band
and
Maynooth Parish Choir**

**With Special Guests
Rev. Eugene Griffin
Joanna Griffin**

**in
St. Mary's Parish Church Maynooth
on
Sunday 5th April at 7.30 pm**

Admission €10

**Tickets available from Parish Centre, Maynooth
Bookshop and 087 2537 906**

Tickets also available at the door



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Happy St Patrick's Day
from Declan & Staff



Whether dropping by for a friendly drink, food or settling in to watch the match, we are sure you will find a warm welcome with great service and a comfortable setting to ensure your stay is a pleasant and memorable one. We look forward to seeing you soon.



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Comhaltas Craobh Mhaigh Nuad



February is a steady month for the branch where despite giving up one week due to the marvellous MEC school musical, lessons in sessions are back in full swing. We are also looking forward to a busy couple of weeks of music culture and craic, and would urge everyone to keep an eye out for us in what always is a busy March and April.

Our kids sessions are continuing apace in the first Sunday of each month in Maynooth GAA, so hope to see you there participating or just enjoying the music.

Classes are mainly run on Wednesdays apart from the Easter break, and sessions are held toward the end of each month. Preparations and practicing is also beginning for the Fleadh Chill Dara 2020 which will be held in Naas, Co Kildare from Sunday 19th April to Sunday 26th of April.

Kilteel/Eadestown CCÉ will be the hosting branch. Entry forms must be submitted by March 13th so for those thinking of entering, ye'd better starting drilling!

Beginning of April sees Ceardlann Earraigh take place in Celbridge which has grown to become an established event in the annual calendar of Irish Traditional Music events. Ceardlann Earraigh will this year celebrate its 23rd Anniversary on the 4th of April 2020.

The first Ceardlann Earraigh was organised in 1998 as a result of a grant received from Kildare County Council by Bord Chill Dara CCÉ. Over the years, these workshops have drawn students from all over Ireland and also from far flung places such as Wales, Scotland, Sweden, Germany, the US and Japan.

These students travel to Kildare because they are consistently provided with the best of tuition from some of the foremost musicians and singers in the country, and this year will be no exception.

The Workshop Tutors for this year's Ceardlann Earraigh are for

Fiddle: Dónal O'Connor & Tara Breen; Concertina: Pádraig Rynne; Flute: Louise Mulcahy; Button Accordion: Daithí Gormley; Banjo: Theresa O'Grady; Whistle: Ciarán FitzGerald; Singing: Muireann Nic Amhlaoibh; Uilleann Pipes: Mark Redmond and Harp: Gráinne Hambly.

Please be aware that there are no classes for beginners and that as class numbers are limited, advance booking is essential to ensure a place.

Each participant should bring their own recording device.

The Grand Concert will follow in the evening at the Glenroyal Hotel in Maynooth.

Pre-booking is advised.

The concert will commence at 8pm and will feature both the Tutors from the

Workshops and visitors. The admission fee is €15. You can find details on booking etc and further information on Facebook or Twitter.

Bígí linn. Go n-éirí an cheoil linn i 2020!

**Lots more information on www.ccemhaighnuad.com
Facebook & Twitter (CCEMhaighNuad). Slán go foill**



Tara Breen on fiddle playing a piece from Turlough O'Carolan at 2019's Ceardlann Earraigh

Maynooth Newsletter

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

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.

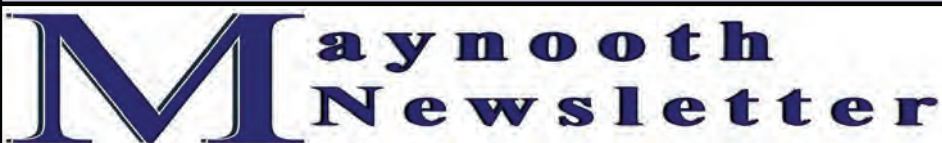
Maynooth Newsletter Archives

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



Copy date for the next edition of the Maynooth Newsletter will be Wednesday 18th March 2020

Editorial

In March, we mark both International Women's Day and Mother's Day so this month we dedicate most of our editorial space to women. There are 31 Local Enterprise Offices throughout Ireland and the Kildare office is based in Naas. The mission of the Local Enterprise Office is to promote entrepreneurship, foster business start-ups and develop existing micro and small businesses to drive job creation and to provide accessible high quality supports for business ideas. Each year they have an open week with events open to everyone aimed at highlighting the things that they do. This year the Local Enterprise Offices open week is from March 2nd-6th. One event that is focussed on women is the Female Entrepreneur Business Development Programme which will take place during the week and details of this event can be got by contacting the Kildare LEO office but bookings can be made on-line.

International Women's Day is marked on March 8th. The theme of International Women's Day 2020 is "I am generation Equality: Realising Women's Rights". There are a number of events in Maynooth on the days around March 8th. To mention two very different events taking place in Maynooth University. On March 5th Laura Madden, who is originally from Monaghan, and who was one of the first women to speak on the record to New York Times reporters Jodi Kantor and Megan Twohey about the sexual predation of Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein will be interviewed by RTE Broadcaster Audrey Carville. The bravery of the women who told their stories triggered an avalanche of public testimonies under the hashtag #MeToo, spawning a wider global movement. Laura Madden will be presented with the President's Medal by Maynooth University President, Professor Philip Nolan, as part of this event to mark International Women's Day. As part of this free evening event which does need to be booked, Audrey Carville will also host a panel discussion with Ms Madden, Professor Linda Connolly, Director of Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute (MUSSI) and a leading scholar on women's experiences with trauma in Irish history, and Dr Anne O'Brien from the Department of Media Studies at Maynooth University and author of Women, Inequality and Media Work.

On March 9th from 10am to 1pm Maynooth University Access Programme and Kildare County Council will celebrate International Women's Day with a special event to celebrate Traveller women. The event will feature music provided by Sharyn Ward, Ireland's Got Talent, keynote addresses from human rights activist Kathleen Lawrence and the Director of the National Traveller Women's Forum Maria Joyce and entrepreneur Charmaine Reilly will share advice on starting her business. There will be information stands to showcase the supports available throughout Kildare for Travellers and Maynooth University Access Ambassadors will bring guests on a guided tour of the university grounds. The event is by invitation only. Contact the Maynooth University Access Programme at access.office@mu.ie or 01 7084600 for further information.

Mother's Day in Ireland falls on Sunday March 22nd this year. The Irish Mother's Day stems from the mid-lent Sunday, when the Church gave the faithful a break from the strict adherence to lent (though in Ireland this has been transferred to St Patrick's Day). In more recent times Mother's Day has a more secular focus but it is still the day in the year where we thank our mothers for their special place in our lives. Of course every day should be Mother's Day but if you are lucky enough to have your mother (as I am) make sure to tell her you love her and thank her for never stopping being a mother.

The 35th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade will take place in Maynooth on 17th March. The St Patrick's Day Parade Committee work on a voluntary basis and always require extra stewards on the day. If you can assist please e-mail the Committee at maynoothparade@gmail.com

Paul Croghan
Editor



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**MAYNOOTH
PLANNING
ALLIANCE**

Poor planning has been a feature of Maynooth for decades and the Maynooth Planning Alliance was established in 1996 to campaign for better planning for the town. The group was re-established in 2018 to lead the community response in the campaign to address the serious issue of the lack of Infrastructural investment in Maynooth.

In a recent report by Architect and UCD academic Orla Hegarty she said that people who object to the building of large housing estates in small, underdeveloped towns should not be dismissed as Nimbys (not in my back yard) objectors. Huge numbers of new houses are being built in areas with no infrastructure such as schools, water, transport and drainage.

She wrote that People in these towns who raise legitimate concerns about this are not Nimbys. These are real issues for existing communities, impacting on quality of life, access to services, congestion etc. This is why 'planning' is so important. Her report identified that 30pc of the new estate housing built last year are located in just seven Dublin commuter towns.

These include an additional 829 units in Naas, Co Kildare; 429 units in Dunshaughlin, Co Meath; 659 units in Celbridge, Co Kildare; some 494 units in Navan, Co Meath; an extra 539 in Drogheda, Co Louth; a total of 451 in Wicklow town and 465 in Greystones, both in Co Wicklow. In summary 3,866 new homes bringing over 10,000 people, are going into areas without adequate infrastructure, schools, water, drainage, transport.

We are just over a year away from the next census and it will show that the population of Maynooth has significantly increased from the 2016 census figure. In the 2016 Census Maynooth was the 31st largest settlement in Ireland and the population had grown by 16.6% since the 2011 census. This was the second highest increase in population in that period in the Dublin area. Although Maynooth had a population of 14,585 in 2016 this does not include the additional 14,000 approx of students and staff in Maynooth University as they do not get counted in full in the Census.

The key issues that the Maynooth Planning Alliance want addressed for our town are:

- A proper community centre.
- Fast track the provision of ring roads already planned for the North, West and East of Maynooth. Traffic congestion in the centre of Maynooth is unacceptable.



- More Childcare facilities as there is a significant shortage of places
- More pre-school places

- A full-time ambulance service is no more than should be acceptable. There has been a reduced service on Thursdays since 2012 which has not yet been restored.



- A Primary Care Centre
- A 24 hr Garda Station. Maynooth Garda Station has limited hours.



In February, Maynooth Planning Alliance co-hosted an online debate with Celbridge Community Council on sustainable mobility. We have carried out a number of surveys about Maynooth which can be found on –line. Please contact us if you would like to raise an issue or join our group. Contact details below:
Website: www.maynoothplanningalliance.com
e-mail: maynoothplanningalliance@gmail.com
Or you can find us on Facebook



Gold Medal Winner 2019



NATIONAL TREE WEEK Saturday 21st March to Friday 27th March 2020

National Tree Week is organised by the Tree Council of Ireland. It is a week long programme of events to celebrate trees. This year we are urged to plant trees to reduce our Carbon Footprint.

Ireland emits around 65 million tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) into the atmosphere each year. We have the third highest per capita rate in Europe after Estonia and Luxembourg (nothing to be proud of). Excess CO₂ in the atmosphere is one of the main "greenhouse gases" contributing to climate change.

There are many things we have to do to reduce CO₂ emissions - like limiting our use of fossil fuels. However one of the simplest things we can do to help mitigate

climate change is to plant some trees.

Trees are the oldest living organisms on the planet. Not only are they aesthetically beautiful, with each species displaying an endless variety of shapes and forms, textures and colours, they also offset environmental impacts and create a healthy, clean environment for us to enjoy.

As trees grow they absorb carbon dioxide (CO₂), and release oxygen which is vital for life on earth. When we plant trees we can help to reduce the impacts of climate change in our local area and around the world.

Benefits of Trees to our Environment

Have you ever tried to imagine a landscape without trees – those beautiful majestic natural giants of the plant kingdom? Trees do so much that we take for granted. For instance:

1. Trees moderate temperatures by creating a cooling effect which can counteract the heating effect of pavements and buildings in an urban environment.
2. Trees improve air quality – they capture air pollutants and fine dust particles and help to clean our atmosphere.



3. Trees absorb and store rainwater which helps reduce storm water runoff. Their far reaching roots hold soil in place and help fight erosion.
4. Tree foliage can serve as a windbreak and help shield us from the downfall of rain, sleet and hail.
5. Trees provide food and shelter and safe habitat for hundreds of living creatures.
6. Fallen leaves create even more places for wildlife to burrow for safety and security as well as making excellent compost that enriches the soil.
7. Trees absorb sound and reduce noise pollution. This is especially important for people who live near motorways.

Benefits of Trees for Health and Wellbeing:

As well as impacting positively on our climate, the health benefits of trees should not be underestimated. More and more studies show that living close to or having access to trees and green spaces improves our mental health and wellbeing, promotes greater physical activity and reduces our stress levels. Trees improve the quality of life in our towns and cities.

Most of us react to the presence of trees with a pleasant, relaxed, comfortable feeling. When out and about take out the earphones look up and observe the structure of a tree. Tune in instead to the sound of rustling leaves, the birdsong, the beauty of bare branches, the smell and texture of the bark. Many of us plant trees as living memorials to celebrate or commemorate important events. Trees connect us to our past and give us hope for the future.

Let's Get Planting:

Planting trees for our environment, our health and for preserving biodiversity is a no-brainer. However planting trees alone is only part of the answer to slowing up climate change, but it is a good place to start in helping to climate proof our community and our planet.

We must protect the trees we already have and plant more trees in our greens, gardens and open spaces. The best trees to plant are our own native species as they best suit our environment, and sustain and benefit a huge range of our native species wildlife.

Some of our native trees include:

Rowan, Oak, Birch, Wild Cherry, Holly, Hazel, and Crab Apple.

To get the planting started, and to celebrate **National Tree Week**, Maynooth Tidy Towns will be distributing a selection of native Irish tree saplings in Courthouse Square at 10am on Saturday 21st March. So come early and don't be disappointed!

Mary Jennings



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Thank You!

Social Democrats

Catherine Murphy Constituency Office, 4 The Post House, Leixlip Shopping Mall, Leixlip

✉ catherine.murphy@oireachtas.ie Constituency Office ☎ 01615 6625

🐦 @CathMurphyTD

Maynooth University recognised as a University of Sanctuary

Maynooth University has been officially designated as a University of Sanctuary in recognition of its initiatives to promote a culture of welcome for refugees, asylum seekers and other migrants into the community.

The University marked its designation by bringing together poets, students, academics, journalists and civil society actors to discuss the meaning of Ireland as a true place of sanctuary.

The event heard readings by contributors to *Correspondences*: an anthology to call for an end to direct Provision, an original collection of writing, photography and art by those in direct provision, edited by Jessica Traynor and Stephen Rea.

A panel discussion followed, with poets Marwa Zamir, Claire Hennessey and Jessica Traynor; and current and former MU students Warsame Ali Garaare and Zoryana Psyhk.

The panel discussed their experiences of Ireland as a place of sanctuary, the system of direct provision and its compatibility with the concept of sanctuary. They also examined the role of universities in promoting the inclusion of international protection applicants and refugees.

Accepting the Sanctuary Award on behalf of Maynooth University, Professor Philip Nolan, President of Maynooth University said: "We are delighted to accept this designation, which recognises the ongoing commitment of staff and students to creating an inclusive and welcoming space at Maynooth for those who seek sanctuary in Ireland. This event gives us an opportunity to celebrate joining the University of Sanctuary Ireland family, but also to reflect on the role of universities in broader discussions around migration and equality."

Sanctuary universities have a demonstrated commitment to welcoming asylum seekers and refugees onto their campus through initiatives including bursary and scholarship schemes, and adopting strategies to integrate them into their community.

The Sanctuary Award is an initiative of **University of Sanctuary Ireland (UoSI)** to encourage and celebrate the good practice of universities, colleges and institutes welcoming refugees, asylum seekers and other migrants into their university communities and fostering a culture of inclusion for all those seeking sanctuary. The Award aims to spread this culture of welcome across the institutions of higher education all over the island.



Photo: Dr Clíodhna Murphy, lecturer in Law, Philip Berman, Chairman of Places of Sanctuary Ireland and Prof Philip Nolan, President of Maynooth University

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Join us for our next cafe on Wednesday
March 11th in "The Conservatory"
Ryevale Nursing Home,
Leixlip from 7-9pm.

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

**www.alzheimercafeleixlip.ie
Phone: 087 7418512**

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

Two almost impossible situations resolved by the
Power of this Prayer.

DEAR Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask for this special one (mention favour). Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart where your Father sees it. Then, in His merciful eyes it will become Your favour not mine. Amen
Say this prayer for three days, promise publication and prayer & favour will be granted no matter how impossible.
Thanksgiving for favour received
Never known to fail

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Maynooth
Newsletter as a
Free Community
Newspaper***

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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Never known to fail - D.J.

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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Say this prayer for three days, promise publication and prayer & favour will be granted no matter how impossible.
Thanksgiving for favour received
Never known to fail - C.M.M.

**Devotion to the Devine Mercy
Jesus I trust in You, will You help me?**

DAFFODIL DAY FRIDAY 27TH MARCH 2020

***Join thousands of people
across Ireland in the fight
against cancer this March by
supporting Daffodil Day***



MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT PROJECT SECRETARIAL SERVICES

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Mon-Fri
9.00 am - 4.30 pm**



**This lovely
chocolate
Labrador named
Romeo is almost
4 years old.
Romeo is looking
for a new home
as his present
owner is unable
to keep him
exercised due to a
change in
circumstances.
Contact:
045-869183**





Gold Medal Winner 2019

Maynooth Tidy Towns will commence work in March on our 2020 campaign to keep the Gold Medal.

Our AGM was held on 13th February and was well attended. A minute silence was held for 2 of our deceased members, Ronan Hever and Tina Drury. Also the Hever family thanked the members of Maynooth Tidy Towns who provided a guard of honour at the funeral and for the lovely flowers. The officers will be decided at the next meeting.

We are collecting clean and washed plastic milk tops and also from soft drink bottles for a project with Maynooth Post Primary Transition year and Maynooth Tidy Towns. Please bring same to Maynooth Tidy Towns on a Saturday morning during March and April.

WEEE Ireland will be in Maynooth on Saturday 21st March from 10am to 4pm in the Tesco Carpark for recycling of any item with a plug or battery.

Looking forward to seeing you all on St. Patrick's Day in the parade.

National Spring clean will take place in April.

Maynooth Tidy Towns annual collection will take place on 15th to 17th May in the local supermarkets and at the churches.

Volunteers will start back in March with their clean up on Saturday mornings starting time @ 10am meet at Courthouse Square. Also Sunday morning clean ups will commence @ 7.45am, meet at the Courthouse Square.

Rosaleen Higgins RIP, was a member of Maynooth Tidy Towns and also looked after the grotto in the church grounds.

Anyone who wishes to help Maynooth Tidy Towns can contact us on 087 3153189 or see us on Facebook or Twitter.

Richard Farrell
PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns



Moira Baxter and Rosaleen Higgins at Supervalu during annual collection



Postgraduate Open Day

Register now at:
www.maynoothuniversity.ie/postgradopenday



Tuesday
10 March
4-8pm

Masters & PhD
scholarships
Postgraduate exhibition
Information sessions
How to apply
SUSI & fees information

DAFFODIL DAY FRIDAY 27TH MARCH 2020

Daffodil Day originated in Canada six decades ago. The Canadian Cancer Society began using the daffodil in the 1950s. Representing the first flower of spring, it has proven an iconic symbol of hope and cancer research & awareness since and has become the logo of cancer societies around the world.

Daffodil Day is the Irish Cancer Society's biggest fundraiser, taking place each year in March and raising millions of euro to support cancer patients and their loved ones by providing free advice and support, as well as by funding life-saving cancer research.

On Daffodil Day, thousands of volunteers take to the streets selling flowers and daffodil pins to collect funds for the fight against cancer. Many others organise coffee mornings and other fundraising events in their homes, local communities, and workplaces.

Daffodil Day is a day for us all to give hope to people affected by cancer. Funds raised during our Daffodil Day campaign are used across the country to help the 40,000 people who will hear the words "you have cancer" each year.

Funds raised during Daffodil Day campaign go towards:

- Funding over 150 cancer researchers working in labs across Ireland to find new and better treatments for cancer patients.
- Providing free, confidential advice and support to cancer patients and their loved ones and anyone concerned about cancer through Irish Cancer Society cancer nurses.
- Enabling cancer patients to spend their final days at home, cared for by Irish Cancer Society Night Nurses and surrounded by loved ones in the comfort of their homes.
- Providing support to patients.

Source: <https://www.cancer.ie/.../major-fundraising-drives/daffodil-day/about-daffodil-day>

Hope

Join thousands of people across Ireland in the fight against cancer this March by supporting Daffodil Day





Royal Canal Amenity Group

Education ~ Heritage ~ Recreation

ANNUAL COMMEMORATION.

RCAG held their annual commemoration service at St Mochtas Church, Porterstown on Friday Nov 22nd 2019 to remember group members who had passed away in the previous year. This year's event was particularly poignant as we remembered Dr. Ian Bath, our former President, who died in April 2019. As in previous years, we were treated to tea and scones by the hospitality committee of the church for which we thank them.



Leixlip Member Vivian Rappale lays the Wreath at Porterstown

The timing of this event each year coincides with the date of the nearby canal tragedy on Nov 25th 1845 in which 15 lives were lost, the largest loss of life on the Irish canals. Members again placed a laurel wreath on the bridge where a plaque marks the accident spot.

CHRISTMAS WALK.

To rid ourselves of the Christmas excesses, we encourage members and friends each year to take part in a walk on Dec 27th (excess can

go on until St Stephens Day). We are fortunate each year to have the permission of the management of Carton House to use their grounds for much of the walk which avoids conflict with traffic (though we do need to be careful to avoid flying golf balls).

This year's turnout was 65 (not counting babies and dogs) and attendance was, no doubt, helped by the very benign weather – we have been lucky now for 3 years in a row. Once again, the Spaine family had turned up at the halfway point (Pike Harbour) and provided us with mulled wine and mince pies to boost the weary walkers.

At the conclusion of the walk, we all retired to O'Neill's Pub Restaurant in Maynooth for soup and sandwiches and we must thank them for providing such a nice ending to a very pleasant days walk.



PLANS FOR 2020.

After our very successful bus trip to Scotland last September when we visited the Falkirk Wheel and the nearby Kelpies we are planning to stay closer to home this year. As yet, a date or itinerary has not been finalised but it is likely to be in late June or early July (see www.royalcanal.ie for further information).

Our beehive project has again produced a bumper crop of honey and we have been developing a further site about 6km further west.

We hope in the coming season to bring further hives into use at this site which is being assessed by our beekeeper at present.

ROYAL CANAL GREENWAY.

While the cycle path is now complete and in use from Maynooth to the Shannon progress has been stagnant on most of the route east of Maynooth. Fingal Councils preferred route from Confey to 12th lock has met with serious opposition from residents in the Coolmine area and as a result of the recent elections no fresh consultations can be expected in the next few months. Kildare Council are involved with plans for other Greenways on the Barrow and the Grand Canal and may not currently have the resources to deal with their 8km stretch on the Royal to Confey.

Coming east to the city area it is good to see that substantial progress has been made on the cycle path from Sheriff St to Newcomen Bridge and the large ramp to cross the railway line has been put in place. This ramp will give access to a cycleway stretching from the North Strand to Sutton while also joining with the yet to be completed Royal Canal Greenway leading to the Shannon.

BOATING.

Recent months have seen an increase in the number of boats at several points on the Royal. Many of these are new builds brought from the UK to meet the needs of live-a-boards who are excluded from the city moorings.

We understand these moorings have a waiting list stretching years ahead. It is difficult to blame people for moving to live on boats due to the current housing shortage but the lack of proper facilities at 12th Lock, Confey or Kilcock makes this a problem not just for the boaters but for the community living nearby.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to long serving member Mr Noel Spaine on his appointment as RCAG president taking over from the late Dr Ian Bath, the group's founder.

CONDOLENCES

The chairman and committee would like to extend sincere condolences to president Noel Spaine and family on the passing of his wife, of sixty years, Maureen. Sincere sympathy also to Paddy Greene and family on the recent loss of his wife Olive after a long illness. Both Paddy and Olive were long time members.

Air dheis lámh Dé go raibh na n-anamacha dhílis



President Noel Spaine with some of his grand children

Smaointe Márta

Nach bhfuil aon duine a labhróidh liom faoi Íosa Chríost? Na heaspaig? Na sagairt? Iad siúd a bhfuil dualgas ortha de réir a ngairm, nó iad siúd a athníonn beatha an Chríost iontu féin. I ndáiríre is cuma faoin ghairm mar ní féidir le daoine soiscéal Íosa a chraoladh muna n-aithníonn siad é mar thine ina n-ucht é. Agus céard faoi na tuataí? Nach mbíonn tine an tsoiscéil ina n-ucht siúd comh maith? Agus má tá cén fáth nach mbíonn sé mar ábhar cainte anois is arís acu? As flúirse an chroí a labhraíonn an béal. Ar ndóigh muidne a thugann Críostaíthe orainn féin ní foláir dúinn go léir é sin a thaispeáint in ár ngnáth shaol. Solas an domhain agus salann na talún!

Ba mhaith liom freisin go labhródh na ministrí agus na gnáthdhaoine liom faoin saol atá le teacht nó faoin bheatha síoraí. Tá roinnt mhaith ar eolas againn faoin bheatha sin ach is annamh a bhíonn na saineolaithe(!) ag caint fúithi. Is fada an t-am í an tsíoraíocht. Is fiú machnamh a dhéanamh uirthi ó am go chéile. Tá a fhios againn mar shampla gur "áit" ilchineálach í. "Is iomaí seomra atá i dteach m'athar." Tá a fhios againn ó bhriathra Íosa freisin nach bhfuil fir ná mná ann ach go mbeimid go léir cosúil leis na haingil, pé sórt neacha iad na haingil.

Tá a fhios againn freisin i bhfoirm diúltach sa Sean Tiomna agus i Naomh Pól gur áit ar leith í an áit seo. Sa chéad litir chuig na Corantaigh rinne sé tagairt don saol atá le teacht agus don áit atá ullamh ag Dia dóibh siúd a bheir grá dó: áit ina bhfuil nithe nach bhfaca súil iad agus nár chuala cluas iad, agus nár smaoinigh an duine orthu ina aigne (1 Cor 2:9).

Nach íontach ar fad é nach gcuireann formhór des na heolaithe suim ar bith sna rudaí a dúirt Íosa faoin tsíoraíocht! Deir siad go bhfuil a gcuid oibre go léir bunaithe ar an fhianaise. Má tá cá bhfuil an fhianaise le haghaidh na hollchruinní a mholann a lán acu minic go leor? Dar liomsa tá fianaise go leor againn go bhfuil saol eile le teacht. Dúirt Íosa é agus cruthaíonn a aiséirí siúd nach raibh an bhréag á insint aige. Ach cá bhfuil an fhianaise gur tharla an t-aiséirí, a deir tú? Tá sé le feiceáil i gcalmact na naspal agus na ndeisceabal a bhí beagnach as a meabhair le heagla agus le díomá sé uair an chloig agus tríocha roimhe sin.

Aguisín

Oh woeful blindness,
That in the diamond shining bright
Sees but the diamond cutter's skill,
Sees not the source of light!

Gabriel Martin.



Sunday, 29 March 2020, 01:00 am
Clocks are turned forward 1 hour



MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN

Moyglare Road Cycle Facilities

Work on the Moyglare Road Cycle Lane is nearing completion but one area of concern is the “legibility” of the Moyglare Road/Kilcock Road junction.

Legibility means that each road user knows where and when he or she should go.

If a cyclist is travelling north on the cycle lane from Mill Street to Moyglare Road, there are two sets of traffic signals – each with a red, yellow and green light. To the left hand side, there is a third signal with a standalone bicycle light. When the lights change to proceed with caution, all three turn to green. However, after a few seconds, the bicycle light turns to red but the other two remain green for proceeding straight ahead. Traffic wanting to turn right from the Moyglare Road may turn provided there is no traffic coming from Mill Street.

However, it is best international practice for bikes and motorised traffic (and indeed pedestrians) going straight to have precedence over turning traffic. The bike light turning red to hold back cyclists while a green light allows adjacent traffic to proceed is in conflict with this practice and is not in accordance with the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS) as it prioritises motorised traffic over bicycles. It is also a dangerous precedent as it encourages drivers to mistakenly think that they have priority over bicycles when they turn. Having separate phases for cars and bicycles as in the Netherlands is good practice but only where all bike movements are regulated by lights and where timing are set to minimise delays to cyclists. Neither is the case in Maynooth.

General Election 2020

The election may be over but at the time of writing it is still uncertain who will hold the reins of power. Congratulations to Reada Cronin, (SF), Bernard Durkan (FG), James Lawless (FF) and Catherine Murphy (SD) on their election in North Kildare and commiserations to Frank O’Rourke (FF) who lost his seat. We will await with interest the appointment of a new Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport. Cyclist advocates are pleased that at least Shane Ross, the former minister, will not be reappointed and hope that the new minister will have a better understanding of cycling.

DTTAS Sustainable Consultation

The DTTAS’s public consultation on Sustainable Mobility Policy closed at the end of February. As this next decade is critical for reducing carbon emissions, we fear that this is more consultation for the sake of it. We have existing policies and strategies - the problem is lack of implementation.

Cycling Without Age

Maynooth Cycling Campaign has had further discussions on Cycling Without Age with local nursing homes and is pleased to announce that we have now placed an order for a Trio trishaw. We now think that there may be less community involvement than originally envisaged as one of the nursing homes prefers staff piloting the trishaw around the grounds rather than accessing the town or Royal Canal Greenway.

Parking On Cycle Lanes

Maynooth Access Group has launched an educational campaign for drivers to persuade them not to park on footpaths. Maynooth Cycling Campaign supports them in their endeavours but we are also part of a similar campaign by Cyclist.ie to #FreeTheCycleLanes. When work on Moyglare Road has been completed, we will be urging the Gardaí to ensure that drivers do not begin to use the paths for parking.



Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee.

Our Senior Citizens attended Maynooth Education Campus Musical again this year. This was a most enjoyable evening with some extraordinary talent. Well done to all concerned.

Our Valentine’s Tea-Dance took place on February 16th and we danced the afternoon away to the excellent music of Philip English. Romance was certainly in the air and many couples entered our “Most Romantic Couple” competition. The overall winner was Anthony and Mary Carty followed by Teresa White and Larry O’Brien a close second. Now who said romance was dead ? (see pics)

Our next tea-dance will take place on Sunday March 15th. This will be St. Patrick’s weekend so we will transition from a room full of red to a room full of green.

Meanwhile our AGM will take place on Tuesday March 3rd at 8pm in the Geraldine Hall. This is an open meeting to which all are welcome. Our Annual church gate collection will be held the following weekend on March 7th and 8th. You have supported us for over half a century now and I have no reason to think that will change anytime soon, so I thank you in anticipation.



Our club continues every Tuesday and Thursday 10.30 – 12.30. We have exercise and Bingo on Tuesday and if that’s not your thing we have art and crafts on Thursday. If none of these are for you, why not come along for a cuppa and a chat. Being alone is often a choice but being lonely is another conversation.

Josephine Moore.



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



**Happy St. Patrick’s Day to all our Advertisers,
Contributors & Readers**





Maynooth University Town Football Club



Some latest results:

L.S.L Cahill Cup

Town - 4 Bluebell Utd. - 0

A whirlwind start to this game with our opening goal coming after forty-six second. A corner was quickly taken by Cillian Duffy and was expertly headed home by Captain Mark Colgan.

More good play by Cillian Duffy twenty minutes later saw him pass inside to Jack Boyle who fixed home from just inside the Box. Mark Colgan headed home in the 40th minutes from another accurate cross. On the stroke of half-time full Back Darragh Gannon stole into penalty area to slot home from close range. Bluebell went into defensive made for the second half to prevent a rout and Town were content to play with ease and run out convincing winners.

L.S.L Major Div. Sat.

Ballymun Utd. - 3 Town - 5

In a high scoring game Town had enough firepower to outscore the home side who always look dangerous. Dean Barrett (2) Tom Wynne (2) and Martin O'Connor provided the goals for a good win.

L.S.L Major Div. Sat.

Town - 10 (Ten) St. Patrick's C.Y - 0

If not for the fact that Town eased off in the second half this would have been a total round. Leading seven Nil at half goals came from all sections of the team with a hat-trick by Francis Llunga being the highlight.

L.S.L Div. 3 Sunday

Confey - 1 Town - 3

League leaders Confey were dealt a severe blow by this top performance by Town. Town commanded proceedings for long periods and were most impressive. Two goals by A. Flynn and a cracker from distance by Eoin Donnellan made up the Town score line while a late Confey goal did little to take the gloss off this superb performance.

F.A.I Intermediate Cup Round of 16

Crumlin Utd. - 1 Town - 3

Being knocked out of this Cup by the same opposition last season Town were intent on exacting revenge on Crumlin. This was done in empathic fashion with a sound team performance.

In the 17th minute Town won a corner which was cleared to the edge of their area where Conor Foley volleyed an unstoppable shot to the Crumlin net. Crumlin levelled in the 30th minute before Storm Dennis paid a visit. The Referee had to take the teams off when wind, driving rain and sleet put a halt to proceeding.

On the resumption Town continued to impress and regained the lead when Mark Colgan netted. Crumlin pressed hard for an equaliser but Town sealed victory in the 89th minute when Daniel Burke, despite his lack of inches, headed home when he out jumped the Crumlin defence.

Malahide United now await us in the Quarter Final.

Maynooth Golf Society Outings 2020

Sat 21st	March	Palmerston House	11.50am - 1.00pm
Sat 11th	April	Castleknock	11.10am - 12.20pm
Fri 15th/Sat 16th	May	Birr/Tullamore	Weekend Away
Fri 26th Captains	June	Beech Park	3.00pm - 4.10pm
Sat 25th	July	Headfort	10.30am - 12.00pm
Sat 29th	August	Luttrellstown	12.20pm - 1.40pm
Sat 19th	September	Knightsbrook	10.20 - 11.30am
TBA	October	Carton	TBA
TBA	November	Charity Scramble	TBA

New Members Welcome
Text 0894906510 with any queries



PLAYERS WANTED

Maynooth Town F.C.
are looking for girls of
all ages to join existing
girls teams

Maynooth girls teams are growing at a rapid rate but we need more players.

MTFC ladies section have ambitious plans to grow a strong brand in our local community for girls in sports. If your daughter is interested in joining have her come down and join in one of our training sessions

We are also looking for coaches to help out

If you are interested please
contact Miriam at
miriammtfc@outlook.com
Or 086 106 0654
#HERECOMETHEGIRLS



2020
IF SHE CAN'T SEE IT, SHE CAN'T BE IT

'MTFC Young Ladies committee are constantly working to develop our girls section through innovative events each month. Our next Ambassadorial coaching session with Gordon Ewing is being finalised. We are also travelling to support our Women's National Team vs Greece on March 5th in Tallaght Stadium!#COYGIG'

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



Know your rights A: National minimum wage and USC

Question

I'm a full-time minimum wage PAYE worker. Does the increase in the national minimum wage mean that I pay more Universal Social Charge?

Answer

The minimum wage increased from €9.80 to €10.10 on 1 February 2020. A person working full-time (39 hours per week) and earning the minimum wage was previously earning €19,873 per year. They now earn €20,484 per year.

From 1 February, USC rates also changed slightly to make sure that this increase in pay for minimum wage workers is not subject to the 4.5% USC charge. This was done by increasing the income threshold of the 2% band. The new thresholds now look like this:

So, in 2019, if you earned €19,874, your total USC for the year was ($\{0.5\% \text{ of } €12,012\} €60.06 + \{2\% \text{ of } €7,862\} €157.24$) = €217.30. This meant your USC was €18.11 per month, or €4.18 per week.

From 1 February 2020, if you earn €20,484 per year, your annual USC will be ($\{0.5\% \text{ of } €12,012\} €60.06 + \{2\% \text{ of } €8,742\} €169.44$) = €229.50. This means your USC is €19.13 per month, or €4.41 per week.

	Standard Rate of USC (up to 31 January 2020)	Standard rate of USC (from 1 February 2020)
Rate	Income band	Income band
0.5%	Up to €12,012	Up to €12,012
2%	From €12,012.01 to €19,874	From €12,012.01 to €20,484
4.5%	From €19,874.01 to €70,044	From €20,484.01 to €70,044
8%	From €70,044.01 and over	From €70,044.01 and over

So, with the increase in the national minimum wage, you will pay €12.20 more USC per year. This deduction will be made from your gross salary. Your increased salary will continue to be subject to the standard rate of income tax. This means you also pay slightly more income tax after 1 February 2020.

Question

Is there a new Citizens' Assembly planned for 2020?

Answer

Yes. A new Citizens' Assembly on gender equality has been established and the next meeting takes place on 14-16 February 2020. Dr Catherine Day, former Secretary General of the European Commission, will chair the Assembly.

The Assembly consists of 100 people, comprising of a chairperson and 99 citizens entitled to vote at a referendum. The 99 citizens are randomly selected to be broadly representative of Irish society. An Expert Advisory Group has also been established to support the work of the Assembly and prepare information and advice. The Assembly will meet five times to discuss a range of gender equality issues. When the Assembly finishes considering each issue, it develops a series of draft recommendations and votes on each. Recommendations may include policy, legislative or constitutional change.

At the end of the process, the Assembly will send its recommendations to the Houses of the Oireachtas. The Government will respond to each recommendation of the Assembly and, if accepting the recommendation, will indicate the timeframe for any related referendum.

The Citizens' Assembly on gender equality is inviting public submissions to inform the discussions of the Assembly. It welcomes submissions from Irish citizens and non-citizens living in Ireland or abroad as well as members of advocacy groups and other organisations. The Assembly does not accept anonymous submissions. You need to provide your first name, surname and email address plus the name of your organisation, where relevant. All submissions received will be to view available online.

The consultation is open until Friday, 6 March 2020. You can visit citizensassembly.ie to get more information about the work of the Assembly.

Question

What is a rent pressure zone?

Answer

A rent pressure zone (RPZ) is an area where rents cannot be increased by more than 4% each year. They are areas where rents are above the national average and rising quickly. Rent pressure zones are intended to control the rise in rents in these areas. An area must meet specific criteria to become a rent pressure zone.

Most rent increases in rent pressure zones are capped at 4% and there are limits on how often the rent can be reviewed. There are different rules about the limits and frequency of rent reviews, depending on whether the tenancy in the rent pressure zone is an existing or new

tenancy.

However, not all properties in rent pressure zones are subject to the 4% restriction. Some properties are exempt. A landlord can seek an exemption for:

- A property that has not been let at any time in the previous two years
- A property where no previous tenancy existed that is a protected structure, or in a protected structure or proposed protected structure and has not been let in the previous 12 months
- Properties that have been substantially changed (the RTB website has full details of the types of substantial change required)

Designated rent pressure zones will be in place until 31 December 2021. You can find out if you live in a rent pressure zone by visiting citizensinformation.ie. Further information on rent pressure zones and a calculator to calculate the maximum allowable rent in a rent pressure zone is also available from onestopshop.rtb.ie/rent-pressure-zones.

Question

My daughter is starting secondary school in September and we live 5 kilometres from her school. Am I eligible for the School Transport Scheme?

Answer

You may qualify for the School Transport Scheme. The scheme provides subsidised school transport for both post-primary and primary pupils. Bus Éireann runs the school bus service and the Department of Education and Skills decides the annual fares.

The service is only provided where there are at least 10 eligible pupils in a distinct locality that can be economically serviced by a bus route. Even when a pupil meets the age and distance criteria for school transport, there is no legal entitlement to it.

Your daughter is eligible for the Post-Primary School Transport Scheme if she is attending her nearest school and lives 4.8 kilometres or more from the school. The Department and Bus Éireann determine the appropriate nearest school with regard to ethos and language.

Parents must arrange to bring their child to the nearest pick-up point on the bus route. Generally, bus routes are organised so that no pupil has more than 3.2 kilometres to travel to a pick-up point.

There is a single annual charge of €350 per pupil. However a family does not pay more than €650 per year. The charge is due to be paid in full by the end of July or else in 2 instalments: by the end of July and the start of December. Pupils who are eligible for school transport and who hold a valid medical card are entitled to free school transport to the nearest school.

Since your child is enrolling in post-primary school for the first time, you should either apply for school transport online or download the form from Bus Éireann's website, buseireann.ie. Applications are now being accepted for the 2020-2021 school year. You should apply by Friday, 24 April 2020.

National minimum wage

From 1 February 2020, the national minimum wage will increase to €10.10 per hour.

Employer's PRSI threshold

From 1 February 2020 and following the increase in the national minimum wage, the Class A employer PRSI threshold will increase from €386 to €395.

Delay to Decision Support Service

The Irish Times reports that the introduction of the Decision Support Service, to support vulnerable adults to make decisions, has been delayed and the service will not open in 2020.

European Green Deal

The European Parliament has adopted an initial draft of the key policies and measures to make the EU climate-neutral by 2050.

Updated

Grants for solar panels and battery systems Updated to include details of revised scheme.

Landlords' rights and obligations

Residential Tenancies Board

Resolving disputes between landlords and tenants

Updated to include information on Better Let: RTB Accredited Landlord training.

Free MMR vaccine for people aged 11-30

Anyone aged 11-30 who has not had two doses of the MMR vaccine, or who is unsure of their vaccine status, can get a free dose. There has been a significant rise in cases of mumps in children and adults in this age group. Parents and young adults can contact their GP or student health service to get the MMR vaccine free of charge.

Leaving Certificate external candidates

Since 29 January, external candidates for the Leaving Certificate 2020 must pay late application fees. First late fees apply until 5 March 2020. Second late fees apply from 6 March to 29 April 2020. Entries for subjects with a practical, oral or project elements cannot be made after Friday 13 March 2020.

Official Launch of the 10th Anniversary Maynooth 10k



Launching the Maynooth 10k / 5k 2020 were (l to r): Conor Dewey, Store Director of Specsavers Maynooth, Emma Hayes Practice Administrator and Theresa Hannon Marketing Manager of Pearls Dental, Siobhan McCauley Principal of Maynooth Community College, Johnny Nevin Principal of Maynooth Post Primary school, Teresa Murray vice-Chairperson and Una Phillips Chairperson of the Maynooth 10k committee, Frances Bradley chairperson of MEC PTA

The 10th Anniversary Maynooth 10k was launched in style on Tuesday February 11th in Maynooth Education Campus. Members of MEC PTA welcomed race participants past and present as well as sponsors, volunteers, supporters and former committee members.

Pearls Dental were represented by Theresa Hannon, Marketing Manager and Emma Hayes. Pearls are sponsoring the finishers medal again this year, which is in the shape of the number 10 in honour of the anniversary. This year's medal is the second in a set of three collectable medals. Maynooth Post Primary school was founded in 1971 and will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2021. The 10k/5k is celebrating this event with a 3-year set of collectable medals. Pearls Dental have kindly agreed to sponsor these medals.



The 10th Anniversary finishers medal



Snood for first 500 finishers

Conor Dewey represented Specsavers Maynooth who came on board this year to sponsor the "snood" or "buff". Featuring the Maynooth 10k/5k branding and the Specsavers logo the snood makes a very attractive gift to the first 500 finishers.

Siobhan McCauley outlined some of the history of the race and one of the founders, Mary Molloy was in attendance. Mary came up with the idea while her son was preparing for the Dublin City Marathon. Seeing so many people training in the grounds of Carton House she had the idea to have a run as a fund-raiser for the school. She and Deirdre Glynn approached Mr Nevin, the MPPS PTA took it on and so the Maynooth 10k was born. Each year the race evolves taking on new ideas. The Maynooth 10k Times, the brainchild of Teresa Murray, was introduced in 2012 and a collection of back issues were on display at the launch. The paper consists of a number of articles and adverts sponsored by local businesses. In 2015 the 5k race was added to the line-up and has proved very popular with families and children of all ages.

The current 10k route was established in 2015. Starting in St Patrick's College, travelling along Main Street, passing through the beautiful grounds of Carton House Hotel and finishing on Carton Avenue it is one of the most scenic races in the country. 2016 was the year of the Rebellion Run commemorating 100 years since the 1916 rising. The race took place on the same date as the rising and we marked the occasion with specially themed posters and medals.

On the night, each year of the race was commemorated by a fabulous display of

photographs beautifully arranged by Mark Colfer. As well as his own extensive collection Mark had contributions from Anne Marie Coyle, James Shelley, John Boyd, Rory O'Connor, Christine Taylor, John Dolan and Darren Kenna. Everyone at the launch had great fun picking themselves out of the displays year on year.

Johnny Nevin spoke about the MUGA or Multi-Use Games Area in the proposed new MEC campus. This type of facility allows various sports to be played on the same artificial "astro-type" surface.

The standard plan for the new schools would have outdoor basketball courts and the idea is to replace these with the MUGA while Basketball will be played in the new PE hall.

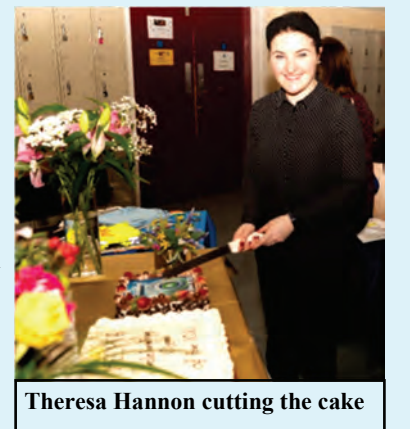
It is hoped to convert the plans in a cost-neutral way working with the on-site contractor. Proceeds from this year's race will go towards the MUGA as well as the upkeep of the existing playing fields shared with Maynooth GAA at Mariaville on the Moyglare Road, right beside the new campus.

The free raffle on the night for a free entry to the race was won by Ray McTernan. Ray has the distinction of having run in every Maynooth 10k since the beginning. Congratulations to Ray, a worthy winner!

After the speeches and raffle everyone enjoyed the cake decorated with this year's medal, cut by Theresa Hannon from Pearls Dental.



Race founder Mary Molloy pictured with Johnny Nevin, principal of MPPS admiring photos from 2011, the first year of the Maynooth 10k.



Theresa Hannon cutting the cake

This year's Maynooth 10k/5k will take place on Sunday 26th of April at 10.30am.

We are very grateful to St Patrick's College and Carton House Hotel for allowing the use of their grounds and we'd like to thank all the businesses who have sponsored and supported us down the years and look forward to another successful event!

On-line entries to the race are already open at: <https://www.popupraces.ie/race/maynooth-5k-10k-2020/>.





Writers' Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

Snapped

My first glimpse of Maura came via a photo my friend Gary showed me. It was taken in Paprin's, an Irish-American dancehall. She was standing with her escort behind the drinks-cluttered table at which Garry sat with his buddies and girlfriend Nora. It was clear that she didn't expect to be snapped because she was gazing past the camera, possibly at the singer. With her shoulder-length auburn hair and softly rounded features she looked bewitching. When I asked Garry if he knew her he shook his head.

"Why not come to Paprin's next Saturday?" he suggested. "Maybe she'll be back." He was right. We weren't inside the door five minutes when I spotted her chatting to some fellows. She was wearing a white blouse and red miniskirt, her auburn hair held in place by a black ribbon tied across the middle of her head. As soon as the band started up again a teenager with a crew cut led her onto the dance floor. We got a table near the back and from there, despite the dim lights, tobacco smoke and standing onlookers, I kept an eye on the twirling couples. Boy, could Maura dance, moving sensuously to the music! What I wouldn't give to be able to match her step for step!

Having downed a few Seagram 7's I asked her out for a slow number. To my surprise, she accepted, for although I was an executive with Mutual of New York and had taken out American citizenship, she was at least twelve years my junior. Close up her face was even lovelier than in the photo, hazel eyes veiled by dark lashes, lips full and enticing. From her sparse comments, however, I figured she wasn't well educated, somebody my buddies would class as a 'chippie'. So what! In America ability mattered more than a degree, especially one such as I had, a bare pass in Commerce from Galway Uni. Eventually, after some anxiety-inducing dalliance with younger blokes, Maura consented to a lift home. I drove her back to her furnished room in Jackson Heights, running a few red lights because of the Seagrams. We chatted in the car and when I admired her hair she retorted that it wasn't that special. She was from Longford, having been sponsored by "an old, Irish battle-axe". After months of being this woman's drudge she had found work in Manhattan as a waitress. Now her sponsor was trying to have her deported for breach of contract.

"You were right to walk out." I was indignant that anybody should have thought fit to exploit her.

After giving me her phone number and a brief, open-mouthed kiss, she hurried indoors. A few days later Garry drove round to my apartment with photos he had taken at the dance. To my surprise I could see that, though Maura was just as luminous as I remembered, her hair was clearly of two distinct shades, dark in front of the black ribbon and auburn behind. Garry reckoned she had dyed her hair and when I jokingly mentioned this on our first date, she explained that she was wearing "a hairpiece".

"Why not leave it off?" I said. "I'm sure your own hair is lovely."

"Maybe when it's grown back," she conceded.

That evening, as we dined on coq au vin in L'Étoile on Manhattan's East Side, we talked about our favourite singers. She liked Johnny McEvoy but had never been to Greenwich Village, where, I informed her, the coffeehouses had top-class folksingers. She agreed to accompany me there some evening – but, first, would I get a new outfit?

"Why?" I was genuinely surprised.

Tactfully, she intimated that my three-piece suit made me look older. Wouldn't it be better to get something casual: a coloured shirt and bell-bottoms? When I got home that night I re-examined the photos from Paprin's. To my chagrin it struck me she was right: I looked more like her uncle than her boyfriend. That Saturday we took a trip to Macey's, where I purchased both the casual outfit and, in addition, a belted suit she liked. I then invited her to the company's annual ball in the Waldorf Astoria.

At the ball we shared a table with my section head, Bill, and his wife Laurie, who commented admiringly, "You look a real swell, PJ!"

"You've certainly smartened him up, Maura," Bill declared.

Maura smiled demurely but said nothing.

I won't claim that the night started out a great success. Maura was subdued, either because the Waldorf awed her or she thought my friends too sophisticated. She was loath to venture onto the dance floor, though the fact that a few of the older men stared may have unnerved her. Nevertheless, I pretended not to notice: this was the night of my transformation from frog to prince and I took every opportunity to jive or do the Twist with her. It was my hope that, despite her reserve, Maura couldn't help but be impressed by my ease in these upmarket surroundings. Her goodnight kisses in the car seemed to confirm this assessment.

A few days later a snapshot, which the company's photographer had taken of Maura and me at our table, arrived in the mail. What an eye-opener that was! There was I with a proud, slightly intoxicated grin on my mug, my arm possessively around Maura's shoulder, and there she was with a look of such utter boredom that I felt gutted. "Photos don't lie," an inner voice warned, but I had no intention of finishing the romance. This was where my former experience as an insurance salesman kicked in: when the client hesitates, change tactics. My new approach: throw a party! Would Maura help me organise it?

With a little coaxing, Maura agreed to act as hostess and in due course my "pad" was thronged with laughing, drinking acquaintances, both Irish and American. There's no doubt that Maura in her short, figure-hugging blue dress, love beads and knee-high boots really cut a dash, though for some reason she wouldn't consent to dance with me, claiming to be overawed by my sophisticated friends.

"That's nonsense!" I whispered. "They all admire you."

It was no use. I was forced to chose other partners and keep my spirits up by frequent

recourse to the drinks counter, where Garry advised me to go easy on the Seagrams. On the drive home Maura was quite affectionate, so that I accepted her excuse for not dancing. My peace of mind lasted till Garry produced the photos he had taken at the party. In one of them, while I danced past with Nora, Maura was whispering to Michael, a young Sligo guy she had invited.

"She's playing you for a sucker," Garry warned when I dismissed the tête-à-tête as harmless. "That fellow was with her in Paprin's."

"So what?" I countered.

"Suit yourself!" Garry put the photos back in the envelope.

During our outing to Greenwich Village we visited The Gaslight, where a guy sang with haunting tenderness The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face. When we were leaving I questioned Maura about her reluctance to show affection in public and she confessed that my knowledge of books and business made her feel as if I were merely toying with her. "That's crazy!" I protested. "Just because you never went to college it doesn't mean you're any less intelligent than someone like me."

"All right then," she said, "let's get engaged."

Boy, did that take the wind out of my sails! The idea of settling down till I was well into my thirties had never occurred to me: there was just too much to do and see without the burden of paying a mortgage and raising kids. Then there were those photos from my party and the Waldorf. In order not to commit myself, I smiled but said nothing, desperately hoping she wouldn't take my silence as a refusal. Luckily, just then a guy with a camera hanging from his neck approached and she dragged me into a doorway.

"What's up?" I was genuinely puzzled.

"I hate being snapped," she explained, "especially by strangers."

"Why should he take your photo?" I asked.

"How should I know? Men always think they've a right..."

Since her mood had turned sulky I let the matter drop.

Back in my apartment that night the thought kept recurring that Maura might be willing to get married, not because she cared for me but simply because she considered me a good catch. How else was I to explain her ambivalent behaviour?

After that, time flowed pleasantly with trips to the cinema, the theatre, a Johnny McEvoy concert and occasional dances – always now in midweek because the restaurant wanted her to work weekends. Then one Wednesday when I phoned there was no answer. When repeated calls produced no result I drove out after work to Jackson Heights.

"She don't live here now," the landlady, a heavysset German, informed me. "She just ups and leaves."

"Didn't she give you a forwarding address?" I was starting to panic.

"No. Nichts!" The landlady shrugged.

"Do you know the address of the restaurant where she works?" I asked.

"Restaurant!" The landlady's expression softened. "I think bar, not restaurant. Once I see an envelope in her room. It has 'The Rainbow' printed on top and an address in midtown Manhattan. You know it?"

I shook my head.

"Well, viel glück!" She shut the door.

It didn't take long to locate 'The Rainbow'. It was one of those glitzy joints where girls dance half naked on a raised platform behind the drinks bar. I ordered a double Seagram's, paid the exorbitant price and gawked along with the other men at the young chippies twisting seductively to the pulsating music. There were three of them, dressed only in skimpy bikinis. What struck me was that the girls didn't seem to notice the customers. Instead they gazed over their heads or, on turning round, at their own reflections in a wall of mirrors. With their supple, shining bodies they could have been goddesses being worshiped by mere mortals. Was that how Maura would have looked? While tipping generously for my second drink I asked the barman, a Robert Redford look-alike, if Maura would be dancing soon.

He shook his head, "No Maura works here."

I showed him her photo but he still shook his head.

"She's wearing a hairpiece in that." I slipped him a twenty-dollar bill. "Her own hair is short." He took a closer look then said, "That's Leila. She quit last week."

"Why?" I persisted.

"Look, buddy, are you a cop?" He eyed me suspiciously.

"No," I assured him, "I'm her boyfriend."

Redford smiled. "They all think that! You seem a decent guy so I'll level with you. She said the woman who first employed her was trying to get her deported – something about a morals charge. Maybe she succeeded." He handed back the photo.

So that was why Maura wanted to marry me, to make sure she could stay in America! But why hadn't she levelled with me? Did she think I'd have dumped her if I'd found out everything? Maybe in the beginning I might, but not after I had come to know her. I could have saved her from working in a place like this.

"Have you a photo of Maura – no, Leila?" I asked.

"Beside the entrance, buddy." He moved off to serve another customer.

Pushing my way out, I examined the half dozen photos of semi-nude dancers in a vertical frame alongside the door. Yes, there she was! Despite the short dark hair I recognised the familiar features. Oh god, she was even more beautiful without the hairpiece and – if one ignored the absence of clothes – more like one of the innocent 'colleens' my American buddies raved about! Where had she gone? Boston? California? Canada? I wanted to convince myself that I'd find her even if it took a lifetime of searching.

By P.G.Nerney

Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

Planning Applications received from 17/01/2020 to 20/02/2020 Information from Kildare County Council Website

App Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	App Date
20116	Kildare County Council	Ian Barrett	Toolestown House, Straffan Road (R406), Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 D9H3	12/02/2020
20117	Kildare County Council	Kenquin Ltd., t/a Bradys The Clock House	"Bradys The Clockhouse", Main Street (and fronting onto Courthouse Square), Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 PY93	12/02/2020
20120	Kildare County Council	Maynooth Lodge Nursing Home Ltd.	Crinnstown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	12/02/2020
2096	Kildare County Council	Kieran and Niamh Swift	13 Meadowbrook Drive, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	07/02/2020
2089	Kildare County Council	Cantrivia Limited	Celbridge House, Maynooth Road, Celbridge, Co. Kildare.	06/02/2020
2091	Kildare County Council	Shane McKenna and Aisling Conlon	32 Silken Vale, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 K7H1.	06/02/2020
2068	Kildare County Council	The Belmullet Hospitality Group Ltd.	Carton House Hotel & Golf Resort, Carton Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	30/01/2020
2062	Kildare County Council	Michael and Maura Durkin	Ivy Lodge, Newtown Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	29/01/2020
2048	Kildare County Council	Killross Properties Ltd.	Moortown, Maynooth Road, Celbridge, Co. Kildare.	24/01/2020
2031	Kildare County Council	Karol Quinn	2 Beaufield Drive, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, W23 R2T8	17/01/2020
2032	Kildare County Council	Colin Moane and Irene Kearney	15 The Avenue, Newtown Hall, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	17/01/2020



All Shook Up - School Musical

Congratulations to all involved in this year's annual school musical presented by Maynooth Education Campus. The 26th musical production ran from 5th to 10th of February to packed audiences each night. Described as "a rocking, heart warming tale about following dreams opening up to love and the power of music", it certainly lived up to its description.

It was wonderfully performed by transition year students, 250 to be precise. Lead performances from Grace Brennan, Daragh Finnegan, Harvey McNevin, Nell Mescall, Sarah Duffy, Padraig Bennet, Ciara Hynes, Ella Adams, Morgan Dunne and Liam Curly were outstanding. The performances of the four choruses brought added vitality and energy to the production and each group performed with all their might. The interior museum statue scene was visually stunning in no small part aided by the professionally and cleverly designed stage set and superb lighting arrangements. All of which added to the high end production values of the show. The commitment of the students and teachers (Director: Aisling Dunne; Producer: Mary Murphy; Music Director; Erin Dollard; Stage Design & Construction; Mark Leamy and Tom Walsh) who put in such hard work is to be commended.

It was great to see support for this event all round from the patrons and local businesses as evidenced in the programme which in itself is not only a souvenir and record of the show but also of great memories. We are already looking forward to next year!

March Events at **Maynooth** Community Library

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

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



facebook.com/KildareCountyLibraryService



twitter.com/kildarelibrary

Children's Events

(all events are free but call us to book your place!)

“Let's Perform!”

Saturday 29th Feb

2.00pm – 3pm (4 -7 yrs)

3.30pm- 4.30pm (8+)

Celebrate our Library Open Day with a fun and interactive workshop! Ever wondered what goes into putting on a play – or how it feels to perform? Find out with The Mobile Music School – get involved as much as you feel comfortable with!!

Kids Secret Cinema

Saturday 14th March

2.30pm – 4.30pm

This month's Kids Secret Cinema comes from a renowned animation studio and tells the story of a gifted illuminator/ illustrator and an ancient book. **No booking required.**

St Patricks Day Art and Craft

Friday 13th March

3.00pm – 4.00pm

5 – 9 years

Children will make a fun and festive leprechaun hat and shamrock decorations to look the part for the St. Patrick's Day Parade!

Booking required

Library Events

Maynooth Local History Group Annual Memorabilia Evening

Thursday 5th March

7pm – 8.30pm

Members of the public are invited to come along and bring with them any item/artefact of family/local/national interest and give a short explanation of what the object is and its significance. In the past these items have ranged from photographs/postcards/letters/posters/uniforms/plaques/vases etc/medals/documents of various kinds/clocks/jewellery – in short anything of an ephemeral nature that has a story to tell.

“Digitise the Nation” iPad Classes

Thursdays 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th

10am – 12.30pm

Learn the basics in this free “How to Get Online” course. iPads will be provided!

Places are limited so booking is required

Parenting Talk

First Aid for Parents

Thursday 12th March

7pm – 8.30pm

Presented by Siobhan Butler from First Aid for Everyone

Booking Required

This informative and interactive course will use lots of visual aids in the presentation and there is plenty of opportunity for the participants to ask questions. Topics covered will include:

Calling the emergency services

The First Aid Kit

Choking

Meningitis

Burns

Temperatures/Seizures

Seachtain an Gaeilge

Siúlóid treoraithe do pháistí agus daoine fásta trí Ghaeilge le Eanna Ní Lamhna / Guided walk through Irish with Eanna Ní Lamhna

Satharn 14ú Márta / Saturday 14th of March

10.30 am - 1 pm

Tá an t-ádh linn an t-údar agus duine de na nádúraithe agus saineolaí fiadhúla is cáilúla, Éanna Ní Lamhna, a bheith linn le siúlóid trí Ghaeilge a threorú síos an Chanáil Ríoga, ag tosú ó leabharlann Mhagh Nuadha agus ag críochnú ag leabharlann Léim an Bhradáin. Tabharfaidh Eanna cuntas ar gnéithe fiadhúla an chanáil mhóir. Cuirfidh sólaistí ar fáil ag tús agus deireadh na siúlóide. Caithfear áit a chur in áirithint don siúlóid !

We are lucky to have one of the best-known naturalists and wildlife experts and author Éanna Ní Lamhna accompany us on a guided walk along the Royal Canal starting from Maynooth library and finishing at Leixlip library. Eanna will give an account of the nature and wildlife of the Royal Canal. Refreshments will be provided at the beginning and end of the walk. For adults and children. **Booking Required.**

Pop Up Gaeltacht/Preab-Ghealtacht

Dé Máirt 24ú lá Mí na Márta / Tuesday 24th March

6.45pm – 7.45 pm

Ceol, comhrá, cluichí agus craic as Gaeilge! Music, chat, games and craic through Irish! Fáilte roimh chách.

All welcome.

Local Enterprise Office – Business Advice Clinic

Wednesday 18th March– all day

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

German ‘Stammtisch’ at Maynooth Library

Thursday 27th March

6.30pm – 8pm

An informal, German conversation monthly meet-up, for anyone with an interest in the language and culture in German speaking countries. Meeting on the 4th Thursday of the month. **All levels from learners to native speakers are welcome.**

New! Maynooth Podcast Club

Thursday 26th March

1pm – 2pm

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

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

Booking Required

New! YA Creative Writing Group

12- 15year olds

Friday 27th March

4pm - 4.45 pm

The Young Adult Creative writing group meets the last Friday of each month at 4pm.

All levels of experience welcome! New members welcome. Please contact the library if you are interested.

New! DiVerse: Poetry Collective

1st April, 11am

DiVerse: A new poetry collective for fans of the format. Bring along a few of your favourite poems to share in an open, laid back and encouraging atmosphere. Meeting monthly on the first Wednesday of every month at 11am, beginning 1st April. Register your interest now!

New! “Be Proud” Book Club

Starting Thursday 9th April, 6pm

Monthly Book Club reading and discussing all things LGBTQ+.

Register your interest and pick up the first title at desk.

Regular Events

Boomerang Bags

Tuesday 31st March

6.00pm – 7.30pm

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

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

Booking Required – materials supplied

Craft Club

Every Monday from 11.30am – 1pm

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

Different short demonstrations will take place during the year.

Who knows – maybe a new craft will grab your fancy...

No Booking Required

Family Board Games

Saturday 7th and 21st March

10am – 12pm

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

(Continued on page 19)

March Events at Maynooth Community Library/cont.

(Continued from page 18)

FitLine

Thursday 12th and 26th March 10am -12 noon

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

Make Time

Thursday 5th and 19th March 6pm – 7:45pm

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

Maynooth Women’s Group

Saturday 7th and 21st March, 11am

New members welcome.

Contact the library for further details.

Ciorcal Comhrá / Irish Language Conversation Group

Tuesdays 11am – 12 noon

This is an informal group for adults who would like to meet on a weekly basis to use and practice their conversational Irish.

No booking required. All welcome.

Maynooth Creative Writing Group

Tuesday 3rd March 6:15pm

A bi-monthly meeting for writers in the Maynooth area. Beginner writers always welcome. *No booking required.*

Spanish Conversation Exchange

Thursdays, 6:30pm – 7:30pm

An informal meeting where people can practice and converse in Spanish. All adults welcome from novice to expert.

No booking required.

Relocation to Ireland: Women’s Meet Up

Saturday 7th and 21st March at 3 pm

A gathering of women who have moved to Ireland and would like to meet up with other women who have also made this country their home.

The library is a meeting place to chat, make new friends and share stories – good and bad – about their transition from their native land to their present address.

Returning expat women are also welcome to share their experiences. **All Welcome**

Drop In -Story Time No Booking Required

A Very Bear-y Story Time

Friday 6th March 10am – 11am for 2-5 year olds

Story time for younger kids - with songs, rhymes and colouring

St. Patricks Day Story Time

Friday 13th March 10am – 11am for 2-5 year olds

Get ready to celebrate Lá ‘le Pádraig / St. Patrick’s Day this story time with stories about St. Patrick’s Day and all the music and fun of the St. Patrick’s Day parade. Join in in some well-loved rhymes and songs as well.

Trains and Planes Story Time

Friday 20th March 10am – 11am for 2-5 year olds

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

Preschool Story Time

Friday 27th March 10am – 11am for 2-5 year olds

Book & Film Clubs

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

The Village Book Club

Monday 16th March 10.30am – 11.30am

Ex Libris Book Club

Wednesday 25th March 11am – 12pm

Readers of the Lost Ark Science Fiction Book Club

Tuesday 10th March 6.30pm- 7.30pm

Read & Catch-up

Thursday 19th March, 11am – 12pm

Jane Austen Book Club

Thursday 26th March 11am- 12pm

The Jane Austen Book Club meets the last Thursday of each month at 11 am and reads a mixture of the classics, Jane Austen novels and modern interpretations of Austen’s novels. New members always welcome. **Please contact the library for further details.**

U3A Book Club

Monday 9th March 11am- 12pm

Reel Good Film Club

Tuesday 24th March: Screening 5pm Discussion 7pm

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



Cllr. Angela Feeney Maynooth Labour News

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



Taking in Charge of Meadowbrook Estate

At the February 7th Municipal District Council Meeting Cllr Angela Feeney submitted the following question to the Council: Can the council confirm if the process for the taking in charge of the Meadowbrook Estate in Maynooth is near completion? The Council stated that a CCTV contactor is currently on site completing the survey information required and that once that survey has been completed it will need to be reviewed within the Development Control Section. The Council also stated that the Development Control Inspector met with the Municipal District Engineer in the estate to review surface defects. They estimate that expenditure approximately €300,000 is required to bring the footpaths etc. to modern taking in charge standards and that does not allow for any issues which might arise from the survey, such as leak detection, a water audit and public lighting. Cllr Feeney stressed that the Meadowbrook application for taking in charge was submitted in 2015 which seems like an inordinate amount of time for this process. Cllr Feeney added that a key question now is how to we go about finding the funds and prioritising the work schedule.

Accessibility at parking Bays on Main Street Maynooth

Cllr Feeney submitted the following motion-That the council lower a section of the footpath at the disabled parking bays in Maynooth to allow access for wheelchair users. Cllr Feeney appealed to the council to carry out this work as she has seen first hand how wheelchair users are experiencing great difficulty and often having to rely on the kindness of passers-by to physically lift the wheelchair onto the footpath from the parking bay. The council replied stating that The Municipal District Office will examine the locations to investigate the feasibility of lowering the footpaths at these locations.

Update on the Maynooth Easter Ring Road

Cllr Feeney submitted the following question to the Council: Can the council confirm the current status of the Maynooth Eastern Ring Road development? The Council stated that the project team are currently working on the detailed design, compulsory purchase order, accommodation works agreement, Public Spending Code compliance and discussions with the landowners/possible developers. Cllr Feeney requested specific timelines and the Council staff said they would report back on this at the next MD meeting.

Speeding Issues in Rural Clane

Cllr Feeney submitted the following Motion: That the Council implement the following safety measures on the road from Clonwood Heights, Clane, to the Prosperous Road, Clane through the Butterstream/ Loughanure/Croakaun Commons area of Clane:

- An immediate reduction of the speed limit on this road which is currently 60km/h.
- The reversal of the change of priority at the junction of upper Butterstream and Loughanure roads to its original position to reduce speeding at this juncture; or using a roundabout at this junction to accommodate all traffic.
- An introduction of traffic islands or chicanes or other traffic calming measures including signage to reduce speeding. The Council stated that the speed limit will be reviewed as part of the County Wide Speed Limit Review. The Municipal District Office is awaiting the results of a speed survey to ascertain if speeding is an issue on the road. The results of that survey will determine if any measures are required. The implications of measures will be subject to available funding. Cllr Feeney asked that

this issue be kept on the progress report and that the reversal of the change of priority to the original position also be included.

Gender Balance on Council Committees:

Cllr Feeney submitted the following motion at the Plenary Council meeting on January: That Council carries out a review of its policies and procedures to ensure there is regard to gender representation. The Council agreed that this matter be addressed by the Protocol Committee of the Council.

Meetings and events attended since last Newsletter:

January 27th: KCC Twinning Liaison Committee at KCC 11.00 a.m.

January 27th: Plenary Council Meeting KCC at 2.00 p.m.

January 28th: KWETB Audit and Risk Committee, KCC, 2.00 p.m.

January 28th: Kildare Childcare Alliance Public Meeting on Strike Action, Prosperous, 7.30pm

February 5th: Board of Management meeting MPPS, 5.00 p.m.

February 7th: Clane-Maynooth MD Council meeting, KCC, 10.00 a.m.

February 10th: Maynooth Community Council, Community Space, 8.00 p.m.

February 21st: KWETB, Special Meeting, KCC, 9.30 a.m.

I also meet individuals and community groups regularly to assist in any way I can with their personal or collective issues so feel free to get in touch. Thank you!

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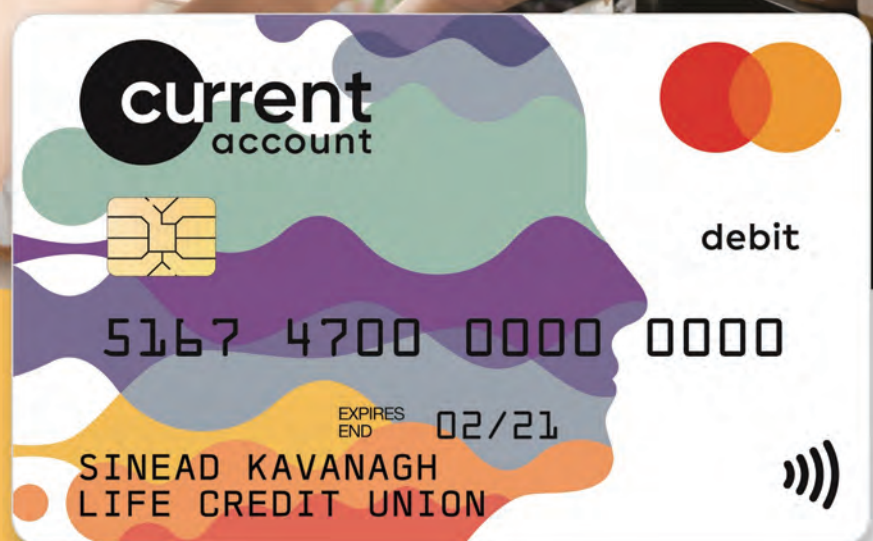
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Dublin North West



Catherine Murphy TD
Kildare North



Holly Cairns TD
Cork South West



Gary Gannon TD
Dublin Central



Jennifer Whitmore TD
Wicklow



Cian O'Callaghan TD
Dublin Bay North

Social Democrats - Election 2020

The new Social Democrats Parliamentary Party met for the first time on 12th February in Dublin in advance of the Dáil resuming on 20th February.

The 6 newly elected deputies held a press conference at the gates of Leinster House where party co-leaders Róisín Shortall and Catherine Murphy welcomed the party's 4 first time TDs to the Dáil.

The 6 TDs are:

Róisín Shortall – Dublin North West

Catherine Murphy – Kildare North

Holly Cairns – Cork South West

Cian O'Callaghan – Dublin Bay North

Gary Gannon – Dublin Central

Jennifer Whitmore – Wicklow

Róisín Shortall TD said:

“We are over the moon to be standing here today flanked by 4 new TD's who are eager to hit the ground running and deliver on the mandate given to us by the electorate. We are also extremely proud of all 20 Social Democrats candidates who stood for election across the country who have built a wider base for the future of our party.”

Catherine Murphy TD said:

“I think it's fair to say that anyone who had questions about our party can look now and see a formula for success. We intend to build from here and continue growing the Social Democrats as a force in Irish Politics.”

Cost of living a Major Issue in GE2020 Campaign

The Social Democrats launched their cost of living policy – Affordable Lives – which proposes a series of measures aimed at putting actual money back in people's pockets in a very real way.

The party says that while other parties promise tax cuts, any benefit of that is cancelled out by the ever-increasing cost of living which means that it is effectively given with one hand and taken back with the other.

The party says things such as the cost of rents and mortgages, childcare, commuting, insurance and energy costs are all crushing ordinary households and eating into family budgets.

Cian O'Callaghan TD for Dublin Bay North said:

“People are struggling. There's a sense that no matter how early you get up in the morning or how hard you work, really when it comes down to it, you're still barely making ends meet. Basic public services are so bad that people feel like they have to fork out for private health insurance – so they can have security in case of family illness, they're paying exorbitant childcare fees because there is no public system of childcare, and home and motor insurance costs continue to spiral as do energy bills. People feel like they just can't catch a break”.

“Promising tax cuts might sound attractive, but the reality is all you are doing is starving vital public service of much needed investment and thereby driving up the costs of every day living. People are not fools and they can see they are being lied to when it comes to politicians telling them they can have tax cuts and proper investment in services. The two just don't balance. By providing quality public services you stop the need for households to have to fork out for everyday basic necessities from what is supposed to be their discretionary income. This is how you put real money back in people's pockets”.

Full detail from Affordable lives:

<https://www.socialdemocrats.ie/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Affordable-Lives.pdf>

Making Life Affordable

The cost of living in Ireland is too high. The lack of investment in public services means that services that the public can rely on in other countries, such as healthcare, transport,

and childcare, must be paid for privately here. The lack of protection for consumers means that many of us pay very high bills for basic services such as utilities, waste, insurance and broadband. And, of course, we are living in the middle of yet another housing emergency where hundreds of thousands of people simply can't afford a home.

These costs make Ireland one of the most expensive places in the world in which to live. They add significantly to the cost base of the economy and undermine competitiveness. They make it harder to attract sustainable jobs and businesses. The Social Democrats are committed to tackling these high costs and charges. We want to drive down the costs of basic family bills and ensure that every arm of Government is playing its part in making this happen.

For the Social Democrats, the priority should be a society and economy where the cost of living is significantly reduced and people have far more money in their pocket on a daily basis rather than the usual budget promise of a couple of euro back by means of a small tax cut. The simple fact is there is no gain for a person in getting an extra €5 if basic household costs rise by more. Throughout our policy platform we have highlighted the critical need to switch to a system where investment in public services is the absolute priority of the next Government:

- We will focus on bringing down the cost of housing, insurance and energy bills.
- We will focus on providing parents with affordable childcare options.
- We will focus on reducing healthcare costs.
- We will focus on making primary and secondary education truly free.

Making Housing Affordable

Whether you are happy renting, own your own home, or are saving to one day buy, the cost of keeping a roof over your head remains one of the heaviest burdens people face. For the second time in a decade, we are struggling through a savage housing crisis. Homes are unaffordable, rents continue to rise, and large numbers of first-time buyers are effectively locked out of owning a home.

As a key overall objective, the Social Democrats want to change our housing system around so that the clear aim is to deliver good quality housing at the lowest possible cost to purchasers and renters, rather than the highest possible profit to developers and land speculators.

Central to delivering housing supply is prioritising the use of public land to build affordable and social housing. We believe exploiting public land-banks should be the absolute priority of the next Dáil. Time and again we have seen that the market cannot be relied upon to deliver housing people can afford. Instead the State should, and indeed must, step in. Developing public land banks is the only certain way in the short to medium term of delivering housing faster and at affordable prices. The next Government must take the housing crisis by the horns and deal with it directly.

We will:

- Begin an unprecedented programme of house building, with the Land Development Agency being set a delivery target of 20,000 homes a year with as much front-loading as possible based on capacity. This would deliver 100,000 homes over the lifetime of the next Dáil. As outlined in our Alternative Budget 2020, we will increase capital spending to match this ambitious target.
- On publicly owned land, we would build one third affordable purchase homes, one third affordable rent and one third social homes to ensure sustainable communities and strong tenancy mix. This division will be kept under review to ensure those most in need of housing have a home. • Contract builders to build on publicly controlled land to deliver social and affordable homes (for both purchase and rent) in socially mixed communities on sites that are developed to a masterplan with prices set in advance by the State using a Housing Delivery Agency. This gives much greater control of the timing and price of new housing supply. • Deliver affordability by driving down the costs of building on public land by tendering for new housing at scale to take advantage of economies-of-scale, ensuring advanced planning permission, and having funding streams in place. • These steps in place means that a multiplicity of builders can build on sites rather than developers, keeping costs low.

Delivering Affordable Homes

The Social Democrats would introduce a new Affordable Housing Scheme.

- We would use the extensive residentially zoned public land that is available to public authorities to build homes that are affordable to rent or buy. The O'Cualann model in north Dublin remains an excellent example of what can be done with the right kind of focus. • We will also strengthen the hands of Local Authorities when negotiating the cost of Part V housing (both social and affordable) by providing that where developers are stalling in negotiations the local authority will acquire land from within that development from the developer within a specified time period.

(Continued on page 24)



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

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- We would also introduce legislation to reform Part V of the Planning Acts to reserve 20% of housing in private developments for affordable housing (in addition to the current 10% social housing). This will ensure a stronger social mix in private developments by updating legislation and Ministerial guidelines to ensure pepper-potting. • This new scheme would also provide clear guidance for local authorities and Approved Housing Bodies as to how cost rental and affordable purchase schemes should be allocated, particularly in regard to how we assess what people can afford

Bringing Rents Under Control

In recent years, private rent prices have increased to an astronomical degree. The most recent figures from the Residential Tenancies Board show that the standard rental property in Ireland now costs €1,243 per month, a 67% increase from their recent low of €745 in early 2012 (€498 difference). At the same time, average weekly earnings only increased by 10% over the same period, from €699 to €768 (€69 difference, or €296 in a month).

The Social Democrats propose, a complete freeze on all residential rents. The current rent cap of 4% per annum is too high. It is five times the rate of inflation. It does not apply across the whole country and it has been too easily evaded by some landlords. Above all else, it hasn't worked. Rents remain at record levels and are rising by more than 4%, even in rent pressure zones. There is no justification for any further increases.

Other measures to lower the cost of rents include:

- We would like to see far greater commitment to affordable for purchase housing schemes alongside cost-rental projects in the vein of the Vienna Model.
- The Social Democrats would legislate to provide for indefinite contracts, so that tenancies can't simply be ended at the end of each 6-year cycle.
- Introducing a Deposit Protection Scheme and a new legal definition of deposit to mean one month's rent.
- We would limit the sale of property as a grounds for terminating a tenancy by amending Section 34 of the Residential Tenancies Acts and update legislation to ensure that tenants of Buy-to-Let properties in receivership are transferred to the receiver and then on to a new landlord.
- We would ban all sales of properties to vulture funds, legislate to ensure that no families can be evicted into homelessness and change the legal definition of a legal definition of landlord to include banks and receivers.
- Examine legislating to afford greater protections to licensees in tenancy situations.
- At present, tenants in home share situations where the total rent is above €2,500 face stamp duty on top of their rental bill. As rents rise, more and more renters will fall into this category. This is a grossly unfair tax and only makes a bad situation worse. We will scrap this stamp duty.
- Establish a Rent Register as proposed in our Residential Tenancies (Amendment) Bill 2018.
- Review of the inspection system to ensure good quality accommodation is available to rent.
- We will clarify the law to prohibit the practice of landlords who ask prospective tenants to bid on rents and introduce much clearer penalties for people soliciting bids on rents.
- We would limit ancillary charges that landlords can apply - such as bin collection and car parking that in some cases are being used by landlords to side-step current rent caps. We would also ban the taking of deposits to view properties for rent.

Lowering Your Household Bills

Tackling Energy Costs Irish households pay some of the highest electricity costs in the western world. Over a million electricity and gas customers are not availing of the best offers for their household circumstances. The Social Democrats want to drive down the cost of electricity and gas bills by setting a far more aggressive approach for pricing and competition in the sector and by investing in a new national retrofitting scheme for households.

- We will expand existing retrofitting grant schemes and introduce a pay-as you-save home insulation loan scheme so even those without cash upfront can avail of energy grants and pay over time through their energy bills. We would widen the benefits under the current scheme and set aside funding to recruit energy advisers to help households understand the benefits and savings of investing in their home and help them through the process.
- At household level, we would continue to support grants for household solar panel installation.
- We would expand the Commission for the Regulation of Utilities (CRU) to

recruit additional staff and allow for a far more consumer-oriented approach to fair competition in the utilities sector.

Dealing with Waste Charges Ireland currently does not have a dedicated Regulator to protect consumer interests in the waste sector. This means that the State has very little control over what waste companies charge or how fairly they deal with their customers or how competitive the market is. We need a strong regulator that will put environmental standards, strong competition and fair pricing at the heart of the waste industry.

We will establish the CRU as the interim regulator for the waste industry so that consumers can be adequately protected. This would also fund far better information for consumers on recycling and re-use to help bring bills down and protect our environment.

Protecting Consumers with Disabilities

It is important that we recognise that people with disabilities face specific disadvantages as consumers that may result in higher household bills and therefore ensuring that all regulators have fair price protections in place for people with disabilities and that these protections are properly notified to customers and enforced vigorously by the relevant authorities.

Ending Healthcare Costs

Through the roll-out of Sláintecare, the Social Democrats want to significantly bring down healthcare costs. The full implementation of this cross party plan will bring down the cost of things like:

- GP visits
- hospital charges
- dental visits
- prescription charges and the cost of medication to the health service through reform measures.

Most importantly, it will deliver a health service that we can depend on. One where patients will be seen quicker and everyone will be treated according to their need and not their ability to pay. This will remove the fear many people have about giving up expensive private health insurance.

Making Childcare Affordable

Childcare Costs: Irish parents pay some of the highest costs in the world for childcare. Despite some recent improvements, childcare remains a huge expense for many families. The Social Democrats have supported the recent introduction of the National Childcare Scheme. However, the scheme as currently constituted, falls far short of meeting the needs of those parenting and the very expensive costs of raising a family in Ireland. For many Irish parents, especially those with more than one child, childcare represents the cost of a second mortgage. In addition, many parents don't qualify for support under the scheme either because their income is not deemed low enough or their child is not deemed young enough.

These major gaps significantly raise the cost of living for such families and represent a very significant barrier to employment, especially for women and people parenting. Parents have a right to expect that like other developed European countries, childcare should be accessible, affordable and adequately supported by the state. However, the Social Democrats also recognise that it is not just parents using the formal childcare sector who face high costs. And neither are these high costs confined to just the youngest families.

Many families adjust their childcare arrangements as their families and work arrangements change over time. Many take time out of work to care for their family, use a Nanny/Au Pair, the formal childcare sector, or family members, or move in and out of childminding. Most of these choices entail costs, either directly or through income-foregone. So, it's important that all childcare arrangements are respected and supported by the state.

The Social Democrats will introduce four key childcare measures to help parents to support their families:

- As above, we will introduce additional paid parental leave from the end of maternity and paternity leave to the child's first birthday.
- We will provide a new Early Years Payment to cover children from the end of paid parental leave until entry into preschool.
- We will significantly improve support under the National Childcare Scheme to allow far more families with children under the age of 12 to qualify and to improve supports under the universal element of the scheme.
- Parents with young children who have not yet reached pre-school age would be given the choice of the Early Years Payment or assistance under the National Childcare Scheme.
- We would set aside funding to ensure that no parent is worse off when transferring from existing community, childcare subvention schemes to the new

(Continued on page 25)



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

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(Continued from page 24)

National Childcare Scheme

- We will improve direct funding to the childcare sector to help improve employment conditions and training, and to improve sustainability.
- We will also seek to reduce the administrative burden on the sector through direct assistance from County Childcare Committees.
- We will deal with insurance hikes in the sector through significant reform of Ireland's claims regime and the regulation of insurance companies.
- We will introduce a single Early Years and School Age Childcare Agency. If childcare fees continue to increase in line with subsidies, we will introduce measures to cap them.

It is the long-term aim of the Social Democrats to establish a national public childcare service and as a first step we would pilot this public provision of childcare in areas where there are the most acute shortages.

Reducing the Cost of Education Make Primary and Secondary Education Truly Free

The Social Democrats are committed to the introduction of truly free Primary and Secondary Education. This would mean investing in schools to improve school capitation grants, school transport, and book schemes to ensure that schools end the practice of seeking voluntary contributions from parents.

We will:

- 100% public funding of school books, the school transport scheme, and classroom resources.
- Seek an end to the state subsidy of fee-paying schools over the course of the next Government.
- Abolish voluntary contributions for families.
- Restore capitation payments to 2010 levels.
- Legislate to ensure all school uniforms and other requirements are affordable.

Tackling Third Level Fees & Improving Supports

We will:

- Reduce third level fees by phasing out the student contribution charge.
- Reduce the 'no maintenance support' area of students' commute from 45km to 25km.
- Increasing funding to the SUSI grant scheme by 7%, and eliminate the delays in payments which cause significant stress and hardship for students.
- Reinstate maintenance grants for post-graduate students.
- Recognise the work of Postgraduate Research Students and guarantee fair pay and working conditions.

Dealing with Transport Costs

The cost of transport and commuting is a huge burden to many. Investing in public transport will not only put money back in people's pockets, it will also play a key role in our efforts to tackle the climate crisis.

We will:

Reduce Public Transport Fares

The Social Democrats have long been committed to lower transport fares. The cost of travelling on public transport in Ireland is too high and is often substantially more than the marginal cost of making the same journey by car. This incentive does not work in the public interest. We will invest substantially in additional public transport subsidies so that fares can be reduced.

We are also keen to examine alternative no/low-fare models, such as exists in Luxembourg, Estonia, Germany, Austria etc. In Government, the Social Democrats will establish a no/low fare pilot in a large town or city, for example Galway, to examine how such a scheme could best work in Ireland. Increase funding for Local Link to €100m

Local Link is vital for rural Ireland but also for the overall sustainability of our public transport system. It helps alleviate rural and urban isolation for older members of our communities, who may no longer be able to drive themselves.

It acts as a small, community-based bus service to transport children to school and can help foster a sense of independence in children and mean that parental traffic is reduced. It encourages shopping locally and reducing the need for car parking. And of course, there are considerable climate change mitigation benefits. Current funding, standing at €21m, is completely insufficient to develop a strong and reliable Local Link network.

The Social Democrats would increase funding for Local Link to €100m and seek to improve this over time.

- No more Privatisation

Public Transport is a public good. The Social Democrats aim to keep it that way. We will oppose any attempt to privatise bus routes. At the same time we will insist on very high customer services for all operators. Public bus routes can only be sustained if they provide a reliable service that people can depend on and value.

In particular, we are keen to see a vast improvement in the area of accessibility for people with disabilities. We will strengthen accountability by requiring public transport providers to account for local services and targets at monthly Council meetings.

Making Public Transport Truly Accessible

We are committed to making our public and private transport system fully accessible – in terms of fleet, stops, platforms and other access points. We will improve regulations and funding conditions so that access to buses, trains, and taxis is vastly improved for people with disabilities.

Making Insurance Affordable

Affordable insurance is fundamental to the long term interests of our country. High insurance premiums add very significantly to the cost base of our economy. The higher they go, the higher they push up all other prices and drive up the cost of living. Businesses fail, local services cease operation, and communities can't get insurance for events.

While the Central Bank has started to produce statistics and investigate the basis on which insurers have been increasing premiums, the Social Democrats are not satisfied that the Central Bank is sufficiently consumer-focussed in its approach. It does not collect enough basic data – particularly in relation to premiums. And it is not active enough in relation to vulnerable customers, market concentration, and market volatility in relation to insurance.

- The Social Democrats want to see a new Consumer Affairs Committee established, whose sole focus is on outcomes for consumers. Regulators should expect to have to answer far more regularly for their actions or inaction. Such a Committee can play a valuable role in bringing about accountability, and also highlighting where there are gaps in legislation or deficiencies in powers that are available to regulators

Motor Insurance

Despite reported falls in the cost of car insurance, it is still far too high. It is to be welcomed that action is being belatedly taken, however it is still not going far or fast enough. Central Bank statistics now show that motor insurance costs in Ireland have risen by 42% in the last decade despite a 2.5% reduction in the average cost of individual claims over the same period.

- The Government's reform programme has been far too slow and ineffective. The Social Democrats would introduce better settlement guidance for the judiciary to help reduce claims costs.
- We would end discrimination against drivers of older cars and new or returning entrants to the insurance market, improve non-litigation methods for claims settlement to reduce legal costs, and make it easier to switch insurers and thereby drive competition.
- We would also take measures to tackle insurance fraud and recruit extra Gardaí to better enforce road traffic law.
- The Social Democrats believe that the Book of Quantum should be recalibrated so that court awards are benchmarked against international evidence instead of simply Irish historical awards. This should help to significantly lower awards for minor injuries, help lower legal costs, create less of an incentive for fraudulent claims, bring Ireland into line with pay-outs in other countries, and, with better regulation, reduce premiums.

Home Insurance

Home insurance premiums also remain too high. While reforms listed elsewhere would help reduce premiums in this sector as well, there are still far too many households struggling to receive reasonable quotes due to the threat of flood.

- The Social Democrats would boost funding for flood defences to help drive down the cost of home insurance.



Blackbird

We didn't know what caused the thud,
till bloodstains showed a bird had crashed into
our plate glass door and found a prostrate blackbird,
blood drying on his still un-gilded beak –
was it sun dazzle or a Sparrow hawk?

I thought of the classic Greek proverb,
that he whom the gods love dies young;
for his parents had probably led lives
filled with nesting toil in summer,
followed by bone-chilling, winter hardship;

but it's unlikely a bird would think like that,
while I myself, though noting loss has dimmed
the carefree days of unreflecting youth,
that failure is as likely as success
and all my deeds would not pass muster,

yet feel that triumphs have outweighed defeats
that, by and large, I've always done my best,
have tried to raise my voice in lyric song,
mimicking that blackbird *Oisín* acclaimed,
and, overall, have chosen right, not wrong.

By Colin Scott



**WEEE Ireland will be in
Maynooth on Saturday 21st
March from 10am to 4pm
in the Tesco Carpark for
recycling of any item with a
plug or battery.**



~ Have Fun While Advertising Your Organisation ~

Maynooth St Patrick's Day Parade

Application Form 2020

This Year's Theme: "Climate &Me"

Closing Date for Entries: 5pm Monday 9th March 2020

Name of Business/Group: _____

Address: _____

Contact e-mail: _____

Contact Person: _____ **Telephone:** _____

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

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

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

Commercial Float ~ €60 Club/Organisation ~ €30
First Time Entry ~ €10 Bands ~ Free

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

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

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

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

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

Basic protective measures against the new Coronavirus

Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand rub if your hands are not visibly dirty.

Why? Washing your hands with soap and water or using alcohol-based hand rub eliminates the virus if it is on your hands.

Practice respiratory hygiene

When coughing and sneezing, cover mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue – discard tissue immediately into a closed bin and clean your hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.

Why? Covering your mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing prevent the spread of germs and viruses. If you sneeze or cough into your hands, you may contaminate objects or people that you touch.

Maintain social distancing

Maintain at least 1 metre (3 feet) distance between yourself and other people, particularly those who are coughing, sneezing and have a fever.

Why? When someone who is infected with a respiratory disease, like 2019-nCoV, coughs or sneezes they project small droplets containing the virus. If you are too close avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth.

Why? Hands touch many surfaces which can be contaminated with the virus. If you touch your eyes, nose or mouth with your contaminated hands, you can transfer the virus from the surface to yourself.

If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early.

Tell your health care provider if you have travelled in an area in China where 2019-nCoV has been reported, or if you have been in close contact with someone who has travelled from China and has

respiratory symptoms.

Why?

Whenever you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing its important to seek medical attention promptly as this may be due to a respiratory infection or other serious condition. Respiratory symptoms with fever can have a range of causes, and depending on your personal travel history and circumstances, 2019-nCoV could be one of them.

If you have mild respiratory symptoms and no travel history to or within China, carefully practice basic respiratory and hand hygiene and stay home until you are recovered, if possible.

As a general precaution, practice general hygiene measures when visiting live animal markets, wet markets or animal product markets.

Ensure regular hand washing with soap and potable water after touching animals and animal products; avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth with hands; and avoid contact with sick animals or spoiled animal products. Strictly avoid any contact with other animals in the market (e.g., stray cats and dogs, rodents, birds, bats). Avoid contact with potentially contaminated animal waste or fluids on the soil or structures of shops and market facilities. Avoid consumption of raw or undercooked animal products

Handle raw meat, milk or animal organs with care, to avoid cross-contamination with uncooked foods, as per good food safety practices.

Protect yourself and others from getting sick

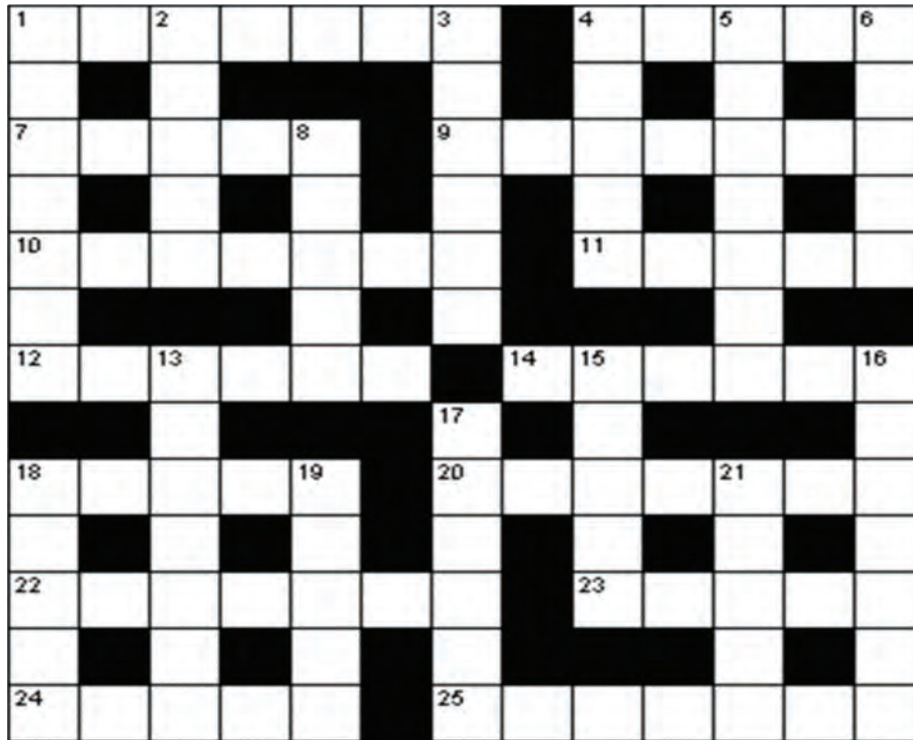
Source : World Health Organization

Clues Across

1. Seafarer (7)
4. Attain (5)
7. Catlike mammal (5)
9. Type of rock (7)
10. Respire (7)
11. Gaze (5)
12. Resembling a horse (6)
14. Unit of time (6)
18. Pandemonium (5)
20. Melodious (7)
22. Elusive (7)
23. Fibbing (5)
24. Foe (5)
25. Distinguished (7)



March 2020 Crossword - No. 488



Clues Down

1. Gruesome (7)
2. Variety show (5)
3. Elevated (6)
4. Parts of a ladder (5)
5. Fruit (7)
6. Precipitation (5)
8. Colossus (5)
13. Unwitting (7)
15. Tripod (5)
16. Joy (7)
17. Hinder (6)
18. Pancakes (5)
19. Glossy (5)
21. Percussion instrument (5)



Solutions to Crossword No. 487

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

Special Prize Book Voucher

Give yourself the luxury of browsing and choosing the book/books which take your fancy from the wide selection available in the store of our sponsor:

The Maynooth Bookshop
68 Main Street,
Maynooth

Entries must arrive to
Newsletter Office before:
Wednesday 18th March 2020

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Winner of Crossword No. 487

Eileen D'Arcy
Castlepark Drive
Maynooth

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

Collect prize from
The Maynooth Bookshop
68 Main Street, Maynooth

Difficult

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

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

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

Sudoku Challenge 2020

Entries must arrive to
Newsletter Office before:
Wednesday 18th March 2020

Congratulations to
Last Month's Winner:
Patrick O'Donoghue
Kingsbry
Maynooth

Collect prize from
Newsletter Office

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



Super Difficult

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____



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



Name: _____

Age: _____

Address: _____

Phone No: _____



Last Month's Winner:
Cara Cunningham
Laurence Ave
Maynooth

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

Entries must arrive before
Wednesday 18th March

Junior Puzzle Corner

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Word Search

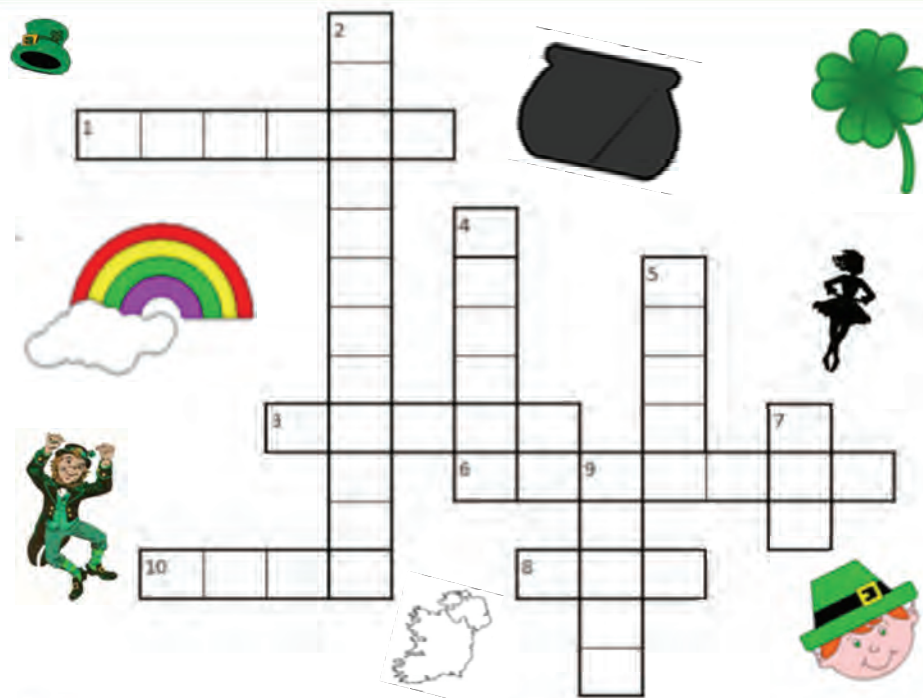


CLOVER
GREEN
GOLD
IRISH
MARCH



D	H	N	V	X	C
L	S	E	H	M	L
O	I	E	S	A	O
G	R	R	P	R	V
B	I	G	Q	C	E
J	I	P	F	H	R

St Patrick's Day Crossword



Across

- The capital of Ireland
- The colour associated with Ireland
- After rain, a... forms in the sky
- A type of Irish dance
- Hope you always have good

Down

- March 17th is 's Day
- You are lucky if you find a 4 leaf
- How many colours are in the rainbow
- A of Gold
- People from Ireland are



ASK FOR ANGELA!

GET HOME SAFE!

**ARE YOU ON A DATE
THAT ISN'T
WORKING OUT**

**DO YOU FEEL LIKE YOU'RE
NOT IN A SAFE SITUATION?**

**DOES IT ALL FEEL
A BIT WEIRD?**

**DINNER OR TINDER DATE NOT
WHO THEY SAID THEY WERE?**

APPROACH A MEMBER OF STAFF AND **ASK FOR ANGELA**
STAFF WILL IMMEDIATELY KNOW YOU NEED HELP AND WILL
GET YOU OUT OF THE SITUATION SAFELY AND DISCREETLY



#ASKFORANGELA

Supported by Brady's Bar & Lounge



Gardening with the Kids

Activities for growing with children.

Gardens can be a great place to cultivate a meaningful and fun learning experience for children. It's a natural match. Gardening can offer children an opportunity to learn the life cycle process, by which plants are grown, as well as responsibility, caretaking, independence, and environmental awareness.

Introducing children to gardening is a great way to increase their awareness of where food comes from and the importance of the environment in everyday life.

Bug Collection

What kid doesn't like collecting live bugs and butterflies? These wonderful kits are what your budding entomologist needs to gather, observe and learn about our insect friends, good and bad.

Watch them grow and let them go! The Insect Lore Port Bug is a lightweight and durable insect habitat that is designed with kid and critter comfort in mind. Made with soft and breathable nylon mesh, it pops open instantly when ready for use and will stand on a desk, table or countertop. Includes an attractive carrying case and belt clip for those big adventures.

Tools & Gloves

Get your children outdoors and playing in the dirt with the right-sized gear. Quality kids gardening tools that are built to last and gloves designed to fit small hands; everything young boys and girls need to get excited about growing flowers and food. And having their own "real" equipment is a great way to instill pride and teach caring for one's things. Make it a family activity... your little ones will love it.

Gardening Basics

One of the most important things to determine when starting a garden is the location. Ideally the garden should be placed in an area where it will receive maximum sunlight. It is also important to determine the soil quality of the area and assess what needs to be added to the soil - chemistry to maximize growth potential. The soil should be dug six to ten inches. Layering the soil with some kind of organic material will help to strengthen it. Drawing up a plan of the garden is another way to help make the most of the gardens potential. Tallest plants should be at the north end of the garden, while permanent plants should be on the sides. For those who don't have a lot of space to garden, containers are another option for growing plants. Containers can be made from materials such as plastic or clay, and must have adequate drainage to avoid root rot. Plants grown in containers should be planted in a ready to use potting soil and watered frequently. Some basic gardening tools to have handy are rakes, hoes, spades, trowels, and watering cans.

Make your beds

Make the most of the dry spells, or tarp soil to keep dry if the rain continues. Prepare vegetable beds by digging in compost or well-rotted manure. If you are planning to make a new area or to renovate a tired corner, remember the gift of well-prepared ground: new plantings will thank you for it.

Close in on weeds

If you haven't been tempted to do so already or you've been held back by the weather, wade into the beds to make the big clear-up. Work from boards to prevent compaction on heavy soil and use this as a chance to really get to know what's going on in the beds. Cut perennials close to the base to avoid jagged stems that will snare you later while weeding, and use this chance of getting in close to check for weeds.

Mulch

Mulch only on to clean ground, or you risk simply improving the quality of perennial weeds. Roses, soft fruit and perennials will benefit from a mulch of up to 5cm. It helps to hold in summer moisture and improves soil quality. Spread evenly over soil and up to the necks of the plants for a protective eiderdown to keep weed seeds in darkness and inactive.

Kindest cuts

If you haven't done so already, prune clematis, soft fruit, top fruit and hardy deciduous shrubs such as buddleia. Prune bush roses before mulching. Evergreens and Mediterranean shrubs such as rosemary should be left until the end of the month or early April, as a cold snap can set them back. Santolina can be cut to a tight knuckle late in the month to encourage new top growth but most evergreens resent being cut into old wood and should be pruned by no more than a third in any year.

Prune hedges hard

Elderly yew hedges can be renovated by judicious pruning. Cutting back all in one go is only successful if your hedge is in its prime and can take it. I prefer a more gradual approach, and March is the perfect month to prune hard - into old wood, to one side only. The top and the remaining side will "feed" the pruned wood, which will reclothe itself in the spring. Summer-cut the remaining hedge as usual but wait two years to cut the other side and the same again before cutting the top. Look after your hedges with feeding and mulching to encourage quicker regeneration.

Start to sow

Once the soil reaches 6C you can start to sow directly outside. Salad crops, rocket and broad beans can go in now with a cloche for protection, as can sweet peas. Chit seed potatoes and plant the first earlies. Line out shallot sets and onions. Cover rhubarb to make the most of the first new growth. The new spears are like the first cut of grass, marking the growing season ahead of us.



Irish Cookery Recipes

Traditional Irish Pancakes

Traditionally made in Ireland on Shrove Tuesday , the day before Ash Wednesday, 40 days before Easter celebrations..

Ingredients:

- 150g plain white flour
- 300ml whole milk
- 1 medium egg
- 1 tbsp. butter
- Pinch of salt



Method

1. Sift the flour into a large bowl and add the pinch of salt.
2. Make a well in the centre of the flour and add the egg, melted butter and 3/4 of the milk. Gradually begin to whisk in the flour from the outside to prevent lumps forming. Whisk until all the liquid is incorporated then add the remaining milk and whisk to combine it to the required thickness of pouring cream.
3. Pour into a jug and allow it to rest 30 minutes before using..
4. To cook the pancakes you must heat a heavy based frying pan until hot then turn the temperature down to medium.
5. Lightly grease the pan with oil or butter then pour in the required amount to coat the base of the frying pan. Tilt the pan around to ensure the batter coats the pan.
6. Cook over a moderate heat for 2-3 minutes lifting with a spatula to check to see if it is done. Use a spatula to turn the pancake over or alternatively you may flip it.
7. Cook for another minute or two on that side .
8. Move the pancakes onto a warm plate and place in a warm oven while you cook the remaining pancakes, or serve them as they are cooked.

Serve with a sprinkle of sugar and squeeze of lemon juice.

Irish Brown Soda Bread

Ingredients:

- 225g brown wholemeal flour
- 225g plain white flour
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp bread soda
- 400 ml buttermilk



Method;

1. Preheat the oven to 200 C/400 F/Gas mark 3.
2. In a large bowl add the wholemeal flour and then sift in the plain white flour and bread soda.
3. Add salt into flour and make a well in the centre of the dry mix.
4. Pour in most of the buttermilk, keeping back a small amount.
5. Mix together to a sticky dough which is not too dry or too wet. The dough is too dry add the remaining buttermilk.
6. Turn the dough into a lightly oiled bread tin and press down with the back of your hand.
7. Lightly brush the top of the bread with some buttermilk an top with rolled porridge oats or pinhead oatmeal if you wish.
8. Bake in the centre of your preheated oven for 45 minutes. To check if done insert a skewer or knife to test. This should come out of the bread clean. If sticky put back in for another 5 minutes then recheck.
9. When baked turn the bread out onto a cooling rack upside down to keep a crispy crust. If you prefer a less crispy crust wrap the bread in a clean tea towel for a softer, chewier crust.

Enjoy topped with delicious Irish creamery butter while warm.

Irish Beef Stew

Ingredients:

- 2 Tbsp. vegetable oil
- 1 kg/2lb 4 oz. braising steak. Cut into 2.5/cm /1 in chunks
- 2 onions
- 3 celery stalks
- 4 large carrots
- 1 litre/13/4 pint beef stock (from stock cubes)
- 900g/2lb potatoes
- 25g/1oz unsalted butter
- Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper



Method:

1. Preheat the oven to 200C/180 Fan/Gas 6. Place a large saucepan over a high heat, add 1 tbsp. of the oil and brown the beef in batches ,removing to a plate on the side.
2. Peel and chop the onions and carrots and slice the celery.
3. Heat the remaining oil in the same saucepan and fry the onions, carrots and celery for 4 -5 minutes or until onions have softened. Scrape any cooked on bits from the bottom of the pan; this will add flavour to the stew. Season with salt and pepper.
4. Mix the beef with the vegetables, then take the pan off the heat. Tip the meat and vegetables into a large ovenproof dish and pour the stock over the top.
5. Peel and slice the potatoes into 1/2 cm/1/4 in-thick slices and arrange over the top of the beef. Dot the butter over the top, the cover tightly with foil. Bake for 1 hour, then remove the foil and bake for a further 15 minutes, until the potatoes are crisp and golden .brown. Serve in deep bowls.

Cócaireacht shona



FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

Saint Patrick's Day Movie Quiz



1. Which two actors were real-life brothers in *The Quiet Man*?

- a) John Wayne and Victor McLaglen
- b) Barry Fitzgerald and Arthur Shields
- c) Victor McLaglen and Ward Bond
- d) Ward Bond and John Wayne

2. Which Martin Scorsese movie was influenced by John Wayne's flashback boxing scene in *The Quiet Man*?

- a) *Goodfellas*
- b) *Casino*
- c) *Raging Bull*
- d) *Taxi Driver*

3. What country is the 2008 Irish crime movie *In Bruges* set in?

- a) Poland
- b) Belgium
- c) Germany
- d) Finland



4. What is the name of Ken and Ray's London-based boss in *In Bruges*?

- a) John
- b) Dennis
- c) Harry
- d) Sean

5. Which famous Irish song is playing as Brendan Gleeson ascends the bell tower near the end of *In Bruges*?

- a) *Grace*
- b) *Dirty Old Town*
- c) *Danny Boy*
- d) *Raglan Road*



6. Who formed and managed the band in *The Commitments*?

- a) Ray Ward
- b) Jimmy Rabbitte
- c) Derek Scully
- d) Outspan Foster

7. What real-life band did *Commitments* star, Maria Doyle Kennedy sing backing vocals for?

- a) *The Pixies*
- b) *Hothouse Flowers*
- c) *Seanachie*
- d) *The Soup Dragons*



8. Name the actor and the role he plays in the 1992 movie, *Michael Collins*.

9. Which well-known actor plays Michael McBride in *Darby O'Gill and The Little People*?

- a) Barry Fitzgerald
- b) Richard Harris
- c) Sean Connery
- d) Peter O'Toole



10. How does Darby lose his three wishes for the first time?

- a) He takes his eyes off the leprechaun
- b) He drops the leprechaun
- c) He wishes four wishes
- d) None of these

11. In the cult Irish movie comedy *Intermission*, what did Colin Farrell think was 'delish'?

- a) Ketchup in coffee
- b) Brown sauce in tea
- c) Ketchup in tea
- d) Brown sauce in coffee



12. Which acclaimed Irish movie did Brenda Fricker win an Oscar for?

- a) *Brooklyn*
- b) *In the Name of the Father*
- c) *Michael Collins*
- d) *My Left Foot*

13. In *The Wind that Shakes The Barley*, is Cillian Murphy's character for the Treaty or against it?

- a) For
- b) Against
- c) Undecided
- d) Neutral



14. Which Irish actor played Bobby Sands in the political drama *Hunger*?

- a) Jamie Dornan
- b) Michael Fassbender
- c) Cillian Murphy
- d) Ciaran Hinds

15. Who played Mary Kate Danaher in *The Quiet Man*?

- a) Maureen O'Sullivan
- b) Katherine Hepburn
- c) Maureen O'Hara
- d) Barbra Stanwyck



16. Which Irish movie musical won the 2008 Oscar for *Best Original Song*?

- a) *The Commitments*
- b) *Sing Street*
- c) *Once*
- d) *Far And Away*



17. Name this Oscar-nominated Irish movie from the 1990s

18. Which picturesque village, situated between the borders of Mayo and Galway, was used as a filming location for *The Quiet Man*?

- a) Killala
- b) Cong
- c) Leenane
- d) Ballintubber



19. Which ballad is heard during the assassination scene at the end of *Michael Collins*?

- a) *She Moved Through the Fair*
- b) *Danny Boy*
- c) *Macushla*
- d) *The Foggy Dew*



The answers to the St. Patrick's Day Movie Quiz will be in the April edition of the Maynooth Newsletter



St Patrick's Day Family Fun from 12pm
Face Painting - Mini Disco - Games
Live Music All Day



Please call 01 629 0909
 or email: bookings@arklebarandrestaurant.ie
 for any enquiry or to make a reservation

MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND

Saturday 21st March

EST



1995

GLENROYAL

HOTEL

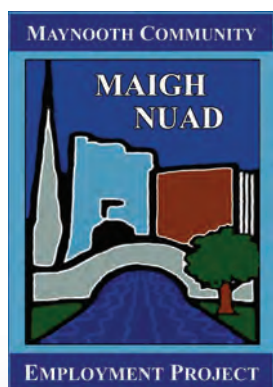


Dance the night away this Mother's Day
Supper Club Tickets €49.50 which includes a ticket
and 3 course dinner with prime front seating !

Ticket Only - €22.50

Tickets from Hotel Reception 01 6290909





Maynooth Newsletter

Online

Serving the people of Maynooth



Local News

April 2020

Issue No. 489

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.

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 progress we may be unable to produce the Online version.

Maynooth Home Support Group

A new group has been formed in Maynooth to help members of the community that are in self isolation or vulnerable. The group called Maynooth Home Support is an initiative by Naoise Ó Cearúil & Anne Birchall.

The group has amassed over 100 volunteers to date and the support of many local businesses such as the Glenroyal Hotel and Taxy.

The initiative has buy in from local pharmacies and supermarkets. Volunteers will pick up prescriptions and/or groceries and drop them at the front of people's homes. The group is abiding by all HSE instructions in regards to hand hygiene, sanitisation and social distancing. We would appreciate it if you could spread the word and the poster attached so people are aware of supports available to them.

People can call Naoise on (086) 728 0050 or Anne on (085) 158 2660 or email maynoothcommunityhelp@gmail.com

Maynooth Home support

If you are unable to leave your home due to being immunocompromised or for other reasons, there are volunteers locally willing to help bring supplies to you.



You can contact
Naoise on (086) 728 0050
Anne on (085) 158 2660

maynoothcommunityhelp@gmail.com

The National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE) is leading our public health response to COVID-19 and a National Action Plan was published on 16th March, setting out a whole-of-society response and mobilisation of resources across Government and society to fight the spread of the virus. This Community Response Action Plan supports the National Action Plan and is focussed on our initial response in supporting a community response to COVID-19.



Coronavirus
COVID-19
Public Health
Advice

OFFICIAL Links for information on the coronavirus:
<https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus.html>
www.gov.ie

Got a question? We're here to help.
Callsave: 1850 24 1850
Phone: 041 6850300
Tweet: @HSELive
Monday to Friday: 8am - 8pm
Saturday and Sunday: 9am - 5pm

We have produced a Communications Pack for community and voluntary groups and members of the public and we would appreciate if you distribute this information across your networks, to members of your group, neighbours, friends and recipients of your service.

In line with the request above from the National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE) the Maynooth Newsletter has published the National Action Plan on Page 21 to 26



An Garda Síochána

Ireland's National Police and Security Service

Garda Mobility Service

If you are concerned for yourself or a neighbour, please contact your local Garda station. Contact details for all Garda stations are on the Garda website www.garda.ie or in any phonebook. Gardaí are hiring additional vehicles to assist those who may be in need of help with for example, collection of medical prescriptions, attend hospital appointments or other mobility supports.
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Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee

It is difficult to know what to write when nothing is happening. By the time you read this everything will have changed again, hopefully for the better. I can only say to our Senior Citizens that we have not gone away and you can call me or any committee member at any time. When all this passes, and it will, we will look forward to your company at the club once again. Of course the way to ensure this happens for us all, is to obey the HSE guidelines.

Our older and vulnerable people are precious to us and indeed to everyone else, if the response to our call for volunteers is anything to go by. So please don't be afraid to ask for help, it's the right thing to do. See the Maynooth Home Support contact numbers and email on the front page.

I have always known and experienced the support this community has to offer and now everyone else knows as well. I would like to thank Anne, Naoise and all volunteers who came together to assist the most vulnerable in our society.

A special word of thanks to our frontline workers, Health Care, shop, supermarkets, delivery people and cleaners who put our lives before their own. I would hope that when the dust settles and the Coronavirus becomes a distant memory, we will remember the people who held it all together, they deserve our respect.

We can all play our part, just remember : Hand Hygiene, Coughing Etiquette and Social Distance. Stay Safe.

Josephine Moore.

Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee
087 9002296



Maynooth University Town Football Club



Like all sports our activities have been greatly curtailed by the Coronavirus. Whilst this is regrettable it is the best course of action to take and we must all play our part in the effort to curtail such an affliction and stay safe.

F.A.I. Intermediate Cup 1/4 Final.

Malahide Utd 2 - Town 0

Our love affair with this cup came to an end in the wet and windy seaside town of Malahide. The defection of Dylan Kavanagh during the pre-match warm up required a reshuffle in personnel. It was even Steven in the opening minutes but a loose Town clearance was volleyed to the net in the 20th minute. Town failed to clear a corner just before halftime and the ball was scrambled over the line to go two down.

The Town fared better in the 2nd half against the wind and rain but were unable to break down a stubborn home defence.

Leinster Senior League - Major Division Saturday

Town 1 - Bluebell Utd 5

A disappointing performance by the Town in this easy defeat by table toppers Bluebell Utd. A Dean Barrett goal to level at 1 - 1 way the only redeeming feature in an uncharacteristic lack lustre display.

Leinster Senior League - Senior Division Sunday

Killester/Donnycarney 1 - Town 2

A hard fought win here in a close encounter. Despite going behind early in the game the Town never panicked and ran out deserved winners. A Shane Fagan penalty save gave the Town a lift and goals from Conor Foley and Jackson Ryan gave us three valuable points.

With a curtailed list of results due to the lack of fixtures we sincerely hope that everything gets back on track sooner rather than later. In the meantime we should stay safe and look after each other.

We extend our condolences to the family of the late Gerard (Gerry) McTernan on their recent sad loss. Gerry was a valued member of Maynooth Town F.C. for many years. He helped to bring many honours to the Club as a player, mentor and also in an administrative capacity. He now joins many former Club members in that great Stadium in the sky.

Please note that ALL of Maynooth Town F.C. facilities have been closed for the duration of the current crisis.

Maynooth Newsletter

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

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

Tel: 01-6285922

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

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



Copy date for the next edition of the Maynooth Newsletter will be Tuesday 21st April 2020

Editorial

With the grass growing at a pace and new buds on the trees, nature reminds us that it recovers every spring from the ravages of winter. We need to take this message of recovery as the outcome that we will have when we beat COVID - 19. I had an old boss at work who often reminded me that nothing is forever as we know it and that even nature evolves. To respond our normal ways of living have needed to be changed and almost everyone in our community has had to make some adjustments in the past month that at the turn of the new decade at the beginning of this year could not have been foreseen. The "Maynooth Newsletter" like many other publications is not issuing a printed version for April 2020 which is the first time in the thirty five years of production that this has happened.

Reading the on-line version will bring you close to our on-line archive which is well worth a view if you are at home and have time to view it. I would particularly recommend it to newer residents who are not from the area and have come to make Maynooth your home. It is an invaluable social record of the development of Maynooth.

I want to acknowledge that there are readers who have temporarily lost their jobs because of the current public health crisis, but it is worth remembering that Maynooth is a thriving town and with the supports that are available it is likely that businesses will return to normal when this is over. If anything it is likely that at the end of this we will have a Christmas type rush with pent up demand. For business owners, the vibrant commercial activity that is Maynooth needs you to get back up and running when the time is right and I know as a community we appreciate the services and social outlets literally on our doorsteps.

On my own day job I have been lucky that I could continue to work from home. I know that many others are doing likewise with limited interruption to their ability to work. Who would have thought that such circumstances could be so effective and there is no doubt that this opportunity to reduce daily commuting will be given up with regret. Talking to my own colleagues via Webex everyday has been very effective as has meetings arranged via Microsoft Teams and I even attended a lecture via Zoom. From talking with other people using these technologies the discussion has quickly moved to the benefits for family life. We may well have moved from the position of living for work to working to live in that family life has improved. People have commented to me about the fact that the new working options has made them think about their personal priorities.

The potential to spend more time with their children during the week, to be there when they come home from school now seems a realistic situation. However it is evident that some broadband speeds are poor in Maynooth. While writing this article I checked my broadband speed a number of times and the highest result that I got was 39.1 mbps. We need greater investment in broadband in Maynooth and we must not be left behind when the National Broadband Plan rolls out improvements across Ireland.

Maynooth was one of the first places to have a community based support initiative to the disruption caused by the circumstances associated with COVID -19. The "Maynooth Home Support" initiative quickly gained momentum and has made a real difference. Led by two people who have immense energy and social conscience meant that people came on board quickly to give to their support. Working with existing long-standing support groups they tapped into existing awareness of need. I know that many others were involved but I want to call out Naoise Ó Cearúil and Anne Birchall for leading this valuable community initiative. Also using the Maynooth Notice Boards Facebook page Anne also kept the wider community aware of the information that they needed to know and specific to Maynooth. Well done to everyone involved.

There are some lessons that can be learned from the sudden emergence of a pandemic such as COVID-19 and the restrictions that need to be applied. One of the things that I never appreciated was my garden. Like many others lucky enough to have gardens I have recently spent much more time in my garden and now have plans to make it a nicer place to be. The more recent residential developments in Maynooth have limited private garden space. Perhaps this trend should be reversed as like many other things many of us never appreciate the value of private open space until we need it. However the priority for all of us is to help beat COVID -19 so stay safe and well and look after each other. There are different opinions on when things will be back to normal – but maybe a new better normal is ahead.

Paul Croghan
Editor



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Tony Smith Memorial Walk

Hi everyone,

After a meeting of the Labour party in Maynooth, members felt that after 40 years the walk has run its course, and decided not to organise any further walks.

I would like to personally thank everyone who took part and got sponsors. A special thank you to Mrs. Ellie Leavy who did a good few walks and got a great amount of sponsors and as a result made a good sum in support of Maynooth Senior Citizens. Thanks to Chairperson Josie Moore and her Committee who contributed to the walk this last 40 years and previous chairpersons before Josie.

To Emmett Stagg, Dave Moynan and all the Labour Party members in Maynooth who took part and got sponsors and to my family who did the walks and contributed towards getting sponsors and actually sponsored me in the walks.

Yours truly

Kathleen Owens
Old Greenfield

MAYNOOTH

Tidy Towns

CARING FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT



Gold Medal Winner 2019

Maynooth Tidy Towns held their first meeting on 5th March and the following officers were elected.

John Kavanagh, Chair, Vinnie Mulready, Vice chair, Mary Molloy, Secretary, Mary Connolly, Minutes Secretary, Mary Jennings, Treasurer, and Richard Farrell PRO.

Michael Kenny also joined the Maynooth Tidy Towns committee.

WEEE Ireland collection for 21st March in Maynooth has been cancelled. A new date will be arranged in the future.

All Maynooth Tidy Towns Clean-Up meetings have been postponed until further notice. In the meantime look after yourselves & each other.

Richard Farrell
PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns
Facebook or Twitter



Maynooth University honours Laura Madden with President's Medal

MU pays tribute to Irish woman whose bravery helped ignite global #MeToo movement

Maynooth, Ireland: 6 March 2020: Maynooth University last night awarded Laura Madden the President's Medal at a special event to mark International Women's Day. President of Maynooth University, Professor Philip Nolan, paid tribute to Ms Madden for bravely coming forward to speak of her personal trauma despite the threat of retribution.

Originally from Monaghan, Ms Madden was one of the first women to speak on the record to New York Times reporters Jodi Kantor and Megan Twohey about the sexual predation of Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein. The bravery of the women who told their stories triggered an avalanche of public testimonies under the hashtag #MeToo, spawning a wider global movement.

Accepting the President's Medal, Ms Madden said:

"I am so honoured to be invited to Maynooth University to receive this award. It's been an immensely difficult journey over the years and to finally be able to share my experience and feel the collective support of women and men from all walks of life has been transformative.

"Something I have learnt since going public with my story is that you cannot fix a problem you cannot see. By shining a light on the collective experiences of women, a global reckoning has begun. I'm so grateful to Maynooth University and Professor Philip Nolan for giving me a platform alongside these amazing women, Professor Linda Connolly and Professor Anne O'Brien, and for being so dedicated to keeping a difficult subject in the spotlight."

"Maynooth University is extremely proud to award the 2020 President's Medal to Laura Madden," said Maynooth University President, Prof Philip

Nolan. "Ms Madden is an extraordinary woman who bravely decided to speak about her trauma despite facing a tremendous headwind of pressure, power, and potential retribution. Her display of courage helped shed light on industries in which overwhelming imbalances of power are exploited to perpetrate and cover up acts of violence. She, along with other women who came forward, ignited a broader global movement, inspiring women around the world to publicly share their stories under the hashtag #MeToo.

"At Maynooth University, human rights, equality and justice are at the core of our research, our curriculum, and our ethos as an institution. We are grateful to Laura Madden for accepting this award and sharing the insights from her lived experience with our community, and are pleased to be able honour her."

As part of this special International Women's Day event at Maynooth University, RTÉ broadcaster Audrey Carville hosted a panel discussion with Ms Madden, Professor Linda Connolly, Director of Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute (MUSSI) who is a leading scholar on women's experiences with trauma in Irish history, and Dr Anne O'Brien from the Department of Media Studies at Maynooth University and author of *Women, Inequality and Media Work*.



Photo left to right: Prof Linda Connolly, RTÉ broadcaster Audrey Carville, Laura Madden, President of Maynooth University, Prof Philip Nolan and Dr Anne O'Brien.

Maynooth University Media Statement 24 March, 2020:

Following recent government decisions, and the additional stress that the uncertainty has caused for some students, MU is now taking the decision not to resume face-to-face teaching this semester. Remote teaching will continue until the end of the semester. Exams will be replaced with equivalent remote assessments.

University operations and research will continue, although with many staff working from home. MU residences remain open. Students who wish to stay until the end of their lease are welcome to do so. Students who decide to vacate their university accommodation will have their rent refunded. The previous policy being circulated reflected the University's standard policy prior to the Covid-19 outbreak.

The University is extremely proud of its students, teaching and professional staff who have worked under enormous pressure and with very short notice to deliver teaching and support functions remotely, as well as essential on-campus functions.

All up-to-date information can be found:

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/coronavirus>

HOW TO MAKE A CHOCOLATE EASTER EGG

- Break your chocolate into rough chunks, then finely chop into small pieces – the finer the better!
- Half-fill a small pan with water and bring to a gentle simmer over a low heat. Rest a heatproof bowl on top, add the chopped chocolate to the bowl, then allow to melt, stirring occasionally
- Using oven gloves, remove the bowl from the heat and leave to cool to 35°C. Check the temperature with a cooking thermometer
- Spoon the chocolate into your mould, one tablespoon at a time, tilting the mould so the chocolate covers the surface. Don't worry if you make a mess! Tip any excess chocolate back into the bowl.
- Allow the chocolate to cool slightly, then using a butter knife, scrape around the rim of the mould to get a clean edge.
- Lay out some greaseproof paper and place the mould flat-side-down on top for 15 minutes, or until the chocolate has completely set.
- Meanwhile, repeat steps 4 to 6 with the second mould.
- Once the chocolate has set, repeat the process a few times until you've built up a layer of chocolate around ½cm thick
- Put both moulds in the fridge for a further 10 minutes to allow the chocolate to set completely.
- To remove your eggs from their moulds, squeeze the casing gently, working your way around the edge (the warmth from your hands will help).
- Brush the remaining melted chocolate around the rim of each of the chocolate egg halves, then gently press them together so they stick in place. Leave for a few minutes until the chocolate sets, then it's ready!



A homemade treat like this is a super-cute present for friends and family. If you're feeling creative, why not jazz it up with icing, ribbon or more melted chocolate?

Source: jamieoliver.com



Smaointe

I was surprised at the reaction of the many people, young and not so young, who, when interviewed on TV, took so enthusiastically to the dancing priest. "More power to him", they said. "If there were more like him the Church would be a better place. What wrong is he doing? Don't some priests play golf and we don't criticise them? Aren't they entitled to their time off and relaxation? Why should we be so stuffy when a priest spends his spare time in competitive dancing?"

Well, if "stuffy" is the correct adjective then I am stuffy for it jars with me to listen to a homily by a priest on Sunday morning in church and in the evening watch him dancing on television. If asked what he was doing I could not imagine him saying truthfully that he was "about my Father's business". Neither do I want him to be a comedian telling me jokes as part of his homily. I want him – and her, when the time comes – to take seriously the work of Jesus and remind me of the many ways and occasions that he championed the furthering of his Father's reign in the world with his almost unbelievable compassion and forgiveness. Yes, he was at the marriage feast of Cana – if there ever was such a marriage feast – but he appears to me to have been extremely detached from the merrymaking. Surely he had noticed just as much as Mary that the wine had run out but didn't see that it had anything to do with him.

By the way, applause in the church makes me uneasy also. As an old priest I knew about 60 years ago used to ask on similar occasions, with his little fetching stammer, "who, who's being worshipped?"

Aguisín:

For twice a thousand years have 'we'
Secured the Lord with lock and key;
We've drawn the curtain, lit the lamp,
But he escapes to migrants' camp!

Gabriel Martin.

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Everything you need to know about making a Will in Ireland

Here's a very sobering fact –only 30% of Irish people have a Will.

This is bad news. Not having a Will puts your loved ones at risk and also leaves an awful mess for your family to clean up after your passing. It doesn't do you any favours either as your wishes may not be considered if you die without a Will.

We understand that people shy away from dealing with topics relating to death, but we consider a Will to be a document for a living person and we encourage people to take the same approach.

The reasons are simple.

Creating a Will allows you to:

Express your wishes – without a Will your estate will be divided according to intestacy laws and not what you desire.

Provide for those you chose.

Protect your children.

Lessen inheritance tax.

Reduce the chance of your estate being contested.

Regardless of the size of your estate, creating a Will can be a simple process when you work with a solicitor who specialises in Wills, Probates and Estate Management. In this post, we cover everything you need to know about making a Will.

What is a Will?

A Will is a legal document that lets you express how you want your property, assets and keepsakes to be shared on your death.

The person writing the Will is called the "testator" or "testatrix".

You can make as many Wills as you like throughout your life but the only one that will be valid on your death will be the most recent one you made prior to your death. All Wills you created before this one will not have any legal standing. In Ireland, for a Will to be valid, you must:

Be over 18 years old or else married (or married in the past).

Be of a sound mind.

The Will must be in writing.

You must sign the Will in front of at least two witnesses.

You must sign your Will at the end of the document.

What should a Will contain?

Although there isn't one standard Will template in Ireland, a last Will and testament should contain these ten basic elements:

Your name and address.

A clause to revoke (cancel) all your previous Wills.

The names of your executors (executors are people you trust and appoint to work with your solicitor to carry out your wishes).

A list of your money and goods and the people you want to inherit these items.

A list of your property (or properties) and the beneficiaries you leave it to (you may also include instructions for the house to be sold and the money to be shared among your heirs).

A clause to deal with any property or item not mentioned in your Will (this is called a residuary clause).

The date. Your signature. The signatures of your two witnesses.

An attestation clause (this clause says that your Will has been created in a manner that meets the legal requirements).

What is the difference between a legacy and a devise in a Will?

Legal language in a Will often speaks of a legacy or devise.

A legacy is a piece of personal property, like a piece of jewellery, which you want to leave to a loved one. A devise is a real property that you want to leave to a loved one.

There are also different types of legacies:

A general legacy – this is a gift you can leave that will come out of your estate once all your debts are paid, any tax you owe is settled and all your specific legacies are taken into account

A specific legacy – a specific gift you want to leave to someone, such as a vehicle.

A demonstrative legacy – a combination of both a general and specific legacy.

A conditional legacy – this legacy has a condition that goes with it and the heir has to fulfil that condition to receive the gift.

An abated legacy – this happens when there is not enough in your estate to cover your debts and liabilities.

An adeemed legacy – if you give away an item that you have listed in your Will during your lifetime, the legacy is considered adeemed.

A charitable legacy – you must clearly identify the charity you wish your legacy to go to.

Avoid these mistakes when making a Will

Marriage revokes a Will but divorce doesn't – if you get divorced and your beneficiaries change make sure you create a new Will. Don't forget any Wills you may have created in other countries – a revocation clause revokes all your previous Wills, your foreign Wills will be revoked too and this may not be what you want. Keep your Will safe – if your Will is destroyed it will cause a problem. Good ideas to include in your Will.

Name more than one executor. Don't name an alternative executor as this causes confusion (say "I appoint Catherine and James" rather than "I appoint Catherine or James")

Use a solicitor to draft your Will. If there are young children named in your estate, it is advisable to:

Appoint trustees and guardians.

Establish a trust out of your estate.

Provide additional powers for your executors and trustees.

What happens if one of your beneficiaries dies before you?

The need for a solicitor to write your Will with you becomes clear when you think of all the different scenarios that could arise. Professional advice pays great dividends in protecting your wishes no matter how circumstances might change from when you wrote your Will to when your Will comes into play.

Doctrine of lapse gives us a perfect example of this possibility. If one of your beneficiaries passes away before you do, the legacy you left to that person will be treated as though you died intestate (without a Will) unless you have included a residuary clause in the Will.

There are exceptions to this rule and they include the following:

Gifts left to children.

Gifts left to fulfil a legal or moral duty.

Gifts left on trust for someone else.

A Will that accounts for the possibility of a beneficiary predeceasing you. Whether your estate is large or small, creating a Will helps you plan what happens to your possessions and how your finances and property can take care of your family on your passing. Don't be one of the 70% of Irish people who don't have a Will.

Above is for information purpose only, please contact your solicitor for further information

Source: www.aclsolicitors.ie

Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

Planning Applications received from 20/02/2020 to 25/3/2020 Information from Kildare County Council Website

App Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	App Date
20293	Kildare County Council	Keith and Kathryn Troy	11 Parklands Close, Railpark, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	20/03/2020
20266	Kildare County Council	Mason Homes Limited	Castlepark, Dunboyne Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	13/03/2020
20255	Kildare County Council	Trustees of St. Patrick's College Maynooth	St. Patrick's College, Parson Street, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	12/03/2020
20245	Kildare County Council	Gourmet Frites (Ireland) Ltd., T/a Bram's Gourmet Frites	Circle K, Carton Hall Service Station, Straffan Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, W23 V489.	11/03/2020
20251	Kildare County Council	Terri Shiel	20 Parklands Grove, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	11/03/2020
20240	Kildare County Council	Denise Travers	Fallmore Villa, Newtown Grove, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 Y2F7	10/03/2020
20213	Kildare County Council	Terri Shiel,	20 Parklands Grove, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	04/03/2020
20215	Kildare County Council	Jim and Helen O'Hara,	1 Leinster Wood South, Carton Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	04/03/2020
20211	Kildare County Council	Carton Veterinary Clinic Limited,	Units 5 & 6, Carton Shopping Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	03/03/2020
20198	Kildare County Council	Gourmet Fries (Ireland) Ltd. t/a Bram's Gourmet Fries,	Circle K Carton Hall Service Station, Straffan Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 V489.	28/02/2020
20187	Kildare County Council	Ian Stewart-Mills	1 College Green, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, W23 N7P8	27/02/2020

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Please note that the Maynooth Community Employment Project has closed till further notice. This will mean that Maintenance Services in the Harbour Area and Maynooth Town Football Club facilities will cease until further notice. The Project's office in Carton Retail Park is also closed. Only key staff will providing essential services for limited hours .

Manhattan (Winter 1960/'61)

Manmade forest
proudly set
Beside the Atlantic
High buildings
Impatient of
The earthbound lot
Of brick and stone
Huddled in defiance
Buttressing
Each other's growth
Above the clouds
A plain of light
Below the fickle weather
Unleashing in the winter
Gloom its fluid might

Lest these aspiring giants
Out-top its tyranny
Night with iridescent leaves
Among the shadows
The crystalline array
Of mingled gleams
Transforming glass and
steel
While river-pent
Ubiquitous impulse
Of swarming life
Swift disconnected joy
And dazzling fantasy
Invade these serried towers
Urging them in graven
flight
Until their bosoms find
A primal solitude

Come stranger
Share this cell of light
Remote above
The strident street
And we will scan
The old inheritance
As stunted brushwood
Massed beneath
Unbodied beings
Mid steel-wrought boughs
Which bear no verdure
Transcending Earth's
Time-tarnished glories
Secure in this
Triumphant hieroglyph
Of changeless grandeur

Colin Scott



Royal Canal Amenity Group

Education ~ Heritage ~ Recreation

Royal Canal Notes

NOVEL-CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC

As with most other organisations the Pandemic is having an adverse effect on our plans. The annual tour which was to take place along the Royal Canal and include a cruise on the Shannon has had to be deferred along with the A.G.M. which normally takes place in April.

The harbour fun day scheduled for June will, in all probabilities, not go ahead either. It is essential, at this time, with increased canal-side use to emphasise some basic rules:

- ◆ Social distancing as outlined by the H.S.E. is absolutely necessary along the canal.
- ◆ Social distancing also applies to Anglers fishing along the canal.
- ◆ Those feeding the swans and ducks must also observe social distancing rules.
- ◆ Cyclists should be mindful that there are more pedestrians walking on the canal at this time and extend normal courtesies.
- ◆ As always keep pets on a lead.
- ◆ Children should always be supervised along the waterway and water safety rules adhered to.
- ◆ Should you notice anything out of sync' as you walk along the canal do not hesitate to get in contact with us at chairman@royalcanal.ie or via the website: www.royalcanal.ie



Newly appointed president Mr Noel Spaine doing a radio interview (prior to social distancing).

WORLD CANAL CONFERENCE.

This Conference, hosted by Inland Waterways International, is due to take place in September. The venue is Leipzig in the Western Saxony area of Germany. Whether it will go ahead as planned, in the current situation, is as yet unclear.

Theme

The theme of the conference in 2020 is "Reshaping landscapes – waterways in transition" Transformation is the key topic. The conference will shed light from different perspectives on the transformation process in Central Germany from a lignite mining region to a diverse and liveable water landscape in its uniqueness. This will be discussed and deepened in the following sub-sections:

- ◆ Structural change and transformation.
- ◆ Ecology and nature.
- ◆ Urban and regional development.
- ◆ Culture and landscape.
- ◆ Tourism, economy, sociology.
- ◆ Technology and information systems.
- ◆ International networking with Eastern Europe and South America (model regions).
- ◆ E-Mobility on water.



Leipzig city view



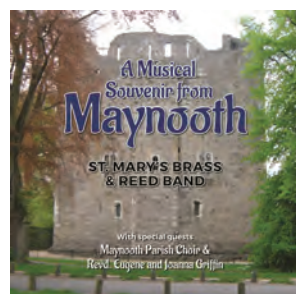
Leipzig War Memorial



The Sound of Silence

These are tough times indeed and St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band in Maynooth is no exception. Monday night rehearsals have been cancelled until it's safe to resume, our planned Church Concert on 5th April has also been a casualty but hopefully that can be rescheduled to a suitable later date. One of our big events of the year, our joint Concert with a Band from West Michigan USA on 1st July is, not now happening as the band have postponed their trip until next year.

We hope to go ahead with the concert with an alternative guest band in any event if things are back to normal by then. Of course there is always a chance that towns may reschedule their St. Patrick's Day Parades on an agreed Nationwide date during the year. Monday nights without a rehearsal for a long period seems really strange and the last time this happened was when all of the Band's instruments, uniforms and music were lost in a fire in the Town Hall in the Square in the 1920's. However the Band came back from that setback and we know the same will apply in this case and the good news coming from this is that people have been making contact asking to join the Band or learn to play an instrument which is a good omen. We are always happy to talk to anyone like that through [stmarysbandmaynooth](https://www.stmarysbandmaynooth.com) Facebook or by calling 087 2537 906



Maynooth 10k/5k Postponed to 18th October 2020

In line with government guidelines on COVID-19, Maynooth 10k/5k has been postponed. The new date is Sunday 18th October 2020. This is a provisional date and will be confirmed after the current restrictions are lifted. It is one week before the Dublin City Marathon and would serve as a nice preparation run.



Publication of the 10k Times will be scheduled with the new race date.

For those who have already entered we offer three options:

1. Your ticket automatically allows entry on the new date
2. If the new date doesn't suit, then your entry is valid for the 2021 event
3. A refund - Please contact <https://www.popupraces.ie> to manage your booking.



Cllr. Angela Feeney Maynooth Labour News

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



Speeding Issue in Railpark Estate

Cllr Feeney submitted a motion to the Municipal District Meeting on March 6th as follows: that the Council review the speeding issue at Railpark Estate, Maynooth which continues to be used as an inappropriate shortcut/rat run for motorists and is putting the safety of the residents at risk.

Cllr Feeney stated that this has been an on-going issue because Railpark has an entrance in from the Celbridge Road and exit out onto Straffan Road and with the increased traffic congestion and pressures, many more motorists are using this estate as a shortcut down by Pike Bridge to avoid the main street and traffic.

The Council responded to Cllr Feeney's motion stating that it is currently carrying out a County Speed Limit Review. This is the legal process for the adoption of speed limits and as part of this process Rail Park is being considered as a 30kph Slow Zone, otherwise known as Jakes Law. The Council also added that the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department of the Council is aiming to have the County Speed Limit Review adopted in Quarter 4, 2020. Once the elected members adopt the County Speed Limit Review, the legal process is then completed and clears the way for the 30kph Slow Zone sign to be erected in Rail Park Estate. The erection of Jakes Law signage in Rail Park Estate along with other residential locations in Kildare will form part of a signage works contract, planned to be implemented in Quarter 1, 2021, subject to funding being available.

Cllr Feeney welcomed the information from the Council that the Municipal District Office undertook a speed survey in 2019 which indicated the 85-percentile speed of 48km/hr. The option of installing ramps or chicanes has been investigated but no suitable locations were identified. Cllr Feeney suggested that speed controls on the lines of what is in place in Parklands Estate could be considered. This narrows down a section of the road so that only one car can pass at that section. Another consideration is to close down one of the entrances. Finally, the area engineer is going to meet with the Residents' Association and Cllr Feeney to see what might work best.

Safety Issue at Intersection of Carton Avenue and Carton Demesne

Cllr Feeney requested that the Council consider providing a pedestrian crossing or enhanced warning signage for motorists at the entrance to Carton Demesne from Carton Avenue in the interest of the safety of the increasing number of pedestrian and cyclists who use this amenity. The Council has referred the matter to the Technical Assessment Advisory Group (TAAG).

Vacant Houses in Maynooth

Cllr Feeney requested the Council to provide an update on the current vacant houses in Maynooth and the proposed timelines for their occupation. The Council responded stating that a vacant house report is provided to members, which provides information on the vacant houses in the

municipal District. Cllr Feeney stated that the important matter were the timelines given the current demand. The Council confirmed that the three units in Maynooth will be available for tenancy by the end of April 2020.

Bad Bend on Dunboyne Road

Cllr Feeney welcomed the progress report presented at the March 6th meeting which confirmed that the drainage maintenance works have been carried out and the flooding has been alleviated. Cllr Feeney had submitted a motion on this matter at the November 2019 meeting.

Educate Together Deputation

The Educate Together Maynooth students attended the March meeting and presented great ideas for their school and town. Well done to all. Maith sibh! The future is bright for up and coming leaders.

COVID-19

Cllr Feeney has offered support for our community. If anyone needs assistance-a lift to the doctor or pharmacy, some shopping or just a phone call-please get in touch. It is a difficult time and we need to play our part and pull together. Stay safe everyone.

Continuing to support you in these difficult times.

Call or text me on 087 2381962.

Stay safe.

Councillor Angela Feeney, Maynooth-Clane

MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN NOTES

April 2020



COVID-19

The COVID-19 virus has changed life in Ireland with each day apparently bring bad news and with the worst still to come. Maynooth Cycling Campaigns supports the call by the government and medical experts and urge people not to give publicity to those who spread false news. We hope that the Maynooth community heeds the advice about self-isolation, social distancing and stay safe. And don't forget WASH YOUR HANDS often.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign AGM

Maynooth Cycling Campaign had planned to hold an AGM in April. Regrettably, this has had to be postponed.

Kildare County Council – Transportation Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)

The good news is that Kildare County Council has finally arranged the first meeting of the Transportation SPC since February 2019 for 26th March. The bad news is that due to the COVID-19, the meeting has been postponed and it is not known when it will meet.

Pedestrian and Cyclist Fatalities

A recent report by the RSA confirmed what we already knew - that the much vaunted reduction in road fatalities applied only to people in cars and that pedestrian and cyclist fatalities were rising instead of decreasing. In fact, not only are pedestrian and cyclist fatalities rising in Ireland, the figures over the last 10 years are the worst in Europe.

It has been reported that last year Helsinki has had no road fatalities for the first time since the 1960s, down from an average of 20-30 per year in the 1990s. In Oslo there were no pedestrian or cyclist deaths and no children under 16 died in traffic crashes in the entire country. They achieved this by reducing the number of cars through

traffic management, reducing speed limits, increased car parking and replacing car parking with cycle lanes.

Utrecht Planning Car-Free District for 12,000 People

Utrecht is planning to construct the Netherlands' first high density car-free residential district for more than 12,00 people, making it one of the largest in the world. The district of 6,000 homes is expected to be serviced by some 20,000 bikes. It will not be completely car free. There will be 1,800 parking spaces nearby – about 1 in 3 of the residences will have access to parking but the cost will be deliberately high to discourage use. The closest alternative parking will be 3km away. There will also be some 300 shared cars for the use of residents. Once more, the Netherlands shows the way to sustainable development which Maynooth needs if we are to reduce CO2 emissions and thus mitigate the effects of climate change.

Deputation from Maynooth Educate Together Addresses Local Councillors

A deputation of students from Maynooth Educate Together recently addressed local councillors and suggested solutions to some of the problems afflicting the town. One of the issues raised was the number of traffic lights which they were reported as describing as "useless". It is good to consult with young people as they bring a different perspective to a problem than adults. However, they have overlooked the benefits of traffic lights which are provided to assist people who walk and cycle. Roundabouts and zebra crossings have their place but vulnerable road users need drivers to observe the Rules of the Road. Unfortunately, driver do not always do so.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group.

Further information on meetings and activities is available on our website.

We are affiliated to Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cyclist Advocacy Network and through it to the European Cycling Federation.



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



You should discuss your options with your travel agent.

Question

I booked and paid for a package holiday in January. I have just learned that the hotel has been quarantined due to coronavirus. I'm hoping the travel agent will find another hotel, but what will happen to my booking if the holiday is cancelled? Or what happens if they do find a new hotel but I decide to not to travel?

Answer

This is an anxious time for people travelling overseas. You should monitor and follow the advice of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFA). You can do this using the DFA's Travelwise app or you can phone DFA's dedicated phone line on (01) 613 1733 for the latest travel advice.

Check with your travel agent that your holiday is a 'package holiday'. A traditional package holiday (also called a pre-arranged travel package) is advertised and sold as a whole and must last for more than 24 hours or include an overnight stay. It also must be made up of at least 2 of the following:

- Transport
- Accommodation
- Car rental
- Other tourist services – for example, tours, excursions, guides or tickets for concerts or theme parks

If you want to cancel

Under the EU Directive on Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements, you have the right to cancel your booking for free, before the start of the holiday, in the event of unavoidable and extraordinary circumstances. This includes disease or serious conditions at the destination. If DFA advises against travelling because of the coronavirus, you can cancel your package holiday and get a full refund.

If the travel agent has to cancel the package

Even if DFA has not restricted travel to your destination, you still have rights if your travel agent cancels or makes a significant change to your package holiday. For example, changing your hotel from the one you originally booked with the package would be a significant change that alters a term of the contract. The travel agent can cancel a package holiday because of factors beyond their control but you are still entitled to:

- A replacement holiday of equivalent or superior quality
- A lower grade holiday, with a reimbursement of the difference in price
- A full refund within 14 days

Returning to live in Ireland with a de facto partner

Question

My son has lived in the US for the past 10 years. He is planning to come back to Ireland in a few months. He is in a long-term relationship. His partner wants to move to Ireland with him, and hopefully find work here. She is American, and they have heard that she can't stay in Ireland unless they are married. Is this true? What do they have to do before they come?

Answer

Your son's partner may be able to live and work in Ireland as the de facto partner of an Irish citizen (your son). However, to do so she needs permission from Immigration Service Delivery (ISD) – formerly called the Irish Immigration and Naturalisation Service, or INIS.

Your son's partner will need to show that she and your son have been living together for at least 2 years, and have a mutual commitment to a shared life together to be considered as being in a de facto partnership with an Irish citizen. De facto partnership is the term used to describe a relationship that is like marriage or civil partnership in practice, but not in law.

Once these criteria are met, your son's partner can begin the process of applying for permission to live and work in Ireland as follows:

Get de facto preclearance: Before your son's partner can travel to Ireland, she must be granted de facto preclearance. To apply she must complete the preclearance application form (pdf) and submit it with all the supporting documentation listed on the form. She must pay a non-refundable application fee of €100, and wait outside of Ireland while her application is processed.

Get a decision: If her application is approved, she will get a preclearance letter which is valid for 6 months. She must travel to Ireland during this period. If her application is refused, she will receive a letter explaining the reasons why. She can appeal this decision by responding to the refusal letter with extra supporting documents if required.

Prepare for border control: As a citizen of the US, your son's partner can travel to Ireland without a visa. However, she will need to go through immigration control on arrival. She should tell the immigration officer at the airport or point of entry that she plans to apply for residency in Ireland based on her de facto partnership status, and provide her preclearance letter as evidence of this. If she is permitted to enter Ireland, the immigration officer will imprint a landing stamp on her passport stipulating the permitted length of her stay (up to 90 days).

Get residency permission: If she is granted residency permission, she will then receive a 'Stamp 4' in her passport which will allow her to live and work in Ireland for the length of time stated on the stamp.

Register with Immigration: Your son's partner must register in person with an Immigration Registration Office and apply for residency permission to live and work in Ireland as soon as possible after arriving in the country. She will need to provide evidence of her preclearance permission, her original passport, your son's original passport, proof of their joint address in

Ireland, and a registration fee of €300.

Public health information

Our document **COVID-19 (coronavirus)** covers updates on health, education, travel, employment and income supports.

The Health Service Executive (HSE) gives extensive health advice and information on coronavirus including:

How to protect yourself and others

If you have been in an affected area

At-risk groups and coronavirus

Coronavirus and pregnancy

Self-isolation and limited social interaction

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC) has **information on coronavirus for health professionals and for non-health settings** including education. You can **download a HSE poster (pdf)** on the facts about coronavirus for display in public offices.

The Department of Education and Skills has information about **Talking to children and young people about COVID-19 (pdf)** and **advice for schools on the Department's website**.

Social Welfare

The rules for Illness Benefit and Supplementary Welfare Allowance will be changed to help prevent the transmission of coronavirus. These changes require legislation which is expected shortly. When the legislation is completed, workers will be entitled to any arrears due from 9 March when the new payment rates begin.

The changes are:

Waiting days: You will not have to wait 6 days before you can apply for Illness Benefit, if you are medically required to self-isolate or diagnosed with COVID-19.

Rate of payment: The personal rate of Illness Benefit will increase from €203 to €305 per week for up to 2 weeks if you are medically required to self-isolate, or for the duration of your medically-certified absence from work with a COVID-19 diagnosis. The new **enhanced Illness Benefit rate** will be effective from 9 March and workers will be entitled to a refund of any arrears due from this date.

Waive PRSI or means test: The normal social insurance requirements for Illness Benefit will be waived or the means test for **Supplementary Welfare Allowance** will be removed, if you are medically required to self-isolate or diagnosed with COVID-19.

If you have coronavirus symptoms or you have been medically required to self-isolate, you should not visit an Intreo Centre or local Social Welfare Branch Office. The DEASP has provided information about **how to apply for Illness Benefit if you are affected by COVID-19** or you can call 1890 800 024 or (01) 248 1398. You can find further **information for employees and employers and income supports on gov.ie**.

Special arrangements for collection of DEASP payments from post office

An Post has announced special arrangements for people unable to collect their social welfare payments at the post office. Customers can nominate a person, called a Temporary Agent, to collect their payment on their behalf. The recipient must download and complete a **Temporary Agent form (pdf)**. The form is also available from the post office.

Telephone support line for older people

ALONE has launched a national **COVID-19 telephone support line for older people** on 0818 222 024 to provide advice, reassurance and outreach. The service is available Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm. It is intended to complement the clinical advice and information from the HSE.

Travel advice

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has **up-to-date information on more than 200 countries** for anyone planning to travel in the near future. People travelling or living overseas can register their contact details on **Citizens' Registration**, which allows the DFA to make contact and provide assistance in the event of an unforeseen crisis or family emergency. This is only available for travel outside the Common Travel Area (Ireland and the UK).

Ryanair passengers

Ryanair passengers can check online to see **if their flight has been cancelled or re-scheduled** due to the coronavirus. Where a flight has been cancelled, passengers have the option to request a refund of their cancelled flight, rebook or re-route their journey and avail of reasonable care, as applicable.

Postage stamp price rise

From 19 March 2020, the **price of a standard domestic stamp will increase** from €1 to €1.10 and a standard international stamp from €1.70 to €1.80.

Commemorative grant scheme

A grant scheme has been launched to **support commemorative events related to mother and child institutions and county homes**. Funding of €50,000 is available for the scheme in 2020 and organisations can apply for up to €2,500 per event to support their commemorative activities.

St Patrick's Day Parades

2007:2019

Taking a Stroll Down Memory Lane

St. Patrick's Day Parade 2007



Maynooth Scouts

St. Patrick's Day Parade 2008



St Mary's Brass & Reed Band

St. Patrick's Day Parade 2009



Colm O'Cearuil, Fr. Liam Rigney P.P., Aine Brady (guest Speaker), Emmet Stagg, Bernard Durkan, (Tom McMullon keeping the peace)

St. Patrick's Day Parade 2010



Thornton's Recycling

St. Patrick's Day Parade 2011



Nell Mescal, Aoife Mescal, Sean Mescal & Donnacha Mescal

St. Patrick's Day Parade 2012



St. Patrick's Day Parade 2013



St. Patrick's Day Parade 2014



St. Patrick's Day Parade 2015



St. Patrick's Day Parade 2016



St. Patrick's Day Parade 2017



St. Patrick's Day Parade 2018



Winners of the Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin Memorial Trophy (Best Portrayal of Irish Culture) (Inaugural Award) - Michael Noone Motors

St. Patrick's Day Parade 2019



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THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

Never known to fail - P.B.

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Never known to fail - C.M.M.

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Thanksgiving for favour received

Never known to fail M.C.

Devotion to the Divine Mercy

Jesus I Trust in You
Where if not in the Divine Mercy can the
world find refuge and light of hope.
Saint Pope John Paul 11
21st April 1998

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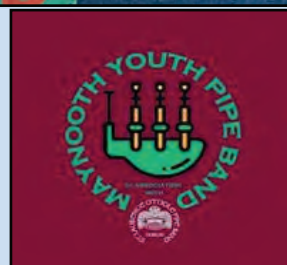
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& Adam
Gallagher
received 1st &
2nd prize in the
Leinster Solo
Piping
Championships
in Rush, Co.
Dublin on
Saturday
February 28th.**



**If anybody is
interested in
registering their child
for next term, please
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Youth Pipe Band
Facebook page.”**



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CORONAVIRUS SUPPORT FOR MEMBERS

With the recent outbreak of COVID-19, we have robust plans in place, and the continuity of our service to members is hugely important to us. We are continuously reviewing how we can support members and what actions we need to take as the situation with the coronavirus outbreak unfolds. We have the wellbeing of our colleagues and best interests of our members at the front of mind. People helping people is at the core of what we do, and we will continue to support you through this hard time.



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TALK TO US

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We're here to help!





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Writers' Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

Scandal in Saint Ciaran's

When Fr Eoin became Dean of Discipline in St Ciaran's Diocesan College, after serving in that capacity in a posh English boarding school, he introduced a new dispensation that was, by and large, progressive. Before his time discipline had been enforced by merciless use of the cane, but Fr Eoin replaced corporal punishment with a system of fines. A boy caught munching a sweet cake with his pals after lights-out in the dormitory, or engaging in a pillow fight, might have to fork out two shillings. If the offence involved a more serious infraction such as smoking in the back jacks, or giving a rival a black eye, the fine might be raised to half a crown or even five shillings – a fortune in most students' cash-strapped circumstances. Still, it was better than a flogging.

Another string to the Dean's bow was psychological domination: just by moving in close, locking eyes and speaking in a low, even voice suggesting controlled violence, he could reduce a suspect to a state bordering on paralysis. Colin could vividly remember quailing during one such interrogation – talk of a rabbit being mesmerized by a stoat! Still, everything considered, Fr Eoin was a progressive, even-handed man, but something occurred which was to show him in a different light, a throwback to the Victorian era, and, horror of horrors, it was that old bugbear of boarding schools, the carry-on that got Adam and Eve expelled from Eden.

At this point let me sketch in the background. Most students if their thoughts turned to girls, tended like Don Quixote to worship their lady loves from afar. The objects of their amatory yearnings were the day pupils and boarders of the rather exclusive Convent of the Sacred Heart situated on the far side of the town. They caught glimpses of those enchanting creatures on rare occasions such as a Sunday afternoon out town, when fleeting glances might be exchanged in Woolworth's, a High Mass in the cathedral, where the entire ceremony was spent contemplating a classical profile and, supreme opportunity, a visit to the convent for its annual production of some light opera such as 'Maritana'. After one of these visits Fr Eoin was incensed when the Reverend Mother sent a letter congratulating him on the boys' good behaviour. 'What did she expect of us?' he sniffed. Little did he know!

Well, there you have the background, priests and nuns anxious to hold the line against an imagined wave of teenage sexuality threatening their ordered, celibate world. Meanwhile, the students of St Ciaran's had their own battles with the same elemental force. Many of them were enrolled as Children of Mary and knew they must constantly be on guard against the promptings of the flesh. In particular, they should never sully a girl's chastity with their lustful attentions. Apparently untroubled by these concerns, some girls, whenever they chanced upon them, threw them coy glances, while the boys diverted themselves with football, handball, and swimming and took evening strolls down the Long Walk, discussing sport stars, horse races, midnight feasts, dormitory raids and what they would like to do to certain prefects.

These walks weren't especially popular, being indulged in mainly by seniors, especially if the evenings were chilly. Then an observer might have detected a dramatic change: after tea more and more students were heading down past the National School, towards the fairground. A closer inspection would have revealed a line of boys pressed against the high fairground wall, gazing spellbound at something taking place on the other side. No, it wasn't a fight or the setting up of a tent for Duffy's Circus or the arrival of some rare species of wildlife – though that is getting closer to the mark. You've probably guessed it. A group of Sacred Heart daygirls had taken to playing camogie on the fairgreen, apparently oblivious to the row of eager male eyes following their every twist and turn.

Things went on like this for a few days, with the braver boys calling out advice to the athletes and goodbyes when they had finished their game. It wasn't long till some of the girls began to approach the wall to return the goodbyes and in this superheated atmosphere friendships burgeoned. The National School was located at the side of the fairground, so the girls used its back yard to put on their gear. One evening Tommy, a devil-may-care Fifth Year, crossed the wall separating the Long Walk from the yard. Moved by the herd instinct, the rest of the boys immediately followed. The result was predictable. Soon the air was filled with the thrilling screams of damsels as they fled from ardent swains or

pretended to resist their snatched kisses.

It was a joyous affair, more like a rugby scrum than a bacchanalia, 'though, since there was a shortage of girls, most of the fellows, including Colin, went empty handed. Nevertheless, they were all involved, if only as hangers-on.

There was no repeat of that evening's madness: either the girls sensed the risk of unleashing all that pent-up male passion or the fellows realized that crossing the wall was punishable by expulsion. Not that the tide of love ebbed: names, addresses and telephone numbers were exchanged and countless long-distance romances were launched. These were often conducted through entries in autograph books. Dayboys arrived with these exotic books, in which the boarders then wrote impassioned ditties, such as:

*The devil sends a naughty wind
To blow your skirt sky high
But god is just and sends the dust
To blind the bad man's eye.*

Before long, more and more liaisons were formed as girls fixed friends up with sidekicks of their true loves, and vice versa. Just to show how tenuous these affairs could be, a daygirl Colin had never met – let's call her Jenny – decided that she was in love with him. In due course her autograph book was sent in with a dayboy and handed over. Now Colin was in a fix – it would be two years before Cupid's first arrow, bearing the image of a Sacred Heart boarder, struck home – but he couldn't be ungallant. Fancying himself as an artist, he drew on one rose-tinted page a fellow racing across an ocean, on which a star rested, and underneath he added the caption: 'To follow knowledge like a sinking star' – not exactly a declaration of undying passion!

Then the prankster in Colin took over. On another page he sketched a student raiding a cupboard to illustrate the song in 'The Merchant of Venice' about fancy or love, 'Tell me where is fancy bred...?' He signed this entry Johannes filius Glynorum. The rather feeble joke here rested on the fact that his classmate John McGlynn was a studious, musical young man who would rather pay La Donna è Mobile on the violin than write to a giddy female. 'O tempora, o mores!' as their classics teacher, Fr Sean, would have said.

Things might have sailed along in this pleasant way if Concepta Harney, a Sacred Heart daygirl, hadn't decided to phone the college and ask for Tommy Ryan, her chosen Romeo. By a stroke of ill fortune, Fr Eoin took the call. 'This is Tommy,' he purred. Concepta immediately began to unburden her heart and Fr Eoin let her gabble on. When she had revealed enough to incriminate herself, he sprung the trap. In the tones of a grand inquisitor he said coolly, 'This is the Dean of Discipline, St Ciaran's College, Miss Harney, and if you're not up here within the hour, I shall report you to Reverend Mother.'

Poor Concepta nearly dropped dead but there was no escape. Like a scarlet woman she dragged herself up from the public phone box in Church Street to the Dean's office, where he browbeat her into revealing everything she knew about the illicit romances. Armed with this information, he then summoned other daygirls for interrogation and, with the diligence of a Torquemada, compiled a dossier that included love letters and autograph books, as well as the names of almost every student who had communicated, either verbally or in writing, with the convent Jezebels. Now he was ready to root this canker out of the student body. Forewarned by alarming updates from the dayboys, Colin and his friends awaited their turn before the inquisitor, knowing that a few flowery declarations in a letter, never mind that physical-contact episode in the schoolyard would be enough to incriminate them.

Day after day, students were summoned to Fr Eoin's room to give a full account of their misdeeds. Gloom descended on the college as even 'hard chaw' seniors emerged from these encounters holding back their tears. Like a virulent plague, fear spread to those who hadn't yet been questioned. They told one another in hushed voices that Fr Eoin wouldn't rest till everyone who had so much as written to a girl would be chucked out of college, and in the early Fifties to be expelled by 'the holy priests' was tantamount to being branded for life. Colin consoled himself with the thought that he hadn't even written to Jenny, let alone spoken to her. Events were to show how naive he was.

One afternoon Fr Eoin entered Colin's classroom carrying a small bundle of letters and autograph books. As each of these was read out, the culprit had to stand up and admit

responsibility. He read the caption about the sinking star and Colin duly confessed that the entry was his. Then he was reading out the caption about the 'fancy bred' 'Master McGlynn, are you responsible for that piece of questionable wit?'

'No, father.' John spoke in his most emphatic voice.

'Do you know who wrote it?'

'No, Father.'

'I believe you,' Fr Eoin said. 'And do you think that someone acting without your knowledge should have signed your name?'

'No, Father,' John conceded.

'Now will the boy who appended Master McGlynn's signature please stand up.' Fr Eoin's inquisitorial eye swept the room. Reluctantly, Colin got to his feet.

'Master Scott, are you aware that by forging Master McGlynn's name in this book you have exposed him to the risk of expulsion?'

'No, Father,' Colin mumbled.

'Well, you have, Master Scott, and you didn't have the decency or moral courage to sign your own name. Master McGlynn, it would have surprised me if a boy like you had indulged in this kind of behaviour. In this school we have, thank God, upright, conscientious students who willingly observe the rules – and then we have the five per cent. By Jingoos, Master Scott, you'll be hearing more about this. **Sit down!**'

Now Colin was for it. Beyond drawing the two sketches in Jenny's book and forging John's name, it was only a matter of time till his involvement in the shameful carry-on at the schoolyard was discovered. When that happened he would be sent home in disgrace. His parents would be mortified. Imagine being expelled for assaulting convent girls! They would never forgive him.

With inexorable progress the storm clouds built up, darkening the sky and shutting out hope. As Fr Eoin accumulated more and more evidence, it seemed certain that those rotten apples that threatened the soundness of the entire barrel would be removed and tossed on the rubbish heap. There was only one slender chance: nobody yet knew how the President would react.

At this point let it be noted that, unlike Fr Eoin, the President, Fr Paul, a.k.a. 'Badger', was a disciplinarian of the old school variety, who on one occasion had thrashed Colin almost senseless with his bare hands – but we won't go into that! Suffice it to say that Badger believed that knowledge, especially of the Irish language, should be firmly ash-planted in the mind! When the students trooped into the chapel for Sunday mass, those who were under investigation waited apprehensively for his sermon. What was to be said would seal their fates.

Having read the gospel, Badger turned to address his charges from the altar steps. He stood there, keen-eyed and powerful, like a bald eagle surveying a flock of nervous pigeons. Then he spoke:

'Fuair mé na litreacha seo inné... agus léigh me iad... ach ní bhfuair mé aon droch rud iontu.' (I got these letters yesterday... and I read them... but I didn't find any bad thing in them.) It took a few moments for the full impact of his words to sink in. Here was the President undermining the very foundation of the Dean's inquisitorial campaign. Of course those under investigation might still suffer the consequences of having broken college rules, but they weren't going to be expelled. You could almost feel the wave of relief: it was as if condemned prisoners had been given a reprieve.

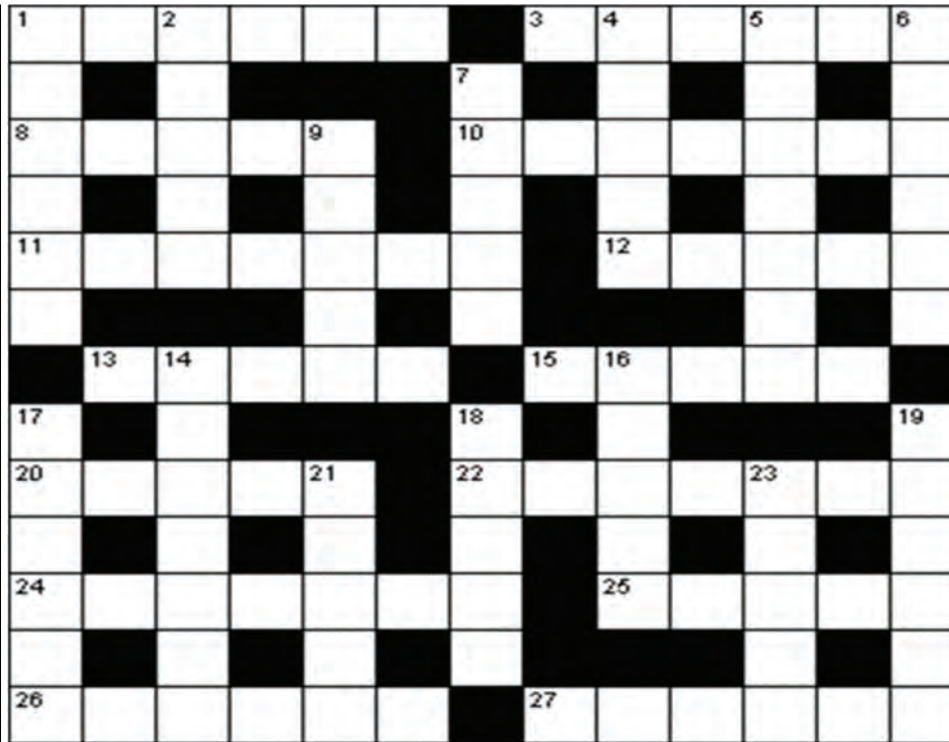
In the ensuing days and weeks most of the students quickly forgot their ordeal. Romances between college boys and Sacred Heart girls continued to bloom like flowers in springtime but, in general, they were conducted much more discretely.

Years later, a lay teacher revealed how Fr Eoin's campaign had been sabotaged during a meeting in Badger's office by the robust laughter of one of his fellow priests, but, understandably, this layman has left no written account of what transpired. As an adult, Colin came to see Fr Eoin as no less a victim than those adolescents he interrogated. He was the product of a puritanical Ireland that equated sex with evil and in his own conscientious way he strove to shield his charges from that evil. *Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.* (May his soul be on God's right hand.

P.G. Nerney

Clues Across**April 2020 Crossword - No. 489****Clues Down**

1. Bicycle for two (6)
3. Legal (6)
8. Metal bar (5)
10. Voter (7)
11. Choices (7)
12. Stingless male bee (5)
13. Ire (5)
15. Accumulate (5)
20. Entice (5)
22. Recess (7)
24. Let go (7)
25. Automaton (5)
26. Riding seat (6)
27. Repented (6)



1. Sartor (6)
2. Evening (5)
4. Make better (5)
5. Asinine (7)
6. Food store (6)
7. Laconic (5)
9. Fish (5)
14. Wandered (7)
16. Type of musical scale (5)
17. Begins (6)
18. Bet (5)
19. Combined (6)
21. Path (5)
23. Relating to a city (5)


**Solutions to Crossword
No. 488**

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

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**

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

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



Entries for the Colouring Competition have been suspended until further notice



Happy Easter



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

Easter Word Search



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

GRASS
EASTER
HUNT

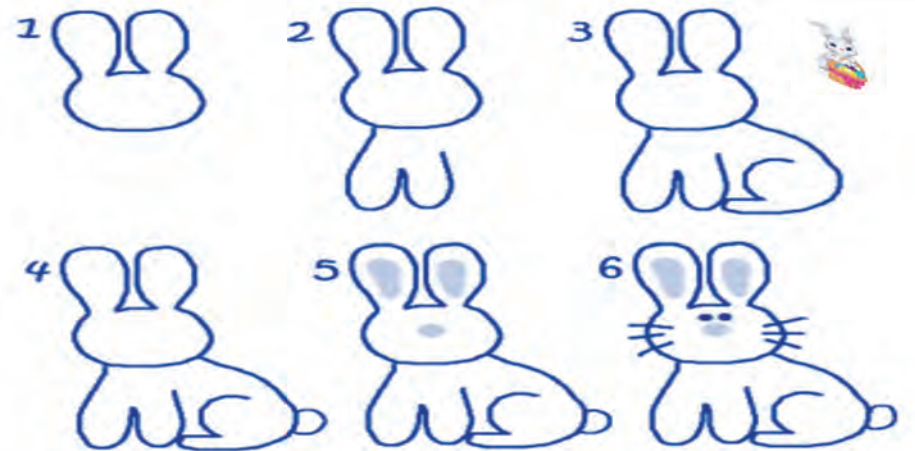
CHICKS
BASKETS
BUNNY

FAMILY
SPRING
EGG

FLOWERS
CHOCOLATE
PEEPS



Draw your own Bunny



Once I saw the Easter Bunny,
Come hop, hop, hop,
So I cried "Dear Bunny, will you
stop, stop, stop?"

I ran to the window
To say, "how do you do?",
But he shook his fluffy tail,
And said, "Happy Easter to You."



April in the Garden



April gardening season perks you up and uplifts you for the summer. To enjoy your garden for the whole season it's important to do certain April gardening tasks. What are they?

Clean the Garden

Once you are through removing weeds, winter mulches, and debris, you can start digging and preparing your garden for planting. Assuming that the soil is not too wet and difficult to work on.

Lawn Edging

After cleaning up your garden and doing your first lawn maintenance, you need to do some edging. This allows you to clearly divide the flower beds, the lawn, and



the garden. Beyond aesthetics, edging also separates the soil, mulch, and rocks.

Time to Prep Your Soil

If you don't have compost or manure, apply a slow-release fertilizer. Just make sure not to use traditional synthetic lawn fertilizers for your garden.



Get Rid of Garden Pests

Snails, slugs, and aphids usually hide and hibernate in the crowns of perennial plants throughout the winter.



These garden bugs come out in the warm weather to wreak havoc on your plants during spring and summer.

If you look closer, you could also find white vine weevil larvae in your compost heap. These larvae would feed on the roots of your plants.

Be sure to treat your plants for vine weevils as well.

Plant Spring Annuals

Time to plant spring flower seedlings and young plants that you planted in March.

If you've not sown seeds yet, start them now: Petunias, zinnias, marigolds, purple coneflowers and any other seasonal flowers you fancy in your flowerbeds. It might seem like some work now, but you will definitely enjoy their blooming sight in summer.

Check your flower beds; you may find the need to add more perennials as well. It's also a time to plant your container garden. Think about nice container flower combinations.



Set Up a Compost Area

This does not need to be complicated. You can dig a sizeable hole; build a crate like structure, some woodworking involves. You can also buy a simple compost bin.



Check out these [DIY compost bin ideas](#) for help.

Throw in a mixture of anything organic including grass clippings, paper, vegetable peelings and leaves.

Turn the compost once or twice in a month using a rake to keep the compost heap aerated.

Time to Grow Vegetables

There are many warm-season vegetables that you might also consider planting this April for the summer harvest. Some of these crops are cucumbers, tomatoes, okra, beans, eggplants, cantaloupe, peppers, and melons, just to name a few.

You should also plant cooler season vegetable like radish, carrots, peas, and lettuce.

This is also the season to begin planting your favourite annual herbs.



Trees and Shrubs

Prune your trees and deciduous shrubs and remove any dead and sickly looking leaves or branches. This stimulates new plant growth and spring flowering. Be sure to fertilize and also mulch your trees and shrubs. Add the organic mulch in a circle surrounding the plant rather than layering it on the trunk. This will not only provide the plants with the nutrients they need for optimum growth, but it will also conserve moisture and encourage strong hardy drought-resistant roots.



If you want to add any tree or shrub to your garden, now is the time to do it.

Fertilize and Reseed Your Lawn

Apply slow-release fertilizer on your lawn this early spring. As the name suggests, 'slow-release' means the fertilizer that is slowly released into the soil over a long period.

After fertilizing, reseed all patches of dead or damaged grass in your lawn and water well.

The new seeds will require sufficient moisture for optimum growth.



**God Made Rainy Days So Gardeners
Could Get Housework Done**

Easy Victoria Sandwich

Ingredients:

- 4 free-range eggs
- 225g/ caster sugar, plus a little extra for dusting the finished cake
- 225g/8 oz. self-raising flour
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 225g/8 oz. butter at room temperature, plus a little extra to grease the tins

To serve

Good quality strawberry or raspberry jam

Whipped double cream (optional)

Let's Cook



Method:

1. Preheat the oven to 180C/160C Fan/Gas 4. Grease and line two 20cm/8in sandwich tins. Use a piece of baking paper to rub a piece of butter around the inside of the tins until the sides and base are lightly coated, then line the bottom with a circle of baking paper.
2. Break the eggs into a large mixing bowl, then add the sugar, flour, baking powder and butter.
3. Mix together until well combined with an electric hand mixer (you can also use a wooden spoon), but be careful not to overmix. Put a damp cloth under your bowl when you are mixing to stop it moving around. The finished mixture should fall off a spoon easily.
4. Divide the mixture evenly between the tins. Use a spatula to remove all of the mixture from the bowl and gently smooth the surface of the cakes.
5. Bake the cakes on the middle shelf of the oven for 25 minutes. Check them after 20 minutes. The cakes are done when they're golden-brown and coming away from the edge of the tins. Press them gently to check—they should be springy to the touch. Set aside to cool in their tins for 5 minutes. Run a palette or rounded butter knife around the inside edge of the tins and carefully turn the cakes out onto a cooling rack.
6. To assemble the cake, place one cake upside down onto a plate and spread it with plenty of jam. Spread on the whipped cream if using. Top with the second cake, top side up. Sprinkle over the caster sugar.

Gingerbread Loaf

Ingredients:

- 175g unsalted butter
- 200g caster sugar
- 3 tablespoons golden syrup
- 250ml milk
- 250g plain flour
- 1 tablespoon ground ginger
- 1 teaspoon ground allspice
- 1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda



Method:

1. Preheat the oven to 180/Gas 4. Grease and flour a 20x10cm loaf tin.
2. In a small saucepan combine the butter, sugar, golden syrup and milk. Bring to the boil, then remove from heat and set aside. Sieve the flour, bicarbonate of soda, ginger and allspice into a large bowl. Stir in the boiled mixture until just blended. Pour the batter into the prepared tin.
3. Turn down the oven to 160C/Gas 2 1/2 and bake for 1 hour or until the top of the loaf springs back when lightly touched.

Plain/Fruit Scones

Makes 15 7.5cm(3 inch) scones

Ingredients:

- 900g plain white flour
- 175g(6oz) cold butter
- 3 free range eggs
- Pinch of salt
- 50g(1/4 cup) caster sugar
- 3 heaped tsp baking powder
- 450mls(2 cups) approx. milk to mix
- Egg wash (whisk 1 egg with a pinch of salt.)
- Fruit/Sultanas



Method

1. Preheat oven to 250C/450F
2. Sieve the dry ingredients into a large wide bowl. (add fruit at this stage)
3. Cut butter into small pieces and rub into the flour mixture to resemble crumbs.
4. Whisk together the eggs and milk, add to the dry ingredients to form a soft dough.
5. Turn onto a floured board. Do not knead, just shape enough to make round.
6. Roll out to 2.5cm,(1 in) thick. Cut into round 'cakes' 2.5x5 cm (1 in x 2 in) and put onto a baking sheet. Brush the tops with egg wash.
7. Bake in a hot oven 240C/475F/Gas 9 for 10-12 minutes, until risen and nicely browned.

Enjoy



FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

EASTER MOVIES TRIVIA/FACTS



BEN HUR (1959)

This phenomenally successful biblical epic was one of the greatest movies of the 1950s. **Ben Hur** was nominated for 12 Oscars and won an unprecedented 11 awards. As of 2020, only **Titanic** (1997) and **The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King** in 2004 have matched the film's record of Academy wins.

The movie was banned in China under the regime of Mao Zedong for containing 'propaganda of superstitious beliefs, namely Christianity'.



Several urban legends/myths exist regarding the spectacular chariot sequence in the movie, which featured the muscular, toga-clad Charlton Heston and Stephen Boyd in mortal combat. Amazingly, Irish actor, Boyd performed all but two of his own stunts.

One urban myth claims that a stuntman died during filming and another states that a red Ferrari can be clearly seen during the chariot race. The book **Movie Mistakes** claims this is untrue. Heston stated that a third urban myth claims he wore a wristwatch during the filming of the chariot race. The actor debunked it saying he actually 'wore leather bracers up to the elbow'.

One notable change in **Ben Hur** involved the opening titles. Concerned that a roaring **Leo the Lion** (the MGM mascot) would create the wrong mood for the sacred nativity scene, the director, William Wyler, received permission to replace the traditional logo with one in which **Leo the Lion** is muted.

The Greatest Story Ever Told (1965)



Director, George Stevens, picked the late Swedish actor, Max von Sydow to play Jesus in **The Greatest Story Ever Told**. A regular in Ingmar Bergman's films, Von Sydow had never starred in an English language movie up to this point. Stevens wanted an unknown actor to portray the iconic role of Jesus, in order to make him that more believable and convincing to the public. Not tainted by Hollywood associations.

However, **The Greatest Story Ever Told** was certainly not bereft of well-known, starry actors (Angela Lansbury, Sidney Poitier, Shelley Winters) in cameo roles. In fact, the most jarring and bizarre appearance in the movie was John Wayne as the Roman centurion. Wayne's infamous mouthing of the words 'Truly, this man was the Son of God' in his broad American accent wasn't exactly the best casting decision. But when was the Hollywood of yesteryear ever concerned with being authentic or accurate on the big screen!

Easter Parade (1948)



Gene Kelly was the original choice for the male lead in **Easter Parade** but when he broke his ankle in a volleyball game, the elegant Fred Astaire stepped in to save the day. Similar misfortune befell Kelly's regular screen dancing partner, Cyd Charisse, when ligament injuries prevented her from taking a role in the movie. Vivacious Ann Miller was an excellent replacement for the injured Charisse.

Astaire's main romantic interest in the movie was screen legend, Judy Garland. She had never met Fred Astaire prior to the making of **Easter Parade**. Although a big studio star, Garland was still shy in the presence of the older, stylish actor.



The shedding feathered gown worn by Judy Garland, in one dancing sequence was an inside joke reference to Astaire's regular screen partner, Ginger Rogers. In the classic movie **Top Hat**, an ostrich feather broke loose from Rogers' elaborate gown and floated in mid air around Astaire's face.

The dye from the feather on Garland's hat in the **Fella with an Umbrella** number ran all over her face and jacket, so they coated it with Vaseline. Consequently, the feather looks different in two different shots in the movie. **Easter Parade** boasted the distinction of being the

second occasion that a male co-star says to Judy Garland 'Why didn't you tell me I was in love with you?'. Gene Kelly had the prior honour of romancing Garland with the same words in the musical **For Me and My Gal** in 1942.

The Last Temptation of Christ (1988)

Director Martin Scorsese had wanted to make a film on the story of Jesus ever since his childhood. He sat on the script of **The Last Temptation of Christ** for five years, fearing public reaction to the controversial nature of his take on the Jesus story.

Universal Pictures agreed to produce the movie only if Scorsese followed it up with a commercial film. The director delivered the goods with one of his most successful movies of the 1990s, **Cape Fear**.

Martin Scorsese banned smoking from the set of **The Last Temptation of Christ**. Two reasons accounted for this: Scorsese's asthmatic condition and he wanted to avoid any photos being taken of the actors in his biblical movie smoking. It didn't help matters that his lead actor, Willem Dafoe, was a chain smoker.

At one stage in the filming, Dafoe could not see for three days. He had been given too many eye drops to dilate the pupils of his eyes in bright sunlight, in order to achieve a superhuman effect. That's dedication to your art!

St Patrick's Day Movie Quiz Answers

- | | |
|------------------------|--------|
| 1. b) | 9. c) |
| 2. c) | 10. c) |
| 3. b) | 11. c) |
| 4. c) | 12. d) |
| 5. d) | 13. b) |
| 6. b) | 14. b) |
| 7. b) | 15. c) |
| 8. Alan Rickman | 16. c) |

17. In the Name of The Father

18. b)
19. a)



Coronavirus COVID-19



Coronavirus
COVID-19
Public
Health
Advice

ADVICE ON THE RECRUITMENT OF VOLUNTEERS FOR COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY GROUPS

Prepared by the Department of Rural and Community Development www.gov.ie/drcd



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

COVID-19 Information on Community Support

There has been a huge outpouring of support from the public wanting to help the most vulnerable members of our communities. While this is fantastic to see, it is important to remember that good volunteer management practice is particularly important during crisis situations.

Volunteer Ireland and the network of Volunteer Centres (VCs) and Volunteering Information Services (VISs) can provide expert guidance and support to organisations recruiting and managing volunteers in response to COVID-19.

To find contact details for your local Volunteer Centre or Volunteer Information Service, visit Volunteer Ireland

Volunteer Ireland are developing guidelines for groups wishing to recruit volunteers and are developing practical volunteering role templates aimed at supporting group who need to recruit volunteers in relation to COVID-19. These will be available here in the coming days: <https://www.volunteer.ie>.

When recruiting Volunteers you need to consider:

- ☐ Volunteering should be done in a safe way so that neither volunteers nor those in need are put at risk
- ☐ Are any of potential volunteers in the “at risk” categories that would put themselves or others at risk?
- ☐ Screening and placing volunteers in an appropriate and suitable role
- ☐ Safeguarding and risk assessment
- ☐ Insurance
- ☐ Garda-vetting
- ☐ Support and day to day volunteer management (a volunteer manager may need to support volunteers, this person themselves could be a volunteer)

Information on Community Support

What the organisation needs to do:

- ☐ The Volunteer organisation should draft volunteer role descriptions for new roles– contact your local Volunteer Centre if you want help with this.
- ☐ Where it is a new role, the National Vetting Bureau will advise if it is a role that requires vetting. You should develop a volunteer role description in line with the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act 2012.
- ☐ If your organisation is not already registered with the National Vetting Bureau, and requires vetting for a volunteer role, the first thing you need to do is contact the National Vetting Bureau to register with them.
<https://vetting.garda.ie/RegisteredOrganisation/HowToApply>

Other important facts:

- ☐ Arrangements are in place with the National Vetting Bureau to fast-track volunteer applications in response to COVID-19.
- For more information please visit <https://vetting.garda.ie/>

Garda Vetting Invitation Form (NVB1) with the ref COVID-19 clearly marked on the External Ref section will be given priority.

- ☐ Support will also be available through the DRCD email helpline to assist smaller Community & Voluntary groups with their queries and refer them on to appropriate sources of support. This dedicated email address is - c&vsupports@drcd.gov.ie

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Government Action Plan To Support The Community Response

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Action 2 – Provide community supports for older people

Action 3 – Establish a helpdesk facility for local community groups

Conclusion – Supporting our Community and Voluntary Sector

Introduction

Communities in Ireland have a tremendous ability to rally round and help each other in times of crisis. We have seen it time and again over the years – whether with storms and floods, or economic disasters, our communities are always there for each other.

Now, more than ever, we need to tap into that vibrant community spirit we have here in Ireland and work together to overcome the enormous challenge facing our country. In particular, people need to look out for their elderly or vulnerable neighbours, while being mindful at all times of the HSE guidelines on social distancing. It is very important that social contact is maintained with people who are isolated in their homes at this time, even if it's only by way of a friendly phone call.

Already in the past week we have seen a spontaneous groundswell of community activity, with various local groups from sporting clubs to residents associations - and also concerned individuals – leading local initiatives to support vulnerable and socially isolated people in their locality. This is a heartening and very welcome development.

However, there is also a need for Government to provide a central framework within which the community response can be delivered, so that it is sustainable over the longer term and to ensure that as many vulnerable people as possible receive the support they need at this very challenging time.

The National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE) is leading our public health response to COVID-19 and as part of the Government's co-ordinated response, a National Action Plan was published on 16th March, setting out a whole-of-society response and the mobilisation of resources across Government and society to fight the spread of this virus.

Within this context and the framework of the NPHE Sub-group on Vulnerable People, the Department of Rural and Community Development is leading the whole of Government effort to encourage and facilitate a community response to COVID-19 that will help us to protect our older and vulnerable neighbours and keep them safe, well and supported during the coming weeks.

This Action Plan, which has been put together in partnership with the Department of Health, other Government Departments, State Agencies, Local Authorities, Local Development Companies and our extensive network of community and voluntary organisations, sets out three key actions for initial focus in supporting a community response to COVID-19. Along with this Action Plan, a Communications Pack for members of the public will be widely distributed, including through our networks, to every community and voluntary organisation in the country.

This pack will contain advice and guidance on:

How can I volunteer?

Sensible volunteering – Dos and Don'ts

Advice for local community groups – how can we get volunteers?

Advice for vulnerable people who need supports

How to guard against fraud and generate trust

Information leaflet for distribution to communities – “You, Your Community and Covid-19” – encouraging people to look out for vulnerable neighbours.

Three Key Actions

The Department of Rural and Community Development has identified three key actions for immediate priority. We will put the required funding and resources in place immediately and will be working with our partners to implement the measures on the ground as quickly as possible. Work in this regard has already commenced.

Encourage and facilitate volunteering – in partnership with Volunteer Ireland, 22 Volunteer Centres and 7 Volunteer Information Services, supported by Local Development Companies

Provide community supports for older people – in partnership with ALONE

Establish a helpdesk facility for local community groups – in partnership with the 31 Public Participation Networks nationwide

Further details in relation to each of the three key actions are set out on the following pages. Further initiatives are in development and will be rolled out in the coming weeks.

Action 1 - Encourage and facilitate volunteering

We will provide a simple and easy means for those who wish to volunteer to register their interest and we will match them with the service providers in their community that need additional help.

Volunteer Ireland and the network of 22 Volunteer Centres together manage the national volunteering database (I-VOL). With a presence in 19 counties in Ireland, they are uniquely placed to mobilise local volunteers and organisations to reach the most vulnerable members of our society during this time of crisis. At the end of February 2020, there were almost 100,000 volunteers and 9,000 organisations on the I-VOL database – these numbers have increased by over 2,000 in the past week, as volunteers sign up to help with COVID-19 efforts nationwide.

The Department of Rural and Community Development will provide additional resources to Volunteer Ireland and the Volunteer Centres to enable them to significantly increase their levels of activity over the coming weeks in response to Covid-19. Resources will also be provided to the Volunteer Information Services supported by Local Development Companies in areas not currently served by Volunteer Centres. The core focus will be on volunteer recruitment – communications aimed at raising awareness of the need for volunteers through social media and recruiting and screening volunteers for local organisations and statutory services who are supporting vulnerable people in the community. The Department of Rural and Community Development is also working with the Garda Vetting Bureau to ensure that volunteer roles that are specifically linked with the COVID-19 plan can be quickly reviewed and, where vetting is deemed necessary, fast-tracked through the process.

Volunteer Ireland will also support organisations who are experiencing an increased demand for their services and need to recruit volunteers quickly. They will prioritise support for organisations dealing directly with the crisis including ALONE, Civil Defence and the Red Cross.

Each Volunteer Centre is an independent organisation and each has varying levels of resources. While not all Volunteer Centres will be in a position to manage large scale informal

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volunteering operations, all can play a part in communicating on agreed and helpful messaging and promoting the most vital volunteer roles. Larger Volunteer Centres, such as those in Dublin and other urban areas, will be able to mobilise significant numbers through promotion, recruitment and screening. This will take some of the most time intensive tasks - such as writing job descriptions and selecting volunteers - away from organisations who are busy on the front line.

This work has already commenced – for example, local volunteers recruited by the South Dublin Volunteer Centres are already assisting the HSE at the new community testing centre in Tallaght.

Clear concise information will be provided to the public on where and how to register their interest in volunteering.

Action 2 - Provide community supports for older people

We will enhance information, advisory and other supports for older people at home, including through telephone helpline support for those who do not access online information. ALONE is a voluntary organisation that works in partnership with Government and State agencies to support and empower older people to age at home. They help individuals and their families work with other organisations to improve the lives of older people. They work with all older people, including those who are lonely, isolated, frail or ill, homeless, living in poverty, or are facing other difficulties. ALONE supports them through these challenges.

ALONE's Visitation Support & Befriending Service provides regular visits to an older person from a volunteer who provides one-to-one companionship and practical support. Volunteers can support with practical tasks and provide information on local activities and relevant initiatives. All volunteers are trained, Garda vetted and receive support from ALONE staff.

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, a telephone support line with expanded hours (8am-8pm) has been launched for all older people and their families to contact if they would like any advice, reassurance or additional support. From these calls, ALONE is offering reassurance and guidance as instructed by the HSE and offering follow up support including a daily support telephone call, support with practical tasks such as grocery and medication distribution, ensuring they have fuel and are not feeling socially isolated during this time. All older people who call this support line can be linked in with ALONE support staff who can address any additional needs through telephone or in-person assessment.

With funding from Government, ALONE is deploying additional staff and volunteers to coordinate and deliver on the anticipated increased demand for its service. It aims to recruit an additional 1,500 volunteers over the next few weeks and is working with Volunteer Ireland to achieve this. Additional staff will be recruited by ALONE across Ireland to manage the new volunteer cohort.

With these enhanced supports in place, ALONE will be in a position offer additional practical supports for those affected by Covid-19 to all community and health sector services, many of which already refer clients to ALONE e.g. hospital discharge teams, Public Health Nurses, Social Workers, Frailty intervention therapy teams, Integrated care pathways for older people, Meals on wheels services, medication and grocery distribution etc.

Action 3 - Establish a helpdesk facility for local community groups

We will ensure that local community groups have direct access to the information they need in managing through the challenges ahead.

The Department of Rural and Community Development provides support to the overall community and voluntary sector through its funding programmes and grants and through its support for the Public Participation Networks in each Local Authority area. PPNs are networks of local community and voluntary groups and their purpose is to provide a mechanism for community engagement at local level. Over 16,000 local organisations are members of their PPN, representing a very valuable and extensive network for reaching into communities.

In recent weeks it has become evident that community and voluntary groups who are preparing for the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak are concerned about a number of issues, including an increased demand for their services, an anticipated reduction in the number of volunteers (due to the volunteers being themselves at risk, ill or self-isolating) and continued access to their usual supply chains. Many smaller locally based groups, who are entirely volunteer-led, will find this particularly challenging.

The Department is putting in place a dedicated email Helpdesk to assist smaller community groups with their queries and refer them on to appropriate sources of support, including other similar organisations within the wider network. The service will provide email access to dedicated trained staff who will endeavour to address issues as they arise. As the queries come in, FAQ information will be developed and posted on the Government website.

The dedicated email address c&vsupports@drcd.gov.ie will go live on 20 March 2020.

Conclusion

Supporting our Community and Voluntary Sector

In delivering for our communities, the Government works closely with organisations throughout the community and voluntary sector. It is recognised that the sector will itself be challenged as it seeks to contribute to the national effort at this time. The unprecedented circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 crisis will require the re-prioritisation and re-direction of activities, new contingency arrangements to maintain and support critical services, and new flexibilities in the use, re-prioritisation and reassignment of resources in the sector. Government is committed to working closely with the sector in managing through these challenges over the coming period. These new pressures and requirements will need to be factored into future review and evaluation of programme delivery targets and performance delivery agreements already in place for 2020.

Our communities are our greatest resource. The Government is committed to facilitating and supporting the volunteer spirit that is alive in our communities during this period of unprecedented challenge for our country. The mobilisation of community and voluntary groups and the engagement of volunteers will play a crucial part in ensuring that the most vulnerable among us are supported and that people living in the community can continue to have their needs met in the event that their usual sources of support become unavailable. This Action Plan is part of the broader Government response to COVID-19. While a whole of Government coordinated approach is the backbone to planning for and managing the effects of any emergency, solutions are ultimately implemented at a community level. Through the measures in this Action Plan, the Department of Rural and Community Development will continue to play its role in fostering the links that bring communities together. Strengthening our community links will help to improve our preparedness and responsiveness in this time of national emergency. When we act together as a community, we can overcome even the most daunting of challenges.

Prepared by the Department of Rural and Community Development www.gov.ie/drcd



**Coronavirus
COVID-19**
Public
Health
Advice



COVID-19 Information on Community Support

How to Protect Against Fraud and Generate Trust

Unfortunately, there are a number of people and groups who will use the COVID-19 outbreak as an opportunity to take advantage of people and commit fraud. Here is some advice on how to protect yourself.

For people receiving help from volunteers

The following tips should help you protect yourself from such criminal practices.

- ♦ Do not answer the door to someone you don't know unless you feel comfortable doing so.
- ♦ Do not let someone into your house unless you know them or you are expecting them
- ♦ Do not give your bank details or your credit/debit card to anyone you do not trust. You may be asked for the details by text, by email, over the phone or in person, do not reply.
- ♦ If someone calls to the door from an organisation to provide support, ask to see their identification. If you are still unsure, ring the organisation directly but verify the phone number independently rather than using the number on the card they hand you. Close and lock the door on the caller as you make the enquiry.
- ♦ If someone offering help is not with an organisation that you know and you are not comfortable with this, don't worry. A genuine volunteer will respect that you are being careful.
- ♦ You can contact a recognised helpline or support service like Alone on 0818 222 024 or Seniorline on 1800 80 45 91 if you need support.
- ♦ Do not buy 'testing kits' or other testing materials from any source. Medical tests will be provided free of charge by the HSE if they are required.
- ♦ If any caller makes you uncomfortable ask them to leave. Tell the caller you will contact the company directly.
- ♦ Have the number of a trusted relative, friend or neighbour to hand in case you need to call someone.
- ♦ If you suspect that someone is trying to commit fraud, contact your local Garda station (not 999/112).

For volunteers

- ♦ Vulnerable people may have heard of such criminal practices and may be concerned if they are contacted by a stranger. If you are volunteering to help people in your community who you do not know, please be aware of this anxiety.
- ♦ These tips should help reassure people that you are a genuine volunteer.
- ♦ Don't contact someone you have never spoken to before (unless you are working through a voluntary organisation). Calls from strangers can be distressing to older and vulnerable people. Consider dropping a note through the letterbox with your name and phone number to let them know you are there to help. You could also make contact through someone the person already knows and trusts.
- ♦ Don't call to a vulnerable person's door unannounced – it could cause undue stress and worry for the person.
- ♦ If someone has asked you to help them, do not enter their home unless absolutely necessary. If you are dropping off shopping or a prescription for someone, simply call and let them know that you are at their door. Please follow the social distancing guidelines.
- ♦ If you call to someone's door, do not take offence if they wish to see identification and call the organisation to verify that you are a genuine volunteer. They are protecting themselves, and this should be respected.
- ♦ If you suspect that someone is trying to commit fraud, contact your local Garda station (not 999/112).

Department of Rural and Community Development



**Coronavirus
COVID-19**
Public
Health
Advice



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Advice for Vulnerable People

DO's

- ♦ - DO remember that help and advice is only a phone-call away.
- ♦ - DO make yourself aware of contact numbers for vital services and keep these numbers handy.
- ♦ - DO keep in touch with neighbours.
- ♦ - DO ask to see identification if a stranger calls to the door. If in doubt, call the organisation they claim to represent for verification.
- ♦ - DO remember to practice social distancing, keeping a space of two metres between you and other people.
- ♦ - DO follow HSE guidelines around hand washing, sneezing and coughing into your arm or a tissue.

DON'TS

- ♦ - DON'T answer the door to someone you don't know unless you feel comfortable doing so.
- ♦ - DON'T shake hands with anyone that might come to the door.
- ♦ - DON'T let someone into your home unless you know them or it is absolutely necessary.
- ♦ - DON'T give ANY personal details including your bank details or your credit/debit card to anyone you don't trust – whether in person or over the phone.
- ♦ - DON'T interact with other vulnerable members of your community if you have any symptoms of illness.
- ♦ - DON'T be alarmed by false information on social media – stick to HSE advice.

How can I Volunteer in response to COVID-19?

1. For people who wish to volunteer

Are you well enough to volunteer? The main priority is your safety and limiting the spread of the coronavirus. You are encouraged to continue to adhere to the latest HSE instructions on how best to avoid COVID-19. If you are feeling unwell or in one of the at-risk categories please prioritise your own wellbeing and do not put yourself forward to volunteer.

I want to volunteer but I don't want to put myself or anyone else at risk.

If you are volunteering with an organisation, make sure that they have proper procedures and safeguards in place to protect you in your role, including a named supervisor you can go to. Don't be afraid to ask about this upfront and before taking on any role.

If you are well enough to volunteer.

If you are well enough to volunteer, there are two main ways in which you can do so:

- ♦ Contact your local Volunteer Centre or register on the national volunteering database – I-VOL - which is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development. Full contact details for all Volunteer Centres in Ireland are available on www.volunteer.ie.
- ♦ By volunteering informally in your own community – for example by helping those in an at-risk category with their shopping or by collecting their prescriptions etc.

If you are volunteering more informally, at a local level, follow HSE instructions on how to avoid the spread of COVID-19. It is important not to put any vulnerable people at risk. Further information on the simple steps you can take is available on www.volunteer.ie or www.gov.ie/drcd

2. For organisations who wish to recruit volunteers

Organisations that are registered with their local Volunteer Centre can advertise volunteer roles through the Centre and also through the national database I-VOL. You should contact your local Volunteer Centre to let them know the role is in response to COVID-19 and they will prioritise promotion of this role. If the role requires Garda vetting, they will also prioritise this.

If you are not registered with your local Volunteer Centre, you can register by contacting them directly. Once registered, you can then advertise your roles on the national I-VOL database.

3. New Helpdesk to assist Community and Voluntary Groups

The Department of Rural and Community Development has set up a dedicated email help desk for community and voluntary groups. This will provide accurate and timely information for these groups as they respond to the COVID-19 situation. It is particularly directed at community and voluntary groups operating at the smaller, local level. Full details are available at www.drcd.gov.ie

Department of Rural and Community Development



Coronavirus
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Sensible Volunteering in response to Covid-19



Coronavirus
COVID-19
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Advice

Volunteers

Safety should be your number one priority and make sure you have the safeguards in place to protect you while you carry out your role. Please follow the guidelines on the HSE website or if in doubt ask at your local volunteer centre. Some simple steps to sensible volunteering:

- ♦ Only volunteer if you are well enough to do so .
- ♦ Do not volunteer if you have travelled outside Ireland in the last 14 days.
- ♦ Always follow the HSE guidelines for hand washing, sneezing/coughing and practice social distancing.
- ♦ Do not call to a vulnerable person's door unannounced. Please consider dropping a note in their letterbox with a name and number for them to contact.

If you are asked to help, take these steps to limit contact:

- ♦ Do not enter a home unless absolutely necessary
- ♦ Dropping off shopping/prescription etc. can be left at the door and simply call to let them know
- ♦ Remember to keep social distancing in mind, always keep a space of two meters apart between you and the person.

If you are volunteering for a vulnerable person with an underlying condition please remember their immune systems may be weakened, making it harder to fight infections.

Please follow the key messages from the HSE:

- ♦ Wash hands thoroughly and as often as possible
- ♦ Regularly clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- ♦ Practice social distancing and coordinate with others to limit the number of visits
- ♦ Refill their prescriptions and make sure that they have over the counter medicines and supplies for example, tissues and thermometer.

Receiving assistance

Safety should be your number one priority and if you are in need of help please contact a trusted source or neighbour. Please remember:

- ♦ Do not answer the door to someone you don't know.
- ♦ Do not shake hands with anyone.
- ♦ Do not let anyone into your home unless it is absolutely necessary.
- ♦ Do not give your bank details to anyone that you do not know or trust.
- ♦ Always ask for identification if someone calls to your door from an organisation, if in doubt call the organisation to verify details.
- ♦ If you are offered help and are not comfortable please contact the Garda Síochána on 999 or a recognised helpline if you need support.

If you are vulnerable person with an underlying condition and receiving assistance, please follow the key messages from the HSE:

- ♦ Wash hands thoroughly and as often as possible;
- ♦ Regularly clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces;
- ♦ Have prescriptions filled and over the counter medicines supplies;
- ♦ Do not allow more than two visitors at a time.

Revenue to operate Employer COVID-19 Refund Scheme on behalf of DEASP

Revenue has worked closely with the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection (DEASP) in relation to the special support payment of €203 per week being made to employees who have been temporarily laid off as a result of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic.

Revenue has provided an option for employers to make this payment to their employees through the normal payroll process and amounts paid to employees will be refunded to the employer's bank account, in general, on a 'next day' basis.

Details of the scheme are available on the Revenue website at:

www.revenue.ie/en/news/articles/employer-covid-19-refund-scheme.aspx.

DEASP has asked Revenue to highlight that employees without dependents are encouraged not to apply for Jobseeker's benefits unless their employer is not in a position to operate this scheme. Also, those with adult or child dependents should claim the standard jobseeker payment by applying to the DEASP at: www.welfare.ie.

<https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus.html>



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Local News

May 2020

Issue No. 490

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.

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.

Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee

If I have learned anything from this present crises, it is that volunteerism is alive and well. I would hope, as we enter a new normal, that we could channel that energy and enthusiasm, that we experienced in the past few months, into something more permanent. We have an ageing population and also an ageing committee, of which we were acutely reminded by Covid -19.



I would like to thank all those younger people who stepped up when the rest of us could do little. Ireland has shown huge courage in the face of adversity and Maynooth has played its part. So perhaps as we emerge from these challenging times, some of you would consider joining our Senior Citizens Committee. While I realize that it will be some time before we can come together as a group, I am now sowing the seed of enticement, so that in the fullness of time we will reap a rich harvest of people with a whole new outlook. Something good has to come from this crises. Please think about it.

Many thanks to all our frontline workers all over the country in general and to those of you closer to home in particular. Thank you to our Supermarkets, Pharmacies, delivery people etc, who looked after our older and vulnerable people. A special word of thanks to Anne Birchall and Naoise Ó Cearúil who headed up the "Maynooth Home Support" team and to all those volunteers who offered their services without hesitation or thought for their own wellbeing.

Finally and sadly, we lost several of our older people in the last month. Our sincere condolences to the families of , Deirdre Kavanagh, Maureen Murphy (Hyland), Patrick Cahalin, John Higgins, Liam & Mary Fogarty, Dennis Thompson, Kay Judge (Dowling) Anne Lavin, Marie Dixon, Eileen Jacobs, Christina Saults, Mairead Bean, Willie Coonan, Bobby Kelly and Micheál Dempsey. Suaimhneas agus Siochain Doibh go leir.

Josephine Moore.
Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee.

Maynooth Home support

If you are unable to leave your home due to being immunocompromised or for other reasons, there are volunteers locally willing to help bring supplies to you.



You can contact
Naoise on (086) 728 0050
Anne on (085) 158 2660

maynoothcommunityhelp@gmail.com

If you are aware of people you think may wish to avail of the Maynooth Home Support services but may not have access to the internet please pass on the contact details above to them.



An Garda Síochána

Ireland's National Police and Security Service

Garda Mobility Service

If you are concerned for yourself or a neighbour, please contact your local Garda station. Contact details for all Garda stations are on the Garda website www.garda.ie or in any phonebook. Gardaí are hiring additional vehicles to assist those who may be in need of help with for example, collection of medical prescriptions, attend hospital appointments or other mobility supports.
Maynooth Garda Station - 01-6292380

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MAYNOOTH
COMMUNITY CHURCH
Eaglais Phreispitéireach in Éirinn

Join Us Online!

Sunday Worship Services

Sunday Mornings at 10.34am on Youtube livestream.

You'll find us on our web homepage

www.maynoothcc.org

New Alpha Course

Our next Alpha Course will be via ZOOM and begins on
TUESDAY 12TH MAY from 7.30pm to 8.30pm. It's a great
way to explore life and faith in a very relaxed atmosphere.

ZOOM details are on our web homepage.

Venture Online Youth Group

Every Friday evening from 7.00pm-8.30pm.

All secondary school students welcome! Please email
office@maynoothcc.org for details and parental
permission forms.

www.maynoothcc.org
office@maynoothcc.org



A Prayer for all those Impacted by Covid-19

Lord, in your mercy you healed those suffering in body, mind, and spirit. We cry out to you now on behalf of those infected by the coronavirus. Heal the sick and bind up the broken-hearted who grieve those felled by this illness. As both infection and fear continue to spread, we ask for courage and protection for healthcare workers risking their own well-being for the sake of others. We pray wisdom for government officials and those in decision-making positions. May they rightly discern what needs to be done to treat those already infected and prevent others from falling sick. We know there are those in quarantine, afraid they might be exposed to illness, wondering when they will return to their normal lives, and anxious about what might happen next. Comfort them with your peace that passes understanding and grant them patience during this liminal and frightening season. Lord of all, we are intimately connected to one another no matter where we reside on the earth, and so we plead for healing, good healthcare, relief and wholeness for our siblings in all the places where this virus has made its appearance. May our collective care, effort, resources, and love soon bring an end to this epidemic. Amen.

By Jill Duffield

Editorial

Over the past month I could count on one hand the number of people who have not mentioned that we are living in strange times in 2020. While I personally do not know anyone who has contacted or unfortunately died from Covid 19, I want to offer our sympathy to our readers who have been impacted by the virus. Also as I mentioned last month our hope that any readers who are out of work at this time will be back to work as soon as possible and that local businesses can recover from this crisis. Our biggest concern is now for our older residents many who have been alone for many weeks and I know from my own family that this crisis is having a significant impact on their wellbeing. Going around Maynooth (necessary trips) has been strange with almost traffic free roads.



Moyglare Road at 11am on Friday April 24th

With many families gathering together at home the number of cars in all residential areas has increased. We all hope that we did not get our summer in April when the weather was more like what we hope for in the summer months. With many sporting, cultural and community events in Ireland already postponed or cancelled and so far no certainty on the possibility of foreign travel our homes may well be our holiday homes as well this year. There is plenty of evidence that many of us have spent their time at home doing home and garden improvements during this pandemic lock down.

There has also been a shortage of news with a number of stories sticking in my mind. For example a report that states that in 2018 over 70% of Irish people are living in under-occupied houses compared to the European average. Over recent months many families have discovered that their homes are not big enough and as a person's home is their castle it is of no concern to anyone else how big or otherwise the size of someone else's house. Another story that shows that news is scarce was a story that our dogs and other pets who have been getting extra walks and attention will feel neglected when this attention level ends and that this will cause them to behave badly. I suspect that only the very hard hearted or those with no alternative will cut back on the time spent with their family pet but be aware for the whining sounds in the months ahead.

Like everywhere else construction sites had to close in order to comply with social distancing requirements and a number of major projects in Maynooth will most likely experience some Maynooth Educate Together National School – Phase 2 delay in completion. Major school building projects are in

progress in Maynooth with intended completion dates in 2020 but these dates may slip depending on the capacity of the project management teams to make up lost time. Of course like many other walks of life, school life has changed during the Covid 19 pandemic with schools interacting with their students who are working at home. This month we have partnered with the Transition Year Students from the Maynooth Education Campus to bring our student readers advice on how to manage studying at home. There is also other stories written by the students for the May edition of MEC Press which will be eagerly awaited by their readers.



Maynooth Educate Together National School – Phase 2

There is also a full report and behind the scenes interviews from their 26th annual musical “All Shook Up” so we are pleased to be bringing these stories to a wider community audience.

Finally we would like to mention some important research on how people have been coping during Covid 19. Researchers from Ireland (Maynooth University and the Centre for Global Health, Trinity College Dublin), Northern Ireland (Ulster University), Scotland (Edinburgh Napier University), and England (University of Sheffield) have released the first wave of the Irish COVID-19 Psychological Survey; a multi-wave study running throughout the COVID-19 outbreak to better understand how people are responding, understanding, and coping with the pandemic. Initial results suggest that mental health problems are common; 41% of people reported feeling lonely, 23% reported clinically meaningful levels of depression, 20% reported clinically meaningful levels of anxiety, and 18% reported clinically meaningful levels of post-traumatic stress. These results are based on a survey of 1,000 adults for a period during March 2020 and a further wave of research is planned to start on May 5th. If you are finding it difficult to cope with your circumstances at this time please make sure that you mention this to somebody and seek professional help. If you do not feel you want to mention your concerns to family, friends or neighbours, we have listed below some helpful numbers which we picked up from an article from Dr. Philip Hyland, Associate Professor of Psychology, and Maynooth University who represented Maynooth University in this research. Remember we are all only human after all.

Paul Croghan - Editor

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SpunOut.ie: SpunOut.ie is Ireland's youth information website by young people, for young people. Funded by the HSE. www.SpunOut.ie

Pieta House: 1800 247 247. TXT Helpline: 51444 www.pieta.ie

Willie Coonan - Business man and a Community man.

The sudden passing of Willie Coonan on the 14th April has been covered in national and local media because he was a highly respected auctioneer for over fifty years. He joined the family business which was started by his grandfather in the 1880s and was subsequently run by his parents and he has been succeeded by his son Will. He had stepped back from the business in recent years but you could still see him around the town. The Willie Coonan that I knew for the past 30 years was a person that was deeply interested in his community. I took a look back in the Maynooth Newsletter Archive and I came across a number of community events where Willie was present to add both his influence and financial support.

Strangely for a businessman who are regularly asked to provide sponsorship for projects in the community Willie did not wait for people to approach him. I can testify to this as he approached me more than once with ideas on how he could support his community.



Back in 1990s he approached me to get the Maynooth Best Estate and Shop Front Competitions up and running under the banner of Maynooth Tidy Towns. He felt that it would give residents associations a boost to get recognised for the hard work that they were doing. He also felt that a competition among the businesses for the condition of their shop fronts would encourage improvements to business premises in the town. He also came to me with ideas on how he could support or influence the improvement of derelict sites or badly maintained areas in the town. He always knew who owned the premises and if there were plans for the sites. When I used volunteer as part of the Maynooth Tidy Towns Sunday morning clean up teams that got up early to clean the town centre after Saturday nights, one person that you would always meet was Willie Coonan sitting in his car reading the Sunday newspapers. He would always roll down the window and have a chat about what was going on at the time and give me the benefit of his wisdom.

In late March this year I met his son Will Coonan at an open day for a local new development in Maynooth. When I asked after his father he reported that he was well. Willie slipped away without warning and his passing is a loss to Maynooth but most especially to his wife Mary and his son Will, his daughters Lisa and Sally and their families. Willie passed away aged in his mid-seventies. On behalf of the people of Maynooth who didn't get a chance to do so personally I want to offer our sympathies to his family and may he rest in peace.

Paul Croghan

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Classic Caesar Salad with Cajun Flavoured Chicken and Crispy Bacon

Half Roast Chicken with Gravy [GF] (1, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12) €14

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Locally sourced Irish Sirloin of Beef slowly Roasted to perfection

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(Also available in Gluten Free)

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Mouthwatering Homemade Beef Lasagne topped with Parmigiano Reggiano

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Juicy, Tender Farmhouse Burger in Brioche Bun with our House Sauce

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Veggie Curry with Basmati Rice or Chips [V] [VG] [GF] (1, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) €12

Seasonal Roast Vegetables tossed in our Vegan Rich Curry Sauce

KIDS MENU (Collection from 3:00pm)

Chicken Tenders/Sausage with Chips or Mash & Gravy (2, 4, 6, 7, 10, 12) €7

Pasta Bolognese (2, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 14) €7

7" Salami Pizza (2, 6, 9, 10, 12) €7

FULL CAKE DESSERT (Collection from 3:00pm)

Apple Crumble with Homemade Custard (2, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14) €15

Homemade Chocolate Brownie [GF] (4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12) €15

Shoda Farmhouse Cheesecake of the day (2, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14) €15

HOUSE WINE (Collection from 3:00pm)

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Maynooth Newsletter

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

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Letters to the Editor

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

Mission Statement

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Maynooth Newsletter Archives

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

www.maynoothcep.com.

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

Editorial Board - Maynooth Newsletter

Maynooth Newsletter

Copy date for the next edition of the Maynooth Newsletter will be Tuesday 19th May 2020

Barbecue Recipes

BBQ burrito bowl

Ingredients:

400ml water
140g brown rice
100g cherry tomatoes
2 x corn on the cob
2 tbsp vegetable oil
1 tsp ground cumin
½ tsp ground oregano
½ tsp paprika
2 garlic cloves, crushed
1 courgette, chopped into bite-size chunks
1 green pepper, deseeded and cut into bite-size chunks
300g chicken fillets, chopped into bite-size pieces
Salt and black pepper
Sour cream

Serves:4



Method:

Put the water in a saucepan and bring it to the boil. Stir in the rice, then reduce the heat and add a lid. Simmer for 15-20 minutes. Meanwhile, heat a barbecue to a medium-high heat. Thread the courgette, tomatoes and green peppers onto skewers. Brush half of the oil over the vegetables and the corn on the cob. Stir together the cumin, oregano, paprika, garlic and the remaining oil in a bowl. Season with salt and pepper and add the chicken pieces, tossing to coat. Thread onto skewers and place onto the barbecue with the vegetable skewers and corn. Cook for 7-9 minutes, turning to char on all sides. Divide the rice among serving bowls and remove everything from the barbecue. Use a sharp knife to carefully cut the kernels of corn off the cob. Arrange the chicken and vegetables over the rice and drizzle lightly with sour cream to serve.

Feta and chilli parcels with Greek salad

Ingredients:

Serves:4

Olive oil, for greasing and drizzling
2 green chillis, finely sliced
2 x 200g blocks barrel-aged feta, drained
Freshly ground black pepper

For the salad:

2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
1 tbsp red wine vinegar
½ garlic clove, crushed
1 tsp dried oregano
1 small red onion, finely sliced
1 cucumber
4 ripe tomatoes
A large handful of Kalamata olives, pitted
Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper



Method:

Preheat the barbecue for direct grilling. Lightly oil a large sheet of foil, scatter over the sliced chillis and lay the feta on top. Drizzle with a little more oil and top with a few twists of pepper. Seal the foil into a parcel and lay on the grill. Cook for 15 minutes, turning occasionally. Meanwhile, whisk together the oil, vinegar, garlic and oregano in a large bowl, add the onion and set aside while you prepare the rest of the salad. Roughly peel the cucumber, halve lengthways and scoop out the seeds with a teaspoon. Roughly chop and add to the bowl. Quarter the tomatoes, remove the tough cores and roughly chop, then add to the bowl. Add the olives, toss to combine and season to taste. Unwrap the feta and serve with the salad and bread.

Pork ribs with quick barbecue sauce

Ingredients:

1kg Pork ribs
Quick barbecue sauce
4 tbsp tomato ketchup
1 tbsp honey
1 tbsp wine vinegar
1 tbsp Worcestershire sauce
Dash of tabasco
Salt & pepper



Method:

Parboil ribs before barbecuing, this will reduce the fat and ensure that they are fully cooked. Cook the ribs for 6-7 mins on each side. Brush a little sauce over the ribs before the end of the cooking time.



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January Blues

Now that Brexit has come at last,
that coronavirus stalks the earth,
that Trump ignores Palestinians'
Jerusalem and West Bank claims,
that no place on the earth exists
where there's not some dispute
or other existential worry,
I have to question human mastery
of this tiny, fragile planet,
this speck in an enormous universe.

Despite what we've been taught,
all things compete for their existence.
We dominate the shrinking food chain,
never doubting mankind's precedence,
our right, confirmed in sacred writings,
to exploit all other creatures.
But unseen microbes swarm in us
and even plants fight other plants
for living space, exposure to the sun,
so what's this claim to our uniqueness?

We're all competing in an arena,
where even victors must in time expire,
so is it not best to curtail greed,
be kind to all who look to us for help
and, though difficult, turn the other cheek?
Dogged by birthrates, climate change,
disease,
should we not learn from birds and
animals
that have no dream worlds to delude them,
seize the passing moment, shelter from
storms,
revel in the kindly sun?

Colin Scott



Gold Medal Winner 2019

Maynooth Tidy Towns would like to sympathise with the family of Willie Coonan RIP on the death of their father and to all who have lost family members during the last month.

When buying plants for your gardens or patio please insure they are BEE and BUTTERFLY Friendly.

All Maynooth Tidy Towns Clean-Up meetings have been postponed until further notice. In the meantime look after yourselves & each other.

Richard Farrell

PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns

087 3153189 and See us on Facebook or Twitter

How to Create a Balcony Garden



A balcony garden has the greatest impact when it is an extension of your indoor space. It can give your hours of pleasure pottering about creating beautiful pots of plants. It is also a great place to sit and enjoy the sunshine with a coffee and watch the world go by or read a book.

A balcony will be affected by wind. Depending on how exposed and windy your balcony is it would be best to plant in heavy pots. Plant low, mound forming plants and plant several together to create a perfect look. You will

need to water the plants regularly as most balconies wouldn't get as much rain water as a garden.

Start with small evergreens as this will give you a garden all year round, then add seasonal plants for variety. Choose plants that require minimal upkeep to start with, then get creative! Make the garden interesting by growing plants with different heights textures and colours. You can also grow vegetables and herbs in hanging baskets. Tomatoes, strawberries, many other vegetables, and herbs can be grown in hanging baskets successfully. It also creates space!

For some extra delight use string lights or solar lights to illuminate the space at night.



Your balcony can be a colourful green oasis with a little bit of work and creativity. With the right compost, fertiliser, drainage and irrigation, you can grow pretty much everything from a small tree to herbaceous perennials, bulbs, vegetables, herbs and fruit. Lettuces and other salad crops - Sow more lettuce, rocket, land cress, corn salad, and other salad leaves outdoors this month to ensure a steady supply.

As long as your Balcony is sheltered or under cover, hanging baskets and containers can be planted up with fuchsias and tender perennials. Why not incorporate a slow release fertiliser and water storing crystals to reduce feeding and help water retention at the same time but remember not to place outside until end of May/ early June so that containers do not dry out.

Watering can be stepped up on warm, breezy days. Dwarf dahlias can be potted up into containers ready to provide colour from mid summer to early autumn. As pansy flowers wither remember to dead-head them to encourage further flowering. Buzzy Lizzy, Begonias, Primrose, are but a few flowering plants that will give your balcony lots of colour. Plant Lily bulbs in pots. Lilies grow really well in containers and you can move them around your balcony as they come into flower.

All the Flowers of tomorrow are in the seeds of today!



TIPS FOR YOUR HAIR

With Hair Salons now shut during the Coronavirus Pandemic women are panicking over their hair. One of their main worries is "Am I going to be totally Grey" Help!! I hope the following tips are useful.



Colouring

Buying a box of colour from the supermarket can be disastrous. The shade pictured on the box can turn out completely different depending on a person's natural colour. Bad dye is a really expensive mistake to fix.

Instead why not use one of the root sprays that are in most supermarkets as these will not do damage and will cover your roots for now. Another option is to try fill in the grey roots with mascara.

Cutting your own hair can be at least as disastrous as amateur colouring so a few tips for people who can't wait until the Salons re-open.

Don't ever try to cut your hair wet. Dry it first. Wet hair clumps together and you are likely to chop off too much by mistake. People tend to cut their own fringe too short. If you need to trim, keep it below the brow and don't pull down because they will bounce back up shorter. It could also be a good time to give some thought to life without a fringe and a change of style.

Concentrate on condition

Self-isolation is the perfect excuse to actually look after your hair's health. For those staying inside anyway wash your hair and leave a deep conditioning mask on your hair all day. Rinse out in the evening and you will be left with silky healthy hair.

And for the men

It isn't just women who are looking for solutions on how to keep their hair looking good during lockdown.

You have a couple of options. You can let it grow out or you can clip it off.

If you opt for the latter and take it off, you should invest in a really decent pair of clippers which you could buy online.

The clippers will come about 4-5 different grades which will determine the length of your hair 1 being the shortest and 5 the longest. You should start at 5 then gradually take it down until you reach your preferred length.

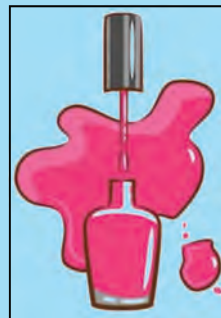
Have a good hair day & hopefully we will be all back to normal soon safe & sound



HOW TO GIVE YOURSELF A HOME MANICURE

To give yourself a gorgeous manicure, make sure you have all the right supplies. You might have to spend a bit up front, but next time you want to paint your nails, you'll already be covered. Get the following products:

- Nail polish remover
- Cotton balls or cotton swabs
- Cuticle trimmer
- Nail buffer
- Nail trimmers
- Nail file
- Cuticle or hand cream
- Nail polish
- Base coat
- Top coat



Cut and file your nails. Use nail clippers and trim your nails. Don't cut them too short. You should be able to see at least a little of the white tip still, all the way across. Using a nail file, file the nail and create a smooth and clean shape. Gently drag the file across the nail, rather than pushing it. Excessive force or sawing back and forth will weaken the nails and cause them to break. Pivot the hand with the file through each stroke to make a smooth curve rather than angles. Do not file them too short just clean up any points or roughness left by the clippers.

Buff your nails. Using a white block of a stick-type nail buffer, or a pad-type nail buffer and buffing powder, buff the surface of the nail a little bit to even out the surface and to smooth out ridges. Remember not to buff too much, thinning it too much will weaken it. Perfect edge-to-edge flatness is not practical or necessary. A soft, flexible buffer will more easily buff the sides of the nail along with the middle.

You may wish to buff your nails after pushing back the cuticles if there is some residue where the cuticles used to cover, in order to scrape or grind it off in the process. Being thin, soft, and not firmly attached, it should come off easily.

Soak your nails. Get a bowl or stopper the sink and fill it with warm (not hot!) water and a few drops of soap. Soak your hands only for a few minutes. The water and soap will help to loosen dirt, dead skin, and any dust left over from filing and buffing, and soften cuticles. Use a nail brush to gently clean your nails and the skin around them. Gently scrape under your nails if necessary to remove dirt.

Don't go overboard with scraping, since you can

damage your nails if you remove the white powdery substance that is actually part of your nails.

Apply hand cream or lotion. Take a lotion or hand cream and massage it into your hands. If you have very dry skin use an intensive lotion, if not, any lotion will do. Be sure to rub it into and around your nails and let it soak in for 30 minutes or longer.

This is as well done after painting the nails and allowing them to dry thoroughly as before painting. For very dry skin, apply some greasy lotion and sleep with cheap cotton gloves over your hands to allow it to remain on and work for a long time without keeping you from productive activities.

Nail polish/lacquer will not stick to nails with moisturizer on them, so take a Q-tip dipped in nail polish remover and quickly wipe the nails to remove the lotion. Wipe excess remover off promptly to mitigate nail damage. Apply the base coat. Cover the nail with a clear base coat or nail hardener. This will even out and ridges and unevenness that may still be on the nail, serve as a primer for the polish, help the polish to last longer, and keep the colour from staining your nails.



Polish your nails. Pick a nail polish that you really like. Roll the nail polish bottle between your hands for about 10 seconds. Shaking the bottle causes air bubbles in the polish and makes harder for the polish to stick to your nails. Begin painting nails using a thin coat. Dip the brush into the bottle of polish and as you remove it, gently swirl the brush around the inside rim of the bottle to remove excess polish. Slowly paint a vertical stripe down the centre of your nail, followed by another stripe on either side of the first. Try to paint all the way to the edge, but it's better to leave a small margin than paint the skin on the side.

Let your nails dry. Try not to move your nails too much or the polish may smudge. Wait 10 to 15 minutes for the polish to dry. If you apply a second coat too soon, it will only smudge the first coat.

Beauty isn't about having a pretty face. It's about having a pretty mind, a pretty heart, and a pretty soul. Oh! And pretty nails!



Source: wikiHow.com

HOPE

Through the Darkness & Despair
Tears of sadness everywhere
An eerie sound in the air
Of empty streets & vacant stares

But together we can shine a light
And win this furious but silent fight
Although at a distance
Together we stand
With kindness & love
Throughout the land

And where there is hope
There is a way
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And together again we will be one day



By GB

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Interesting facts about the month of May that you didn't know! (blastingnews.com)

A new month is with us; the month of the flowers, the fifth month of the year and also, the month in which huge and important celebrations take place! The month May was named for Maia, the Greek goddess of fertility.

In any given year, no month ever begins or ends on the same day of the week as May does.

May was once considered a bad luck month to get married. There is a poem that says "Marry in May and you'll rue the day".

May's birthstone is the emerald which is emblematic of love and success.

On May 1, 1931, the Empire State Building was officially opened.

Flower

The flower that represents May is the Lily of the Valley. It is beautiful with blossoms that resemble a bell. It has a sweet fragrance.

Birthstone

The birthstone for May is the precious emerald. The popular colour is green, but that's not the only colour of an emerald. Green is the primary colour, but yellow and blue are also colours of some emeralds.

April showers bring May flowers

The saying is that April showers bring May flowers. If that is true, then there will be plenty of beautiful flowers in people's yards and on hillsides because there were many showers in April.

Smaointe

Are we powerless or gutless or both? How can we claim to have ever heard the word "compassionate" if we are indifferent to the suffering through poverty of so many of our brothers and sisters all over the world! If we don't care a straw for all the refugees in camps in Greece and Macedonia and elsewhere! In Ireland we don't have camps much. We have hotels! And what about the poor unfortunate people in Yemen? I got a letter from some group asking for money for them. Of course, I could send them a few bob but would it make any difference? The best way I can help them, it appears to me, is to attempt to raise awareness of their plight among the elected and among the electors both here and in Europe and generally to draw public attention to their situation.

For instance: Has any one of our elected representatives ever drawn attention on the world stage to the utter waste of trillions on bombs and bullets and fighter planes, and all that disgusting panoply of deadly military gimcracks that maim and murder and take the morsel from the mouths of our brothers and sisters in so many countries, including our own. Can these poor people eat bombs and bullets or live on a few grains of rice a day? Who cares, so long as the quota of missiles and warships is increased exponentially. And how often do we hear our bishops and other religious leaders comment on this disastrous situation. "Comment" indeed! They should "rage rage" against the dying of the light", to use Dylan Thomas's words! There is one notable exception, however. Francis in Rome! God bless him!

Our divine boss is a serious boss whose least wish should be our command. Our human bosses are people who often make mistakes, go on ego trips, give us work to do to punish us, make an unholy cock-up of their own remit, of the management of affairs placed in their hands. Often too they are very good and do their work humanely and efficiently. Our divine boss is ever humane and efficient. S/He is on the side of the good for all. We have been invited to pursue that good, to cooperate in the great work of creation.

Bullets and bombs are the work of destruction. Information on the amount of money spent on them by each country each year is readily available. Have a look!

A thiarna déan trócaire ormsa. Tá géarghá agam léi!

Aguisín:

Smólach ina thost ar imeall an bhóthair,
A phort aoibhinn seinnte, a shúile neamhbheo.
Is oth liom d'imeacht, a amhránaí álainn,
Is boichte an domhan seo, gan saibhreas do cheoil.

Ar chuala mé riamh thú ar stáitse na sceiche?
Ba bhodhar mé, mo náire, mo chluasa lán gleo.
Ach feasta bead aireach, go bhfios dom do íobairt,
Thar cheann do chomharbaí, go gcluinfear a nglór!

Gabriel Martin.

Note to the Editor

Hello,

From time to time I read the Maynooth Newsletter. How different the town has become from when I was a boy there long ago. I was born in Maynooth 81 years ago. Aged 16 I left with my parents for the job opportunities offered them in England. I never looked back in anger or envy but with a certain sadness that to advance in life I had to move away. That must have been true for many who left Ireland in those days and in earlier times. Life and opportunities were very, very different in Ireland in the 1950s and the 1960s. Yet I have very fond memories of my schooldays in Maynooth and later in Dublin. I wish you well with the Newsletter. Keep up the good work.

Noel Byrne

Remembering Mícheál Dempsey

Monday 20th April was a very sad day for everyone connected with St. Mary's Brass and Reed Band with the passing of its President Mícheál Dempsey, long time member and a pillar of the Band. He joined the Band with many other young boys in 1955 and embarked on a lifelong love affair with music and the Band, which was going through a transition period at that time. This injection of fresh young blood marked the beginning of the Boys' Band from which there are still some members playing with the Band today.

Mícheál became Secretary of the Band when he was barely out of his teens and over the following years also held the position of Chairman and he played a huge part in ensuring that the Band continued the tradition set by some of his predecessors including Bartle Grady, Tom Waldron, Pat Weafer and others. He was also very much involved with the introduction of female members to the Band in the late 50's and who today make up a sizeable part of the Band.

Mícheál was very proud of the Band and what it meant to the people of the town and being a part of the Band when it lead Parishioners from Maynooth to the Papal Mass in the Phoenix Park in 1979 would have been one of his highlights. In fact St. Mary's were the only Band to be present at that Mass. He was very much involved in other important events with the Band including playing for a number of Presidents of Ireland, including the Aras visit in 2018.

Being the only civilian Band to be present at the Eucharistic Congress in the RDS in 2012 was also important to him as the Band had played at the Congress when it was held in Dublin in 1932. He was very much focused on Band tradition and playing in the New Year in the Square was high on his list until it became too dangerous because of over inebriated revellers. Parading through the town on St. Patrick's Day was another tradition and indeed the Band organised the first St. Patrick's Day Parade until it became too big and was taken over by the Community Council.

His great contribution to the Band over 60 years was recognised by his appointment as President in 2018, which he was very proud to accept, and it was sad that he could only enjoy his new role for such a very short time. Despite the restrictions the Band were able to pay a low key tribute to Mícheál at his funeral in Laraghbryan Cemetery but they hope to pay a more appropriate farewell to him at their annual Mass for Deceased members on Sunday 1st November at 1 o'clock if it is allowed to go ahead. Rest in peace good friend.



Mícheál Dempsey

It was with great sadness we learn of the death of Mícheál Dempsey, our club President, our friend and our colleague.

Mick was a man of standing and character, somebody who made a difference in his community through his contribution to football and music. He was proud of his family, his community and his club. He was a stalwart figure in the development and transition of our club to the where it is today.

Mick was at the heart of our club, he lived and breathed Maynooth Town, from the early days looking after schoolboys to seniors, as Chairman and latterly as our beloved President.

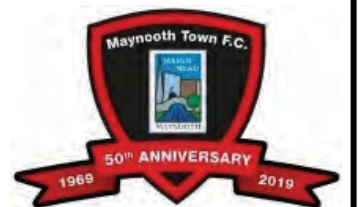
He enjoyed the fun and the banter but he was also a man of serious intent. He understood how a club rooted in the community had to adapt and change bringing new people, skills and ideas to bear but always maintaining the values of community and representing the Town. He would put you right if you strayed from the path. He took great pride in our growth as a club and in the development of our grounds at Rathcoffey Road, where he loved to look out on our field of dreams.

It was lovely to have him, the father figure of our club, present at the Aviva Stadium in 2018 for that moment in history when the Town took the FAI Intermediate Cup.

To Josephine and family we offer our sincere sympathies. We thank you for sharing him with us.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

Gerry Folan
Chairman
Maynooth Town F.C.



Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

Planning Applications received from 25/03/2020 to 27/4/2020 Information from Kildare County Council Website

App Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	App Date
20422	Kildare County Council	Cathal Higgins,	Laragh, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	27/04/2020
20374	Kildare County Council	Denise Doran	No. 220, Maynooth Road, Celbridge, Co. Kildare W23 R768	14/04/2020
20317	Kildare County Council	Alan and Anne-Marie Farrell	5 The Avenue, Moyglare Hall, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 HN15	26/03/2020

Christina Saults: Community Activist and Friend
Born 4th March 1955 / RIP 12th April 2020



Christina was born on 4th March 1955 in number 12 Parson Street, the first child of Bridgie and John Saults. The growth in the family necessitated a move of house and in the early sixties an opportunity arose to move into number 9 Parson Street which unlike number 12 had a large garden. The McTernan family who lived in number 1 had a family of six sons and Christina was often referred to as the sister they never had. It was a close-knit community.

Christina made her First Communion and Confirmation in Maynooth. She was also a member of the choir for some years. She attended Maynooth Presentation Convent School and then completed her education in the Tech in Lucan where she successfully completed her Leaving Certificate. She spent many years working in Dublin performing secretarial duties. Her career took a different slant after she successfully applied for and secured the position of supervisor of the Team Work Scheme in Maynooth. She was in her element as she oversaw her young charges exit out of the Scheme into full employment. It was a big source of pride to her. It was no surprise that in later years she became supervisor of the Community Employment Scheme which she oversaw with great enthusiasm through the good and bad times. She was so proud of the production of the monthly Maynooth Newsletter, in particular the production of the 30th anniversary edition in 2004 stands out. Through her work with the scheme Christina was also involved in the organisation of the St. Patrick's Day Parades and Maynooth Festivals.

Christina was a Maynooth woman through and true. She was involved in many aspects of a developing community from the Youth Club in the sixties, the Table Tennis Club and of course the Maynooth Talent Competition. She was one of the founders of the ladies soccer team in the town. Christina was also a prominent member of the Maynooth Branch of the Labour Party and she looked forward to elections when she could get on the canvass trail and meet people on the doorsteps. She loved meeting people.

Christina was the one who carried on the stories and folklore handed down to us from our parents. Before genealogy became the big thing it is today, she was able to recount our family's lineage, the Saults and the Grahams, to anyone who showed an interest. Christina had an uncanny ability of storing a multitude of home phone numbers in her head. She was the go to woman if you needed a number quickly. She was always on hand to remind parents and grandparents of birth dates of their children and grandchildren.

In late 2006 Christina was diagnosed with cancer and through most of 2007 underwent a long course of chemotherapy and radiation treatment. She was strong willed and came through all of this but unfortunately she was unable to work again. So it was of great sadness that in recent years we started to detect her forgetfulness in recent conversations and events, though her long-term memory was as sharp as ever. Over the course of a few years her condition gradually deteriorated physically as well. On 16th March last her only source of socialising, Mc Mahon's pub, shut down along with all others due to Covid 19. Coincidentally, this was the same date she was admitted to Connolly Hospital. Within a few days we were informed that the prognosis was not good. Another form of cancer had taken over her poor frail body. She passed away peacefully in the early hours of Easter Sunday morning.

Christina, despite her lack of size in inches more than proved that it is a big heart and a love and caring interest in other people's lives that made her a larger than life character in her beloved community. She will be sadly missed. There are so many stories and events that occurred within this brief outline of her life. These will all be recounted at a future social gathering among her friends and colleagues in better times.

The family like to thank Father Frank for officiating at Christina's funeral mass and to Máire Ní Loinn of the Parish Bereavement Group. To Doctor Maurice Cowhey and to all the medical staff in Connolly Hospital We would like to pay a special tribute of our appreciation in ensuring Christina's passing was as peaceful and comfortable as could possibly be. I would also like to take this opportunity to wholeheartedly thank all the people in the many services including Reilly's Funeral Directors and the many voluntary groups who are looking out for our safety and supporting us all in our time of need to the possible detriment of their own health.

Mícheál Dempsey

Many tributes have been paid to Mícheál since his passing and rightly so as his contribution to our community has been enormous and will be difficult to emulate. His association with the Club has been legendary through several roles throughout our history.

His attention to nurturing our young players through the ranks to Senior status knew no bounds and taking over as Senior coach in latter years he excelled in that role with equal aplomb. He was instrumental also in helping to add a ladies section to our ranks which is still part of our club. Mícheál was very proud of the success of our teams at all levels throughout the years.

We enjoyed many trips to Old Trafford and like places with our under-age teams always ensuring that nobody went short. What memories. Seeing our Captain Jake Corrigan climb the famous steps of the Aviva Stadium on the 12th May 2018 to present Mícheál with the FAI Intermediate Cup was an occasion to savour and most moving. It was an indication of the revered respect in which Mícheál was held by all sections of the Club.

Having Mícheál as a friend and Club colleague has been of immense pleasure to me over so many years. Being a colleague also of Mícheál's in the St Mary's Brass & Reed Band also added to the pleasure of knowing him for so long. Mícheál also had a repertoire of many songs which were often rendered in Brady's at many sessions in the past. His rendition of Rosie always had a distinctive aura about it.

To Josephine and his Family we extend our deepest sympathy and thank them for having shared him with us over all those wonderful years.

Lenny Murphy



May 2020 Monthly Horoscope

ARIES May 2020 Horoscope (March 21 – April 19)

Mars arrives in your sign in the second two weeks of this month and it is stressfully aspected with Pluto. Pluto in this position can create an influence of intensity for the individual. Remember, astrology is only an influence and it manifests dependent on the current attitude and circumstances of your life. Therefore whatever you might have as an issue at this time may surface strongly.

In positive terms this transit could motivate you constructively. The important question is, “Are you aware of yourself and your personal intensity?” If you filter your feelings with wisdom and compassion then things should be fine. Aries love to be motivators. Be mindful of what issues or opinions you believe in strongly. You might overwhelm others with your intensity. Use skilful means to motivate yourself and others.

TAURUS May Horoscope 2020 (April 20 May 20)

This month is your birthday month. Don’t forget to thank your mother and father for giving you this rebirth. Even if they were not there for you all the time, still they gave you an opportunity to work out your bad karma and accumulate good karma. The first two weeks your mind and communication skills are strong. The Sun and Mercury are well aspected. The second two weeks require more mindfulness as Neptune squares your Sun. Be careful of illusions or fears you project onto those around you.

Taurus love to be grounded and practical. This month show your positive qualities and share your positive ideas. Don’t worry if people accept them or not, just speak in a clear and confident mind.

GEMINI May 2020 Horoscope (May 21 – June 20)

This month your passions are strong in the first ten days. Basically the month starts with Venus, Mars and Uranus square to each other. That means desires for pleasure are strong and impulsive. If you have Bodhicitta you can work with these feelings constructively. The ability to work with your feelings helps you work with others’ feelings too. If the thought of working with desire is uncomfortable then offer prayers that you can do so in the future. There is always a way to be positive.

Gemini are quick on their intellectual feet. This month feelings and desires run strong and so your mind has to work effectively with an element where the intellect normally does not go. Be intelligent but also be aware that feelings are sometimes stronger than your intellect.

CANCER May Horoscope 2020 (June 21 – July 22)

This month is wonderful. Uranus and Mars both work in energetic and harmonious aspects to Venus. You are having fun and are playful. The first ten days you may be prone to indulge but by midmonth you shift over to being fun loving. Granted you need a bodhisattva’s attitude to utilize these aspects in the best way.

Planets are merely an environmental influence, you still need to be motivated in a positive manner, especially with this type of intoxicating energy.

Cancer normally work with feelings. This month you could be a powerhouse of benefit. The power is love and affection for others. You have lots of those feelings. Just motivate correctly and everything will be fine.

LEO May 2020 Horoscope (July 23 – August 22)

This month is excellent for meditation. Saturn is well aspected in your sign with Jupiter and Neptune. Saturn works beneficially with meditation as that cultivates thoughtfulness. Saturn responds well with Buddhist meditations and this helps ground Neptune’s visions and dreams. Jupiter is also well aspected to both Saturn and Neptune so all in all it is a great time to meditate and organize your thoughts and dreams. Focus on your Bodhicitta motive and you will develop many positive qualities.

Leo like to be motivators. This month organize the vision or idealism of your life. What legacy would you like to leave to the world? Be a true bodhisattva and offer benefit and bliss to all. That is an excellent legacy that brings happiness to everyone.

VIRGO May Horoscope 2020 (August 23-September 22)

This month has Mars, Uranus and Venus all aspect to your Sun sign. You are slightly prone to be agitated though as Uranus and Mars are opposite Virgo. What helps you deal with that energy though is the beneficial aspect with Venus. The world is a dynamic place and you have positive dynamics, so do something constructive with your love and compassion this month.

Virgo do things in an orderly manner. This month your energy is released and free. Be mindful to not be so courageous that you hurt yourself or shock others. Always balance enthusiasm with wisdom.

LIBRA May 2020 Horoscope (September 23 – October 22)

This month is quiet for the first two weeks. There are 10 planets in our solar system to consider but for Libra they are all at distant angles and so just slightly stimulating you. The middle of the month you will feel inspired to do many things though as Mars will come opposite Libra. So meditate in the first two weeks and prepare to be active in the second two weeks.

Libra keep life in balance. This month organize the meaning of your life for the first two weeks and then act on those decisions in the second two weeks.

SCORPIO May Horoscope 2020 (October 23 – November 21)

This month you are a little stressed with things that are out of your immediate reach or control. This is because the Sun and Mercury are opposite your sign and Neptune is square. Basically focus on one particular goal. If you try too hard you may find you get scattered and loose focus. Just pursue small and simple goals.

Scorpio’s are passionate. This month relax and don’t follow your desires. Just be peaceful. It takes

a clear mind to accomplish a meaningful life, so keep your mindfulness in place.

SAGITTARIUS May 2020 Horoscope (November 22 – December 21)

Feelings are still important as Pluto is in your sign for ages to come. What is beneficial is Jupiter is in Sagittarius also and this makes your feelings positive. This month starts with a big rush as Jupiter is squaring Mars and Uranus. You are motivated but possibly moving too fast. Slow down for the first ten days and don’t try to do too many things. The whole month has a certain level of intensity to it, so being mindful and moving slowly would be good advice.

Sagittarius are inspired individuals. This month I would recommend going slowly and being mindful. You will feel the urge to rush around. Recognize those feelings and stop yourself. Be mindful that doing something quickly does not always accomplish your goal.

CAPRICORN May Horoscope 2020 (December 22 – January 19)

This month your ideas about life are inspired. There are no planets in your sign but Uranus and Mars are well aspected and that stimulates enthusiasm and joy. You can set your goals and feel confident that there are no interferences to distract you. Your energy is positive and upbeat so make hay when the sun shines.

Capricorn reflect and contemplate on decisions. This month you can apply yourself with full confidence to whatever you wish to do. It is a good time to follow your idealistic dreams and wishes.

AQUARIUS May 2020 Horoscope (January 20 – February 18)

You are still a spiritual and visionary centre for the universe as Neptune is in your sign for ages. This month meditation is the best activity. You have Saturn and Jupiter well positioned to bless and stabilize your dreams. Be slightly careful midmonth as the Sun will run square your sign. That can mean you feel personally out of sorts even though things are going well. Just be peaceful and your composure will return to you quickly.

Aquarius are sociable beings. This month your interactions with others are going well. Keep an eye on negative imagination though if you have any problems. If you are forgetful you will start to worry about things you have no control over. Be peaceful and all will go well.

PISCES May Horoscope 2020 (February 19 – March 20)

This month you are full of energy. Uranus and Mars are conjunct for the first two weeks and you are energized to pursue your goals. The only complication is Venus is square your sign. Therefore be careful you don’t pursue pleasure for the sake of pleasure itself. Remember, drinking salt water never satisfies your thirst. Think about what you are going to do before you do it.

Pisces are sensitive and introspective. This month be active and inspired. Do spend some time thinking about what you want to do first though, that saves time and energy.

Minding your mental health during the coronavirus outbreak (HSE.ie)

Infectious disease outbreaks like coronavirus (COVID-19), can be worrying. This can affect your mental health. But there are many things you can do to mind your mental health during times like this.

How your mental health might be affected.

The spread of coronavirus is a new and challenging event. Some people might find it more worrying than others. Try to remember that medical, scientific and public health experts are working hard to contain the virus. Most people's lives will change in some way over a period of days, weeks or months. But in time, it will pass.

You may notice some of the following:

- increased anxiety
- feeling stressed
- finding yourself excessively checking for symptoms, in yourself, or others
- becoming irritable more easily
- feeling insecure or unsettled
- fearing that normal aches and pains might be the virus
- having trouble sleeping
- feeling helpless or a lack of control
- having irrational thoughts

If you are taking any prescription medications, make sure you have enough.

How to mind your mental health during this time.

Keeping a realistic perspective of the situation based on facts is important. Here are some ways you can do this. Stay informed but set limits for news and social media. The constant stream of social media updates and news reports about coronavirus could cause you to feel worried. Sometimes it can be difficult to separate facts from rumours. Use trustworthy and reliable sources to get your news.

On social media, people may talk about their own worries or beliefs. You don't need to make them your own. Too much time on social media may increase your worry and levels of anxiety. Consider limiting how much time you spend on social media.

If you find the coverage on coronavirus is too intense for you, talk it through with someone close or get support.

Keep up your healthy routines.

Your routine may be affected by the coronavirus outbreak in different ways. But during difficult times like this, it's best if you can keep some structure in your day. It's important to pay attention to your needs and feelings, especially during times of stress. You may still be able to do some of the things you enjoy and find relaxing.

For example, you could try to:

- exercise regularly, especially walking but keep within 2 kilometres of your home
- keep regular sleep routines
- maintain a healthy, balanced diet
- avoid excess alcohol
- practice relaxation techniques such as breathing exercises
- read a book
- search for online exercise or yoga classes, concerts, religious services or guided tours
- improve your mood by doing something creative

Stay connected to others.

During times of stress, friends and families can be a good source of support. It is important to keep in touch with them and other people in your life.

If you need to restrict your movements or self-isolate, try to stay connected to people in other ways, for example:

- e-mail
- social media
- video calls
- phone calls
- text messages

Many video calling apps allow you to have video calls with multiple people at the same time.

Remember that talking things through with someone can help lessen worry or anxiety. You don't have to appear to be strong or to try to cope with things by yourself.

Talking to children and young people

Involving your children in your plans to manage this situation is important. Try to consider how they might be feeling.

Give children and young people the time and space to talk about the outbreak. Share the facts with them in a way that

suits their age and temperament, without causing alarm. Talk to your children about coronavirus but try to limit their exposure to news and social media. This is especially important for older children who may be spending more time online now. It may be causing anxiety. Try to anticipate distress and support each other. It is understandable to feel vulnerable or overwhelmed reading or hearing news about the outbreak. Acknowledge these feelings. Remind yourself and others to look after your physical and mental health. If you smoke or drink, try to avoid doing this any more than usual. It won't help in the long-term.

Don't make assumptions.

Don't judge people or make assumptions about who is responsible for the spread of the disease. The coronavirus can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, nationality or ethnicity. We are all in this together.

Online and phone supports.

Face-to-face services are limited at the moment because of the coronavirus outbreak. But some services are providing online and phone services.

Find mental health supports and services that can help during COVID-19 outbreak

If you are using mental health services for an existing mental health condition

If things get difficult, it can be helpful to have a plan to help you get through.

Things you can do:

Have a list of numbers of mental health service and relatives or friends you can call if you need support. Keep taking any medication and continue to fill your prescription with support from your GP or psychiatrist.

Stay Safe



**Coronavirus
COVID-19**
Public
Health
Advice



Royal Canal Amenity Group

Education ~~ Heritage ~~ Recreation

We are still in very unusual times as I pen this article and Chairman Matt Kennedy does not hold out much hope of organising anything on the canal for the foreseeable future with the possible exception of the heritage walks in late August.

So this month, as we continue to fight the pandemic, I thought I would briefly outline what the Royal Canal Amenity Group is about for the benefit of those who have taken up residence in the area in recent times and indeed for the many students attending NUI Maynooth both Home grown and from foreign climes.

The Royal Canal Amenity group was set up in 1974. It was the brain child of Dr Ian Bath a lecturer at Trinity College Dublin, who was president of the group until his recent death. The remit of the group was to save and refurbish the canal, which was in a very very poor condition, and eventually get it reopened.



**R.C.A.G. Chairman
Matt Kennedy**

What we did

- For thirty six years we played a major roll in the refurbishment of the canal's main line which was officially reopened to navigation in 2010, having being closed since 1961.
- We created new routes to work for many people, places to enjoy and spaces where you want to be.
- We built stronger communities by giving people the chance to protect and improve the places that matter to them.

- We helped hundreds of people young and old develop their confidence and learn new skills during refurbishment.
- We protected our precious heritage so your children, and their children too, can connect with our rich history.

What we do now

- We promote education heritage and recreation along the entire length of the canal
- We champion the many benefits that our waterway offers and encourage more people to use and enjoy it
- We organise walks, boat rallies and other cultural events along the canal. (Boat Rallies currently restricted because of water levels.) We also organise walks on the Grand Canal during heritage week each year.
- We continue to work towards the reopening of the Longford Branch of the canal. In recent times a section of this was re-watered which only highlighted more previously unseen problems. These problems must now be addressed before further re-watering can ensue.
- We maintain and update the official Royal Canal Amenity group website: www.royalcanal.ie. Our web-master also currently maintains the Royal Canal Greenway website.
- We liaise with Waterways Ireland, County Councils, boating groups and other civil authorities along the canal. Liaison is also maintained with our international members in England, Wales, France, Norway and Switzerland.
- We care for a 90-mile long 'green-blue ribbon' that connects hundreds of wildlife habitats, helping you to get closer to nature wherever you live.
- We keep an eye on 126 bridges, 47 locks, 5 aqueducts and one tunnel, reporting anything untoward to Waterways Ireland.



**Former R.C.A.G. founder and
president: Dr. Ian Bath - R.I.P**

What you can discover about your Town on your 2km walk.

During this time of restrictions there are more people out taking a daily walk within the 2km range. Many take a route that includes a walk through the Main Street. Now that the Town is not as busy with traffic and as one walks up and down the street and in the surrounding laneways, the buildings have taken on a “notice me” vibe.

Have you wondered about the older buildings in the town and how and when they came to be? Well wonder no more. Check out the **Historic Environment Viewer**. It is described on the website as:

“... a new free-to-use digital service provided by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. It has been developed to enhance the users’ experience by facilitating access to the databases of the National Monuments Service Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) in a seamless one-stop point of access for both data resources. The viewer is capable of being accessed on the majority of browsers and platforms, including smart phones.”

When you search for Maynooth in this database there are options to select. In this case a map of the town comes up showing information on key buildings and monuments. For buildings, hover and click on the blue dot and an image of the building comes up, which links to an architectural description and appraisal.

Here is an example: This is now the Avenue Restaurant

Date: 1750 - 1790

Original Use: house

In Use as: house

Rating: Regional

[View Main Record](#)



Description

End-of-terrace three-bay two-storey house, c.1770, on a corner site on a symmetrical plan with shallow segmental-headed door opening to centre. Reroofed and refenestrated, c.1980. Gable-ended roof. Replacement fibre-cement slate, c.1980. Concrete ridge tiles. Rendered chimney stacks (shared). Rendered coping to gables. Cast-iron gutter with replacement uPVC downpipe, c.1980.

Roughcast walls. Painted. Square-headed window openings. Stone sills. Replacement aluminium casement windows, c.1980. Shallow

segmental-headed door opening. Replacement glazed timber panelled door, c.1980. Road fronted on a corner site. Concrete flagged footpath to front.

Appraisal

This house, which dates to the earliest phase of construction on the planned Main Street, is an attractive middle-size house that has been extensively renovated in the late twentieth century, leading to the loss of most of the original fabric. Composed of graceful proportions on a symmetrical plan the house conveys the aspirations to sophisticated architectural forms that were an aim of the establishment of a planned estate town. The re-instatement of traditional-style timber fenestration might restore a more accurate representation of the original appearance of the house. The house is of particular importance for its age and for continuing the established street line of the planned street, while contributing to the regular roofline of the terrace as it proceeds to meet with the entrance to the Carton estate to north-east.

Brady’s Clock House

Date: 1895 - 1900

Original Use: house

In Use as: house

Rating: Regional

[View Main Record](#)



Description

End-of-terrace three-bay two-storey house, built 1896, on a corner site on an L-shaped plan retaining early aspect with render pub front to ground floor, single-bay two-storey side elevation to south-west and two-bay two-storey return to rear to south-east. Hipped roof on an L-shaped plan with slate. Clay ridge tiles. Rendered chimney stack. Cast-iron rainwater goods on eaves course. Rendered walls. Painted. Rendered channelled piers to ends and to corner. Rendered medallion to first floor. Square-headed window openings. Stone sills. Moulded rendered surrounds. Early 2/2 timber sash windows.

Render pub front to ground floor (continuing around side elevation to south-west) with panelled pilasters, fixed-pane timber display windows in bipartite arrangement and timber panelled double doors having overlight and fascia over with moulded cornice. Road fronted on a corner site. Concrete flagged footpath to front.

Appraisal

This building, which has been well-maintained to

present an early aspect on to the road, is of considerable social and historical significance, being one of the earliest surviving purpose-built commercial premises in the town, thus representing the early commercialisation of Maynooth. Composed of balanced proportions to each floor, both elevations present a graceful frontage on to the road that has been lost in many of the neighbouring buildings on Main Street.

The building retains many important early or original salient features, including timber sash fenestration and materials to the roof, while the render pub front is of particular interest, attesting to the high quality of craftsmanship traditionally practised in the locality. The building is also of importance for its impact on the streetscape of Main Street, continuing the established street line of the planned street as it turns to meet with Court House (originally Market House) Square, while contributing to the regular roofline of the terrace.

Here is an example from the Monuments information that are marked on the map with red dots.

Class: Field boundary

Townland: MAYNOOTH

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: No

Description: An archaeological assessment (Licence no. 02E1452) of a proposed development site at the rear of No. 8 Main Street, Maynooth revealed the presence of a ditch running N-S. A short length (L c. 30m) was subsequently excavated (Licence no. 02E1452 ext.) and proved to be of medieval date, having 13th-14th-century pottery in its base. It remained open until the site was developed in the mid-18th century. It measured up to 2.6m in width and 1.1m in depth. The remains of an 18th and 19th century stone-lined drain, a well and cistern overlay the ditch. It seems likely that the ditch was simply a field boundary, but it forms part of the line of a putative large enclosure surrounding the earlier part of the town. (www.excavations.ie)

There is so much more to explore in this database including online jigsaw puzzles. It will add to the enjoyment of those out taking their daily walk and if you are cocooned you can take a virtual stroll through the beautiful historic town of Maynooth, through your place of birth or other places of interest.

Copy the following link into your browser to find more.

<https://www.archaeology.ie/archaeological-survey-ireland/historic-environment-viewer-application>

Or scan the QR code opposite with your QR scanner on your mobile phone.

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*Please note that the Maynooth
Community Employment Project
has closed till further notice.
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Maintenance Services in the
Harbour Area and Maynooth
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*The Project's office in Carton Retail Park is
also closed. Only key staff will providing
essential services for limited hours .*



Suaithantas Ghaelcholáiste Mhaigh Nuad.

Beidh an suaithantas snasta seo go feiceálach i gcian is i gcóngar sna laethanta amach romhainn. Is tráthúil mas ea smaoinemh ar na nGael a shaothraigh go dian dícheallach thar na blianta chun an fis a fíoriú. Tá réiméid ar Tuistí, Udaráis is na foireann tiomanta de Scoil Chearbhaill Uí Dhálaigh, Scoil Uí Riada, Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich, Gaelscoil Tulach na nÓg is Gaelscoil Ruairí go bhfuil an Gaeilcholáiste ar an bhfód. Is iad na daltaí is mó a bhainfidh tairbhe is sult as an deis iontach seo leanúint ar aghaidh lena chuid oideachais trí mhéan na Gaeilge.

Is ionann an tOgham ar an gCaisleán agus na litreacha GCMN, Gael Choláiste Mhaigh Nuad.

Dar le Micheál Ó Ceoinín, Príomhoide GCMN,

‘ Is siombail atá sa bhFáinne buí thart timpeall an tsuaithantas agus an Fáinne Gaeilge mar comhartha do phobal labhartha na Gaeilge. Tá an crann ann mar chomhartha ar an bhfás agus forbairt an duine óig. Seasann an leabhar mar shiombail ar an bhfoghlaim is an léinn. Is é an caisleán atá mar shiombail don cheantar áitiúil.’

Tá pobal labhartha na Gaeilge, ina measc Conradh na Gaeilge, Glór na nGael, Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann, Comhairle Phobal Mhaigh Nuad is sliocht sleachta Pobal na Gaeltachta a tháinig anair is aneas, ciorcal comhrá na leabharlainne is Cuallacht Cholm Cille na hOllscoile ann mar cúltaca le forbairt is bláthú GCMN.

Tá súiomh na scoile beo ar www.gcmn.ie
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CORONAVIRUS SUPPORT FOR MEMBERS

With the recent outbreak of COVID-19, we have robust plans in place, and the continuity of our service to members is hugely important to us. We are continuously reviewing how we can support members and what actions we need to take as the situation with the coronavirus outbreak unfolds. We have the wellbeing of our colleagues and best interests of our members at the front of mind. People helping people is at the core of what we do, and we will continue to support you through this hard time.



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MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN NOTES

Maynooth & COVID-19

One of the unexpected consequences of the lockdown is that all over Maynooth there has been a big increase in the number of cyclists – especially parents cycling with young children. The substantial completion of the Moyglare Road works has helped but the main reason is that with the significant reduction in motorised traffic, it is a much more pleasant environment in which to cycle. This is an indicator of the extent of pent up demand for cycling which has been ignored by both government and political parties for decades.

Kildare County Council

In Kildare County Council, many sections such as the Libraries have responded to the health crisis by rising to the occasion. In relation to meetings, however, it has to be said that the response of the Council is one of paralysis. While people young and old and businesses large and small have taken to the internet to meet, there has been no full Council meetings or meetings of the various Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs). Maynooth Cycling Campaign is represented on the Transportation SPC but as its proposed meeting in April was cancelled, we contacted the Chair, Cllr. Tom Neville, in March seeking information on progress reports on cycling and allocation of grants for cycling in 2020. We are still awaiting a response from the Transportation Department.

Celbridge Road

Some of our local councillors have met with the Maynooth Area Engineer on the Celbridge Road to discuss the provision of walking and cycling facilities between the schools and the Straffan Road junction. In the recent past, Kildare County Council's idea of consultation was to bring people from as far away as Naas to discuss plans affecting cyclists in Maynooth and to ignore local cyclists. We shall see what develops but the best case scenario would appear to be that land is acquired and the scheme designed and approved in 2020 with construction following in 2021.

Space for Walking and Cycling

The reduction in motorised traffic arising from the health crisis has provided an opportunity for a very different experience in towns and cities. Instead of Maynooth being clogged with traffic, the roads are quieter, the air quality is improved and, as stated above, more and more people are getting out and about by active travel ie walking and cycling. The photograph below of Straffan Road on Friday 24th April at midday shows only a handful of cars which is in marked contrast to a "normal" Friday.



Straffan Road Maynooth: Friday 24th April 12:30pm

Progressive towns and cities in countries such as the UK, France, Germany, Italy, United States, Canada, Australia and Columbia have seized the opportunity to reallocate space from motorised vehicles on a temporary basis in order to allow people to walk and cycle while still maintaining physical distance. In Dublin City, the council has invited people to suggest areas where space should be reallocated.

Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cycling Advocacy Network together with the Irish Pedestrian Network have called on councils to temporarily widen footpaths and cycle lanes in order to enable people to exercise and shop and to enable health workers to travel safely to and from their workplaces.

Unfortunately in Kildare, many of the footpaths in towns and villages are not wide enough to allow people to maintain the required physical distance of 2m. Maynooth is better than most but even here some recent construction is substandard. At the Straffan Road/Celbridge Road junction, the available width at one point is less than 1.2m. At several other locations, it is 1.4m. The Irish standard for footpath construction is the TII publication Footway Designs (2005). It states that the footway width should be sufficient to allow two wheelchairs (1.6m) or double buggies to pass and goes on to give a Minimum Recommended Limit of 2m and Minimum Extreme Limit of 1.3m.

With physical distancing continuing for some time into the future, a return to work will present people who rely on public transport. Cycling will be part of the solution but prioritising the use of private cars will only lead to more congestion, more pollution and more road fatalities.



Formation of a New Government

Cyclist.ie has also recently sent an open letter to all party leaders stressing the importance of its two key political asks – rebalancing of transport funding and provision of high quality infrastructure. This necessitates a radical revision to the Strategic Framework for Investment in Land Transport (SFILT) which is biased in its support for more road building over active travel and public transport.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. Further information on meetings and activities is available on our website.

We are a member of Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cyclist Advocacy Network and through it are affiliated to the European Cycling Federation



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Writers' Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

Macnadille Foray
April, 2020

Knowing how much their home states of New Jersey and Vermont outstripped Ireland in most respects, I decided to go for traditional attractions, so with my brother Charlie, I was leading Dave and his girlfriend Karen into the wilderness, well not exactly a wilderness, but the seldom-visited rural hinterland of our county. They were on a visit to Ireland, while I was permanently back in the old sod after having worked for eleven years in New York.

'Those hazel and blackthorn trees over there are what we call a culleen,' I pointed across from the bog track on which we were walking.

'And what's a culleen?' Karen wanted to know.

'It's a small wood,' I explained. 'Coill is the Irish for a wood.'

'I saw a woodcock sunning himself on a bank there last week,' Charlie was always eager to impart his encounters with wildlife. 'I could hardly believe my eyes.' 'What's a woodcock?' though he was a lawyer, Dave was no naturalist.

That question was all Charlie needed to launch into an explanation larded with anecdotes of the times he had taken a potshot at those elusive game birds. By now we had drawn near to the turlough, which allowed me to inform Karen that the word meant a small lake that rose after heavy rains. It drained into a swallow-hole, from which it flowed via an underground river into a lake on the far side of Ballinvilla Hill.

'And what does Ballinvilla mean?' Karen asked.

'It probably means The Home of the Poet,' I told her.

'I just love those Irish place names,' Karen remarked.

'They remind me of Native American ones like Idaho, Gem of the Mountains.'

'That was a made-up name,' Dave informed her, at which Karen remarked, smiling, 'Well, maybe it was, but it's still better than New Jersey.'

Dave shrugged. 'So what? "A rose by any other name..."'

This exchange was interrupted by the sudden eruption of a duck from a drain.

'Is that a Mallard?' Dave asked.

'No, it's a Wigeon,' Charlie said. 'You can tell by his brown head. I wish I'd brought the shotgun.'

We were now at a cutaway bog with rhododendrons growing in one corner.

'What a magnificent clump!' Karen exclaimed. 'Is it ok if I pluck one?'

'Sure,' I said. 'Nobody owns them.'

'There's an orchard over there,' Charlie pointed. 'The gooseberries and currants should be ripe by now, not to mention the apples and plums.'

'That reminds me of the time we were children,' I added.

'We were helping Jimmy Burke with the hay and his daughter Helen arrived with a hatful of plums. She told us she had got them from Mrs. O'Rourke, who lived in Macnadille, over there, beyond the bog.'

'She didn't want us raiding their orchard,' Charlie pointed out

'Are any of the O'Rourkes still living there?' I enquired.

'No,' Charlie shook his head, 'though some people claim to have seen smoke rising from trees in that area. Maybe it's been taken over by the fairies!'

Mention of the fairies made Dave's eyes light up, 'Then we'll have to check it out. We may even find the leprechaun's pot of gold.'

'Surely you don't believe all that old folklore stuff?' Karen scoffed.

'No,' Dave assured her, 'but it'll make a great story for the guys back in the office. Some of them are quite gullible.'

'Fine then,' I agreed. 'We can visit the orchard on the way back.'

After traversing rush-grown bottom fields and a treacherous stretch of bog, where it looked as if somebody had recently been digging for something, we eventually arrived at O'Rourke's, but to our surprise, instead of a weed-grown ruin, we found that the farmhouse had been made somewhat habitable with makeshift repairs to the slated roof and front door.

'What's all this?' I asked Charlie.

'It's as much a mystery to me as to you,' he declared.

'Let's try the door.'

To our surprise the door wasn't locked and the four of us ventured inside, expecting to be challenged by the new owners, but the kitchen, which seemed unchanged since the O'Rourkes lived there, was empty.

'Look at this!' Dave said to Karen, opening a large leather-bound dictionary left on the windowsill. 'You wouldn't expect to find a tome like that outside a library, and it's a Webster's. Wow! The O'Rourkes must have been an educated lot.'

'Yeah, we're not all backwards here!' Charlie retorted. 'Old Joe happened to be the wisest man in the parish. But there's no dust on it or anywhere else and that looks like fresh ashes in the fireplace.'

'Let's see what's in here,' I pushed open the bedroom door and the others followed. To our amazement a canopied, four-poster bed like those once found in certain country houses had been roughly dressed and covered with a nylon quilt and on the floor beside it there were three rolled-up sleeping bags.

'What's going on here?' Dave asked.

'I've a fair idea,' Charlie picked up a booklet lying beside one of the sleeping bags. 'This is an army training manual.'

'So the Irish army trains here?' Dave seemed nonplussed.

'Not exactly,' Charlie said. 'More likely Dissident Republicans.'

'Wow!' Dave's face lit up. 'Wait till my buddies back home hear about this!'

Karen looked alarmed, 'Suppose they come back, find us here and then murder us?'

'They probably only come here on weekends to get a bit of peace and quiet' Charlie told her.

'Surely now that there's a power-sharing executive in the North -' I began, but the others were already leaving the room.

Instead of following them I decided to inspect a wardrobe. It was half filled with soiled tracksuits and overalls thrown on top of a few pair of sturdy boots. Maybe the people who used the house were just nature enthusiasts?

On reentering the kitchen I found it empty. There was a door ajar on the far side, so I made a beeline for it. Charlie and Karen were examining framed black and white photos of the O'Rourkes hanging on the walls, while behind them, facing the fireplace, there was a settle bed, closed so that it served as a couch. But what really caught my eye was a tea chest with five or six upright spades and shovels. Why keep tools like that in the parlour? Was it to stop them being seen by visitors who were in the kitchen?

On being told that Dave had stepped outside, I decided to join him and found him walking, head bent, at the back of the house.

'I just wanted to see if there were any signs of military training,' he explained, 'trampled grass, spent shells, that sort of thing.'

'And you found nothing?'

'They could have used another spot.'

'Maybe,' I said, 'but there's another possibility. Do you remember the dug-up area we passed on the way here? It had crumbling black logs scattered on it.'

'That spot in the bog about half a mile back?'

'Yes. Well, why would anyone dig in a place like that?'

'Buried treasure?'

'You could be right, and I know just the man who'll enlighten us.'

'An archaeologist?'

'No, a man of the cloth.'

That afternoon we were all waiting to enjoy the spread my sister Maureen had prepared when Fr. Bernard finally arrived. He was in civies, probably because he guessed our American visitors weren't Catholics. After introductions, he took his place near the end of the table and soon had Dave and Karen chatting to him like old friends. When the conversation eventually turned to the dug-up area of the bog, Fr. Bernard's eyes lit up.

'Not having seen the actual spot I can't be sure what you saw,' he confessed.

'It was an area about six times the size of this room,' I explained.

'More like twelve times,' Charlie corrected, 'and it was roughly circular.'

'I can't be certain of this,' Fr. Bernard said, 'but it could be a crannóg.'

'What's that?' Karen asked.

'To answer your question I'll have to fill in the background,' Fr. Bernard was obviously delighted to elaborate on a favourite subject. 'You probably know that our raised bogs were once lakes that over centuries filled in with vegetation. Some of these lakes had artificial islands built on a foundation of tree trunks, hence the word crannóg, from crann, a tree. There almost certainly was such an island in the bog near Macnadille, but nobody noticed it, nobody that is except a few, shall we say, dodgy characters? They probably picked up some artifacts, shards of pottery, dress pins, maybe even a brooch, and decided that with thorough excavation they might even find a gold horde, so they commandeered O'Rourke's house for their base camp.'

'But why didn't our own people excavate it?' Charlie asked.

'A good question,' Fr. Bernard remarked, 'especially as the name Macnadille in Irish is Mac an Iodáile, Son of the Idol. There must once have been a pagan idol in these parts and our ancestors usually appeased such idols with rich offerings, even human sacrifices. I'm guessing that something like that may have prompted those squatters to move into O'Rourke's.'

'You don't think they are Dissidents then?' Charlie put down his teacup.

'They may very well be,' Fr. Bernard conceded. 'The Gardaí will certainly be investigating that angle - By the way, have you phoned them?'

'I can drop into the station when I drive Dave and Karen back to their hotel,' I piped up. 'The squatters can't know we're on to them, so there's no hurry.'

'So where are they now?' Dave asked.

'Fr. Bernard shrugged, 'Probably across the border in Northern Ireland.'

'I still don't see how idol worship and this crannóg are related,' Dave challenged. 'Did the people living on the crannóg worship the Son of the Idol?'

'Assuming there was a crannóg, the answer to your question depends on when it was built,' Fr. Bernard explained. 'If it was before the coming of St. Patrick they might have. Anyway, that's pure speculation on my part.' 'But informed speculation,' Dave seemed content to drop the matter.

'In any case, I'm sure the O'Rourkes wouldn't be too pleased with the present occupants of their house,' Karen buttered another slice of soda bread.

'You're dead right,' Maureen was carrying a pot of fresh tea from the work counter. 'Old Joe always said that the good earth provides enough to satisfy our needs, but not our greed.'

'I think he was quoting some famous person,' Fr. Bernard tapped his forehead, trying to remember. 'Anyway, I'll have to make that the subject of my next sermon.'

'Now I'm sure you'd all like some apple pie and custard?' Maureen smiled at our guests. 'I baked the pie this morning.'

P.G.Nerney

Clues Down



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.

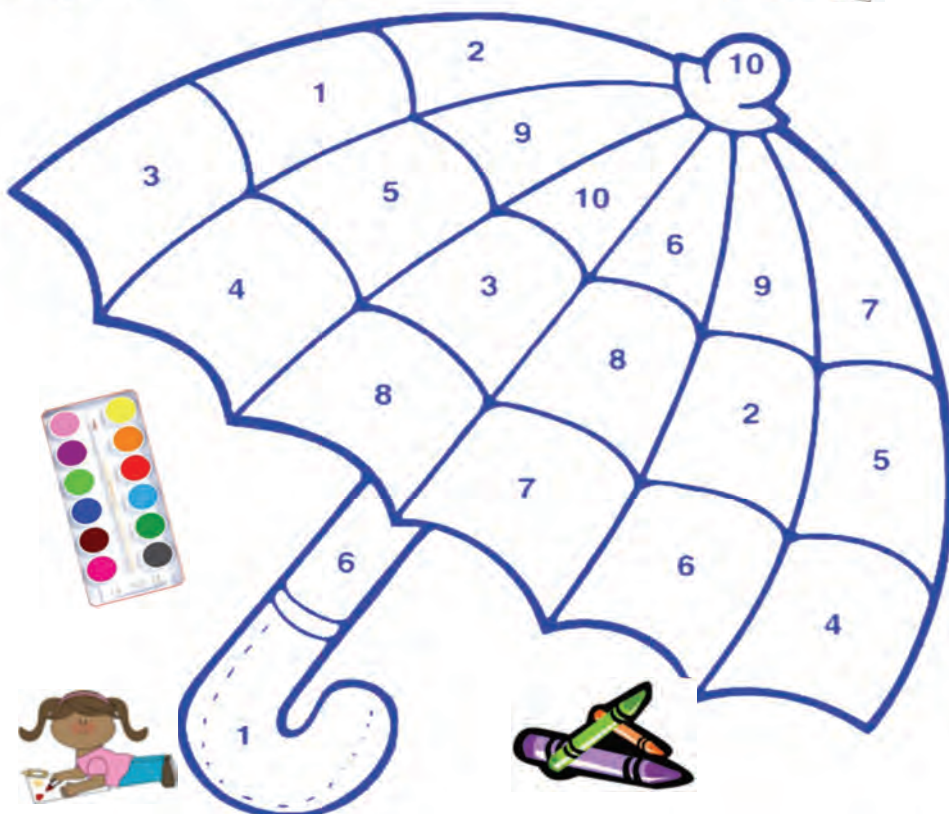
Junior Puzzle Corner

Use the colour key to colour the umbrella

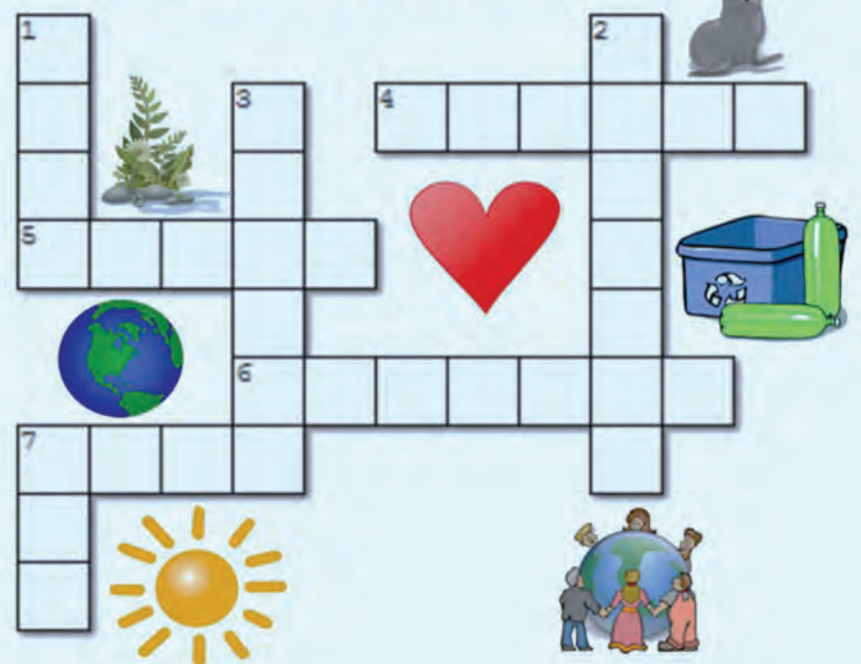
- 1 - red
2 - green
3 - black
4 - yellow

- 5 - pink
6 - orange
7 - purple
8 - blue

- 9 - white
10 - brown



Earth Day Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 4 We grow In our garden
5 We live on Planet
6 Reduce, Reuse
7 Together we can The Earth

Down

- 1 We need to,and take care of the Earth
2 Dogs and Cats are types of
3 Plants, trees and birds are part of
7 The ... is so bright, I have to wear shades

WORDS: Animals - Sun - Plants - Earth - Love - Nature - Save - Recycle

Maynooth Tidy Towns Volunteers emerged from hibernation on Saturday 3rd March. After a well earned rest we were back in action and had very happily donned once again our Hi-Viz vests and were ready to tackle the list of jobs and projects as we worked towards the 2020 Tidy Towns Competition.



And then the Dreaded Virus struck and life as we know it was put on hold as we isolate, cocoon, stay home, endlessly wash our hands and sanitise everything that we came in contact with. And so in accordance with Government instructions we put the tools back in the shed and stayed home. Finally, the announcement came, that the 2020 Tidy Towns Competition was cancelled for the first time in its over 60 year history.

While we all miss being out and about there are some little positives from a Tidy Towns perspective. The presence of litter is almost non-existent and our autumn bulb planting schemes have been quite stunning as the fine weather prolongs the flowering season. The absence of cars has reduced noise and air pollution. The lack of mowing by contractors in some areas has resulted in the proliferation of wildflowers such as cowslips, cuckoo flowers (Lady's Smock) and primroses. And the sound of birdsong has never been more acute. Nature is thriving.

Contrary to what you might think, Maynooth Tidy Towns is not just about litter picking. In more recent years our focus has been on the protection and enhancement of our natural environment and biodiversity. We have fully embraced the objectives of the **All Ireland Pollinator Plan** which urges us to undertake actions that make our communities more wildlife and pollinator friendly. This means, among other things, reducing or avoiding the use of pesticides and other chemicals and planting native shrubs and flowers that provide food and shelter for wildlife.



MTT Actions for Pollinators and Biodiversity:

- **Willow plantation** at Meadowbrook/Old Greenfield. The Willow catkin is a vital source of food for queen bee bumblebees as they emerge from hibernation.
- **Planted over 30,000** pollinator friendly bulbs such as Allium, Muscari, Crocus, and Native Bluebells in various locations around Maynooth.
- **Planted** a variety of pollinator friendly perennials to provide year round food for pollinators and other beneficial insects in our landscaped beds at O'Neill Park, Straffan Road and The Pound.
- **Carton Avenue:** In 2017 MTT initiated and negotiated a new maintenance regime with KCC and Carton Estate to enhance the wildlife value of Carton Avenue.
- This involved a reduced mowing regime on a 3m wide strip running end to end on both sides of the Avenue. Grass is cut once in April, and again in late September.
- This approach allows plants to flower and self seed thus building up a seed bank in the soil. Over 40 species of wildflowers have been identified including 2 varieties of orchid.
- Many species of insect depend on particular species of plants and shrubs for reproduction and feeding their young e.g. Holly Blue Butterfly depends on Holly and Ivy for its caterpillars and the Orange Tip Butterfly depends on Lady's Smock (Cuckoo Flower) for its caterpillars. So it is most important we allow these plants to flourish.
- The greater the number and diversity of plants present in an area the greater the benefit to wildlife
- The area of natural vegetation between the lime trees is of immense importance and provides shelter for all manner of wildlife including hedgehogs and frogs.
- **Sensory Garden,** Moyglare Road. Pollinator friendly plants, including lavender lined path and native Irish fruit trees.
- **Native hedgerow** and tree planting on Dublin Road, Dunboyne Road and in The Green,
- **Joan Slade** embankment enhancement project. Clearing thicket to allow wildflowers grow.
- **Collaborate** with Kildare Bat Group and Wild Kildare to have Bat, Bird and Swift boxes installed at various locations around Maynooth.

What are Pollinators and why are they important?



In Ireland pollination is necessary to maintain many of our fruits and vegetables e.g. apples, strawberries, raspberries and tomatoes to name but a few. It is estimated that 1 out of every 3 mouthfuls of our food and drink comes from bee pollinated crops. In addition to fruit and vegetables, the wildflowers that provide us with colour and beauty in our landscape also need pollinators, as do many of our garden plants.



Most pollination in Ireland is carried out by bees. All our bees are helped by other insects like hoverflies, butterflies and moths.

Ireland's Bees:

In Ireland we have 98 different types of bee - 1 honeybee, and 97 wild bee species of which 20 are bumblebees and 77 are solitary bees:

Honeybee – The Honeybee lives in a hive and is the only bee to produce commercially extractable honey. Honeybee hives contain up to 50,000 bees and can remain active for several years.

Bumblebees - The Bumblebee lives in nests on the ground hidden in long grass or at the base of a hedgerow and in leaf litter. Bumblebees have a short lifecycle and at the end of summer the nest dies.

Solitary Bees – Smaller than bumblebees. Solitary Bees don't live in hives or make honey but some solitary bees are very efficient pollinators. Solitary bees nest in holes in the ground, dry stone walls, earth banks, or hollowed out twigs/bamboo canes.

Why are bees in trouble?

Our bees are struggling to survive, one third of our wild bee species are known to be threatened with extinction in Ireland. Our bees are in decline due to a combination of stressors:

- The drastic reduction of the areas where they can nest and the amount of food (pollen and nectar) our landscape provides for them.
- In our modern world of paved and manicured gardens, intensive agriculture, overuse of pesticides and a changing climate our bees find themselves hungry and homeless.
- But it's not only are our bees that are struggling. So too are many other species. We have chopped down, pulled out and sprayed nature to death in our quest for perfect and pristine gardens, greens, parks and living areas. And all our actions have created a biodiversity crisis.

We have to take action now to protect our environment. Nature is not clean lines and weed free. It is messy, quite orderly and very beautiful and we are seeing this during this regrettably enforced isolation period where nature has more or less been left to its own devices with great results!

Get Your Garden Buzzing by providing the following:

- **Food** – Plant flowers that are RHS approved. Choose pollinator friendly perennials, annuals and herbs. Make sure to have one flowering food source from spring through to winter. Avoid plants with double or multi petal flowers. Single petal flower varieties have more pollen and nectar. Perennials are more beneficial than annuals.
- **Shelter** – Create safe habitats. Leave areas of long grass for bumblebee nesting e.g. under hedges. Create or leave earth banks or bare soil in South facing areas at the edge of lawns or have dry stone walls for mining and cavity nesting solitary bees. Drill some holes into a fence post, or wooden log for an instant bee hotel!
- Don't be too quick to tidy up the garden. Leave perennials intact through winter to provide nesting sites for wild pollinators and seeds for birds.
- **Safety** – If possible completely eliminate the use of all pesticides in your garden and never use pesticides on plants in flower. Manual weeding is the best and safest option.



Wildflower Meadows:

We hear lot of talk about wildflower meadows. To plant a native wildflower meadow using commercially purchased **native seed** is costly and requires careful planning and management. Most sites are not suitable due to high soil fertility so can be poor value for money.

If you decide to plant a wildflower meadow be sure that the seed mixes you purchase are comprised of native species collected and grown on the island of Ireland. Suppliers that meet these requirements include EcoSeeds, Design by Nature and Irish Seed Savers.*

The easiest way to grow a wildflower meadow is to create one naturally through reduced mowing. Leave an area of your lawn uncut during summer to allow Clovers (Seamain Dhearg), and Bird's-foot Trefoil (Craobh Éin) to flower. Try to encourage the same practice on a green in your estate.

And don't forget to let the dandelions bloom. They are a vital food source in early spring for many of our beneficial insects but particularly our bees.

***Note: Wildflower seed packets for sale in supermarkets often fail to meet the requirements set out above and should not be used in bigger scale meadows. Ok in small scale gardens!**

Get hold of Zoe Devlin's book on Irish Wildflowers. Use your 2km walk to take note of the variety of wildflowers (weeds!) that are popping up everywhere. When you learn their names they become much more interesting and particularly the name as Gaeilge e.g. Lady's Smock (Bíolar Gréagáin) Meadowsweet (Airgead Luachra) Valerian (Slán Iomaire) Yarrow (Athair Thalún), Kidney Vetch (Méara Muire). And lots more!

And Finally

Learn to embrace the messy and untidy garden and roadside verges given to dandelions. You will be rewarded with the result. Then sit back and enjoy your garden and "the murmuring of innumerable bees" and birdsong and delight in the knowledge that you are helping to give back to nature and our natural environment.

Stay Safe and observe all the Public Health Guidelines that are in place to help get us through these very strange and challenging times.

Mary Jennings
Maynooth Tidy Towns

Fascinating Fact:
For a strawberry flower to turn into a strawberry it needs to be visited 5 times by a bumblebee or 15 times by a honeybee. That's just for ONE strawberry!



Fascinating Fact:
The queen bee bumblebee needs to visit up to 6,000 flowers A DAY to get enough energy to maintain the heat needed to brood her first batch of eggs.



Did you Know?
Most annual bedding plants e.g. Geraniums, Begonias, Petunias have virtually no pollen and nectar and are of little value to pollinators and other insects.



Early May is your last chance to sow a new lawn from seed as we come into the summer months and the temperatures rise even further. Those who have already sown a new lawn should continue to ensure it is watered regularly. For those with an existing lawn, you should, by now, have lowered the blades on the lawnmower for a slightly tighter cut. Ideally the lawn should be cut once per week but the same rules apply as earlier in the year; don't cut the lawn when its wet, wait for a dry day. Don't cut the lawn too tight. And don't forget to trim the edges with an edging shears; neat and tidy edges make for a neater and tidier lawn. Apply lawn weed killer to your lawn this month.



In the vegetable garden

Harvest asparagus spears when they are no more than 18 cm tall. Thin out direct-sown vegetables such as spinach, carrot and lettuce seedlings, then water the rows well. Harden off outdoor tomatoes, courgettes and pumpkins for planting early next month. Protect carrots from carrot fly by covering with horticultural fleece or enviromesh. Pinch out the growing points of broad beans as soon as beans start to appear at the base of the plant to reduce the risk of blackfly attack. Weed around your onions and garlic to reduce competition for nutrients and water. Apply an onion fertiliser to boost growth. Make supports for your runner beans, using 8 ft. (2.4 m) bamboo canes. Support pea plants with twiggy sticks or pea netting. Keep on top of weeding.



In the fruit garden

Protect strawberries with straw (to control weeds and lift the berries off the ground) and netting (to keep birds off the fruit). Harvest rhubarb, picking only one-third of the total amount of stems. Hang pheromone traps in plum trees from May to August to monitor plum-fruit-moth activity. Keep young fruit trees well-watered while they are putting on rapid growth. Remove blossom and fruits from newly planted fruit trees to help them establish properly during their first year. Regularly check the centre of gooseberry bushes for green gooseberry sawfly caterpillars - they will quickly skeletonise leaves if not removed. Erect netting around soft fruit plants to prevent birds eating your crop.

Whether you believe that May is a spring or summer month, we are sure you will all agree that it is a wonderful month in the garden. The bare winter and early spring patches are filling in with fresh growth as the perennials make their appearance and the amount of colour in the garden is increasing by the day. Below you will find some handy hints to help you keep on top of things over the next few weeks.

In the flower garden

As your spring bulbs begin to fade, remove the flower heads to prevent them from going to seed. The stalks should be left in place to die back naturally; this allows for the bulbs to re-absorb any available nutrients which keeps them fed during their dormant period. The stalks can be cut/removed once they are well withered. This is also an ideal time to lift and divide any clumps of spring bulbs which appear to have outgrown their allotted space. They can be lifted and divided, withering stalks and all, and re-planted in their new position. Early flowering clematis, such as the Clematis armandii, should be pruned now, if required, as they finish flowering. They are group 1 climbers which means they flower early and on last year's growth. In truth, they should not need too much by way of pruning unless they are getting too big for the area they are in or they can be pruned to get rid of any old or damaged/dead wood. Always cut back to a pair of healthy buds. As the temperatures rise, so do the instances of pest and disease in the garden. As the old saying goes, prevention is better than cure! A strong case in point are roses. Keep an eye out for aphids/ greenfly on the new buds or black spot and rust on the leaves. Remove any infected leaves immediately and discard them. Treat any affected plants with appropriate insecticide and fungicide which can be used every two weeks to keep problems at bay. Remember, good air circulation around the plants is a must in preventing the spread of pests and diseases.



Gardening
“the fine art of soul to soil”

Beef Taco salad with homemade tortilla bowls

Ingredients:

Tortilla bowls

- 4 10-inch flour tortillas
- Vegetable oil spray

Taco meat

- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 3 garlic gloves, minced
- 1 pound lean ground beef
- 1 (8-ounces) can tomato sauce
- 1/2 cup chicken broth
- 2 teaspoons cider vinegar
- 1 teaspoon packed light brown sugar
- Salt and pepper

Salad

- 2 romaine lettuce hearts, shredded
- 1 (15-ounces) can black beans, drained and rinsed
- 8 ounces cherry tomatoes, quartered
- 2 spring onions, thinly sliced
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro
- 2 table spoons lime juice
- Avocado, and sour cream for topping (optional)



Directions:

1. To make homemade taco shells, adjust oven racks to upper-middle and lower-middle positions, preheat oven to 425 degrees F. Arrange 4 oven-safe soup bowls, flattened foil balls or 6 inch cake pans on two rimmed baking sheets.
2. Warm tortillas slightly until pliable. Spray both sides with cooking spray, then drape over soup bowls or nest inside cake pans. Bake until crisp,10-15 minutes, rotating sheets half way through baking. Let cool completely before removing.
3. Heat oil in a non-stick skillet set over medium-high heat. Add onion and cook until softened, about 5 minutes. Stir in chili powder and garlic and cook until fragrant, about 30 seconds. Add ground beef and cook, breaking up meat with a wooden spoon, until almost cooked through but still slightly pink, about 2 minutes. Stir in tomato sauce, broth, vinegar and sugar and simmer until slightly thickened, about 5 minutes ;mixture will be saucy. Remove from heat and season with salt and pepper.
4. Combine lettuce, beans, tomatoes, spring onion, and 2 tablespoons cilantro in a large bowl; toss with lime juice and season with salt and pepper to taste. Place tortilla bowls on serving plates. Divide salad among bowls. Top with taco meat and sprinkle with cheese and remaining cilantro. Garnish with sour cream and avocado, if desired.

Strawberry no-bake mini cheesecake (serves 4)

Ingredients:

- 1 pound fresh strawberries
- 2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1/4 cup powdered sugar
- 1 (8 ounces) package cream cheese
- 1 (14 ounces) can sweetened condensed milk
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 5 ounces shortbread cookies
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted



Instructions:

1. Wash, core and slice strawberries. Sprinkle strawberries with sugar and toss to coat. Set aside.
2. In a tall mixing bowl, whip the cream with and electric mixer. Once trails begin to form, turn the mixer off and add powdered sugar and continue to whip until stiff peaks form. Place whipped cream in the refrigerator until ready to serve.
3. In a medium mixing bowl combine cream cheese, milk, vanilla essence and lemon juice. Beat with the mixer until mixture is smooth. Place in the refrigerator until ready to serve.
4. Place cookies in a blender or food processor to crush. Blend on low until you have all cookie crumbs. Pour into a small bowl and combine with butter. Mix until all cookie crumbs are moist.
5. Divide cookie mixture into 4 dishes(we used small jars). Gently pat cookies down with a spoon or your fingers.
6. Add cheesecake filling, divided evenly between jars. Top with 1/4 of strawberries in each jar. Add dollop of whipped cream.
7. Refrigerate for 2 hours.

Tips: Cheesecake keeps for several days in the fridge covered.

Enjoy!!



James Lawless T.D. Kildare North

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



Hi All

Thank you for your continued cooperation on Covid19 emergency measures.

The virus has wreaked huge health, economic and other damage on Ireland and around the world. I believe governments and policy makers have generally acted quickly and positively and I welcome the rapid and radical response. I participated in the Dáil sessions on the emergency legislation and tabled various amendments. Overall I think the measures are working and are proportionate and necessary.

Looking ahead it is important that the Euro Zone shortly reaches agreement on financial measures to fund the response and stimulate the recovery. If at all possible this should be an economic pause rather than stop and it will also be essential for large scale investment in public services and infrastructure when the crisis passes.

I will continue to provide updates on social media as information becomes available. Below are some new updates and additional advice since my last newsletter to you.

Stay safe.
James

Kildare County Council Helpline up and running – Community Call

Kildare County Council has taken the lead in joining together local organisations to help vulnerable people in our community. A dedicated community response helpline has been established in KCC to assist at risk members of the public to access non-emergency and non-medical supports and advice during this public health emergency. The number is 1800 300 174 Or 045 980 202

This confidential helpline will operate from 8am to 8pm; 7 days a week to help with;

- Collection and delivery of food, essential household items, medication
- Transport to Testing Centres, Clinical Assessment hubs or GP appointments
- Social isolation
- Meals and their delivery
- Other general queries

This helpline is not intended to replace any of the wonderful work that is going on locally. If an “at risk” or “vulnerable” person is already accessing services or support then they won’t need this, but if there are people you know who don’t have these contacts and links then they are encouraged to ring the helpline.

Kildare Local Enterprise Office is offering support and guidance to all businesses in Kildare.

LEO has received numerous ongoing requests for supports /advice in the current crisis and they have just launched 4 interactive online courses coming up in the next week to support businesses through the Covid 19 crisis and assist with social isolation. These are on the LEO website for booking. Please see below links-

1. Leading your small business through COVID 19
<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/Leading-Your-Small-Business-Through-Covid-19.html>

2.Grants to get your business online
<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/Trading-Online-Voucher-Seminar-Covid-19-Supports.html>

3. Keep your training and consultancy business alive
<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/Keep-Your-Training-Consultancy-Business-Alive.html>

4. Cashflow crisis management

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/Cash-Management-in-a-Crisis-A-Vital-Approach-for-SMEs-during-COVID-19.html>

I have also received confirmation from the Department of Enterprise that businesses can continue to trade online through this pandemic provided social distancing is applied on any deliveries or warehouse / stock movements of personnel.

Gardening & DIY in Lockdown

With everyone being confined at home for an extended period it is important to find ways to occupy ourselves and help everyone stay positive and focused at a time when normal social activity and hobbies are necessarily restricted. I know that a huge amount of people find gardening and/or DIY to be a welcome respite and particularly at a time when many people are at home with time on their hands. I suggested this week that the restrictions could be updated to allow hardware stores and gardening supplies operate on a no-contact, home delivery basis. This would allow small local stores a chance to continue trading whilst also giving many people welcome access to such products. Mental health is very important throughout all this too.



Stricter Measures needed to tackle recent anti-social behaviour

I have been made aware of a recent behaviour of young people spitting and coughing into the faces of other people in members of the Gardai in an attempt to intimidate them. I have called for the full extent of the law to be used against those caught coughing, spluttering and spitting on other people and I tabled an amendment to Section 6 of the Non Fatal Offences against the Person Act 1997 to cover thus eventuality under existing offences on the statute books since the HIV outbreak when drug users would spit or spill blood deliberately onto emergency service workers. I am also aware that people carrying out these acts often record them and post them to the social media apps under the hashtag ‘corona challenge’. Please listen to my interview with RTE Radio 1 in relation to tackling social media platforms on this is linked here – Interview starts at (1hr 56 minutes)
<https://www.rte.ie/radio1/drivetime/programmes/2020/0331/1127681-drivetime-tuesday-31-march-2020/?clipid=103372963#103372963>

New Rent Supplement Application

Please find below a link to the new rent supplement application forms. Rent Supplement is a means tested platform for people living in private rented accommodation who cannot provide for the cost of their accommodation from their own resources. <https://www.gov.ie/en/service/fb3b13-rent-supplement/>

Contactless Payments Update

It is positive to see that many businesses have increased the contactless limits on our bank cards from €30 to €50 euro. This increase became effective from the 1st April and its good to see banks, retailers and technology companies working together in order to facilitate us in order to make increased payments without the need for physical contact in these troubling times. (Tesco not included)



Message from Alone Support Group

Many of you may know older people who are very concerned hearing about the new measures being implemented. The Alone helpline is open from 8am – 8pm for older people who have concerns or questions. This is a very useful service and I would urge you to pass on the number to someone whom might need reassurance.



Some Other Quick Updates

www.Gov.ie - for all up to date information on essential retail businesses and essential workers exempt from the Covid-19 stay at home order. This site is excellent for all official Government information

The Fuel Allowance payment has been extended by four weeks until second week in May.

I have called on Irish Rail to extend annual commuter tickets – please see link below
[kfmradio.com › news › kildare-td-calls-ianróid-éireann-extend-annual](http://kfmradio.com/news/kildare-td-calls-ianróid-éireann-extend-annual)

Covid 19 Payments will be backdated from the day you lost your job. You will get the weekly payment every week and the backdated money will run on after the payment ends.

Citizens Advice have prepared a comprehensive update on your consumer rights in relation to cancelled travel arrangements due to Covid -19; https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/consumer_affairs/travel/travel_plans_and_covid19.html#172128

Clinics and Constituency office update

My constituency offices remain operational but unfortunately unable to facilitate drop-in visitors, due to the current lock-down. My clinics are suspended for the same reason. However you can continue to phone in with any queries or contact me by email or social media. I am dealing with many cases as per usual, but you will understand that I am prioritising those situations arising from the Covid19 outbreak.

Many thanks and stay safe,
James Lawless TD

PATIENT ADVOCACY SERVICE

Patient Advocacy Service is an independent, free and confidential service which is funded by the Dept of Health and independent from the HSE.

Patient Advocacy Service can provide support and information to patients and/or families who may have concerns around their care and treatment in an acute hospital for Covid-19 or non-Covid 19 related issues.

☎ 0818 293 003, 10am–4pm Monday to Friday.
🌐 www.patientadvocacyservice.ie





Maynooth Education Campus

MEC PRESS


www.Mpps.ie
www.Mcc.edu.ie


Follow us on
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updated
school
information on
our App



MEC Schools Closure Extended

Taoiseach Leo Varadkar has said the Dept of Education is optimistic that schools might reopen in May and June. Mr Varadkar also stated, "there is a very good chance" that the Leaving Certificate exams will go ahead and for that reason, he would encourage students to continue studying for exams. The Government is doing "everything possible or feasible that we can so that that group of young people could start college as normal in October".

On Tuesday, 24th of March Minister for Education Joe McHugh also confirmed that schools will not be reopening in the short term as efforts continue to stop the spread of Covid-19. Concerning state examinations, Mr McHugh said that his department "really want to make those exams happen". He said they owed it to young people to "see this through and try to have the exams this year" and elaborated that "the dates that are defined for this year" and his department is working towards this.

Taoiseach added that if this does not happen, then the Minister for Education is working on contingency plans to allow the Leaving Cert to go ahead. "The Junior Cert also if possible", he added. Minister McHugh has acknowledged that this "is an extremely difficult time for everyone, not least students and their parents".

In a statement, he said his message to students facing exams is that they should keep focused, keep working and try, as much as possible, to prepare as normal for the state exams. "We are doing everything in our power to make sure those exams happen".

A Message from Senior Management

Dear colleagues, students, parents & guardians,

Dr Tony Holohan, Chief Medical Officer of the HSE has repeatedly stated that the next seven days are "vital" in Ireland's ongoing battle to curb the spread of coronavirus. Speaking at a press conference this week, Dr Holohan has stated: 'We don't anticipate saying we'll go back to normal on the 29 March,' in light of significant new restrictions announced Tuesday 24th March.

If our health service is to have any chance of dealing with the impending surge, we need to minimise physical social contact beyond our households. As per the parental text sent out this week, we must keep a physical distance of 2 meters from others in public and regularly hand wash. As we are entering another weekend of this new norm, there might be an increased temptation for groups beyond the restriction of four to meet up. Please, please limit this to four unless from the same household in the interest of our community. We need you to keep yourselves and us safe by taking sustained responsible action.

Parents & guardians, please ensure that your son/daughter is engaging with the material being transmitted by teachers online. Many thanks to all our hardworking staff for their innovativeness and professional diligence during this difficult period. This is our new reality, school and might be like this for a while beyond April 29th. Please note, we are obliged to treat online engagements the same as normal school attendance. If there are connection/account difficulties, please let us know. In the meantime, this coming week, we will contact households of any "non-attenders". We will also cascade information as soon as the State Examinations Commission releases information regarding contingency plans.

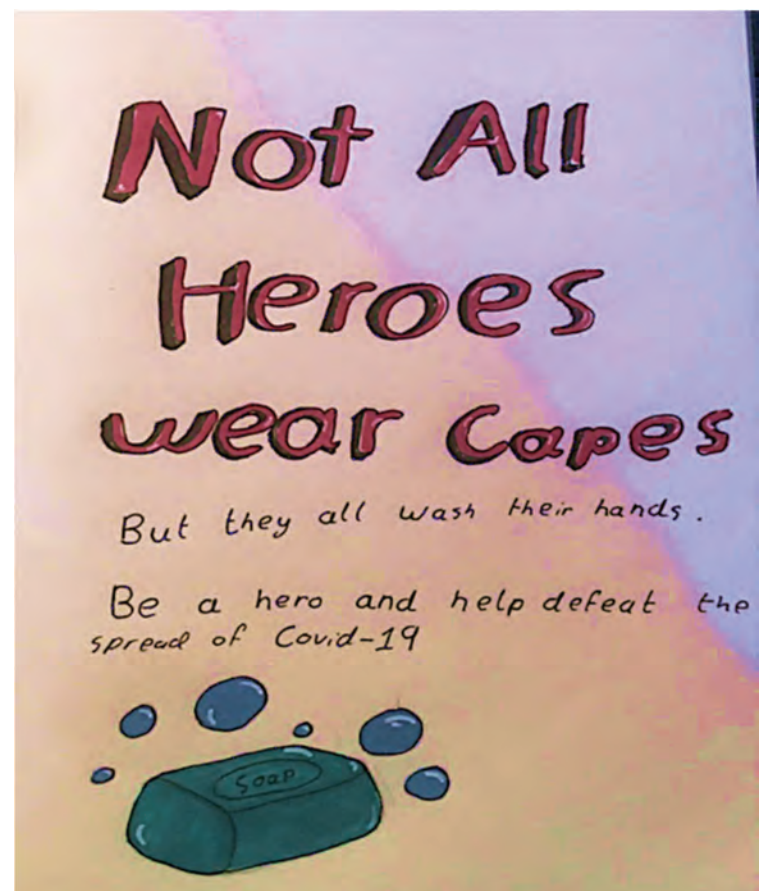
Our school needs our students to:

1. Visibly engage with schoolwork on online platforms
2. Limit physical contact
3. Wash your hands

Stay safe and together can support each other during this emergency.

Senior Management Team,
Maynooth Post Primary

WE'RE IN THIS
TOGETHER



Thanks to First Year Zoe Tyndall

(Continued from page 25)
Maynooth Community College

IMPORTANT: Digital Learning Information

Students who have school email issues please email n.donohoe@mcc.edu.ie or support@tools4schools.org

If you have any schoolwise queries you can send an email to schoolwise@maynootheducationcampus.ie You must have a valid school email to access and use schoolwise.

Students should check various online platforms once in the morning and once in the afternoon.

School management will send a text home to ask students to check for work at 10 am and 1pm each day.

At least one working day will be given for work to be completed as an increasing number of parents are now working from home and there may only be one device to access online.

Teachers will also let students know when they will post work again i.e. If teachers intend to give work on the days that they have your child as per timetable each week **or** students may have assigned work for a longer period of time.

TY students will soon receive a spreadsheet with work sent via TY parental communication.

LCA Edmodo groups have been set up for both classes and work forwarded has been put up for students.

In terms of students that are not engaging. We have added a 'not engaging in online work' descriptor in vsware behavior and have sent a text to each parent to monitor this.

We have also added a list of all the staff emails to the website. We have reminded students that they should only use their school emails if they need to contact teachers.

<http://www.mpps.ie/Page/School-Staff/405/Index.html>

<http://www.mpps.ie/Page/Staff-contact-details/542/Index.html>

Staff email format: **First Name Initial . Surname @ Mpps.ie**
Example: E.Campbell@mpps.ie (Facebook admin)

We are using the following online platforms:

Edmodo (Please ensure your child has the class code and has signed up using their school email)

Schoology (Please ensure your child has the class code and has signed up using their school email)

Microsoft Teams

Schoolwise

School-to-School Email

The 26th Annual School Musical 'All Shook Up'

By TYs Isabel Doherty and Caoimhe Bashir



Elvis Presley's music comes alive in 'All Shook Up'. Inspired by Shakespeare's Twelfth Night, 'All Shook Up' follows a small Midwestern town that is thrown into a frenzy with the arrival of Chad, a good-looking, motorcycle-riding roustabout, who rides from town to town with a guitar on his back, blue suede shoes on his feet, and a song in his soul. Repressed by their conservative mayor, the town begins to come alive once more under Chad's influence. Lovers meet, woo, pursue, and more, all in one zany night that will change the town forever. 'All Shook Up' is a rocking, heart-warming tale about following dreams, opening up to love, and the power of music.

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On the 8th of November 2019, our school's preparation for the 26th annual musical began. Students who aspired to perform on stage were called in to audition after school. Whether it was a lead part or a small role that students sought, everyone had three songs to choose from to sing in front of Ms. Dunne and Ms. Murphy. This was a challenge as it took a lot of courage to sing in front of other people! The following week the second auditions were held for students who got through the first round.

The auditions were repeated over a few weeks and became more intense over time and included acting with partners in front of others. Ms. Dunne and Ms. Murphy then whittled down to the last ten students who were to become the leads of "All Shook Up".



It wasn't long before we were divided into choruses; the red, blue, green and yellow chorus and we were given schedules of our rehearsals each day. Singing rehearsals took place with Ms. Dollard in the canteen, acting and dancing rehearsals took place in the assembly hall with Ms. Dunne and Deirdre who was our fantastic choreographer. After 2 weeks of chorus rehearsals individually, the choruses began to rehearse together with the leads. Huge improvements were made over these weeks until all four choruses and leads were ready to do a full run-through of the show.

While the choruses and leads were busy rehearsing, the construction team got to work on building an amazing stage. You can watch a time-lapse video of the stage construction on Youtube at M. Leamys account titled 'All Shook Up Stage Construction 2020 Part 1'. The team covered the sports hall floor with a black cover and began assembling the stage. Bit by bit, it got bigger and more impressive. Steps were added and movable walls were made. These walls on wheels would fold out or in depending on the scene by the stage crew in between scenes. The team also built the 'Greyhound' bus for the scene 'It's Now or Never' and the balcony on the stage.

Lets not forget our brilliant art team. Members of the art team were responsible for the stage design, scene backgrounds, and scene prop designs. They worked long hours every day, sometimes until 10 pm, to complete the stage. They painted the vibrant walls on stage, including doors, windows, and signs. They also painted our fantastic fairground set including bumper cars, a Ferris wheel, the giant run-down fairground sign, the haunted house sign and much more.



Our production team were busy designing, producing and selling the tickets and conducting chorus interviews. They questioned each chorus individually and asked questions regarding our favourite choruses, favourite scenes, best dancers, best singers and best actors in our chorus. They also interviewed funding sponsors and put together our wonderful musical programme booklet.

We did our first run through in costume on 31st of January. It was cool to see everyone dressed up and it was amazing to see how creative people became with their costume design. We had

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(Continued from page 27)

a technical rehearsal on the 2nd of February which was great because it was our first time performing with stage lights which improved the overall performance. When we had our first rehearsals with costumes, makeup, lights, and sound, we started to feel the buzz of the show and the excitement was palpable on everyone's faces.



After 6 weeks of rehearsals, opening night had arrived. As we got ready, we could see the audience filling up with students, teachers, our families and much more. It's safe to say everyone had some sort of nerves at start. However, everyone wore foundation and makeup so we didn't look sick on the stage! Some people even made wrinkles with makeup to look more in-character.



We gathered in the resource area to watch the first scene: 'Jailhouse Rock.' It was our first time seeing the audience's reactions to the scene and the cheers could be heard from the

resource area. Without a doubt, this gave us a boost to try our very best and enjoy the experience. The next scene was 'Heartbreak Hotel' followed by 'C'mon Everybody' and 'Hound Dog.' Between scenes, we took photos with our friends and the leads and watched the show from the monitor in the resource area.

We also had to make outfit changes. The blue chorus were to change from their prisoner costumes into their villager costumes after 'Jailhouse Rock'. The yellow chorus had to transform into statues by dressing in togas and painting themselves with white paint for 'Let Yourself Go'.

The red chorus turned into devils and angels in 'Devil in Disguise', wearing devil horns and halos. Lastly, the green chorus changed from villagers outfits to fancy wedding outfits for the last scene, 'Burning Love'.

The night flew by and before we knew it, we were bowing on stage at the end of our first show while the audience roared. Backstage we quickly got changed out of our costumes and had a quick assembly with Ms. Dunne where we congratulated everyone on our success so far. We then left to go home before we did it all again the next night!

We ran the show for 6 nights from Wednesday to Sunday. Each night we hoped it wasn't going to be our dip night. In the end, each night was fantastic and went very smoothly. We noticed how the audience reacted differently every night and each night was unique. It was tiring however we did sleep longer the next day to rest before going into the school in the evenings.

On the final night of 'All Shook Up', it was clear everyone was emotional. Some tears were shed as we left the stage at the end of the show. It had been our lives for the past few weeks, whether it was rehearsals, construction, photography, art or the programme.

Thanks to Isabel Doherty, Caoimhe Bashir, Nayna Raxon & Sebastain Sachs for writing and editing this content.

A massive amount of effort and teamwork went into our musical and we were sad it was ending. We were also very proud of one another for putting on an amazing show... maybe the best MEC show ever. We celebrated our wrap up with a disco in the assembly hall and we even got some teachers to dance with us.

A Thank You From TY

This musical would have been incomplete without our teachers' help. Our teachers sacrificed their time to help with our musical, from its very beginning until the very end. Musical Producer Mrs. Murphy and Director Ms. Dunne made sure

(Continued on page 29)

(Continued from page 28)

Manager Ms. Hynes who spent all of the musical that every student had a part in 'All Shook Up' nights running backstage and making our musical and spent all of their time to help us to make this run smoothly from behind the wings. musical it's very best.



Music Director Ms. Dollard made time to help and teach every single student to learn all the songs Construction teachers Mr. Leamy, as well as Mr. Walsh and Mr. Ryan, built an incredible stage for the musical. They put in a great amount of their time to help us. A big thank you also to Backstage

A huge thanks to these teachers, Art Dept and all the other teachers and management who supported our year group during the musical. You did so much in giving up your time to make sure we had a brilliant and unforgettable experience.



Interviews with the leads in 'All Shook Up'

By TY Nayana Rexon & Laura Desmond

How would you overall rate your experience in the musical?

(Daragh Finnegan/Chad) 10/10, It was an unbelievable experience. (Grace Brennan/Natalie) It was a great experience and a great opportunity to meet new people and get closer as a year group. (Pádraig Bennet/Dennis) Probably the best experience of my life. (Ella Adams/Mayor Matilda) 100/10.

What was the best thing being a lead?/special moment that stuck out for you as a lead?

(Daragh Finnegan/Chad) It was fun to sing all the well-known songs and have that experience.

(Grace Brennan/Natalie) Probably the buzz of being on stage. (Pádraig Bennet/Dennis) I loved having the chance to have some spotlight on stage.

(Ella Adams/Mayor Matilda) Getting to be a different person on stage. (Ciara Hynes/Sandra) When I found out I got the role I was surprised to be honest because I never thought I'd get a part in the musical so it came as a bit of a shock, but I was so so happy and excited to start rehearsing as that part.

(Continued on page 30)

(Continued from page 29)

(Nell Mescal/Sylvia) I think the biggest thing about being a lead that stuck with me was the sheer responsibility. I had to make sure I knew my lines and everything for rehearsal so that everyone at the rehearsal could get their stuff done rather than the rehearsal stop and start all the time because of me. So everyone got a chance to rehearse their individual parts as well.

Anything negative about being a lead?

(Daragh Finnegan/Chad) I felt a lot of pressure on the opening night but after the first night, it was grand.

(Grace Brennan/Natalie) It was sometimes stressful due to the pressure and deadline being only 4 weeks.

(Pádraig Bennet/Dennis) There was a lot of pressure on me but I loved the challenge.

(Ella Adams/Mayor Matilda) Lack of sleep (jokes!)



What was your favourite song and dance from the overall musical?

(Daragh Finnegan/Chad) C'mon Everybody.

(Grace Brennan/Natalie) If I Can Dream, Favourite dance:

Burning Love. (Pádraig Bennet/Dennis) Favorite song: Let Yourself Go, Favorite dance: C'mon Everybody.

(Ella Adams/Mayor Matilda) Burning Love.

What was your favourite line to say/sing?

(Daragh Finnegan/Chad) Teddy Bear/Hound Dog (song) because it was a really fun song and scene.

(Grace Brennan/Natalie) "What are ya shoutin about Lorraine I was under a chevy" because it came before my favourite song I got to sing - "One Night With You".

(Pádraig Bennet/Dennis) "Well I wouldn't mind", (Fools fall in love scene) I loved the comedic timing of the line.

(Ella Adams/Mayor Matilda) "You're all going to hell!" I loved that line as I thought it was pretty funny.

Recount the feeling you felt when you were told you were cast as a lead?

(Daragh Finnegan/Chad) Very happy, was lost for words.

(Grace Brennan/Natalie) I was really surprised because the standard and talent was so high, but I was absolutely delighted when I got the role. (Pádraig Bennet/Dennis) Honestly, I was just like "woah okay this is happening now".

(Ella Adams/Mayor Matilda) I was bursting with happiness, I couldn't wait to start rehearsals.

Looking back, how did you feel about the opening night?

(Daragh Finnegan/Chad) I thought it went really well but I was bricking it! (Grace Brennan/Natalie) I was happy with the opening night in general. There were a few mistakes but that's to be expected.

(Pádraig Bennet/Dennis) A few things went wrong but overall I loved it.

(Ella Adams/Mayor Matilda) I was so nervous but equally excited.

(Liam Curley/Sheriff Earl) Looking back on the first night, I wasn't that nervous at all and by 7 o'clock the adrenaline had taken over. Still there were a few nervy moments on stage, but once you got a laugh from the crowd you were fine for the rest of the night.

Did you prefer singing/dancing/acting?

(Daragh Finnegan/Chad) Acting.

(Grace Brennan/Natalie) I preferred dancing.

(Pádraig Bennet/Dennis) I loved singing and acting but I preferred singing.

(Ella Adams/Mayor Matilda) I preferred acting.

If you had a chance to do this musical again, which character would you aim for or would you stay with the same casting?

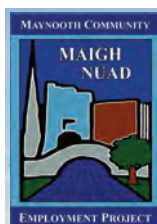
(Daragh Finnegan/Chad) If I had to choose another I'd choose Earl cause it was funny when he spoke but I would probably stick with Chad because it was a fun character to play.

(Grace Brennan/Natalie) I would aim to get Sandra.

(Pádraig Bennet/Dennis) I loved the part I had, but I think Dean would be a bit of fun.

(Ella Adams/Mayor Matilda) I feel like I would stay the same but if I had to change, I feel Natalie would be very fun too.





Maynooth Newsletter

Serving the people of Maynooth



Local News June 2020 Issue No. 491 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.



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.



Every battle can be fought when you have the right support.

Young mothers set up childcare charity for parents facing cancer

The Community Cancer Caregivers charity was found in response to a service gap in among Irish cancer patients with young children. These parents are faced with the struggle of managing their cancer treatment whilst also having the responsibility of caring for their young children. Treatment for any person diagnosed with Cancer can be both traumatic and exhausting. However, cancer patients with young children, face the additional responsibility of seeking and arranging alternative ad-hoc care for their children whilst undergoing intense cancer treatments like chemotherapy.

Set up by two young mothers (Deborah Hall and Donna Phelan) in the North Kildare area, only heard of their friend's struggle with childcare after she passed away from Breast Cancer in 2019. Community Cancer Caregivers aims to be by your side, when you might be beside yourself. Please help Community Cancer Caregivers reach these parents and provide of comfort and hope by donating what you can.

<https://www.idonate.ie/CCCNorthKildarestartup>

Irish Cancer Society said:

'A cancer diagnosis doesn't just impact the person diagnosed, it also impacts their family and friends. Children can be especially affected as parents need time to attend treatment and are often exhausted, lacking energy when they are at home. Supports like those provided by Community Cancer Caregivers, no-cost relief childcare to families dealing with a cancer diagnosis, can make a significant difference. The work of Community Cancer Caregivers adds another vital support for cancer patients and their families.' Donal Buggy, Director of Services Delivery & Implementation, Irish Cancer Society.

Hand in Hand Charity said:

"This unique service is wonderful idea for families struggling through cancer treatment. So practical and so necessary. We commend the founders for their innovative work"

Jennifer Carpenter, Service Manager, Hand in Hand

Deborah Hall - CEO/Chairperson and Founding member.

Web: communitycancercaregivers.com - **Email:** communityCancerCaregivers@gmail.com
Celbridge Contact Number: 083 0363905 - **Maynooth Contact Number:** 083 0534082
@CCCNorthKildare - @Community Cancer Caregivers
Registered Charity Number (RCN): 20205579

Further Information on page 14

Maynooth Home support

If you are unable to leave your home due to being immunocompromised or for other reasons, there are volunteers locally willing to help bring supplies to you.



You can contact
Naoise on (086) 728 0050
Anne on (085) 158 2660

maynoothcommunityhelp@gmail.com

If you are aware of people you think may wish to avail of the Maynooth Home Support services but may not have access to the internet please pass on the contact details above to them.



An Garda Síochána

Ireland's National Police and Security Service

Garda Mobility Service

If you are concerned for yourself or a neighbour, please contact your local Garda station. Contact details for all Garda stations are on the Garda website www.garda.ie or in any phonebook. Gardaí are hiring additional vehicles to assist those who may be in need of help with for example, collection of medical prescriptions, attend hospital appointments or other mobility supports.
Maynooth Garda Station - 01-6292380

Conserve Water

Water covers 71% of the planet but only 1% is available to us as drinking water. We share this precious resource with every animal and plant on Earth as well as using it every day in our homes and businesses. Although there is enough annual rainfall in Ireland, we are limited in how much water we can take from the environment. By using only what we need, we can all play our part in safeguarding our water for our future.

Water saving tips

Tip: Turn off the tap when you are brushing your teeth or shaving. Save up to 6 litres of water per minute. - Turn off the tap

Tip: An average shower uses 10 litres of water per minute. Taking a shorter shower will save lots of water. - Time your shower

Tip: Run your washing machine and dishwasher with full loads and save water and energy! - Load 'em up

Tip: Instead of running the cold tap for a cool drink, keep a jug of water in the fridge. This could save up to 10 litres of water per day. - Keep chilling

Tip: Place a basin in your sink so when you rinse or wash food you can collect the water and use it for watering plants.

Tip: Toilet flushing is one of the biggest water users in most homes. Consider only flushing the toilet when you really need to.

Check for leaks

Tip: Check for water leaks in your home. You may be eligible for a free leak investigation and repair.

Drop the hose - Garden clever

Tip: Use a rose head watering can in the garden and a bucket and sponge to wash your car. A hose uses more water in one hour than the average family uses in a day.

Tip: Water your plants in the early morning or late evening. This saves water evaporating and avoids scorching your plants too.

Tip: Add layers of plant material, like bark or straw, to your garden soil to help it retain more water.



How to grow Sunflowers from seeds

Growing Sunflowers can be great fun for all the family. You can have a competition with your children or grandchildren to see who can grow the tallest Sunflower. To begin You will need Soil, Sunflower Seeds, Pots & gardening gloves. Fill each pot 3/4 of the way with soil. Sow each seed about 1-1/2 inches down into the soil.



Lightly press the seeds into the soil and top the pots off with a little more soil. Directly after you have them planted water them. Be sure to use lukewarm water, which promotes strong root growth. The soil should never be completely dry, but make sure that you aren't over watering them either.

Make sure they are in full sun for at least 6-8 hours. If you see them start to wilt, remove them from the sun and give them some water.

When to Plant out your seedlings

When your seedlings are around 6-8 inches tall, they're ready to be planted once the frost has passed. Dig the hole in the sunniest spot in your garden as they love the sun and place the seedling into the ground and lightly pack down the soil and cover with mulch.



Slugs and snails like to eat new and growing shoots so if you can try and protect them by using some sort of cover. As your sunflower starts to grow taller you might need to help support it by tying a cane to the stem with string. Then just watch them grow and grow!

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Please Note: Cúrsa A starts on Bank Holiday Monday.

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Castleknock Community College

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Connections: Maynooth- Missions- Wuhan - China

As Maynooth, along with the rest of the world emerges from the Covid pandemic I got to thinking about what Maynooth related items appeared in the Newspapers a 100 years ago. On searching the Irish Newspaper Archive I was surprised to find a Maynooth-China connection and not only that but a Maynooth-Wuhan connection also. The standout headlines in the newspapers both national and regional was that of the “**Maynooth Mission to China**” which was founded in St. Patrick’s College Maynooth in 1916 and by 1920 was well on its way with its missionary work in China.

The Society was founded through the inspiration of **Edward Galvin (1882-1956)**. He entered Maynooth College for his native Diocese of Cork, and was ordained in 1909. Unlike today, there was an oversupply of clergy for that diocese. His bishop suggested that Galvin offer his service in the United States, until such time as there would be an opening in Cork. Galvin went to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn in New York City, where he was assigned to Holy Rosary Parish.

While serving there, Galvin came to know John M. Fraser, a Canadian priest. Galvin shared with Fraser his interest serving in China. Galvin had read everything he could about that nation and asked to accompany Fraser back to China. On Fraser’s advice Galvin wrote to his bishop for permission to go to China which he received. Galvin departed for China on 25 February 1912.

Galvin and Fraser sailed from Vancouver for China on the RMS Empress of India (1890). He then began to serve in Zhejiang (then spelled Chekiang), where he spent the next four years. During that time, Galvin was appalled at the poverty and began to request help and assistance from his connections back in Ireland. He was joined in 1916 by two other priests, Frs. Patrick O'Reilly and Joseph O'Leary. They realised that an organised plan would be required to deal with the situation. Galvin returned to Ireland to establish a new missionary Society.

On his return journey in June 1916, he met with bishops and priests everywhere he went, presenting his proposal. He returned to Maynooth where he began to recruit among the seminarians there for his proposed society. A local Curate, Thomas Roynane, introduced Galvin to **John Blowick (1888-1972)**, who agreed to join the endeavour and was to prove an important contributor to the development of the Society as evidenced in the article transcription and brief biography below. Within two months of his arrival, Galvin had recruited five more priests, bringing the new Maynooth Mission to China to a total of eight members.

Galvin then presented his proposal to the Holy See, which gave its blessing. Galvin and Blowick spent 1917 laying the foundations for the society. Formal approval for the group, now named the Society of St. Columban, was given by Rome on 29 June 1918, and a new seminary was immediately founded in Ireland to train new members for the missions. Society grew to number 40 priests and 60 seminarians by 1920. Galvin then led the first band of the Society to open their mission in the Hanyang District, modern day Wuhan, China. He was named Apostolic Prefect of the Apostolic Prefecture of Hanyang in 1923 and later made the Apostolic Vicar of the promoted Apostolic Vicariate of Hanyang in 1927, with Galvin being consecrated as its titular bishop, it became a diocese under him in 1946, (suffragan of Hankou).

As they began their work, the missionaries encountered various calamities to which the region was subject, ranging from famines to flooding. They also soon found themselves in the middle of a civil war between the forces of the Guominjun Nationalist Army and the Chinese Communist Party, which lasted for the next three decades. This social instability allowed warlords to flourish and mission stations were routinely threatened by bandits. Supplies were often stolen enroute and mission workers were frequently kidnapped. On July 15, 1929, Communist Army bandits captured Columban Fr Timothy Leonard whom they then murdered. Others were taken captive and released, but one, Father Cornelius Tierney, died after three months of harsh captivity.

In the autumn of 1932, Chiang Kai-shek's nationalist republican troops began attacking the Communists. The Communists fell back on all fronts, and, once more, people could move about with relative safety. "The reign of terror," wrote one Columban, "far from weakening the appeal of the Catholic Church in this area, seems to have strengthened it." It was an extraordinary time as thousands expressed a sincere desire to enter the Church. In 1933, the Holy See designated a new territory for the Columbans, and Fr Patrick Cleary was appointed in charge of the Apostolic Vicariate of Nancheng (in Nancheng County, south of Hanyang). The Japanese invasion of China in 1937 saw the Society challenged to care for both civilians and soldiers, as major outbreaks of Cholera swept the populace. This was soon followed by the outbreak of World War II when members of the Society from the Allies of World War II had to be repatriated or face house arrest. The war had just ended when it became clear that Communist forces under Mao Tse-tung would soon defeat the Nationalists under Chiang Kai-shek. In 1946, the Holy See entrusted a new mission, known as Huchow, to the Columban Fathers.

Three years later, the Communists took over this area, and, before long, they were in control of all of China. Several Columbans were jailed and eventually all the Columban priests and Sisters were expelled. Bishops Galvin and Cleary were expelled in 1952. By 1954, every one of the 146 Columbans serving in China was expelled forever. **Blowick, John (1889–1972)**, missionary priest and theologian, was born 26 October 1888 in Belcarra, Co. Mayo, eldest son of John Blowick, farmer, and Honoria Blowick (née Madden). He had one sister and two younger brothers. John was educated at Westport CBS and at St Jarlath's College, Tuam, Co. Galway, and subsequently trained as a priest in St Patrick's College, Maynooth. He excelled in theology, took a first-class honours BA degree and was ordained in 1913. Blowick himself raised funds and recruited personnel. He became superior-general (until 1924) and gained church authority to open a seminary, St Columban's College, Dalgan Park, Shrule, Co. Galway, in January 1918. In June 1918 it received its first members. The seminary remained at Shrule until its relocation (1941) to Dalgan Park, Navan, Co. Meath.

John Blowick retired as director of the Maynooth Mission in 1947, just as the Chinese communists were on the verge of taking power. He taught theology in Navan for some years. John Blowick died 19 June 1972 at Dalgan Park, Navan, and was interred in the seminary grounds. From 1929 onwards, the Society extended its mission to the Philippines (1929), Korea (1933), Burma (1936) and Japan (1948). Peru, Chile, Fiji (1950s). More recently Pakistan 1979. The Society was active for many years in Australia, mainly in support of the mission to China.

The Columban Oral Archive is held at Maynooth University Library as is their periodical The Far East.

Susan Durack

Leinster Leader Feb 21, 1921 (transcribed)

The Holy See has granted the Maynooth Mission to China a vast district in China. Its population is much greater than that of Ireland, and its extent is quarter the extent of Ireland. Its chief city is Han Yang, which has a population of 600,000”

“On St. Patrick’s Day of this year (1921) 16 of the Maynooth Mission to China priests will leave Ireland for China”

“They will be obliged immediately to procure houses for themselves, for their catechists and assistants.... also building chapels and schools...

It will require £200 to send each priest to China.

All contributions and all gifts should be sent immediately, as we are now engaged in making our preparations for the voyage”

Address to Rev. John Blowick, St. Columban College, Dalgan Park, Galway.

Railway Station – Hollymount.

Source: Irish Newspaper Archive.



Maynooth Newsletter

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

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

Letters to the Editor

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

Mission Statement

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Maynooth Newsletter Archives

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

www.maynoothcep.com.

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

Editorial Board - Maynooth Newsletter

Maynooth Newsletter

Copy date for the next edition of the Maynooth Newsletter will be Tuesday 21st July 2020

Editorial

Like me I am sure many readers will welcome the gradual lifting of public health restrictions so that we can move around more. Many of us will have missed the opportunity to meet our parents and other family members in the past few months. Therefore before saying anymore let me remind you that in Ireland we celebrate Father's Day on Sunday June 21st. Of course for anyone reading this who has lost their father to the Covid 19 pandemic, we appreciate that this year will be a particularly difficult one for all of you. For those of you still lucky to have your father please make sure to make contact with him on the day.

At the beginning of this lockdown I mentioned here about the value of a garden to us at this time. Quite a number of readers have commented on this as well with a many saying that they will care for their gardens more in the future and wanting it to be their outdoor room. With the limited opportunity to travel for holidays this year the back garden is the place to spend your holiday funds.

With the restrictions lifted in May to allow people return to work under appropriate conditions, Maynooth Community Employment Project, outdoor staff are back to work. In addition to the community services provided from our office in Carton Park from where the "The Maynooth Newsletter" is published, you may well already know that the project also cares for the Maynooth Harbour and its environs as well as the Maynooth Town Soccer Club grounds. This means that these areas can continue to be maintained to a high standard and at least the Maynooth Harbour area can be a little oasis of calm or be part of your daily exercise route into the future as it is being well managed and looking attractive to walkers as well as being a haven for wildlife.

Maynooth Community Employment Project provides work and training experience for long-term unemployed people and through this provide invaluable community services. What might surprise readers is that the work in the Maynooth Harbour area is carried out from resources within the project thus saving Waterways Ireland (the statutory body that owns the Royal Canal) and Kildare County Council very significant amount of money annually. Consequently the project is highly dependent on local goodwill and in particular the support of the local business community. Like all charities the project has felt the financial impact of Covid 19.



With so many gatherings necessarily cancelled or turning to virtual events, the Maynooth University 2020 Soiree will also be virtual. The theme of this year's event is "Together Apart" and will be hosted by RTE broadcaster Rick O'Shea online on Saturday 20th June between 19.30 and 20.30. It will consist of a video montage of pre-recorded clips of reflections and performances by household names from the arts and by talented Maynooth University Alumni from households around the world. But here is the bit that will spark some of our readers to get in on the act. There is a request out for Maynooth Alumni to submit a video of your performance (whatever that might be) for inclusion in the 2020 Maynooth Online Cultural Memory to alumni.events@mu.ie by 12pm on June 8th 2020. I know that there are many Maynooth Alumni who came to study in Maynooth and subsequently made Maynooth their permanent home. We will be looking out for your performance.

Back to the public health restrictions and the roadmap to get back to more usual lifestyles. It is great to see that a number of local businesses adjusted to the conditions imposed and managed to continue to trade in a limited way during the restrictions. I know that I speak for many of you when I say that I look forward to many more local businesses re-opening and I know that "The Maynooth Newsletter" will continue to support local businesses in letting our readers know about them.

Paul Croghan
Editor

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Interior Design Trends

This year looks as if it is going to be the year when we will see home owners giving their homes a comfortable look and taking inspiration from nature. Trends to decorate homes reign materials such as wood and vegetation so it will be bright decoration along with silvers and gold.

The common goal to decorate the houses will be full of ideas and cosy proposals for the use of textiles and ethnic details.

In 2019 many people opted for an eco-friendly interior design incorporating many warm and natural elements. There will be an improved application of natural wood on doors, windows and furniture. More people will adopt the use of hand-made and recycled furniture and accessories as well as the wider use of natural stone materials.

In comparison to previous years in which communicated environments were sought, this year will see designs opting otherwise. There will be an increase to look for divisions that grant greater privacy for each living space. We cannot deny that open spaces give the feeling of having a larger home but we must also acknowledge the fact that there are times when open plan living can diminish comfort.

Each year colour trends change and this year is no different in that we will see cheerful and sober tonalities. Colours that are set to be quite popular this year include grey, pink, purple, green and blue. Wallpaper is one of the pawns to decorate the walls of your home and in 2020 wallpaper is set to feature designs of artistic touch, tropical prints and motifs that evoke nature.

In terms of materials that are going to be a present force include pine, oak, mahogany or imitation wood. These are going to be especially popular when it comes to wood in housing structures such as columns or ceilings, in interior or exterior floors, wood furniture in all rooms,

wood in decoration, wood in finishes and wood in doors and windows. Previously light wood was the star of the show but from this year on and for the foreseeable future, dark tones are going to be popular as they give the house decoration a greater elegance and a touch of luxury.

In addition to the wood in furniture, floors, ceilings and decorative accessories, the trend towards the natural is imposed on the decoration of 2021 and home owners will have the presence of wicker, jute and rattan in their interiors which will ensure that materials will provide a greater amount of textures to the decoration and will make them much more welcoming to our environments. Metal is going to bring great brightness and luminosity to the decoration of the different rooms of the house throughout this year. In addition to this, the metal material can be adapted to decorate any style of house such as; modern style, vintage style, minimalist style, eclectic style and classic style.

Interior gardens can not be missing in the decoration of your home as you look for a space of relaxation and tranquillity. To accompany the interior garden, you can place a small chair or armchair which allows you to enjoy the stillness and beauty of your garden.

2020 is the year of taking ownership of your own space. Home owners are looking to add a personal touch to their home and there will be a change to interior decorations that show character and personality making interior design more of a DIY interior design option. Home owners want exactly what they have in their head so a quick and easy way to put a stamp on your home is to create wallpapers or customise wallpapers with your favourite photograph collection customised wallpaper can hold pictures of your children, travel memories or pets. Rather than the usual square edge trends when it comes to furniture, there will be an increase in curve furniture (furniture with curved edges). We will see furniture such as cabinets, sofas and chairs bidding farewell to the mid-

century straight designs for a more rounded back and sides. This type of furniture will feature smooth materials of bright colours. It will also be easy to incorporate round back chairs into smaller rooms whilst keeping enough space.

Design furniture will be a massive trend in interior design this year as there is a major shift from rigid and formal interior designs to maximum designs which do not have special rules for interior design. Rather than your standard couch in your living room, you can opt for something unusual like a couch or a lounge chair. Place the chairs around a table in the living room and it will make your home more welcoming as well as spacious. Layering up comforting cushions, throws, faux furs and knits will make any space instantly inviting as well as it being an approach that will take you through the remainder of winter and those spaces will be fashionably dressed for spring!

Interior design trends that you will find slowly disintegrating this year are as follows; neutral colours, single- use spaces, all white kitchens, the faux look, accent walls, neon lighting, singular design schemes and defined shapes. The Japanese and Scandinavian interior design style are quite minimalist, functional and simple with the function of both being referred to as Japandi style. The white colour of this interior trend dominates all environments, natural wood, materials and organic forms with all the influence of the great Nordic and Japanese designers of the 1950's being its main characteristics is going to be another big trend over the next 12 to 18 months.

As to interior trends that are set to blow interior design out of the water in 2021; sustainable modern design, naval colour trend (a darker blue colour will be the 2021 trend), light woods, statement pieces and natural elements.

By Marian Kelly

Maynooth Schools Collection at Maynooth Community Employment web page reaches international audience

It was gratifying to see that the Maynooth Newsletter and Old Maynooth Photograph Collection are reaching an international audience.

The office received a lovely email from Raymond Sullivan who lives in Sydney and has been in Australia since 1967. Raymond's father lived in the Station House beside the Railway Station.

He has happy memories from his time in the town. He recalls how he saved a youngster who had fallen into the Canal at the Newtown side. Raymond had been fishing and went under the bridge to look for perch. The boy's friend had run for help to the college grounds. There was an access point there at that time. He pulled the boy (name omitted) from the Canal and all was well.

He also recalls that the roof of the station house caught fire once due to the sparks of a steam locomotive getting into the roof which was quickly extinguished by the local voluntary fire bridge.

He points to a particular photograph in the Schools Collection of St. Mary's Convent class of 1953, headed by Sr. De Lourdes (Higgins Collection) and points out that his brother Barry (Finbarr, who is listed as unknown in the photograph) is the first child on the front row l-r. Raymond tells us that Barry is living on Russell Island in Queensland.

He ends "thanking you all for a very interesting collection" Raymond Sullivan, Newtown, Sydney.



St. Mary's Convent School, Maynooth, 1953

Back Row L-R:

Sr. Mary Delourdes, ? Tolan, Paul Donovan, Oliver Dolan, Tom Redmond, John Lawlor, ? Smith (Leiklip),
Tom Moore, Cormac Moore, Kevin Boyd, Mick Morrissey, ? O'Malley, Evelyn Curran.

Third Row L-R:

Joe Holbrook, Larry Harte, Mary McCourt, Ann Cusker, Lilah Rafter, Patsey Murray,
Carmel Geoghegan, Kathleen O'Donoghue, Sheila Ryan, Vera Kearns, Rachel Flood,
Carmel McCann, Brian Fagan, Mary Graham.

Second Row L-R:

Mick Murphy, Eddie Sherry, Ann Murphy, Rosaleen Higgins, Aoife Burke, Mary Macken,
Not Known, Sheila Donovan, Maura Moore, Marie Rafter, Nuala Brennan, Elizabeth Dolan.

Front Row L-R:

Barry Sullivan (Finbar), Peter Troy, Joe Murphy, Richard Walsh, Tony Gibson, Jim Brady, Not Known
Oliver Malligan, Christy Edwards, Paddy Tracey, William Lettice.

Editor's Note: A large collection of historical Maynooth photographs dating back to the early 1900s are available to view by clicking on the "Maynooth Old Photos" link on the Maynooth Community Employment webpage - www.maynoothcep.com.

BRADY'S CLOCKHOUSE BAR - LOUNGE - RESTAURANT



In line with Official Advice Brady's Bar, Lounge & Restaurant will remain closed until further notice.



We look forward to welcoming back all our customers both Old & New in the near future.
In the meantime look after yourself & each other.

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Sunday Worship

During the Covid-19 restrictions, our Sunday Morning Worship service is being broadcast at 10.34am on YouTube. Our current Sermon Series is:

EXODUS 16-20

FAITH IN THE WILDERNESS

Encouragements from the land inbetween

To find us just visit our web homepage www.maynoothcc.org and click on the service graphic, or search on YouTube for Maynooth Community Church. Everyone welcome!

New Thursday Morning Bible Study

If you are not already in a group, we'd love you to join us on Thursday mornings for our online Bible Study via ZOOM. We are basing our discussions on some of the beautifully animated Bible Project videos looking at some of the Bible's big themes. Details are on our Church Website.

Venture Online Youth Group

Every Friday evening from 7.00pm-8.30pm.
All secondary school students welcome!
Please email office@maynoothcc.org for details and our parental permission forms.



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Monthly Meeting

Monthly meeting was held by Zoom conference call and it was decided that Maynooth Tidy Towns would wait to see what advice will be given by the Government/NPHET about starting clean ups or planting later in June.

Our next meeting will be held in June by Zoom conference call.

When buying plants please insure that they are Bee and Butterfly friendly, thanks.

Please see our Facebook page for information about feeding the Ducks and Swans.

Please keep safe.

If you wish to contact us on 087-3153189 or on Facebook/Twitter

Richard Farrell
PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns



INFORMATION THAT SHOULD BE DISPLAYED IN EVERY HOUSEHOLD IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

WHERE THE MAINS WATER IS COMING IN TO THE HOUSE AND
WHERE THE TAP IS TO TURN THE SUPPLY OFF

WHERE THE TAP /CONNECTION IS TO TURN OFF GAS/OIL OR
WHATEVER HEATING SYSTEM YOU HAVE

BE FAMILIAR WITH ELECTRICAL PANEL AND TRIPSWITCHES. IN
YOUR HOME

ALWAYS HAVE AT HAND PHONE NUMBERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

EMERGENCY SERVICES
PLUMBER
ELECTRICIAN
ALARM PROVIDER

BE AWARE OF YOUR EIRCODE AND KEEP IT HANDY
YOUR EIRCODE CAN BE CHECKED AT [HTTPS://FINDER.EIRCODE.IE](https://finder.eircode.ie)

HAVE A FIRE EXTINGUISHER AT HAND ESPECIALLY IN YOUR
KITCHEN. A FIRE BLANKET IN THE KITCHEN IS ALSO ESSENTIAL

MAKE SURE TO HAVE SMOKE ALARMS ON EACH FLOOR OF YOUR
HOME AND BE SURE TO CHECK IF THEIR WORKING AT LEAST EVERY
MONTH.

CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM IS A MUST IN EVERY HOME



Royal Canal Notes

June 2020

Education ~~ Heritage ~~ Recreation

CYCLING ALONG THE ROYAL CANAL

There is no doubt that the use of the canal has increased noticeably since the outbreak of the Corona virus with many of those who are "staying at home" availing of it for exercise.

With the relaxation of the lock down usage will increase again, though from personal observations it is already quite busy at present which we in the Royal Canal Amenity Group are delighted to see. However this increased usage brings up another thorny subject which as a result of recent incidents has to be broached once again.

CYCLING ALONG THE ROYAL CANAL (OR ANY CANAL)

Cycling on The Royal Canal Greenway is confined to leisure cycling only for example: Mum, Dad and two children one of which could even be on a scooter, pottering along the waterway in a relaxed manner. The Greenway is not a practice track for "Tour De France" want-to-be's and cannot be used as such. In one recent incident in the Leixlip section of the canal, a cyclist over took a lady walker **WITHOUT ANY WARNING** on the inside. The result was that the lady was almost sent hurtling into the canal for an early season swim.

Cyclists using the canal must exercise caution and decorum towards other canal users. Cyclists do not have precedence over other Canal Users and must cycle with care and respect.



End of the Royal Canal at Clondra Co. Longford



The Royal Canal at Phibsboro Dublin

Various groups and organisations are active along the full 90 mile stretch of the Canal including: boaters, walkers, anglers, cyclists, canoe clubs, scouts, guides and in the quieter parts artists.

These groups do not include tourists. Such groups are entitled to use the wonderful facility that is the Royal Canal in comparative safety and not under duress from a small number of wayward cyclists. In this regard I set out below some common sense rules which should be observed by all canal-side cyclists. They are advisory and provided in the best interest of all canal users.

- Cyclists should cycle at a moderate speed at all times, having regard to numbers on the canal – they must be able to stop quickly in a canal-side emergency.
- It is imperative that cyclists always cycle in single file in deference to other Canal users and users coming in the opposite direction.
- Cyclists should make their presence known to other canal users by use of the bell on their cycle.
- Always overtake other canal users (with the exception of anglers) on canal-side and never on the inside.
- Never overtake a person with Pram/Buggy before getting the persons attention first.
- It is recommended that canal cyclists wear high-viz bibs so that they can be seen well in advance.

Remember the 3Cs for canal cyclists:
CYCLE WITH CARE AND CONSIDERATION

Smaointe

They recognised him in the breaking of bread! Isn't that what it's all about? Share and share alike. If you have two loaves give one of them to the person who has none. If you have one, well, give half of it. That was Jesus' message for the whole world. He and his Father wanted everyone to have plenty. And there is plenty of all good things in the world if we only dared to share them. If every country in the first world undertook to share with one country in the third world or the developing world as it's called today perhaps, wouldn't that be marvellous? I am not suggesting that all countries in the developing world are primarily concerned with feeding their populations. Many of them waste ridiculous amounts of money on armaments – admittedly, usually, under great pressure from Europe and the US and, of course, the amoral arms brokers – but would it not be possible, at least in an ideal world, for countries with a conscience, if there are such, to befriend countries living in poverty and assist them with advice and other kinds of aid? Can the UN with its much vaunted cooperation with NATO not do something here, or is it totally

powerless? Why do we accept, almost without question, the state of brokenness of the world? Why can we be happy to accept things as they are and see our brothers and sisters dying of disease and starvation? "Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired, signifies a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed." So said President Eisenhower in 1953! These words are little in evidence in much of America's official foreign policy but their sentiments are very near Jesus' message for a better, much better, world where people «Love one another»! Has it been tried?
Aguisín

**"Let's build three arbours", Peter says,
His eyes with rapture glisten;
"No buildings", God the Father pleads,
"This is my Son, just listen."**

GM

HOPE

Through the Darkness &
Despair
Tears of sadness everywhere
An eerie sound in the air
Of empty streets & vacant stares

But together we can shine a
light
And win this furious but silent
fight

Although at a distance
Together we stand
With kindness & love
Throughout the land

And where there is hope
There is a way
Each of us with a role to play
And together again we will be
one day

By GB



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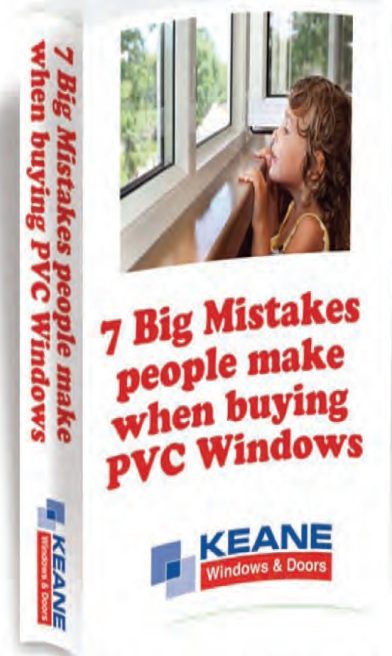
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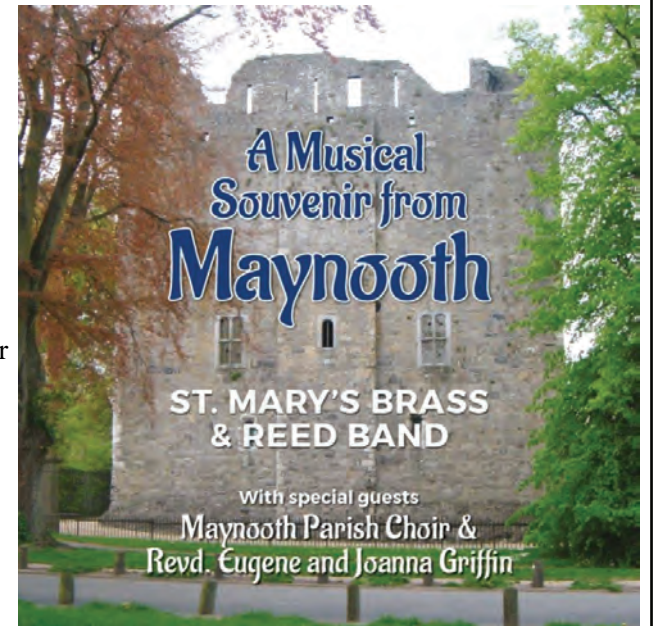
Band Bulletin for June

Sincere apologies to everyone but there just isn't a lot we can say this month. We have not rehearsed since Monday 9th March and we had a great programme of events, including a concert with a Band from Michigan and a return trip to the International Music Festival in Germany, which have all being postponed to 2021.



However we are glad to report that when the travel restrictions have been extended to 20km we will be back work with very small groups observing the correct distancing and we will be ready, willing and able to resume full rehearsals as soon as we get the green light. At this point in time we have no idea when that will be but you can rest assured that once we have got the Band back to match fitness you will be seeing us around the town reminding you that the Band is still very much alive.

With so little activity happening over the past few months we have not had the opportunity to make our new CD available for sale but we will let you know where it can be got as soon as arrangements have been made. The title is "A Musical Souvenir from Maynooth" and is ideal for sending to friends and relatives living abroad to remind them of their hometown and indeed the image of Maynooth Castle on the front will immediately pull at their heartstrings.



Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

Planning Applications received from 27/04/2020 to 28/5/2020 Information from Kildare County Council Website

App. Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	Application Date
20524	Kildare County Council	Ciaran and Nicola Doberty,	20 Temple Wood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	27/05/2020
20523	Kildare County Council	Heathcote Holdings Limited,	Parklands Grove, Railpark, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 V5D4.	26/05/2020
20510	Kildare County Council	The Belmullet Hospitality Group Limited,	Carton House Hotel & Golf Resort, Carton Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	22/05/2020
20505	Kildare County Council	David Carey	Ballygoran Road, Moneycooley, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	22/05/2020
20503	Kildare County Council	Laura Jayne Halton	Laragh Demense, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	21/05/2020
20492	Kildare County Council	Sean and Niamh Killeher	7 The Arches, Silken Vale, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	18/05/2020
20462	Kildare County Council	Mrs. Laura Jayne Halton	Laragh Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	06/05/2020
20441	Kildare County Council	Lagan Homes Ireland Limited	Western side of Barberstown/Maynooth Road, Straffan, Co. Kildare.	30/04/2020
20423	Kildare County Council	Martin & Amanda Haughney	76 Moyglare Abbey, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, W23 R9X6	28/04/2020

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.



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 - Collaborating Remotely

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

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Web: www.celbridgefetc.ie - Unit A11, M4 Business Park, Celbridge



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Minding your mental health during the coronavirus outbreak (HSE.ie)

Infectious disease outbreaks like coronavirus (COVID-19), can be worrying. This can affect your mental health. But there are many things you can do to mind your mental health during times like this.

How your mental health might be affected.

The spread of coronavirus is a new and challenging event. Some people might find it more worrying than others. Try to remember that medical, scientific and public health experts are working hard to contain the virus. Most people's lives will change in some way over a period of days, weeks or months. But in time, it will pass.

You may notice some of the following:

- increased anxiety
- feeling stressed
- finding yourself excessively checking for symptoms, in yourself, or others
- becoming irritable more easily
- feeling insecure or unsettled
- fearing that normal aches and pains might be the virus
- having trouble sleeping
- feeling helpless or a lack of control
- having irrational thoughts

If you are taking any prescription medications, make sure you have enough.

How to mind your mental health during this time.

Keeping a realistic perspective of the situation based on facts is important. Here are some ways you can do this. Stay informed but set limits for news and social media. The constant stream of social media updates and news reports about coronavirus could cause you to feel worried. Sometimes it can be difficult to separate facts from rumours. Use trustworthy and reliable sources to get your news.

On social media, people may talk about their own worries or beliefs. You don't need to make them your own. Too much time on social media may increase your worry and levels of anxiety. Consider limiting how much time you spend on social media.

If you find the coverage on coronavirus is too intense for you, talk it through with someone close or get support.

Keep up your healthy routines.

Your routine may be affected by the coronavirus outbreak in different ways. But during difficult times like this, it's best if you can keep some structure in your day. It's important to pay attention to your needs and feelings, especially during times of stress. You may still be able to do some of the things you enjoy and find relaxing.

For example, you could try to:

- exercise regularly, especially walking but keep within 2 kilometres of your home
- keep regular sleep routines
- maintain a healthy, balanced diet
- avoid excess alcohol
- practice relaxation techniques such as breathing exercises
- read a book
- search for online exercise or yoga classes, concerts, religious services or guided tours
- improve your mood by doing something creative

Stay connected to others.

During times of stress, friends and families can be a good source of support. It is important to keep in touch with them and other people in your life.

If you need to restrict your movements or self-isolate, try to stay connected to people in other ways, for example:

- e-mail
- social media
- video calls
- phone calls
- text messages

Many video calling apps allow you to have video calls with multiple people at the same time.

Remember that talking things through with someone can help lessen worry or anxiety. You don't have to appear to be strong or to try to cope with things by yourself.

Talking to children and young people

Involving your children in your plans to manage this situation is important. Try to consider how they might be feeling.

Give children and young people the time and space to talk about the outbreak. Share the facts with them in a way that

suits their age and temperament, without causing alarm. Talk to your children about coronavirus but try to limit their exposure to news and social media. This is especially important for older children who may be spending more time online now. It may be causing anxiety. Try to anticipate distress and support each other. It is understandable to feel vulnerable or overwhelmed reading or hearing news about the outbreak. Acknowledge these feelings. Remind yourself and others to look after your physical and mental health. If you smoke or drink, try to avoid doing this any more than usual. It won't help in the long-term.

Don't make assumptions.

Don't judge people or make assumptions about who is responsible for the spread of the disease. The coronavirus can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, nationality or ethnicity. We are all in this together.

Online and phone supports.

Face-to-face services are limited at the moment because of the coronavirus outbreak. But some services are providing online and phone services.

Find mental health supports and services that can help during COVID-19 outbreak

If you are using mental health services for an existing mental health condition

If things get difficult, it can be helpful to have a plan to help you get through.

Things you can do:

Have a list of numbers of mental health service and relatives or friends you can call if you need support. Keep taking any medication and continue to fill your prescription with support from your GP or psychiatrist.

Stay Safe



**Coronavirus
COVID-19**
Public
Health
Advice

Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee



Just as the Butterfly emerges from the cocoon of the caterpillar, so too must we emerge from the darkness of this pandemic, albeit somewhat slower. Unlike the Butterfly we must take it one step at a time. This "new normal" as we are calling it now will be challenging for everyone in different ways.

While some will look forward to returning to work, some to school, others will just appreciate the move from isolation to a little more independence. For our older people life will have a very gradual opening as most of our activities involve buses and social gatherings. We must proceed with caution as health and safety is paramount. We would hope that a limited number of our committee could meet after June 8th, observing the necessary guidelines, to establish a strategy going forward. Beyond that we can't predict just yet. We will keep all of the committee and older people informed. Patience is the key and to paraphrase Shay Healy, "What's another Year".

In the previous edition I thanked many people who stepped up to the plate to look after our older and vulnerable people. On this occasion I wish to thank Fr. Frank, who gave us hope and encouragement each morning during the 10am Mass. He helped to keep us positive and although we were struggling it helped us remember that others lost their struggle and left great sadness in their wake. So as we all aim at the biggest wave to help us navigate the turbulent waters ahead, I wish you well Fr. Frank as you gradually open up our church as safely as possible.

Finally, our sincere condolences to the families of Paddy Hanley, Tony Barrett, Bernard Flanagan, Joan O'Toole, Thomas Rogers, Carmel O'Leary and Jane Donovan. Suaimhneas agus Siochain Doibh go Leir.

Josephine Moore
Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee.

A conversation between a child and their Grandad in 2095...

Child - How old are you Grandad?

Grandad - I'm 81 Kid.

Child - So does that mean you were alive during the Coronavirus?

Grandad - Yes kid I was.

Child - Wow. That must have been horrible Grandad. We were learning about that at school this week.

They told us about how all the schools had closed. And mums and dads couldn't go to work so didn't have as much money to do nice things. They said that you weren't allowed to go and visit your friends and family and couldn't go out anywhere. They told us that the shops ran out of lots of things so you didn't have much bread, and flour, and toilet roll 'child giggles'. They said that summer holidays were cancelled. And they told us about all those thousands of people that got very poorly and who died. They explained about the HSE and how hard all the doctors and nurses and all HSE workers worked, and that lots of them died too.

That must have been so horrible Grandad.

Grandad - Well kid, that is all correct. And I know that because I read about it when I was older. But to tell you the truth I remember it differently...

I remember playing in the garden for hours with mum and dad and having picnics outside and lots of bbqs. I remember making things with my Dad and baking with my Mum. I remember making dens with my little brother and teaching him how to do hand stands and back flips. I remember having quality time with my family. I remember mum's favourite words becoming 'Hey, I've got an idea...' Rather than 'Maybe later or tomorrow I'm a bit busy'. I remember making our own bread and pastry. I remember having film night 3 or 4 times a week instead of just one.

It was a horrible time for lots of people you are right. But I remember it differently. Remember how our children will remember these times. Be in control of the memories they are creating right now, so that through all the awful headlines and emotional stories for so many that they will come to read in future years, they can remember the happy times.

(Source) Author unknown

Photo by: SUJATA SETIA/BUT NATURAL PHOTOGRAPHY





Community Cancer Caregivers (CCC) clg was established in February 2020.

It was founded in order to create a network of volunteers within a community to assist other families within the same community who have had a cancer diagnosis or are undergoing a treatment for cancer.

Many of the treatments for cancer in Ireland are performed in specialised cancer clinics within large hospitals that are located in larger towns and cities. Attendance to such clinics always involves travel, coupled with hours of treatment. This results in parents/guardians no longer being able to continue to care for their children at times when they are needed the most, for example, after school.

For many, this is an unexpected part of treatment. It is also very disruptive to a child's routine and can cause considerable additional stress and anxiety to an already extremely stressful situation. This illness can stretch household budgets to a point that creates further stress on a family as childcare arrangements are costly and will need to be organised for times when a parent is undergoing treatment. This is most profound when it's the main carer who is sick.

Community Cancer Caregivers was set up in memory of our bright, beautiful and best friend Suzanne Holligan. Suzanne was only 35 years old when she lost her two and half year battle with cancer which has left a huge hole that will never be filled. Suzanne was very active within her community and was a serving member with An Garda Síochána for the last ten years. Prior to this she, served in the Reserve Defence Forces. Suzanne's aim in life was to get involved in crime scene investigation for which she had completed her master's degree in the Staffordshire College Suzanne leaves behind a heartbroken family, her beautiful son Rían, her wonderful partner Dave and her amazing mum and dad Nuala and Tom.



By setting up Community Cancer Caregivers we hope to provide a lasting legacy for our friend Suzanne, we want to help provide care and support for families just like hers.



Donna Phelan
Maynooth Co-Ordinator
(Company Secretary)

Donna is a full time mum of 3 girls and has lived in Maynooth since 2013. She worked for 16 years with Penney's but left full time employment in 2015 when her youngest child was born. Donna has completed a level 5 SNA course in 2019 as her middle child is autistic and has dyspraxia. Special Needs education is a passion of hers and she is always up-skilling in her knowledge for children with special needs.

Donna ran the local toddler group in Maynooth in 2018 for 1 year; she is currently involved with the Maynooth Planning Alliance and is the chairperson of her residents association in Castlepark Maynooth. Donna is a huge community advocate and this is another group in which she wants to give back.

Donna and Deborah went to college together and have been friends since 2001. By chance they moved to neighbouring towns in Kildare as they are both from Dublin 15 originally.

Deborah is currently stay-at home mum of three young children living in Celbridge. Debbie was raised in Dublin 15, but moved to Celbridge in 2007. Debbie has a chemistry degree from IT Carlow and has worked in Compliance within the Pharmaceutical Industry for over 15 years. Debbie and Donna met in secondary school and by chance started their Chemistry Degrees in DIT Kevin St in 2001. On the first day of college Donna, Deborah, Suzanne, Nicola and Jennifer became best friends for life.



Deborah Hall
Celbridge
Co-Ordinator
(Chairperson)

In August 2019, we lost one of our best friend's to breast cancer. After speaking to Suzanne's partner and family, we came to realise the lack of services available to a parent of young children, who have been diagnosed with cancer. Debbie and Donna vowed to try and bring about a no-cost relief care-giving service to parents diagnosed with cancer, to help reduce the financial burden and added stress of finding child care arrangements for their children, while they are attending their cancer treatments.

Suzanne fought her battle in silence; no-one should feel they have to do that. Suzanne's parents Nuala and Tom have been involved during the set up of this charity and they are helping with Fundraising. Donna and Deborah couldn't help Suzanne and would dread to think that one of their neighbours couldn't ask for help which will be completely confidential. This is their way of giving back to people who need a little hand.

Volunteers Required

Volunteers are at the very heart of our organisation. You are essential to everything we are trying to do! It's our ambition and goal to make sure anyone who volunteers their time to us feels valued, understood and proud to be part of our organisation.

What you can expect from us as a Volunteer

Our commitment to our volunteers

We will:

- always treat you with respect, consideration and appreciation.
- ensure you have a clear idea of your responsibilities, including a rough length of time you would be involved with a family.
- help you with information about the training and support available to help you carry out your role.
- provide you with support through regular meetings or discussions.
- offer you fair, honest and timely feedback on your work.

What we expect of you as a volunteer

You must:

- always treat CCC supporters and fellow volunteers with respect, consideration and appreciation.
- act in a professional way whenever you represent CCC in public.
- act in a way that doesn't discriminate against or exclude anyone.
- provide as much notice as possible if you are unable to fulfil your volunteering commitment, or if you no longer wish to be involved with a family.
- If you don't fully understand your role and responsibilities,

Training

Your CCC co-ordinator will ensure you have full training in order to complete your role; this will include Trauma Counselling, Paediatric First Aid Training, Infectious diseases, Safeguarding and Fire awareness and an online Tusla Child Protection course. We will also go over any Health and Safety requirements required. We want to ensure that you feel happy and confident to carry out your role. Volunteering will only commence once it's safe to do so, as per government guidelines. We are just looking for interested volunteers to apply for the position now so we can begin the online vetting and online training program.

Community Cancer Caregivers CLG, Registered Office: 107 Crodaun Forrest Park, Celbridge, Co. Kildare. 665266
Tel: Celbridge Co-Ordinator 083-0363905 - Maynooth Co-Ordinator 083-0534082 (includes surrounding areas)
Email: communitycancercaregivers@gmail.com - Website: www.communitycancercaregivers.com
Directors:: (chairperson) Deborah Hall - Donna Phelan, (secretary) - Paul O'Mahoney - Hazel Ryan - RCN: 20205579

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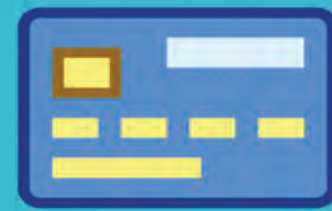


With the recent outbreak of COVID-19, we have robust plans in place, and the continuity of our service to members is hugely important to us. We are continuously reviewing how we can support members and what actions we need to take as the situation with the coronavirus outbreak unfolds. We have the wellbeing of our colleagues and best interests of our members at the front of mind. People helping people is at the core of what we do, and we will continue to support you through this hard time.



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#ChangeOurStreets

What a difference a month makes!

Since last month's Notes, Maynooth Cycling Campaign has teamed up with ShamrockSpring, a member of the Kildare Environmental Network to push for #ChangeOurStreets in Kildare. #ChangeOurStreets is a campaign by groups representing pedestrians and people on bikes to reallocate road space for walking and cycling. It is a response to the need to physically distance when in public, and the difficulties in doing so. We drafted a letter to this effect and sought support from councillors, TDs, community groups and individuals. On 26th May, we submitted the letter to Mr. Peter Carey, CEO of Kildare County Council. It calls on Kildare County Council to organise a meeting of the Transportation Strategic Policy Committee as a matter of urgency to discuss #ChangeOurStreets.

The letter in question has now been endorsed by 17 Councillors, 5 TDs, a number of community organisations and over 130 people who live, work or socialise in the county. The supporters also include a number of medical practitioners and academics from Maynooth University including Maynooth's Lorna Gold and John Sweeney. We would like to sincerely thank all the people and organisations who replied to our calls for support and for those who spread the word through social media.

Our politicians see the increase in people walking and cycling in their communities. They recognise that there exists a huge latent demand for walking and cycling which has revealed itself as a result of the Covid-19 health emergency. Now we are at a crossroads where the choice is between the old norm of climate change, traffic congestion, noise and air pollution or a brighter healthier future with all people including children able to safely move around by walking and cycling.

In Ireland, Dublin City has forged ahead with changes to streets and Shane Ross, the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport has called on local authorities in Cork, Limerick and Galway cities to do likewise. Now Maynooth joins people elsewhere in towns such as Ennis, Wexford and Sligo who also want to benefit from space reallocation.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. Further information on meetings and activities is available on our website.

We are affiliated to Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cycling Advocacy Network and through it to the European Cycling Federation.



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Writers' Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

The Hayshed

By P.G. Nerney

Bernard Ruane, who loved tidiness and order, was the first person in Druimeen to erect a hayshed. At harvest time the garden behind his thatched house was a scene of plenty: on one side of apple-laden trees there were oat stacks, neatly covered with rushes, on the other side, near gooseberry and currant bushes, a well-built reek of black turf paralleled the boundary wall and, below the apple trees, the hayshed stood. This amenity was an imposing structure: eight iron girders supporting an arched galvanized-iron roof, with, on three sides, upper half-walls of the same material. While his neighbours had to make do with building pikes of hay, something that usually had to be completed before sunset to avoid rain-damage, Bernard could spread the task of bringing hay home over many days. No wonder that, as he assured everyone, the hayshed was the best investment he'd ever made.

Bernard had five children, three girls and two boys. The eldest girl, Ann, usually stayed indoors to help her mother with the cooking and cleaning but the two youngest, Betty and Little Suzy, liked to be outdoors with their brothers, Jimmy and PJ, who were a few years older than they. Bernard needed all the help his children provided. This was especially true at harvest time, when getting work completed before rain fell was an urgent necessity.

Out in the field, either Jimmy or PJ stood on the cart, arranging hay that had been forked up from a haystack by their father or a neighbour who had come to help. Once the load was complete they would pull on the hempen rope tossed up to them to tighten it, then drop it down the opposite side to be tied to a shaft. Meanwhile, the girls raked up stray tufts of hay or held the horse's head. Bernard, a strict disciplinarian, seldom praised his children but the look of satisfaction on his face at those times was praise enough. As he led the horse and cart with its high-piled load through the garden, one of the boys, perched like a monkey on top, would reach up to pluck an apple from an overhanging branch.

Occasionally, the whole family, travelling on the horse-drawn sidecar, visited Uncle Owen, Mrs. Ruane's brother, who lived in a palatial house in the county town. Aunt Sarah, Owen's wife, was a grand lady who kept her house and three sons, Willie, Ralph and Mitch, spotless. While they enjoyed these visits, the Ruane children usually felt anxious lest they should break a china teacup, stain the tiled indoor toilet or scuff the Persian rug in the sitting room. It was no surprise, therefore, that when Uncle Owen and his family arrived unexpectedly at Druimeen one Saturday in his big shiny motorcar the Ruane children were determined that their cousins should find the visit memorable. Indoors there was no space to play so, after high tea in the parlour, Jimmy, PJ, Betty and Little Suzy invited their cousins outside.

After sampling some apples, the seven children began romping in the hayshed, exploring the dark, cave-like space under the roof of the west bay or jumping down from it onto the half-filled middle

bay, while Ben, the Collie, barked excitedly up at them. Despite their nice clothes, Willie, Ralph and Mitch entered wholeheartedly into the sport and were soon covered with hayseeds. Jimmy and PJ were delighted that their visitors would not now pity their poor country cousins.

In the midst of the frolicking Ann arrived to tell them that Uncle Owen might soon be leaving. Flushed with excitement, the children trooped into the house. When Bernard, who was chatting with uncle Owen and Aunt Sarah before the kitchen fire, saw the hayseeds in their hair, his face reddened with anger. Springing up from his chair he berated Jimmy and PJ, while ignoring the girls.

'Couldn't you have found some other way to show off?' he bellowed. 'You've ruined the feed for the cows and cattle with your antics – And all the trouble I had getting that hay home. Just what in blazes did you think you were doing?' Jimmy and PJ were mortified. Rather than endure the shame of being told off before their cousins, they would prefer a thousand times to be trounced later by their father. And, anyway, in their hearts they didn't believe that the cattle would notice anything wrong with the hay. It was clear that their mother and the visitors were embarrassed too but nobody wished to make matters worse by intervening. Instead the preparations for departure went hurriedly ahead.

On a Sunday about two weeks later the boys were out hunting rabbits with a few of their friends. While approaching their own land they saw dense smoke billowing up from the trees surrounding the lower end of the garden. Wondering what was wrong, they jumped down from the bank bordering the Cows' Field and broke into a run. Soon they could see flames through the smoke. Oh no! The hayshed! When Bernard spotted them racing towards the hayshed, his anger subsided. It was obvious that the boys weren't the culprits. That meant that one of the girls must be responsible – But which one? Betty had insisted that she hadn't been near the hayshed and Little Suzy had blamed the boys. Whoever was responsible, he would have to concentrate now on limiting the damage.

Fortunately, neighbours were arriving to help but without a hose, all they could do was to throw buckets of water on the flames. Despite their frantic efforts, the fire increased its furious assault till the timber trusses were ablaze and flames were licking rafters supporting the roof sheets. Bernard watched in dismay, as his shed with all its painfully harvested fodder became an inferno. A neighbour pointed out that the galvanized iron would protect the upper sides of the rafters and, even if it didn't, at least no one had been burned. 'Wouldn't it be worse if one of the childer had been up there?' the man said. After half an hour the flames died down, leaving the blackened shed still standing. Warily, Bernard thanked his neighbours, assuring them that, in spite of everything, he'd manage. Didn't he still have haystacks in the Well Field? The neighbours promised that they'd help him bring them home, just send word round.

After the neighbours had left, Bernard questioned his daughters again. This time Little Suzy burst into tears.

'I didn't mean to do it, Daddy,' she sobbed. 'I was just playing with a box of matches. One of them burned my fingers and I dropped it –' 'And why didn't you tell me that before?' her father demanded. 'I was afraid,' she bawled. 'That's why I said Jimmy and PJ did it.' 'That's alright,' Bernard spoke with unaccustomed gentleness. 'I knew when your brothers came running back they weren't responsible. I shouldn't have left those matches lying around.'

'What will we do now?' Jimmy asked. 'We'll build a pike like we did in the old days.' Bernard laid a hand on his son's shoulder. 'With you and PJ and the girls here to help we'll get by somehow. Maybe we'll even be able to repair the hayshed – That's if the galvanized iron isn't too badly burned.' At this point Ann came out to tell them that tea was ready. 'You're a great girl, Ann,' her father declared. 'The roof could be blazing over our heads and you'd remain calm. Come on the rest of you. There's nothing more we can do here.' Jimmy ruffled Little Suzy's hair and she took his and PJ's hand.

Demesne

Driving by this ten foot, dry-stone wall, broken sections crudely rebuilt, giant trees, chestnut, walnut, sycamore, enclosed by it years ago still standing, I have a nagging sense of loss.

What have such as I in common with the earls, dukes and gracious ladies that once inhabited the Big House nestled in those grand surroundings? My ancestors, had they ever entered, would have been just low-paid servants who doffed their caps or curtsied when milord and family members swept past them in his horse-drawn carriage, and yet I choose to think they might have been the happier for that, might even have been happier than those who deemed them their inferiors?

Today there's more equality but also more dissatisfaction that elites enjoy advantages denied to ordinary citizens. But would it make for more contentment if all were on an equal footing: same housing, clothes and education? All I know is that these walls enclosed not just privilege but a dairy herd, whose pastures are now converted into a commercial golf course!

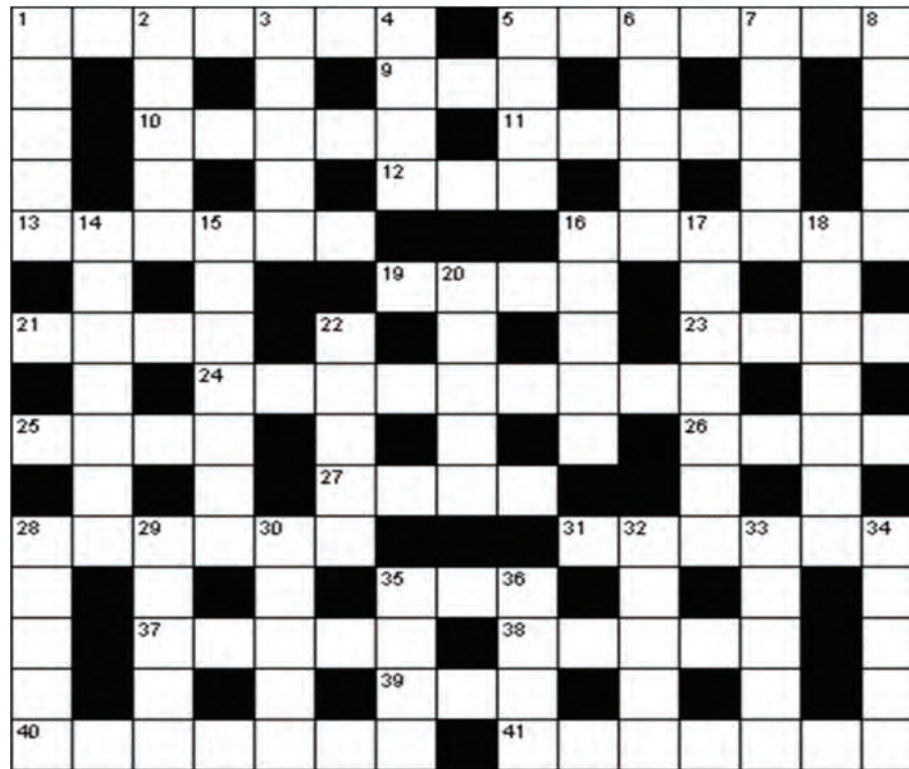
By Colin Scott

Clues Across

1. Slackens (7)
5. Not blind (7)
9. Metal container used for frying (3)
10. Adherent of Hinduism (5)
11. Customary (5)
12. Domesticated canid (3)
13. Recluse (6)
16. Ample (6)
19. Silent (4)
21. Abrading tool (4)
23. Engage in prayer (4)
24. Sale of goods in quantity (9)
25. One of the divisions of a window (4)
26. Tears (4)
27. Ascend (4)
28. Make whiter (6)
31. Having barbs (6)
35. Condensed moisture (3)
37. Managed (5)
38. Happen (5)
39. Inquire of (3)
40. Faithfulness (7)
41. Went in (7)



JUNE 2020 Crossword - No. 491



Clues Down

1. Gate fastener (5)
2. Opposite one of two (5)
3. Boredom (5)
4. Potato (4)
5. Cosy (4)
6. Porridge (5)
7. Claw (5)
8. Short and stout (5)
14. Tomb inscription (7)
15. Inflatable life jacket (3,4)
16. Foot-operated lever (5)
17. Ruler of an empire (7)
18. Tread underfoot (7)
20. Consumers (5)
22. Feel grief (5)
28. Spin (5)
29. Characterized by itching (5)
30. Eject (5)
32. Racecourse (5)
33. Tree insect (5)
34. Shaped like a dome (5)
35. June 6, 1944 (1-3)
36. Roused (4)



Solutions to Crossword No. 490

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

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

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



Entries for the Colouring Competition have been suspended until further notice



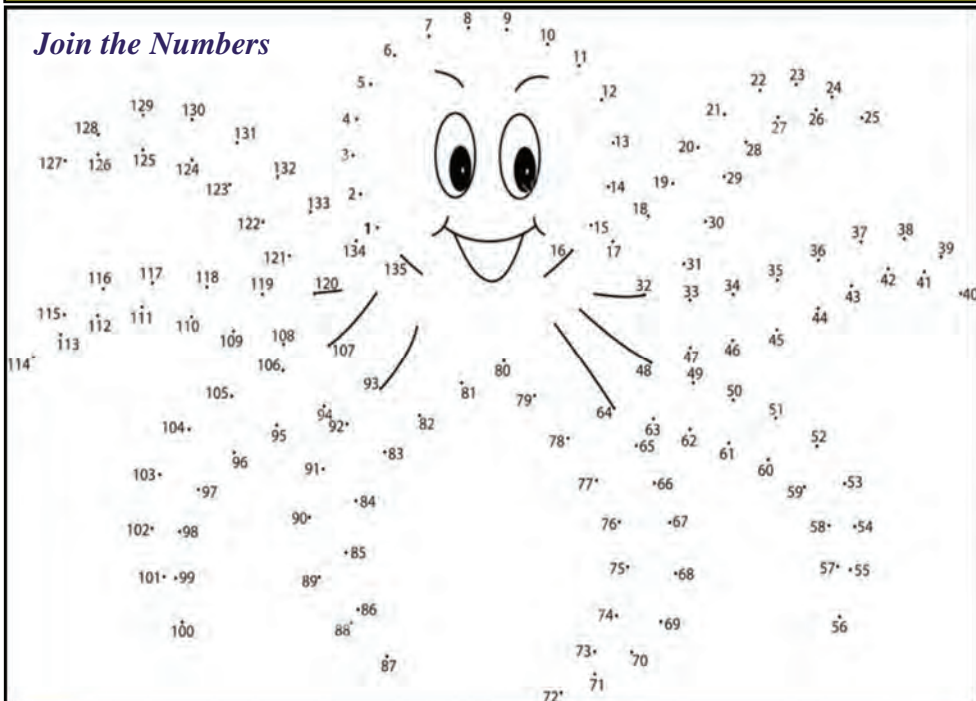
Entries for the Colouring Competition have been suspended until further notice.

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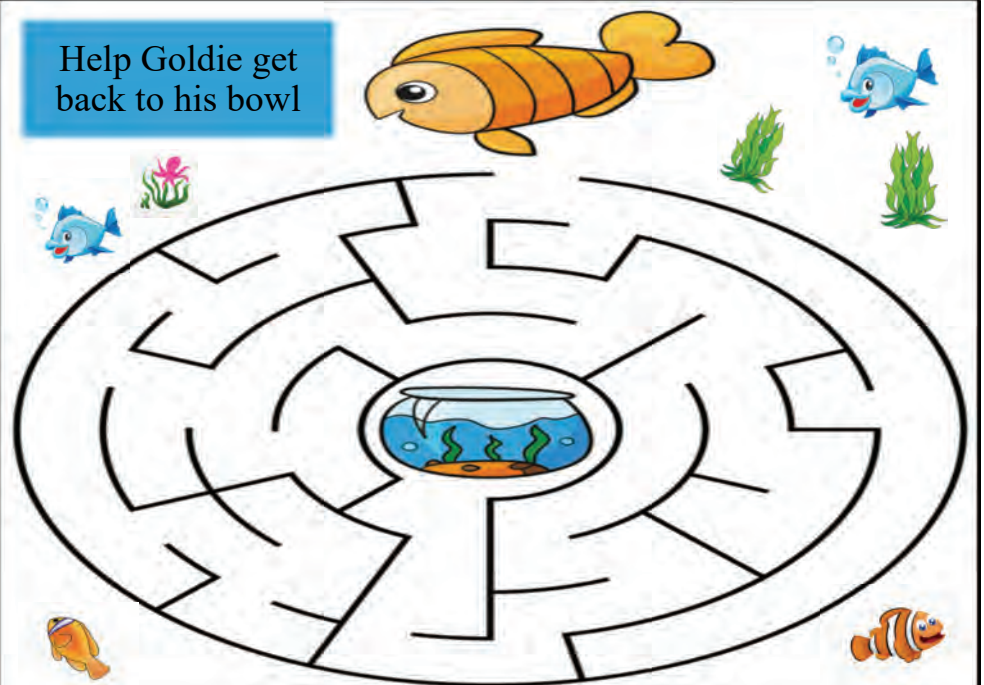
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Junior Puzzle Corner

Join the Numbers



Help Goldie get back to his bowl



Morris the little monkey woke up when the sun was high up in the sky. Another lovely day. Perfect for playing hide and seek, so off he went to find his friends.

First he came across Henry the hippopotamus. "Let's play hide and seek!" he called out from the top of a tree. "Not today Morris," boomed Henry. "There's only three more days till the big fishing competition. I've got to clean my boat and check for leaks. You should be doing the same. Don't you think? "Nah I'll do it tomorrow." Just then, who should come along but Lucas the lion.

"There's no way you'd get me anywhere near the water, even in a boat," he shivered. "Come on Morris, I'll play." So they played hide and seek until the sun went down.

The next day was sunny again, perfect for racing games. Morris came across Rose the rhino first. "Let's race Rose," he chattered excitedly.

"Not today thanks Morris. It's only two more days until the big fishing competition. I have to fix my motor and get my gear together. I don't want to forget anything!

Shouldn't you be getting ready?"!!!!!!





Cllr. Angela Feeney Maynooth Labour News

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



Cllr Feeney welcomes Bord Pleanála's refusal to grant planning permission for the Lyreen View apartments beside St Mary's Church.

Cllr Feeney welcomed the decision by An Bord Pleanála to refuse an application for apartments beside St. Mary's Church on Mill Street having had serious concerns about the design of the blocks and the negative visual impact on our historic town. Main Street Maynooth was laid out by the Dukes of Leinster who resided in Carton House, the axis from the College to Carton Estate, including Main Street, Leinster Street and Mill Street is one of the finest examples of 18th century urban and landscape design in the entire country. In addition, Cllr Feeney commented that granting approval would have made a farce of our Local Area Plan which recognised that a key challenge facing Maynooth is 'Protecting the unique character of Maynooth as a University Town steeped in history and heritage' (4.0 (vii)). Under 'Heritage in Future Development Strategy of the Maynooth LAP' - it states - 'The plan also seeks to protect and enhance the unique architectural and archaeological heritage of the town including St. Patrick's College complex, the Main Street and Carton Avenue. The retention of vernacular buildings on Main Street and its side streets will ensure the character of the town remains intact'. HP1 of the LAP states in relation to housing - 'to ensure that development reflects the character of the existing and historic town in terms of structure, pattern, scale, design and materials'. HP2 of the LAP states that it is Council Policy - 'To ensure that density and design of development respects the character of the existing and historic town in terms of structure, pattern, scale, design and materials'. UDS8 of the LAP states - 'To ensure the redevelopment of the laneways (off Main Street) has regard to the townscape character of the Town Centre with its pattern of two storey buildings with pitched slate roofs'. The site of this proposed development is zoned Town Centre (A1) in the Maynooth LAP. The primary objective of this zoning is - 'to protect and enhance the special character of Maynooth Town Centre'.

From all of the above, Cllr Feeney believes that any development of this site requires special consideration of the unique historic character of Maynooth Town Centre. As such, it needs to reflect the existing historic character of the Town Centre. Finally, Cllr Feeney recalled that while walking that route to school and college, that site was always prone to flooding and in Bord Pleanála's decision letter they took this into account in making their adjudication, 'the proposal have been subject to an appropriate flood risk assessment'.



Cllr Feeney Supporting Community Response to Covid-19

Cllr Feeney wants to thank all those in the community, the Gardaí, the Red Cross, the GAA, Maynooth Community Council and all who have been answering the community call to assist those who may need support during the COVID-19 lockdown, it is heartening to see such great community spirit during these challenging times.

Cllr Feeney has been running an online weekly clinic and giving personal assistance and support to residents associations.

Cllr Feeney has also been playing her small part in assisting cocooning residents with shopping and medical deliveries and taking part in the "from our home to yours" initiative which provides meals at the weekend for people who are in self-isolation or cocooning.



Kildare COVID-19 Community Call Helpline

✓ Collection & delivery of food, other items ✓ Social isolation supports ✓ Garda related issues ✓ Other medical or health needs

1800 300 174

covidsupport@kildarecoco.ie

Text **KILDARE** followed by your **NAME** to **50555**



Comhairle Contae Chill Dara
Kildare County Council

Creche and Childcare Shortage

Cllr Feeney is a member of the Maynooth Community Crèche Action Group, set up because of the critical situation parents are in at the moment in our town trying to secure childcare with current providers full until 2024. As a consequence, parents are now having to travel outside the town to get their children placed. What has compounded the situation is that many of the new developments in the town have not delivered the creche facility that formed part of the planning application for those estates. Given the huge shortage of childcare places in Maynooth and parents having to travel outside the town to get childcare, this seems does not make any sense. Maynooth needs this problem to be addressed and part of the solution is the provision of a community creche but also to ensure that developers of new estates fulfil the commitment to provide crèches that were required as part of the planning application process in the first place. Cllr Feeney has requested that the relevant Strategic Policy Committee of the Council carry out a review of this issue.



Upcoming Motions/Questions at June Council MD

1. Given the on-going challenges due to COVID-19, has Council considered supporting local cafés and restaurants by allowing them, as a temporary measure, to make appropriate use of public squares to accommodate customers within current restrictions and guidelines?
2. Will Council be carrying out a review of the disabled parking spaces in Maynooth in the near future?

RIP Christina Sauls, Labour Member and Community Activist

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the passing of our long time, loyal Labour Branch member Christina Sauls on April 12th. Christina gave so much to the people of Maynooth through her involvement in the Newsletter, Community Employment Project, the Soccer Club and so much more. She was always delighted to be out on the canvass at election time and attending party conferences, with lots of laughs along the way. Our sincere condolences to Christina's brothers Willie and John and all her extended family and friends. Ní bheidh a leithéid ann arís. Codladh sámh Christina.

Meetings attended by Cllr Feeney

Feb 24th: Council Meeting, KCC Naas
March 3rd: KWETB, Audit and Risk Committee, KWETB, Wicklow
March 5th: MPPS BOM Campus Visit
March 6th, Maynooth MD Council Meeting, KCC, Naas
March 11th, KWETB Board Meeting, Naas
March 24th: KWETB Board Meeting, Annual Report, Naas
March 30th: Council Meeting (online)
April 21st: MPPS BOM (online meeting)
April 28th: KWETB Board meeting (online meeting)
May 12th: Council update (online meeting)
May 25th: Council Meeting in KCC

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

Continuing to support you in these difficult times.

Call or text me on
087 - 2381962

Stay Safe.



Councillor Angela
Feeney
Maynooth - Clane

LABOUR

Thanks to all Frontline Workers



Reminder that my zoom meeting takes place
Fridays 5 - 7pm.

Email me at
angelaemfeeney@gmail.com
or afeeney@kildarecoco.ie



Harvest
It's a great time of year for gardeners who put the work into their vegetable gardens earlier on. You can now harvest your lettuce, other salads, strawberries and early potatoes, and literally enjoy the fresh and tasty fruits of your labour!



Weed Control
Extra light and warmth boosts all plant growth, including weeds, so keep on top of them with regular weeding. This will prolong the desired plant growth and prevent weeds getting out of hand, which can easily happen in June. Make sure to hoe your borders to keep them tidy too.

Irrigation
It's easy to forget to water your garden beds, hanging baskets and potted plants in rainy Ireland, but June can often bring long spells of dry weather. You may need to give the soil a light dampening every few days.

Lawn Care
You should be mowing once a week this month. With the grass in such a strong growing phase, it is also an ideal time to feed it to ensure lush green growth with no bare patches and moss.

Plant
Plant your summer bedding plants and unless there is heavy rain, make sure to regularly water them. A liquid feed will ensure they get off to a good start, and keep a close eye on them for any snails or slugs, which can destroy them.



Here are some more planting jobs that can be completed in June:
Repot house plants.

Plant seeds of annual flowers, e.g. nasturtiums
Plant vegetables, e.g. beans, tomatoes, lettuce, peas, cabbage, peppers, cucumbers and carrots
Plant pots and baskets with **petunias, begonias** and **busy lizzie**.



Stake & Prune
The growth spurt might leave some of your taller plants a bit floppy; stake them to keep them from wilting. Prune your shrubs as they go out of flower. Thin out vegetable plants, pinching out any side-shoots. Similarly with roses, tie in the new shoots of climbing roses.

Spray Roses
Spray roses regularly to protect them against insects and diseases - like blackspot.

Tomatoes
If you are growing tomatoes, these are the evenings when you will be in your greenhouse or tunnel taking care of them. Firstly, you will need to support each plant so that it can bear the weight of the fruit as it grows. You can do this by rigging up a string system. Check YouTube for tutorial videos on how to do it. You also need to regularly pinch out the side shoots growing between the main stem and the leaf joints of your plants. If you don't pinch these out you will have a plant which is putting all its energy into producing lots of foliage, not succulent fruits. Wait until each plant has developed four good 'trusses' of blossom. Then start to pinch out any shoots which grow between the main leaf joints and stem, all the way along from top to bottom. Remove by pinching developing shoots between your thumb and forefinger and they should break off easily. If you miss any side shoots and they develop into bigger leaf stems, you can still pinch these out and use them for cuttings to grow new plants.



Broad Beans and Peas
If you haven't already done this in late May, pinch off the growing tips of your broad bean plants now to prevent Blackfly. Also pay attention to bean canes and make sure your peas and runner beans are well supported as they grow.



Weeds
Every month is weed month from now till the end of the season! Get out there with your bare hands or the hoe to remove weeds as they grow. As the growing season progresses, this could be a daily job depending on how big your patch is.

There's a lot of gardening work to be done in June! Don't forget to find some time to enjoy this month in the garden, when all is in bloom and the weather is at its best. Lie back in a comfy recliner, host a BBQ, stop and smell the roses.

Healthy Summer Recipes

Crispy Paprika Chicken with Tomatoes & Lentils

Ingredients
2 chicken breasts
½ tsp smoked paprika
½ lemon, zested and juiced
1½ tbsp cold-pressed rapeseed oil
1 garlic clove
1 tsp fennel seeds
Fennel bulb, sliced
400g can cherry tomatoes
1 tbsp sherry vinegar
200g pouch puy lentils
100g watercress
2 tbsp natural yogurt
Handful of dill, leaves picked



- Method**
- Put the chicken breasts between two sheets of baking parchment and, using a rolling pin, roll to a 1cm thickness. Rub with the paprika, lemon zest, ½ tbsp oil, salt and pepper. Cover and set aside while you start the lentils.
 - Heat the remaining oil in a pan and add the garlic, fennel seeds and fennel slices with a pinch of salt. Cook for 5 mins until starting to soften, then tip in the tomatoes, vinegar and lentils. Turn down the heat and leave to bubble away.
 - Heat another non-stick frying pan over a high heat, add the chicken breasts and cook for 7 mins, turning halfway, until golden brown and cooked through. Add the watercress to the lentils and stir to wilt, then squeeze in the lemon juice.
 - Slice the chicken then serve it alongside the lentils with a dollop of yogurt and dill

Garden Salmon Salad
Prep: 15 mins No cooking
Choose a lighter lunch with this easy, no-cook salmon salad packed with courgettes, peas, pea shoots and radishes. It's healthy and takes just 15 minutes to prepare.

Ingredients
2 Courgettes
100g fresh shelled peas
8 Radishes, halved
3 tbsp Rapeseed Oil
1 large Lemon zested and juiced
2 tbsp fat-free natural yogurt
75g pea shoots
4 poached Salmon Fillets, skin removed and flaked into large chunks
2 tbsp mixed seeds
1/2 small bunch dill, fronds picked.



- Method**
- Cut the courgettes into long thin strips using a peeler, and discard the soft, seeded core. Toss the courgette ribbons, peas and radishes together in a large bowl. Whisk the oil, lemon zest and juice, and yogurt together, then toss with the veg.
 - Put the pea shoots, dressed veg and large flakes of salmon on a large platter. Finish with a good grinding of black pepper, and scatter over the mixed seeds and dill to serve.

Miso Broccoli, Egg & Quinoa Salad
Prep: 5 mins Cook: 15 mins
Pack a lunch that will power you through the afternoon with this healthy miso and lime-dressed salad with broccoli, peas, boiled egg and radishes. It's tasty and full of goodness

Ingredients
100g thin-stemmed Broccoli Spears
1 medium egg
2 tsp white miso paste
1 Lime, juiced
125g cooked Quinoa
70g frozen Peas, defrosted
3 Radishes, thinly sliced
½ tbsp sesame seeds



- Method**
- Bring a pan of water to the boil. Add the broccoli and cook for 3 mins, then lift out with a slotted spoon and leave to cool. Lower the egg into the water and gently simmer for 6 mins. Drain and set in a bowl of cold water to cool.
 - Whisk the miso and lime juice in a small bowl, then toss with the quinoa, peas, radishes and cooked broccoli. Tip the salad into your lunchbox or an airtight container. Peel the egg, slice in half and arrange on top of the quinoa, then sprinkle with the sesame seeds.

Enjoy

TIPS FOR WORKING FROM HOME

Due to the Coronavirus many people will now be working from home for the first time. This will be the new normal for many people while business's try to cope with the social distancing guidelines in the workplace. Here are a few tips to guide you.

Make an office space

You don't need to go to any expense. Just set your laptop up on a table in a bright room where you get plenty of daylight coming through. Try to avoid spaces where the rest of the family will be e.g. kitchen sitting room.



Maintain Regular Hours

Set a schedule and stick to it if you can. Having clear guidelines for when to work and what time to start and finish your work day is important. Try to keep a regular morning routine.

Regular Breaks

Set yourself regular breaks during the day. Take time to have a coffee break and also make sure to take a longer break for lunch time. It is also important to step away from your computer and give your eyes a break. Make sure you get out for some exercise and fresh air during the day.

Keep in Touch

It is important to keep in touch with your Manager/Boss. Know exactly what work is expected for you from week to week. Also try to keep in touch with work colleagues as it can be lonely working from home and not interacting with other employees.

Working from home with Children

For those who are working at home with small children it can be a bit more complicated. Try to get up an hour before the children it is surprising what you can get done in an hour. Try to work out what time of day you will be least interrupted and aim to work as much as you can during that time. Enlist the help of your partner. Make a list each day of what tasks need to be done and prioritise the most important items.

End of Day

Take note of all the work you completed and set out a schedule for the following day. Then put away your laptop and relax for the evening.

First Holy Communion Day Cancelled

First Holy Communion had to be postponed all over Ireland due to the Coronavirus. Many children were disappointed but hopefully when it is safe to go ahead and have your Communion day it will be a day worth waiting for.



Isabelle Maher

A Canvas for the communion class of Scoil Naomh Bríd in Celbridge was left at the school gate for all the children to sign and leave messages to honour their day which should have been on the 16th May 2020. Many marked the occasion in different ways. Some Children dressed up and parents baked cakes to celebrate their special day.



How to make a cloth face covering at home HSE Guidelines

- cut two rectangles of tightly-woven cotton about 25cm x 15cm
- fold and stitch the top and bottom edges
- fold and stitch the side edges, leaving a gap big enough to thread elastic through
- thread two 15cm lengths of elastic through the side edges and tie tight. Hair ties or string, cut longer and tied behind the head, will work
- tuck elastic knots inside the edges of the mask and stitch in place for a neater finish

How to use a cloth face covering properly

Do

- clean your hands properly before you put it on
- practice using it so you are comfortable putting it on and taking it off
- make sure it is made from a fabric you are comfortable wearing
- cover your mouth and nose with it and make sure there are no gaps between your cloth face covering
- tie it securely
- carry unused masks in a sealable clean waterproof bag (for example, a ziplock bag)
- carry a second similar type bag to put used masks in

Don't

- touch a mask or face covering while wearing it - if you do, clean your hands properly
- use a damp or wet medical mask or reuse a medical mask
- share masks
- do not lower your mask to speak, eat and smoke or vape - if you need to uncover your nose or mouth take the mask off and put it in the bag for used masks
- do not discard masks in public places

To take it off properly

- remove it from behind - do not touch the front of the mask
- do not touch your eyes, nose, and mouth
- clean your hands properly
- put disposable masks in a bin straight away

Source: www.gov.ie

PATIENT ADVOCACY SERVICE

Patient Advocacy Service is an independent, free and confidential service which is funded by the Dept of Health and independent from the HSE.

Patient Advocacy Service can provide support and information to patients and/or families who may have concerns around their care and treatment in an acute hospital for Covid-19 or non-Covid 19 related issues.

☎ 0818 293 003, 10am-4pm Monday to Friday.

🌐 www.patientadvocacyservice.ie 📱

James Lawless TD
FIANNA Fáil
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

NAAS ☎ 045 898 476 • MAYNOOTH ☎ 01 618 3587
✉ james.lawless@oireachtas.ie



FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

Famous Movie Quotes Quiz



NAME THE ACTOR



1) "Here's looking at you kid"

- a. James Cagney
- b. Robert Mitchum
- c. Humphrey Bogart
- d. Edward G Robinson

2) "Nobody puts baby in a corner"

- a. Ryan O'Neal
- b. Ryan Gosling
- c. Patrick Swayze
- d. Harrison Ford



3) "You're gonna need a bigger boat"

- a. Arnold Schwarzenegger
- b. Robert De Niro
- c. Richard Dreyfuss
- d. Roy Schieder

4) "Houston, we have a problem"

- a. Brad Pitt
- b. Tom Hanks
- c. Leonardo Di Caprio
- d. Tom Hardy

5) "I'm the king of the world"

- a. Tom Hanks,
- b. Joaquin Phoenix
- c. Philip Seymour Hoffman
- d. Leonardo Di Caprio

6) "After all, tomorrow is another day"

Jane Fonda
Katherine Hepburn
Vivien Leigh
Bette Davis

7) "You talkin' to me?"

Harvey Keitel
Robert DeNiro
Willem Dafoe
Joe Pesci

8) "Go ahead, make my day"

Charles Brosnan
Clint Eastwood
James Coburn
Robert Mitchum

9) "They call it a Royale with cheese"

Bruce Willis
Harvey Keitel
John Travolta
Samuel L Jackson



10) "The Dude Abides"

Clint Eastwood
Jack Nicholson
Jeff Bridges
Denzel Washington

11) "Frankly my dear, I don't give a damn"

Marlon Brando
Clark Gable
John Wayne
Humphrey Bogart



NAME THE MOVIE



1) "Here's Johnny"

Halloween
The Shining
The Exorcist
Ghostbusters

2) "Mama says, stupid is as stupid does"

La La Land
The Irishman
Forrest Gump
Saving Private Ryan

3) "I'm having an old friend for dinner"

Pulp Fiction
Silence of the lambs
Reservoir Dogs
Young Frankenstein

4) "There's no place like home"

The Wizard of Oz
Little Women
A Star is Born
Gone with the Wind



5) "Why so serious?"

Silence of the lambs
The Dark Knight
Joker
The Shawshank Redemption



Local News July 2020

Issue No. 492

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.



We're back – Maynooth Community Employment Project is fully open for business

Our office in Tesco's Carton Park is open to the people of Maynooth again after easing of Covid 19 restrictions following the restart of our work in Maynooth Harbour and Maynooth Town Soccer Club which came back as part of an earlier lifting of lockdown restrictions. As with many other publications the lockdown meant that many of our loyal advertisers were not in a position to purchase adverts and we look forward to welcoming them back as things return to a more normal trading position in the coming months.



The Maynooth Newsletter continued to be published online during the lockdown and we monitored the number of visits to the online version. It is very pleasing to report that the number of hits were very high and it is clear that readers viewing the online version regularly took a look at the Maynooth Newsletter Archive. The Archives hold copies of the Newsletter as far back as the 1970s. In fact we got a number of nice comments on e-mails from Maynooth natives and former Maynooth University students from around the world wishing us and the people of Maynooth well during the pandemic.

There was also increased interest in our archives of Maynooth Old Photos which is made up of several collections of old photos from as far back as the late 1800s. Our website is maintained by the staff of the Community Employment Project and provides a historical footprint of our Town back through time.

Our remit is to serve the people of Maynooth and despite the setback of Covid 19, our voluntary directors and management are committed to continuing to deliver for the people of the town. In addition to our office we also care for the area around Maynooth Harbour which we do to ensure that this key recreational area is clean and managed for the enjoyment of the people of the town. We would like to thank everyone that used the area in the past few months for your care so that it did not become littered and to Kildare County Council who kept an eye on the bins when we were not permitted to work there.

Of course we support many other community groups through our office and the Maynooth Newsletter and many in the community realise the significant resource that Maynooth Community Employment Project is to the town. Therefore in the coming months we will be looking at ways that we can further extend our support to the wider community in planning for the future of the project. We welcome input and our door is always open to people with new ideas.

Because we receive some funding from the Government as we provide work experience and training we have to be structured as a company to ensure accountability but everyone involved in our management are unpaid volunteers who bring various skills and experience to the organisation. If during the last few months you have been thinking about giving something back to your community getting involved with Maynooth Community Employment Project could be an option particularly if you have relevant skills. If you are interested you can e-mail office@maynoothcep.com for more information.



Gardaí, members of the Emergency Services and local people paused for a minutes silence outside Maynooth Garda Station on Sunday 21st June to remember Detective Garda Colm Horkan who was shot dead while on duty in Castlerea on Wednesday 17th June.



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MAYNOOTH Tidy Towns

CARING FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

Gold Medal
Winner 2019



Monthly meeting was held by Zoom conference call and it was decided that Maynooth Tidy Towns would restart on 13th June with Saturday clean ups. Volunteers will adhere to social distancing, wear masks, gloves and will use hand sanitiser. A great amount of work was done in different parts of the town. We thank all the volunteers who helped.

As you are aware there will be no National Tidy Towns competition this year, but we would like to ask you to keep Maynooth clean and tidy.

Please buy Bee and Butterfly friendly plants, thanks.

Please see our Facebook page for information about feeding the Ducks and Swans.

Please see poem written by Breedge Conway on Facebook

Please keep safe.

If you wish to contact us on 087-3153189 or on Facebook/Twitter

Richard Farrell - PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns



Mc Mahon's Bar & Lounge

"The food was great and the service was excellent. Ian made us feel very welcome and had great fun with the kids. Would very much recommend for food and has a lovely atmosphere for a few drinks. We will be back."

-Trip Advisor

"The food was very well presented, so tasty and was served on nice hot plates. We absolutely had a great time and would highly recommend. We definitely will be back as the atmosphere here is truly amazing"

-Trip Advisor



Special
mid week
offer for
OAP's

Check out our menu at
menu.mcmahonsbarmaynooth.com
Call on 01 629 1568



EXCITING NEW EDUCATION CENTRE!

North Kildare Further Education and Training Campus

Celbridge FETC (formerly Leixlip VTOS)

**Increase your employment prospects by
upskilling or retraining**

**Enrolling now for 12 week courses
beginning in September 2020**

Courses include:

Computer Studies (including Microsoft Office—
access, excel),
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English as a Second Language

9 month courses in

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



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.

Email: celbridgefetc@kwetb.ie

Mobile: 087 397 7750

Web: www.celbridgefetc.ie

Facebook: @CelbridgeVTOS

Unit A11, M4 Business Park, Celbridge

Maynooth Newsletter

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

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Maynooth, Co. Kildare. W23 F9F7

Tel: 01-6285922

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

Letters to the Editor

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

Mission Statement

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Maynooth Newsletter Archives

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

www.maynoothcep.com.

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

Editorial Board - Maynooth Newsletter

Maynooth Newsletter

Copy date for the next edition of the Maynooth Newsletter will be Tuesday 21st July 2020

Editorial

While the spring and early summer of 2020 will go down as different in Maynooth it is worth remembering that 485 years ago the Geraldine Castle in Maynooth was under siege from forces representing the British King. Strangely enough the attack in 1535 started on March 14th which is close to the same date the 2020 Covid 19 lockdown began. Back in 1535 when the Royal forces eventually scaled the Maynooth Castle walls it is the reports of what they found that was most interesting. The Ninth Earl had a well-stocked castle in terms of furniture food and drink but he also had an extensive library of books many of them relating to European renaissance culture. One of the books was Sir Thomas More's "Utopia" which was ironic considering that Sir Thomas was the most famous victim of the tyranny of Henry V111 who ordered that he beheaded on July 6th 1535 citing his treason as the reason for his killing. I know that we have many learned readers and for those of you who have read "Utopia" which was first published in 1516 or choose to do so will find that some of More's ideas about how to organise society would not be well received today. However, in 2020 the way we responded as a society to the Covid 19 pandemic is not unlike the ideals that more outlined as the way of life that would have existed in his fictional island of Utopia. As we move on from lockdown we need to bring these positive changes in how we have interacted as a community over the past few months and appreciate that everyone has a place in our society and that everyone benefits when we act in the common good.



1516 edition of "Utopia"

It is hard to believe that on July 13th it will be 35 years since the "Live Aid" concert. While younger readers will not remember this event you will be familiar with the 1984 Christmas single "Do they know it's Christmas" hit which is played every year at that time of the year. Both the hit single and the follow on 1985 "Live Aid" event were the response from the global music stars to the famine in Ethiopia which was described by Michael Buerk the BBC News reporter as the biblical famine of the 20th Century. Of course the leading lights of the Irish music industry at the time played a very significant role in both the hit single and the live aid event. Boy George (Culture Club) of an Irish family background as well as Bob Geldof (Boomtown Rats) and Bono (U2) were involved with Boy George being credited for the idea of the hit single and Bob Geldof was one of the key organisers of the "Live Aid" event. It was a major undertaking having two concerts linking in Wembley in London and the John F. Kennedy Stadium in Philadelphia. From memory I think Phil Collins (Genesis) was the only artist to perform in both venues having performed in Wembley he flew to New York from London by Concorde and then by helicopter to Philadelphia.



In recent weeks there have been a number of special television and other events where the Irish people gave several millions to key Irish charities hit by a fall in their fund-raising in 2020. As a society there is a significant dependence on voluntary fund-raising to meet the cost of what are essential costs in providing much needed services. From voluntary school contributions to funding key services such as mental health supports all Irish Governments seem happy to leave it to public generosity to bridge the shortfalls in financial supports. I believe that how we handled the financial shock of Covid 19 should be the way that Ireland should set the bar for the future funding of all community services. Funding needs to go where it is needed rather than just giving everyone less than they really need. Perhaps key decision makers should read Thomas More's "Utopia" otherwise we will need to arrange a "Live Aid" type event every year to make ends meet.

Paul Croghan
Editor

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A little bit of history. Thomas Swords – Father and Son, 19th century Maynooth Entrepreneurs

While doing research for another Maynooth History project a number of years ago I came across some of the names of the major players who could be described as entrepreneurs of their day and who were involved in business dealings in the town of Maynooth. Two such men were father and son Thomas Swords senior (1749-1826) and Thomas junior (1775-1851) who lived at Crewhill which is situated on the Moyglare Road.

It was sometime later that I discovered that Thomas senior was buried at Ladychapel Cemetery. I recently paid another visit to take down the wording of the very substantial monument that stands in his memory. It is a testament to his goodness in life – based on principles of loyalty, honesty, love of family and philanthropic deeds. The grandeur of the monument also speaks to the wealth and importance of the family. It is interesting that his standing among bankers is given priority.

Beneath this Monument

Repost the mortal remains of

Thomas Swords of Maynooth Esq

Who departed this life on the 18th August 1826

In the 77th year of his Age

In Manners kind and conciliatory

In Disposition humane and generous

In Friendship steady and disinterested

Characterised not less

By the Purity of Principle than by Integrity of Life

He enjoyed the respect and Regard

Of all Banks,

And died deeply regretted by his sorrowing Family

By an extensive Circle of Friends and by the Poor

Who lost in him a bounteous Benefactor

To perpetuate the Memory

Of a revered and lamented Parent

To record the filial Piety

Of his affectionate and afflicted Children

This memorial of his many Virtues

Is inscribed

To the tenderest and best of Fathers

Requiescat in pace

There is a further plain and modest stone slab attached to the wall of the church which refers to an earlier Swords member and it marks the ownership of this plot in the cemetery.

This Monument was Erected by James Swords for him and his posterity 1762.

At the age of 26 Thomas Swords Senior is recorded in the College Account books from the beginning of the establishment of what was then called the Royal College of St. Patrick. He sold a horse, carriage and harness to the College for £14.0.1, he charged £7.10.4 for carriage and storage of freight of coal to Hazelhatch. He provided potatoes and oats to the college for £57.3.5. He rented a house to the college for student accommodation for several years at £36 per year. By 1800 he was selling sheep and cattle to the college which realized substantial sums, £100.13.11 and later for “sundry cattle” he was paid £350.11.3.

Thomas Swords senior was a successful Brewer who lived at Crewhill, Maynooth and was associated with the Catholic Committee that petitioned for Catholic Relief Acts in the early 1790s. (Seamus Cullen). The 1791 Act granted Catholics freedom of worship, to own their own schools, to hold junior public offices and to live in London. The 1793 Act allowed Catholics parliamentary and municipal franchise and allowed for entry to University.

Slater’s Directory of 1846 notes the family, listed under the heading of gentry, as living at Crewhill. By this time Thomas Swords senior had died (1826) and his son Thomas took over the business. He was chairman of the Board of Health in 1832. Maynooth had a temporary cholera hospital and permanent dispensary. The Duke of Leinster was its principal voluntary contributor donating £10.0.0. towards whitewashing and cleaning the habitations of the poor in the town. Thomas Swords and other members of the Board of Health sent an application to the Board of Guardians requesting an advance of £100, they received £80.0.0.

The Brewery was still part of the family business as the Freeman’s Journal of 4 July 1835 notes.

To be Let

The BREWERY and MALT-HOUSE, with suitable Offices, lately occupied by Mr. James Casey, in the town of Maynooth.

The advantages which this Concern possesses would render it an eligible site for either a Brewery or Distillery, have a stream of water running through it, which now turns a mill-wheel of considerable diameter, but could be made applicable to a much greater power of machinery, and have the Royal Canal passing within a few perches of its gate.

Proposals will be received by.... or by Thomas Swords, Esq. Crew Hill, Maynooth

N.B. Two dwelling-houses also to be let in the same town with good lock-up yards, contiguous to said Brewery. (Which was Kavanagh’s Mill and where Manor Mills now stands).

In 1836 he was one of the signatories to a letter to the High Sherriff Co. Kildare requesting a meeting to discuss the “odious imposition of Tithes”. In 1844 he contributed to the fund for the payment of the building of the New Roman Catholic Church at Maynooth. He is reported in June 26, 1846 to have contributed to the widow and orphans of a deceased clergyman in Co. Meath. He also contributed to All Hallows College, Dublin.

Thomas junior was one of the main property holders in Maynooth in 1851 and had a valuation of £55.10.1 for holdings in the Town with the Duke of Leinster at the top of the list with a valuation of £583.10.0. Swords was 7th in the list. We know that Thomas Swords died in 1851. It does not appear that he was married or had children and the subsequent swift auction of his property may also point to this.

Freeman’s Journal 8 April 1851. March 30, at the family mansion, Crew-hill, near Maynooth, at the advanced age of 76, Thomas Swords, ESQ. Universally respected by all who knew him and endeared to his immediate friends by the urbanity of his manner, the benevolence of his disposition, and the strict sense of honour which distinguished all the transactions of his long and blameless life, his memory will be long held in grateful remembrance by the poor of his native parish as well as the surrounding parishes for whose use he bequeathed a large sum of money together with a considerable yearly property in perpetuity.

The Freeman’s Journal of April 12, 1851 reports on an auction to be held on 16 April by order of the Executors of the late Thomas Swords Esq at Crewhill. Consisting of Horn Cattle, Horses, Crops, Farming implements, Manure, Household Furniture, Plate and Plated Ware, Covered and Outside Car and Harness etc. (Further details are given in the advertisement)

The Freeman’s Journal April 24, 1851

Sale of the Estate of the Late Thomas Swords, Esq. The Estate of Harristown will be auctioned on Wednesday, 30th April 1851, at the hour of two o’clock. The Sale will take place on the Lands, that the Purchaser may thereby have an opportunity of forming a correct opinion of the many advantages this well-circumstanced property affords.

Harristown contains 135 Irish acres of prime land, is

situate in a peaceful, healthful, and Sporting Country, within two miles of Maynooth and Kilcock, both market and post towns; it adjoins the splendid Demesne of the Duke of Leinster, and possesses numerous local advantages.

As a discretionary power is vested in the executors to dispose of this Property by Public Auction or Private Sale, Proposals (pre-paid) addressed to Doctor O’Kelly, Maynooth, or to Mr. John Casey, Bagnalstown, County Carlow, the Trustees and Executors in this case; or to Mr. Thomas Ardhill, Solicitor 72 Aungier Street Dublin, will be duly attended to ; and should an adequate offer be made the purchase will be declared, if not disposed of previously. John Cogan, Auctioneer, Leixlip.

Recently a map of the property of Harristown was purchased by Maynooth University Library. The estate map was drawn up by Sherrard, Brassington and Green in 1820. It shows the townland of Harristown, Kilcloon, Co. Meath as belonging the Thomas Swords (Senior). Sherrard, Brassington and Green were the leading firm of surveyors in the early 19th century who also drew up a volume of the maps of the “Manor or Maynooth” (including Carton Park) in 1821. The sentiments expressed on the monument in Ladychapel cemetery and the death notice of Thomas junior reflect their shared entrepreneurial skills, political interests and philanthropic endeavours. Sources: Irish Newspaper Archive; Susan Durack: Maynooth: Towards a Community profile, 1795-1911. MA Thesis 2001.

For more about the history of Ladychapel graveyard see http://seamuscullen.net/ladychapel_graveyard.html

Susan Durack



**Thomas Swords monument
at Ladychapel Cemetery**



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The following article was submitted by one of our readers.
The article was originally published in the June 2020 Edition of the Lee Valley Outlook

History

Mrs Joan Murphy, Maynooth and Sr. Bernard (Murphy), a Macroon and Presentation Nun, Maynooth

Interview by Con Kelleher

Mrs Murphy (75) made contact with Ms Josephine Cronin-Lovell, Lee Valley Enterprise Board, regarding a good news story about a Macroon nun she first met when she was in second class in Maynooth convent. Macroon in this case probably means the wider area. Mother Borgia was a nun and a cousin, and this connection may help to identify Sr Bernard. Sr. Bernard left a life-long impression on her young pupil by giving her a love of books. Joan was anxious to tell the story of great work done by a kindly nun many years ago. In recent times nuns have often had a 'bad press' and little is heard of the fantastic good that they and other religious did. This piece relates a nun's good deeds in the 1950s.

Joan's personal history is fascinating and told beautifully and gives a window into the era in which she was a child. She herself was a surprise as her mother was forty-five when she was a born. Her elder by 61/2 years was not pleased at her arrival. For example, she said that there was no secondary school in Maynooth (population of about 2,000-3,000) in the 1950-60s, just a commerce school that lasted only a few years. It gave it the town the unusual distinction of having national schools and a university but no second level school. St Patrick's College, Maynooth, the national seminary, was cut off from the town and especially young females. The gates were open to the public only during the summer months when the clerical students were home on holidays. Although her mother was a teacher and her father a Garda sergeant, she attended Lucan Vocational School when it had had a two-year cycle. In spite of her love of books and intelligence, it was decided to send her to Lucan Vocational.

Sr. Bernard was a 'phenomenal person', a great teacher and a very kindly pleasant person. She was a tall strong lady with a gentle voice and infectious enthusiasm. She loved books and transmitted that affection to her pupils. Books were then scarce and expensive, and Joan's greatest pleasure was to get a book for Christmas or as a birthday present. Sr Bernard set up a library in the convent school for children and adults - and adults came on Saturdays. She sourced books from Foyles Library, a bookshop in O'Connell Street, Dublin - westerns, detectives, romances and so on. Enid Blyton, Agatha Christie, Conan Doyle, Daphne Du Maurier are some of the authors mentioned and read by Joan. Further, Sr Bernard brought and showed films to her audiences. These measures opened the minds and imaginations of her young charges and townspeople to the vast world outside - its geography, cultures and literature. For a young girl with a love of reading it was like being given the keys to heaven. Joan must have been very keen as Sr. Bernard asked her to help with library

work. Joan was delighted with the 'honour' and appreciated the recognition.

There was a sewing factory in Maynooth, and Joan's ambition was to work there after school. However, at age fifteen, in 1960, Joan's first job was in Foyle's Library and this was arranged by the good nun. Later Joan moved to another book shop in Dublin in which there was a locked cupboard. Book censorship was operating at the time and authors such as Edna O'Brien, Ernest Hemingway, Frank O'Connor, James Joyce and John McGahern had books banned, but some books could be ordered. These 'special' books were kept in the cupboard, literally under lock and key, and Joan was tempted to, but never bold enough, to read secretly the material.

Married in 1965 at age twenty Joan had five children. When circumstances allowed, she worked as a cook/housekeeper to priests first, and later nuns. The nuns even changed their dinnertime to ensure Joan was doing the cooking. As well as being a superb cook, Joan was gifted at dressmaking. She had only some national school sewing lessons and went to the Grafton Academy for night-lessons, after she began working. She made 'every stitch' the children wore including school clothes, and communion and confirmation outfits. When the children were reared, she travelled widely with her husband, Jim, who was an ESB supervisor. New Zealand and Australia were among her destinations. Jim's father worked with the Gore-Booths and later was a manager-cum-valet to Count John McCormack, the great singer. Jim's mother, much younger than her husband, and again later in her life, worked for Lord and Lady Carew of Celbridge, and their daughter Diana Connolly-Carew represented Ireland in showjumping. Joan's children went to university and one is currently an intensive-care nurse and one of our angels of mercy.

Unfortunately, Joan lost Jim, her husband, to cancer six weeks ago and is in mourning. Jim had been very ill and survived some very low points to rally and improve. However, he passed away in February 2020. They had a good life together and she described him as a great husband, father and provider, and she had the consolation of having travelled the world with him. Her children are mostly nearby and are very supportive. Allied to that she has many friends and she enjoys bridge in person and on-line. Covid 19 and cocooning doesn't bother her much and she makes great use of modern technology to keep in touch.

It was a pleasure to talk to Joan, to hear her



St. Patrick's College, Maynooth.



Presentation Convent, Maynooth, (Lawrence Collection, NLI).



Maynooth river with Carton House in the background, (Lawrence Collection, NLI).

story and that of Sr Bernard. She must have 'exchanged atoms' with Sr. Bernard, like one of Myles na gCopeleen's characters, because she sounded so sharp, pleasant and interesting. It would be great to establish who Sr. Bernard was and whence she came, but at this remove, that may not be possible. To hear one great lady, talk about another was uplifting and it was rewarding to put on record the enduring influence that a kindly nun had on a young girl in Maynooth in the 1950s.

The interview was done by phone, and recorded, and amendments were made by e-mail; no bother to the intrepid Joan at 75.



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INFORMATION THAT SHOULD BE DISPLAYED IN EVERY HOUSEHOLD IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

WHERE THE MAINS WATER IS COMING IN TO THE HOUSE AND
WHERE THE TAP IS TO TURN THE SUPPLY OFF

WHERE THE TAP /CONNECTION IS TO TURN OFF GAS/OIL OR
WHATEVER HEATING SYSTEM YOU HAVE

BE FAMILIAR WITH ELECTRICAL PANEL AND TRIPSWITCHES. IN
YOUR HOME

ALWAYS HAVE AT HAND PHONE NUMBERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

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PLUMBER

ELECTRICIAN

ALARM PROVIDER

BE AWARE OF YOUR EIRCODE AND KEEP IT HANDY
YOUR EIRCODE CAN BE CHECKED AT [HTTPS://FINDER.EIRCODE.IE](https://finder.eircode.ie)

HAVE A FIRE EXTINGUISHER AT HAND ESPECIALLY IN YOUR
KITCHEN. A FIRE BLANKET IN THE KITCHEN IS ALSO ESSENTIAL

MAKE SURE TO HAVE SMOKE ALARMS ON EACH FLOOR OF YOUR
HOME AND BE SURE TO CHECK IF THEY ARE WORKING AT LEAST
EVERY MONTH.

CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM IS A MUST IN EVERY HOME

Peace

I heard a little rumour,
I don't know if it's true,
That the world is going to be at peace,
for at least a month or two.

I heard that folk must stay at home...,
And spend time with their kin,
Slow down, relax and take a breath,
And find some peace within.

And though we may be worried,
About money, jobs and bills,
We will notice beauty everywhere,
Blue skies, fresh lakes, green hills.

And when a month or two is over,
And we can all go back to our lives.
People will show gratitude,
That their loved ones. all survived.

By M. Murray

Blind Joe

He lived way up among the woods
Which clothe the blue slopes of the Catskills
A striking white-haired fellow
You'd take for Rip Van Winkle
Except that Joe's voice predicated
An expat from Roscommon or Mayo
Who out-daring most of his countrymen
Had ventured far beyond the city
And following pioneer tradition
Took up farming in a modest way
Till fatefully glaucoma struck him
But could not make him quit his homestead

Each summer the latest generation
Of New York's Irish immigrants
Went to the Catskills for a week or two
And always after the swimming
The shuffleboard the visits to the creek
The unpretentious wholesome meals
The drinking and the dancing in the bars
We'd make a pilgrimage to Blind Joe's farm
Driving up leaf-shadowed roads
To wonder at the guideline he had rigged
Between the cowshed and his home
And talk to him of country things

And while he listened in the open air
Blind Joe's sunburnt face would be alight
No doubt because our untroubled voices
Brought some long-lost country crossroads back
Finally when conversations dwindled
The visitors as they said goodbye
Recollecting dead or distant fathers
Pressed money into Blind Joe's hand
Then drove off heartened by a courage
Greater than ancient Oisín's in Elphin*
That once the tourists had departed
Would face alone the winter's onslaught

I like to think that Joe still lives
Above East Durham on the farm he cleared
Out of the virginal broad-leaved woods
And that he'll probably turn up one day
Just like Oisín or bewildered Rip
Seeking the world he left behind
And wonder where the glad-voiced lads and girls
Part Irish part American have gone
And tell strange tales to thrill the listener's ear
For some of us recall a Land of Youth
Where summer was unending and the hurt
That drove us from it is at last forgot

* See the poem *Is Fada Anocht i n-Ailfinn* ("Long is Tonight in Elphin") in which Oisín bewails his old age and the loss of his Fenian companions.

By Colin Scott

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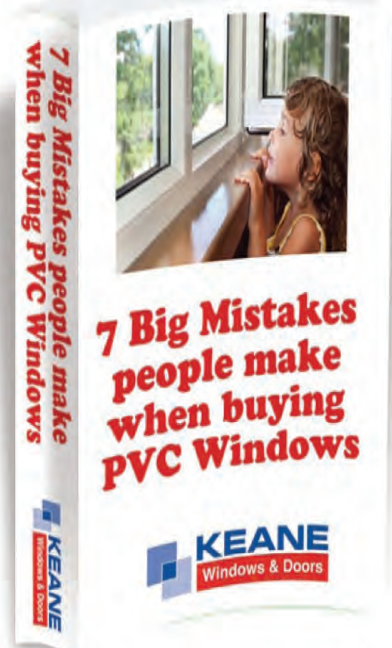
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To an Unknown One

When shall we meet,
Unknown intruder on my dreams,
Dark, formless one?
Nor you nor I can say
How in the web of time
The darting hands will make
The threads to meet
And eye to drown in eye
With trembling recklessness...

I call your shade
Out of the chambers of my heart
Where nothing lives but hope;
I call your name
Out of the caverns of my mind
Where nothing dies but certainty,
Kingfisher Child, blue-green
Immortal glimpse of happy isles,
New-risen moon.

You shall not find in me
My obscured self,
But I will seem
Such as Ulysses to Nausicaä seemed
When washed like driftwood on her father's shore
Or war-spent Ossian to the Gold-haired Niamh
When riding from the ocean's foam
She chose him from the race of men –
In you I'll find my youth again.

There is no eye can scan the night
And say in what far place or time
That which the middle sister weaves
Will be revealed,
And so I weave this other web
In which beside lake reeds you kneel,
Looking downward with a dreamer's stare.
My face is mirrored on the sandy bed:
I come, my love, out of the shimmering air!

By Colin Scott


Photos from our Readers



Above: Family of Swans on the Canal at Maynooth Harbour. All 7 cygnets have survived and appear to be thriving. The swan family have been a great attraction for people on their daily walks during the lock down.



Left: A young fox cub helps itself to the cat's breakfast early Sunday morning at a house near Bond Bridge in Maynooth.



HAY FEVER

Hay fever is an allergic reaction to pollen, usually when it comes into contact with your mouth, nose, eyes and throat. Pollen is a fine powder from plants.

Hay fever is usually worse between late March and September, especially when it's warm, humid and windy. This is when the pollen count is at its highest.

Hay fever symptoms
Symptoms of hay fever include:

- sneezing and coughing
- a runny or blocked nose
- itchy, red or watery eyes
- itchy throat, mouth, nose and ears
- loss of smell
- pain around your temples and forehead
- headache
- earache
- feeling tired

Asthma and hay fever
If you have asthma, you might also:

- have a tight feeling in your chest
- be short of breath
- wheeze and cough

Hay fever may last for weeks or months, unlike a cold, which usually goes away after 1 to 2 weeks.

Hay fever treatment
There's currently no cure for hay fever and you can't prevent it. But you can do things to ease your symptoms when the pollen count is high.

To ease your hay fever symptoms:

- put Vaseline around your nostrils to trap pollen
- wear wraparound sunglasses to stop pollen getting into your eyes
- shower and change your clothes after you've been outside to wash the pollen off
- stay indoors whenever possible
- keep windows and doors shut as much as possible

- vacuum often
- dust with a damp cloth
- buy a pollen filter for the air vents in your car
- buy a vacuum cleaner with a special HEPA filter (these can trap pollutants)

To ease your hay fever symptoms, do not:

- cut grass or walk on grass
- spend too much time outside
- keep fresh flowers in the house
- smoke or be around smoke – it makes your symptoms worse
- dry clothes outside – they can catch pollen
- let pets into the house if possible – they can carry pollen indoors

When to see a pharmacist
Speak to your pharmacist if you have hay fever. They can give advice and suggest the best treatments. These include antihistamine drops, tablets or nasal sprays. These treatments can help with itchy and watery eyes and sneezing or a blocked nose


When to see a GP
If you are not seeing any improvement from the pharmacist's treatment, your GP may be able to help.

Visit your GP if:
your symptoms are getting worse
your symptoms don't improve after taking medicines from the pharmacy

Treatments from your GP
Your GP may prescribe steroids. If steroids and other hay fever treatments don't work, your GP may refer you for immunotherapy.

This means you'll be given small amounts of pollen as an injection or tablet. This will slowly build up your immunity to pollen. This kind of treatment usually starts in the winter about 3 months before the hay fever season begins.

Source: www.hse.ie



Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

Planning Applications received from 28/05/2020 to 28/06/2020 Information from Kildare County Council Website

App. Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	Application Date
20659	Kildare County Council	David Dunne,	Clonfert South, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	24/06/2020
20637	Kildare County Council	Damien Doyle	Moyglare Nursing Home, Moyglare Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	22/06/2020
20585	Kildare County Council	Brian Lavelle	Leinster Park, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	10/06/2020
20557	Kildare County Council	Heathcote Holdings Limited	Parklands Grove, Railpark, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 V5D4	03/06/2020
20551	Kildare County Council	Laura Jayne Halton	Laragh, Demense, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	02/06/2020

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.

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.



Royal Canal Notes

July 2020

Education ~~ Heritage ~~ Recreation

BOATING ON THE ROYAL CANAL

For some time now navigation of the Royal Canal has been suspended in line with "Crona Virus" health directives, but also because of water shortages due to the good weather which prevailed recently.

The good news is that Waterways Ireland has advised that the suspension will be lifted at the end of July next allowing navigation to recommence. It will be nice to see a few boats back in the water.

SWIMMING ON THE ROYAL CANAL

Swimming in the Royal Canal is prohibited for health and safety reasons by Waterways Ireland and this is obvious by the strategically placed signs along the length of the waterway, some of which have been recently vandalised locally. It seems, however, that because of the good weather in May and early June this by-law was ignored and a large number of teenagers decided to swim at Jacksons Bridge near Maynooth.



Jackson's Bridge near Maynooth

Apart from the health issues of swimming in the canal no social distancing was in operation and the size of the group, on this occasion vastly exceeded Crona Virus group restrictions.

Yes! I know your parents swam in the canal and nothing happened to them so why shouldn't you? The reason is simple. In the past there was more boat traffic on the canal and as a result much less rodents. These creatures carry a number of diseases, the most worrying of which is WIELS disease. While not usually fatal it can be, it caused the death of former British Olympic oars man Andy Holmes in the recent past.

The symptoms of this disease are not pleasant and it can take quite some time to recover from.

On the occasion mentioned a number of the teenagers dived into the lock itself. This is foolhardy. The Canal is two hundred years old and the locks were not designed with built in ladders. A lock gate was also opened on this date. This is totally unacceptable behaviour since even boaters have to get advanced clearance from Waterways Ireland to open lock gates while sailing on the canal.

HERITAGE WEEK 2020

Heritage Week 2020, which runs from the 15th - 23rd. August 2020 has been modified this year as a result of Covid-19 restrictions. It will be mainly on line this year with virtual talks, walks and other offerings available. There is also an opportunity to record your heritage week memories on the Heritage Week web site <https://www.heritageweek.ie>



Walkers On the Royal Canal at Mountjoy.

We in the Royal Canal Amenity Group have always supported Heritage Week with talks and walks on both the Royal and Grand Canals together with other venues, and this year is no exception.

Author Peter Clarke and group secretary Niall Galway are currently working on presentations, ably assisted by group historian Derek Whelan. It is a big change from previous years but such are the difficulties with restrictions on group gatherings social distancing and wearing of masks while in groups. This made the changes necessary for this year at least.

Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee

Isn't it just encouraging to see our community/country opening up, albeit cautiously and I take this opportunity to wish all our business people well. It is local business who have supported organisations like ours over many years and now it is our turn. So I urge you all to shop local where you can.



I mentioned last month that I hoped we could have a small meeting after June 8th. We held an executive committee meeting on June 14th to decide a strategy going forward. Our full committee could not meet as government guidelines only allowed for up to six people in an enclosed space. In our risk assessment we considered the vulnerable age group with whom we work, space, transport, distancing etc, within the guidelines. In the interest of safety and best practice it was decided that it would be unwise to reopen the club at this time.

While we appreciate the importance of social inclusion and the direction in which loneliness can take us, we have to balance that with the physical safety of all concerned. We will keep the situation under review and as our club normally closes for August, we will revisit this at our meeting in September.

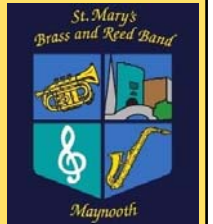
Meanwhile older people can still make contact with us and I would ask all those good neighbours, who were so wonderful to our older people during lockdown, to continue that friendship a while longer. If you are concerned about an older person living alone you can contact any committee member.

Finally, may I express our sincere sympathy to the families of Pauleen O'Brien, Christopher Smith and Eddie Tracey on the passing of their loved ones.

Suaimehneas agus Siochain Doibh.

Josephine Moore.

ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND



Things are still very quiet on the Band front with all the restrictions in place so not a lot to report this month. We were really disappointed to have to cancel our planned Concert with the West Michigan Band from the USA in the Glenroyal Hotel on 1st July but hopefully they will make the trip over next year.

We will be getting back to small rehearsals over the next few weeks with the aim of doing something somewhere for Culture Night on Friday 18th September but we are still working on a venue as everything depends on the restrictions in place at that time but we hope to have more news in next month's issue.



Junior Band

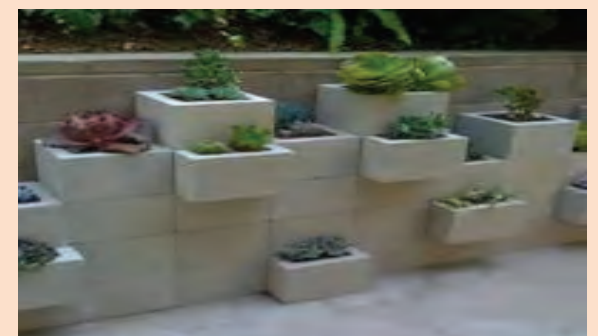
With the current explosion of new houses in Maynooth the Band will be launching a recruitment drive for both beginners and experienced musicians next September. We already have the nucleus of a Junior Band (see photo) but we know there are lots of budding and talented musicians in the town so in next month's issue we will be giving full details of what we have planned. In the meantime if you are really interested please mail sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie or call 087 2537 906 for further details.

DIY Page

Things you can do with left over Wood Pallets (Source: whouohu.com)



Amazing things you can do with Tyres and left over Concrete Blocks (Source: bing.com)



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Maynooth Community Library

Maynooth Library brings you an
uplifting and interactive storytime
with Helena Byrne on 17th July
Join Helena for this extra special
storytime session on Zoom.
Discover characters new and old and
help bring them to life with
movement and song.

Call 016285530 or email
maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie
with "Helena Byrne" in the subject line
to book.

**11am, Friday 17th July 2020
Fun for all the family,
but particularly ages 4 – 7**

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ZERO WASTE MAYNOOTH

**It's Plastic Free July! A month when
millions of people around the globe try to
reduce their use of plastic.**

But this year is different as Covid-19 continues to impact our lives. Some of us might not be heading out as much and those that do might find that reusables aren't as welcome as before. (As this article was being written, a statement was due to be released which was signed by over 100 scientist from various fields across 18 countries which states that reusables are safe during the pandemic as long as basic good hygiene is followed).

So how can we take part in Plastic Free July in this altered world?

One habit that most people developed during the lockdown was doing the Big Shop. Nipping into the shops for a few bits just wasn't worth the queues. Planning the Big Shop can really help cut down on plastic and food waste. Mapping out a food plan for the week can mean that you don't get tempted by the special offers that often end up languishing at the back of the fridge and often come double wrapped in plastic.

Another way to cut down on plastic coming into your home is the pledge to use what you have before buying more – have you half bottles of shampoo/conditioner/bodywash cluttering up the bathroom? While you are using up what you have, you can be researching alternatives – Green Outlook (Kildare based business) and Janni Bars (based in Clonfert) stock shampoo bars and The Healthy Way in Leixlip stocks refills of bodywash, hand wash, fabric conditioner and washing up liquid.

Although Zero Waste Maynooth are not running events at the moment, it is still possible to get your dried goods from Bare Necessities. They are doing a collection service in Maynooth on the second Saturday of each month. We will be popping a reminder up on our page.

Throughout the month we will be posting ideas and tips for Plastic Free July on our social media.



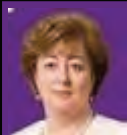
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Grand Canal Greenway Projects Update

Catherine Murphy asked the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Josepha Madigan, to detail the funding allocated to the Royal and Grand Canal Greenway projects; the progress made to date on works; and the expected completion date of works of each stage and or section of these projects.

The response was as follows:

The Department for Transport, Tourism and Sport has allocated €12.3m to the Royal Canal Greenway since 2012. This Greenway is expected to open this year from Maynooth in County Kildare to Cloondara in County Longford and become the longest stretch of Greenway in the country at 130km long, including the Longford Branch. There is still some work on installation of ancillary infrastructure, signage and marketing to be completed. The tenders for this work have had to be postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Development of the urban section of the Royal Canal is funded by the National Transport Authority (NTA). A number of sections along this urban stretch have been completed; from Spencer Dock to Sheriff Street and from Ashtown to Castleknock. Works have commenced on the stretch between these two completed sections and consultations are ongoing for the final section from Castleknock to Maynooth in County Kildare.

Grand Canal

In 2019, the Department for Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTAS) awarded €2.35m to Offaly County Council for the Tullamore to Daingean section of the Grand Canal and a further €1.7m to Kildare County Council for construction of the Grand Canal Greenway section between Aylmers Bridge and Sallins. Construction on these sections is due to finish in 2021 but COVID -19 may impact the completion dates.

The Department for Transport, Tourism and Sport also provided funding of €415,321 for construction of the section known as Arthur's Way in 2014/15. The section of the towpath between Blackhorse and the 12th lock in the Dublin area has been completed and planning has been secured for the stretch from the 12th lock to Hazelhatch in Kildare, although no funding has been secured to date. The remaining sections of the Grand Canal towpath in the urban area have yet to secure planning and funding.

On the same day, Catherine asked the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport Shane Ross the funding allocated to the Royal and Grand canal greenway projects; the progress made to date on works; and the expected completion date of works of each stage and or section of these projects.

The Minister's response was as follows:

Department has allocated €12.332 m to the Royal Canal Greenway since 2012. This greenway is expected to open this year from Maynooth in County Kildare to Cloondara in County Longford and will become the longest stretch of Greenway in the country. It will be 130km in total length, including the Longford Branch. There is still some work on signage and marketing to be completed. The tenders for this work have had to be postponed due to COVID -19

My Department awarded €2.35m to Offaly County Council and €1.70m to Kildare County Council for construction of the Grand Canal sections outlined below. My Department also provided funding of €415,321 for construction of the section known as Arthur's Way in 2014/15.

Grand Canal Greenway- Tullamore to Daingean and Lough Boora	€2.35m	Waterways Ireland/ Offaly County Council	Parts of most strategic importance and economic significance and also priority sections for Local Authority
Grand canal Greenway - Kildare section as far as Sallins	€1.7m	Waterways Ireland	Aylmer Bridge to Sallins, builds on Arthurs Way

Construction on these sections is due to finish in 2021 but COVID 19 may impact the completion dates. These two Greenways are strategically important national greenways with the

Royal Canal Greenway also forming a section of the Dublin Galway Greenway. It is our intention over the coming years to complete the Grand Canal Greenway as funding and planning allows.

In relation to Urban Greenway sections of both the Royal and Grand Canals, these are funded and managed by the National Transport Authority (NTA). Noting the NTA's role, I have referred your question to the NTA for a more detailed reply.

Catherine has received the response from the NTA and the order for 41 InterCity railcars was placed in December 2019. The first units are scheduled to be delivered in Q1 2022. It is expected that the final units would be delivered in Q3 2022. The contract value is €149.7 million, therefore the unit cost equates to approx. €3.65 million.

Iarnród Éireann are currently undertaking a procurement process for a framework for the supply of new DART fleet to support the expansion of the DART network within the Greater Dublin Area. Tenders are expected to be returned in Q3 2020 with an initial order to be placed early next year.

Concerns re Childcare provision in North Kildare

Catherine Murphy TD asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs the measures she is taking to address the significant shortfall in childcare spaces in Maynooth, Celbridge and Kilcock, County Kildare.

Each year Pobal conducts research on behalf of my Department to examine a number of factors related to early learning and care and school age childcare services in Ireland, including the monitoring of capacity. The Early Years Sector Profile report for the 2018/2019 programme year, provides my Department with valuable information including issues of capacity. The report indicates that existing childcare provision nationally broadly meets current needs in terms of capacity, whilst recognising that small pockets of under supply exist within this.

Early learning and care and school age childcare providers (both community and private) operating in the Maynooth, Celbridge and Kilcock areas completed the survey which informs the sector profile. From their responses at the time of the survey there were 1,642 children enrolled, with 87 vacant places and 190 on the waiting lists to be reconciled. Pobal cautions that its data on waiting lists cannot by itself be used to inform capacity decisions as parents often place their children on more than one waiting list.

Under First 5, and also in preparation for planned investment under the National Development Plan, my Department will be undertaking research to consider in detail the capacity needs of each area across the country. I recognise that capacity constraints remain in some areas and my Department is actively seeking to further increase capacity through a range of measures including opening up regulation and funding schemes to paid, non-relative childminders.

Finally, if the Deputy is aware of any specific cases of parents having difficulty accessing childcare places, they could make contact with their local City or County Childcare Committee who will be pleased to assist them

Tourism in Maynooth

Catherine Murphy TD asked the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform the number of persons who visited Maynooth Castle and Castletown in each of the years 2017 to 2019, in tabular form.

The 2019 visitor numbers for Maynooth Castle and Castletown are in the process of being compiled and audited. As such, fully verified visitor numbers to these sites last year are not yet available. The 2017 and 2018 visitor numbers are:

Site	2017	2018
Maynooth Castle	23,315	22,946
Castletown House	32,493	27,760
Castletown Parklands (including Castletown House visitors)	680,000	642,278



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Adoption of Proposed Variation No. 1 to the County Development Plan 2017 – 2023 by Kildare County Council

The Social Democrat Group in Kildare County Council voted in favour of adopting the Variation to the County Development Plan 2017 – 2023. The variation was adopted by 20 votes for and 19 against.

Having reviewed the County Development Plan Variation figures in relation to the percentages of allocated growth per settlement and actual dwelling targets, which was previously circulated to you and contained within the Chief Executives Report, I think that another relevant metric might be to display the population growth targets (to 2026) per settlement as a percentage of the 2016 Census of population. You will see from the attached that all towns and villages are expected to see growth rates of in excess of 12% and a significant number will see growth in the high teens and even into the 20%+ range.

Proposed Variation No. 1 of the Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023 which was published on 9th of January 2020.

Proposed Variation No. 1 is statutorily required to align the County Development Plan with the Regional Spatial Economic Strategy. One of the principal purposes of the variation is to designate settlements (in Co. Kildare) in accordance with the RSES as Self-sustaining Growth Towns, Self-sustaining Towns, Towns, Villages and rural areas. It should be noted that the RSES identifies Regional Growth Centres and Key Towns in the Region and it is a function of the CDP to designate all other settlements in the hierarchy. It should be further noted that the Large Growth Town is a designation from the Regional Planning Guidelines which have been superseded by revised designations in the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy from EMRA.

The NPF and its Roadmap has set out a plan for Ireland until 2040. This seeks to encourage a more balanced form of development across the State. The net effect of this on Kildare is to provide for population increase over the plan period but at a reduced level as the NPF takes effect Section 5.7 of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) states that 'There is a further allowance of transition population targets in National Policy Objective (NPO) 68 by way of up to 20% of the targeted growth in the city being transferred to other settlements in the MASP'. It is further stated that 'This shall apply only to the three Metropolitan Key Towns in the MASP namely Bray, Maynooth and Swords, and only if they can demonstrate compact growth on high capacity planned or existing public transport corridors'.

The RSES sets out that the determination of population targets for local authorities within the MASP in accordance with the NPF and RSES, including the population targets for the City and the Metropolitan Key Towns, should be agreed in consultation with the MASP Implementation Group to inform the preparation of the core strategies of the relevant city and county development plans.

Arising from NPO68 of the National Planning Framework there have been discussions, but no decision of the Eastern Midlands Regional Assembly of any revised allocation and/or redistribution for Kildare or Maynooth. It is therefore considered that any additional population allocation for the town of Maynooth be incorporated into this or future County Development Plans at a later date following completion of the process to agree these figures.

CE Recommendation

Proposed Amendment No. 2 is adopted as proposed with any additional population redistribution addressed once agreed.

Following the process to vary the County Development Plan the Council will proceed to prepare a suite of local area plans which will include the Joint Maynooth LAP, prepared in conjunction with Meath County Council in accordance with RPO 4.35 of the RSES.

A number of supporting reports/assessments will be prepared to inform the preparation of the Local Area plan including an Infrastructure Assessment to detail the capacity of physical infrastructure such as roads, water services etc.

A Social Infrastructure Audit will also be carried out which will examine the current availability and capacity of social infrastructure facilities in the area, to determine future requirements and make recommendations on priority areas for future investment to ensure housing is delivered in tandem with the necessary social and physical infrastructure.

Similarly, a Strategic Transport Strategy will be undertaken which will inform zoning decisions for the forthcoming LAP in tandem with solutions for improving public transport, cycling and permeability throughout the town.

Appropriate consultation with elected members and all relevant stakeholders and interested parties will take place at all phases of the plan preparation.

The revised population projections as reflected in Variation No. 1 of the County Development Plan make provision for ca. 2,000 units per year across the county to the end of the Plan period which is significantly higher than the level of average house delivery of the ca. 1,186 units over the past 4 years

(2016-2019) see table below.

	2016	2017	2018	2019
Q1	122	195	244	397
Q2	154	215	271	393
Q3	142	259	325	488
Q4	220	316	381	623
TOTAL	638	985	1221	1901

It is also noteworthy that parts of County Kildare are among the top 5 areas for housing completions in the Country in Q1 of this year

Nuala Killeen said:

"We sought to keep the needs of our communities in mind and to support sustainability in our towns. The reduction in figures adopted by the variation is supposed to give an opportunity for much needed infrastructure to catch up. I noted that Strategic Housing Developments have had the most impact on our communities and the physical and social infrastructure in Kildare has been deficient for decades even prior to the SHD process. We took the decision as we are reluctant to impact the progress of LAPs, which is an important function of the councillors and are equally reluctant to defer powers to the Minister that brought us the SHD process" (If the variation fell the process might have gone forward for a Ministerial Direction).

Aidan Farrelly said:

"By supporting the Variation before us today, it offered Councillors an opportunity to oppose the housing-first, infrastructure-last policy that has failed our communities until now. Each town has issues with water, roads, bridges, public transport and improved safe-cycling infrastructure that can no longer sustain upgrades being optional.

"Whether this variation stood or fell today, Government housing policy is wholly deficient. Social infrastructure is needed e.g. healthcare, childcare and appropriate educational facilities should be prioritised in Kildare,

based on the most up to date census figures"

Chris Pender said:

"We urgently need to address the many social infrastructure deficits in our communities and encourage the place making and wellbeing of our communities. It's not enough to provide units of housing, our communities are crying out for the basics that should be a given in any modern society. We also need to ensure we encourage planning that supports our most vulnerable"

Bill Clear said

"This variation does not reduce any permissions granted but not yet commenced and we should look at permissions granted but unused with a view to downzoning land not utilised." Said Cllr Bill Clear

Variation (Variation No. 1) of the Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023.

At its adjourned meeting on 9th June 2020, Kildare County Council adopted a Variation (Variation No. 1) of the Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023. The adopted variation responds to the recent changes in national and regional policy, namely the publication of Project Ireland 2040: National Planning Framework (NPF), The Implementation Roadmap for the National Planning Framework and the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA), and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES).

The RSES will be implemented in policy by way of the County Development Plan and Local Economic and Community Plans (LECP). The RSES will be realised by the delivery of European and national funding that will achieve the Regional Strategic Outcomes (and NPF National Strategic Outcomes) expressed in the Strategy. These funds will focus on the priorities and key aspects of the RSES to sustainably grow the Region to 2031 and beyond.

A Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan (MASP) forms part of the Strategy, which identifies several large scale strategic residential and economic development areas, that will deliver significant development in an integrated and sustainable manner in the metropolitan area, of which the area of Maynooth, Leixlip, Celbridge and Kilcock forms part (northeast of the county).

The Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) places an obligation on the planning authority to prepare a 'core strategy' which shows that the development objectives in the plan are consistent, as far as practicable, with national and regional development objectives set out in the National Planning Framework and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy. Chapters 2 and 3 set out the Core Strategy and Settlement Strategy for County Kildare.

There is a legislative requirement to respond to recent changes in national and regional policy

- Align the CDP with National Planning Framework (NPF) in 2018
- NPF Roadmap and
- The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) adopted by the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA) in 2019

The County Development Plan is due for a full review in early 2021 at which stage consideration will be given to settlement boundaries etc for towns/villages and submissions regarding land use zoning can be taken into consideration during this process.

Land-use zonings for towns which are above the threshold for mandatory Local Area Plans will be addressed through the specific LAP.

(Continued on page 18)



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

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(Continued from page 17)

	2016 - 2023 (current CDP)	2016 - 2026 (as per NPF Roadmap)	2026 Target inc. 25% headroom
Population target	253,552	254,000	261,870
Housing unit target	32,497*	11,250	14,060

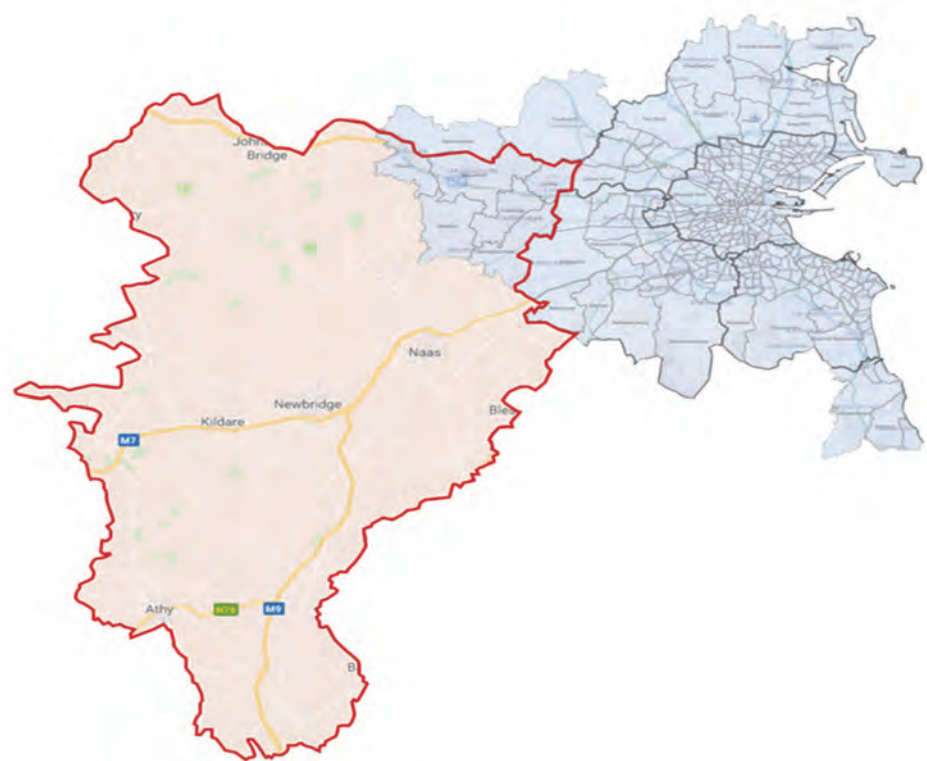
County Kildare was identified as having above national average growth & therefore is allowed to make provision for up to 25% headroom.

* RPG Housing Target

- Kildare’s allocated growth from 2016 to 2026 as per NPF Roadmap = 39,370 persons

Note; This is based on the higher population range & includes 25% headroom
This equates to approx. 14,060 housing units (up to 2026)
Based on a 2.8 person occupancy (average occupancy rate for Kildare in 2016 Census)

Area of Kildare within MASP



- Census 2016 Population for this area is 62,449 = 28% of County population
- Possible additional allocation for Key Town of Maynooth from Dublin City & Suburbs allocation (NPO 68) -Ca. 11,000 persons = additional 3,900 units
- Set out revised statutory context of NPF & RSES
- Incorporates Transitional Population Projections set out in NPF Roadmap & RSES & adjusts the Core Strategy to take into account the revised population targets.
- Designate settlements below Key Towns
- Self-sustaining Growth Towns
- Self-sustaining Town
- Towns (Small & Rural)
- Villages
- Address Climate Change through integration of “Climate Resilient Kildare”:
- Kildare County Council Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019 – 2024
- Incorporates policy requirements of NPF & RSES inc. 30 % infill (1 example)
- Integrates Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan (MASP) into CDP

In calculating the Core Strategy the following are of note;

- A. Kildare County Council has taken the higher range + 25% in calculating the 2026 target which is reducing the potential allocation to 2031.
- B. The 2026 population target is 254,000 which equates to an additional 31,496 persons.

- C. Add the 25% headroom = 39,370 persons to 2026 (= 261,874 persons).
- D. The transitional population targets are set to 2026 & 2031 (with the exception of Maynooth).
- E. The 2026 figure for Kildare is 261,874 persons across the county for the period between 2020 & 2026 & 266,500 persons across the county for the period between 2026 & 2031.
- F. The census of population was 222,504 persons in 2016, no further conclusive updates on population growth (in particular) and housing stock are available since this date.
- G. Housing completions over the past 4 years indicate ca. 1186 units per year on average for County Kildare

New dwelling completions – Co. Kildare 2016-2019

	2016	2017	2018	2019
Q1	122	195	244	397
Q2	154	215	271	393
Q3	142	259	325	488
Q4	220	316	381	623
TOTAL	638	985	1221	1901

Reality

- Total Housing Units completed between 2016 and 2019 = 4,745 units (Average of 1186 units per year)

NPF Roadmap

- 14,060 units between 2016 & 2026 = Average of 1406 per year over 10 years
- Taking account of the 4,745 built between 2016 & 2019 & there is ca. 9,315 units remaining to be delivered to 2026 which equates to ca. 1330 units/year.
- Proposed Variation No. 1 provides for ca. 2,000 units per year over the remaining 3 years of the CDP.

Note; LAPs and permissions will run over 2 CDP periods

Settlement Type	Towns / Villages	2016 Census Pop	2016 Dwellings	Allocated Growth (%) 2016-2023	NPF 2026 Pop Growth	NPF 2026 Pop Growth in housing units	Population Growth from 2020 to 2023 (annualised from 2026 NPF Figures)	Dwellings Target 2020 to 2023
Key Town	Maynooth (MASP)	14,585	5,171	10.9%	4,291	1,533	1,839	657
	Naas	21,393	7,726	14.9%	5,866	2,095	2,514	898
Self-Sustaining Growth Town	Newbridge	22,742	8,260	11.6%	4,567	1,631	1,957	699
	Leixlip	15,504	5,524	10.2%	4,016	1,434	1,721	615
	Kildare	8,634	3,158	4.7%	1,850	661	793	283
	Athy	9,677	4,281	4.8%	1,890	675	810	289
Self-Sustaining Town	Celbridge	20,288	6,969	10.0%	3,937	1,406	1,687	603
	Kilcock	6,093	2,212	4.0%	1,575	562	675	241
	Monasterevin	4,246	1,706	2.6%	1,024	366	439	157
Town (Small)	Sallins	5,849	2,071	1.9%	748	267	321	114
	Kilcullen	3,710	1,401	2.5%	984	352	422	151
	Kill	3,348	1,227	1.3%	512	183	219	78
	Clane	7,280	2,741	2.4%	945	337	405	145
	Prosperous	2,333	813	1.0%	394	141	169	60
Town (Rural)	Rathangan	2,611	1,009	0.9%	354	127	152	54
	Athgarvan	1,176	373	0.7%	276	98	118	42
	Castledermot	1,475	622	0.5%	197	70	84	30
	Derrinturn	1,602	558	0.6%	214	76	92	33



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Writers’ Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

NO TIME TO WASTE

Maynooth has done extraordinarily well over the past number of years winning gold medals and various other awards in the Tidy Towns Competition. Well done to the committee and all the other hard workers.

I must however ask what all this means. Is it labour in vain? Sisyphus at his eternal labours? Ben Hur chained to his oar? Donald Trump's advisors at their daily task?

The streets are much cleaner than they were a few years ago. There are beautiful flower arrangements in many locations. There's an aromatic garden even if it's, in my opinion, somewhat out of the way. But is there any evidence that there is a change of attitude towards the local environment in the people who use the streets? Are they clean because people now use the bins or bring home their litter with them or is it that the people drop their refuse as they always did and the Tidy Towns workers pick it up after them? That is scarcely the philosophy of the whole Tidy Towns movement.

Of course the vast majority of Maynooth adults would never drop litter on the streets whether the town were competing for a prize or not. But not all categories of citizens are equally careful. There are, at least, from time to time some strong indications that the attitude of some town dwellers has not changed. The fine days of May and the balmy evenings were witness to an enormous amount of refuse, cans, bottles, pizza wrappings, etc. showing a great reluctance to having themselves housed in the various bins around the town. So much so that Marian,

Maynooth's dawn restorer of the town's frequently defaced visage, had sometimes to bring three or four loads of rubbish to the local depot and at other times there was just too much for her to collect. Nice summer weather always increases the likelihood of such happenings.

Leaving certificate results for roughly 60,000 school leavers are about now being determined. I wonder if environmental awareness were to be included as one of the criteria would the grades be noticeably altered! What chance have we of ever influencing climate change for the better if institutes of formation, families, schools, colleges, churches, clubs and other organizations fail to emphasize environmental awareness as one of their highest priorities and how are people to become aware of global warming if they are not keenly aware of their surroundings? "There is a nobility in the duty of care for creation through little daily actions, and it is wonderful how education can bring about real changes in lifestyle"* that will make this world a better and more beautiful experience for all. Many thinkers are indeed convinced that without immediate and serious environmental care there is no future for our magnificent planet. Remember Greta! *(Laudato Si ...)

One duck long and three ducks wide,
She crouched beside the water;
Her gentle wings embraced her brood,
Just doing what they oughter!

By GM.

Useless Quotations?

Tony couldn’t be certain where he had read some lines that stuck in his memory, though most were easier to pin down, lines such as ‘Joan of Arc, what small words they are to tell of a rich world made empty and sad.’ That was the ending of Mark Twain’s ‘A Girl in White Passes through Rouen.’ Other lines such as, ‘But just then the bells began to peal and this is what they said, “Turn again, Whittington, all worthy citizen, Lord Mayor of London” were from stories he had read as a boy in books his mother had bought for him. He could even remember the punch line from an anecdote, which a workman on their farm told about what a frog said to boys who were pelting him with stones, ‘What’s fun to ye is death to me.’ But apart from their curiosity value, was there any use in such fragments? Like it or not, his short-term memory was kaput.

Kathy, his wife, often reminded him of obvious things such as that he had left a tap running or hadn’t turned the TV off before going to bed. ‘You can quote poetry,’ she would observe, ‘but you can’t remember the neighbours’ names, not to mention our anniversary.’ ‘It’s just that I have things on my mind,’ he would counter, ‘not that I don’t have occasional lapses, or as the saying goes, “even Homer nods”.’ ‘There you go again with your learned quotations,’ she shook her head resignedly. ‘Just be careful that you take the right tablets this evening and, most important, remember to turn the gas fire off or we’ll both end up without a roof over our heads.’

‘I remember the first time I laid eyes on you at that dance in Zhivago and I remember you walking down the aisle in your white veil.’ ‘Oh, Tony, you must think me a right nag. It’s just that I worry about you.’ She smiled contritely and he hugged her. ‘I know, pet. From now on I’ll make an effort to be more alert.’ Even as he spoke he was thinking of the end of Patrick Pearse’s story *Eoghainín na nÉan*, Oweneen of the Birds: ‘*Bhí se na mílte míle I gcéin ... ins an tír ina mbíonn sé ina shamhradh I gcomhnaidhe.*’ He was thousands of miles away... in the land where it is summer always.

Surely it was always summer when he and Kathy were first married, before the stress of raising a family and

making ends meet kicked in? His salary as a clerk in the county council wasn’t sufficient to ensure a decent living and Kathy had to go back to her job in the bank, so that they could keep the children dressed properly, as well as taking them on annual holidays. Now the children had their own families to worry about, though, in many ways, times were harder than they had been for him and Kathy. That was progress, two steps forward and three steps back! But at least they were all much better off than those poor refugees fleeing Africa, Iran and – ‘What are you thinking about?’ Kathy began laying out dishes for their evening tea. ‘Oh, just how lucky we are to have a roof over our heads and no shortage of good food.’ ‘Yes, thank God for that. Now, if you can cut up the loaf, I’ll heat some soup.’ ‘Soup again! We’re like our ancestors in the Great Famine,’ he was about to remark, then decided to stay quiet. Kathy mightn’t find the comparison amusing.

Next day, while shopping at the local supermarket, he ran into his friend, Richard. ‘The very person I wanted to meet,’ Richard punched him lightly on the arm. ‘Mick and myself are taking part in the special quiz in Donnelly’s pub this Saturday and we need a third man. Are you up for it?’ ‘You know my memory’s like a sieve,’ Tony protested. ‘That’s not a problem. Mick is good at history and politics and I’m fine for music and sports. It’s the arts questions, especially literature that could trip us up. Now, you’re a dab hand at anything in that area, especially quotations. I can still remember you intoning, “*The strong glare of the Yukon on the white snow –*”’ ‘It was, “*The fierce glare of the Yukon on the immaculate snow.*”’ ‘See, that’s what I mean, you’re word perfect – so what do you say? Come on, Tony. We’ll be like the Three Musketeers, flattening that team from Carrick.’ ‘My short-term memory is wonky but if you and Mick want to risk it...’ ‘Fine! That’s settled then. Saturday at 8pm in Donnelly’s.’

There was a large crowd of men and women in Donnelly’s function room for the quiz, many with drinks in their hands. The Carrick team, which consisted of two very intellectual looking women and a young fellow wearing glasses, got off to an impressive start, though Jim Dockery, the quizmaster, had to caution them twice about ringing their bell and then entering into a further

discussion before answering. Tony didn’t help much, most of the questions drawing a blank in his mind. He was aware of Kathy smiling encouragement but was too embarrassed to meet her eyes. ‘How many GAA senior football finals did Roscommon win?’ the quizmaster asked. Michael and Richard went into a whispered confab, one saying three times and the other two. At last Richard rang the bell and said, ‘Two times.’ It was the correct number, leaving them within striking distance of their rivals. The next question “On what month and year did the Boer War end?” was answered correctly by Michael as May 1902. The following question, ‘Who won the Eurovision Song Contest in 1996?’ had Richard calling out, ‘Eimear Quinn with “The Voice”’. It was the right answer. Both teams were now almost level. ‘*Stately, plump Buck Mulligan came from the stairhead, bearing a bowl of lather...*’ Jim Dockery intoned. Scarcely were the words out of his mouth when, before Tony could ring the bell, one of the women rang theirs and piped up, ‘James Joyce, *Ulysses.*’

Michael looked at him and raised his eyebrows, then shrugged. The next quotation was: ‘It is a far far better thing I do than I have ever done. It is a far far greater rest I go to than I have ever known.’ Immediately Tony rang while exclaiming, ‘Charles Dickens, *A Tale of Two Cities.*’ The two teams were even! It was now down to the decider. ‘*Years hence, in rustic speech, a phrase, As in wild earth a Grecian vase!*’ The quizmaster read out.

Hitting the bell, Tony shouted, ‘Padraic Colum, *A poor Scholar of the Forties.*’ It was the correct answer. The crowd burst into applause and Michael and Richard each took one of Tony’s arms and raised them in the air. Kathy came up then and told him he had been superb. ‘He’s like Frankie Kinlough scoring for Roscommon in the 1944 All Ireland,’ Richard declared. ‘That was a few years before my time,’ she smiled. ‘Though not before mine,’ Tony added ruefully. ‘You know what they say,’ Michael grinned, “The older the fiddle, the sweeter the tune.”

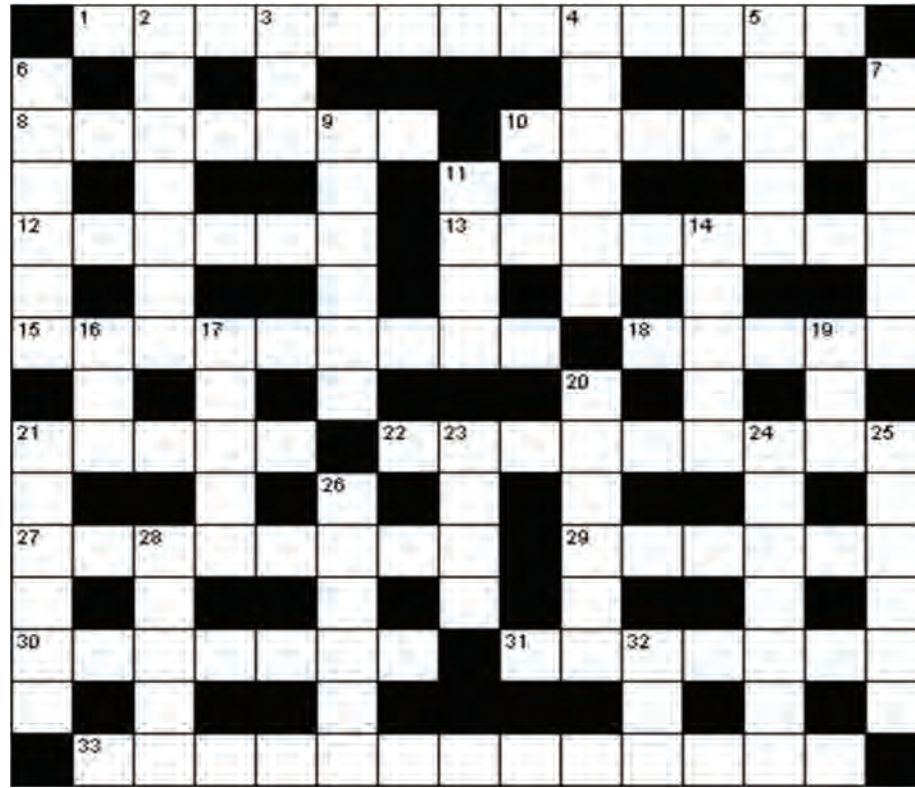
P.G. Nerney

Clues Across

JULY2020 Crossword - No. 492

Clues Down

1. Treat by psychoanalysis (13)
8. Capital of Georgia (7)
10. Cavalry soldier (7)
12. Remember (6)
13. Rain containing industrial pollution (4,4)
15. Something obscene (9)
18. Burning gas (5)
21. Domesticates (5)
22. Loss of a ship (9)
27. Uneasy (8)
29. Experts (6)
30. Adhesive label (7)
31. Protection (7)
33. Donkey (5,2,6)



2. Chooses (7)
3. Study carefully (3)
4. Apprehensive (6)
5. Above (5)
6. Coiffure (6)
7. Son of the sovereign (6)
9. Tiles collectively (6)
11. Diplomacy (4)
14. Sovereign (5)
16. Fur scarf (3)
17. Defraud (5)
19. Family name prefix (3)
20. Bring up to date (6)
21. Shove (6)
23. Silence (4)
24. Expenditure (7)
25. Person who kisses (6)
26. Respectable (6)
28. Steeple (5)
32. In place of (3)



Solutions to Crossword No. 491



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

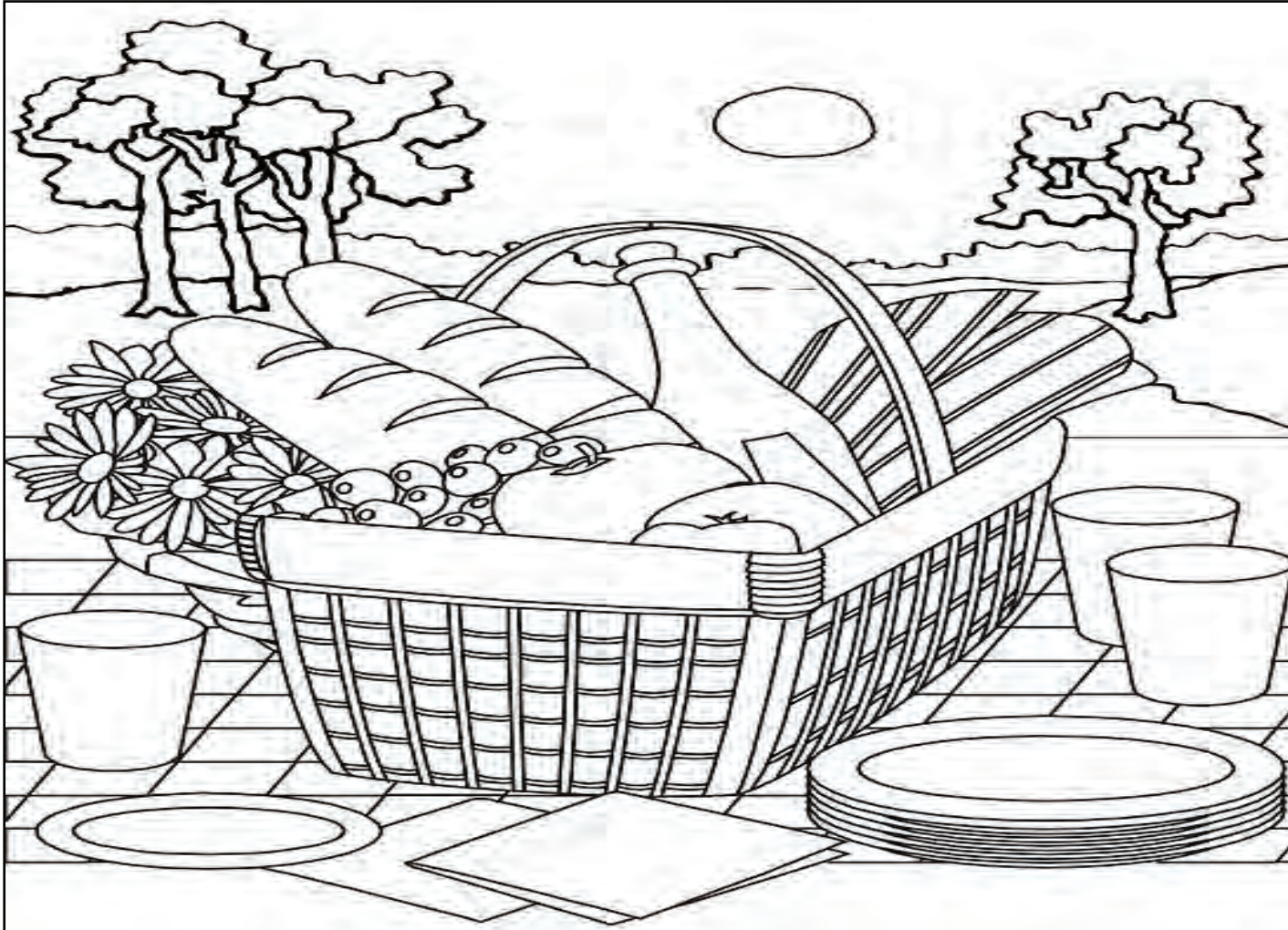
Super Difficult

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

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



Entries for the Colouring Competition have been suspended until further notice



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

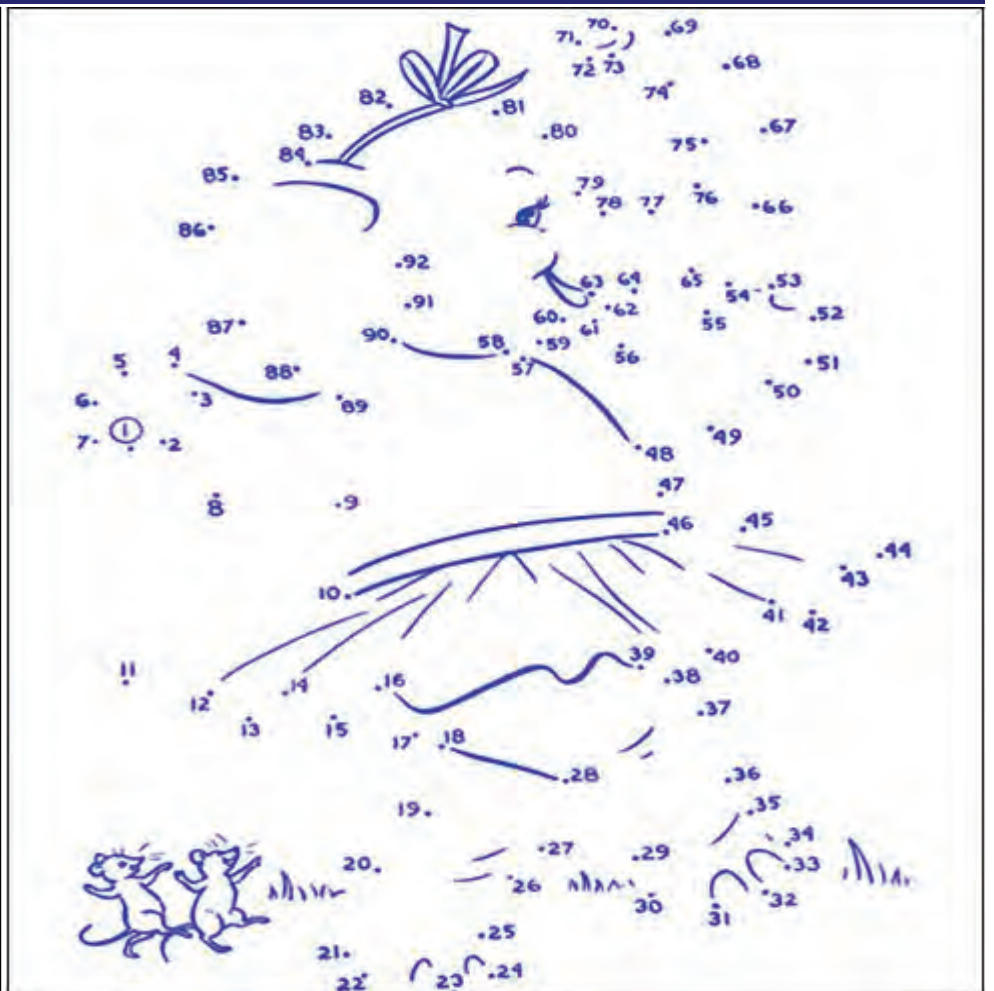
If you have access to a printer and wish to complete the colouring or Puzzles for fun you can print the single page by going to File -> Print and print the single page number only.

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

Junior Puzzle Corner

S	U	M	M	E	R	L	H
C	I	P	O	R	T	N	O
B	S	U	N	B	A	L	L
R	E	L	A	X	E	P	I
T	D	A	Q	S	A	N	D
A	Y	B	C	A	Z	I	A
N	F	U	N	H	R	S	Y

TROPIC
BEACH
SUMMER
HOLIDAY
SAND
BALL
TAN
RELAX
SUN
FUN



Join the Dots and see who this is.

July is an excellent month for bees and as you probably know already, they are essential for beautiful and productive growth in the garden. Planting colourful and fragrant flowers in your garden will attract them. If your compost heap is looking dry, give it a watering. Regularly give fruits, vegetables and flowering plants a liquid feed. Continue to deadhead flowers and weed regularly. Water your hanging baskets and containers daily.



In the Fruit & Veg Garden

More thinning of root crops. By now the thinning's should be large enough to eat. Hurray! Irrigate your plot in the mornings. You want the water to reach a depth of at least 8" Regular watering is important to avoid bolting and split roots and fruits Shade over lettuce, coriander, pak choi, red onions, broccoli and spinach to avoid bolting in warm weather Sow Spring cabbage seeds in your greenhouse Stay vigilant for potato blight Keep carrots covered to protect against the 2nd cycle of carrot fly Keep rows of brassicas covered with garden netting to protect against caterpillars & the cabbage white moth Weed between rows regularly, especially younger crop

Knowing when to lift garlic can be a tricky proposition – harvest them too early and the bulbs will be too small, but harvest too late and the bulbs will begin to lose their quality.



The old rule is to sow garlic before the shortest day of the year (Dec 21) and harvest before the longest (June 21). Some people also do a spring sowing which won't be ready until late July or August.

A good general rule of thumb is to do a test when a third of the leaves on each plant are gone brown. Carefully push back the soil around one plant and have a look at the bulb to check its size. If it's too small, put the soil back around it. Lift all your garlic when a half to two-thirds of the leaves are gone brown.

In the Greenhouse

Water your tomatoes about 3 times a week. Wet the floor to your greenhouse to increase humidity. Keep doors & window vents open during the day. Move potted plants outdoors on warmer days. Position yellow fly traps to prevent pest build-up. Keep an eye on pots & water trays for slugs & snails. Early harvest on cucumbers.



Plant Care

Tie back top heavy roses. Continue to spray, feed and deadhead roses. Cut back herbaceous plants such as geraniums, penstemons & delphiniums. Continue to keep recently planted hedging, trees & shrubs well-watered. Apply a handful of fish blood & bone to base of late flowering herbaceous plants such as asters, astilbes, rubeckia, lupins & echinacea. Plant autumn bulbs such as nerines, cyclamens & lilies.

Lawn Care

This is a quiet time for lawn care. You can feed your lawns or treat with lawn weed, feed & moss killer. Apply dicophar to kill any broadleaf weeds.

If you have been less than vigilant in watering your pots, the compost may have shrunk away slightly from the sides of the pot. Pack this gap with new compost. This will help prevent water run-off and give your plants a new lease of life. Add some slow-release pelleted fertiliser if not already mixed in. Water new and young plants regularly but use water sensibly. Water heavily to encourage deep roots rather than sparingly which will encourage surface rooting. If plants are showing signs of mildew (especially calendulas, courgettes and roses), water well during dry spells. Mulch when the soil is wet. Remove some foliage to improve air circulation. Feed and water container plantings.

Prop up perennials

Stake dahlias and chrysanthus, which are growing well now. Dahlias are best supported in a triangle of canes, with chrysanthus tied to their own cane. Or, with chrysanthus, grow a



whole bed through netting stretched horizontally about 18in (45cm) from the ground. Staking is important as, by the time dahlias and chrysanthemums in particular are at their peak height, autumn wind and rain will be on the way.

If going on holiday, ask a friend or neighbour to pick your flowers, salad and veg in your absence to prevent everything running to seed. Feed roses – do this now, after the first flush of flowers, to encourage more. Use a rose food, or straightforward, well-rotted farmyard manure.

Intersperse rose beds with other plants such as nepetas and salvias to help reduce the spread of disease.

Plum Slate Chippings

Has many qualities making it a great choice of aggregate for gardens & garden design. The first real benefit of plum slate chippings is that the aggregates themselves are flat, making this an ideal surface for walking over. Slate & slate chippings by nature flake away into long flat sections giving the stone its distinct look & shape. Some nice planting combinations for plum slate chippings would include both silver foliage plants & purple flowering plants.

**NATURE SOON TAKES OVER
IF THE GARDENER IS ABSENT**



Nutritious Snacks to make at home

Fruit Smoothie

Fruit smoothie recipes are easy to make, and are perfect for a snack or breakfast. You only need a few ingredients and a blender and you are ready to go! Serves 2



Ingredients:

- 1 cup fruit juice
- 1/2 cup yogurt
- 2 cups frozen fruit
- 1 small banana (optional)

Method:

1. Add all the ingredients to a blender.
2. Blend on high until desired consistency is reached. Add a little more juice or a little more frozen fruit (or ice) as needed to get desired consistency.

Date Bars

Ingredients:

- 250ml water
- 200g stoned dates (chopped)
- 175g plain flour
- 1/2tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 175g soft light brown sugar
- 100g porridge oats
- 175g butter diced

Method:

1. Line a 20cm x 20cm tin with greaseproof paper.
2. Place water and dates in a saucepan and bring to a simmer. Cook for about 10 minutes on low heat until date mixture is soft and thick stirring occasionally. Remove from heat and allow to come to room temperature.
3. Sift flour and bicarbonate of soda into a bowl. Add sugar and oats and mix well. Add the butter and rub in.
4. Press half the oat mixture into base of tin. Spread the date mixture over this and sprinkle/ cover with remainder of oat mixture. Press gently. Bake at 180 C for 40 minutes approx. or until golden brown at the edges and set in the middle.
5. Allow to cool completely then cut into bars. These will keep for up to a week or may be frozen.



Peanut Butter Protein Balls

Ingredients:

- 3/4 cup old fashioned rolled oats
- 1/2 cup all-natural peanut butter
- 2 tablespoons ground flax seeds or ground chia seeds
- 2 tablespoons hemp seeds
- 2 tablespoons honey or maple syrup
- Pinch of fine sea salt

Method:

1. Combine the oats, peanut butter, flax seeds, hemp seeds, honey and sea salt and stir well with a spatula. The dough should stick together without being so sticky it sticks to your hands.
2. If the dough feels too sticky to roll into balls, add 1 more tablespoon flax seeds and stir again. The mixture should hold its shape when pinched between your fingers.
3. Scoop the dough, and then roll them between your hands to form balls. Repeat with the remaining dough placing them on a pan lined with parchment paper as you go.
4. You can serve these straight away or leave in the fridge for an hour to firm up. Once firm transfer them to an airtight container and store at room temperature for 3 days or up to two weeks in a fridge. They may also be frozen for up to 3 months.



Flapjacks

Ingredients:

- 225g /8 oz porridge oats
- 125g /4oz butter or margarine
- 125g /4 oz demerara sugar
- 75g /3 oz golden syrup

Method:

Preheat the oven to 180C /350F Gas 4 . Grease and line an 8in /20cm square tin.

Melt the butter/margarine with sugar and syrup.

Stir in the oats.

Turn into prepared tin. Smooth top and press down well.

Bake for 20 –30 minutes.

Cool for 5 minutes . Cut into fingers.

Leave to cool completely before removing from tin.



Snacks can be healthy! Nutritious choices can also help you feel energised throughout the whole day.

A little bit of meal prep goes a long way, and there are lots of recipes you can make ahead of time so you've got healthy snacks on-the-go.





Cllr. Angela Feeney Maynooth Labour News

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



Supporting Local Businesses as Ireland reopens
Cllr Feeney, at the June MD meeting, requested the Council to consider supporting local cafés and restaurants by allowing them, as a temporary measure, to make appropriate use of public spaces to accommodate customers within current restrictions and guidelines, given the on-going challenges due to COVID-19. Cllr Feeney stated at Council that local businesses are the backbone of our communities, they support us by sponsoring school football teams and all kinds of community activities and they provide jobs. In these unprecedented challenging times they are really under pressure to survive and some are even at risk of closing when the social distancing of 2m or 1m is applied in their premises particularly those that have small premises. So Cllr Feeney suggested to Council that we have to do everything we can to support them, hence her suggestion to use the available public spaces for additional seating.

The Council responded very favourably to support businesses such as cafés, restaurants, pubs, they can now apply for a Section 254 licence and Council has agreed to waive the licence fee, which would normally be €125 per table. It is important to stress that there is a process to be adhered to. The application includes a plan in accordance with steps outlined and the Council will consider each application on its own merits as long as it is accompanied by the required insurance and drawings showing what is proposed. If the application is for a semi-permanent or permanent structure there may be a need for planning permission. The Council is very anxious to support the business community during this exceptionally difficult time but they also have to balance that against public safety and make sure that each proposal that comes in does not interfere with the free flow of pedestrian traffic and does not represent a hazard for those using the footpaths or those with accessibility issues.



Cllr Feeney calls for a review of Disabled Parking Spaces

At the June MD Council meeting, Cllr Feeney submitted a question to the Council asking if it will be carrying out a review of the disabled parking spaces in Maynooth in the near future. What prompted the question from Cllr Feeney was that some parents from the presentation girls national school who have disability badges for their children got in touch saying that there is no disabled parking space for them to use near the school. Granted, there are disabled spots elsewhere on Main Street but not beside the school. Given that the school is in the town, there are 600 pupils, it is a very busy main street with a lot of traffic at that section and add into the mix a parent trying to navigate a wheelchair, so Cllr Feeney put this question to the Council.

The Council stated in its reply that the proposed

public realm urban regeneration development would be looking at all parking in Maynooth town centre, including disabled parking spaces. So Cllr Feeney asks that residents continue to get in touch to bring to her attention any similar issues regarding parking so that they can be included in this review.

Update on the Harbour Field



Following the June MD Council meeting there was an update from the Public Realm Team at the Council on the design for the development of the Harbour Field in Maynooth. This will be a huge 5 Million amenity development for the town. Cllr Feeney and the other MD members at the meeting approved that the design (apologies for quality of photo above taken at the presentation) proceed now to a part 8. This is the opportunity for the public to view the design and to make submissions. Cllr Feeney encourages as many people as possible to have their say. All going well, the Public Realm Team stated that there could be a turning of the sod in 2021.

Cllr Feeney supports the Variation on the County Development Plan

The proposed variation report is a statutory requirement in response to the recent changes in national and regional policy Project Ireland 2040: National Planning Framework (NPF), The Implementation Roadmap for the National Planning Framework and the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA) Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES). The Government's National Planning Framework (NPF) was published in February 2018 and replaces the National Spatial Strategy (NSS). It provides a framework for the future development of Ireland for the period to 2040. At meetings on June 8th and 9th, the Variation was approved 20 votes in favour and 19 votes against.

- It sets out the revised statutory context of NPF and RSES while incorporating Transitional Population Projections set out in NPF Roadmap and RSES, adjusting the Core Strategy to take into account the revised population targets.
- It designates settlements below Key Towns, Self-sustaining Growth Towns, Self-sustaining Towns (Small & Rural) and Villages.
- It addresses climate change through integration of "Climate Resilient Kildare" and the Kildare County Council Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019 – 2024.
- It incorporates policy requirements of NPF and RSES including 30% infill for example.
- It integrates the Metropolitan Area Strategic

Plan (MASP) into the County Development Plan.

Why the Variation is good for Maynooth and why Cllr Feeney supported it.

The Variation provides for a continuous and sustainable level of housing delivery across County Kildare in a manner that will allow for the provision of necessary and adequate levels of social and physical infrastructure. Instead of building more and more housing estates, the Council will identify other social and physical infrastructure needs through the preparation of an infrastructural assessment which will inform the sustainable development of Maynooth into the future, something that has been badly missing all these years.

Maynooth needs a period of absorption. For many years now we have seen nothing but large housing developments in Maynooth without any of the infrastructural or social gains, creating an urban sprawl. We all remember when our town came to a traffic standstill last October and we all agree that this is unsustainable. Yes, we will continue to meet the housing and most importantly the social housing targets set for the town and that is only right in the midst of a housing crisis but we cannot allow it to continue at the excessive rates we've seen to date, putting in huge developments that put further pressure on a town that is bursting at the seams.

This Variation now gives us a chance to catch up – to finish the ring road, get a second train station, to complete the Harbour Field amenity, to build that community hub and get the childcare crisis sorted. We need to create a highly sustainable town plan for a high quality of life fit for the 21st century with enhanced rail and bus links, joined up thinking on cycling and pedestrian routes, primary health care centre, childcare, schools, a Garda Station and most importantly to retain the beautiful and historic character of the town we all love and choose to live in.

What does being a 'Key Town' mean for Maynooth?

Maynooth has been identified in the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy as a key town with the assets and capacity to grow in a sustainable manner while minimising impacts on the receiving environment. Key towns can act as economic drivers and employment centres for the region. The regional policy objectives set down specifically for Maynooth in the RSES include the following:

- Support the continued development of Maynooth, co-ordinated with the delivery of strategic infrastructure including pedestrian and cycle linkages within the town and to the Royal Canal Greenway, DART expansion and road linkages forming part of the Maynooth Outer Orbital Route in a manner which supports future development and population growth and builds on synergies with Maynooth University promoting a knowledge-based economy.
- Support Maynooth as a key town to act as an economic driver for north Kildare and provide for strategic employment at key locations to improve the economic base of the town and provide for an increased number of local jobs.

(Continued on page 25)



Cllr. Angela Feeney Maynooth Labour News

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



(Continued from page 24)

Addressing concerns

- Delivering on Social Housing: Yes, we will continue to meet the housing and most importantly the social housing targets set for the town. Social Housing is not impacted by core strategy figures. All those on the social housing list are already resident in the county; the core strategy is to do with inward migration.
- Population Growth: The Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly population projections have not been given yet and no town is locked into the framework. It is important to emphasise that this was not for consideration for the Variation. The variation is to rebalance population and to put the infrastructure in place first and then the housing estates as opposed to the other way round.
- Zoning: Proposed Variation No. 1 of the Kildare County Development Plan does not affect the development /settlement boundary of any town or village within the County or any land use zonings contained in the plan.
- Local Area Plans: The County Development Plan is due for a full review in early 2021 at which stage consideration will be given to settlement boundaries for towns/villages and submissions regarding land use zoning can be taken into consideration during this process. Land-use zonings for towns which are above the threshold for mandatory Local Area Plans, will be addressed through the specific Local Area Plan.

What not approving the variation would have meant:

The Minister would have intervened and the matter would have passed to the Planning Regulator. Local Area Plans would have been arrested and these are

overdue for Maynooth, we really need them to proceed. The national framework and regional plans are now aligned with economic incentive and grant schemes and there are 4 applications in KCC Celbridge Naas Maynooth Athy they are still eligible for grant, if refused we would not be eligible.

For further information:

<http://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/Planning/DevelopmentPlans/KildareCountyDevelopmentPlan2017-2023/Variation1-KildareCountyDevelopmentPlan2017-2023>

Upcoming Motion at Plenary Council on June 29th

That the Council provide a report of current and upcoming developments in the county that include a crèche as part of an approved planning application and what is required by Council to approve repurposing of a planned crèche facility.

Upcoming Motions and Questions at Maynooth MD July 3rd

That council investigates the possibility of piloting a School Streets Initiative in Maynooth whereby access for vehicles is restricted during drop off and collection times of the school and there is enforcement by the Council of illegal parking on footpaths and cycle lanes.

That council introduces temporary 30km/h zones around primary schools in Maynooth, as is already done for some rural schools in the county?

Question 1:

Can the Council provide an update on the status and timeline for the reinstatement of road markings, namely double yellow lines and stop lines at Lawrence Avenue and Maynooth Park since resurfacing works in 2018.

Question 2:

Can the Council confirm if any additional litter collections and dog-fouling measures have been put in place due to increased numbers in public spaces resulting from COVID-19 restrictions?

Meetings attended by Cllr Feeney

May 28th: KWETB, Audit and Risk Committee (online)

June 5th: Maynooth MD Council Meeting, KCC, Naas

June 8th and 9th: Council Meeting to consider Variation of County Development Plan, Newbridge Town Hall

June 10th: MCC (online)

June 16th: BOM Training Part 1 of 2 (online)

June 23rd: KWETB Board (online)

June 23rd: BOM Training Part 2 of 2 (online)

June 25th: MPPS BOM

June 26th: Strategic Policy Committee Meeting at KCC Chamber Naas

June 29th: Plenary Meeting of Council in Newbridge Town Hall

July 3rd: Maynooth MD Council Meeting in Council Chamber Naas

MU awarded SFI funding to meet challenges of Covid-19 pandemic

Maynooth University academics are leading a range of diverse and innovative projects under the Government's Covid-19 research programme, coordinated by Science Foundation Ireland (SFI).

Announcing €1.4 million in 11 projects this week, the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation, Heather Humphreys, TD, said: "I am delighted to announce this further investment in research and innovation related to COVID-19. These projects will address immediate priorities to assist us with the challenges we face as we seek to reopen our society and economy, and get the country running again."

This week's announcement builds on the investment of €3.5 million across 26 projects in April, under the COVID-19 Rapid Response Research and Innovation programme. Maynooth University projects have received in excess of €600,000 in the two separate Government funding initiatives, to advance scientific expertise on the Covid-19 pandemic and to inform the reopening of society and the economy.

MU SFI Awards announced to date include:

Dr Tim McCarthy in the Department of Computer Science is leading a major project to develop a drone co-ordination and operations centre, and a platform to analyse data to detect where human activities could pose a risk to public health through the spread of COVID-19. The platform for

emergency services aims to support local authorities, organisations and Government agencies to manage general movement and the easing of social distancing restrictions in public spaces.

A project led by Prof Sean Doyle, Biotechnology Programme Coordinator at Maynooth University, will develop two new tests for antibodies against SARS-CoV-2. The project will help to identify who has been exposed to the virus and who may have developed immunity to COVID-19. The tests will also help to find people with high levels of antibodies who can donate them to protect others. The consortium of expertise includes Dr David Fitzpatrick, Dr Rebecca Owens and Dr Ozgur Bayram, at the Department of Biology and the Kathleen Lonsdale Institute for Human Health Research. The Maynooth University led project is in collaboration with the Irish Blood Transfusion Service (IBTS) and National Virus Reference Laboratory (NVRL).

Prof Andrew Parnell will lead a team at the Hamilton Institute to generate computational tools to help Ireland predict the epidemiological (disease-related) and economic consequences of removing interventions during the path to recovery in the COVID-19 pandemic. The project will focus on putting rigorously-tested computational models for medium term forecasting in place that will enable the state to make evidence-based decisions about the impact of relaxing COVID-19 restrictions. The models developed in this project will forecast the likelihood of spatial spread of the disease as travel routes re-open. It will forecast the impact of testing for the virus at borders and of relaxing

interventions of different types at home and abroad. It will also forecast economic recovery by mapping financial indicators from multiple countries. This will support a faster, safer recovery to normality.

Dr Fiona Walsh in the Department of Biology is partnering in a project led by Teagasc and the APC Microbiome Ireland Sequencing Centre to examine the genetic makeup of Covid-19 viruses circulating in Ireland. The research will allow experts to monitor genetic changes in the virus and quickly spot developments that could affect human health, treatment or vaccination against COVID-19.

Minister Humphreys said that the COVID-19 Rapid Response Research and Innovation programme complements existing research work underway in higher education institutions across the country.

The Rapid Response Research, Development and Innovation programme was established by Science Foundation Ireland, Enterprise Ireland, IDA Ireland, the Health Research Board and Irish Research Council.



Kildare Library Service Bringing the Library to Your Door



Kildare Library Service is offering a housebound service for elderly and vulnerable residents of Kildare who are cocooning due to the Covid-19 emergency. From 2nd June, this service will be operated from our 7 main libraries. If you, or someone you know, would benefit from this service, then please contact your nearest main library from the following options:

Athy Library	045 - 980555	athylib@kildarecoco.ie
Celbridge Library	01 - 6272207	celbridgelib@kildarecoco.ie
Kildare Town Library	045 - 520235	kildarelib@kildarecoco.ie
Leixlip Library	01 - 6060050	leixliplib@kildarecoco.ie
Maynooth Library	01 - 6285530	maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie
Naas Library	045 - 879111	naaslib@kildarecoco.ie
Newbridge Library	045 - 906130	newbridgelib@kildarecoco.ie

You can request 5 items from a wide variety of books, audiobooks, large print books and DVDs then a member of the library team will deliver these to your home. When you are finished with the items, the library team will also arrange to collect them and deliver some new selections if you would like them. The library service hopes that engaging with the service will provide some entertainment and help to lighten the days ahead for those who are dealing with challenging and isolating circumstances. It is important to note that this service is available to all cocooning residents in the county, young or old, and you do not have to be an existing member of the library to take part.

Library membership is free to all and there are no overdue fines for library loans.

Online services during Coronavirus

You can join the library online and get eBooks, audiobooks, online magazines and newspapers for free straight away, or even take language and other courses. go to: www.librariesireland.ie/news/online-services-during-coronavirus

Kildare County Council

Press Release

New appointment booking system going live.



To facilitate the needs of customers and comply with public health guidance, Kildare County Council, in advance of reopening its offices to the public on June 29th, has this evening introduced a new appointments system for a wide range of services. While the Council provided services online, by phone, email and post throughout the pandemic, public health measures have required that our offices remain closed to the public since March 27th. Now, as we move through re-opening phases under the Government recovery plan for Covid-19, it is essential that public health is supported through managed customer access at our offices.

We encourage our customers to go online to use our services but if customers need to attend our offices, please note access will be by appointment only at all Council offices. Therefore, to avoid disappointment, customers are urged to make an appointment. Customers can access appointments for a wide range of services as follows:

Online - www.kildarecountycouncil.ie

Phone - 045 980 200

Motor Tax - appointments may be made online or at 045 980 591

Housing Services - appointments are available by phone only at 045 980 200.

Libraries are also accessible by appointment only online or by contacting your local library directly: www.kildare.ie/library/Library/



MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN

#ChangeOurStreets

We are delighted to announce that following the #ChangeOurStreets campaign, Kildare County Council has issued an invitation to Maynooth Cycling Campaign to a briefing on the Transportation Strategic Policy Committee on Friday 26th June. We have confirmed our attendance and would once again like to thank everyone who supported our campaign, in particular politicians from all parties.

AGM

Maynooth Cycling Campaign wishes to announce its Annual General Meeting at 8:00pm on Wednesday 8th July. The AGM had been planned for March but was postponed due to the Covid lockdown. The meeting will be via Zoom - details of how to attend will be published closer to the time.

Election Winner

Who won the general election? After lengthy negotiations between the three parties, Fianna Fáil, Fine Gael and the Green Party have agreed a Programme for Government. At the time of writing, it is unclear if the Programme will be endorsed by all or, if not, what the consequences will be for the country. What is clear is that cycling is the election winner!

Prior to General Election 2020, Maynooth Cycling Campaign as part of Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cycling Advocacy Network, lobbied for the allocation of 10% of transport investment for cycling, prioritising safe routes to school, rebalancing of transport investment from roads to sustainable/active modes of travel, provision of high quality cycling infrastructure and the promotion of E-Bikes. We are delighted that the political parties have included all of them in the proposed Programme for Government. The #Allocate4Cycling campaign had two sides – funding and quality. In many respects, additional funding was the easy part. We anticipate that the battle for higher standards will be more difficult and will take longer to achieve but rest assured, we are here for the long haul.

Booming Bike Shops

One of the features of Covid Times is that bicycle shops are enjoying an unprecedented boom so much so that some have ran out of bicycles to sell and most have delays in carrying out essential maintenance. Due to the risks associated with public transport from the difficulty of physical distancing and the advice of health professionals to walk or cycle where feasible, more and more people are choosing bikes to move around. As this is a worldwide trend even affecting high car dependent countries such as the United States and Australia, it is becoming more difficult to obtain replacement supplies from global traders. Research published by Sport Ireland showed the number of adults cycling regularly to have nearly doubled during the lockdown to over 500,000 people.

Cycling Revivals

We have seen “cycling revivals” before. In the 1930s, there was an increase in cycling but it was as a result of the poverty arising from the Great Depression and petered out with the onset of war. Twenty years on, in the 1950s, there was another revival with an unprecedented number of racing and touring clubs. Many Dubliners would cycle out of the city at weekends to visit the “rural” parts of Ireland. Some resulted in romantic liaisons and one example of which I am aware resulted in the marriage of a farmer in Carbury to a young woman from Dublin. In the 1970s there was a revival due to the Oil Crisis; but when the oil started flowing again the level of cycling declined. In Denmark and the Netherlands, the revival was maintained but these were exceptions to the trend in most countries. In the 2000s, due to congestion there was increased interest in cycling by governments across the globe; but while cycling increased in the larger cities, the level of cycling nationally continued to decline in most western countries. Time will tell if the recent growth in cycling is to be temporary or sustained.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. Further information on meetings and activities is available on our website.

We are affiliated to Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cyclist Advocacy Network and through it to the European Cycling Federation



BRADY'S CLOCKHOUSE

BAR - LOUNGE - RESTAURANT



The Management & Staff of Brady's look forward to welcoming back all our customers from 29th June

Extra precautions have been put in place to protect our Customers & Staff

Partitions are now in place in both our Bar & Lounge for extra safety

Our upstairs Lounge will also be open as required to provide extra seating & toilet facilities

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



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





Local News August 2020

Issue No. 493

Online Version

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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



New Maynooth University Student Centre plans unveiled



New building scheduled to open in 2022 to serve as hub for Maynooth Students' Union, a facility for Students' Clubs & Societies and a centre for activities and events.

Works will soon begin on the new centre for student life on campus in Maynooth. The Student Centre will mark the next phase of Maynooth University's campus development plan, which is aimed at providing the critically important campus buildings and infrastructure needed to meet the changing needs of students, staff and the wider community.

Maynooth Students' Union and Maynooth University have today launched the architectural 3-d model for the new Student Centre <https://youtu.be/JNEpAv9c5RU>. The ambitious plans reflect the dedication of all those involved in this project to deliver a top-class student experience.

The new Student Centre will serve as a home for Maynooth Students' Union (MSU), a home-from-home for students, and a focal point for student life. The new building is scheduled to open in 2022 and construction work is expected to commence later this year. The centre will serve as a hub for MSU, a workspace for students engaged in Clubs & Societies, events and a wider variety of activities that help to create that special sense of belonging which is so important to the Maynooth student experience.

The new 3,700 square metre building will be located in lands acquired by the University in 2016 and is being funded through a student levy. Designed by Scott Tallon Walker Architects—who also designed the University's Library, Iontas and School of Education buildings—the new Student Centre's distinctive architecture will create an iconic destination on campus that is welcoming, vibrant, friendly and inclusive. The Student Centre will be built and operated to the highest sustainability standards, including an innovative 'outdoor living room' under a sustainable canopy, blurring the distinction between indoor and outdoor space and creating a unique space and resource for student life.

MSU President Katie Deegan said: "We cannot wait to see the physical works begin and we will keep the student body updated as the project progresses.

"It has been such a wonderful experience seeing this project come to life.



Our students deserve the best of the best and this building will only help further the sense of community we all love here in Maynooth. MSU looks forward to continuing to work alongside Maynooth University in delivering this fantastic new home for student life on campus."

President of Maynooth University, Prof Philip Nolan, said: "Maynooth University has a deserved reputation for offering an outstanding student experience, a strong sense of community and a rich social and cultural life. I'm delighted to see this ambitious plan take shape today and pay tribute to Maynooth Students' Union for their dedicated work to further enrich student life on campus, in partnership with the University."

Why is the new Student Centre so important for the Student Experience?

A place for inclusivity and warm welcomes

Our welcoming ethos will be at the heart of the new Student Centre. This will be an accessible, varied and communal space that will enable all students, no matter what their background, to have the opportunity to be fully immersed in life on campus.

A place to call your own

With more students than ever before living at home and commuting to campus, our ability to deliver exceptional services and opportunities has never been so important. There will also be many communal areas where students can mix, relax, socialise, study and join in with events and activities.

A place for personal growth

The Student Centre will create places to spend time, meet friends, learn, and relax; somewhere that's clearly separate from other campus buildings. The opportunity to develop interests in student representation and Clubs & Societies throughout college life will be here when needed.

A place to find support

A new home for Elected Officers who provide peer-to-peer support to students on issues relating to their health, wellbeing and academic studies. The MSU Frontdesk will be an approachable and welcoming access point for students in need of help and advice.

A place of partnership and representation

Student representation and partnership is core to MSU's activities. The new Student Centre will provide meeting rooms and a democratic chamber - helping student leaders to best represent the entire Maynooth student population.

A place for social activity

The Student Centre will bring together the MSU Shop, Bar, social and performance spaces and a multi-functional venue. From club or society meetings through to large-scale events, the full range of social needs of students will be catered for.



MAYNOOTH DRESSES

**Maynooth Dresses are Delighted to be Relocating to Maynooth Town.
Unit 3 Fagan's Lane, Maynooth**



To Celebrate our New Shop, Our Summer Sale is Now On!

10% Off all our 2020 Debs Dresses.



Communion Dresses Now Half Price, Reduced to Clear!

Full stock of Communion Shoes and Accessories.

Lovely Range of Boys Suits, Shirts and Dickie Bows!



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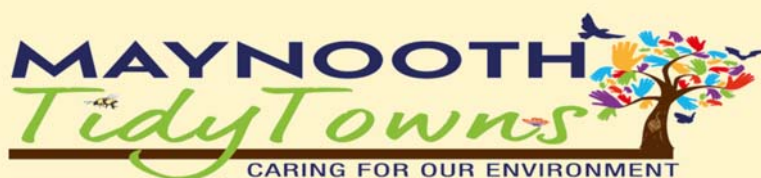


**For All Our Opening Hours
Visit our Website on:**

www.maynoothcommuniondresses.ie also www.maynoothdresses.ie



Deposits Welcome



*Gold Medal
Winner 2019*

In July our volunteers have been very active on Saturday all over Maynooth, watering and litter picking. New finger posts have been placed in church grounds to point the way to the Sensory Garden. We have many wonderful walks around Maynooth and would be obliged if you have a dog to keep it on a leash. Also clean up after it and dispose of in the nearest bin.

Our pollinating insects are in decline one third of our 99 bee species are at risk of extinction. By choosing pollen-rich flowers for your garden, you will help provide much needed food our Bumblebee and other pollinating insects as well as creating a beautiful colourful garden. For more information see www.pollinators.ie.

Learn more about the All Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020 which Maynooth Tidy Towns are part of. Once again when buying plants think Bee-Friendly/Butterfly Friendly plants as this is part of our Pollinating plan for Maynooth this year.

If you wish to volunteer please contact us on 087-3153189 or on Facebook/Twitter

Richard Farrell - PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns



Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee



A lot of progress has been made since last month in terms of businesses opening, however not so good on the club front. While lots of organisations are doing their best to make inroads back to some kind of normality and spread their wings again, apparently as I write, so is the virus. So there lies the challenge for all of us. I told you last month we were keeping our powder dry until our meeting in September, I'm afraid nothing has changed in this regard. Now I know that is not what a lot of people want to hear, but we are very clear about this as we do not believe in fudged lines or mixed messages.

We will continue to monitor the situation and whatever action we take going forward will be in the best interest of all our people. Meanwhile I continue to get great reports about wonderful neighbours and I thank you all for that. To our older people I say, this country has survived, Influenza, Wars and recessions and we'll survive Covid-19. So stay safe, keep calm and enjoy the summer as best you can.

Finally, may I express our sincere sympathy to the families of Kevin Flood, Jo Fay, Betty Shanahan and Noel O'Neill on the very sad passing of their loved ones. Súaimhneas agus Síocháin Dóibh.

Josephine Moore.

EXCITING NEW EDUCATION CENTRE!

North Kildare Further Education and Training Campus

Celbridge FETC (formerly Leixlip VTOS)

**Increase your employment prospects by
upskilling or retraining**

**Enrolling now for 12 week courses
beginning in September 2020**

Courses include:

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Communication Skills,
Collaborating Remotely
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9 month courses in

eBusiness/ General Studies
Business Studies/ Computer Studies
Healthcare Support



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.

Email: celbridgefetc@kwetb.ie

Mobile: 087 397 7750

Web: www.celbridgefetc.ie

Facebook: @CelbridgeVTOS

Unit A11, M4 Business Park, Celbridge



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kwetb
Kildare and Wicklow
Education and Training Board

Maynooth Newsletter

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

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

Letters to the Editor

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

Mission Statement

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Maynooth Newsletter Archives

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

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

Editorial Board - Maynooth Newsletter

Maynooth Newsletter

Copy date for the next edition of the Maynooth Newsletter will be Tuesday 18th August 2020

Editorial

“International Youth Day” gives an opportunity to celebrate and mainstream young peoples’ voices, actions and initiatives, as well as their meaningful, universal and equitable engagement.

The United Nations recognised day is marked on August 12th. The theme of International Youth Day 2020, “Youth Engagement for Global Action” seeks to highlight the ways in which the engagement of young people at the local, national and global levels is enriching national and multilateral institutions and processes, as well as draw lessons on how their representation and engagement in formal institutional politics can be significantly enhanced.



In Maynooth we have one of the youngest populations in Ireland and many younger people here have used their voices on the issues affecting our town.

In March young people from Maynooth Educate Together NS addressed the local area members of Kildare County Council on the things that they felt should be changed in Maynooth. Also in Maynooth young people took part in the “Friday Climate Strikes from school”.

We need to encourage young people to take leading roles in our community – the future depends on them. I know from my own son that young people are as interested as people ever were in the world around them. Talking of leading our community I recently realised that 2020 marks thirty years since I started to get involved as a volunteer in community groups in Maynooth. I know the main reason that I got involved as a volunteer was because of planning issues. Getting estates finished has been an issue for all of these years and some estates remained unfinished for decades.

Even thirty years ago active volunteers were scarce so over the decades I became involved with or started seventeen different groups in Maynooth. I will not list the groups here because of space but they spread from activities around the Arts and Community development, Environmental Care, Local Economic Development and Employment and Education. It has been a privilege to have worked with so many other positive people and while there is no plaque on a wall to acknowledge my work I am not a person that seeks acknowledgement or thanks.

If you are a person who would like to get involved in a positive way in your community I can introduce you to Maynooth based projects.

The Emmy Awards were first awarded in 1949 and are presented in the United States to recognise excellence in various aspects of Television work. Back in February I mentioned here that you should look out for Paul Mescal from Maynooth. If you did not know Paul back then you will certainly have heard of him many times since the TV series “Normal People” which aired in March and has made Paul into a star in many parts of the world.

When the 2020 Emmy Nominations were released in late July it was no surprise that Paul Mescal has been nominated in the category “Outstanding lead actor in a limited series or TV movie”.

I really enjoyed “Normal People” so I hope that he wins.



Paul Croghan
Editor



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The Church of St. Paul/Church of All Saints, Moyglare – historical connections near and far

On yet another trip to another graveyard during lockdown I made a visit to the Church of St. Paul now called the Church of All Saints, Moyglare. Situated in the Barony of Deece Upper, in the civil parish and townland of Moyglare, the Church of Ireland church and graveyard are tucked away in a little enclave just off the Moyglare Road at Anne's Bridge. So, what was the story behind this building and graveyard and who were the people involved?

According to the Archaeological Inventory of County Meath (1987), records show that there has been a church on the site since the 1300s when it was listed for taxation purposes. There are various descriptions of the state of repair of the church from 1600s and that the chancel was in ruins since 1641, a significant year in Irish history. The Church of St. Paul is given c.1870 for the building of present church. However, records in the Irish Architectural Archive and newspaper reports put it at 1866. The Graveyard pre-dates the 1866 church and is a community, multi-denominational burial ground.

Edward McAllister (1836-1866), architect was the person responsible for the design of the Church of St. Paul. He also designed the Geraldine Hall in 1860, a former Church of Ireland School (present day Scouts Hall) which was commissioned by the Duke of Leinster. A proposal dated March 1860 described the project as "Tudor Gothic school house "to be erected" for the Duke of Leinster".

The suggestion of building a new Church at Moyglare also came from the Duke of Leinster. The Church was built by H. Sharpe from Kells at a cost of £1,600 and was project managed by the vicar "who was under no restriction as to costs"... ensuring "the design being met in the most liberal spirit". A report from the Leinster Express noted that George Woods, father of Hans Hamilton Woods immediately responded to the Duke's suggestion and gave £1000 towards its construction. Hans Hamilton Woods (1814-1879) and other Ecclesiastical Commissioners raised the balance.

Edward McAllister had just taken on the project of The Church of St. Paul in 1864 and had the plans drawn up before his untimely death. The Church is described as Early English in style with nave, chancel, robing room to the South and Tower and Spire to the north in white limestone. The windows of the east end are lancet shaped, containing figures of St. Paul (to whom the church is dedicated) with St. Peter and James the Less on either side. The four windows on the West represent the four evangelists over which there is a rose window described as "exquisite in proportion and in the richness of the glass".

These were designed by William Wailes of Newcastle-on-Tyne and were presented by the Misses Woods of Milverton Hall and their father George Woods. The floors of the chancel, aisles, steps, and porch were done in encaustic tiles by Mawe "of most beautiful design". The company was established in 1850 by the Maw brothers, they moved to Shropshire in 1852 and by 1860 encaustic tiles (mock mediaeval) became the height of fashion and the company was the first to use six and more colours. In 1862 a patent mosaic tile was introduced and by the end of the century it was the largest tile factory in the world. They supplied the Royal Family, Alexander II of Russia, Dukes, Earls, hospitals, schools, public buildings, warships, and cathedrals. The Church of St. Paul was in good company.

Consecration of the Church took place on 16 May 1866 by the Lord Bishop of Kilmore, acting for the Bishop of Meath who due to bad health was unable to attend. The Lord Bishop was accompanied by Rev. Robert Staveley, Chaplain and Secretary to the Bishop of Meath. A large body of clergymen and gentlemen from the surrounding area attended the ceremony – Rev. George Blacker Maynooth, Rev. Robert Pakenham Celbridge, Rev. James Hamilton of Ballymacoll, Dunboyne, Mr. Hand Hamilton Woods D.L. Whitestown House, Misses Maunsell, Oakly Park and Mrs Cannon, Moyglare House – to mention a few. After the ceremony all adjourned to the vicarage, where they were received by Mrs. Maunsell and enjoyed an elegant *dejeuner*.

Edward McAllister (1836-1864) was the only son of James, of Dublin and his wife Emilia Chamney. His father later married Christiana (née Hozier) on 17 February 1862. He, like his father appears to have worked for the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. It is recorded that Edward had "already exhibited proofs of considerable ability in his profession". He was admitted as a fellow of the Royal Irish Academy of Architects on 28 June 1864 at the age of 28. Unfortunately, his life was cut short in the same year when he drowned while bathing at Clontarf. He lived at 17 Charlemont Place, Dublin from 1853 until his death. The Leinster Express reported the "lamented the loss" of Edward McAllister and noted "but now that his design has been executed, it can be seen how thoroughly he was imbued with a love of the beautiful, and how completely he realised it in this church."

William Wailes (1808/9-1881) a stained-glass artist and supplier from Newcastle supplied stained glass to Church of Ireland and Roman Catholic churches. He was commended in the newspaper report of the consecration ceremony "Dublin in indebted (to Wailes) for the south transept windows of St. Patrick's Cathedral, and is executed in his best style. Incidentally Wailes also supplied the stained glass for the Church of St. Patrick in Celbridge in 1858.

The Board of Ecclesiastical Commissioners was an agency of Dublin Castle Administration which oversaw the funding, building and repairs to churches of the Church of Ireland. After the disestablishment of the Church of Ireland, responsibility of historic monuments was transferred to the Board of Public Works with remaining functions being taken on by the Land Commission.

Myth and Memory: The History and Story of the Graveyards of Maynooth notes that the names of over 80 headstones in the cemetery have been transcribed and noted in that publication.



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- Leinster Express 26/5/1866
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- <https://www.dia.ie/architects/view/5463/WAILES-WILLIAM%2A%23>
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- <http://www.mawscraftcentre.co.uk/history.php>

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INFORMATION THAT SHOULD BE DISPLAYED IN EVERY HOUSEHOLD IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

WHERE THE MAINS WATER IS COMING IN TO THE HOUSE AND
WHERE THE TAP IS TO TURN THE SUPPLY OFF

WHERE THE TAP /CONNECTION IS TO TURN OFF GAS/OIL OR
WHATEVER HEATING SYSTEM YOU HAVE

BE FAMILIAR WITH ELECTRICAL PANEL AND TRIPSWITCHES. IN
YOUR HOME

ALWAYS HAVE AT HAND PHONE NUMBERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

EMERGENCY SERVICES
PLUMBER
ELECTRICIAN
ALARM PROVIDER

BE AWARE OF YOUR EIRCODE AND KEEP IT HANDY
YOUR EIRCODE CAN BE CHECKED AT [HTTPS://FINDER.EIRCODE.IE](https://finder.eircode.ie)

HAVE A FIRE EXTINGUISHER AT HAND ESPECIALLY IN YOUR
KITCHEN. A FIRE BLANKET IN THE KITCHEN IS ALSO ESSENTIAL

MAKE SURE TO HAVE SMOKE ALARMS ON EACH FLOOR OF YOUR
HOME AND BE SURE TO CHECK IF THEY ARE WORKING AT LEAST
EVERY MONTH.

CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM IS A MUST IN EVERY HOME

Cruithneacht

I mbrionglóid a d'iarr tú orm,
"Cad is cruithneacht ann?"
Agus nuair a dúirt mé,
"Sórt arbhair,"
Ní raibh tú sásta agus dúirt,
"Sea, ach cad is cruithneacht ann?"

Ceart go leor, is crann seasta na beatha é,
Bunbhreosla na sibhialtachta:
Nuair a cheap na sealgairí
Ar a mbia féin a shaothrú
Chuireamar fúinn i gcathracha –
Ach níl ansin ach miniú
Faighte i leabhair nó ar an teilifís;
Seo iarracht eile:
Is í ór an tSamhraidh
Ar uaine na timpeallachta,
Cara díl na mbláth 's na gcócán dearg,
Beathú na luch agus na bpiasún.

Freagra níos fearr uait?
Seo dhuit: Is í deontas bliantúil Dé an arbhair í,
Barr, nár foláir duine a iobairt
Chun a dhóthan a sholathair.
Mar lena theip theip ar a lán.
Mishásta go fóill?
Mar sin: Is í an Dia féin í;
Taispeántas infheicthe na beatha ceilte.
Eithne síor nua
Na beatha gan stad.

Tá loinnir id shúile anois
Mar tá mé gar don fhírinne.
Gach neach a mhair ariamh,
Tusa, mise ár gcáirde.
An t-iliomad gráinní scartha,
Gan fhréamh, gan ghas, gan chrotal,
Gach duine ardaithe lena chara,
Dírthe ar an iothlann mhór,
Le bheith meilte mar phlúr-
A fhadóidh beocht an fhuinnimh
Mar arán síoraí.

Crochann tú do cheann ag rá:
Is leor sin, dom, tamaill!

Dán le Pat Devaney – Leagan Gaeilge
le GM.

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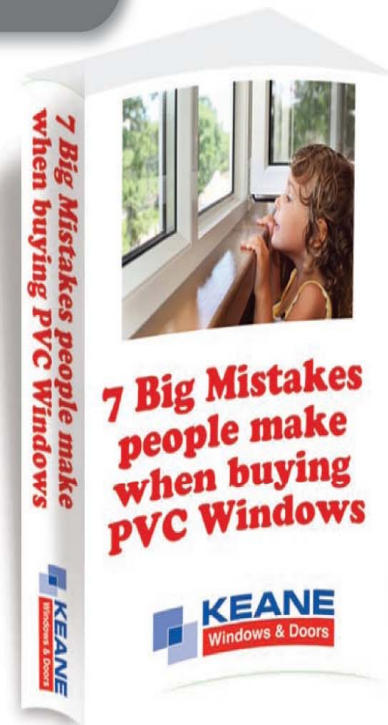
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Saint Vincent de Paul has been assisting people in Maynooth for almost half a century. For many reasons, families and individuals may at some time in their lives find themselves under pressure financially or otherwise. On those occasions, people in Maynooth are encouraged to contact the organisation either at 01 855 0022 or <https://www.svp.ie/get-help.aspx>.



The structure of the organisation in Maynooth is twofold. There is a shop in Greenfields Shopping Centre that functions independently and separately from a visiting conference (branch of SVP) which is comprised of volunteers who meet people in their own homes. There are a wide range of supports we can offer from practical help and advice to a friendly ear. All requests will be followed up by telephone contact within a week, or sooner should an emergency prevail, from a volunteer.

Conference volunteers are trained as confidants. Each volunteer is Garda vetted every three years and can provide identification when they visit a person in his/her home. Be assured that all information shared by clients with a volunteer is maintained in the strictest confidence.

Covid has radically changed peoples' lives since February and it would seem this disruption will continue for another while. In the interest of wellbeing, a telephone call to Saint Vincent de Paul (01 855 0022) may ease the stress people find themselves under. The resources at the conference's disposal have been donated by local people and local businesses with their expressed wish to have these donations distributed within the locality. We would like to thank all our donors for their sustained support as without that support we could not provide the service we do.

Kildare Library Service Bringing the Library to Your Door



Kildare Library Service is offering a housebound service for elderly and vulnerable residents of Kildare who are cocooning due to the Covid-19 emergency. From 2nd June, this service will be operated from our 7 main libraries. If you, or someone you know, would benefit from this service, then please contact your nearest main library from the following options:

Athy Library	045 - 980555	athylib@kildarecoco.ie
Celbridge Library	01 - 6272207	celbridgelib@kildarecoco.ie
Kildare Town Library	045 - 520235	kildarelib@kildarecoco.ie
Leixlip Library	01 - 6060050	leixliplib@kildarecoco.ie
Maynooth Library	01 - 6285530	maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie
Naas Library	045 - 879111	naaslib@kildarecoco.ie
Newbridge Library	045 - 906130	newbridgelib@kildarecoco.ie

You can request 5 items from a wide variety of books, audiobooks, large print books and DVDs then a member of the library team will deliver these to your home. When you are finished with the items, the library team will also arrange to collect them and deliver some new selections if you would like them. The library service hopes that engaging with the service will provide some entertainment and help to lighten the days ahead for those who are dealing with challenging and isolating circumstances. It is important to note that this service is available to all cocooning residents in the county, young or old, and you do not have to be an existing member of the library to take part.

Library membership is free to all and there are no overdue fines for library loans.

Online services during Coronavirus

You can join the library online and get eBooks, audiobooks, online magazines and newspapers for free straight away, or even take language and other courses. go to: www.librariesireland.ie/news/online-services-during-coronavirus

At the recent AGM of Maynooth Cycling Campaign, a new executive committee was announced – the members are Gerry Dornan (Chair), Jonivar Skullerud, Ross Cadogan, Karen Moore, Andy Hagan and Philip Brennan. While we are delighted with the current volunteers, we would be even stronger with a more diverse committee so, in particular, any women who would like to join would be more than welcome. The priorities for the coming year were also specified, namely the provision of high quality cycle facilities on the Celbridge Road and the use of Covid-19 funding.



Kildare County Council Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)

Kildare County Council held its first meeting of the Transport, Safety and Emergency Services SPC on June 26th over 12 months since the previous one. As it was the first meeting since the election of the new Council, the agenda was somewhat limited.

However, not willing to lose an opportunity for progress, Maynooth Cycling Campaign took the opportunity to submit 6 papers for consideration. They are in relation to (1) Cycling Targets for Kildare, (2) Increased time for people at road crossings, (3) Kissing gates, (4) Width of traffic lanes, (5) Speed limits and (6) Kildare Cycle Forum. The objective of submitting them was not that they would be discussed at the last meeting but that there would be meaningful discussions on them at the next.

Covid-19/ #ChangeOurStreets

At the same meeting, Tadhg McDonnell, the Director of Services for Transport, gave an indication of his thinking on the government offer of Covid-19 funding which was designed to support increased walking and cycling. The Director stated that shop owners wanted to retain parking outside their premises although he did not confirm whether that reflected his personal views. While he did not rule out applying for funding, he suggested that the extent of any application would be limited.

Elsewhere in the country, our neighbour Wicklow County Council has been granted €295,000 from the fund. In Clare, Ennis Town has published an update on proposed measures under the heading of “You asked ... We Listened”. In the capital, Dubliners have proposed 2,314 Covid-19 mobility measures and

some commentators think that Dublin City Council are under pressure for the No. 1 spot from Dun Laoghaire Council which has made radical changes to the centre of Blackrock. In order to keep people informed of continuing changes, a number of Councils are using social media. Meanwhile, we await with interest details of the measures proposed by Kildare County Council.



#SafeRoutesToSchool

Since the lockdown, with streets less dominated by high levels of traffic, it is evident that there has been a huge increase in people walking and cycling. In particular, more parents are to be seen cycling with their children.

In September, it is hoped that some will continue to cycle when primary schools reopen. As part of a campaign to promote cycling, Maynooth Cycling proposes to organise a cycle on Sunday 23rd August at 14:30 hours from Maynooth harbour to Kilcock along the Royal Canal Greenway.

We hope that many parents who would like their children to cycle to school will come along!

Progress by KCC

Peter Carey, the Chief Executive of Kildare County Council, recently published his Annual Report 2019 and revealed that a grand total of 1km of cycle track (which by coincidence happened to be in Maynooth) had been provided by the Council last year. In failing to provide for increased cycling (and walking) across the county, the report highlights how the Council is not “Following the Science”.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. Further information on meetings and activities is available on our website.

We are affiliated to Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cyclist Advocacy Network and through it to the European Cycling Federation



ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND

Monday 20th July was a special day for St. Mary's Band as it marked the first occasion for the Band to play together since 9th March. Due to the coronavirus restrictions rehearsals in the Band Hall were out of bounds but towards the end of June we managed to resume with small groups of four which helped the members to get back playing while strictly observing all the recommended instructions.

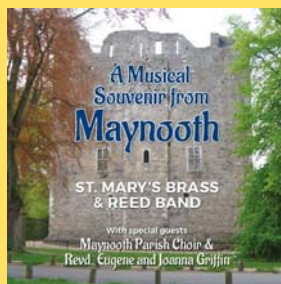


Thanks to the generosity of Maynooth University the full Band was able to get together at the Bandstand area beside the Phoenix Building on the North Campus and went through over an hour of music that we had not seen for a long time. Again social distancing, hand sanitizing, etc. was strictly observed as you will see from the photo alongside and we hope to continue these outdoor rehearsals for as long as lighting conditions will allow and until social distancing is reduced so that we can get back to playing in safety in our Band Hall. We hope to organise a recital in the area of the Harbour Field on a weekend during the month of

August, weather again permitting so keep an eye on our Facebook Page for further details.

Our second CD, recorded at the end of November last year, is now on sale in The Maynooth Bookshop Main Street, Donovan's Londis in Greenfield and in The Maynooth Newsletter in Carton Park and is very good value at just €10. We are joined once on this CD by the Parish Choir and we were very happy to have our good friends Rev. Eugene Griffin and his wife Joanna join us on this occasion.

All proceeds from this CD will be going towards the travel costs of our trip to the Bad Orb International Music Festival in Germany in September 2021. This event was due to happen in September of this year but unfortunately it was another casualty of the coronavirus but hopefully all will be well in time for the 2021 event. CD sales are beginning to take off already with some winging their way to Kansas City USA, Belgium and even Cobh in Cork. **Please feel free to contact 087 2537 906 if you are unable to obtain a copy and we will arrange to get it to you.**



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ESSENTIAL OILS

Essential oils are extracted from plants to capture their flavours, scents and overall beneficial properties. They make for a great addition to your skin, hair, and healthcare collection.


When applying oils topically, always use a carrier oil. These are oils used to dilute essential oils, like coconut or jojoba oil. Always do a patch test before applying anything to larger areas of your skin. Many essential oils are toxic and shouldn't be taken by mouth unless under the specific care of a healthcare professional.

Types of Essential Oils

Lavender

This incredibly popular oil has all kinds of benefits. This subtly floral scent can help people to relax and sleep. Moreover, breathing it in has been found to help with alleviating headaches, while the use of the oil topically may help reduce the itching and swelling from bug bites.

Safety: There are a few known side effects. These include nausea, headaches, chills, and vomiting. It can also irritate the skin if you have an intolerance.



Rose

When the sweet, floral scent of rose oil is inhaled, it's been shown to help reduce anxiety. Its antioxidant properties have also been found to help treat acne and improve complexion for an overall younger look.

Safety: Skin irritation can occur when used topically, so make sure to use more of the carrier oil if you want to reap the skin care benefits of rose oil.

Frankincense


The aroma of this one may smell like the holiday season to you, but it also has all kinds of astringent, digestive, antiseptic, and disinfectant properties. It may prevent oral issues like bad breath, toothaches, cavities and mouth sores, and one even suggests it can help improve skin health.

Safety: Aside from potential skin sensitivity, users can rest easy knowing there aren't any major side effects from using frankincense.

Cedarwood

Earthy and naturally woody-smelling, cedarwood is used for a number of topical beauty treatments. Studies have shown that these benefits include fighting acne, treating eczema and reducing dandruff. On top of all this, it also allegedly helps to reduce arthritis and relieve coughing.

Safety: It's important to note that none of these benefits comes from ingesting the oil. It's not safe to consume cedarwood oil and if done so can result in vomiting, nausea, thirst and damage to the digestive system.



Basil oil

The essential oil extracted from basil has many topical and internal benefits. It's been known to be both antiviral and anti-inflammatory, so it could work as a cold and flu remedy and muscle relaxer.

It's also been found to treat acne and one older study even found that it worked as a way to reduce stress. You can also add it to hair treatments to get rid of build-up and enhance shine.

Safety: If you're pregnant or breastfeeding, speak with your doctor before using basil oil.

Lemon


This citrusy oil is loaded with antioxidants that can help reduce inflammation, fight against anaemia, boost energy levels and relieve nausea.

Safety: You can use it on your skin to nourish it, but remember: Because it's incredibly photosensitive, you should only use it at night and wash it off in the morning. Don't expose skin to sunlight when using lemon oil topically.

Remember that essential oils must be diluted in a carrier oil before applying to the skin. Do not swallow essential oils. Some are toxic.

Essential oils can lift your mood and make you feel good with just a whiff of their fragrance. For some people they may even help alleviate the symptoms of various conditions. For more information on how to incorporate them into a healthy lifestyle, consult an expert.

Source: [healthline.com](https://www.healthline.com)



Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

Planning Applications received from 30/06/2020 to 29/07/2020 Information from Kildare County Council Website

App Num	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	App Date
20796	Kildare County Council	Kilpatch Limited,	Kilmacredock Upper, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	21/07/2020
20795	Kildare County Council	Theresa Maughan,	Acres of Fun Playschool, Taghadoe, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	21/07/2020
20791	Kildare County Council	Cairn Home Properties Limited,	Mariavilla, Moyglare Road and Dunboyne Road, Maynooth,Co. Kildare.	20/07/2020
20749	Kildare County Council	Gourmet Frites (Ireland) Ltd. t/a Bram's Gourmet Frites	Circle K, Carton Hall Service Station, Straffan Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 V489	14/07/2020
20722	Kildare County Council	Maynooth University	North Campus, Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	07/07/2020
20721	Kildare County Council	Rodisca Turcanu,	Tudor House, House Between 345-346a Old Greenfield, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	07/07/2020

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.

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.

NATIONAL HERITAGE WEEK

An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council



Kildare County Council
Comhairle Contae Chill Dara

Heritage Week 2020 will take place from 15th- 23rd of August 2020

This year's exciting theme will be 'Heritage and Education: Learning from our Heritage'.

With ongoing restrictions on social gatherings due to COVID-19 this year, we're not calling for events, instead, we're inviting you to organise a project that explores a topic associated with this year's theme – 'Heritage and Education: Learning from our Heritage'.

To help you think about what aspect of heritage you might want to explore under the theme of 'Heritage and Education', we have developed three broad sub-themes which can be considered for projects.

In May 2019, Kildare County Council adopted the County Kildare Heritage Plan 2019 - 2025.

The plan was prepared by the Council and County Kildare Heritage Forum with support from the Heritage Council.

The tour beginning at Castletown House, the 18th Century stately home of Speaker William Conolly, will lead you in their footsteps as you explore one of Ireland's most architecturally beautiful towns.

Visit <http://www.abartaheritage.ie/product/celbridge-heritage-trail-audio-guide/> to download your free audio guide.



Kildare is a County that boasts a rich architectural heritage spanning many centuries. Through out the county there are many building types represented, some of which are unique to the county. This built heritage takes the form large estate houses, vernacular heritage such as thatched cottages, industrial related structures such as the Grand and Royal canals, bridges, mill buildings and warehouses.

Protected Structures

A protected structure is a structure that a planning authority considers to be of special interest from an architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social, or technical point of view. Every planning authority is obliged to have a Record of Protected Structures (RPS) that includes structures of special interest in its functional area and into which details of protected structures are entered. The RPS forms part of the **Development Plan**.

National Inventory of Architectural Heritage

The purpose of the NIAH is to identify, record, and evaluate the post-1700 architectural heritage of Ireland, uniformly and consistently as an aid in the protection and conservation of the built heritage. NIAH surveys provide the basis for the recommendations of the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to the planning authorities for the inclusion of particular structures in their Record of Protected Structures (RPS).

County Kildare Audio Guides lead you through the stories and personalities that have helped to shape the county. Kildare history stretches back through millennia. Overlooking the Curragh to the south-east stands Dun Ailinne, the seasonal home for a series of ancient Leinster Kings, and the legendary band of ancient warriors, the Fianna, hunted over the plains of the Curragh. It is with the arrival of a devout woman that this area became famous throughout Ireland and throughout the Christian world.



Celbridge Town Heritage Trail

Straddling the River Liffey Celbridge is home to a host of interesting stories and historic buildings and has connections with an array of significant figures from the past. The Celbridge Heritage Trail tells the story of Celbridge's associations with some of these figures such as Arthur Guinness, Jonathan Swift, William Conolly and Henry Grattan.

Maynooth University (Heritage Week)

Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Heritage on Campus

Maynooth University Library is delighted to celebrate Heritage Week with lunchtime talks over three days (18-20 August).

This will introduce people to the history of St. Patrick's College Maynooth, the College Chapel the gardens and the grounds.

This half hour talk will be on Zoom, commencing at 13:00, and followed by 20 minutes for questions.

Date and Time

Tue, 18 August 2020

13:00 - 14:00

Tour of Maynooth College Chapel by

Dr. John-Paul Sheridan

About this Event

Dr. John-Paul Sheridan, a lecturer at Maynooth College will take you on a tour of the iconic nineteenth College Chapel from the history of its foundation to the architecture and the decoration.

This half hour talk will be on Zoom, commencing at 13:00, and followed by 20 minutes for questions.

Maynooth University Library is delighted to celebrate Heritage Week with lunchtime talks over three days (18-20 August), which will introduce people to the history of St. Patrick's College Maynooth, the College Chapel and the gardens and grounds.

Date and Time

Thu, 20 August 2020

13:00 - 14:00



A Catholic College for a Catholic People

About this Event

Pat Watson will look at the background to the foundation of the College in 1795, its varied architectural styles and some of the more colourful stories of people and traditions associated with the College.

This half hour talk will be on Zoom, commencing at 13:00, and followed by 20 minutes for questions.

Maynooth University Library is delighted to celebrate Heritage Week with lunchtime talks over three days (18-20 August), which will introduce people to the history of St. Patrick's College Maynooth, the College Chapel and the gardens and grounds.

Date and Time

Wed, 19 August 2020

13:00 - 14:00

Beekeeping Live! - North Kildare Beekeepers' Association

The North Kildare Beekeepers' Association will be helping the public to experience beekeeping like never before! Streamed live on Facebook, Beekeepers will demonstrate the equipment and construction of a beehive before lifting the lid on the mysterious world of bees. As we go through the hives live comments will be available to ask questions of the beekeeper there and then. A follow-up event will include a pollinator walk around a heritage garden by pollinator experts providing guidance. Helping you to identify the bees and other pollinators in your garden as well as providing guidance on bee friendly planting.

Further Information

E-mail: pro@nkbka.com

A short guided walk of Medieval Kildare

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Further Information

Phone: 045 530672

Email: info@kildareheritage.com

Please check National Heritage Week Site for further events & information

<https://www.heritageweek.ie/>

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

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Increase in Sustainable Transport Funding for Kildare

Figures released to Social Democrats Co-Leader Catherine Murphy T.D. revealed an increase in funding for sustainable transport projects in Kildare for 2020.

Funding of up to €2.2m has been agreed to transfer from the National Transport Authority to Kildare County Council exclusively for the implementation of sustainable transport. Projects that received funding include a number of cycle networks, bus corridors and footbridges.

Commenting on the funding allocations Catherine Murphy said:

“The funding is very welcome however it should not be overlooked that the County has been enormously underfunded in the area of sustainable transport. If we look back to 2019 we received just €750k. The habits of people are changing in relation to how they travel and commute. The pandemic may have accelerated that and the funding needs to catch up in order to facilitate that change.

“If the infrastructures are there they will be used. We must ensure that the priority is with the person and not the car in terms of travel.”

Social Democrats Councillor Bill Clear added:

“Spending should take a strategic approach which results in people being able to mix their modes of transport linking cycling and walking to public transport.

“I recently engaged the NTA regarding the cycling and walking strategies for the county, a process is now underway between the NTA and Kildare County Council on how best to provide councillors with a full briefing on the walking and cycling strategy for Kildare.”

The NTA collaborates with all local authorities, including Kildare County Council, on delivering projects within the Sustainable Transport Measures Grant Programme within the Greater Dublin Area.

An overview of the Programme, together with Annual Reports for each year of the programme, are published on <https://www.nationaltransport.ie/transport-investment/sustainable-transport-measures-grant/> These reports include expenditure against each individual project funded for that year.

Maynooth is included in the latest round of LIHAF funding

For Written Answer on : 15/07/2020

Question Number(s): 94 Question Reference(s): 16183/20

Department: Housing, Planning and Local Government

Asked by: Catherine Murphy T.D.

QUESTION

To ask the Minister for Housing; Planning and Local Government the original cost of each project, grant aid and projected output for each project in respect of LIHAF; the revisions to same; the date of each; the amount of grant aid paid out to each project; the delivery of housing units per project to date; the discount given to each purchaser for each of the past four years to date in 2020; the number of Departmental officials by grade working on LIHAF in each of the past four years to date; the details of staff that have left the section over that time in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

REPLY

As an initiative of the Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness, the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund (LIHAF) is primarily designed to fund the provision of public off-site infrastructure to relieve critical infrastructure blockages and enable housing developments to be built on key sites at scale.

In 2018, 30 projects received final LIHAF approval with an overall budget of €195.7m, of which €146.8m will be Exchequer funded, with the remainder funded via local authorities. Of the 30 projects, Kildare County Council has confirmed that its project on the Naas Inner Relief Road will not now progress, although the Council has confirmed that an element of the housing delivery that was associated with the project has taken place.

Details of the project approvals by local authority area, budget allocation, project description and projected housing delivery associated with the funded infrastructure are available at www.rebuildingireland.ie/LIHAF.

Initial funding was based on estimated costs at the time of application. Following site investigations planning processes, detailed design and the procurement processes, additional Exchequer funding has been approved for a number of projects detailed in the table below to support the final costs of these projects. In all cases increased funding has been matched by increased levels of funding provided by the local authority and/or developer in question.

Local Authority	Project Name	Supplementary Funding €
Cork City	Old Whitechurch Road	824,000
Fingal	Oldtown Mooretown	333,000
Fingal	Baldoyle Stapolin	2,000,000
Kilkenny	Western Environs	1,475,532

Currently, 3 LIHAF projects have completed infrastructure construction. Of the remaining 26, up to the end of June (and excluding the discontinued Naas project), 14 projects have been approved to go to, or are already at, infrastructure construction stage.

Of the remaining 12 projects, 1 is expected to have tender approval and commence construction before the end of Q4 2020. Eleven local authorities have indicated they are not yet ready to go to infrastructure tender stage which is required in order to receive approval to proceed to construction. My Department is reviewing these projects and considering requests from local authorities for extensions to the funding agreements as and when they arise.

The table below details LIHAF projects that have received a time extension:

Local Authority	Project name	Time Extension
Cork County	Midleton (Water-Rock)	to Q2 2023
Cork City	Glanmire	to Q2 2021
Meath	Ratoath	to Q3 2022
Meath	Farganstown	to Q4 2023

In terms of LIHAF funding drawdown, thus far, the actions by local authorities on most infrastructure projects have been concentrated in the design, planning and procurement stages, and the bulk of expenditure will arise during the construction phase.

This is reflected in the level of expenditure to end June 2020, with approximately €39.285 million in Exchequer funds drawn down, matched by a further 25% local authority funding, bringing the total expenditure to €52.380m.

The table below details the exchequer funding drawn down, broken down by local authority, up to end of June 2020.

Local Authority	Project name	Drawdown of LIHAF funding Exchequer Contribution to end of June 2020 (€)
Clare	Claureen, Ennis	157,919
Cork City	Old Whitechurch Road	5,522,959
Cork City	South Docks	714,798
Cork City	Glanmire	490,751
Cork County	Midleton (Water-rock)	358,044
Cork County	Carrigaline	450,000
Dublin City	Dodder Bridge	473,487
Dublin City	Belmayne and Clongriffin	325,710
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown	Cherrywood	2,738,281
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown	Woodbrook Shanganagh	0
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown	Clay Farm	0
Fingal	Donabate Distributor Road	10,780,000
Fingal	Oldtown Mooretown	2,724,266
Fingal	Baldoyle Stapolin	274,561
Kildare	Naas	470,190
Kildare	Maynooth	390,556
Kildare	Sallins	654,584
Kilkenny	Ferrybank	225,435
Kilkenny	Western Environs	4,267,655
Limerick	Mungret	2,010,471
Louth	Newtown Drogheda	88,577
Louth	Mount Avenue Dundalk	172,945
Meath	Ratoath	814,063
Meath	Farganstown, Navan	1,953,988
South Dublin	Kilcarbery/ Corkagh Grange	818,081
South Dublin	Clonburris SDZ	23,658
South Dublin	Adamstown	753,735
Waterford City and County Council	Gracedieu	112,234
Waterford City and County Council	Kilbarry	1,435,797
Westmeath	Brawny Road, Athlone	82,500

(Continued on page 15)



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

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(Continued from page 14)

In terms of the delivery of homes associated with LIHAF infrastructure projects, the table below details the number of completed homes up to Q4 2019. Figures in respect of Q1 2020 are currently being collated. Prior to the onset of the COVID-19 emergency, local authorities had estimated that a further 4,000 homes would be delivered in 2020. It is not yet clear what impact the pandemic will have on LIHAF delivery. The individual sales price of each home delivered following the construction of the LIHAF facilitating infrastructure is not available in my Department.

Local Authority	Project Name	Residential Units	Social/Part V	Cost Reduced/
Cork County	Carrigaline	180	0	0
Fingal	Oldtown/Mooretown	379	8	211
Kildare	Naas	190	15	150
Meath	Ratoath	106	2	10
South Dublin	Adamstown SDZ	1,202	120	459
Cork City	Glanmire	13	0	3
Fingal	Donabate	66	0	66
Limerick	Mungret	26	0	26
	Total	2,162	145	925

LIHAF has been administered within the Capital Infrastructure Unit of my Department since March 2019. It was previously managed under the Planning Programme Management Office section. Staff allocated to work on LIHAF also have other responsibilities beyond the management of the LIHAF programme alone.

Design funds secured for Irish rail expansion
The European Union has awarded a grant worth €8.8m (£8m) for design work to expand the Dublin Area Rapid Transit (Dart) network.

Catherine Murphy TD is delighted that The European Commission has confirmed the award of the funding for the design phase of the upgrade of the Kildare Line, which is part of the Irish government’s Dart Expansion project. The investment was secured under the EU's Connecting Europe Facility (CEF).

I am delighted that the Kildare Line Design phase of Dart Expansion is being supported by the Connecting Europe Facility.

The Dart Expansion is set to double the capacity of our rail network and will facilitate an important reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and a shift towards a climate resilient society.

For the Kildare line, the project will facilitate more services, greater capacity and electrification, as well as enhancing the infrastructure into Heuston Station - one of the busiest rail corridors in the country.”

Our current rail system in Dublin is approaching capacity, and without investment, will leave the railway struggling to accommodate the population growth projected for the region. Jim Meade, chief executive of Iarnród Éireann, said: “The Dart Expansion project will ensure the communities we serve - both on the Kildare line and nationally - will gain from better rail services, and a more sustainable future. The support for this Design phase continues the support we have seen over decades from the European Union for the development of rail infrastructure and services in Ireland.”

Reply from NTA dated 17/07/2020 to Catherine Murphy, T.D. in relation to Parliamentary Question No. 196

Table setting out details of the funding provided by the NTA to Kildare County Council in 2018 and 2019 in respect of sustainable transport projects

Project No	Project Name	2018	2019
KCC/12/0032	North South Corridor Scheme - Maynooth (including Footbridge)	€850,591	€219,172
KCC/12/0035	Dublin Road Corridor improvements - Naas	€18,922	€22,929
KCC/13/0008	Royal Canal Cycling (FCC border to Maynooth) including Railway -Canal - University Corridor Development	€88,396	€267,528
KCC/14/0001	GDA Cycle Network Design in Naas - completion of design contracts for three routes	€3,747	€6,734
KCC/14/0005	Footpath Caragh Village	€22,500	€0
KCC/14/0013	Castledermot - Footpath	€35,038	€0
KCC/15/0001	Bus Shelter Improvement Works	€32,338	€0
KCC/16/0003	Celbridge Road – Maynooth	€48,728	€0
KCC/16/0010	Footpath Construction- Brownstown	€54,993	€0
KCC/17/0006	Access Controlled Secure Bicycle Parking Scheme	€18,450	€13,668
KCC/17/0004	Kildangan Bridge Signalised Pedestrian Facility		€11,198
KCC/17/0005	Easton Road Green Lane Cycletrack, Leixlip		€186,909
KCC/19/0002	Bus Shelter Enabling Works 2019		€23,480
Total		€1,173,703	€751,618

Details of Allocations which the NTA agreed to provide to Kildare Co. Council in 2020 – sustainable transport projects

Project Code	Project Name	20120 Allocation
KCC/12/0032	North South Corridor Scheme - Maynooth (inc Footbridge)	€200,000
KCC/13/0008	Royal Canal Greenway (Maynooth to Fingal)	€750,000
KCC/14/0001	GDA Cycle Network Design	€10,000
KCC/17/0004	Kildangan Bridge Shuttle & Pedestrian Facility	€450,000
KCC/17/0005	Easton Road Leixlip - (Green Lane) Scoil Eoin Phóil	€100,000
KCC/20/0001	GDA Cycle network Design in Naas (Sallins)	€100,000
KCC/20/0002	GDA Cycle network Design in Naas (Kilcullen)	€100,000
KCC/20/0003	GDA Cycle network Design in Kill	€40,000
KCC/20/0004	Cycle Network & Parking	€100,000
KCC/20/0005	Celbridge Bridge	€100,000
KCC/20/0006	Naas and Newbridge Bus Priority	€300,000
Total		€2,250,000

Bug-Free Patio Area

When relaxing in the garden or entertaining friends or family there is nothing worse than flies and wasps swarming around your drinks and food.

Here are a few simple ways to keep your patio area bug-free.

Plant some pest-repelling plants listed below:
Basil: flies, mosquitoes
Catnip: mosquitoes, ticks, flies, cockroaches
Chrysanthemums: roaches, ants, ticks, fleas, bedbugs
Lavender: moths, fleas, flies, mosquitoes
Sage & Rosemary smells good to us but it helps repel insects.
Marigolds don’t deter honeybees, but they do repel wasps.

Marigolds are effective at deterring some other pest insects as well. Lemongrass plants are effective in deterring wasps also.

Use Bug Lanterns and Candles –Place bug lanterns and candles a short distance away from your patio. Insects are attracted to the light from bug lanterns and will be zapped before they can reach you. Smoke from citronella candles will also deter bugs while adding a pleasant ambiance to your backyard. Use can also use scented essential oil candles.



Use food covers & cover your drink when not in use.

You can also make your own bug repellent and use indoors or outside.
You will need the following:
Jar

Water
Lemons & Limes
Essential Oils
Floating tealight candles
Remove the lid on the jar
slice the lemons and limes.
Fill the jar three quarters with water and add 2 slices of lemon and 2 slices of lime.
Add some rosemary and 10 drops of each oil e.g. lavender, lemon & cedarwood.

Float the candle on top and light it and it will release the aroma of the oils.

Place on the table near where you will be seating and it will keep the bugs away.



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Homemade Cleaner To Remove Grime Build-Up And Foot Marks From Leather Sandals

So, if you want to remove those ugly toe prints from your favourite pair of leather sandals, you can easily follow the next steps:

You need:

- ☐ carpet cleaner
- ☐ toothbrush
- ☐ damp sponge
- ☐ paper towels



Proceed with the cleaning method:

Plain and simple! Apply the carpet cleaner on the toe and heel stains, and then start rubbing it gently using an old toothbrush. From time to time, dab the area with paper towels to remove the dirt. Proceed with the rubbing, until the stains are removed. You can test this by dabbing with paper towels: if the paper towel turns black it means that you have to continue rubbing the soles because it still has dirt particles.

The last step is to rinse the carpet cleaner using a damped sponge. Don't forget to rinse the sponge frequently.

Allow the sandals to dry outside in fresh air.

3 quick solutions to get rid of grease and oil stains out of clothes

1. Use baking soda, starch, flour or talcum powder. Apply the powder directly over the stain and leave it on for 5-10 minutes to absorb the fat. Remove remaining powder with a brush or simply shake the material. Apply a little stain removing liquid detergent on the same area and let it act for another 5 minutes. Rinse thoroughly with warm water. If the stain has not disappeared completely, repeat the process.

2. If you have white chalk in your house, use it with confidence. Use chalk to cover all the stained area and leave it on for at least 5 minutes. After that, put the stained material directly into the washing machine. You can use this trick to get rid of the most common dirt stains from clothing (such as those in the elbows, wrists and collar).

3. Apply dishwashing detergent directly on the stain. If you use coloured dishwashing detergent, be sure to dilute it with water before applying it on the fabric. Leave the detergent to act for 2-3 minutes and rub the stained area with a brush. Prepare a mixture of two-thirds water and one-third vinegar and rinse the fabric with this solution. Finally, put the stained fabric in the washing machine.



Homemade fabric softener

Made from all-natural ingredients, this eco-friendly fabric softener helps fluff and freshen your clothes without artificial fragrances or ingredients. Vinegar is a natural softening agent, making it the perfect base for this homemade DIY. The addition of an essential oil, such as lavender, orange, lemon or mint, which are antibacterial, keeps your clothes wonderfully clean and smelling fantastic. And, what's even better, this laundry booster only costs a few Euros to make. Ingredients needed: large jar or container with lid, 16 ounces distilled white vinegar, essential oil, fresh herbs. Mix all ingredients and pour the resulted liquid in a large jar. Your fabric softener is now ready to use!



Homemade furniture polish

Here is a nice homemade furniture polish recipe. Try it and your furniture will shine like new.

If you've got wood furniture that needs a bit of buffing, then instead of reaching for that sticky stuff in the spray bottle, make your own homemade furniture polish with ingredients you probably have in your pantry.

It's like making a special salad dressing for your beloved wood furnishings.

This helpful concoction cleans while nourishing tables and chairs, and it doesn't include waxy ingredients that create unwanted build-up.

Ingredients needed: 3/4 cup olive oil, 1/4 cup distilled white vinegar, 1 teaspoon lemon juice, measuring cup and funnel, small plastic container. Mix all ingredients and pour the resulted liquid in a plastic container. Your homemade polish is now ready for some action!



How To Remove Rust, Limescale And Soap Scum From Bathtub In Minutes

Hey! Are you dealing with hard water stains and soap scums on your bathtub? This sounds like an A.S.A.P. cleaning solution! We all know that the acid found in vinegar and lemon is the best lime scale and soap scum dissolvent, but these solutions are a bit overrated, since I discovered the same effects in grapefruit, only that this fruit will leave a pleasant fragrance behind.

So, if you want to quit the pungent smell of vinegar when cleaning the bathroom, you may wisely replace it with grapefruit.

And as a bonus tip it can remove the rust from a cast iron bathtub in minutes. As for me, I was super-excited to try the grapefruit trick to clean the hard water deposits on my bathtub.

You need:

- 1 large grapefruit
- 1/4 cup of coarse salt

How to proceed with the cleaning process:

Well, take the grapefruit and cut it in half. It will be enough to clean the entire bath not only the calcareous and rusty tub.

Then, sprinkle plenty of coarse salt over one cut half, rinse the bathtub with cold water, and start the scrubbing process. Rub each inch of the bathtub, including the faucet and shower head. If there is no more salt on the grapefruit, sprinkle another layer.

Now, move on with sink cleaning, and change the grapefruit half.

At the end, rinse the grapefruit pulp off the faucets and bathtub, and your bathroom sanitary ware will be incredible sparkling.

I know that grapefruits are a bit more expensive than lemons or vinegar, but the fragrance they leave behind it's worth every penny.



Baking Soda Paste To Remove Blood And Vegetable Stains From Plastic Cutting Boards

So, you need:

- hydrogen peroxide
- baking soda
- washing-up-liquid

Well, at first I used only hydrogen peroxide to clean and disinfect the cutting board by spraying over its surface a considerably amount of 3% hydrogen peroxide concentration and leaving it to act overnight. The next day, I washed the cutting board with plenty of washing-up liquid and water and the stains were gone.

Another trick I used to clean the plastic cutting board was to prepare a paste of 3-4 tablespoons of baking soda with 1 tablespoon of washing-up liquid and 1-2 tablespoons of hydrogen peroxide. You may add more baking soda if needed because the mixture should be easy spreadable. It must have the consistency of shaving foam.

After you've prepared the paste, spread it over the cutting board and leave it to act for 1 hour then rub the paste with a sponge and rinse it with plenty of water.

You may give it another deep cleaning using only washing-up liquid.



The Best Non-Toxic Window Cleaner

The two strange ingredients that will make an amazing homemade window cleaner are cornstarch and vodka. That's right, weird, but highly effective. If you find vodka to be too complicated, you can always substitute it with rubbing alcohol. I did that but honestly, I prefer the vodka properties and its efficiency as a cleaner. Vodka can easily be a substitute for rubbing alcohol because it contains ethanol and water. However, rubbing alcohol is mostly isopropyl alcohol with water and additives. For me, these additives translate into other chemicals that are unknown. Thus, I prefer to go with vodka so that way I can make sure there are no unknown chemicals in my home. It is time for you to get spotless windows with this homemade windows cleaner. Let's see how you can make it.

Combine in a spray bottle:

- ¼ cups of a cheap vodka – ¼ cups of white vinegar
- 1 Tbsp. of cornstarch – 2 cups of hot water

Shake well.-That's furthermore, for lint-free windows, you should finish off with one last wipe using a sheet of newspaper, the old technique. After using it, store the mixture in a cool dark place and then, don't forget to shake it for future uses, so you can combine the ingredients again before each use.





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Writers' Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

The Missing Statue

It had been there as long as Tony could remember, a small blue and white statue of the Virgin Mary standing on a rock in the river. Who had put it there he couldn't tell but now it was gone. Walking across the bridge he would no longer enjoy the sight of Mary gazing on the fast-moving current. It wasn't a religious emotion. True, he attended mass every Saturday evening, but more out of habit than piety. No, the statue appealed because it had reminded him of his childhood, the family kneeling on the kitchen floor to say the rosary. He decided he'd consult Vincent, chairman of the Tidy Town Committee.

Vincent didn't seem particularly concerned about the statue's disappearance. 'It could be somebody who wants to protest, now that the pope's going to visit Knock in August,' he suggested.

Tony was puzzled. 'What has that to do with our statue?'

'Nothing and everything,' Vincent gave a wry smile. 'Look, I'll ask around and if I hear anything I'll let you know – nobody's mentioned this to me before today.'

As he drove back to the bungalow where he lived with his wife Colette, Tony thought about Vincent's response. Was it possible that some people preferred a bare rock in the middle of the river? He'd have to investigate the matter.

That afternoon, while out walking, he spotted Gerry, the young local guard, and, after commenting on the weather, asked, 'Do you know anything about the missing river statue?'

'Don't quote me on this,' Gerry warned, 'but I've a fair idea who's involved. It's the same group that vandalized the crib outside the Church of Ireland last Christmas.'

'Do you know who those fellows are?'

'Fellows! They're not all fellows. A few young lassies hang out with them, drinking and smoking pot. Look, I've probably said too much. If you come up with anything, let me know,' saying which, Gerry got into his car.

As he watched him drive off, Tony recalled an encounter with three youths a few months previously. He had been limping because of a sore foot and as they passed, the biggest fellow struck his arm. It was a light blow but the disrespect it showed hurt. Could fellows like that have taken the statue? He'd have to venture into their territory, Woodvale, the town's outlying quarter.

Next day, parking his car at a closed grocery shop near Woodvale, he walked slowly past rows of houses that got shabbier the further he went. Only a few young children were about, riding bikes down the middle of the road. Suddenly two teenage yobs on mountain bikes came zooming round a corner, weaving their way recklessly through the children. A small group of fellows hurried round the same corner, hogging the footpath. Avoiding eye contact, he stepped onto the road.

'Hey, Mister, lost your way?' a sarcastic voice called out.

Ignoring the taunt, Tony kept walking. Luckily the group didn't stop to hassle him. What a stupid thing he'd done venturing into their neighbourhood. Still, having come this far he might as well keep going.

On turning the corner, he noticed a middle-aged man he'd often seen outside pubs in the main street. The man was fumbling with his door key.

'Hi there!' Tony called out just as the door opened.

The fellow turned round and, as if grateful for being spoken to, asked, 'Are you looking for someone?'

'Not someone, something,' Tony decided to come to the point. 'I'm looking for the small statue of the Virgin that used to stand in the river.'

By the way, my name's Tony.'

'Sure I know that. Everyone in the town knows who you are, Mr. Doyle. Now about the statue, sure everyone knows it was fellas from around here took it, right brats that make my life a misery, breaking the window and setting fire to the dustbin. I've seen their ringleader with that statue tied to his carrier – but look, here comes their girlfriends! I'd better not be seen talking to you.'

'Just a quick question, why do you think they took it?'

'God knows! But I'd better go,' saying which, he dodged indoors just as the girls drew near.

'Hi ladies,' Tony decided to act naturally.

The girls ignored his greeting, but in passing one of them, her hair dyed purple, remarked, 'He must be after yer man for the rent.'

Waiting till the girls were past the corner, Tony continued on this way. His feet were now killing him but he steeled himself to keep walking. Finally, when he had ended up in one cul-de-sac after another, a car drew alongside and the driver, who had an East European accent, offered him a lift.

Tony hesitated, but the man looked trustworthy. 'Thanks a million,' he got awkwardly into the car.

'I saw you passing the house a while back,' the man helped him slot-in the safety belt. 'What brings you here?'

'I was looking for that statue of the Virgin Mary that used to stand in the river,' Tony explained.

'Never set eyes on it,' the man pulled away from the kerb. 'I suppose with the pope's visit, everyone's being more religious – not that I'm religious myself – Co do diabla?' He swerved to avoid the returning mountain bikes.

'Wait till you see your car, mister!' one of the cyclists shouted in passing.

After an anxious few minutes, they reached the shop where Tony had parked. Having thanked the driver warmly; he hurried to his car, only to discover the rear number plate was missing. Damn brats! Now he'd have to face his son Derek who'd lecture him on his stupidity. Derek believed that religion was a load of rubbish foisted by the clergy on gullible people like his parents.

Feeling foolish, Tony drove home. After dinner with Colette and their visiting young grandchildren, Derek's car could be heard pulling into the driveway. When he learned about Tony's foray, Derek shook his head.

'Will you never cop-on, Dad? That statue was a piece of superstitious malarkey. If those young ones took it, so what? It's nothing to what our society takes from them, keeping them holed up in that depressing council estate.'

'If it's depressing, it's because they've made it so,' Tony retorted.

'There you go again, blaming the victims of our capitalistic society for their refusal to live by your exalted standards. But what's the use? Look, I'll see about getting a new number plate for your car tomorrow. Come on, boys, your mam's waiting for you.' Placing a hand on each of the children's shoulders he shook his head and left.

'Don't mind him; you know his feelings on religion,' Colette poured another cup of tea for Tony. 'Maybe if Father Michael agrees, we can get a new statue for the river.'

'You're right,' Tony took a mouthful of tea, 'though Father Michael has enough worries trying to run this parish on his own. As a poem we learned in school put it: *"The old order changeth, yielding place to the new, / And God fulfils himself in many ways..."* I only hope that's true and that the pope's visit will lead to a new awakening.'

'Amen to that; and, anyway, please God, we'll both be in Knock to greet him,'

By P.G. Nerney

Losers?

By chance, I could have been one of them, the less than perfect specimens found in our countryside and towns but especially in our cities; you've seen them, the physically marred, sometimes in rags, often well dressed, but always with some facial blemish or other physical deformity.

I'll start with one I knew long years ago: Mickey lived alone in a thatched cottage beside the raised bog where he cut turf and, in season, shot plover, grouse and snipe. His features were misshapen but not helped by the fact he rarely washed his face; and, yet, he was a fascinating man, a character you'd seek out for a chat.

Next I'll mention Robert in New York. Son of a rich New Jersey couple, he had a law degree from Harvard and was a most erudite companion but because he was not very tall and had what some called 'homely' features, he lacked confidence in company and so girls tended to reject him.

Maureen was such an attractive girl Renaissance artists might have painted her, That's until she spoke and so revealed a set of prominent, crooked teeth. Could her parents have afforded them, growing up she should have worn braces; but, though her speech was quite becoming, young men avoided close attachments.

That brings me to the most ill formed of all, Victor Hugo's hunchback, Quasimodo; haunting the bell tower of Notre Dame, he saw the gypsy Esmeralda and in time a miracle occurred; this half blind, half deaf, apparent ghoul fell in love, confirming the adage that body does not mirror soul.



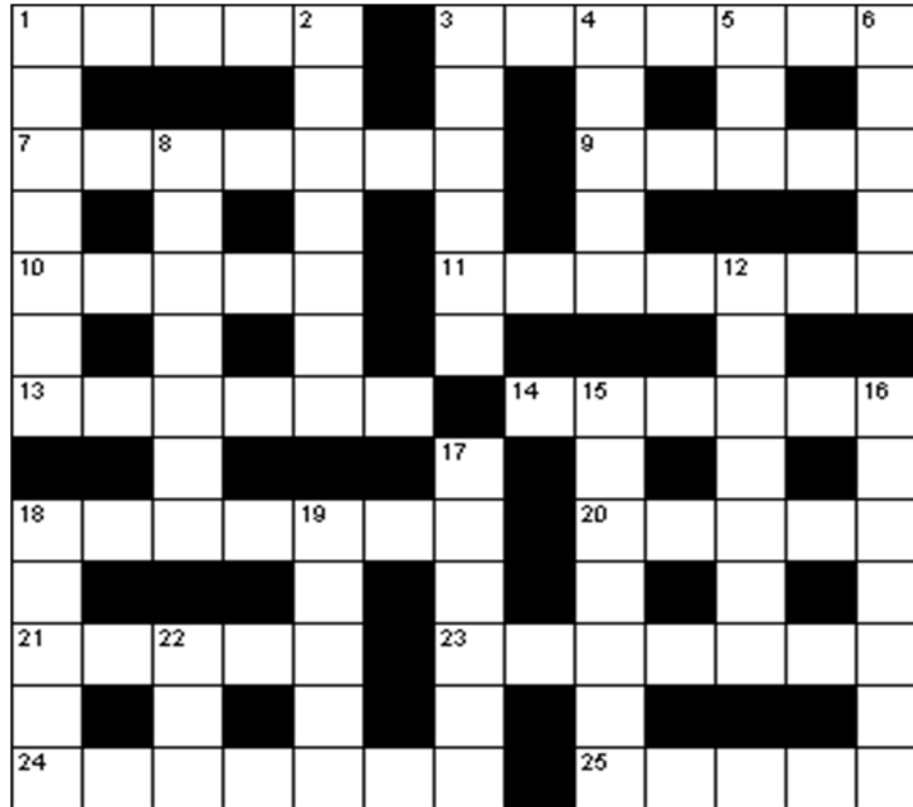
By Colin Scott

Clues Across

August 2020 Crossword - No. 493

Clues Down

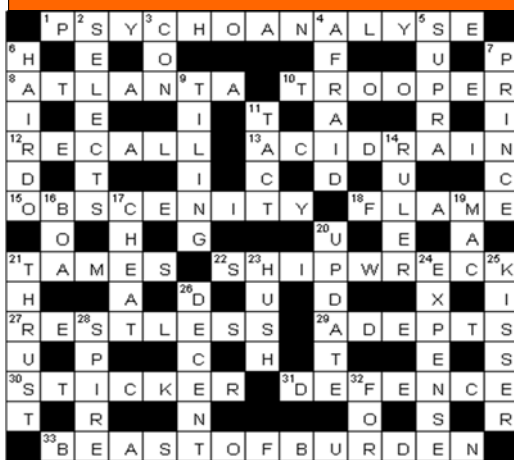
1. Goddess of love (5)
3. Revoke (7)
7. Floor show (7)
9. Oversight (5)
10. Last letter of the Greek alphabet (5)
11. Rising warm air current (7)
13. Symbol of disgrace or infamy (6)
14. Sour (6)
18. Inscrutable (7)
20. Type of snake (5)
21. Photo book (5)
23. Luxurious (7)
24. Commotion (7)
25. Restorative (5)



1. Asinine (7)
2. Satire (7)
3. Turn on an axis (6)
4. Unguent (5)
5. Mischievous fairy (3)
6. Live (5)
8. Transience (7)
12. Gruesome (7)
15. Explanation (7)
16. Forceful and extreme (7)
17. Educational institution (6)
18. Intone (5)
19. Musical speed (5)
22. Saloon (3)



Solutions to Crossword No. 492



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

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

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



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



SUMMER
Word Search

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

BEACH BIKE HIKE LAKE POOL
CAMP FIRE SAND
HEAT SUMMER

As we move to the end of the summer, August is a time to tidy beds and borders after the crazy mid summer's growth. Once thriving and luscious foliage gives way to ageing yellow leaves. The tallest of herbaceous plants begin to bend and fall over while clump forming perennials start growing leggy. All this can give rise to an unkempt look to the garden in the month of August.

Even though the warmest of weather is behind us, August can still offer the best of sunshine and more reliably drier weather. Colour should not be seen as a thing of the past either. There is a long list of wonderful flower plants that will bloom throughout August. Plants of the Month

Things to Consider for August

Even if the summer is drawing to an end, now is not the time to let up on maintenance as weeds & pests continue to be a problem during the month. Also August can see long dry spells and when this occurs irrigation of vegetables is especially important as harvest nears. Lawn care is back on the agenda in August and this too is a good month for preparing new lawns. It is however best to avoid applying any sort of Nitrogen based fertiliser to lawns at this time of year.

In the Fruit & Veg Garden

- Cut away the old and yellowing foliage of courgettes, tomatoes, broccoli and all other vegetables to allow for better air circulation
- Twist onion stems in preparation for harvest
- Ensure root crops and tomatoes receive regular watering to avoid split roots & fruits
- Sow seeds for Christmas & Spring harvest. You can sow Spring Cabbage, Winter Cabbage, Kale, Salads, Carrots, Broccoli, Chard, Spinach, Lettuce and Beets
- Continue to feed your plants, focus on using a high potassium based feed on tomatoes, courgettes, fruits & cucumbers
- Keep harvesting all crops little and often. With regularly harvesting you can prevent vegetables from going to seed, crops from going off and you can also encourage a second yield
- If your vegetable plot is becoming bare, by the end of the month you can sow green manure



In the Greenhouse

- Maintain regular watering of crops
- Keep doors & window vents open during the day
- Continue to pinch outside shoots of tomatoes, if tomatoes are too slow to ripen you should sacrifice some fruits for the sake of others
- Slugs, snails and aphids can still be a problem this month
- Make softwood cuttings of Lavender, Geraniums & Fuchsias and place in compost & perlite

Plant Care

- Support taller herbaceous plants using bamboo canes or stakes
- Trim back leggy flowers such as Geraniums and Asters & Sage
- Continue to treat roses for black spot & mildew. Also dead head regularly
- Remove suckers that sprout from the base of rose plants
- Feed late Summer & autumn Flowering plants such as Verbenas, Dahlias, Echinacea's & Rudbeckias
- Flowering heads of alliums & hydrangea can be left in situ or brought indoors as cut flowers
- Begin collecting seeds of herbaceous & flowering plants. Label and store in a cool, dry place for sowing the following Spring
- Order your spring bulbs for planting at the end of the month
- August is a good month for trimming evergreen and beech hedging
- Divide Irises, Lilies, Dicentra, Hostas, Aubrietia, Iberia, Peonies, Primrose and Poppies



Lawn Care

- Avoid feeding lawns from the end of July onwards
- By the end of the month you can begin treatment of moss. Apply Sulphate of Iron to lawns
- Apply dicophar to kill any broadleaf weeds
- Towards the end of the month, in dry conditions you can aerate your lawn
- Scarification can also be done to remove thatch and dead grass and moss from lawns
- Reseed bare patches in the grass and water in after sowing
- Begin preparing areas for new lawns by applying a systemic weed killer

General Maintenance

- Rake up fallen leaves caused by periods of dry weather
- Stay on top of weeds
- Check trees and tree stakes ensuring they are not too tight around stems
- Clean bird baths, feeders & tables and increase feeding times for birds

**DON'T WAIT FOR SOMEONE TO
BRING YOU FLOWERS
PLANT YOUR OWN GARDEN
AND DECORATE YOUR OWN SOUL**



August Gardening

Meals in Minutes

One Pan Pasta

This one pan wonder sees both pasta and sauce all cooked in the one pan resulting in perfectly al dente spaghetti wrapped in a silky spinach and tomato sauce.

Ingredients:

200g spaghetti
200g cherry tomatoes, sliced in half
100g baby spinach leaves
1 small onion, finely sliced
3 cloves garlic, finely sliced
1 red chilli, finely chopped
A small handful of basil leaves, roughly chopped
2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
50g pecorino cheese, grated
Sea salt and ground black pepper



Method:

Arrange the tomatoes, spinach, onion, garlic and chilli across the base of a large frying pan. Nestle the spaghetti in the centre of the pan and pour over the olive oil and 600ml of water or chicken stock.

Place the pan over a medium heat and bring the contents of the pan to the boil. Using a tongs, stir the pasta regularly and cook for about 9 minutes until it's cooked and the liquid has nearly evaporated creating a sauce.

Remove the pan from heat and stir through the pecorino cheese and basil. Season with sea salt and ground black pepper to serve.

Creamy Chicken and Spinach Pasta

Ingredients:

300g tagliatelle
A knob of butter
400g skinless chicken breasts, sliced into thick strips
3 garlic cloves, peeled and finely chopped
50g ready-to-use sun-dried tomatoes
150g baby spinach leaves
250ml single cream
A pinch of sea salt and freshly ground black pepper



Method:

Cook the pasta according to the instructions on the packet. Heat the butter in a large frying pan and when foaming, fry the chicken for about 4-6 minutes or until cooked through. Add the garlic, sun-dried tomatoes, spinach and fry until the spinach has wilted. Add the cream and bring to steady simmer for 3-4 minutes. Once the pasta is cooked drain and add to the sauce. Toss well and serve straight away.

Chicken and Vegetable Noodle Stir Fry

Ingredients:

7oz/200g medium whole-wheat egg noodles
1 red chilli, chopped very finely
2 cloves of garlic, chopped
1½lb/700g chicken, cut into very thin strips
1½ mixed peppers, sliced thinly
1 medium onion, red or white sliced thinly
3oz/75g mangetout
5-6 mushrooms, sliced
4 tbsp sweet chilli sauce
4 tbsp soy sauce



Method:

Blanch and refresh the noodles by cooking them according to the packet instructions and then strain them into a sieve and leave them under cold running water until they have completely cooled down. Store in the fridge until required. Heat a large saucepan or wok. Have all of the ingredients prepared in advance because you do need to stand over this dish. Add a little oil to the wok together with the chilli, garlic and sliced chicken. Allow the chicken to seal off quite quickly. Next add in all of the sliced vegetables, allow these to cook for approximately 2-3 minutes on a high heat. Mix together the sweet chilli sauce and the soy sauce.

When the chicken and vegetables are almost fully cooked, add in the blanched and refreshed noodles and the sweet chilli sauce and soy mixture and allow to cook for a further 2-3 minutes. Garnish with crushed cashew nuts and torn coriander.





We are taking on morning and full time support staff!

Qualified Childcare Practitioner's required.

Minimum QQI Level 5 compulsory.
Morning and full-time hours available.

Email your CV to
generalmanager@happysteps.ie

Kildare County Council

Press Release

New appointment booking system going live.



To facilitate the needs of customers and comply with public health guidance, Kildare County Council, in advance of reopening its offices to the public on June 29th, has this evening introduced a new appointments system for a wide range of services. While the Council provided services online, by phone, email and post throughout the pandemic, public health measures have required that our offices remain closed to the public since March 27th. Now, as we move through re-opening phases under the Government recovery plan for Covid-19, it is essential that public health is supported through managed customer access at our offices.

We encourage our customers to go online to use our services but if customers need to attend our offices, please note access will be by appointment only at all Council offices. Therefore, to avoid disappointment, customers are urged to make an appointment. Customers can access appointments for a wide range of services as follows:

Online - www.kildarecountycouncil.ie

Phone - 045 980 200

Motor Tax - appointments may be made online or at 045 980 591

Housing Services - appointments are available by phone only at 045 980 200.

Libraries are also accessible by appointment only online or by contacting your local library directly: www.kildare.ie/library/Library/



MU welcomes €168m to support sector in re-opening

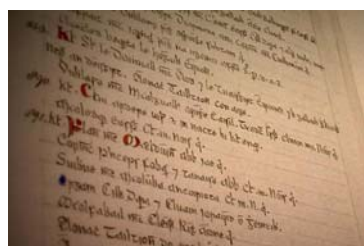
Maynooth University welcomes today's announcement of a €168 million funding package and the practical guidance on operating in the coming academic session provided by Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science Simon Harris TD.



The effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on the university sector have been profound. While the year ahead will be very challenging for staff and students alike, we must endeavour to provide students with the education opportunities they seek and deserve. We at Maynooth University are determined to do everything we can to provide the richest possible student experience while protecting the health of staff and students.

Today's announcement will go a long way in helping to meet the challenges of the year ahead. The funding and guidance will support the rapid shift to quality blended teaching and learning, our ongoing research, and essential supports for reopening our campuses. The strong emphasis on helping to meet our students' needs with funding for laptops, connectivity and mental health is hugely welcomed.

Paul Walsh Memorial Lecture
6th Paul Walsh Memorial Lecture -
Prof. Barry Lewis



When: Thursday, October 1, 2020 - 17:00

Where: Iontas Building, Seminar Room 1.33

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, we sadly have to postpone this year's Paul Walsh Memorial Lecture.

We have tentatively rescheduled for THURSDAY 1st OCTOBER. More details to follow.

As a part of the Early Irish & Celtic Studies Research Seminar, Prof. Barry Lewis (Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies), will deliver the 6th Paul Walsh Memorial Lecture with a talk titled 'Nature and Art in Early Welsh Verse'.

All welcome. The lecture is followed by a wine reception. For more information contact: bernhard.bauer@mu.ie

Fire at Maynooth College by Sarah Larkin, Archivist, St. Patrick's College.

This year St Patrick's College, Maynooth celebrates 225 years since its foundation in 1795. This blog post is the second in a series highlighting some of the interesting and lesser known events and facts of the College's history. This post looks at two occasions when fire broke out in the College (1878 and 1940), and how tragedy was avoided.

Check out this (and other Maynooth University Library blog posts) from 14th August.

<https://mulibrarytreasures.wordpress.com/>



Maynooth University Town Football Club



Leinster Senior League Senior Division Sunday

#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1.	Bangor GG FC	20	11	5	4	47	34	13	38
2.	Malahide United	18	11	4	3	44	15	29	37
3.	Maynooth University Town FC	19	10	4	5	34	20	14	34
4.	St. Mochtas FC	15	9	5	1	29	13	16	32
5.	Crumlin United FC	16	9	1	6	36	26	10	28
6.	Bluebell United	17	6	8	3	42	37	5	26
7.	Edenderry Town	21	6	6	9	28	36	-8	24
8.	Liffey Wanderers	18	6	5	7	38	35	3	23
9.	Killester Donnycarney FC	14	7	1	6	26	19	7	22
10.	Wayside Celtic	19	5	4	10	25	33	-8	19
11.	Ballymun United	17	5	3	9	22	31	-9	18
12.	Cherry Orchard	19	4	6	9	29	56	-27	18
13.	Newbridge Town FC	16	3	4	9	24	43	-19	13
14.	Portmarnock AFC	17	3	0	14	26	52	-26	9

Leinster Senior League Major Saturday

#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1.	Bluebell United	15	14	0	1	53	16	37	42
2.	Maynooth University Town FC	18	11	5	2	50	22	28	38
3.	Cherry Orchard	17	11	2	4	44	23	21	35
4.	Crumlin United FC	14	9	3	2	38	16	22	30
5.	UCD AFC	18	9	3	6	42	29	13	30
6.	Bangor GG FC	15	8	2	5	30	29	1	26
7.	Liffey Wanderers	16	5	3	8	27	34	-7	18
8.	Booth Road Celtic	15	5	2	8	37	44	-7	17
9.	Ballymun United	18	4	3	11	27	49	-22	15
10.	Swords Celtic FC	16	4	1	11	17	42	-25	13
11.	Colepark United	17	3	1	13	22	53	-31	10
12.	St. Patrick's CYFC	19	2	3	14	32	62	-30	9

Leinster Senior League Division 3 Sunday

#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1.	Verona FC	19	13	4	2	70	22	48	43
2.	Confey FC	18	14	1	3	61	25	36	43
3.	Maynooth University Town FC	18	13	1	4	60	28	32	40
4.	Dingle United	21	11	2	8	52	40	12	35
5.	Ayrfield United	15	9	1	5	44	24	20	28
6.	Spartak Dynamo FC	15	9	1	5	29	19	10	28
7.	Wayside Celtic	14	8	2	4	32	21	11	26
8.	Edenderry Town	18	7	5	6	34	31	3	26
9.	Esker Celtic FC	19	8	2	9	44	49	-5	26
10.	Woodfarm Football Club	18	7	2	9	29	32	-3	23
11.	Shankill FC	16	6	0	10	35	62	-27	18
12.	Loughshinny United	25	5	3	17	37	68	-31	18
13.	Tymon Bawn AFC	13	3	0	10	22	61	-39	9
14.	River Valley Rangers AFC	25	1	2	22	14	81	-67	5

After a long break in our season due to restrictions brought about by the necessary lockdown imposed. We adhered to all the regulations at the time and are now slowly getting back to something like what we were used to before lockdown. Our season is back in full swing now with our senior teams competing in their respective leagues. Results since the recommencement are promising to date and maintain the good form we were showing before lockdown.

Some results to date:

L.S.L Senior Division Sunday

Town 1 Wayside Celtic 1

Old foes Wayside proved a stumbling block in this closely fought opening game. Both sides showed some signs of rustiness. Jack O'Connor put Town ahead following good play by Duffy and Foley who set up the chance for O'Connor. Wayside got equalised when Town failed to clear a corner. A good opening point to restart our campaign.

L.S.L Senior Division Sunday

Edenderry Town 0 Town 1

This is the fixture that is eagerly awaited each season. Both sides were cagey in their early play but Town were showing the best form and were looking very sharp. Town got their goal just before half time when a low cross into the Edenderry box was swept home by Cillian Duffy. Hard as the home side tried to retrieve the situation, the Town defence held firm and ran out deserving winners.

L.S.L. Senior Division Sunday

Portmarnock F.C. 0 Town 3

Town maintained their good early season form with this impressive win over a dogged home side. Town opened the scoring in the 33rd minute when expertly making space to fire home to put Town one up. Remainder of 1st. half remained scoreless. Town were creating chances but were failing to convert. Fresh legs were brought on mid-way through the second half and this revitalised Town.

Substitute Darragh Deegan cut inside and fired a powerful left foot shot to the home net. Five minutes later Deegan was at it again. This time he received ball at feet, made room before firing home a low shot, two goals of sheer class fit to grace any stage.

L.S.L. Major Division Saturday

St Patrick CY FC 0 Town 4

An impressive away win for Town here where excellent teamwork was to the fore. Town dominated throughout and never gave the home side any chance of getting into the game. Goals by Gavin Kinsella 2 Mathew O'Donnell 1 and Youcef Beehout secured the points.

L.S.L. Division 3 Sunday

Town 4 Dingle Utd 0

Town were slow to impose themselves on this game and took a while to get on top. Town eventually got the breakthrough and they displayed their superior class- Goals by A. Hoaxa 2, Steven Toderic 1 and K. Nakamutka 1

L.S.L. Major Division Saturday

Town 3 Cherry Orchard 0

Another impressive win for town in disposing of Cherry Orchard in an open game. Town looked strong in all departments and were good value for their win. Mathew O'Donnell 2 and Yoncef Belhont provided goals.

L.S.L. Division 3 Sunday

Tymon Bawn 2 Town 7

Town displayed their vast array of skills in this facile win over a swamped home side. Stars were abundant but no more so than Alan Flynn who helped himself to four goals. E. Hoaxa E. Donnellan and S. Toderic completed the Town score line.



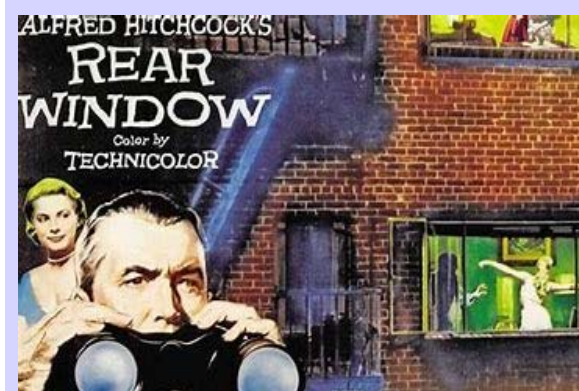
FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

50 GREATEST MOVIES OF ALL TIME

- 1) City Lights (1931)
- 2) Modern Times (1936)
- 3) Gone with the Wind (1939)
- 4) The Wizard of Oz (1939)
- 5) Rebecca (1940)
- 6) The Great Dictator (1940)
- 7) The Maltese Falcon (1941)
- 8) Citizen Kane (1941)



- 9) Casablanca (1942)
- 10) Double Indemnity (1944)
- 11) It's A Wonderful Life (1946)
- 12) The Third Man (1949)
- 13 All About Eve (1950)
- 14) Sunset Boulevard (1950)
- 15) Singin' in the Rain (1952)
- 16) The Quiet Man (1952)
- 17) On the Waterfront (1954)
- 18) Rear Window (1954)
- 19) La Strada (1954)



- 20) Rebel Without A Cause (1955)
- 21) The Searchers (1956)
- 22) Bridge on the River Kwai (1957)
- 23) 12 Angry Men (1957)
- 24) Vertigo (1958)
- 25) Some like it Hot (1959)
- 26) North by Northwest (1959)
- 27) Ben Hur (1959)



- 28) Psycho (1960)
- 29) Breakfast at Tiffany's (1961)
- 30) To Kill a Mocking Bird (1962)
- 31) Lawrence of Arabia (1962)
- 32) The Great Escape (1963)
- 33) Doctor Zhivago (1965)
- 34) The Sound of Music (1965)
- 35) The Good, The Bad and the Ugly (1966)
- 36) Oliver (1968)
- 37) Once Upon A Time in the West (1968)
- 38) The Godfather (1972)
- 39) Jaws (1975)
- 40) Star Wars (1977)



- 41) Witness (1985)
- 42) Cyrano De Bergerac (1990)
- 43) Silence of the Lambs (1991)
- 44) Schindler's List (1993)
- 45) Pulp Fiction (1994)
- 46) Life is Beautiful (1997)
- 47) Cinema Paradiso (1998)
- 48) Gladiator (2000)
- 49) The Lord of the Rings (2002)
- 50) La La Land (2016)



Famous Movie Quotes June Quiz Answers

Name The Actor

1. Humphrey Bogart
2. Patrick Swayze
3. Roy Scheider
4. Tom Hanks
5. Leonardo Di Caprio
6. Vivien Leigh
7. Robert De Niro
8. Clint Eastwood
9. Samuel L Jackson
10. Jeff Bridges
11. Clark Gable

Name The Movie

1. The Shining
2. Forrest Gump
3. Silence of the Lambs
4. The Wizard of Oz
5. The Dark Knight

BRADY'S CLOCKHOUSE BAR - LOUNGE - RESTAURANT



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Maynooth Newsletter

Serving the people of Maynooth



Local News September 2020

Issue No. 494

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



In early August the death of John Hume was announced and with Covid 19 there was limited opportunity to mark his passing. The people of Ireland had already passed judgement on the importance of his work by voting him "Ireland's Greatest Person" in a poll in 2010 ahead of Michael Collins. John Hume was born in 1937 in Derry and came to Maynooth as a student seminarian in the late 1950s. While he didn't complete his clerical studies he did complete an M.A. before returning to his native Derry to start a career in teaching. His work in his community is well documented elsewhere but among his non-political activities was starting the Credit Union in Derry.



John Hume (1937 – 2020)

His political journey was a long one and I had the pleasure of being in his company on two occasions somewhat by accident to hear him talk with passion about bringing peace to Derry and Northern Ireland. In the mid 1980s I lived in Donnybrook in Dublin and together with my friends we were regular visitors to the Jesuit Fathers at Tabor House at the top of Belmont Avenue. The Jesuits had an open house for their neighbours so we were invited to all events that took place there. One night we were there and we were treated to a conversation with John Hume about his vision for peace in Northern Ireland. My second meeting with John Hume was the more public occasion in Ballina, Co. Mayo at the "Humbert Summer School" where I was invited to attend with a friend. John Hume was also there and at the end of the lectures the speakers and their friends adjourned for some social relaxation. Such an event involved some singing and we were treated to John Hume giving us a rendition of the Derry anthem "The Town I loved so well".

John Hume maintained his connection with Maynooth and in more recent years through the John & Pat Hume doctoral awards in Maynooth University. While excellence in academic course work and research is important additionally applicants for these doctoral bursaries are expected to have some prior non-academic engagement such as volunteering or outreach activities. In addition Maynooth University named a building on campus in his honour so more than many other places we will remember the significant work that John Hume invested in bringing peace to our Island. Perhaps his highest honour was a co-recipient with David Trimble the leader of the Ulster Unionists of the Nobel Peace prize in 1998.

Photo courtesy of foreignpolicy.com
Paul Croghan

We at Maynooth University are saddened to hear of the passing of John Hume. As an alumnus, teacher, and one of the architects of the peace process, his presence will endure on our campus as we remember him through the John Hume Building and John and Pat Hume Scholarships. We send our heartfelt condolences to his family and friends.



Pictured at the opening of the John Hume Building in Maynooth University: Pat and John Hume with Professor William Smyth.

End of an era in Greenfield Shopping Centre

After 36 years of service to the people of Maynooth renowned Craft Butcher Ger Mulcahy is set for retirement. The Board and staff of the Maynooth Newsletter wish him many happy years of retirement. Mulcahy's have been a great supporter of the Newsletter over many years and we thank Ger and his team for his support and service to our community over the years.

The business has been sold on to local man Tommy Delany and we wish Tommy and his team many years of success.

Speaking to the Maynooth Newsletter Gerry said "On behalf of myself & Caroline we would like to thank all our customers & staff from 1984 to 2020 for their support". He also wished the new owner, Tommy Delaney continued success for the future.



Maynooth Newsletter

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

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 Tuesday 22nd September 2020

Editorial

Conscious that we may have readers of the "Maynooth Newsletter" one hundred years from now I have to start with a look back to August 2020. Since August 8th Maynooth and County Kildare has been subject to a regional shutdown in order to try to limit the spread of Covid 19 as the county had much higher numbers than elsewhere in Ireland. The restrictions meant that people living in County Kildare were required, unless for work or some other specified reasons, not to travel outside the county and likewise people from outside the county were required to restrict their visits to Kildare. Maynooth was well covered by media as these "partial lockdown" conditions had a significant impact on many local businesses who were restricted on how they could operate. Let's hope that these restrictions will be lifted as expected in early September.

With the re-opening of schools, which have been closed since March because of Covid 19, there is some return to near normal life but schools have been required to implement new practices aimed at preventing any outbreak of Covid 19 in schools. It is really important that families with school going children and young adults fully comply with the new school arrangements as it would be a pity if any school in Maynooth needs to close again because of a significant outbreak of Covid 19.

In August Desmond Guinness the author on Georgian art and architecture, a conservationist and the co-founder of the Irish Georgian Society passed away at the age of 89 years old. Desmond lived in Leixlip Castle which he purchased in 1958. He led many campaigns and preservation projects to protect Ireland's built heritage. He took a significant interest in the historic building infrastructure in Maynooth. In the mid 1990s, I led a campaign to have Maynooth designated as one of Ireland's "Heritage Towns" a designation that would attract funds to restore and protect our unique town centre which at that stage was under threat with a number of derelict buildings. Desmond Guinness invited me to meet him at his home to discuss the campaign. Both he and Penelope were very welcoming and as well as having our meeting I was treated to a tour of Leixlip Castle.

Many readers will know that in order to fund his work Desmond Guinness held some events in Leixlip Castle including the large pop concert where Sting and the Police, U2 and the Boom Town Rats performed in July 1980. Several other well-known artists of that era also stayed in Leixlip Castle such as Mick Jagger and his partner Jerry Hall. Desmond Guinness was a very unique person and there were many tributes published in the media about him since his death.

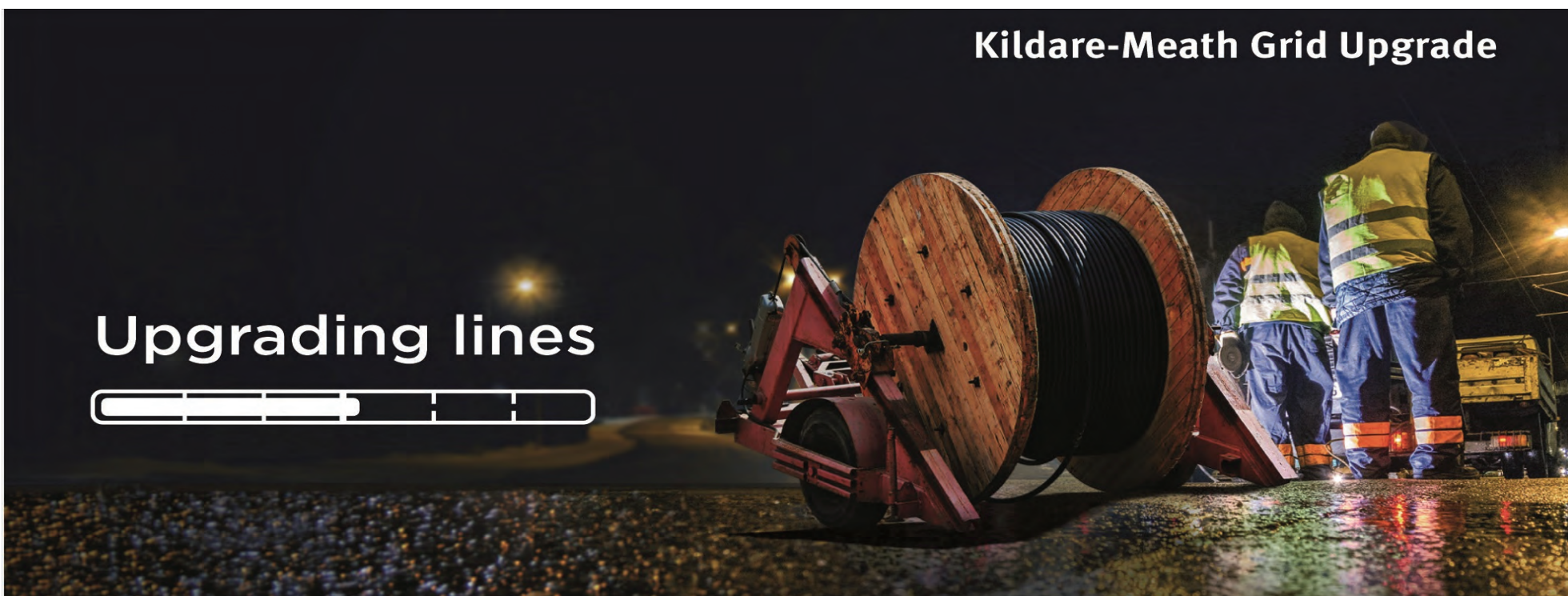


Crowds gathered in Leixlip for the "Dublin Festival Concert" in 1980.

Paul Croghan - Editor

Kildare-Meath Grid Upgrade

Upgrading lines

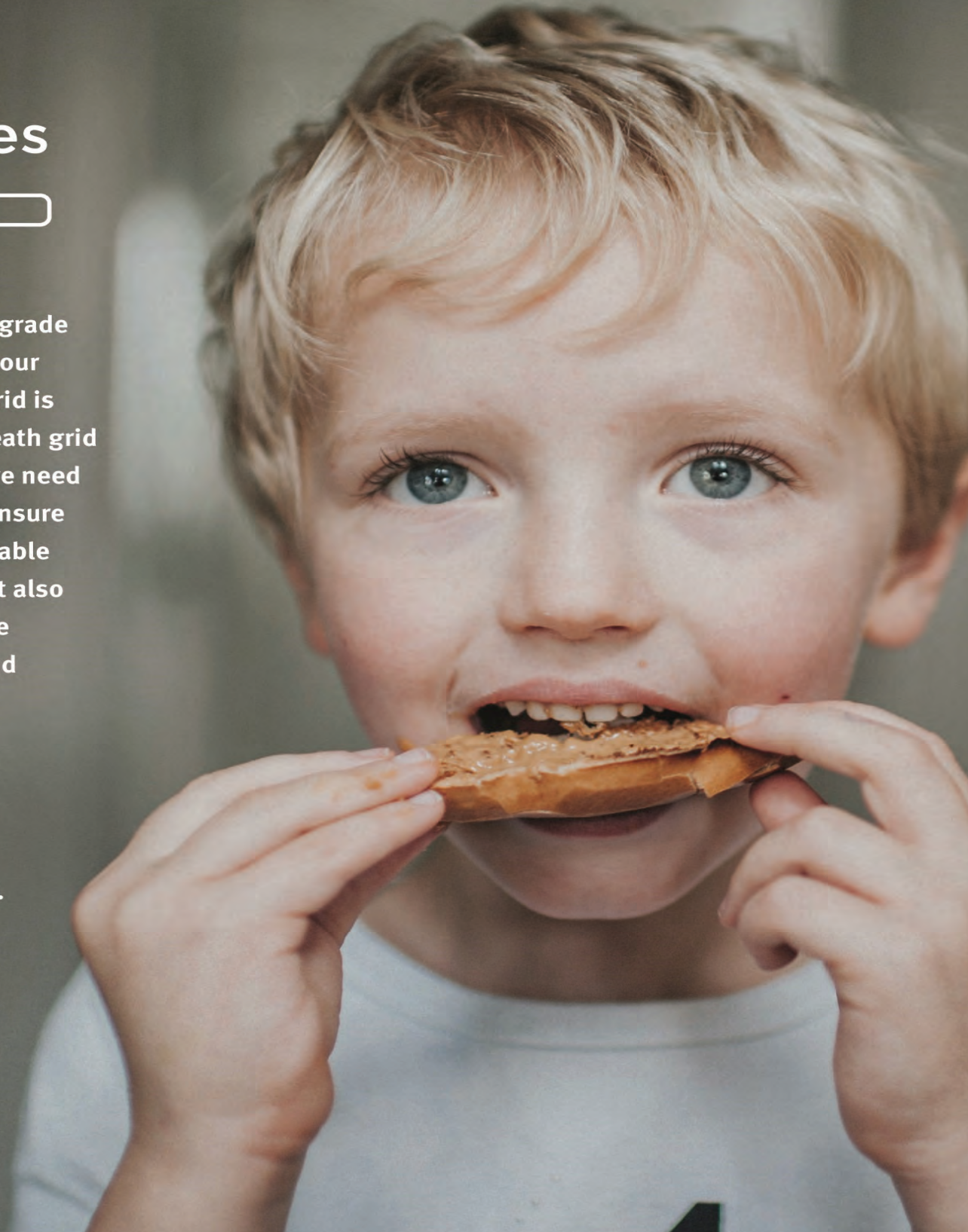


Upgrading lives



We all know how much better an upgrade can make things. And that's true of our electricity grid too. That's why EirGrid is planning to upgrade the Kildare-Meath grid – vital if we are to have the power we need for our growing population and to ensure you 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 to reduce carbon emissions.

We're now looking at five possible ways of doing this - with overhead and underground options - and will be in touch soon to hear your views. In the meantime, you can find out more at eirgrid.ie/KildareMeath



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www.maynoothcommuniondresses.ie also www.maynoothdresses.ie



Deposits Welcome



Normally at this time of year we are anxiously awaiting results from the National Tidy Towns competition but due to Covid-19 the competition was cancelled.

Maynooth Tidy Towns Health and Safety statement is currently being revised to include Covid-19 protocols.

We thank all members of the Maynooth Tidy Towns team and all other members of the community who helped over the months during these difficult times to beautify and keep Maynooth tidy during 2020.

Keep safe.

Follow us on Facebook/Twitter/ 087 3153189

Richard Farrell
PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns



**Gold Medal Winner
2019**



The Leinster Arms – *Through the pages of 19th century newspapers*



The Leinster Arms was built in 1777. The Historic Environmental appraisal of the Leinster Arms describes it as a former hotel built in the Classical style, introducing a formal and sophisticated design to a row of relatively modest structures. The building attests to the coaching tradition in Maynooth in the late 18th century. It has a striking canted projecting bay to the centre and is constructed in squared limestone and the ashlar construction to the canted projecting bay is a fine example of the high quality of stone masonry traditionally practiced in the locality. (National Inventory of Architectural Heritage).

From its beginnings the Leinster Arms has served its community well as a place where the aristocracy, tenants and townspeople met to celebrate events in the town, where meetings were held and where it was a place for visitors to the area and an important stop on the road west.

Richard Vousden opened an inn called the Leinster Arms in Maynooth in 1777, and had stables at the New Inn in what is now Enfield, mid-way between Maynooth and Kinnegad. This was an important new road out of Dublin and may have been a very profitable operation for Richard Vousden.

A description from the *Dublin Journal* 1771 tells us that “Richard Vousden, proprietor, promised the public ‘good four post beds and bedding, constantly well aired’, as well as the best wines and ‘the best meats the markets can afford’. But he also gave prominence to the location of his inn and its wider context on the road west: ‘He has got stables at the New Inn, where he means constantly to keep chaises and horses, which will enable him to drive that long stage between Maynooth and Kinnegad with more expedition, without advancing the expense to the travellers. He hopes the impartial public will consider he was the first that set up chaises on that road. Post chaises, as usual, in Maynooth, and also at the New Inn, which is mid-way between Maynooth and Kinnegad. Post chaise and pair at thirteen pence a mile, four horses at nineteen pence halfpenny. Gentlemen may be accommodated with horses to their own

carriages at the above price.”

The 'New Inn' referred to here was at what was then 'Nineteen-mile-house', now Enfield <https://www.vousden.name/ireland.htm>

In 1882 the then owner Mr. Thomas Carr put the Leinster Arms up for Auction due to his declining health. The description of the property as advertised in the *Leinster Leader* on Mar 11 gives a detailed description of the property and points to its central role in the major events in Maynooth during this time.

“The hotel is commodious, having about 18 apartments, drawing, sitting room, bedrooms, two WCs and a spacious ballroom. The latter is frequently used in the picnic season and for wedding and other parties – the drive from Dublin, 12 miles through the Phoenix Park, Strawberry Beds, Salmon Leap, Carton and the College, with dinner at this far famed hostelry, being one of the most enjoyable excursion in Ireland”...

“There is a general posting establishment in connection with the Livery Department which is much frequented. There are superior stables and outbuildings, eleven box stalls, corn and hay lofts, cattle and cart sheds, rick stands etc. The premises are extensive containing or measuring two acres and two perches, including a walled in garden which supplies Hotel with all vegetables in season, fruits and flowers. Superior water from river which flows through garden”.

Names of its business suppliers are also mentioned - Jameson, Guinness, Bass and wines by Thompson, Bewley and Draper.

The Duke of Leinster had the lease on the premises and gave free permission to sell for 20 years from the 20 September 1881.

It was bought by Michael F. Furlong for £2,000 and who gave notice of ownership in the newspapers of the day. The *Nation Newspaper* (1889) recorded the death of his wife Mary who died aged 38. In 1890 Maria Teresa Redmond, spinster appears to have taken over the running of the hotel on behalf of Michael Furlong as she applies for licences on his behalf. By 1901 Alice Redmond (a relative is applying for licences as Maria Teresa was (recently) deceased (*Leinster Leader* May 11 1901).

An examination of newspapers from the 19th century reveals the life of the Leinster Arms. Although built in 1777 the first report found in the Newspapers appears in the *Freemans Journal* of 1819. The McDonnell's Hotel and Tavern *The Leinster Arms*, had come under new ownership and one of the first occasions was described at length and in detail under the heading “Dinner at Maynooth”

“A few days since, a number of Gentlemen, comprising much of the rank, wealth and respectability of the neighbourhood of Maynooth dined....The object was the support of this newly opened and excellent Establishment. About 100 Gentlemen sat down to Dinner, served in the very best style, embracing every delicacy of the season, and wines of the first quality”.

Several toasts were given by Major Stanhope (brother to the Duchess of Leinster) to - the King, various Dukes, the Lord Lieutenant and the Duke and Duchess of Leinster who were not able to be present. The President of the College also attended and gave a speech in gratitude to the “enlightened legislator and enlightened government” who founded and endowed the College of Maynooth.



Part of “Survey of the town and town parks of Maynooth.... 1821 by Sherrard, Brassington and Greene. (NLI MS 22.004, n. 12 and Irish Historic Towns Atlas – Maynooth)

Annual dinners were held in the Leinster Arm which were presided over by the Duke of Leinster and one of 1822 was reported in the *Belfast Newsletter* (taken from the *Farmers Journal*). The dinner was attended by the heads of Maynooth College, several persons of distinction and the principal tenantry of the “Noble Duke”. Reference was also made to the Duke’s patriotic disposition and to his protection, dispensing confidence, harmony and good will.

The *Freemans Journal* in April 1840 reported on the celebrations in Castledermot and Maynooth on the Marquess of Kildare attaining his majority. Again, the Leinster Arms played its role. There was much celebrating in Carton, where 120 labourers sat down to a meal in a decorated barn followed by music. At 6 o’clock in the evening the tenantry (50 in number) were treated to a dinner in the Leinster Arms. “The town was brilliantly illuminated” as the people wanted to give as much *eclat* as possible” in honour of the occasion.

Later in the month of April the town itself wished to entertain the young Marquis. The town was brilliantly illuminated, with a large bonfire and there was a succession of magnificent fireworks during the night. But this was “eclipsed” by the

(Continued on page 6)

The Leinster Arms – Through the pages of 19th century newspapers/cont.

(Continued from page 5)

“enthusiasm and splendour in the interior (rooms) of the Leinster Arms Hotels where the dinner to the youthful and distinguished guest took place.” The room was decorated with flags, banners, wreaths of flowers. “The dinner consisted of a profusion of all of the luxuries of the season, and the wines were of the richest vintage and in great abundance.

Upwards of 150 gentlemen sat down to dinner. Several beautiful and fashionably dressed ladies were also present in the room during the evening. The band of the 97th Regiment, with an old blind harper, and a company of professional singers from Dublin attended”. Some of those in attendance were the Duke, Dr. Montague President of the Royal College of Maynooth, Vice President Dr. Renahan, Lord Cloncurry, Rev Blacker (Rector), Dr Haly President of Clongowes College, Hans Hamilton agent to the Duke. The stewards were Dr. M.T O’Kelly, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Malone and Mr. Ellis.

The Leinster Arms also played a role in welcoming the Prince of Wales in 1861. The whole town was decorated and there was a festive atmosphere. Mr. Carr, proprietor of the Leinster Arms had the building “beautifully illuminated”. Over the door were the letters V.R. (Victoria Regina) with the Prince’s feather illuminated in variegated colours. Above were

flags of various colours with a Cead Mile Failte banner below.

Other occasions at the hotel included meetings of societies such as the Sick and Indigent Bookkeeper Society (1867). It was the venue for auctions such as Farm of Laraghbryan (1885). A notice in the Leinster Leader on April 21 1900 from Captain Rochfort of O’Connells Kilcock calling for the 17 selected players to meet at the Leinster Arms before proceeding to play a friendly match with Crom-a-Boo Maynooth. An advertisement for a female worker was posted in the Leinster Leader in 1905. “Wanted – Strong Country Girl, Good Plain Cook, do Housework and must have 1st class discharges”. The Leinster Arms was put up for auction in November 1910 by its owner Ms. Alice Redmond, although there are later newspaper

mentions (1912) where Ms. Redmond is noted as the owner.

The Maynooth Historic Towns Atlas gives further sources for the Leinster Arms and its owners.

Susan Durack



Richard Vousden's inn, location unknown. 1776, 1777 (FDJ 20–23.4.1776, 27.2–1.3.1777). Closed in 1777 on opening of Leinster Arms (see next entry). Leinster Arms, Main St S. Leinster Arms, opened by Richard Vousden in 1777; 1781 (FDJ 15–18.11.1777, 10–13.3.1781). Maxwell's inn, ballroom (see 21 Entertainment) and stables 1781 (Sherrard, 1781), 1785 (RD 441/231/284240), 1789 (DEP 3.9.1789). Leinster Arms 1791 (DEP 30.8.1791). Grehan's inn, stabling for 100 horses 1797 (DEP 7.10.1797); 1812 (DEP 13.8.1812). Inn, incorporating ballroom, additional stables 1821 (Sherrard *et al.* 2). Leinster Arms Hotel 1822 (DEP 8.10.1822). Leinster Arms 1824 (Pigot). McDonnell's hotel 1826 (DEP 8.8.1826), 1829 (Cooke). Head Inn 1840 (Val. 1). Leinster Arms 1846–81 (Slater). Major alterations in progress 1850 (Val. 2). W. part converted to private residence in c. 1850; hotel 1859 (Val. 3), 1873–1909; unnamed 1977 (OS). E. part John Dean's inn 1850 (Val. 2); private residence 1859 (Val. 3); post office 1873 (see 13 Administration). Leinster Arms Hotel, ballroom, general posting establishment 1882 (KO 25.3.1882). Leinster Arms 1995.



Country House Archives at the OPW-Maynooth University Archive and Research Centre

The OPW- Maynooth University Archive and Research Centre (OMARC) was founded in 2008 when the Centre for the Study of Historic Irish Houses and Estates (CSHIHE, Director, Prof Terence Dooley) and the Office of Public Works came together in collaboration with Maynooth University Library to create a facility for the care and study of archives and other sources relating to the history of Irish country houses, landed estates and the decorative arts. The Archive and Research Centre is located on the second floor of Castletown House, one of Ireland's finest Palladian houses in Celbridge, Co. Kildare. The Centre cares for over 80,000 unique items related to the great houses of Ireland and the decorative arts. Some of the collections available for consultation include:

Airfield Archive

The Airfield Archive consists of over 25 thousand unique items, dating from the late 19th century and 20th century, including letters, diaries, notebooks, scrapbooks, postcards,



Figure 1 Letitia Overend and nurses completing Voluntary Aid Detachment training c.1915, Airfield Archive

maps, newspaper cuttings and photographs, collected and retained by the Overend family.

This includes documents of Trevor and Lily Overend and daughters Letitia and Naomi.

In addition to the family papers, Letitia and Naomi Overend also kept a large number of items relating to their hobbies, interests and philanthropic works, which make up a valuable piece of social history of the period. Most notable are the records of the Irish War Hospital Supply Depot, including a letter book with requests for supplies from army hospitals in France, Belgium and Britain, and the Saint John Ambulance Brigade.

Glin Archive

The unique collection, containing over ten thousand items of Desmond Fitzgerald, 29th Knight of Glin's personal papers, correspondence, newspaper articles and photographs documenting his passion for the conservation and preservation of country homes and interiors across Ireland.

Conolly Archive

The Conolly Archive offers a unique insight into over 400 years of history at Castletown House, Ireland's finest palladian mansion. The collection includes the letters of Lady Louisa Conolly, estate accounts and photographs of Castletown house and demense.

Exhibitions and Outreach

At OMARC, we work closely with both Maynooth University Library and CSHIHE to help plan exhibitions on a variety of themes. We also plan our own exhibits shown in our reading room for visiting researchers and group visits so that you can see fascinating groups of records up close. A number of exhibitions curated by CSHIHE and OMARC on the Irish Country House are now available online and can be viewed at <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/centre-study-historic-irish-houses-and-estates/exhibitions>

We at OMARC are deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Hon. Desmond Guinness. He leaves behind a celebrated legacy to save Ireland's historic buildings. On his and the Irish Georgian Society's saving of Castletown House in the 1960s, Desmond Fitzgerald, 29th Knight of Glin wrote "his action was not only of great public spirit but daring as well".

The archival collections at OMARC

are available for consultation by appointment, for further information please see our website: <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/omarc> You can also follow us on Twitter, Instagram and our Blog.

by Nicola Kelly, Archivist
OPW-Maynooth University Archive and Research Centre



Figure 2 Waterford Crystal chandelier made for the Duke of Leinster, Carton House c.1780s, Glin Archive

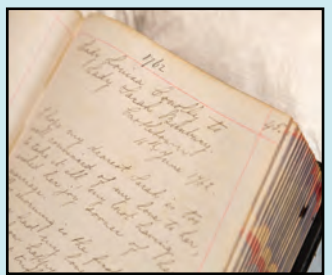


Figure 3 Letters of Lady Louisa Conolly, 1758-1821, Conolly Archive

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Life Credit Union is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.





Writers’ Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

Walking Home from School

When I drive along that tarmac road nowadays I still recall barefooted urchins in short-pants with leather satchels on their backs climbing over an iron gate or picking their way past potholes in a limestone surface, their horizons bounded by stonewalls and whitethorn hedges. Yes, some of my most vivid memories are associated with walking home from school. It was then that we indulged in high jinks, which nowadays would probably be regarded as antisocial behaviour. During winter, boys wore boots with iron studs to protect the soles but in summer both sexes liked to go barefoot – though some girls wore sandals. There was a country shop at the intersection of the school road and the main Castleross-Drumbeg road that sold liquorice allsorts, bulls’ eyes and other tempting sweets. Our ringleaders would occasionally put carbide in a cocoa tin, wet it then apply a match to a hole in the bottom, blowing off the lid. If the explosion brought the shopkeeper out shouting blue murder we fled elated.

About fifty yards up the Drumbeg road there was a public pump; on warm evenings we swung its long handle up and down, holding our mouths to the cool jet to drink but we also called to houses to ask for a mug of water. One of our regular places of call was the home of an old, childless couple. The wife had always been friendly but one day – I was quite young at this time – the ringleaders encouraged me to say, “Thanks, Duckie.” No sooner were the words out of my mouth than “Duckie” turned into a raging devil, denouncing me as an ungrateful cur! I was mortified. What had I done wrong? Later, I surmised that the name must have been her husband’s term of endearment.

Our journey brought us past the limestone quarries and kilns that provided road metal and lime for the entire parish and further afield. When a kiln, packed with alternating layers of stones, coal and turf, was burning it was an impressive sight that called for closer inspection. One evening we followed our ringleader round the rim of a kiln as smoke billowed from the glowing, volcano-like centre mere inches from our feet. Next moment there was an angry roar, the owner’s wife ordering us to get off that instant. “Ah, dry up, you old bag!” our intrepid chief

muttered, much to our amusement, though he, along with the rest of us, quickly skedaddled.

If, on leaving school, we took to the fields we could cut about a mile off our journey, so this was our usual choice, especially in summer. The route started with an uphill climb on which we might be obliged to carry our leaders, a pair of boys walking abreast supporting each shoulder-mounted rider! After that, we crossed some fields and then climbed over a wide, metal gate onto the road. Once, while I was on the gate top, a fellow on either side grabbed one of my feet and pulled, keeping me in agony for what seemed ages, but was only minutes.

Though we may have been trespassing, no landowner objected to our choice of route and one old gentleman whose outhouses we had to pass was always friendly. We would ask him for the time just to see him take out the watch attached to a chain, which he kept in his waistcoat pocket. He would open the lid, peruse the dial, tell us it was four o’clock or whatever and then put the watch carefully back. Electric poles traversed his farm, the overhead wires hissing angrily in wet weather.

About this time slings were used for throwing stones at birds but, though they had a good range, they lacked accuracy. Our ringleaders therefore decided that we should all be armed with catapults – for which they provided strips of car-tube rubber at sixpence or so a strip! Domestic fowl near the road were designated legitimate targets, though we were never to fire stones at ducks, as they had “no cover” – whatever that meant. In the following weeks many a squawking hen testified to the accuracy of those catapults. It was in a pitched battle with travellers camped by the roadside, however, that they really proved their worth.

Occasionally, a traveller boy might approach you on the road and ask, “Are ye fit to fight?” Back then one rarely heard of knives being drawn or drink-fuelled groups attacking individuals; instead almost chivalrous, man-to-man contests prevailed. Nevertheless, there was undeclared war between “them and us”.

One day when the adult male travellers had gone to Castleross, our ringleaders decided that we would attack

the roadside encampment. Soon there were stones flying in both directions, the traveller boys, using just their hands, able to match our catapults in length of shot, if not in accuracy. As missiles bounced off the canvas tents the itinerant women begged their young warriors to leave us alone, while threatening us with red slaughter when the men returned. Finally, our leaders decided that we had proved our valour and ordered a withdrawal. Nobody on either side was injured and it is only in hindsight that the encounter loses its macho aura.

We didn’t come off scot-free from every escapade. A man whose house we passed had acquired a tractor, a rarity in those days of horse-drawn ploughs and mowers. One evening a crowd of boys ventured up on this exciting new machine, which was parked by the roadside. Having been warned by our father never to interfere with a neighbour’s property, my brother and I merely watched as our ringleaders pretended to start the engine and drive. What none of us realised was that the owner must have spotted the carry-on. Next evening he was lying in wait. No sooner had the first boy mounted the tractor than he charged, roaring like a bull. The culprits took to the fields but my brother and I hared it along the road. My heart was thumping painfully but little by little our pursuer gained on us. When he reached me he knocked me face down on the road, knelt astride my waist and proceeded to wallop the daylights out of me. In my terror, I wet myself. Finally, satisfied that one miscreant had been taught a lesson, the ogre withdrew, vowing that next time he’d do worse.

I didn’t tell my father what had happened: it would have been my fault to be an onlooker, which, in truth, I almost invariably was. Those were days of rough justice but also ones where every novelty on our journey home was explored, from sliding down icy slopes in winter to visiting quarry ponds in summer, from getting lifts on neighbours’ horse-drawn carts to picking sloes, strawberries or mushrooms in the fields. And always there were our intrepid ringleaders to marshal us into novel escapades.

Colin Scott

"A terrible beauty is born".

In his poem "Easter 1916", Yeats sees the Easter Rising and its aftermath as the birth of a terrible beauty. I wonder what did he mean! Was he right? He saw the Rebellion as an eruption in the middle of a "casual comedy", the transformation of a place from "where motley is worn" to a place of frightening, intoxicating beauty and opportunity. Was that it?

In our recent celebration of the 1916 Rebellion I don't remember reading or hearing much if anything about that optimism, that magnificent dawning. That may, of course, be more of a reflection on me and my exposure to the media than on those well placed and qualified to comment on such matters.

I like the expression "A terrible beauty is born." One has either to ignore it and walk away resolutely or to embrace it and be consumed by it. Christ's resurrection was the birth of such a "terrible beauty". His immediate followers were consumed by it and were changed utterly. On Thursday evening they were a bunch of cowardly hirelings. A few days later, when through the inspiration of the Spirit of Jesus they realised what had happened, they said "Here goes! All's changed! Changed utterly. We've got to tell everybody about this. Christ is risen from the dead. A terrible beauty is born". So, has their passion lived on?

Can you see it around you today?
Does the "casual comedy" still hold sway? or maybe it's now the "futile farce"? Is "all changed"?
Where is the "terrible beauty"? Is the world around you being transformed by the person of Christ? By his message?
Blessed are the poor! Blessed are the peacemakers! (Why must John Hume's peacemaking work be so unusual?)
Blessed are they who hunger and thirst after justice! Blessed are they who share what they have with those who have not.
There never was a message of such hope and certainty as the Good News announced by Jesus. The poor, the sinners, the pariahs of society had never before heard such an exhilarating message. God's riches are for all, now and hereafter.

"Learn from me for I am meek and humble of heart"
Matthew 11:29.
"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life!" John 14:6
"I came to cast fire on the earth and yearn for it to be kindled." Luke 12:49

No weasel words these! But we have sicklied over them with platitudes, fripperies and jingles.

If getting rid of English oppression was for Yeats the birth of a "terrible beauty" in Ireland surely the conquering of death and the eruption of God's presence among us was a "terrible beauty" greater than any ever imagined! The Resurrection was God's signature on all that Jesus said and did!

A terrible, terrible beauty is indeed born!

GM.

Time to Leave?

You’ve noticed flying insects grow scarce, evenings gradually arrive much sooner, a creeping chill that hints of frost and snow but, plainest sign, swallows with your kin gathering on overhead electric lines before the epic journey south.

Of course you still have work to do:
I’ve seen your young ones peeping from the nest upon our neighbours’ roughcast gable and you with other fluttering martins trying to persuade them to take wing, though knowing that they still need time.

And I, who quail before tasks still undone, must watch the summer flowers decay, the friends of my own age grow weak and this stiff body lose its former pride, while conscious of the ghosts of those I knew calling softly from the other side.

P.G. Nerney



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Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee



In the July issue, I started off with the word “encouraging”, in August, I used the word “Progress”. On this occasion, “uncertainty” is the word that springs to mind. As I write, the WHO are telling us that the Virus is driven by the 20s, 30s and 40s age group, but it’s the over 70s, once again, that the government are advising to “exercise judgement regarding social interaction”, as if we weren’t doing that already. So while the meat factories dictate the pace and our young people party with little regard for anyone, the rest of us must toe the line. Someone needs to grow a spine and lead this country, instead of bending with the strongest wind.

We were hoping that our committee could meet on September 1st for the first time in six months but that also is uncertain. However, stay strong, the Virus is still with but so are our volunteers, just a phone call away. To paraphrase Christy Moore in the “Voyage” “We’ll ride out the doldrums with patience and hope, working together we’ll learn how to cope”.. Stay Safe.

Finally, may I extend our sincere sympathy to the families of Nancy Horan and James Coughlan on the sad loss of their loved ones.

Súaimhneas agus Siocháin Dóibh.
Josephine Moore.

Thinking of replacing your PVC Windows?

WHAT TO DO NEXT

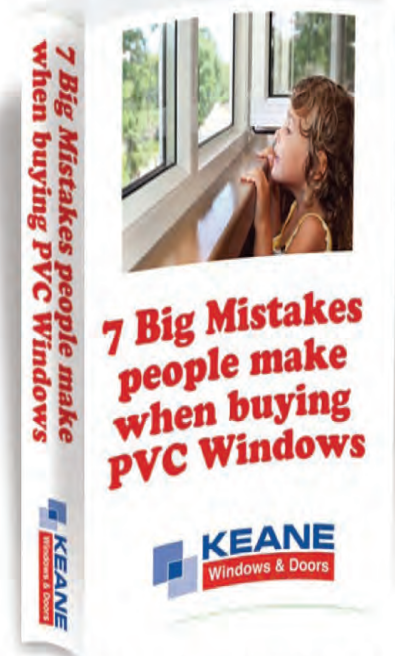
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Saint Vincent de Paul has been assisting people in Maynooth for almost half a century. For many reasons, families and individuals may at some time in their lives find themselves under pressure financially or otherwise. On those occasions, people in Maynooth are encouraged to contact the organisation either at 01 855 0022 or <https://www.svp.ie/get-help.aspx>.



The structure of the organisation in Maynooth is twofold. There is a shop in Greenfields Shopping Centre that functions independently and separately from a visiting conference (branch of SVP) which is comprised of volunteers who meet people in their own homes. There are a wide range of supports we can offer from practical help and advice to a friendly ear. All requests will be followed up by telephone contact within a week, or sooner should an emergency prevail, from a volunteer.

Conference volunteers are trained as confidants. Each volunteer is Garda vetted every three years and can provide identification when they visit a person in his/her home. Be assured that all information shared by clients with a volunteer is maintained in the strictest confidence.

Covid has radically changed peoples’ lives since February and it would seem this disruption will continue for another while. In the interest of wellbeing, a telephone call to Saint Vincent de Paul (01 855 0022) may ease the stress people find themselves under. The resources at the conference’s disposal have been donated by local people and local businesses with their expressed wish to have these donations distributed within the locality. We would like to thank all our donors for their sustained support as without that support we could not provide the service we do.

Kildare Library Service Bringing the Library to Your Door



Kildare Library Service is offering a housebound service for elderly and vulnerable residents of Kildare who are cocooning due to the Covid-19 emergency. From 2nd June, this service will be operated from our 7 main libraries. If you, or someone you know, would benefit from this service, then please contact your nearest main library from the following options:

Athy Library	045 - 980555	athylib@kildarecoco.ie
Celbridge Library	01 - 6272207	celbridgelib@kildarecoco.ie
Kildare Town Library	045 - 520235	kildarelib@kildarecoco.ie
Leixlip Library	01 - 6060050	leixliplib@kildarecoco.ie
Maynooth Library	01 - 6285530	maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie
Naas Library	045 - 879111	naaslib@kildarecoco.ie
Newbridge Library	045 - 906130	newbridgelib@kildarecoco.ie

You can request 5 items from a wide variety of books, audiobooks, large print books and DVDs then a member of the library team will deliver these to your home. When you are finished with the items, the library team will also arrange to collect them and deliver some new selections if you would like them. The library service hopes that engaging with the service will provide some entertainment and help to lighten the days ahead for those who are dealing with challenging and isolating circumstances. It is important to note that this service is available to all cocooning residents in the county, young or old, and you do not have to be an existing member of the library to take part.

Library membership is free to all and there are no overdue fines for library loans.

Online services during Coronavirus

You can join the library online and get eBooks, audiobooks, online magazines and newspapers for free straight away, or even take language and other courses. go to: www.librariesireland.ie/news/online-services-during-coronavirus

#GetToSchool

Last month, Maynooth Cycling Campaign announced that we would be organising a Family Cycle along the Royal Canal prior to the reopening of the schools. Unfortunately, due to the lockdown in Kildare we took the decision to cancel the event.

While groups of up to 15 people are permitted to meet outside, we felt that it would be an inappropriate time to encourage large gatherings.

However, various Cyclist.ie groups including those in Sligo, Cork Leitrim and elsewhere are organising GET TO SCHOOL ON YOUR OWN FUEL to promote walking and cycling to school. They are encouraging parents to practice cycling along the routes to school in advance of 1st September to familiarise children with the route.

The idea is to do it at a time when motorised traffic is relatively light so that it will be less daunting come September when traffic will be heavier. More details on the campaign can be found at <https://cyclist.ie/2020/08/get-to-school-on-your-own-fuel/>.

Royal Canal

Maynooth Cycling Campaign welcomes the announcement that the NTA will provide funding for the development of the Royal Canal Greenway between Maynooth and the Fingal border. In contrast with earlier proposals, the NTA had been considering an increase in the width of the greenway which would have delayed the construction for several years. Although Maynooth Cycling Campaign had argued for higher standards of width and surfacing at the public consultation stage, we were opposed by Kildare County Council.

We reluctantly accepted that the scheme should proceed with its currently proposed width but the opportunity should be taken to improve the quality of surfacing. This would increase utility cycling in line with government health advice on Covid ie to walk and cycle where possible. Unfortunately, those making decisions on the matter once again "Reject the Science".

KCC Transport SPC

Two months after the meeting of Kildare County Council's Transport Strategic Policy Committee, we are still awaiting a response from Kildare County Council officials to our submissions on (1) Cycling Targets for Kildare, (2) Increased time for people at road crossings, (3) Kissing gates, (4) Width of traffic lanes, (5) Speed limits and (6) Kildare Cycle Forum. In the light of Kildare being one of the counties with worst rate of infection in the country, the apparent inaction in relation to the risk presented by kissing gates is surprising.



#Covid19/#ChangeOurStreets

We are also waiting for Kildare County Council officials to reveal their response to the government offer of funding to encourage walking and cycling. Meanwhile, our colleagues in Naas Neighbourhood Greenways have made progress.

Their proposal to temporarily close to through traffic the road along the canal between Naas and Sallins was accepted by the Council and the people of Naas have had the pleasure of enjoying an (almost) traffic free space to walk and cycle. We congratulate them on their success and hope that this will soon become a permanent feature in Naas.

Rural Cycling Collective

A desire to retain that peace and freedom, together with the promise by the new coalition government of an annual €360 million spend on walking and cycling infrastructure has led to the launch of the new Rural Cycling Collective.

Comprising an array of groups and individuals under the umbrella of the wider national Cyclist.ie advocacy network, the group is focused on making rural communities (towns, villages, and rural roads) cycle-friendly for all ages and abilities. It aims to re-balance the debate on active travel so that everyday journeys by bike across rural Ireland are enabled and supported.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. Further information on meetings and activities is available on our website.

We are affiliated to Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cyclist Advocacy Network and through it to the European Cycling Federation



ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND

These are very difficult times for everyone and not least all those connected with St. Mary's Band.

We have been confined to outdoor rehearsals since we got back together on 20th July but even these have been at the mercy of the weather gods.

Thanks to Maynooth University we have been able to rehearse at the Bandstand area beside the Phoenix Building on the North Campus but even these have suffered with the restriction to 15 on the numbers allowed gather outside last month.

That same restriction ruled out a planned recital, the first since our Christmas Concert last December, in Manor Mills on Saturday 29th August and at the time of writing a recital at the Harbour Car Park on Sunday 13th September is still very much in doubt if those same restrictions are not lifted in time. However, we are determined to make a public appearance in the Town at some stage so keep an eye on our Facebook page for further updates.

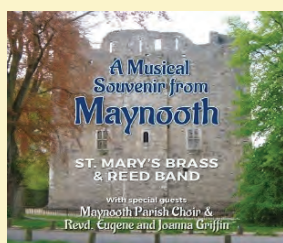
A huge disappointment last month was the cancellation of our planned collection dates on 29th and 30th of August as all Garda Collection Permits have been suspended until further notice.

This was another blow to our finances as we depend so much on these collection days to keep the Band running as the cancellation of St. Patrick's Day Parades and a number of planned fundraising Concerts means that we have had no income whatsoever since last December.

The one saving grace is that we were fortunate to record a second CD with the Parish Choir and Rev. Eugene and Joanna Griffin last November and all sales from this CD are now going towards our running costs instead of our return trip to the Bad Orb International Music Festival in Germany next September.

The CD only costs €10 and is available from Maynooth Bookshop Main Street, Donovan's Londis in Greenfield and the Maynooth Newsletter Office in Carton Park or you can call 087 2537 906 if you can't make it to these locations, we would be really grateful for your support in these very difficult times.

Thank you.



Learn The History Behind Commonly Used Phrases

Didn't think learning a new language could be fun? Buckle up because we're about to dive deep into the history of languages to find out the incredible origins of commonly used phrases all around the world!

Cat Got Your Tongue

Meaning: Said to someone who remains silent when they are expected to speak.
Origin: There are two stories on how this saying came into being. The first one says that it could have come from a whip called "Cat-o'-nine-tails" that was used by the English Navy for flogging and often left the victims speechless. The second one may be from ancient Egypt, where liars' tongues were cut out as punishment and fed to the cats.

The Walls Have Ears

Meaning: Be careful what you say as people may be eavesdropping.
Origin: The face Louvre Palace in France was believed to have a network of listening tubes so that it would be possible to hear everything that was said in different rooms. People say that this is how the Queen Catherine de'Medici discovered political secrets and plots.

Bury The Hatchet

Meaning: End a quarrel or conflict and become friendly.
Origin: During negotiations between Puritans and Native Americans men would bury all of their weapons, making them inaccessible. This phrase predates the Puritans. Several Native American tribes joined together as one nation so they could better defend themselves against a warrior tribe. They symbolically buried a stone hatchet under a cypress tree. No group would bury all of their weapons, because there are always other threats, the need to hunt, and the possibility of one side not holding up their end.

Cold Feet

Meaning: Loss of nerve or confidence.
Origin: This idiom originates from a military term, warriors who had frozen feet were not able to rush into battle.

Big Wig

Meaning: An important person, especially in a particular sphere
Origin: Back in the 18th century, the most important political figures would wear the biggest wigs, hence today influential people are called big wigs. In the UK we still use the phrase bigwigs though fortunately don't tend to wear them. Not that type anyway!!



Royal Canal Notes

September 2020

Education ~~ Heritage ~~ Recreation

SEMI LOCK-DOWN AGAIN

Once again we find ourselves in semi lock-down which is not helping in some ways and beneficial in others. The canal and its environs are in constant use and this is wonderful to see. Our swans still have six signets that are nearly ready to leave and there has been a large increase in the Duck population also.

E-SCOOTERS AND E-CYCLES

In recent days E-Scooters have been observed being used in the precincts of the canal. In the interests of health, safety and best practices Waterways Ireland has prohibited the use of such vehicles and also E-Cycles along the canal.

Some of these E-Scooters can achieve speeds of up to thirty miles an hour, which is not considered safe, in an area that can boast a significant pedestrian population at regular intervals.

We want all users and all communities along the canal to enjoy the wonderful Amenity that the canal is in safety. Users of such vehicles are respectfully asked not to use them along the canal or its environs



Royal Canal Ballybranagan Ballymashon Co. Westmeath

CANALSIDE COURTESY

As stated earlier more and more people are using the canal for leisure activities so this is as good a time as any to republish the Canal side Courtesy Rules.

All Canal users are requested to please note the following:

1. **Share the space;** consider other people and the local environment whenever you're on the canal. Remember some people may move less predictably, for example young children or those with visual or mobility impairments.
2. **Drop your pace;** considerate sharing of the limited towpath space is the key. Jogging and cycling is welcome, but drop your pace in good time and let people know you are approaching by ringing a bell or politely calling out before waiting to pass slowly.
3. **Pedestrians have priority;** towpaths are shared routes where pedestrians have priority and vehicles, except bicycles and mobility aids, are excluded.
4. **Be courteous to others;** a smile can go a long way. Abusive or threatening behaviour is not acceptable and should be reported to the Police.
5. **Follow signs and obey local by-laws;** they are there for the safety of everyone. Cyclists should dismount where required and use common sense in busy or restricted areas, recognising that pedestrians have priority.
6. **Give way to oncoming people beneath bridges;** whether they are on foot or bike and be extra careful at bends and entrances where visibility is limited.
7. **When travelling in large groups;** give way to others, especially if you are running or cycling, use common sense.
8. **Try to avoid wearing headphones;** headphones make you less aware of your surroundings, possible hazards and others sharing the same space.
9. **Keep dogs under control;** ideally use a short lead on busy towpaths and clean-up after them. Dog fouling is very unpleasant and is a health hazard.
10. **At all times, keep children close to you;** encourage them to learn and follow the rules for canal towpaths and waterway safety.

If we all abide by these basic rules then the canal will be a more enjoyable safer place for all

Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

Planning Applications received from 29/07/2020 to 31/8/2020 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
20972	Kildare	Damian and Noreen Kirwan	No. 15 Newtown Court, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	27/08/2020
20967	Kildare	Paul Byrne and Olivia Speight	Newtown Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, W23 D9K5	26/08/2020
20960	Kildare	Alan Leamy & Barbara Ann Coogan Leamy	No. 43 Leinster Wood South, Carton Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	25/08/2020
20949	Kildare	Brendan Hoare	Catherinstown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	24/08/2020
20947	Kildare	Rebecca Harte,	32 Moyglare Village, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	21/08/2020
20940	Kildare	Fiona Hoare,	Roestown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	21/08/2020
20932	Kildare	Conall and Annie O'Breachain,	Blacklion, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	20/08/2020
20923	Kildare	Steelframe Design and Build Limited,	Unit J1 D, Maynooth Business Campus, Straffan Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	18/08/2020
20919	Kildare	Noelle Conlon,	Cormickstown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	17/08/2020
20901	Kildare	Alan Leamy & Barbara Ann Coogan Leamy	No. 43 Leinster Wood South, Carton Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	13/08/2020
20872	Kildare	Damien Doyle,	Moyglare Nursing Home, Moyglare Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	07/08/2020
20871	Kildare	Authorized Property Company Limited,	Glenroyal Hotel, Straffan Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	07/08/2020
20855	Kildare	Jason Burke and Daniel Burke	508A Newtown Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 Y1R9.	04/08/2020
20842	Kildare	Cyril Borie of L'art du Chocolat	L'art du Chocolat, The Chocolate Bar, Main Street, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 F5K6	31/07/2020

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



News

Stricter limits placed on household visits and outdoor gatherings

The Government announced revised restrictions on the numbers who can visit people at home and the number who can attend outdoor gatherings. Indoor visits are limited to 6 visitors from no more than 3 households and outdoor gatherings are limited to 15. Weddings and some organised events are exempt from the restrictions and can have up to 50 in attendance. Guidelines on protocols for the cultural sector have been issued. These measures are in place until 13 September 2020.

Kildare residents have enhanced restrictions until 7 September 2020. This includes restrictions on travel, and the continued closure of some non-essential businesses.

Kildare, Laois and Offaly business supports

The government announced a package of supports for businesses in Kildare, Laois and Offaly including:

- A 20% top up on the Restart Grant Plus
- Prioritisation for existing grants, loans and vouchers
- Additional funding to promote counties through Fáilte Ireland

On 21 August, further supports were announced for businesses in Kildare following the extension of restrictions.

Employment Wage Subsidy Scheme (EWSS)

Eligible employers can now register for EWSS using Revenue's online service. The EWSS will replace the TWSS on 1 September. Revenue has published Guidelines on the operation of the EWSS.

Supports for businesses

The Enterprise Support Grant is open for applications. This is a grant of up to €1,000 to help businesses reopen. The COVID-19 Online Retail Scheme is open to retailers employing over 10 people and provides grants ranging from €10,000 to €40,000. A second call for applications opens on 31 August and will close at 3pm on 28 September 2020. The COVID-19 Adaptation Fund is open for applications. Grant funding of between €500 and €15,000 is available. Closing date for applications is 8 October 2020.

Invoice redirect fraud

The Gardai have issued a warning about invoice redirect fraud, where scammers send businesses fake invoices for payment.

BTEA and PUP

People getting COVID-19 PUP do not have to satisfy the criteria of being on a payment for a specific length of time before becoming eligible for Back to Education Allowance (BTEA). However, to apply for BTEA they must transfer to a jobseeker's or other qualifying payment. Their BTEA payment rate will be linked to their qualifying social welfare rate of payment not the PUP rate.

COVID-19 PUP and Maternity Benefit

Time spent on PUP and TWSS is treated as if claimants are continuing to make insurance contributions at their normal social insurance class. This means that a woman getting PUP or TWSS within 16 weeks of the expected due date of her baby, will qualify for Maternity Benefit if she has enough social insurance contributions. She should ask her GP to complete an MB3 form.

People on PUP or TWSS can also qualify for Paternity Benefit, Adoptive Benefit or Parent's Benefit, if they have enough social insurance contributions.

State exams

The postponed Leaving Certificate 2020 examinations will start on **Monday, 16 November 2020**. All exams will be written only except for 5 subjects where coursework was completed before schools closed. Adult learners and early school leavers will sit their final Junior Cert exams in November 2020.

Parents who have paid a fee for post-primary school transport 2020-2021 and do not wish to use it can apply for a refund. They must tell the Department at schooltransportrefunds2020@education.gov.ie by Friday 4 September 2020.

Eligible parents who do not wish to use the service for 2020-2021 school year may apply for a grant to support them with the cost of private transport. The maximum daily allowance is €5.10 a day.

Changes to Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate curriculum 2020-2021

The Department of Education has set out details of subject and module changes for the Leaving and Junior Cert 2020-2021.

Student Grant payment

The first payment of the student grant for the 2020-2021 academic year will be on 9 October 2020.

Immigration status renewals extended for further month

Immigration permissions that are due to expire between 20 August 2020 and 20 September 2020 are extended by one month. This includes all types of permissions, including those extended automatically by previous extensions and visitors to the State who have been given time limits on their stay by immigration control at the airport (or other port of entry).

COVID-19 Passenger Locator Form moved online

Travelers to Ireland must now complete the COVID-19 Passenger Locator Form online. Penalties for non-completion or dishonest completion are still in place.

Medical card renewals

Renewals will be assessed as usual for medical cards due to expire after 31 August 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, medical cards that were due to expire between March and August 2020 were automatically extended for up to one year.

Temporary guardianship

The temporary regulations that allow children to be placed with extended family members have been extended for a further 3 months

Changes to probate procedure

The process for getting Grants of Probate and Letters of Administration will move online in September 2020. The Probate Office will no longer accept paper applications after Friday 4 September 2020.

Upcoming

Leaving Certificate results and CAO offers

The Leaving Certificate Calculated Grade results will be issued through the student portal and to the student's school on Monday, 7 September 2020. CAO first round offers will be made on Friday 11 September 2020. Students must respond to offers by 16 September 2020.

Parental leave

From 1 September 2020, you can take up to 26 weeks parental leave. This is increased from 22 weeks.

Reduction of standard rate of VAT

The standard rate of VAT will be reduced from 23% to 21%, effective from 1 September 2020 to 28 February 2021.

Expanded use of video evidence in court

From 14 September 2020, courts will have greater freedom to allow for remote testimony from witnesses, even where the witness is outside the State. A wider range of court hearings can be conducted remotely. Criminal trials will continue to be heard in person.

Ones to watch

Plans for restricting travel

The Irish Times reports that the Government is preparing proposals on restricting non-essential travel from countries with high levels of COVID-19 infections.

Legislation

Dáil Éireann resumes following its summer recess at 2pm on Tuesday, 15 September 2020.

Committees continue to meet, including the Special Committee on COVID-19 Response, and you can get information about recent committee meetings on oireachtas.ie.

On citizensinformation.ie

New

Being disqualified from driving
 Retiring to Ireland as a returning Irish emigrant

Updated

Public health measures for COVID-19

New section on laws that are in place and penalties.

Shopping during COVID-19

Update on new public health measures and Kildare only restrictions.

Package holidays and linked travel arrangements

Page rewritten.

Supports for businesses impacted by COVID-19

Updated with EWSS, Supports for Kildare, Laois, Offaly & further supports for Kildare. Details added on COVID-19 Adaptation Fund, Enterprise Support Grant, COVID-19 Online Retail Scheme, VAT reduction and Warehousing of tax debts.

Primary school transport

Information added about face coverings and the COVID-19 process.

School transport for post-primary students

New information on face coverings, fee refunds and grant.

Schools and COVID-19

Full rewrite including what to do if a child becomes unwell.

Back to Education Allowance

Waiting period for PUP recipients has been waived.

Paternity Benefit, Adoptive Benefit or Parent's Benefit

PUP and TWSS recipients can apply if they have enough social insurance contributions.

Leaving Cert, Junior Cert, Leaving Cert and Calculated Grades

New details of written exam dates and curriculum changes.

Student Grant Scheme

The grant payment date has been included.

BTEA

Qualifying period has been waived for PUP recipients.

Coming to set up a business or invest in Ireland

Application dates removed for Immigrant Investor programme.

Employment Wage Subsidy Scheme

Information added from Revenue's Guidelines on the operation of the EWSS

Community Employment Programme

Time spent on the COVID-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment (PUP) will count towards the qualifying period for CE.

Dealing with the deceased's estate

Rewritten and amended ahead of changes to how probate applications operate from next month.

President of Ireland

Rewritten.

Remote hearings and video link evidence

Substantially rewritten to include changes contained in the Civil Law and Criminal Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2020.

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

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THE MIRACLE PRAYER

Dear Heart of Jesus. I have asked you for Many favours. This time I asked 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 and favour will be granted, no matter how impossible.

Thanksgiving for favour received.

Never known to fail - D.J

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Dear Heart of Jesus. I have asked you for Many favours. This time I asked 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.

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Never known to fail - C.M.M



Healthy Lunch Boxes for School


Thinking of healthy and exciting packed lunch fillings can be a daily challenge. Here are some simple, fast and delicious ideas and remember variety is the spice of life.

A balanced lunchbox should contain:
Starchy foods like bread, rice, potatoes or pasta
Protein foods like meat, fish, eggs or beans,
A dairy item, like cheese or yogurt
Vegetables or salad and a portion of fruit

Shapes: Cut sandwiches into triangles or smaller squares, or use shape cutters. Shape cutters can transform apples, watermelon, or cantaloupe into juicy heart or star shapes. A vegetable peeler makes elegant ribbons of any firm long vegetable. Carefully use a knife to cut sticks of carrot or bell pepper.

Star Shaped Sandwiches, Pasta & Wraps
Use a star-shaped cutter to stamp out bread stars from wholemeal bread. Chicken, turkey, ham, tuna, lettuce tomatoes and low-fat cheese are some of the healthy fillings you can use. Close the sandwich, wrap in cling film and chill in the fridge if making the night before. There are plenty of carb options that kids should love and that can help add a bit of variety into your child's diet.

Pasta is a great option for their lunchboxes with a gorgeously creamy pesto pasta salad with cooked veg such as peas, green beans, chicken, ham, hard-boiled egg or cheese are all good options, depending on what your child's favourite is. Rolls, bagels, baps and wraps - make a lunchtime treat that's delicious, filling and nutritious.

 **Soup**
If it is a cold wintery day something warm and comforting for lunch is so welcoming. Try a tasty soup. Pour into a thermos flask to take to school. Soup can provide several of your five-a-day. Two or three veggies either chopped or

whizzed up in a soup provide plenty of vitamins, minerals, fibre and antioxidants.

Veggie Sticks
There are several vegetables that can be eaten raw and some provide more nutrition than when cooked. They are full of vitamins and antioxidants. Ones that work well in lunchboxes include; carrots, cucumbers, celery, cauliflower, tomatoes, sugarsnap peas and baby sweetcorn. Add a dip to liven them up.

Healthy Treats
Strawberries, blackberries, raspberries and blueberries are perfect for children's lunchboxes. As well as being colourful additions to the lunch box, they are low in calories and full of vitamins and anti-oxidants, so they're healthy too. And most children seem to love them.



A sweet and fruity treat for children is yogurt swirled with mashed strawberries and topped with berries of your choice.

Creating a pick-and-mix effect can make fruit look much more attractive to children, although it takes a few extra minutes peeling and dicing it is worth it. Securing fruit and cheese on a stick can really work wonders when it comes to getting children to eat their 5-a-day and it takes just minutes to prepare.

Rice cakes are another favourite option children. New flavours are being launched all the time. Adding a spread or simply eating them as they are, means they make a great lunch box treat.

Don't forget to pack a water bottle. Water is not only the best choice, but a necessary one. It is also free of calories, sugar, and caffeine, and other additives found in sugary drinks. Beyond plain water, fruit-infused waters are also great healthy drink choice.

From shopping to filling lunch boxes, get the children involved in the process. There is a better chance that they will eat everything if they have helped choose it too.



Tips for your Morning Routine For School


No one likes having a stressful morning routine for school that ends up making you late. It knocks you off your game, messes with your mood, and usually results in you leaving something essential at home, right on the kitchen counter. These routine tips will help you wake up on time, get ready fast, and head to school with minutes to spare—and not one of these ideas involves setting the alarm any earlier than you have to.

Children don't understand time in the same way as grown-ups. This can make school mornings a stressful time of day for families. But staying calm and getting along in the morning will help you all feel positive about the day ahead.

The first step in your morning routine for school is to think about what you need to do and work out a plan for doing it. You'll probably find that you and your child can do many things the night before.

Here are some ideas:

- Create a routine where you get at least 8 hours of sleep every night. Set your alarm for the same time every morning to help you get in this routine.
- Try to find out the night before (or even earlier) if there is something special going on at school the next day.
- Put all your books, homework, papers, school supplies, keys, and any other items you will need in your bag. This will save you time in the morning and decrease the chances that you forget something important.




You can put the final items, such as your lunchbox, in your bag in the morning. Just try to get as much organized as you can the night before.

- Organise lunches and set the breakfast table ready for the morning rush. Breakfast is one of the most important meals of the day, and helps your child to concentrate better at school.
- Get your child to have a bath or shower the night before. This means you won't have to worry about this in the morning.
- You might know something is going to come up that could cause conflict, like your child not wanting to eat breakfast, or wanting to wear sneakers rather than school shoes. Talk about it the night before when everybody has time and you're all less likely to be stressed.
- Think about having a weekly schedule or calendar with reminders of what your child needs to take to school each day – for example, library books, sports clothes etc.

Be creative in your solutions and do what works best for your family. There are no right and wrong answers when it comes to establishing your family's morning routine.

With a little time and creativity, you will soon have a morning routine that works for the entire family.



INFORMATION THAT SHOULD BE DISPLAYED IN EVERY HOUSEHOLD IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

WHERE THE MAINS WATER IS COMING IN TO THE HOUSE AND WHERE THE TAP IS TO TURN THE SUPPLY OFF

WHERE THE TAP /CONNECTION IS TO TURN OFF GAS/OIL OR WHATEVER HEATING SYSTEM YOU HAVE

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ALWAYS HAVE AT HAND PHONE NUMBERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

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PLUMBER
ELECTRICIAN
ALARM PROVIDER

BE AWARE OF YOUR EIRCODE AND KEEP IT HANDY
YOUR EIRCODE CAN BE CHECKED AT [HTTPS:// FINDER.EIRCODE.IE](https://finder.eircode.ie)

HAVE A FIRE EXTINGUISHER AT HAND ESPECIALLY IN YOUR KITCHEN. A FIRE BLANKET IN THE KITCHEN IS ALSO ESSENTIAL

MAKE SURE TO HAVE SMOKE ALARMS ON EACH FLOOR OF YOUR HOME AND BE SURE TO CHECK IF THEY ARE WORKING AT LEAST EVERY MONTH.

CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM IS A MUST IN EVERY HOME



Cllr. Angela Feeney Maynooth Labour News

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



**Keeping you in touch with local and county matters.
Keep safe in these difficult times.
Let's support each other.**

Hoping you are all staying safe and well in these challenging times. Mind each other and please keep in touch if I can be of any assistance to you or your families. It has been an exceptionally busy time with an increase in contacts from people about housing issues, employment rights, childcare, business restarts and continuation, school reopening and planning issues. Council meetings have been relocated to Newbridge Town Hall, MD meetings continue in the Council Chamber and many subcommittee and additional meetings taking place online.



Council Meeting to consider COVID County Restrictions

At our special Council meeting on August 14th last, to discuss the county lockdown, Cllr Feeney raised the anomaly that exists concerning the Restart Grants phase one and two. Several business owners in Kildare had been in the process of applying for the initial Restart Grant but the scheme was abruptly terminated last week even though it was due to run until the end of August. These businesses are now in the process of applying for the Restart Plus Grant and they have been now been made aware that businesses who have received funding under the Restart Grant will now benefit again and receive further funding under the Restart Plus Grant. Those businesses that did not get around to applying for the first round of Restart Grants before the scheme was terminated should not lose out, this is such a difficult time for businesses that may be in financial difficulty as a result of the localised restrictions in our county. Both grants are well needed by all. KCC Head of Finance agreed with the comments and stated that a complaint was issued to the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation concerning this anomaly and asking for it to be addressed.

KCC Finance Committee send letter to Minister O'Brien

Cllr Feeney is a member of KCC Finance Committee and at the recent meeting the Committee agreed to write to the new Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, Daragh O'Brien, seeking additional funding for Kildare in order to provide services to the citizens of this County to the same level as other Local Authorities are afforded. Kildare has one of the lowest funding per capita in the country and has always been acknowledged that Kildare has not had sufficient increases in LGF to meet the demands of its growing population and that this directly affects the levels of service provision that can be made.

Cllr Feeney interviewed for Maynooth Politics

Thanks to Maynooth Politics for inviting me to participate in the inaugural interview on July 22nd. Issues discussed with Treasa were: County Development Plan, Childcare Provision and the long overdue Swimming Pool. Check it out! www.facebook.com/maynoothpolitics

Maynooth needs more litter collection measures

Cllr Feeney asked if the Council could confirm if any additional litter collections have been put in place due to increased numbers in public spaces resulting from COVID-19 restrictions. The response from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Section stated that the Municipal District does not have any additional resources to allocate to the street cleaning and litter collection services and they are maintaining the schedule but are responding to incidents promptly when they arise. Cllr Feeney suggested they look at where the bins are currently located because places such as the harbour field Maynooth have become really popular since the pandemic arrived and more bins might be needed there. Fair play to the Tidy Towns-during the lockdown we really noticed the difference and they were really missed-but we need to play our part too and take our rubbish home.

Crèche Building Compliance

At the Council Plenary Meeting on June 29th, Cllr Feeney requested the Council to provide a report of current and upcoming housing developments in the county that include a crèche as part of an approved planning application and what is required by Council to approve repurposing of a planned crèche facility.

The Council in its response acknowledged the shortages, and difficulties in sourcing appropriate childcare in locations across the county. In this regard the Council is seeking to ensure that appropriate levels of such facilities are provided in appropriate locations, and in ensuring compliance with Childcare Facilities: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (DEHLG) where identified needs exist. The Council confirmed that planning applications for residential developments are considered and assessed with respect to Childcare provision using the following: Childcare Facilities: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (DEHLG) and Policies and Objectives in the County Development Plan 2017-2023, including Policy CPF 2 which seek to facilitate and encourage the provision of childcare facilities, including community crèche facilities, of an appropriate type and scale, at appropriate locations throughout the county and to identify suitable locations through the Local Area Plan process, where appropriate.

The Council also stated that where identified needs exist, developers are required to provide a childcare facility for 75 units and over and where a crèche, permitted as part of a residential scheme is proposed for a change of use, planning permission is required.

The Council clarified that while all applications are considered on their own merits, the Planning Authority has been consistent in not permitting the repurposing of crèche facilities unless a comprehensive assessment has been provided to demonstrate a surplus of childcare facilities exist in the area, and this evidence is supported by the Planning Authority and Kildare County Childcare Committee.

The Council informed Cllr Feeney that the Planning Authority has conducted Infrastructure Assessments and Social Infrastructure Audits for a number of settlements to inform the County Development Plan Variation and details will be finalised in the coming months and distributed to the members thereafter. These assessments/audits provide a database of existing crèches/childcare facilities and where possible the capacity of services therein.

Cllr Feeney added that she is very aware of the difficulties parents in Maynooth are experiencing in securing childcare places for their children across the county and the pressure it is putting on families. She is part of a Community Crèche Action Group founded to address the fact that current providers are full until 2024. Cllr Feeney informed Council that it is at a critical point and with increasing population the situation will only get worse, Council needs to be vigilant and that where a crèche is part of an approved planning application that it is provided.

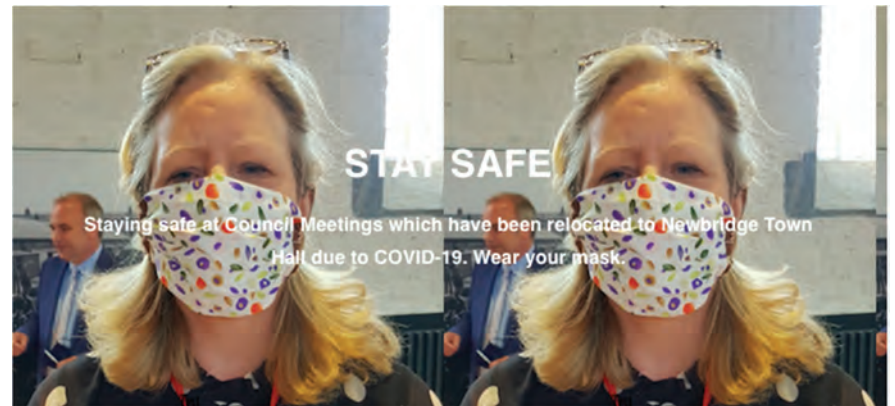
People choose to move to Maynooth, to purchase a home in a new housing estate that will include a crèche as part of their estate but roll forward months then years and the crèche does not materialise.

Cllr Feeney believes that a holistic approach to the problem is needed with increased proper community-based affordable childcare. She agrees that a new model of childcare needs to be put in place because the current one isn't working and hopes that the new government delivers on what is promised for childcare in the Programme for Government. Until then, we need to play our part and ensure that these planned childcare facilities are being delivered. The motion got the support of council with many members across parties making contributions to the discussion. Cllr Feeney stated that she was happy to hear that this issue will form part of the wider conversation and the upcoming Review of the County Development Plan. Cllr Feeney asked for the issue to be kept on the progress report and that she looks forward to seeing the social infrastructure audits that are mentioned in the report.

COVID-19 map by Electoral District

Cllr Feeney spoke about the COVID-19 map on the www.gov.ie website at the Council Covid meeting on August 14th, stating that it had not been updated since June 12th and calling on the Council to communicate this to the HSE. The map is very useful in providing correct data on each electoral district and the public have a right to have the most up to date data. Cllr Feeney also added that this would address the many rumours that had been circulating about case numbers. The acting Chief Executive responded stating that he would escalate the issue. Cllr Feeney welcomed the fact that the map was brought up to date the next day. You can access it to see the number of cases for our area:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/service/...>



Speed Limits Review

Cllr Feeney requested the Council to introduce temporary 30km/h zones around schools in Maynooth, as is already done for some rural schools in the county.

The Council responded stating that at present it has no plans to install periodic speed limit controls around schools in Maynooth. However, as part of the current County Speed Limit Review, which is the legal process for the adopting speed limits, the Council will review the Speed Limits as mentioned.

The motion prompted a lot of heated supporting contributions from Council colleagues equally frustrated at the situation. This review needs to happen quickly, Cllr Feeney asks why should it take so long to put 30km speed limits at schools. She added that Jakes Law was agreed by Council in 2028 and nothing has changed in housing estates in the county.

Cllr Feeney concluded by saying :**Speed up Speed Limit Review"**

Lawrence Avenue and Maynooth Park Road Markings

Councillor Feeney requested the Council to provide an update on the status and timeline for the reinstatement of road markings, namely double yellow lines and stop lines at Lawrence Avenue and Maynooth Park since resurfacing works in 2018. In its response the Council stated that the Municipal District office will investigate what needs to be replaced and arrange for same to be replaced in the next two months.

Cllr Feeney also requested that the hedges along the Celbridge Road also be cut back to make the route safer for school children returning to school in the coming weeks. Cllr Feeney is happy to report that the works have now been completed.

School Streets Initiative.

Cllr Feeney requested the Council to investigate the possibility of piloting a School Streets Initiative in Maynooth whereby access for vehicles is restricted during drop off and collection times of the school and there is enforcement by the Council of illegal parking on footpaths and cycle lanes. This initiative started in Malahide, Fingal County Council.

Cllr Feeney believes that the situation outside our schools has to be addressed and this initiative could be a hugely positive scheme with massive potential to benefit everyone in the community but mainly to improve the safety and well-being of pupils attending the schools.

Essentially, a section of road outside the schools is transformed temporarily into a car-free, pedestrian and cycling zone to create a safer, cleaner, more environmentally friendly space outside the school, due to the traffic challenges that are caused outside schools in Maynooth-school gate congestion, unsafe parking and blocking of footpaths, road safety risks due to vehicular movements, children being exposed to excess air pollution, and car-dependent children being less physically active.

The initiative provides a pedestrianised zone where access for vehicles to that section is restricted during drop off and collection times of the school, Monday to Friday during term time only.

In response, the Council stated that it is piloting the scheme in Athy and Monasterevin, serving 4 primary schools and 1 secondary school in total.

As the pilot scheme has commenced, it would be beneficial to evaluate the outcome of the current initiative before adding other locations. Schools around the county may be included in any future plans to roll out the initiative following assessment of the Athy and Monasterevin Schemes.

Cllr Feeney looks forward to the outputs from the pilot so that Maynooth and other towns can do something similar. In the interim we need to address the issue of illegal parking on cycle lanes, footpaths and double yellow lines at a time when we need to see more people walking, cycling and Cllr Feeney asked for this to be referred to the Joint Policing Committee to enforce this.

(Continued on page 18)



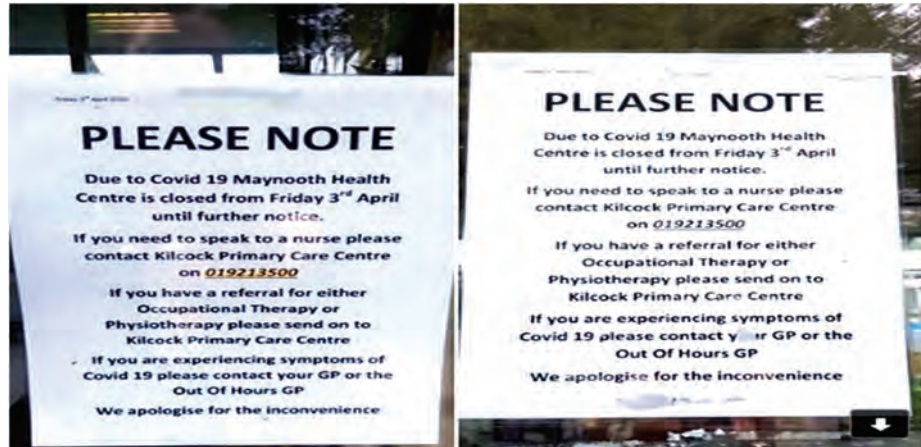
Cllr. Angela Feeney Maynooth Labour News/Cont.



(Continued from page 17)

'Re-location' of Maynooth Health Services to Kilcock

This notice was placed on the Health Centre Maynooth and prompted Cllr Feeney to write to the Minister for Health.



To: Deputy Stephen Donnelly, Minister for Health.
Re.: Relocation of HSE Clinic in Maynooth, Co. Kildare

A Aire,

The decision to relocate the HSE Clinic at the Health Centre in Maynooth to Kilcock Primary Care Centre has met with public outcry here in Maynooth. The Health Centre provides much needed services to the community of Maynooth and has done so for over forty years. When service-users saw the notices posted on the door of the Centre informing them that the services would now be moved to Kilcock, there was shock and disappointment to see further erosion of basic services in our town.

In spite of the fact that Maynooth has grown in population to almost 15,000 and with a large growing University population added to this, we have not gained the very basic services needed to accompany the building of more and more houses. In fact, we have no community centre, no full time Garda station, we have to travel to Leixlip for that service. With this recent development, it looks like we will not have a Health Centre and we will need to travel to Kilcock for health services. Older people, people with mobility issues and families cannot and should not be expected to travel out of their own town to avail of health services. The added cost of travel as well as the inconvenience caused is so unfair to the most vulnerable in our community.

I call on you as our new Minister for Health to provide a Primary Care Centre for Maynooth as a matter of urgency. In the interim, I call on you to allow the Community Nurse to be available in the Community she serves by working out of the other HSE-owned building in Maynooth until any refurbishments of the Health Centre are completed. The last thing we need as a growing town is to have yet another service removed from our community.

I am available to meet and discuss this and other important issues for our town

Le meas,

Cllr Angela Feeney

Community Group Grants

Kildare County Council has announced the allocation of funding- €181,230 - to provide capital grants towards the maintenance, improvement and upkeep of community centres and community buildings. Similar expenditure on other community facilities will also be allowed. This funding is being made available under the Government's July stimulus package, and is targeted at measures that stimulate local economies, while enhancing facilities in disadvantaged areas. Capital expenditure on adaptations or equipment needed as a result of COVID-19 may be eligible, depending on the work being completed.

<https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/2af76-minister-joe-obrien-announces-details-of-5m-funding-for-community-centres-community-facilities/>

NTA Presentation to Council

NTA-The National Transport Authority

Here is a copy of the presentation made by the National Transport Agency to Kildare County Council last week. Please see the link below to access it:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1M3bo1YJPhfkoXo1wnFw4mn1aMuseXPE0/view?usp=sharing>

Have your say!

Are there particular issues that you would like me to bring to the Council meetings? Please take two minutes (literally) to complete this survey and to add your voice. Here is the link to the survey:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JJPZGZ9?fbclid=IwAR3syfrgJun9NOzDXHTWC1S5Nj1OwPKi8Y_nw_J6GCNvkY4hdICkDPrfbjU

Recent Meetings attended by Cllr Feeney

June 23rd: KWETB Board (online)

June 23rd: BOM Training Part 2 of 2 (online)

June 25th: MPPS BOM

June 26th: Strategic Policy Committee Meeting at KCC Chamber Naas

June 29th: Plenary Meeting of Council in Newbridge Town Hall

June 30th: KCC Finance Committee Meeting (Online)

July 3rd: Maynooth MD Council Meeting in Council Chamber Naas

July 21st: Joint Policing Committee Meeting with Gardai and MD Councillors (online)

July 24th: Training Webinar on Planning

July 27th: Council meeting at Newbridge Town Hall

August 11th: Special Briefing of full Council response to COVID-19 County Restrictions

August 14th: Special Briefing of full Council response to COVID-19 County Restrictions

Healthy Lunch Boxes for Work

Making a healthy packed lunch box is a great way to save money! I know that packing lunch every day can be tough. But a bit of planning goes a long way.

And remember! It's not just about saving money, it's also about eating healthy food, rich in protein, fiber and with no processed fats!

Tips & Tricks for making healthy lunch box ideas for adults

If you want to become a packed lunch expert, check out these smart tips & tricks! They'll help you to create delicious lunch box ideas for work in no time.

Keep them simple!

The key to great healthy lunches is to keep them simple! Use real food, and prepare as much as possible ahead of time. Pick food that doesn't need to be cooked or requires little effort and is easily stored in the fridge for a few days. Keep them healthy! Pack more fruit and veggies in your lunch box. This will help you to lower your calories, eating less fat and have a much more balanced diet! Use leftovers

Keep some essentials at your desk

You want to make sure that eating lunch at work is as comfortable as possible. Keep some silverware and seasoning in your desk drawer: a small bottle of olive oil, salt, and pepper will make your lunch more attractive!



Protein Lunch Box

With Roasted chicken breast and boiled eggs this lunch box is rich in protein!

Ingredients:

Roasted chicken breast

Cherry tomatoes

2 boiled eggs

A sliced red apple

A tablespoon of almond butter



Energy Boost Lunch Box

Ingredients:

Greek yogurt or Coconut yogurt (for vegan alternative)

Maple syrup

Mixed nuts: almond walnuts, and cashew nuts

Fresh berries

A sliced red apple

A tablespoon of peanut or almond butters

Italian Lunch Box

Ingredients:

A fresh mozzarella

A couple of fresh tomatoes

Basil

Pesto

Pinenuts

Green and black olives

Dressing: extra virgin olive oil, balsamic vinegar, salt and pepper

A toasted slice of bread

Red and green grapes

Vegan Lunch Box

1 small cucumber

1/2 cup chickpeas

1 cup cherry tomatoes

1/2 cup brown rice

A handful of fresh parsley

1/2 cup green and black olives

3 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil

A pinch of salt

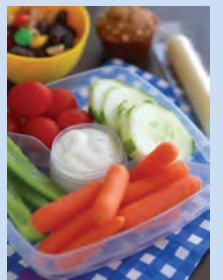
A pinch of pepper

1 avocado

1 lemon wedge

Carrots and celery sticks

3 tablespoon hummus



Bread and crackers: Crackers, pita bread, and rice cakes are great too!

Dry nuts: almonds, walnuts, cashew nuts etc. are a great source of healthy fats and protein and are perfect to graze while you start to feel hungry.

These lunch box ideas for adults not only look delicious, but they are so easy to make ahead! They all take between 10 to 30 minutes, and are cheap.

You'll pack these lunch boxes so quickly that you'll have plenty of time to relax and count the money you saved from buying lunch! Plus kids will love them too!

Source: [gatheringdreams.com/lunch-box-ideas-for-adults](https://www.gatheringdreams.com/lunch-box-ideas-for-adults)

**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

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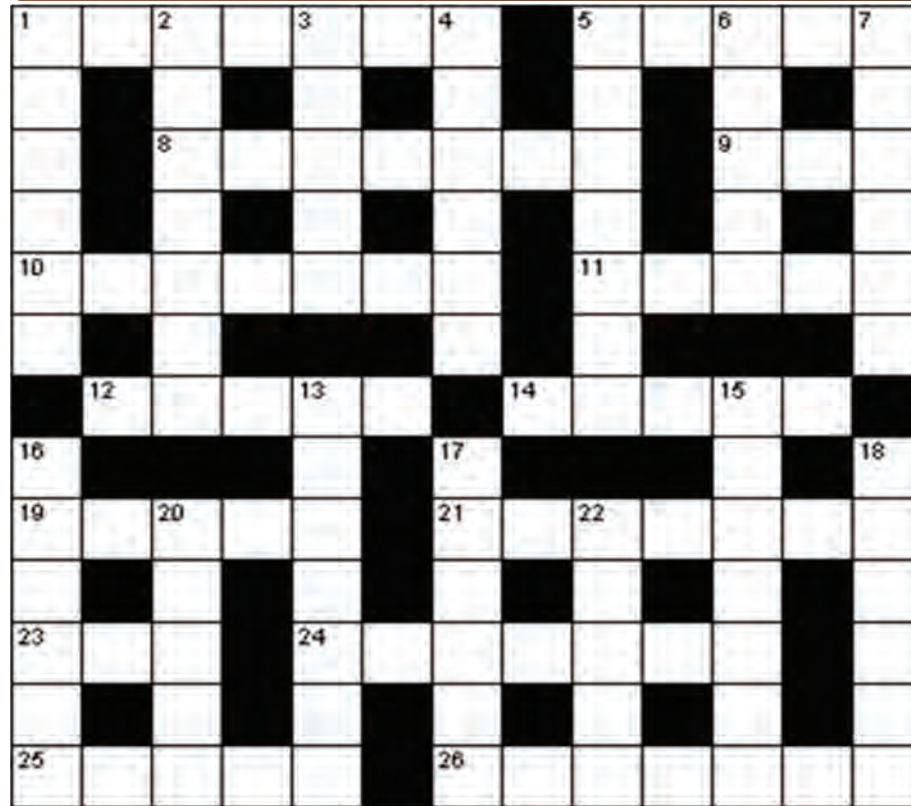


Clues Across

1. Requested the presence of someone (7)
5. Prominent (5)
8. Closest (7)
9. Compete for something (3)
10. Expressed mirth (7)
11. Scope (5)
12. Started (5)
14. Mentally responsive (5)
19. Inexpensive (5)
21. Imaginary creature (7)
23. Pasture (3)
24. Bulwark (7)
25. Pay out (5)
26. Proposition deducible from basic postulates (7)



September 2020 Crossword - No. 494



Clues Down

1. Models of excellence (6)
2. Speculation (7)
3. Impart skills or knowledge (5)
4. Is afraid of (6)
5. Actual (7)
6. Corvine bird (5)
7. Cricket team (6)
13. Had a lofty goal (7)
15. Adult male chicken (7)
16. Weighing machine (6)
17. Pinnacle (6)
18. Apprise (6)
20. Efface (5)
22. Visual representation (5)



Solutions to Crossword
No. 493

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

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

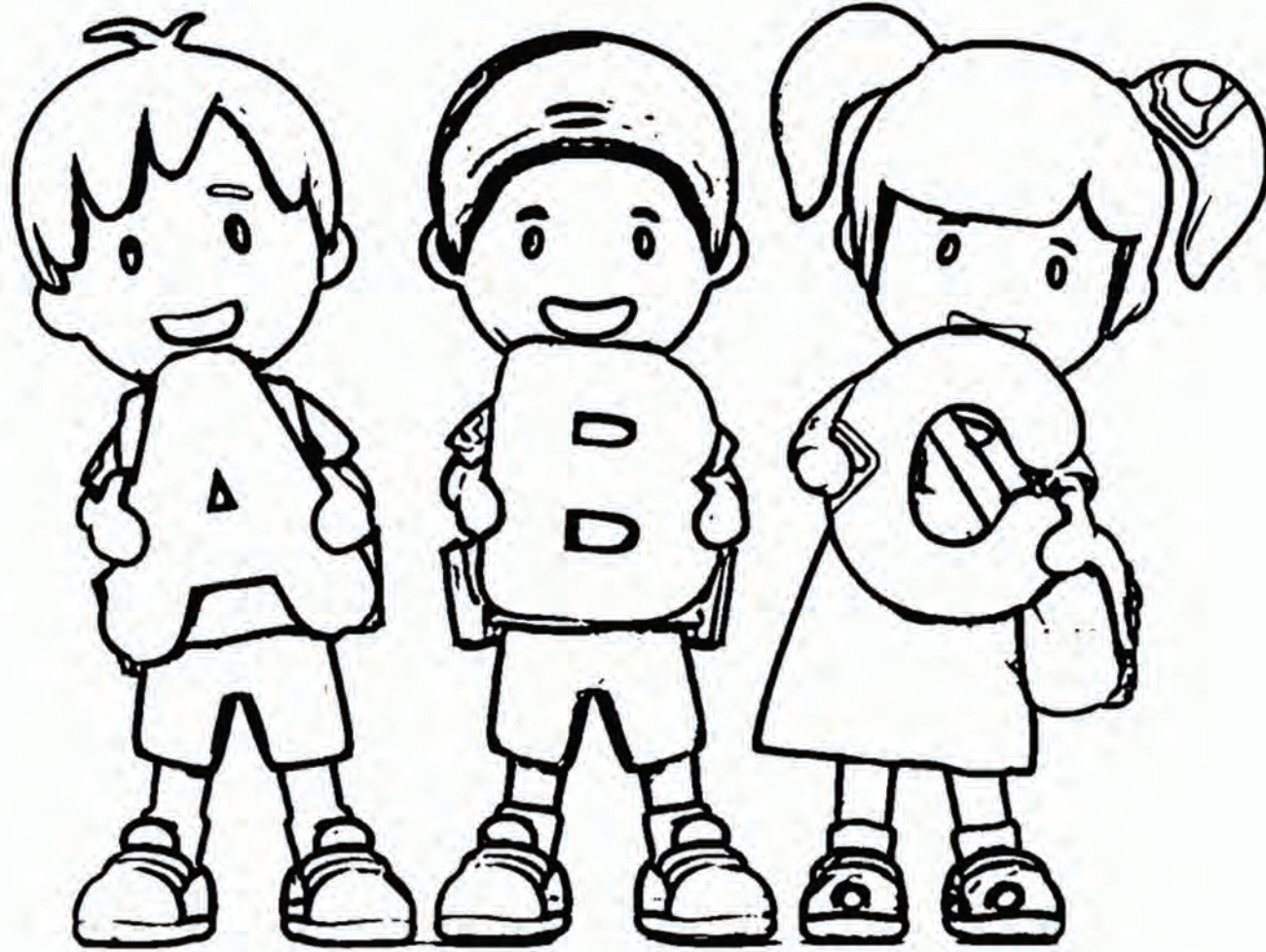
Super Difficult

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

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



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

All About Me

My Name Is _____

My Birthday Is _____

My favourite Activity is _____

I want to learn more about _____

I am special because _____

A Picture of Me



Superman

Word Search

DIRECTIONS: Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.

BLUE
BRAINIAC
BRAVE
CAPE
CLARK
DAILY
DC COMICS
DOOMSDAY
EARTH
EVILDOERS
FLIGHT
GLASSES
ICON
JUSTICE
KANSAS
KENT
KRYPTON
LANE
LEX
LOIS

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

LUTHOR
METROPOLIS
PLANET
POWERS
RED

STEEL
STRENGTH
TIGHTS
TRUNKS
XRAY



September Gardening



September is generally a cooler, gustier month than August and the days are noticeably shorter. While there's not as much to do in the ornamental garden at this time of the year, if you have a fruit or vegetable patch, you'll be busy reaping the rewards of harvest. It's also time to get out and start planting spring-flowering bulbs for next year and you can collect seeds for next summer's colour too. Make the most of the remaining warmth while you can!

Roses that were pruned after flowering and were given some rose fertilizer will be showing a new crop of late buds and flowers - these can even



flower into early winter if there is no frost. Evergreens can be lifted from late September and re-planted. Control grass and weeds on areas that are marked down for planting in autumn. Check that young trees are securely tied to stakes, going into autumn gales and winter weather. Finish clipping hedges as soon as possible, all kinds of hedge can be clipped at

this time and they will stay neat longer if clipped now. Evergreen shrubs could be moved now if they need to be given more space.

Create a new lawn from turf or seed - autumn weather is favourable for good lawn establishment. Raise the height of your mower blades as grass growth slows down. Now is a good time to carry out essential lawn maintenance to avoid waterlogging and compaction.

Try aerating your lawn with a garden fork, removing thatch from the surface with a rake and repairing dead patches. Use a specialist lawn scarifier if you have a large area to cover. Apply a special lawn top-dressing after carrying out maintenance work. Follow the instructions on the packet carefully. You can feed your lawn with an autumn fertiliser now, which is rich in potassium and low in nitrogen.



Spring bulbs are appearing in the shops and it is a good time to make an assessment of new locations for bulbs. Tidy up messy perennial flowers, but be sure to leave good stems and seedheads, such as agapanthus, fennel,



lysimachia, dierama, phlomis and monarda, for autumn and winter display. Bedding and container annuals will last longer if given some liquid feeding now, they still have two months in them but will fade long before that without feeding and regular watering. There is a last chance to take cuttings of tender plants such as geraniums, marguerites, fuchsias and chrysanthemums to carry over winter.

Keep harvesting crops. If you have a glut of fruit and veg try freezing, drying, pickling, and storing so that you can benefit from them later on. If vegetables have gone over, pull them up and compost them, if they are not diseased. Most vegetables pull out easily when the soil is soft. Take the opportunity to clear out weeds. Later the soil will grow colder and wetter and these removal jobs will be more difficult. Conditions are ideal for planting spring cabbage which benefits from making root growth while there is still a little heat in the ground. Lift potatoes before the small underground slugs become active, and the soil becomes sticky. Place pumpkins on a flat stone or piece of slate or wood if the ground is heavy and wet.



*You know you are a hard-core gardener if you
deadhead flowers in other people's gardens.*



September Recipes

Roast whiting with chorizo and tomatoes

Serves 6

Ingredients:

8-12 whiting fillets or similar
100g chorizo
250g cherry tomatoes
1 pepper, red or yellow
Small bunch fresh basil
Crusty white bread

Method:

Preheat the oven to 200°C. Remove the skin from the whiting by placing the fillet on the chopping board flesh side up. Use a sharp, flexible (if possible) knife. Make a small nick at the tail end but don't cut all the way through to the skin; this will give you something to grip. Carefully work towards the top of the fillet from the tail end, gripping firmly while using a saw-like motion with the knife. The skin should come away in one piece. Remove any bones you can feel. Repeat with each fillet. Place each fillet on a large oiled baking tray. Fold each one in half with the tail tucked underneath to create a small compact rectangle. Place a thin slice of chorizo on top of each one and then scatter the tomatoes, chopped pepper and remaining chorizo around the fish. Bake in the hot oven for 12-15 minutes until the chorizo is crisp, tomatoes ready to burst and the fish opaque. Scatter with torn basil leaves and serve straight away with crusty bread to mop up the sauce.



Lamb with olives and baked feta

Serves 4

Ingredients:

2 cloves garlic, crushed
2 tbs olive oil
250ml red wine
8 black olives, halved and stones removed
15g mixed herbs
1 shoulder of lamb, about 1.5kg, boned
2 large handfuls of spinach
200g feta cheese
200g cherry tomatoes
4tbs basil pesto

Method:

Mix the crushed garlic, oil, olives and roughly torn herbs. Rub this mix all over the inside of the lamb piece - no need to put it on the fat-covered side. Pour the red wine over and make sure every part of the meat is covered with the wine. Roll it all up and place in a sealed tupperware or zip-lock bag in the fridge for a few hours to marinade.

Preheat the oven to 170°C. Unroll the lamb and place in a roasting tray with 250ml of water and any of the marinade that hasn't been soaked up. Cover tightly with foil and cook for two to three hours (three is best). Then remove the foil, baste the meat with juices and add another splash of water, if needed. Turn the oven up high to 200°C and roast uncovered for 10 minutes or so until the meat is crisp and browned. Cover with foil and leave to rest for a few minutes before serving.

You can cook the feta while the oven is high and browning the lamb. Roughly chop the spinach. Place in a colander and pour over boiling water. Leave to cool slightly, then squeeze dry and place at the base of a small oven-proof dish. Place the feta on top and cover with the chopped tomatoes. Drizzle with oil and bake for 10 - 15 minutes. To serve, simply shred the lamb with two forks and then spoon over some over some of the pan juices. Serve with the hot baked feta and cauliflower purée or mashed potato and a drizzle of pesto or fresh herbs.



Apple and Chestnut Soup

Serves 4 - 6

Ingredients:

2 pints of chicken stock
115g shallots
170g peeled potatoes
2 large apples
300g chestnuts (poached and peeled)
20g butter
200ml cream
Toasted hazelnuts (to garnish)
Seasoning, to taste

Method:

Melt the butter, then add shallots, apples and poached and peeled chestnuts. Cook until it's transparent in colour and then add diced potatoes. Season, then add chicken stock and simmer for 30 minutes approximately. Liquidize all ingredients and then pass through a fine sieve. Season to taste and then add cream. Garnish this soup with toasted hazelnuts and sliced fresh apple.



**GOOD
COOKS
NEVER LACK
FRIENDS!**

enjoy



BRADY'S CLOCKHOUSE BAR - LOUNGE - RESTAURANT



Brady's Restaurant & Lounge

With the latest government guidelines,
Unfortunately we will be limiting our service and hours.



We will not be accepting any bookings and
it will be first come first served.

A maximum of 4 people or direct family will be allowed at a table.

We look forward to seeing you all again soon
and apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Extra precautions have been put in place to protect our Customers & Staff


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








Local News October 2020 Issue No. 495 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.



GAELCHOLÁISTE MHAIGH NUAD



GCMN – Gaeilge, Cultúr, Meas agus Neart

History was made in Maynooth on the 28th of August when Gaelcholáiste Mhaigh Nuad opened its doors for the first time. A new start, a new era, and a new generation of students from North Kildare and Meath beginning their secondary education through Irish in the centre of Maynooth.

24 students are registered and there is a wide range of subjects on offer to them. All core subjects are available, and they can choose from a range of optional ones: Spanish, German, Home Economics, Business Studies, Art, Woodwork, Technology, Technical Graphics and Music. We are putting a lot of emphasis on wellbeing in the Coláiste to ensure our students are settling in well after the sudden end to their primary education in March of this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Gaelcholáiste is currently based in temporary accommodation upstairs in Manor Mills Shopping Centre. The plan is to move to the Maynooth Post Primary and Maynooth Community College site after it has been vacated. The Coláiste's staff are committed and energetic and are looking forward to the future of Gaelcholáiste Mhaigh Nuad. We are committed to providing an excellent, wide-ranging education for our students through the medium of Irish and it is anticipated that the school will grow and develop quickly.

Application forms for First Year places for the school year 2021-2022 will be available on our website www.gcmn.ie in October.

Is de réir a chéile a thógtar na caisleáin.

Príomhoide: Mícheál Ó Ceoinín
 Suíomh na scoile: www.gcmn.ie
 Contact us at: eolas@gcmn.ie



Gaelcholáiste Mhaigh Nuad students pictured outside Maynooth Castle



Gaelcholáiste Mhaigh Nuad classroom at Manor Mills set out for social distancing

Maynooth Harbour Area

While the onset of COVID-19 has brought much stress and uncertainty there has been at least one positive. Many more residents of Maynooth, and further afield, have come to appreciate the fantastic amenity of the Harbour area of the Town. A tranquil walk along the towpath of the Royal Canal or a few hours enjoying the sunshine in the Harbour Field became the norm during lockdowns. Hopefully this trend, weather permitting, will continue.

With this increase in traffic came an increase in rubbish to the area. While most people will avail of the bins provided to dispose of their rubbish there will always be the few who don't.


Staff of the Maynooth Community Employment Project have installed larger bins in the area of the slipway to cope with the increase and the smaller bins that have been removed will be repositioned between the Harbour and the Playground to provide extra capacity for waste. While most of the work of the Community Employment Project staff goes unnoticed we owe them a huge thanks for keeping this area maintained. Photos show how full the rubbish bins become and the amount of rubbish collected (8 black bags) in just one day. We would appeal to all who use the area to use the bins provided or take their rubbish home if the bins are full.




New bins in the Harbour Area

MCEP staff maintaining the area

Twice a year, households across the Ireland change the time on their clocks either an hour forward or an hour backwards, depending on the time of year and each year, many of us get confused about when the clocks change. On Sunday October 25, clocks go back one hour at 2am marking the end of summer time. An easy way to remember the twice yearly occasion and which corresponds to going back or forward is the saying: “Spring forward, Fall back.”





SHOP LOCAL - EAT LOCAL - SPEND LOCAL - ENJOY LOCAL

Support Local Jobs - Keep Maynooth Working



Maynooth Newsletter

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

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

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

Tel: 01-6285922

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

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 Friday 23rd October 2020

Editorial

It is hard to believe that we are already in October 2020 and I can only speak for myself in asking where has 2020 gone. I have not been on a train or travelled to Dublin City since March. While working at home suits me as well as many other residents of Maynooth I have to say that while I moan about having to get up at six in the morning to travel to work in Dublin I am missing my train trips. The strange thing is that I cannot see anything changing at least for the rest of 2020. I am always a glass half full person and in as much as possible but I now have to accept that the daily Covid 19 news is the most important news every day. Kildare was the first place to have to accept losing almost the full month of August and it is now the case that other counties have followed. We do not want to go into another period of additional local restrictions so we all need to be sensible and follow the advice of Public Health officials. So please take care and let us all try to ensure that Maynooth does not become a hot spot for Covid 19.

Also being October we would like to welcome back students to Maynooth University and in particular those starting in first year. A lot can be said about the expectations that young people have about their time in university. Most courses are at least three years duration so there is plenty of time to experience the events and meet the people that will make the memories that you will take from your college years. By choosing Maynooth you are coming to a town that is not unlike the place you have lived up to now so please be conscious that most of the people in Maynooth live here permanently and while they understand student life they would also expect that students respect their lifestyle as well.

Of course many aspects of life continues and for those attending school you are almost at the end of the first term and the mid-term break at Halloween is here. On the front page we celebrate the opening of Gaelcholáiste Mhaigh Nuad the new Post-Primary School teaching through the medium of Irish. Currently based in the Manor Mills complex it is expected to transfer to the existing Maynooth Post-Primary building sometime during the school year. Also on the move is Gaelscoil Ruairi who teach the primary school curriculum through the medium of Irish. Gaelscoil Ruairi has moved to a site on the new Maynooth Education Campus in the Moyglare area.



Gaelscoil Ruairi new school building

At the beginning of this article I mentioned that I was missing my daily train journeys to Dublin. If plans go to timetable (I couldn't resist it) we will have a DART service to Maynooth. Irish Rail has opened a consultation process which closes at 5pm on Wednesday 7th October 2020. See link to their website below.

Irish Rail - How to Engage / Contact Us

This consultation is our way of asking you, as potential users of the service or those likely to be affected by its development, for your views on our plans.

Your local knowledge will inform the emerging design, help us to improve the project and ensure it will be a success for you and the communities the project will serve.

You can provide feedback on our proposals before 5pm on Wednesday 7th October 2020 via the following means:

Search DART+West Feedback on www.irishrail.ie

Phoneline: (01) 823 5127

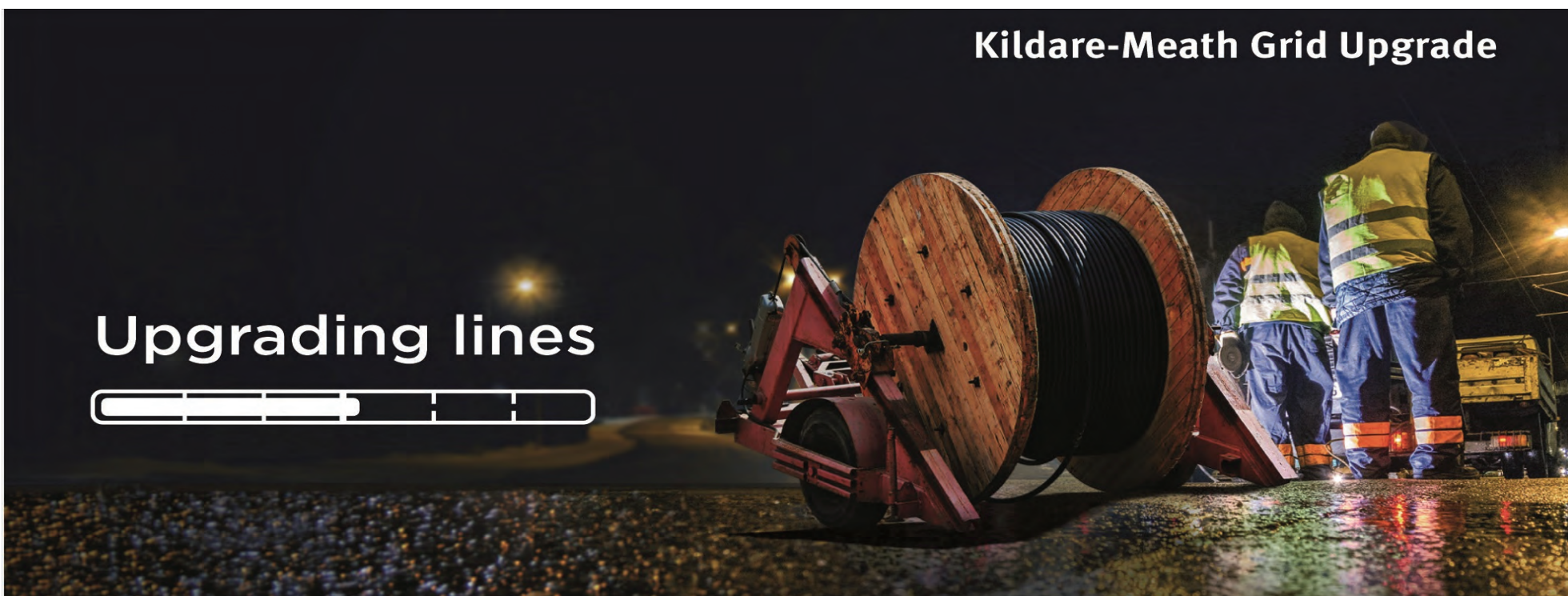
Email: DARTMaynooth@irishrail.ie

Paul Croghan - Editor



Kildare-Meath Grid Upgrade

Upgrading lines

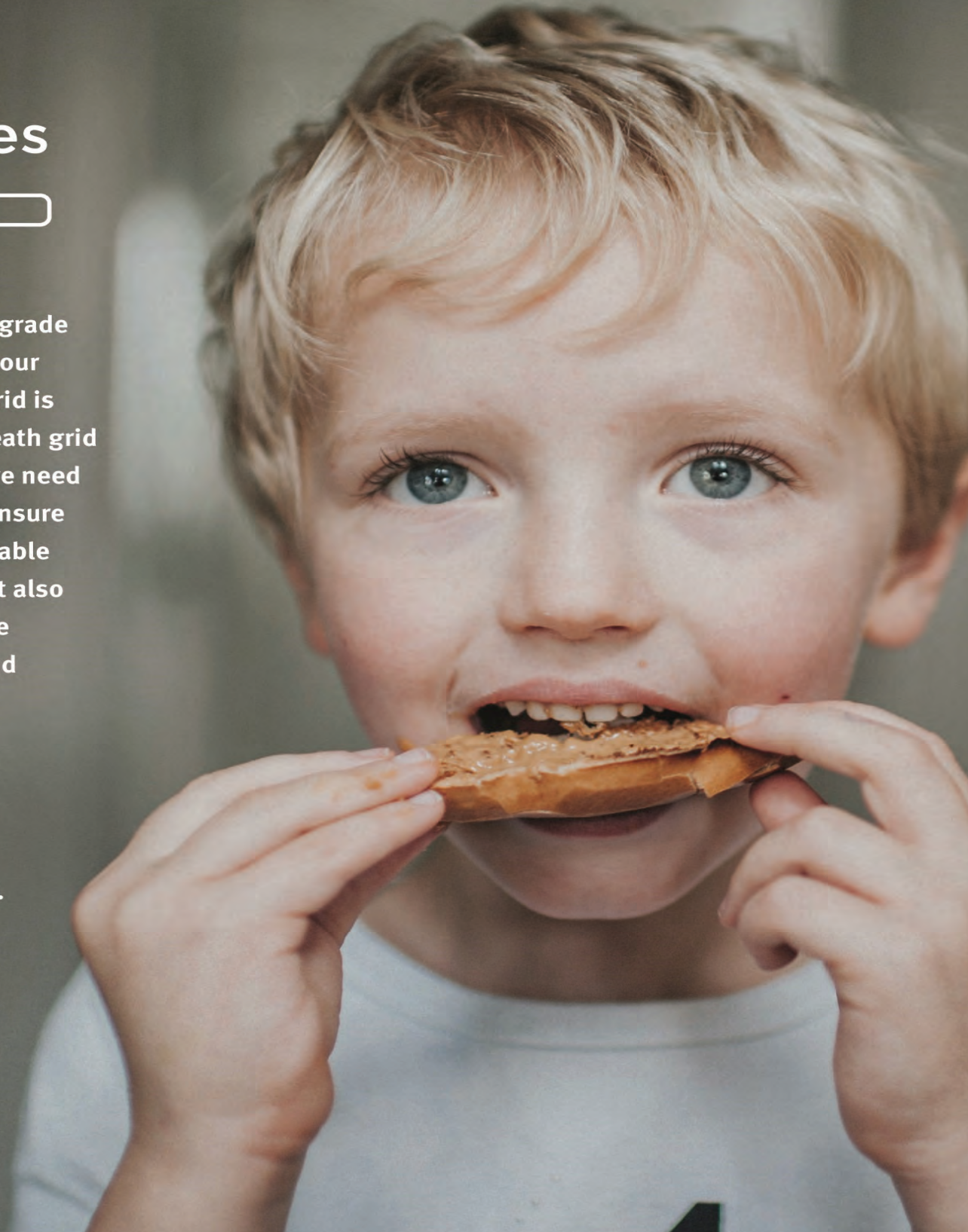


Upgrading lives



We all know how much better an upgrade can make things. And that's true of our electricity grid too. That's why EirGrid is planning to upgrade the Kildare-Meath grid – vital if we are to have the power we need for our growing population and to ensure you 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 to reduce carbon emissions.

We're now looking at five possible ways of doing this - with overhead and underground options - and will be in touch soon to hear your views. In the meantime, you can find out more at eirgrid.ie/KildareMeath



Molly's Big Chop!

About Me: Hi, My name is Molly and I am an 8 year old girl from Maynooth in County Kildare. I am in 2nd class in Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich. The first thing people usually notice about me is my super long hair. I was even born with lots of hair so I guess that makes me a good person to help The Little Princess Trust. My Mum told me all about The Little Princess Trust and how they help sick children in Ireland and the UK who lose their hair from cancer.



Cutting my long hair and fundraising for Little Princess Trust because I want to help a sick child feel happy.

I felt sad thinking about other children being sick. I would like to do something to help them. On October 16th 2020 I am going to cut my hair and donate it, to help a child get a nice wig and

feel happy. It costs a lot of money to create the wig from the hair so I am also fundraising to send money to the charity. I am hoping that, with the help of my family and friends I might even be able to raise €1,000. If you could help me to get there you would make me, and another child, and the charity very happy.

The Big Chop: On Friday 16th of October I will get my hair cut at Pelo Hairdressing in Newbridge. I'm really lucky that it will be Denise cutting my hair. She's one of the best hairdressers in Ireland, so I am sure she will do a great job. My Mum will pop up a picture afterwards so you can see.

About The Little Princess Trust: When a child loses their hair to cancer or another condition, we'll be there with a free, real hair wig to help restore their confidence and identity. We won't stop until the research that we fund ends childhood cancer forever. Promise. Please visit us at www.littleprincesses.org.uk to find out how you can help us give young people back what cancer takes away. The Trust relies solely on the efforts of enthusiastic community fundraisers. We receive no formal funding. Please help to raise money for us so that we can help more families.

See Maynooth Newsletter Facebook page for more info.

Irish Ghost Stories

A Haunted Mansion in Sligo

On the Coolera peninsula in Sligo William Phibbs built a stately mansion known variously as Seafield or Lisheen House.

It overlooked the sea and with over 20 rooms, it stood out as an opulent symbol built at the height of the Great Famine by a man who was a cruel and unsympathetic landlord.



By the early twentieth century, his descendent Owen Phibbs is said to have housed a collection of Egyptian artefacts, including mummies, at the house. Seemingly this stimulated the activity of a violent poltergeist.

According to some servants, the house often shook and objects would smash into the walls at random. A ghostly horse-drawn coach was said to rumble up the avenue at night only to disappear at the entrance door. Several exorcisms were apparently conducted at the house yet the activity did not cease.

The Phibbs family strongly denied the haunting, as it became difficult to retain servants. No-one knows what prompted them to leave abruptly in 1938, never to return. Their agents organized for all the house contents, even the roof, to be sold off. It is now a ruin, covered in wild Atlantic ivy, visited occasionally by those interested in its paranormal history.

The Faceless Lady of Belvelly Castle, Cork

Belvelly Castle sits prominently on the shore of Great Island in Cork Harbour. It is said that in the seventeenth century Margaret Hodnett lived there. Mirrors were a status symbol with the wealthy at that time and Margaret was known for her love of these to remind her of her renowned beauty. She had an on-off relationship with a local lord called Clon Rockenby who asked for her hand in marriage many times but was refused.



Eventually, Rockenby decided that the humiliation was enough and raised a small army and go to the castle to take her by force. He thought the Hodnetts, used to a luxurious life, would not withstand a siege. However, they surprised him by holding out for a full year before surrendering. When he entered the castle Rockenby was shocked to see the state of Margaret, skeletal and starved, a shadow of her former self, her beauty gone. Out of rage, Rockenby smashed her favourite mirror to pieces, as he did so one of the Hodnetts killed him with a sword.

After these events Margaret descended into insanity, she was said to have sought out mirrors constantly to check if her beauty had returned. It never did. She died in old age at the castle. Her troubled ghost appears as a lady in white, sometimes with a veiled face and sometimes with no face at all. Those who have seen her say that looks at a spot on the wall, then rubs it as if looking at her reflection.

Apparently, one stone on the castle's wall has been rubbed smooth over the years, perhaps in the spot where her mirror used to hang. Belvelly has largely been unoccupied since the nineteenth century but is currently being renovated.

Source: irelandbeforeyou die.com



ST MARY'S BRASS & REED BAND

A chink of light finally appeared at the end of a very long tunnel when we played our first recital of the year in the Harbour on Saturday 26th September. Due to the restrictions on gatherings we were unfortunately unable to publicise our event as it was intended mainly for the residents of the Community Care Centre



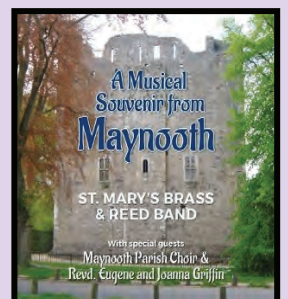
beside the Harbour and it did indeed brighten the day for them in these difficult times. As the photograph alongside shows the Band members were observing the necessary social distancing which can affect the playing and the overall sound of the Band but the members are ready and willing to put up with these disadvantages for the pleasure of playing together. We have been fortunate to have been able to rehearse outdoors for the past couple of months but with Winter on the way we will have to find a suitable safe indoor venue to continue rehearsals.

Once again the Band will be affected by the limitations imposed by coronavirus gatherings when our Annual Mass for Deceased Members is celebrated at 1oc on Sunday 1st November when only two of our members will be actively involved in the Mass. It will be a very strange feeling with the Band not being present but hopefully things will be back to normal next year.

We would like to thank those who bought a copy of our new CD at the Harbour recital last month and we hope to have them available when some of our small groups play in the Square between now and the end of the year. We are not allowed to collect and play in Manor Mill and Tesco in December but we hope to have these small groups playing Festive melodies in the lead up to Christmas to keep the tradition going.

The CD only costs €10 and is available from Maynooth Bookshop Main Street, Donovan's Londis in Greenfield and the Maynooth Newsletter Office in Carton Park or you can call 087 2537 906 if you can't make it to these locations, we would be really grateful for your support in these very difficult times.

Thank you.



MAYNOOTH DRESSES

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www.maynoothcommuniondresses.ie also www.maynoothdresses.ie



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From €369 per family

To book, call 01 629 0909 or email reservations@glenroyal.ie



*Gold Medal
Winner 2019*

Welcome to the October edition of our monthly update of works taking place in Maynooth for 2020.

It has been an unusual year for Tidy Towns with the All Ireland Competition cancelled. As a committee we have often discussed if we would have the same interest if we didn't enter the competition. This year has certainly proved that it doesn't matter if we have a competition or not, our volunteers have amazed us with their commitment to keeping Maynooth Tidy. The 14th March was our last clean up date before Lockdown and the 13th June was the date we resumed. We asked our volunteers to meet in Courthouse Square at 9am but due to social distancing only 15 volunteers can meet up safely. Some volunteers have made arrangements to meet at their respective estates in order to cover all areas of the town without too much walking.

We would like to thank everyone who has donated financially so far this year, especially Andy Duffy from CaterClean a new company set up during the pandemic in Maynooth Business Park, Andy gave us €500. Limetree Hall housing estate did a whip around in the estate and gave us €386. We had individual donations from local people who wish to remain anonymous. They understood that we didn't have our annual collection for 2020 due to the restrictions with Covid 19.

At the time of writing we are making arrangements for the Autumn planting which will be happening around the town in October. We are also working with a company called nobutts.ie to install Stashtrays receptacles in specific areas around the town. Cigarette Butts are the bane of all Tidy Towns groups around Ireland. These containers have a capacity for 5,000 butts. The WHO recently referred to the threat of butts in spreading Covid.



We would like to compliment our Chairman John Kavanagh and his son Ross for volunteering with DIY/SOS, refurbishing a house in Elton Court Leixlip for the Guihen family who have twins Shay and Finn who have special needs and need round the clock care. The programme will air on RTE1 in November.

If you wish to volunteer with Tidy Towns please call 087-3153189 and we will add you to our volunteer WhatsApp group. Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter

Mary Molloy - Secretary - Maynooth Tidy Towns





MAYNOOTH
COMMUNITY CHURCH
Eaglais Phreispitéireach in Éirinn

Sunday Morning Worship

During Covid-19 restrictions, our Sunday AM Worship services are available on YouTube from 10.15am. Find us at www.maynoothcc.org or search on YouTube for maynoothcc. Everyone welcome!

office@maynoothcc.org

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- Bear Grylls
host of "Man vs Wild".

Alpha

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Starts Thursday 1st October 2020
from 7.30 - 8.30 via ZOOM

(Details on our website homepage and link below)
www.maynoothcc.org/alpha-course/

Maynooth Community Church
Eaglais Phreispitéireach in Éirinn



MAYNOOTH
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Join us for the
**The Alpha
Marriage
Course**

Starting
Thur 8th OCTOBER 2020
& then every Thursday
7.30pm-9.00pm

via ZOOM
Details on maynoothcc.org

7 sessions to
strengthen
your relationship

The
Marriage
Course

New Thursday Morning Bible Study

If you are not already in a group, we'd love you to join us on Thursday mornings for our online Bible Study via ZOOM. During Autumn we are looking the Book of Job. Full details on our Website.



DISCOVER



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GROW



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www.maynoothcc.org



Venture Youth Group

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Coláiste Naomh Eoin
An Ghaeltacht sa Bhaile

25 Bliain Ag Fás

AUTUMN ONLINE IRISH WEEKEND COURSES 2020

7 HOURS ONLINE PREPARATION COURSES

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

COURSE	Cúrsa A. OCTOBER	30th, 31st
DATES:	Cúrsa B. NOVEMBER	27th, 28th

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WWW.ColaisteNaomhEoin.com
FÓN (01) 2985287

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EXCITING NEW EDUCATION CENTRE!

North Kildare Further Education and Training Campus

Celbridge FETC (formerly Leixlip VTOS)

**Increase your employment prospects by
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Courses include:

Computer Studies (including Microsoft Office – access, excel),
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eBusiness/ General Studies
Business Studies/ Computer Studies
Healthcare Support



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.

Email: celbridgefetc@kwetb.ie

Mobile: 087 397 7750

Web: www.celbridgefetc.ie

Facebook: @CelbridgeVTOS

Unit A11, M4 Business Park, Celbridge

KWETB OPENS NEW EDUCATION AND TRAINING CAMPUS IN CELBRIDGE

Kildare and Wicklow ETB are pleased to announce the opening of an exciting new Education and Training Campus for adults in Celbridge. This state-of-the-art educational facility will be home to Celbridge Vocational Training Opportunities Scheme (VTOS) and is open to adult learners interested in doing a further education course to upskill or re-skill.

The bright and colourful facility, located in the M4 Business Park, includes eight classrooms equipped with the latest audiovisual and IT equipment. The Centre will also have a social area for students and facilities for career guidance, counselling, language learning and evening classes. This Centre provides a new home for Leixlip VTOS, which was based in Riverforest Shopping Centre from 2008 to June of this year.

Leixlip VTOS was set up in 1993. The first class had 20 students in a rented classroom in Scoil Eoin Phóil. Since then, over 2,000 adults from the North Kildare area have achieved certification from FETAC (now QQI), City and Guilds, NCVA and the ATI. Leixlip VTOS continues to attract learners from school-leaving age to retirement age – true life-long learning. Their students have gone on to study in higher education, pursue other further education courses, find employment in many sectors and of course work in the home.

Some students have even returned to teach in the Centre after completing their degrees and teaching qualifications. This new Centre will ensure that KWETB continues to provide exceptional learning opportunities for adults in North Kildare well into this new decade and beyond.



For more information:

Phone:

0873977750/016275673

Website: www.celbridgefetc.ie

Email: celbridgefetc@kwetb.ie



For further information feel free to contact Michael Deegan or Eilis Clare on Michaeldeegan@kwetb.ie or Eilisclare@kwetb.ie.

North Kildare Further Education and Training Campus
Unit A11, M4 Business Park,
Maynooth Road, Celbridge,
Co. Kildare, W23 YK2V



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Life Credit Union is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.





Writers' Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

Dockin'

Recently, when a friend sent me a postcard showing two construction workers playing billiards in a wrecked building while a third looks on, he hardly expected that my first reaction would be negative. The caption, Dockin', which was explained as a verb that means 'relaxing, being comfortable in any situation', was just a little too 'cute' in the American sense. This conclusion was reinforced when I read on the back that I could win a week's holiday in 'San Francisco, the home of dockin'. The whole thing was just a promotion for – wait for it! – a dockin' hammock, dockchair and Dockers Khakis, and the promoters were Dockers UK Ltd and their parent company Levi Strauss! This 'smart Mick' wasn't going to be taken in by a piece of clever advertising. Chances were that the photo with the billiard table had just been posed.

Then I remembered my days working on building sites in New York. Didn't our Irish-American boss, Kenny, sometimes get up on his table about midday on Friday and dance a jig? And what about those great lunches we used have in Midtown Manhattan and the day Mr. Wagner from head office walked in on us in an Italian restaurant where the meals took almost two hours? Would we be given pink dismissal slips when we got back to the office? But no; all Mr. Wagner said to Kenny was, 'I suppose if they have to work, they have to eat'.

Weren't my mates in that New York firm, then, experts in the art of Dockin', able to shift into high gear when a deadline loomed and ready to seize the moment when the pressure was off? Think of the fun grown men had getting an unsuspecting colleague to open a box from which an imitation weasel jumped out! And I probably earned extra Dockin' credits myself when, without permission, I used take off St Patrick's Day to march up 5th Ave and, on the one occasion when I didn't march, served Irish coffee in the office to my colleagues. Yes, if in the course of their work our office staff or electricians had chanced upon a still-serviceable table, I would see them playing billiards.

Now that I think of it, while teaching in a Post Primary School back in Ireland I

used to play billiards myself – I'm calling it billiards but since we modified the rules it probably was some odd variant of the game. During lunch in the staff room my friend Richard and I would wolf down our sandwiches then, calling ourselves 'Sweet Daniel' and 'Little Sweaty Joe', grab the cues – Richard is a part-time musician with his own band, hence the Joe Dolan and Daniel O'Donnell personas, though I'm not sure which of us was which!

Anyway, with colleagues who were eating lunch at nearby tables looking apprehensive lest the end of a cue stick connect with an eye, we would concentrate on our game, keeping up our pop-singer banter. It was the best part of the day, when the pressure of teaching could be shed as one figured out a move or squinted along a cue.

Of course we weren't the only staff members who played and we certainly weren't the best. Challenges were issued and tournaments were organized. In one tournament I ended up in the final game with our principal, Sean. I had only to pot a ball right in front of a corner pocket to win but, whether from nerves or a subconscious reluctance to outdo 'the boss', I fluffed the shot. Soon after that the billiard table was moved to an adjacent room where nobody would be in danger from a carelessly wielded cue but, somehow, in its new location the old frisson was missing.

If we played a game, we were no longer Dockin', concentrating on our pastime in the midst of a roomful of loquacious diners, while the student horde roamed freely outside!

Not that Dockin' has to involve playing billiards. As the definition says, it's all about relaxing, making the best of a situation. It seems that since I retired I'm dockin' most of the time – in fact, apart from weekly shopping and lawn mowing, some people might conclude, 'That old codger is well and truly docked!'

P.G. Nerney

FRILUGTSLIV (Free air Life)

Beyond the obvious physical health advantages that come with any form of exercise, friluftsliv also offers some significant mental health benefits that are particularly important this year during the pandemic as increased financial stress, social isolation, and health concerns take a toll on people's well-being.

Fresh air, activity, and also being with your friends or family improves your mood, reduces depression, and has many positive effects on your health. Forget all the problems with the coronavirus disease and be outside, get fresh air, sunlight and be together in a good and healthy way.



Something as simple as spending time outside can provide a powerful reset for your mental health — and research is proving it. When it comes to understanding the healing effects of nature, trust the outdoors-loving Scandinavians to have the edge. Friluftsliv, a word coined in 1859 by writer Henrik Ibsen, according to Mother Nature Network (MNN), loosely means

“free air life,” and it signifies a fundamental understanding of the healing effects of nature. The Norwegian concept of friluftsliv, today used across Norway, Sweden, and Denmark, can make a big difference in your mental health, according to research.

Friluftsliv, essentially this idea, only as a deep part of Norwegian culture. MNN notes that the term encompasses an understanding of the essential connection between people and nature. Unlike the Danish term hygge, which emphasizes the importance of cosiness combined with social connectedness, Friluftsliv points to the human need for uplifting interactions with nature.

And both hygge and friluftsliv underscore basic needs that support fundamental human happiness and mental health.

Outdoor Journal reports that friluftsliv goes beyond just getting outside for a jog (though that's great, too). It's rooted in mindfulness, a feeling of being connected to a larger whole, and a sense of communing with nature.

Traditionally, friluftsliv means “a state of mind which doesn't necessarily require any physical activity,” *Outdoor Journal* writes. “All that is needed to experience this blissful state is to be in the context of nature.”

Getting outside, exploring nature, and having time to just be in the moment without distractions, phone notifications, and daily pressures, is one of the simplest ways to recentre your mindset, especially when winter blues may be getting you down. While getting out in nature is no substitute for mental health treatment under a doctor's supervision, making time to hike, get to a park, or even just walk around your block in the winter can make a difference in your mental health and mood.

Most of us have been spending a lot more time at home lately. And while technology makes it easier to work and socialize from home, there's no magic solution when it comes to finding the motivation to exercise in the very same space you eat, sleep and work.

There is a saying in Sweden 'there's no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothes'.

Source bustle.com





Writers' Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

Lockdown Lieutenants (Air: Slattery's Mounted Foot by Percy French)

What started in Australia
We were sure 'twould take a toll
The supermarket panic
And stocking-up loo-roll.
The cause was microscopic
It hadn't spared a soul
In Wuhan, that's in China,
As it spread from Pole to Pole.

We shied away from people
We saw upon the path.
We shied away from friends
Who knew what we were at.
We startled and we stumbled
When we saw that some were masked
When work was laid before us
We didn't shy from that.

Chorus:
And then from front-liners we saw the
best of us
They stepped into the breach with
ne'er a bit of fuss
And smiling through the danger which
was their trademark call,
E'en though while strangely suited,
they never dropped the ball.

Tony was the doctor
Who had seen it all before
In far distant countries
Of which we'd heard in lore.
He warned us of the ailment
That was coming to our shore
Assured us that the treatment

Was lockdown more and more.
We learned about its features
The headaches and coughs.
We learned about hand-washing
And clean 'till spots were off.
We learned about the curves
Once only known to toffs
We flattened them together
By pulling out the stops.

Chorus:
And then from front-liners we saw the
best of us
They stepped into the breach with
ne'er a bit of fuss
And smiling through the danger which
was their trademark call,
E'en though while strangely suited,
they never dropped the ball.

The TV was a lifeline
Thrown out to one and all,
To coddle those who stayed at home
Or answered Ireland's Call.
To follow that there came the Apps
Downloaded and installed
To keep in touch with far and near
Or do schoolwork in the hall.

Of all the things we thought we'd miss
Really, there were but few
Not the water-cooler
Nor driving traffic in a queue.
But we really missed our haircuts
A nice blow-dry or shampoo
And for many there was a longing
To hear their sermons from a pew.
Chorus:
And then from front-liners we saw the

best of us
They stepped into the breach with
ne'er a bit of fuss
And smiling through the danger which
was their trademark call,
E'en though while strangely suited,
they never dropped the ball.

The lockdown had its moments
And times of blissful ease
Revising Nature's bounty
Hearing birdsong in the trees.
But always in the background
Behind each cough or sneeze
We knew that there was someone
Who was given cause to grieve.

And now we are encouraged
To meet the world afresh
Our modus operandi
Will surely pass the test.
With bikes and scarves and picnics
From kitchen's home-baked best
We're going back to a future
That no-one could have guessed.

Chorus:
And then from front-liners we saw the
best of us
They stepped into the breach with
ne'er a bit of fuss
And smiling through the danger which
was their trademark call,
E'en though while strangely suited,
they never dropped the ball.

**Neil Hallinan
September 2020**

April Interlude

For Catherine

*Why is it
That because everything
In this place
At this moment
Is beautiful
It breaks my heart?
Tulips, bluebells, daffodils
But most of all magnolias,
Despite the marks of Time –
Some petals mottled,
Others fallen –
Luminous, magnificent;
While all the new-leaved trees,
The chaffinches and great tits calling
Proclaim eternal spring.*

*I want to freeze
The creeping hands of clocks,
To recreate my children's youth
And bring them here,
Eyes dewy fresh,
To wonder at a cow, a donkey
Or, radiant in black and white,
A red-beaked water hen
Swimming jerkily around,
To lift them in my arms
And carry them
To join those toddlers
Casting pebbles in the pond...*

Colin Scott

Return to School in a time of Covid

The school is getting ready
The doors are open wide
The spaces have been measured
It's time to go inside
But you my darling daughter
With lunch-box ready packed
Are setting us to tremble
Our nerves are surely racked.

You'll have to whisper louder
Do you have a little cough?
Is your sore throat any better?
You'll have the whole day off.

My boss is on vacation I know she'll be
back soon
But I'm the one in charge today
I've got everyone on Zoom.
I'll call the doctor later
And then I'll call the school
Oh, no! I'd best not do that
Your forehead is still cool.

You'll have to whisper louder
Do you have a little cough?
Is your sore throat any better?
You'll have the whole day off.

Now what is it, my son?
Are you waiting at the door?
Your bus is just across the street
Your seat is Number Four.
Mam, we've played together
Just with the ones next-door
We were shouting at the telly
That's why her throat is sore.

You'll have to whisper louder
Do you have a little cough?
Is your sore throat any better?
You'll have the whole day off.

I think I'll call them anyway
See the story that unfolds
They'll make a space inside the class
You'll be safe in from the cold.
You're not so sick to stay at home
You've not done that before

Get your bag and bring your coat
You'll be alright, a stór.
You'll have to whisper louder
Do you have a little cough?
Is your sore throat any better?
You'll have the whole day off.

Now, teacher, she's not very bad
She's running round the house.
I think she will be fine at school
In her own space, of course.
Please, listen, Missus, can you hear me?
I'm sure she'll be ok
I just can't talk so very loud
My voice is gone today.
You'll have to whisper louder
Do you have a little cough?
Is your sore throat any better?

You'll have the whole day off.
What is that you're saying?
That you're sickly, God Forbid!
Have you spoken to the Principal?
Or been tested for Covid?
Oh, Missus, let me tell you

I am not sick at all
It's just from having meetings
And dusting down the hall.

You'll have to whisper louder
Do you have a little cough?
Is your sore throat any better?
You'll have the whole day off.

I'm putting on the kettle
I'm sure they'll shut the school
And, daughter, get your apron
We're going to bake a Fool
Raspberries or gooseberries
Or rhubarb wrapped in cream
No better way to spend the day
Home-schooling, so it seems.

You'll have to whisper louder
Do you have a little cough?
Is your sore throat any better?
You'll have the whole day off.

Neil Hallinan September 2020

COUNTY CHAMPIONS

Maynooth Ladies won the Tony Mooney Cup, beating
Kilcullen in the intermediate County Final 3-11 to
1-14. The cup is named after the Maynooth manager's
late father. The match was played in Hawkfield the
County pitches on Saturday 26th September.



The Black Friary Trim Excavations

The first ten years

Set within a green field within the medieval town of Trim lies the Black Friary where, since 2010, excavations have been running each summer, with the support of Meath County Council. Currently the Blackfriary Archaeology Field School provides training to third level students in a research environment as well as engaging with the public through outreach programmes and a summer community dig.

(Image 1: The Black Friary lies to the north of the town)

The Dominican friary of St. Mary of the Assumption was founded in 1263 by Geoffrey De Geneville, Lord of Meath and Trim, and suppressed by Henry VIII in 1542. During the 1750s it was taken down for building stone. Despite this, significant remains survive. The friary footprint was never built over and this means that we have the very rare opportunity to explore the full extent of the buildings, and the greater part of the friary precinct which contained the monastic gardens and a cemetery. While we have confirmed the presence of burials of townspeople through our excavations which are ongoing, there may in fact have been a second cemetery for the friars, yet to be explored.

(Image 2: Excavations of the side aisle of the church)

Every digging season adds to our understanding of the complexity of this surprisingly large and very important site. To date a significant amount of the nave and south aisle of the church and belfry tower and a large portion of the cloister of this National Monument have now been exposed.

Excavations have also been conducted on the other ranges of buildings, the junction between the northern and western range of the domestic buildings has been found and excavated, and following this interior of the west side of the north range and part of the buildings extending north to a second court have been uncovered.

The Black Friary is one of only two Dominican friaries in Ireland known to have two courts or cloisters. The cloister garth, or garden area, is large by Irish mendicant friary standards – indeed it is currently the largest known example. This, coupled with the evidence of the use of Purbeck marble, sourced in the Isle of Purbeck in Dorset, England, for the cloister arcade, mark out this site as being of very high status in its heyday.

(Image 3: Purbeck marble cloister arcade capital base)

Throughout the course of the excavations, thousands of archaeological artefacts have been recovered, dating primarily to the medieval and post-medieval periods. Among the most common finds are sherds of medieval pottery (such as locally manufactured 13th century 'Trim Ware'), post-medieval pottery and building materials (including decorated plaster, stained glass, floor tiles, and numerous architectural fragments). Medieval and later coins, bone pins and metal artefacts of various type, including a small piece of chain mail, have also been retrieved.

Of major significance has been the recovery of extensive amounts of medieval stained glass, of which several pieces are still within their lead comes, an extremely rare occurrence in Ireland where no medieval glass still intact in windows survives. In fact, in one specific area within the west range, thousands of pieces of glass were found mixed in with building rubble. The glass seems to have been smashed out of the lead and the lead then was re-cycled.

(Image 4: Medieval stained glass)

We are also beginning to recover information relating to a time when the friary was used as a farm, and finds from this period, the mid-16th century to the mid-18th are of considerable interest. For the last couple of years we have begun our Monastic Gardens Project involving excavations, with extensive community participation, within the Friaries' gardens leading to an eventual goal of a reinstatement of the gardens. We look forward to a resumption of digging in 2021.

(Image 5: Community dig volunteers 2019)

Credits and Acknowledgements :

Image 1: Fair Plan map of Trim map courtesy of the National Archives.

Images 2-5: Blackfriary Archaeology Field School.

Text: Blackfriary Archaeology Field School.

For more information on the Black Friary excavations, you can follow us on the below channels:

Website: www.bafs.ie

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Blackfriarycommunity/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/Blackfriarydig>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/blackfriaryarchaeofieldschool/?hl=en>

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-AVvWRiOK5A>



Tips for staying well this winter

Every winter we hear about outbreaks of flu, winter vomiting bugs and patients spending time on trolleys due to hospital overcrowding. Here is some advice to avoid getting caught up in it.



Prevention

Viral infections are more common at different times of the year. Respiratory tract infections and norovirus gastroenteritis (the winter vomiting bug) are most common in winter. People who are fit and healthy can usually weather these infections with:

- bed rest
- plenty of fluids
- over-the-counter symptom relief

But these infections are very contagious. If you are infected you need to be very careful of managing your surroundings and who you come in contact with.

The infections are contagious even before they become symptomatic. It can be very difficult to prevent spread to those who are not so healthy and fit. Prevention is better than cure, even if you are in good health.

Even fit and healthy people have different abilities to fight off infection due to their different genetics. You don't necessarily know how good your infection fighting genes are until you get a really bad infection.

There is no effective vaccine for the winter vomiting bug so good infection control practice is important.

Get the vaccine not the flu

Vaccination is the most effective way of preventing infection. Vaccination works by stimulating your immune system to produce antibodies against the disease. The flu vaccine is not live so you can't catch the flu from it. The most common complaint is discomfort at the site of injection.

There is also a vaccine recommended for people with chronic disease called the pneumococcal vaccine. This vaccine protects vulnerable people from bad pneumonia and meningitis caused by this bug. The current flu vaccine is a good match for the circulating flu viruses.

People who are vulnerable to bad infections in winter

If you are over 65 years of age you are vulnerable to bad infections in winter.

You are also vulnerable if you have one of the following chronic diseases:

- Chronic lung problems (COPD, Asthma)
- Diabetes
- Chronic heart disease
- Chronic kidney or liver disease
- Living with cancer
- Conditions or treatment that weakens the immune system
- Frailty (poor nutritional and mobility status)

If you or your loved one fall into any of the above categories, get yourself winter ready:

- Get vaccinated

- Review your medication and the management of your chronic disease with your healthcare provider. This could be the specialty outreach nurse or your G.P.

- Avoid people with obvious symptoms of infection
- Wash your hands frequently – many of the bugs that cause infection can live for many days on table tops and other surfaces.

If you become unwell check out the range of services that are available from:

- Advice (website, call lines)
- GP Out of hours
- Emergency department

If you have a minor injury, check if there is an **injury unit** near you as the waiting time is a lot shorter than the Emergency Department. But remember they only look after minor injuries, not illness.

What to do if you get ill

Being sick falls into two broad categories: the walking unwell and those who are struggling to function

The walking unwell

The walking unwell typically:

- feel very tired
- have loss of appetite
- aches and pains
- feel rotten

These may or may not be with a temperature or chills. Keep drinking fluids, pee regularly and take over the counter medicines. If the illness is not getting much worse you should be OK with home care.

If you live alone make sure someone knows you are feeling poorly so they can check that you are not getting worse and maybe even pick up some supplies for you. If you are in one of the at-risk groups listed above or you are worried, talk to your pharmacist or GP. It is likely you have a viral illness and antibiotics will not help. You will need fluids, rest and time to recover.

However, if a specific part of your body appears to be affected and is not working properly because of infection you need a medical review.

Struggling to function

There are certain clues within the human body that may indicate the organs are struggling to function.

Brain

If an infection has caused a person to become confused, agitated or difficult to rouse, they need urgent medical care and a check for a serious rash using the glass test and tell the health care professional if it is positive.

Lungs

Rapid breathing and an inability to finish a sentence without needing to grab another breath or their lips could be blue-tinged.

Circulation

Hands are clammy, white and cold and dizziness that may

only be relieved by lying down again.

Kidneys

No urination in over 12 hours and no urge to pee.

Tummy

Severe pain, vomiting or diarrhoea associated with feeling very unwell, especially if it is associated with any of the other symptoms listed with the other parts of the body.

Skin

Sore, red and swollen areas of skin that may or may not have pus discharging (associated with feeling very unwell).

Young adults

When young adults are very unwell with infection they often complain of severe leg pain or that they cannot stand up properly. This can be a warning sign of something serious and should be checked out.

Young babies

Signs that a young baby is not functioning properly are:

- poor feeding
- a weak cry
- floppiness

These are serious signs that should be checked out, even if there is no temperature. An earlier sign might be not needing to change the nappy as it is dry because baby isn't taking in enough liquid.

When to go to the emergency department

You may not be functioning properly and feel too sick to go to the GP or GP out of hours service. If you do, you need to go to the emergency department. You will be seen even when they are full or very busy.

After check-in at reception you will be seen by a 'triage' nurse. They will assess the urgency of your signs and symptoms. If you are not sure, ask the triage nurse if you should go to the GP if the ED is busy.

In the ED, depending on the seriousness of your signs and symptoms, you will be seen as fast as possible. The nurses and doctors will ask you about your symptoms, examine you and they may suggest tests and investigations.

It is not always possible to know the exact cause of an illness. General treatments are given to cover the likely causes while the results of the tests are awaited.

A decision will be made as to whether you can continue your treatment at home or if you need to stay in the hospital

For questions about health services, your entitlements, or how to access HSE health or social services in your area?

Contact the HSELive team

Monday to Friday: 8am - 8pm
Saturday and Sunday: 10am - 5pm

Call: 1850 24 1850 or 01 240 8720

Email: hselive@hse.ie



Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee



It appears the only show in town these days is Covid. It's the topic of everyone's conversation and sadly our organisation is no exception. While the goal posts change from time to time, there is no real change in lifestyle and we all muddle through as safely as we can. We keep in contact with "Services for Older People" in the HSE and continue to follow their advice. We can only have six people in a face to face meetings right now, any more than that has to be remote. Our last planned committee meeting didn't happen as we were in "Lockdown". So hopefully a limited number can meet in the next few weeks and work out a strategy for a "new normal" or at least some innovative thinking on events and fund raising going forward.

During the first wave of the Virus we had some wonderful volunteers offering their services and without whom we couldn't have survived. Now while some of you have come on board, perhaps a few more would consider joining our committee. We are in dire need of younger members (male & female) if we are to survive, as many of our present members are now in the vulnerable age group. You will find contact numbers at the bottom of this page.

Finally, our deepest sympathy to the families of Clare Malone, Breege Nangle and Pat Travers on the sad loss of their loved ones. Suaímhneas agus Siochain Dóibh go Leir.

Josephine Moore - 087 9002296

Patricia Cusker - 087 7661116 - Susan Durack - 087 7974582



Maynooth Cycling Campaign October 2020

Council Approves Trial Reducing Traffic Lanes from 2 to 1

As part of Covid-19 health measures, the Council recently approved the controversial reduction in traffic lanes from two to one following public consultation. Nearly twice as many submissions were received in favour of reducing rather than retaining the existing two lanes. Needless to say, the council was not Kildare County Council but Dublin City Council and the road wasn't Parson Street but Strand Road in Sandymount.

At the recent council meeting of Maynooth MD, no vote was taken on the proposed motion to retain two traffic lanes on Parson Street. Due to the scale of opposition the general view of councillors was to continue to prioritise cars rather than proceed with a trial to improve the health of the community. Maynooth Cycling Campaign regrets this decision but does accept for now that some people prefer to drive their car rather than have healthier neighbourhoods and offering people a choice of transport. This is especially regretted after Kildare has just come out of a second Covid-19 lockdown and infections are on increase again.

In relation to the other Covid-19 proposals for Maynooth, our response is underwhelming. Not only did Kildare get half the amount of funding which comparable local authorities received, but a number of the measures which are supposed to promote cycling will actually worsen conditions for cyclists. Our full response to the July Stimulus measures is available at <https://maynoothcyclingcampaign1.wordpress.com/2020/09/04/july-stimulus-funding-response-to-projects-proposed-motions-in-relation-to-parson-street/>.

Naas and Kildare Transport Strategies

Maynooth Cycling Campaign recently made a submission to Kildare County Council on the draft Transport Strategy for Naas. In 2009, the then government published its National Cycling Policy Framework which set out an increase in cycling from 2-3% to 10% by 2020. Since then, there has been virtually no increase in the level of cycling. Since then too, a climate and health emergency has been declared. While cycling will not solve these problems, it can make a significant contribution to mitigating their effects.

Our colleagues in the Limerick Cycling Campaign have called on Eamon Ryan, Minister for Transport, to withdraw the current draft of the Limerick/Shannon Metropolitan Transport Strategy (LSMATS) pending a full ministerial review on account of its lack of ambition. The target level of cycling is only 5% by 2040 compared to current levels of over 50% in many Dutch cities. Our colleagues in the Cork and Galway Cycling Campaigns are similarly appalled at their transport strategies. Maynooth Cycling Campaign is appalled at the lack of ambition in Kildare County Council's transport strategies. We support Limerick Cycling Campaign and call for a full ministerial review to include the draft strategies for Naas and Kildare Town.

KCC Transport SPC (Strategic Policy Committee)

It is nearly three months since Maynooth Cycling Campaign submitted six papers on a range of transport issues as part of the SPC committee. We are still awaiting a response. Meanwhile, as the next SPC meeting is on the 1st October, we are working on a further six papers.

Bikeweek 2020

For the first time in nearly ten years, Maynooth Cycling Campaign has reluctantly decided not to take part in Bikeweek this year.

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



We acknowledge with thanks the contributions to Cyclist.ie from An Taisce and Cycling Ireland.



Maynooth University escalates protective measures on campus



Maynooth University recognises that this has been a time of loss and illness for many of our students, staff, graduates and the broader Maynooth community and we wish to extend our sympathy to those who have lost loved ones and whose families and friends have suffered ill-health in these difficult times.

During the past six months, Maynooth University has continued to deliver its academic programmes, examinations and student support services remotely. Maynooth University has revised its teaching plans for the beginning of the new semester and escalated protective measures to help prevent the spread of Covid-19, given our proximity to Dublin and current heightened restrictions in the capital.

The University is limiting on-site teaching to laboratory, practical and skills instruction, and will limit classes and tutorials to up to 30 persons. Larger lectures will be taught online.

The key aim of the University is to protect our students, staff and in the wider community, from the spread of Covid-19.

Welcome Week for First Years took place on 21 September, with the bulk of the week's activities held online, and all students recommenced studies on 28 September, in accordance with the new protective measures.

Under the new protective measures, student societies will not have in-person meetings for the moment. Sports clubs can continue with outdoor training, but the gym will be closed for the moment. The library, computer rooms and the study spaces around the campus will be open for students to study when on campus. There will be catering facilities and social spaces open on campus. However, students are being asked not to come to the campus unless they need to, to avoid overcrowding of the campus. Students are asked to wear a face covering when indoors on campus; to wash their hands regularly; to observe the social distancing measures in place, and to avoid any social activity which is not compliant with the public health advice, on or off campus.

Campus Preparations

Over the summer, Maynooth University carried out extensive work to prepare the campus for the return to teaching for staff and students. An individual risk assessment was conducted for each department. Based on these assessments and the current public health guidelines, physical work has been done throughout the campus. This includes:

- Signage in all buildings of the public health measures in place.
- Sanitizing stations (including refill stations) throughout campus.
- Floor markings as a guide on where to walk, and to encourage separation.
- One-way systems in places, to increase separation.
- Staggered class start and end times to reduce congestion.
- Seats in lecture theatres and other teaching venues have been arranged to meet the social distancing requirements.
- Students are expected to wear face coverings in classrooms, laboratories, the Library and anywhere maintaining 2m distance is difficult.
- Perspex barriers installed in offices open to callers.
- Reduced density of seating to enable separation in the Library, the Phoenix restaurant and other areas.

Promoting Safe Behaviours

The University wishes to provide assurance to the wider community of Maynooth that public health safety

measures is its priority over the next semester. Everyone has a personal responsibility to keep ourselves, family, friends, the campus, and the wider community as safe as possible from potential exposure to Covid-19.

In order to encourage a strong awareness of safe interactions with the wider community, the University, in conjunction with Maynooth Students' Union, is running a student-focused communications campaign on how 'Playing My Part' is key to protecting the wider community. The campaign is running throughout campus and online, as well as at bus stops and the train station in Maynooth.

One key message being delivered to students and staff is that they *must* avoid coming on campus if they have any symptoms which could indicate COVID-19 infection. Additionally, there are reminders throughout campus to observe the social distancing protocols, wash hands frequently, follow appropriate respiratory etiquette when coughing or sneezing, and wear face coverings whenever 2m distance cannot be maintained.

The University is also reinforcing the message that students should not attend house parties and should restrict all gatherings in line with the public health guidelines at the time. They should avoid shopping locally during hours designated for vulnerable people, and they should follow all guidelines related to public transportation.

Most student residences take the form of 3-6-person bedroom apartments with shared kitchen and living areas. No guests are permitted to visit student accommodation and each apartment acts as a household. Students were required to complete an induction training prior to registering for courses and they were shown videos on MU campus specific health and safety protocols at the beginning of the semester. There are rigorous precautions around wiping down desks and computers before and after use, as well as staggered start times to prevent crowding outside buildings. The University has put its technology expertise to the cause. It has developed the Maynooth University Check in App in which students are being asked to scan a QR code at each new location or desk they attend around campus. The technology will be used to help the HSE identify close contacts in the event of a positive Covid-19 diagnosis. In addition, all students are asked to use the national Covid Tracker app.

International Students

International students who arrived from countries not on the COVID-19 Green List have restricted their movements for the first 14 days after arrival. Some students completed this restriction period in campus residences, with appropriate arrangements for food delivery and cleaning for a 14-day period. Information for international students travelling to Maynooth University is available <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/international/september-2020-you-arrive>

Support

A security number is available to students to call immediately if they show symptoms when on campus, and they will be guided to an isolation room to wait safely while contact is made with the student's doctor, and arrangements made to be collected or transported home without the risk of infecting others.

The University also has established a Student Help Desk to serve as a one-stop shop for student queries about any aspect of the upcoming year. The Maynooth Access Programme is a key resource for students as well. More detailed information on return to campus arrangements is available on the Maynooth University website at <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/coronavirus>.



Royal Canal Notes

October 2020

Education ~~ Heritage ~~ Recreation

STEPtember walking month

As we come to the end of the month of September we also come to the end of STEPtember walking month. This was an initiative hosted between a number of groups including Sport Ireland, Kildare sports Partnership, H.S.E., Waterways Ireland and others. The purpose was to promote walking along the canals of Kildare. Judging by the increased activity on the Royal



Canal there was a lot of interest in the project. There is still time to take part. If one completed any 6 of the listed walks they would receive a free 'Snood' courtesy of Kildare Sports Partnership. Details are on their Facebook site.

LOOKING BACK

Often as I traverse the canal my mind rambles back to what it took to put the canal there. Two hundred years ago, when the canal was being built, there was no such thing as machinery of any kind. No JCB's, no bulldozers, no dumpers or Hi-macs; nothing but the pickaxe, shovel and barrow. The barrows of the time, (see photo below) were made with: Heavy timber, steel fixings and an iron wheel.



They were almost impossible to push when laden. The barrow depicted was recovered in an advanced state of decay but was lovingly restored to its original state. When one stops to consider that almost 100 miles of canal, including the Longford Branch, was dug by hand; this is no mean feat. This does not include harbours, towpaths, walls, bridges, locks, lock-houses and other ancillary works of the time. There is no doubt that a lot of blood sweat and tears went into the building of the canal. It has

stood the test of time and is still there for you to enjoy. It started life as a business enterprise and has now evolved to being a wonderful amenity. If anyone is interested in finding out more about the building of the canal let us know by: telephone 00353 (0)1 6877034 or E-mail us at chairman@royalcanal.ie If there is sufficient interest we could re-publish articles in this regard by author Peter Clarke.

CANAL WEEDING

Nice to see Waterways Ireland weed boats operating in the Maynooth Harbour area at this time. It needed to be de-weeded badly Hopefully the second boat will now gather the cuttings and remove them. We understand that the boats are moving steadily in an east to north west direction and will slowly move up the full length of the canal.

INCREASED ACTIVITY

As a result of increased activity along the canal two extra bins have been installed in the harbour area, one adjacent to the RCAG storage facility and one adjacent to the harbour gate. Let us take advantage of this and keep our canal clean and tidy.

A.G.M.

The date of the rescheduled A.G.M. has not yet been decided, or if it will be a virtual meeting or a social distancing meeting. I will keep you all posted.

Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

Planning Applications received from 28/08/2020 to 29/9/2020 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
201104	Kildare County Council	Richard and Mary Farrell,	11 Greenfield Drive, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	28/09/2020
201105	Kildare County Council	Colin and Michelle Cushen,	563 O'Neill's Park, Dublin Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 F8P8.	28/09/2020
201084	Kildare County Council	Shaun Iredale	20 Parklands Crescent, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	22/09/2020
201074	Kildare County Council	Andy and Deirdre Sweeney,	53 Maynooth Park, Maynooth, County Kildare, W23 D5W4	21/09/2020
201063	Kildare County Council	Stephen and Ashling Fitzpatrick,	Site No. 27, Temple Wood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	17/09/2020
201065	Kildare County Council	Leo MacCanna and Alice Austin,	17 Temple Wood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	17/09/2020
201066	Kildare County Council	Lidl Ireland GmbH,	Lidl, Straffan Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 FV34.	17/09/2020
201046	Kildare County Council	Laura Bruton,	Ballygoran, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	14/09/2020
201035	Kildare County Council	Eileen O'Connor,	Laraghbryan Builders LTd, Laraghbryan West, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, W23 CA45	10/09/2020
201003	Kildare County Council	Maynooth University,	North Campus, Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co Kildare	03/09/2020
20998	Kildare County Council	Laura Jayne Halton,	Laragh Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	02/09/2020
20999	Kildare County Council	Paul Byrne & Olivia Speight	Newtown Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, W23 D9K5	02/09/2020
20986	Kildare County Council	Brendan Hoare,	Catherinstown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	31/08/2020
20976	Kildare County Council	Emer Fallon	Ballycurraghan, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	28/08/2020

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



News

CIB Board vacancies

CIB is seeking to fill 3 vacancies on its Board. The Board comprises up to 15 members (including the Chair) who are appointed by the Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection. The closing date to submit expressions of interests is 3pm, 24 September 2020.

COVID-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment (PUP)

From 17 September 2020, PUP is closed to new applicants and the rate of payment will be as follows:

- €300 for those who previously earned over €300 per week
- €250 for those who previously earned between €200 and €300
- €203 for those who previously earned less than €200 (no change)

PUP recipients will see the change to their payment in their bank account on Tuesday, 22 September.

Back to Education Allowance and PUP

Ordinarily, you must be getting a qualifying social welfare payment for 9 months before applying for the Back to Education Allowance (BTEA).

This requirement has been waived for recipients of PUP. A person in receipt of PUP must transfer to a jobseeker's payment in order to apply for BTEA. The rate of BTEA will be linked to the qualifying social welfare rate of payment.

The Irish Examiner reports rapid testing for COVID-19 could be introduced at ports and airports also as part of the new roadmap.

Stay and Spend Incentive

Revenue published details of the Stay and Spend tax credit scheme. Tax payers can claim a tax credit of up to €125 per person for money spent on accommodation, food and non-alcoholic drink between 1 October 2020 and 30 April 2021. Receipts can be submitted to Revenue using the new Revenue Receipts Tracker mobile app.

Energy prices

Bord Gáis Energy has confirmed a price freeze for residential customers.

Electric Ireland has announced a price increase of 3.4% from 1 October 2020.

Prepaypower has announced an increase of 2.9% from 4 October 2020.

Reduction of standard rate of VAT

The standard rate of VAT has been reduced from 23% to 21%, effective from 1 September 2020 to 28 February 2021.

Foreign Births Register (FBR)

The FBR has resumed processing applications. Applicants can expect delays.

Leaving Certificate appeals and helpline

From 14 September 2020, students can appeal their Leaving Certificate calculated grade and access their school's estimated marks and their final calculated marks when they log in to the Calculated Grades Student Portal.

There is no fee to appeal. Appeals must be submitted by 5pm, 16 September 2020.

A helpline for Leaving Certificate students is available on 1800 265 165 until after the CAO first round offers.

The Calculated Grades Executive Office is also providing a helpline until 16 September 2020 on 1800 111 135 or 1800 111 136 (9am to 4pm).

You can also email lcsupport2020@education.gov.ie.

Employment Wage Subsidy Scheme (EWSS)

The Employment Wage Subsidy Scheme (EWSS) has replaced the Temporary Wage Subsidy Scheme (TWSS) from 1 September 2020. It will run until 31 March 2021.

Increase in parental leave

Since 1 September 2020, you can take up to 26 weeks of parental leave for each eligible child before their 12th birthday (or 16th birthday for a child with a disability or long-term illness). This is an increase from 22 weeks.

Atypical Working Scheme

Since 3 September, applications for the Atypical Working Scheme are online only.

Employment permits

The DBEI have advised that you should not submit original documents by post. They may not be able to return them to you as they continue to work remotely. Documents should be sent using the designated email addresses.

Supports for businesses

The COVID-19 Credit Guarantee Scheme is now open. Businesses can apply directly to a participating bank and the scheme will be available until the end of 2020.

The Microfinance Ireland COVID-19 Loan Scheme has reopened with business loans from €5,000 to €25,000 available. Applications can be made through microfinanceireland.ie or Local Enterprise Office.

The Government announced further supports for pubs, bars and nightclubs including:

- A 40% top up on the Restart Grant Plus
- Waiver of court fees and associated excise and stamp duties for the renewal of pub and other liquor licences in 2020
- Waiver of excise duty on on-trade liquor licences on renewal in 2020

Upcoming

Budget 2021

The Department of Finance confirmed that Budget 2021 will take place on Tuesday, 13 October 2020.

EWSS 'sweepback' payments

From 15 September 2020, employers can backdate a claim to 1 July 2020 for newly or seasonally hired employees that were not previously included in the Temporary Wage Subsidy Scheme (TWSS).

New COVID-19 Garda powers

The Criminal Justice (Enforcement Powers) (COVID-19) Bill 2020 will be debated in the Seanad when it returns today, 10 September 2020. The Bill, if passed, gives the Gardaí extra powers to enforce restrictions that are in place in bars and restaurants in response to COVID-19.

Jobseeker's payments

From 17 September 2020, the temporary increase in the adult dependant rate for jobseeker's payments will end and the waiting days for jobseeker's payments will be reinstated.

Automated Import System

In November 2020, Revenue will implement a new national import system called Automated Import System (AIS). From this date it will not be possible to import goods into Ireland from outside the EU without using AIS.

Ones to watch

Free GP care for children delayed

The Independent reports that free GP care for children aged 6-8 will be delayed until at least 2021.

Breast Check screening delayed

The Independent reports the restart of the Breast Check screening programme may not happen until October. It had been paused since 16 March due to COVID-19. Invitations will be sent to those who have been waiting longest first.

New waste targets

The new Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy sets out targets for reducing waste production and making producers more accountable for their products. Plans include:

A deposit and return scheme for plastic bottles and aluminium cans. A ban on single-use plastics including cotton bud sticks, plastic cutlery and plates, chopsticks, straws and polystyrene containers from July 2021. A commitment to ban non-medicinal wet wipes and other single-use plastics

Updated

Leaving Certificate 2020 and calculated grades

Results, appeals and helplines for students.

Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme, Leaving Certificate

Applied

Written exam in November 2020 and information about fees added.

Established Leaving Certificate

Written exam will take place in November 2020.

Junior Certificate

List of students eligible to sit the Junior Cycle.

Leaving Certificate examination fees

2020 fees refunded, fees for 2020-2021 to be published in early 2021.

The State Examinations Commission

State Examinations and COVID-19.

EWSS

Clarification added that employees do not have to be working to qualify for scheme and also applies to employees on reduced hours and/or pay.

Childcare and COVID-19

Reopening of childcare, childcare provider supports, EWSS replaces TWSS, and fees to be kept at pre-COVID rates.

State Pension (Contributory) and State Pension (Non-Contributory)

Clarification that the increase in pension age has been deferred.

Renting and COVID-19

Details added on the process for dealing with rent arrears due to COVID-19.

Supports for businesses

Updated cash flow supports for businesses and supports for pubs, bars and nightclubs.

Rest periods and work breaks

Updated special regulations governing working time of fishermen.

How your income tax is calculated

New section added on 'week 1/cumulative/temporary' bases for income tax.

Your finances during COVID-19

Section on 'support from utilities providers' removed following expiration of telecoms commitments. BPFI information for coming off a COVID-19 payment break added.

Shopping online

New section 'Check you are buying from a legitimate business' added.

Parental leave

Updated with increase effective 1 September 2020.

Public health measures

Updated and revised.

Testing for COVID-19

Document rewritten and updated.

COVID-19: Travel overview

Expanded section on travel green list.

Barristers

Document revised and separate document on Junior/Senior Counsels merged.

Retiring to Ireland

Document rewritten.

Common Travel Area between Ireland and the United Kingdom

Document revised and partially rewritten.

Information is also available online at
www.citizensinformation.ie and from the
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Maynooth University Town Football Club Leinster Senior League Tables

Tables & Results courtesy of Leinster Senior League (www.lsl.ie)



After a long hard, drawn out season our respective Senior leagues have come to a close. The highlight of the season being the clinching of the Division 3 Sunday title in the Leinster Senior League. Competing at Senior level for the first time having graduated from schoolboys level this was a remarkable achievement.

All the drama was packed into the last game of the season. Vying for the title with near rivals Confey F.C., Town had to pull out all the stops to achieve a remarkable victory.

With the Confey game kicking off 15 minutes later than Town everything pointed to a nail biter. Town trailed by a point behind Confey going into their respective final games.

Town led early while Confey were losing. Town still led when Confey drew level. Confey scored with 16 minutes remaining which would have given them the title. With Town's game finished Confey looked league winners but a dramatic injury time equaliser for Spartak Dynamo F.C deprived Confey the 3 points and gave the title to Town. With a total of 64 pts Town pipped Confey by one point Town scored a massive 96 goals and won their last 14 games in a row. Remarkable and well done to all involved.

Our Senior Sunday side finished in 5th place in our first season at this level. Our Major Saturday team finished 3rd in the top Saturday Division having lost only twice. Drawn games were our downfall here. A notable achievement never the less.

Our cup programmes have not been completed and will be rescheduled to be played before the start of the new season. With our three teams still collectively in four cups more silverware is a possibility. If we perform well on all fronts in the new season we should have another exciting campaign.

Leinster Senior League Senior Sunday

#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1.	Malahide United	26	18	5	3	71	20	51	59
2.	St. Mochtas FC	26	17	6	3	57	20	37	57
3.	Crumlin United FC	26	18	2	6	73	36	37	56
4.	Bangor GG FC	26	13	6	7	55	42	13	45
5.	Maynooth University Town FC	26	12	8	6	43	28	15	44
6.	Bluebell United	26	11	11	4	60	48	12	44
7.	Killester Donnyrne FC	26	11	4	11	43	40	3	37
8.	Liffey Wanderers	26	8	7	11	48	52	-4	31
9.	Edenderry Town	26	7	7	12	33	48	-15	28
10.	Wayside Celtic	26	7	5	14	37	47	-10	26
11.	Cherry Orchard	26	6	8	12	38	65	-27	26
12.	Ballymun United	26	6	6	14	32	50	-18	24
13.	Newbridge Town FC	26	3	6	17	25	77	-52	15
14.	Portmarnock AFC	26	3	3	20	35	77	-42	12

Leinster Senior League Major Saturday

#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1.	Bluebell United	22	19	1	2	79	24	55	58
2.	Crumlin United FC	22	16	4	2	61	21	40	52
3.	Maynooth University Town FC	22	13	7	2	57	24	33	46
4.	Cherry Orchard	22	12	4	6	53	35	18	40
5.	Bangor GG FC	22	10	5	7	51	43	8	35
6.	UCD AFC	22	10	3	9	51	38	13	33
7.	Liffey Wanderers	22	6	6	10	39	51	-12	24
8.	Swords Celtic FC	22	7	2	13	30	59	-29	23
9.	Booth Road Celtic	22	6	4	12	44	64	-20	22
10.	Ballymun United	22	4	4	14	30	60	-30	16
11.	Colepark United	22	4	2	16	30	70	-40	14
12.	St. Patrick's CYFC	22	2	4	16	33	69	-36	10

Leinster Senior League Division 3 Sunday

#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1.	Maynooth University Town FC	26	21	1	4	96	33	63	64
2.	Confey FC	26	20	3	3	84	35	49	63
3.	Verona FC	26	19	4	3	99	26	73	61
4.	Ayrfield United	26	19	1	6	84	34	50	58
5.	Wayside Celtic	26	12	5	9	56	42	14	41
6.	Dingle United	26	12	2	12	57	52	5	38
7.	Esker Celtic FC	26	11	2	13	54	72	-18	35
8.	Spartak Dynamo FC	26	11	2	13	45	63	-18	35
9.	Edenderry Town	26	9	7	10	48	48	0	34
10.	Woodfarm Football Club	26	8	2	16	35	54	-19	26
11.	Shankill FC	26	8	1	17	51	95	-44	25
12.	Tymon Bawn AFC	26	7	1	18	41	98	-57	22
13.	Loughshinny United	26	5	3	18	37	71	-34	18
14.	River Valley Rangers AFC	26	2	2	22	17	81	-64	8



Cllr. Angela Feeney Maynooth Labour News

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Repair of Older Footpaths in Maynooth

At the September Council MD meeting, Cllr Angela Feeney asked if the Council could inform members when the footpaths in the older estates in Maynooth will be repaired and brought to a standard that will ensure the safety of all residents but particularly the older residents of the town? Cllr Feeney added that while it is agreed that creating new walk and cycle ways is very important for communities, maintaining existing footpaths is equally important and that in many of the older estates, the footpaths are in a really bad and even a dangerous state. Many of these older estates have older residents who during COVID-19 restrictions want to walk a few hundred metres from their home to visit neighbours and get some much needed time outdoors but were unable or nervous about doing that due to the poor state of the footpaths. The Council responded stating that the Municipal District has repaired a large amount of footpaths in Maynooth in recent years. Cllr Feeney acknowledged and welcomed that. The Council did add that if funding allows, additional estates will be examined and that the members might consider these locations for future LPT funding. Cllr Feeney concluded that this will certainly be done so to make sure this essential work is done and that we support residents in these estates but especially for our very special older residents.

KWETB Post Primary School

Cllr Feeney submitted a motion requesting the Council to explore the possibility of using the KWETB Post Primary School for Maynooth community use once it becomes mostly vacant when the students move to the new schools. The response was very positive from the other councillors and from KCC, which has agreed to engage with KWETB on the proposal. Here is a space, in the heart of our town, accessible, with ample parking, well maintained, in public ownership and with great capacity to house any combination of projects. There is huge potential here at a time when Maynooth is crying out for facility and amenity space such as a Youthreach/Further Education space for young adults, a community crèche-Mother and Toddler facility for families-badly needed too, a Primary Care Centre, an Nuada Theatre Group, and many more community groups. This could be a real community hub for all the great groups currently active in our town, which are without a permanent home. The suggestion has also received positive support from MPPS principals past and present; KCC has agreed to engage with KWETB on this. The proposal has also received favourable response from the CEO of KWETB and the members of the Board at the September meeting.



Kildare Child Care Committee to address Council

Cllr Feeney submitted a motion that the Council invites the Kildare Child Care Committee to present on the current situation regarding childcare provision in the MD at the next meeting. This was agreed and representatives from the Planning Section at KCC will also attend. In order to get an up-to-date picture of childcare provision in the MD and gain an understanding of the interface between the Committee and planning development in the Council.

KCC engagement with Maynooth University

Cllr Feeney asked the Council to inform members as to what engagement has taken place with Maynooth

University and other agencies in preparation for the new academic year, given the serious current COVID-19 situation facing the County? Cllr Feeney informed the meeting that the Vice President for MU Elizabeth Dunne recently gave an excellent presentation to local councillors and to Maynooth community groups about the measures in place to welcome students on campus, this was really comprehensive and well planned. Cllr Feeney added that having a multi-agency approach that works in partnership with the University to pre-empt any situations that could arise due to the arrival of over 10,000 students into the town and that is why she scheduled this question. The Council confirmed that the Municipal District Office has been in contact with Maynooth University in regard to the installation of stencils on the public footpath to highlight social distancing. So, adopting this multi-agency approach has been welcomed by the MU Vice President Elizabeth Dunne.

County Speed Limit Review

At the September Kildare County Council meeting Cllr Feeney requested the Council to provide an update to members on the current status of the County Speed Limit Review, with associated timelines for its implementation. The reason Cllr Feeney brought this motion was on foot of another motion to introduce 30km speed limits in the vicinity of schools in Maynooth at a recent Maynooth MD meeting. The response Cllr Feeney got for that motion was that it could not be done until the county speed limit review had been completed. Speeding in estates is also a huge issue and one that we as councillors are being asked to address all of the time. So a lot of speeding issues are on hold because we need this county speed limit review completed.

Response from the Council:

- The current position is that the Council is carrying out a County Speed Limit Review which includes reviewing the speed limits in accordance with "Road Traffic Act 2014" and "Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland".
- So, there is a legal requirement for the Council to prepare what's called a "Schedule of Proposed Amendments" and present that to us as members of each Municipal District next month.
- Once that "Schedule of Proposed Amendments" is agreed, the next stage is drafting the "Draft Bye Laws Revision A" for public consultation.
- They are aiming to have the public consultation stage completed before the end of this calendar year with a view to having the County Speed Limit Review adopted early in the new year.

Cllr Feeney welcomed the response and the clarity it provides at least we now have a target date of early 2021. However, Cllr Feeney did add that she finds it concerning that we agreed as a council in 2015 to implement Jake's Law and nothing has happened on that when it is really a matter of signage in estates. Cllr Feeney acknowledges the fact that as the Director mentioned yesterday it is not as simple as that, there is legislation to be adhered to and he acknowledged that there have been staffing issues-staff were assigned to this task, they were then taken off and now are back on it. Suggestions were also made could the review be broken down into segments-schools and housing estates for example segregated from the more regional and national issues. The response to this motion provided clarity around timeframes and the consultation process.

9/11 Commemoration dedicated to Sean Tallon

Emergency Services personnel from the local Gardai from the Naas District, the Fire Service and Paramedics conducted a Guard of Honour at the 9/11 Memorial in Donadea Forest, Co. Kildare, dedicated to Sean Tallon, originally from Donadea, who joined the New York Fire

Department and was assigned to Ladder 10. He died in Tower 1. Due to Covid 19 restrictions his family in America were unable to attend but watched a live stream of the ceremony. A minute's silence was observed followed by the playing of the last post. A flower wreath with red, blue and green flowers representing all the Emergency Services personnel that gave their lives to help others 19 years ago was placed at the base of the monument. Members of the Tallon family attended. Also attending were members of the organising committee who have been actively caring for this monument the last 19 years. Cllr Feeney and fellow councillors supporting this important commemoration. Next year will be a special 20th anniversary of the event. It was a very moving and dignified tribute and when the last post was played, it was particularly haunting.



Health Centre Update Response from the Minister for Health

Here is the response to Cllr Feeney's question to the Minister for Health regarding Maynooth Health Centre and calling for a Primary Care Centre, the final paragraph is particularly interesting. 10th September 2020

Dear Cllr. Feeney,

Thank you for your correspondence concerning the provision of health services by the HSE in Maynooth and the provision of a Primary Care Centre in Maynooth. As you may be aware, the HSE holds responsibility for the provision, along with the maintenance and operation of Primary Care Centres and other Primary Care facilities. However, I have asked the HSE to provide a report on the matter.

The HSE have informed me that the Public Health Nursing Service operating from Maynooth Health Centre has been temporarily relocated to Kilcock Primary Care Centre. This move has facilitated on-going access to the nursing service for the local population of Maynooth whilst the Health Centre is undergoing an assessment for necessary building works.

The HSE Primary Care Team, in collaboration with their colleagues in HSE Estates and the HSE Health and Safety officer, continue to assess the essential infrastructural work required in Maynooth Health Centre to guarantee the building is safe for both staff and service users. The assessment incorporates work that is required in the building to ensure adherence to infection prevention and control standards for the safe recommencement of health services.

HSE Estates advertised Maynooth Primary Care Centre in an advertisement, placed in the national press, in May 2019 under the HSE's Primary Care Operational Lease Mechanism. The advertisement sought submissions of interest from parties who are developing or planning to develop Primary Care health facilities. A number of Expressions of Interest were received, and the competition has now progressed to Stage 3 where parties are asked to submit a priced offer. It is anticipated that a preferred provider will be selected in Q4 2020.

I trust this information will be of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,
Stephen Donnelly T.D.
Minister for Health

(Continued on page 21)



Cllr. Angela Feeney Maynooth Labour News (Cont.)

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(Continued from page 20)

An update on the Parson Street one-way proposal

Councillor Feeney and all the other Maynooth MD Councillors confirmed that there is no local support for a one way system on Parson Street and that it would cause huge stress to residents in the town. She is happy to report that the proposal as it currently stands will not go ahead. In response to motions on this issue, the Council stated that it will, instead, include Parson Street as part of a wider public consultation to deliver improved walking and pedestrian infrastructure in the Newtown area, including the Newtown/Rathcoffey Road, Beaufield and Meadowbrook. This will allow for public consultation early 2021.



DART Expansion to Maynooth

The first of the infrastructural projects of the DART+ Programme to be delivered will be the Maynooth Line, Modernising and upgrading of infrastructure, the Electrification of approximately 40km of existing track network, Enhancements in the city centre to provide extra capacity and Level crossing replacements. On this, the alternate option for the Blakestown level crossing closure was to provide a pedestrian and cycle bridge across the line and canal and Cllr Feeney would be in favour of this, as the quiet country roads to the South of the level crossing are popular with cyclists from around the area, and they would be substantially cut off from Leixlip without such a bridge.

A good news day for Maynooth but just a pity the planned expansion could not include Kilcock. With the proposal to dual track the line from Maynooth the majority of the way to Kilcock, and the rear of the depot effectively being in Kilcock town itself; it would seem to make great sense to extend the dual-tracking and electrification through Kilcock station to provide for DART services to the rapidly growing town of Kilcock. As a significant amount of the work will already be done for the depot, the cost of doing this is likely to be minimal. An additional pedestrian access to the station, across the canal to bring it within a sensible

walking distance of the Kildare County Council Park and Ride facility at Lidl would also be worthwhile. Iarnróid Eireann commented that there is a challenge that is to do with spatial capacity at Kilcock that would cause difficulty. Many of the other councillors at the presentation also made the plea for Kilcock so Cllr Feeney would be hopeful that with the public voice added this will be revisited by the design team.

Public feedback will be accepted during all stages of the design development and can be submitted through the project website, e-mail address, phonenumber or by written correspondence. You can provide feedback on our proposals before 5pm on Wednesday 7th October 2020 www.irishrail.ie/projects So, please make submissions on this!

Motion to Council: the DART Expansion should include Kilcock

Cllr Feeney submitted a joint motion with Cllrs Durkan and Hamilton that the Council carry out a population analysis and forecast for Maynooth and Kilcock with a view to making a submission on the Dart Plus proposal to impress upon the relevant national authorities and the Minister for Transport the importance of ensuring a double dart line is delivered for Kilcock as it is the only town in North Kildare on the Dublin/Sligo train line not serviced by this proposed project.

Response from the Council:

It is the function of the County Development Plan (CDP) to allocate population targets for each town and settlement in County Kildare through the plan formulation process which involves statutory consultation with the general public, prescribed bodies and consideration by the elected members. The current CDP sets the targets to 2023 & beyond. The future population forecasts will need to be agreed under the review of the development plan, which will begin in early 2021. It is important to note that targets for County Kildare to 2026 & 2031 are set out in the Implementation Roadmap for the National Planning Framework & the Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy for the Eastern Midlands Region, however these are not specific to each settlement within the county. The Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023 (as varied) identifies population targets for Maynooth & Kilcock of 1,839 & 675 persons respectively from 2020-2023. It is likely, given that both towns are located within the MASP (Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan) that allocated levels of growth would be, at a minimum, retained at the current percentage in future development strategies for the county. The NTA have agreed that it will consider the next phase of electrification, from Maynooth to Kilcock and beyond, in the review of the transport strategy. This is scheduled for the end of next year.

Cllr Feeney added that while the recent NTA announcement about the DART West expansion was a good news day for Maynooth it seems such a missed opportunity that this planned expansion could not include Kilcock considering the huge population growth of Kilcock. The proposal is to dual track the line from Maynooth the majority of the way to Kilcock, and the rear of the depot effectively will be in Kilcock town itself; it is only 450m short and it would seem to make great sense to extend the dual-tracking and electrification through Kilcock station to provide for DART services to the rapidly growing town of Kilcock. A significant amount of the work will already be done for the depot, the cost of doing this is likely to be minimal. An additional pedestrian access to the station, across the canal to bring it within a sensible walking distance of the Kildare County Council Park and Ride facility would also be worthwhile.

There have been many Strategic Housing Developments in Kilcock spewing more even cars onto an already congested N4/M4 when we should be availing of this opportunity to enhance public transport links such as this. The Director welcomed the motion and has already raised this with NTA stating that there is nothing to preclude it from going to Kilcock in the future and that the NTA will consider it in the next phase as part of the Greater Dublin Area review and it will be looked at in that context. Meath County Council has also outlined significant growth. The combined call from us as Maynooth MD councillors is to make the case to NTA to get it on the programme for the future; we need as a Council to impress on them how important this is. We welcomed the fact that the council is going to communicate this request on our behalf to the Minister. The NTA has agreed that it will consider the next phase of electrification, from Maynooth to Kilcock and beyond, in the review of the transport strategy. This is scheduled for the end of next year.

Meetings attended by Cllr Feeney

August 21st: Briefing from Minister Stephen Donnelly and Officials to Kildare public representatives regarding Kildare lockdown

August 26th: DART Expansion Webinar

September 4th: MD Council Meeting

September 11th: 9/11 Commemoration at Donadea

September 14th: KCC Finance Committee

September 15th: KWETB Board Meeting

September 18th: AILG Training event regarding Planning

September 21st: Webinar with Irish Water

September 21st: Council Plenary Meeting

September 21st: BOM for MPPS

Living faith

Why is God such a hidden God? Can it be that it's just to make it hard for us? Unlikely. And if all the religions of the world agree that to know God is the one essential obligation and privilege of mankind surely we should listen to them and align our lives with that truth. The Christian religion goes away farther than any of the other religions in its mission to inform the world about God. The Christian religion, movement, philosophy, does this by God himself taking the form of one of us and living amongst us for more than thirty years. The gospels, much of their content historical, are documents that tell us about this marvellous happening. Have you read them? Do our priests take them seriously enough and encourage us to read them by showing us how steeped in them they themselves are, if they are?

In the Gospels Jesus refers to a great variety of the everyday work of his listeners: shepherding, making bread, sowing corn, making wine, and so on. He refers to the corn sprouting under the clay totally unconnected to the agency of the farmer; likewise with yeast; it expands because of what it is. That is what yeast does and does after its own fashion. My question is: is Jesus telling us that only God can make things do what they do? In other words is the behaviour of material things simply ongoing creation? If so and I think it is, God's action in the world is very obvious! So, perhaps God is not such a hidden God!

Wouldn't it be nice, and intelligent, if our preachers presented the gospels to us in the images and practices of today! In such a world view wouldn't we expect references to Climate Change, Arms Dealing, Mass Migrations, War and Famine, National Boundaries, the wonders of Planet Earth and this magnificent Cosmos which many people have experiences of through Television. Shouldn't we hear something now and again about World Poverty in the light of Christianity?

What are bishops and priests doing up there if they're not interpreting our lives for us in the light of the Gospel, in the light of the totality of Jesus' life? What is their experience of their own lives in the light of that same Gospel? Tell us. We want to know, always keeping Jesus at the centre of their stories. Hopefully, that is where Jesus is!

By: GM.



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

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Catherine Murphy TD calls for restoration of PUP rates and income supports for parents

Catherine Murphy TD, co-leader of the Social Democrats, has today called for a reversal of cuts to the Pandemic Unemployment Payment (PUP) and immediate income supports for parents whose children are sent home from school due to Covid-19 outbreaks.

Deputy Murphy said:

“For most of those who were laid-off last Friday, this will be their second experience of Covid-19 related unemployment within a short space of time. With further reductions today in PUP rates, this will come as a double blow to workers who have found themselves without a job at short notice.
“Most of these workers will have little, if anything, in reserve, which adds to the sense of panic they are feeling right now.
“It is now really hitting home that Covid-19 will be with us for a considerable time to come, so the timing of the PUP reductions could hardly be worse. These cuts urgently need to be reconsidered and reversed.
“Another group finding themselves with little or no financial support are the parents who have been informed by a school that their child must self-isolate.
“The CMO was very upfront in advising parents there would be outbreaks in schools, and he was correct.
“Parents are not necessarily required to self-isolate if pupils are sent home from school – but their children still have to be cared for.
“Accordingly, there is an urgent need to include parents in such situations in the State’s Enhanced Illness Payment Scheme. We should not differentiate between the parent of a child diagnosed with Covid-19 and a parent of a child in a pod who is also sent home from school for 14 days.
“The reality is that not everyone can work from home and it’s simply not acceptable that a parent could be left without any income at all.
“I welcome the Taoiseach’s assurances in the Dáil today that he will consider providing income supports for parents who find themselves in this situation.
“I am also hopeful he will look favourably on a proposal from the Primary School Principals’ Network who are seeking a dedicated out-of-hours phone line with the HSE to allow them to seek and receive medical guidance.”

Taxi sector will be a vital part of post-Covid recovery

Catherine Murphy TD, co-leader of the Social Democrats and spokesperson on Transport, today called for immediate supports to be put in place to assist those working in the taxi and small public service vehicle sector.

Deputy Murphy said:

“It is vital that the Government takes immediate action to show that it is listening to the very real concerns of those working in the taxi, limousine and hackney business. When Covid-19 is eventually behind us, it will be important that we come out of it with a sector that is still intact.
“The livelihood of taxi drivers has been devastated by Covid-19. There are far too many of them seeking a living from an economy that is not properly functioning, with no night-time entertainment or sporting events and a tourism sector that has pretty much shut down.
“Some drivers want to get out of the business but they have loans and other outlays that don’t allow them to do that so it’s a catch 22 situation. Many are in an age range where they are putting themselves at risk by mixing too closely with other people while working.
“Many are not receiving any additional payment over and above the State pension. That is a really difficult circle for them to square and they cannot do it on their own – they need Government support.
“We need a new forum to take stock of the challenges faced by those working in the taxi industry and look at ways people can make an income from it.
“In addition, a temporary moratorium on the issuing of taxi licences could be brought in for a specified period of time. This is something that could be done quickly and would mean we are not making a bad situation worse.
“Even though taxi drivers have suffered a huge loss of income, the cost of paying for their car, insurance and maintenance does not stop. The 10-year lifespan of a taxi should be extended as 2020 has been a complete write-off. Other obligations in terms of vehicle maintenance and licence costs also need to be looked at.
“There is sense of disbelief when people realise that many drivers over the age of 66 are required to go to work with no income coming in, despite having considerable outlays.

“This is not the time for the Government to take a hands-off approach. We are going to need an economy that includes a functioning transport system with small public service vehicles. Taxi drivers will play a vital part in the recovery of our tourism and entertainment sectors.”

Minister needs to urgently address school transport crisis

Catherine Murphy TD, co-leader of the Social Democrats, has called on the Minister for Education to deal with serious deficiencies in school transport services.

Deputy Murphy said:

“Following NPHEP advice at the end of August, major shortcomings in the provision of school bus services have arisen as measures to ensure social distancing are phased in over the coming weeks.
“Problems are already emerging, particularly in cases where students have to travel outside their area if their local school is over-subscribed. Students availing of the subsidised School Transport Scheme, including medical card holders, must be attending the school closest to where they live in order to qualify.
“This is a problem throughout the country and not just in rural communities. For example, I am aware of 150 students who live in Lucan but attend school in Leixlip. The lack of a viable transport option results in traffic chaos every day as parents are forced to drive their children to and from school.
“Despite spending €375m on reopening our schools, Dublin Bus has no term timetable in place due to lack of funding from the National Transport Authority (NTA).

“This situation is going to get worse when buses have to operate at 50 percent capacity by the end of the month. The reality is that it will not make financial sense for many private companies to offer school services in the absence of some form of subvention from the State. We could end up with a situation where parents would have to pay for two seats on a private school bus to make it viable for the operator.
“Every September there are issues surrounding the lack of school bus services but the situation is further compounded this year by the Covid-19 crisis.
“There is a very real and immediate crisis in school transport provision and it is going to get a lot worse in the coming weeks unless Minister Foley urgently intervenes.”

Covid-19 Data Hub needs to be updated weekly

The Covid-19 Data Hub should be updated on a weekly basis to ensure public goodwill in the event of further localised lockdowns, according to Catherine Murphy, Kildare North TD and co-leader of the Social Democrats.

Deputy Murphy said:

“It is clear that we will have to live with this virus until there is a vaccine and public goodwill is an essential component of our battle. To do that, the message and information have to be coherent and understood – and the measures have to be seen to be fair and proportionate.
“As a representative for Kildare, I know it is a huge relief for over 220,000 people and many hundreds of businesses in the county to see the extended lockdown lifted.
“The Government needs to learn lessons from the lockdowns in Kildare, Offaly and Laois in how it responds to further outbreaks. The availability of usable data is essential if public buy-in is to be secured for any future restrictions needed.
“The Covid-19 Data hub was last updated on August 12 during the lockdown of the three counties. This is simply not good enough and I have today called on the Taoiseach to ensure that the data hub is updated every week.
“For businesses and residents to understand the rationale behind public health guidance, they need to see the figures underpinning these decisions.
“Public acceptance and proportionality in terms of future measures is essential. If lockdowns are going to be part of the fight against Covid-19, then up to date information is essential.”
The Hub is available here: <https://covid19ireland-geohive.hub.arcgis.com/>

Catherine’s contribution to the debate on Taxi Services:

I too want to thank Sinn Féin for bringing this motion forward. It is important. In many ways, we would have debated this earlier had we been properly functioning before now. I also want to acknowledge the effort that taxi drivers put in to showing the strength behind the need for a financial package to get drivers back to work.

Small public service vehicles are a vital part of the public transport system and we need to acknowledge that. Many taxi drivers ended up in this business following the last crash. Many made work for themselves and it was the tourism sector that was the first to show some green shoots following that crash. We will require them to be in a position to assist in that recovery when Covid is a thing of the past. We have to ensure that this sector, which is predominantly made up of taxi drivers as well as those who drive limousines and hackneys, comes out of this intact. How do we do that? We do it by supporting the industry. Some people want to get out of the business, but they have loans and outlays that do not allow them to do that. We have all spoken to such people in recent months. They are in a catch-22 situation. Many are putting themselves at risk by virtue of the fact that they are in an age range that should not be mixing as closely as they are required to do at work. Many are not being paid an additional payment over the State pension. That is a difficult circle for them to square. They cannot square it on their own and requires support.

I know where the licence issue came from. I was on the taxi forum that was set up in the 1990s under the auspices of the Dublin transportation office. There were months of collaboration between various leaders in the taxi system and various agencies of the State. Some very good initiatives came out of that. Taxi drivers did not expect the system to be deregulated before the ink was dry on the agreement. There were very valuable things done in the forum and much of that good work now requires us to take stock and examine how we can make sure the industry continues and is healthy and that people can make an income from it.

While there is resistance to introducing a moratorium on the issuing of taxi licences, such a moratorium could be introduced for a specified period. That could be done quickly. Another issue is that there is not enough work for the number of taxi drivers we have. One only has to look at the taxi apps, which is where people often hail taxis nowadays, to see that there is no work coming in. It is important that we recognise that there are too many people seeking to earn an income from an economy which is not functioning. People are working at home, there is no night-time entertainment and our tourism sector, as least as it applies to outside visitors, is pretty much shut down. These areas represent the work needed to keep the number of taxi drivers we have gainfully employed.

It is really important that we consider Christmas. This is the most significant stretch of time with regard to night-time entertainment and, at this time, the economy functions slightly differently. Now is the time to look at this. We need to get the numbers down right across the country and especially here in Dublin because, if we do not, this period will be very difficult to manage while allowing the economy to function. It is really important to think about this particular sector because there are sectors within sectors. Airport runs, Christmas parties and so on were staples but that work is no longer there. This is a large sector and people need the wherewithal to get out of it at a time when new people are entering it because they are scratching around trying to pay their bills and provide gainful employment for themselves.

This is not the time to take a hands-off approach; it is the time for a hands-on approach. That is why a forum would be particularly valuable, in addition to the other supports that should be introduced. While there has been a great decrease in drivers’ income – as much as 40% or 50% – the costs of paying their car loans, insurance premiums and car maintenance have not stopped. A taxi vehicle’s life is ten years but this year has been a write-off. That period could be immediately extended. Maintenance obligations with regard to roadworthiness and licence obligations need to be looked at.

I support the use of bus lanes for buses and taxis. We do need to have a discussion, however, as to how to safely share our road space. We can share this space in a way that works for everyone. It is nonsense to mix double-decker buses and bicycles in the same lane. It is not safe for anyone and is not productive. I should be clear that I am not saying that buses or taxis should be excluded from these lanes but we do need to design our roads differently. In places such as Berlin and Paris, there are segregated arrangements. These make these cities safe places for people to function. We need to free up some surface space in this city. This could be done by developing the interconnector, which would allow the rail system to take great

(Continued on page 23)



Catherine Murphy T.D. Social Democrats, Kildare North. (Cont.)

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(Continued from page 22)

amounts of traffic off the roads thereby providing us with the surface space to design a system that functions in the way it should in a city with the amount of movement Dublin has. I am not, however, speaking about Dublin exclusively. We need to design the roads in all our urban settings so they are safe for public transport vehicles and cyclists to use.

It is absolutely essential that action and a hands-on approach are taken immediately. Some initiatives must be taken to show that Government is listening with regard to these huge challenges. I have no doubt that Government Deputies are hearing exactly the same things that I and other Members are hearing when people contact us. There is a sense of disbelief that, for example, people over 66 who have many outlays are required to work even when there is no income coming in. They are in a catch-22 situation. There is also a sense of disbelief that taxi plates are still being issued. A timeline should be developed, which would include a sunset clause if necessary, during which licences would not be issued to avoid making a bad situation worse.

There are things that could be done quickly. I urge the Government to take a number of initiatives in this respect. It can be done. When Covid is a thing of the past, we will require an economy which includes a functioning public transport system and public service vehicles to allow the tourism sector and the economies of our towns and cities to function. The taxi system will be vital to that.

Question on the criteria used to determine if a child needs a COVID 19 test.

To ask the Minister for Health the criteria that is used to determine if a minor and/or child requires a test for Covid-19 and if he will make a statement on the matter. [23719/20]

Reply from Minister Stephen Donnelly:

I would like to thank the deputy for bringing this to my attention, which my officials have passed on to the HSE. In terms of assessment and testing pathways for children and minors, the Health Protection Surveillance Centre has in recent days issued clear instructions to all GP providers and published these on its website. For children aged from 3 months up to 13th birthday, the following summarises the criteria:
Testing is advised for any child with any of the following unless there is a strong clinical reason to do otherwise:
1. Fever (greater than or equal to 38.0°C; confirmed) in the absence of an alternative diagnosis (e.g. UTI, varicella) OR
2. A new cough, shortness of breath or deterioration in existing respiratory condition OR
3. Symptoms of anosmia (loss of sense of smell)*, ageusia (loss of sense of taste)* or dysgeusia (distortion of sense of taste)* OR
*If the child can express or describe these symptoms
4. Minor respiratory symptoms in a child who has other ill contacts, is part of an outbreak or is a contact of a proven case. The HPSC documentation describes the assessment in much more detail. For those aged younger than 3 months, the usual assessment protocols apply. For those aged 13 years or older or who attend secondary school, the HPSC refers these to adult testing guidance.

Contribution from Catherine Murphy at Leaders Questions re School Bus transport

Getting students back to school has been a major undertaking and a monumental task at individual school level, supported by a subvention of €375 million from the public purse. In addition, this week the leaving certificate results were issued and tomorrow CAO offers will be made. There have been positive Covid cases in some schools and a variation in how they have been handled. All of this has generated queries. It is easy to miss another issue which has not received sufficient attention. On 18 August, NPHE recommended that school transport for secondary schools students apply the same social distancing as is the case with public transport. That was understood to mean that an additional 1,600 buses would be required.

Because of the requirements being changed so close to school reopening, there was a very short lead-in time. That is almost expired. Even more problems will emerge in the next week or two as a consequence of that. Many people are saying that there was a huge effort and financial resources deployed in getting schools opened but there is a sense of disbelief and frustration that getting students to the same schools is still chaotic. There is

no end in sight and it is impossible for parents to get information. The school transport system causes real problems every year but Covid has amplified those problems. For those with a medical card and attending the nearest school, transport is provided. For those who do not have a medical card and are attending the nearest school, if there is spare capacity, they will be accommodated for a charge. These are called as concessionary passengers. If there is no spare capacity, they have to make their own arrangements.

Many of those who are not attending the nearest school are doing so because there is no capacity in the nearest school and they could not get a place. Because of this they are not necessarily entitled to a place on the school bus because they are not attending the nearest school. Schools and parents sometimes organise private sector buses between them. The new social distancing requirement also apply to them and there is no subsidy. To be viable for private operators, they are effectively saying that parents will have to pay for school places to achieve the social distancing unless there is a subsidy. That is not attainable for some for households with multiple children.

In addition, Dublin Bus normally introduce a school timetable when schools return but they have been unable to do so because the National Transport Authority, NTA, have not funded such a timetable.

Is additional funding being made available to deliver the school transport, including the NTA and the Dublin Bus timetable? What is the timeline for getting transport fully in place? Will a subsidy be considered and provided for those who have to hire additional private buses because of the new social distancing rules?

Reply from Minister Leo Varadkar:

I thank the Deputy for raising this important issue. I know that a large number of Deputies, particularly in rural constituencies, are getting many representations about school transport, as we always do at this time of year, but they are of a very different nature this year because of the pandemic. It is absolutely the case that there have been positive Covid-19 cases among schoolchildren since schools reopened. Back in August I said that that would be the case. Some people criticised me at the time and said it was bad messaging or some such stuff.

It was not messaging; I was just telling the truth and telling it as it is and making sure that parents would be prepared for the new normal in our schools, in that there will be cases among schoolchildren. So far as there is very little evidence of school transmission, which is really encouraging. We have not had significant school outbreaks. That may yet happen but it has not happened yet. The vast majority of children and teachers are much more likely to get Covid-19 in their own or somebody else's home than they are in schools, which are very controlled and sanitary environments now, largely because of the very good work that has been done by teachers and school management to make them ready for living with Covid-19.

We are committed to ensuring that schools remain open safely and that school transport will play a vital role in that. We have invested more than €11 million in ensuring that school transport is safe. In line with new public health advice issued on 18 August, we are working to achieve 50% capacity on school buses for post-primary students. However, it was not possible to roll that out on 1,600 routes within two weeks. That change in advice came very late in the day.

We are taking a practical approach backed up with real resources to assist schools. In conjunction with the 50% capacity target, we are also working to accommodate concessionary students. As to the additional funding that the Deputy has asked about, €11.3 million has been provided for additional hygiene, sanitisation and PPE requirements on the school transport scheme. This allowance is in addition to that provided during the period of school closures between March and June, during which the Department continued to pay contractors 50% of their normal rate, even though school transport was not operating. That cost €26 million. The allowance for additional hygiene, sanitisation and PPE requirements will be kept under review and further engagement will take place with Bus Éireann, as necessary, when services resume.

Reply from Catherine Murphy:

The Tánaiste did not refer to Dublin Bus and I would appreciate if he would do that. While this is a dominant issue in rural areas, it is not exclusively so. The school route timetables have not

been reintroduced and we are being told that they are not being funded by the NTA.

He referred to PPE and sanitising the buses. Is there additional funding for this because these buses are going to be half full? More buses will be needed. Is there money for those additional buses? How will the concessionary passengers be accommodated? I see hundreds of parents in their cars just in my own locality every morning who are doing this because they have no school transport. They cannot go to work and their lives are being disrupted by this as well. This is an investment that requires to be made. The schools are open and the children and students need to get there. When will all of those buses be in place? Surely, there is a plan of action or an indicative timeline. Can the Tánaiste give some information to people, even in a general way, because there is a dearth of information at the moment?

Reply from Minister Leo Varadkar:

I will have to come back to the Deputy in respect of her specific question on Dublin Bus as I do not have that information to hand.

Among the actions that the Department of Education and Skills is taking is the provision of grant support to parents to help them with the cost of private transport arrangements where they want it. So far just under 1,000 parents or guardians have contacted the Department in regard to seeking a refund.

Under the terms of the school transport scheme, children are eligible for school transport if they satisfy the distance criteria and are attending their nearest school as determined by the Department and Bus Éireann having regard to ethos and language. The Government is working with Bus Éireann to ensure that capacity is rolled out at the 50% space and that space is opened up for concessionary students. No tickets will issue to post-primary late applicant payees until such time as routes are rolled out at 50% for those who applied and paid by the deadline of 4 August. As routes are rolled out, if capacity is available, tickets will be allocated at that point to those applicants.

Question from Catherine Murphy T.D.

To ask the Minister for Housing, Planning, and Local Government the number of non-Part V houses purchased by location in 2019 and to date in 2020; the cost; the developer; the housing mix; and if he will make a statement on the matter. [23059/20]

Reply from Minister Darragh O'Brien

My Department publishes comprehensive statistics on a quarterly basis on all social housing delivery activity under Rebuilding Ireland. This is published on the statistics page of my Department's website, at the following link:

Acquisition information for each year of Rebuilding Ireland can be found at the following link: https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/attachments/social_housing_output_overview_2016-to-q4_2019_.xlsx

Detailed acquisition information for each Local Authority can be found on the website.

Expenditure on acquisitions in 2019 totalled over €495 million. It should be noted that acquisition recoupment claims may not be received from Local Authorities in the same year the unit was acquired.

The precise mix of property types acquired is a matter for each Local Authority based on local requirements and opportunities and the granular details in terms of individual developers or vendors would be held at local level. The Programme for Government, identifies the need to avoid over-concentration of particular housing types in areas, by requiring local authorities to complete housing need and demand assessments to inform delivery of an appropriate mix of housing typologies to cater for the needs of diverse household types and sizes.

In terms of social housing delivery data to date in 2020, data gathering and collation was impacted by COVID-19, where the focus was on maintaining the essential housing services. The data collection and collation process has since resumed and social housing statistics for Q1 and Q2 2020 will be published together.

**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

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To provide service to residents in Maynooth Community Care Unit. Both Male & Female Residents.

1 day per week (9:30 - 16.30) Garda Vetting is required
Wash, Cut & Blow Dry are the most common requests.
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For further information contact:
Máire O'Keeffe - Director of Nursing
M.C.C.U. Leinster St., Maynooth
Ph: 01-6196320/0860235012
Or e-mail: maire.okeeffe1@hse.ie

October 2020 Crossword - No. 495

Clues Down

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



You may like to try the Spooky Doughnuts too!!!!



As the leaves fall from their branches, our gardens are filled with wonderful, warming colours. Autumn is a wonderful time of year and there is so much that can be done in the outdoors. Here we outline what you can do in your garden in October.

Sow and Grow:



October is a good time to plant rhubarb in your garden. I recommend choosing the early fruiting variety known as **Timperley Early** for strong stems of rich red rhubarb. It is important to enrich the soil using organic compost before planting rhubarb. If you have apple, pear or plum trees, now is the time to pick the remaining fruit. Simply wrap the fruit in clean newspaper and store in crates in a dark, frost-free and cool location.

If you want to plant a new apple, pear or plum tree in your garden, October is a good time to do so. The Coronet Dwarf Apple Tree can be grown in a patio pot or container and will give you an abundance of fruit next summer.

Garden Care:

Moss is growing fast and strong this autumn. Apply **PAC** to your outdoor areas that are affected by moss (patios, slates, tiles, driveways and footpaths) and watch as your moss disappears. Simply mix the solution with water and apply to affected areas in dry weather. An application of PAC will kill any unwanted moss and lichen growth in your garden in October. If you are interested in composting now is a good time to start making a garden compost heap. Simply collect fallen leaves, lawn clippings, shredded newspapers and uncooked kitchen waste. If you want to accelerate the composting process just apply a dressing of autumn compost maker over the layers of organic composting materials.

Garden song birds should be fed from now until late spring. Sunflower seeds, wild bird mixes and peanuts are great feeds for your garden birds, offering high levels of protein and energy. October is also a good time to clean out old nesting boxes for your feathered friends.

Plant hedging plants now to provide shelter and privacy in your garden. Large, instant mature hedging plants are now available for planting to create an instant wall of foliage up to 6 feet tall. They come in a wide selection of heights and varieties. Trees including liquid ambar, mountain ash, maples, sumachs and cotoneaster offer stunning autumn and early winter colours in your garden. Fruiting trees including sorbus, pyracantha, cotoneaster and malus offer your garden song birds a natural food source of delicious berries to sustain them through the autumn and early winter.



Garden Colour

Spring flowering bulbs can be planted in your garden in October. Spring flowering bulbs include tulips, daffodils and crocuses, all of which are easy to grow. Plant the bulbs in patio planters and borders now for great colour in your garden next spring. One of my favourite spring flowers is called **jack the lad**. It is a daffodil that produces a brightly coloured double flower with golden yellow petals. The **woodland walk mix** is another beautiful variety. The combination of the bright yellow narcissus flowers and the blue from muscaria create a brilliant combination in spring. A wonderful project to complete with your children this autumn is to plant **scented hyacinths**. Hyacinths offer you a

wide range of colourful blooms. If they are planted now they will reward you with a stunning show of colour and scent for Christmas and the New Year. They can be planted in baskets, pots or window boxes. What a fun and rewarding activity to get your children or grandchildren involved in. October is the ideal time to add winter flowering plants to your patio planters and window boxes. Winter flowering plants such as heather, cyclamen, pansies, violas and trailing ivy can all be planted now. Before adding the plants place some spring flowering tulips and dwarf narcissus in the center of the pots for some additional colour next spring.



If your greenhouse is fairly empty, now's a good time to clean and disinfect it. This lets in more light, and prevents pests and diseases over-wintering. Protect half-hardy plants with fleece or bring them into a frost-free greenhouse. Sweep up any fallen leaves that harbour fungal spores and provide ideal hiding places for slugs and snails. Use them to make leaf mould for the garden. Lift and divide any overcrowded herbaceous perennials whilst the soil is still warm.

October is also a good time to visit and tidy graves. Graves can be brightened up by planting some winter and spring flowering cyclamen, pansies and violas. Why not add a planted container? You can plant it up with colour for winter and spring.



The last couple of years have not been easy on Irish gardens. Plants that have grown happily for the last few decades were killed by the cold, crushed by the snow or had their leaves burned off in late spring storms. People are now more aware than ever that when choosing plants for their garden, hardiness is an important issue. And rightly so - nothing is more depressing than seeing plants die.



Roasted Butternut Squash and Bacon Soup

Ingredients:

- ◆ 1 butternut squash (about 3 pounds), peeled, seeded and cut in 1-inch chunks
- ◆ 1 onion, diced
- ◆ 1 red bell pepper, chopped
- ◆ 4 slices bacon, diced
- ◆ 2 tablespoons olive oil
- ◆ 2 cloves garlic, minced
- ◆ Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

For the soup

- ◆ 4 slices bacon, diced
- ◆ 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- ◆ 2 1/2 cups chicken stock, or more, to taste
- ◆ 1/4 cup crumbled goat cheese
- ◆ 2 tablespoons chopped chives



Method:

- ◆ Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. Lightly oil a baking sheet or coat with non-stick spray.
- ◆ Place butternut squash, onion, bell pepper and bacon in a single layer onto the prepared baking sheet. Add olive oil and garlic; season with salt and pepper, to taste. Gently toss to combine.
- ◆ Place into oven and bake for 25-30 minutes, or until butternut squash is tender, stirring at halftime.*
- ◆ Heat a large skillet over medium high heat. Add bacon and cook until brown and crispy, about 6-8 minutes. Transfer to a paper towel-lined plate.
- ◆ Heat a large stockpot or Dutch oven over medium heat. Add butternut squash mixture and thyme, and cook, stirring occasionally, until fragrant, about 1-2 minutes; season with salt and pepper, to taste. Stir in chicken stock and puree with an immersion blender.
- ◆ Bring to a boil; reduce heat and simmer until slightly thickened, about 5-10 minutes. If the soup is too thick, add more chicken stock as needed until desired consistency is reached.
- ◆ Serve immediately, garnished with bacon, goat cheese and chives, if desired.

Carrot, sweet potato and feta fritters

Ingredients

- ◆ 800g carrots
- ◆ 2 large potatoes
- ◆ 1 large onion
- ◆ 600g sweet potatoes
- ◆ 5 medium free-range eggs
- ◆ 200g feta, crumbled
- ◆ 6 tbsp. wholemeal flour
- ◆ 25g fresh coriander, chopped
- ◆ 2 tbsp. cumin seeds
- ◆ 300ml vegetable oil
- ◆ Green salad, lime wedges and yogurt to serve

Method

- ◆ Peel and grate the carrots, potatoes, onion and sweet potatoes. Put in a colander over the sink with a big pinch of salt to drain for 30 minutes.
- ◆ In a large bowl, combine the eggs, feta, flour, coriander and cumin seeds, then beat with a fork until mixed.
- ◆ Squeeze as much liquid from the veg as you can, pressing down hard into the colander for 1-2 minutes, then add to the egg mixture. Stir to combine and season well. Heat the oven to 150°C/fan130°C/gas 2.
- ◆ Heat the oil in a wok or saucepan to 180°C or until a cube of bread sizzles. Put a small handful of the mix in a slotted spoon and lower into the oil. Cook 2-3 at a time: fry for 1-2 minutes, then turn and repeat until golden. Put on a plate and keep warm in a low temp. oven.





FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

JAMES BOND MOVIE QUIZ



Scottish veteran actor Sean Connery celebrated his 90th Birthday recently. There have been many Bond screen incarnations over the years, but the suave Scot topped a *Radio Times* poll to be crowned the best ever Bond. He pipped current Bond, Daniel Craig, at the post as Bond fans' personal favourite super spy in the iconic film series. Craig will be hanging up his tux, handing in his licence and Aston Martin after the delayed 25th Bond movie, *No Time To Die* finally makes its appearance on cinema screens, world-wide in November.



Test your James Bond knowledge with this 'licenced to thrill' quiz!!

1. What was the name of the first Bond movie?

- a) *Casino Royale*
- b) *Dr No*
- c) *For Your Eyes Only*
- d) *No Time To Die*



2. Who was the first actor to play M?

- a) Judi Dench
- b) Bernard Lee
- c) Richard Attenborough
- d) Ralph Fiennes

3. Which was the first Bond film to star Pierce Brosnan?

- a) *Die Another Day*
- b) *Tomorrow Never Dies*
- c) *Golden Eye*
- d) *The Living Daylights*

4. How many Scottish Bonds have there been?

- a) 4
- b) 1
- c) 3
- d) 2



5. What does the '00' signify in 007?

- a) The rank of commander
- b) A licence to kill
- c) A licence to carry weapons
- d) Secret Agent

6. How many actors have played James Bond on screen?

- a) 6
- b) 9
- c) 7
- d) 12



7. Who sang the title theme song for *Diamonds Are Forever*?

- a) Diane Warwick
- b) Cilla Black
- c) Shirley Bassey
- d) Lulu

8. What famous landmark does Grace Jones jump from in *A View to a Kill*?

- a) Big Ben
- b) The Eiffel Tower
- c) The Empire State Building
- d) The Statue of Liberty

9. How many times did Timothy Dalton play James Bond?

- a) Once
- b) Twice
- c) Three Times
- d) Four Times



10. What is the most successful James Bond movie?

- a) *Skyfall*
- b) *Dr No*
- c) *Casino Royale*
- d) *Quantam of Solace*

11. Which Bond film does not feature M?

- a) *For Your Eyes Only*
- b) *Moonraker*
- c) *Octopussy*
- d) *Live and Let Die*



12. What is Roger Moore dressed as in the final scene of *Octopussy*?

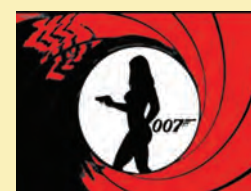
- a) A policeman
- b) A Clown
- c) A bomb disposal officer
- d) A soldier

13. James Bond has never been married onscreen

- a) True
- b) False

14. Which Bond Girl Married a Beatle?

- a) Barbra Bach
- b) Jane Seymour
- c) Britt Ekland
- d) Ursula Andress



15. Where does the only Irish James Bond hail from?

- a) Wicklow
- b) Dublin
- c) Carlow
- d) Meath

16. Which famous children's writer wrote the screenplay for a Bond movie?

- a) JK Rowling
- b) Dr Suess
- c) Roald Dahl
- d) CS Lewis

17. Which Bond movie features the classic Louis Armstrong song 'We Have All the Time in the World'?

- a) *For Your Eyes Only*
- b) *The Spy Who Loved Me*
- c) *Goldfinger*
- d) *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*

18. Shirley Bassey has performed the most Bond theme songs. How many?

- a) 2
- b) 3
- c) 4
- d) 5



19. What secret service agency does 007 work for?

- a) N17
- b) M18
- c) M15
- d) M16



Answers to James Bond Quiz in November edition of the Maynooth Newsletter

BRADY'S CLOCKHOUSE BAR - LOUNGE - RESTAURANT



**Brady's Restaurant & Lounge
are taking bookings for Food on
<https://booking.anyexcuse.com/>
Scan QR Code
Or Phone 01-5054725**



We have also set aside tables for walk-in Dining
Extra precautions have been put in place to protect our Customers & Staff
Partitions are now in place in both our Bar & Lounge for extra safety
**Our upstairs Lounge will also be open as required to provide extra
seating & toilet facilities**

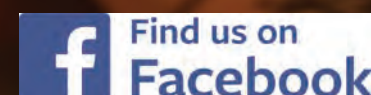
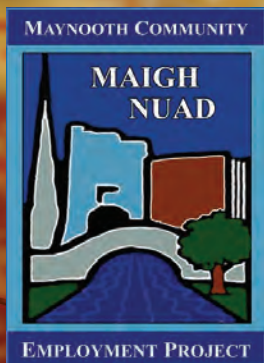
Best Wishes to All during these extraordinary times.

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



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





Maynooth Newsletter

Serving the people of Maynooth



Local News November 2020

Issue No. 496 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



An Taisce Report – IBAL Anti-Litter League, Round 1, 2020

Maynooth: 5th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Cleaner than European Norms.

Maynooth has scored exceptionally well on its return to the Litter League, with seven out of the ten sites surveyed getting the top litter grade and no seriously littered sites. Some examples of top ranking sites included the residential area of Moyglare Abbey and the town centre streets of Mill Street and Leinster Street. The Car Park at Aldi and the Recycle Facility within Aldi were both moderately littered.

Kilcock Approach Road: Grade A. This was an excellent route in to Maynooth, creating a positive first impression – this high standard was sustained for the majority of the remainder of the sites surveyed. Road surface, markings, signage, bicycle path and bollards were all in very good order and grass verges had recently been tended.

Aldi: Grade B. (Kilcock Road). The main car park area, trolley bay and entrance to the store were in good order and generally clear of litter. However, the shrubbery / planted areas surrounding the car park harboured litter – this took away from an otherwise well presented environment.

Recycle Facility at Aldi: Grade B. As well as the typical signage at a recycle facility there was a sign indicating that '13 Litter fines issued at this site in 2019 so far'. While not subject to the same dumping issues as other recycle facilities there was still a litter presence, mostly behind the units – sweet papers, cans, cardboard box, plastic bottles and a discarded plastic bucket were present.

Leinster Street: Grade A. This town centre shopping street presented well with wide paving, bicycle parking, attractive 'olde' style street names, bins etc. all in good order. There was a virtual absence of litter throughout, creating a positive impression.

Carton Public Park: Grade B+. (adjacent to Pound Lane) The main grassy area and pathway were good with regard to litter, but the site was somewhat downgraded due to items by the river / stream – mostly fast-food wrappers, cans and sweet wrappers.

Mill Street: Grade A. Mill Street scored well with regard to litter and the street bins provided the opportunity for both cigarette butts and chewing gum. The area was well served by litter bins and the restaurants presented well.

Moyglare Abbey: Grade A. The residential area of Moyglare Abbey was excellent in terms of presentation and litter. The large grass area was spotless, and the area was much enhanced by tree planting throughout.

Kildare Co Council Car Park – adjacent to SuperValu on Straffan Road: Grade A. The road surface, markings and signage were in good condition and the overall impression of the car park was a good one with regard to litter. Care needs to be taken at the Recycle Facility within the car park – items had become lodged at the base / underneath the recycle units.

Straffan Road: Grade A. The new road / pavement / bicycle path surface create a very fresh impression along this road – it was spotless throughout.

M4 Dublin – Maynooth Link Road: Grade A. The overall Grade for this route was a Grade A with the direction from Maynooth to Dublin cleaner than Dublin to Maynooth – minor litter items, e.g. plastic bottles and cans.

Source: www.ibal.ie



14	Tullamore
15	Tralee
16	Letterkenny
17	Cork City Centre
18	Sligo
T19	Bray
T19	Ranelagh
21	Drogheda
22	Waterford City - Ballybeg
23	Cavan

Moderately littered

Position	
24	Longford
25	Monaghan
26	Limerick City Centre
27	Galway City Centre
28	Dundalk
29	Mahon - Cork City
30	Gorey
31	Navan
32	Ballymun
33	Carlow
34	Dublin City Centre
35	Galway Inner City - Ballybane

Littered

Position	
36	Tipperary
37	Tallaght
38	Cork Northside

Seriously littered

Position	
39	Limerick City South - Galvone
40	Dublin North Inner City

Maynooth Newsletter

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

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

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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 23rd November 2020

Editorial

While many readers are wishing for the end of 2020, it is still hard to believe that it is November already. While Ireland was put back into level 5 Covid 19 restrictions up to the end of this month, everyone I know is hoping for a Christmas something close to a normal festive season. I will come back to this topic later but hopefully we will get our wish.

Unfortunately with level 5 restrictions Maynooth Community Employment Project are unable to provide the same level of weekday maintenance in Maynooth Harbour as normal, so I am appealing to everyone to refrain from dropping any litter if you travel through this area during November. Our office in Carton Park is also closed to the public but behind closed doors we are still continuing to produce the Maynooth Newsletter to keep our community informed on local issues.

Of course in November most of nature takes a rest to reawaken in spring. As a committed environmentalist I have more than a passing interest in how we interact with nature. Some headlines on this topic over the years are hard to overlook especially when the source is as reliable as the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation. They predict that current farming practices are accelerating soil degradation at such a rate that we may have as few as sixty harvests left. Teagasc (the Agriculture and Food Development Authority) is working to develop ash tree genetic resources to replace the native Irish Ash Trees that are dying at an alarming rate since they became compromised after being infected with ash dieback which came into Ireland as a consequence of the importation of infected trees from other European Countries. Unless they are successful Ireland could lose over five million native Ash trees without a disease resistant alternative to soak up the carbon which is crucial for our environmental future.

As I mentioned in previous editions this year many of us turned to our gardens in lockdown and are realising the advantage of having this outdoor resource. Many new people tried to grow food for the first time this year and will continue next year. Unfortunately many of the newer housing developments in Maynooth do not include much in the way of garden space so the option to grow your own in these areas is limited. As a community we would stand to benefit more from additional well managed public open spaces which could help to tackle our carbon equation. Soil is known as the carbon sink so I find strange that more is not being done to use it for this purpose. So as we look forward to the new growth in spring we need to remember how important it is that we interact with our environment.

At the beginning I mentioned Christmas. Our annual Christmas Lights in the centre of the town will be put up later this month. The cost of these illuminations runs to around €13000 each year. It is important to remember that the lights are put up by a voluntary committee who must engage in fundraising to provide these for our enjoyment. Of course many local businesses contribute but this year many local businesses have been hit hard by the pandemic and would, though more than willing, now struggle to donate.

Fortunately the committee's fund-raising got off to a good start with a grant from Kildare County Council and large single donations from Intel Ireland and Barrett's Maynooth. But every donation no matter how much is welcome as the committee continues to add new features depending on the funds available. If you can help please go to Maynooth Christmas Lights 2020 on https://www.ifundraise.ie/5601_maynooth-christmas-lights-2020.html

Here's hoping we all have a good Christmas.
Paul Croghan
Editor

Kildare-Meath Grid Upgrade

Upgrading lines



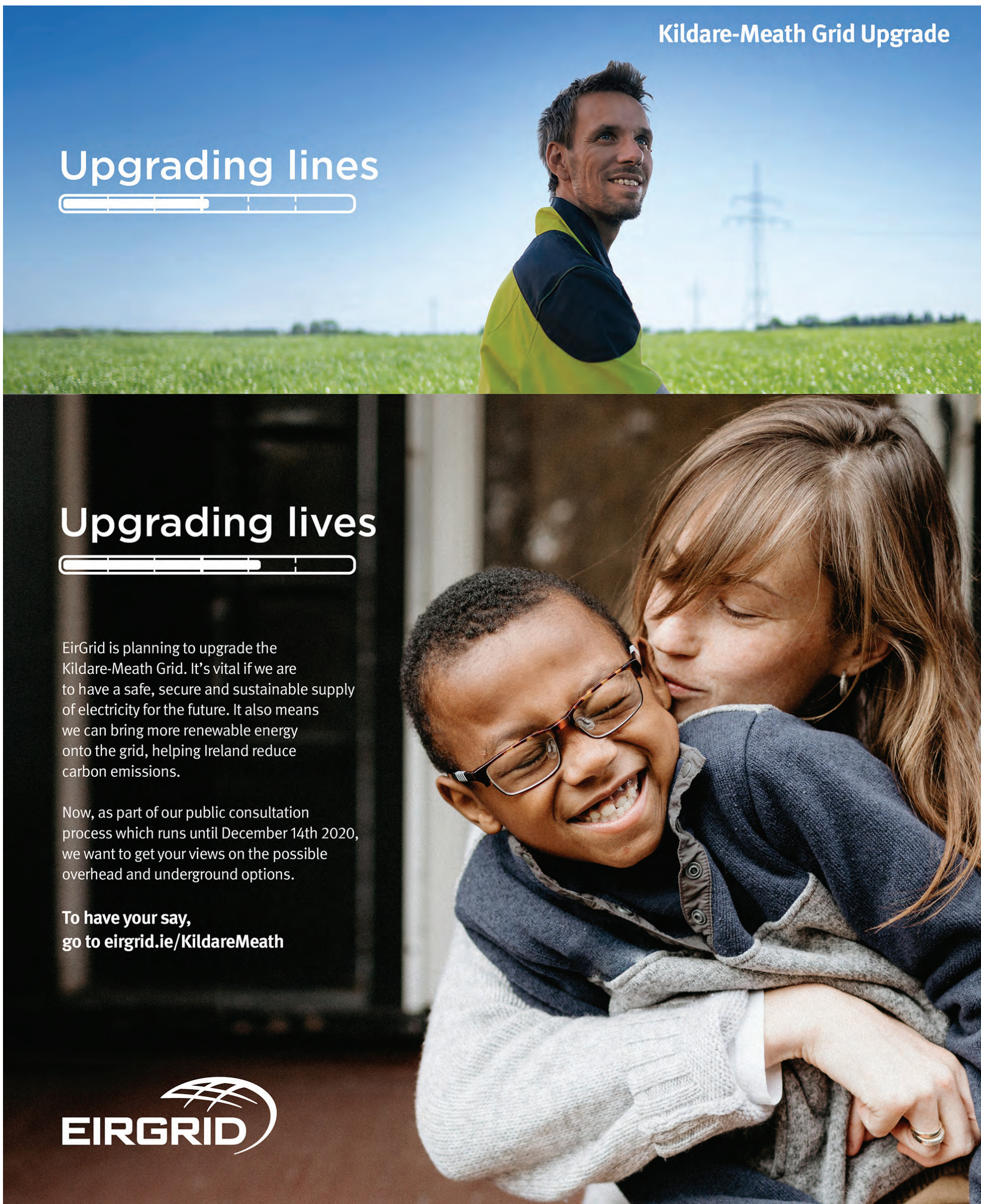
Upgrading lives



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**





Gold Medal
Winner 2019

Welcome to the November edition of our Monthly update on works taking place in Maynooth for 2020.

At the time of writing we received the good news from IBAL, Irish Business Against Litter, that Maynooth has been ranked in 5th place out of 40 cities and towns surveyed nationwide. Maynooth is deemed “Cleaner than European Norms” according to the report by an Taisce, who carried out the survey, seven out of the 10 sites surveyed in Maynooth received the top litter grade and no seriously littered sites.

Top ranking sites included the residential area of Moyglare Abbey and the town centre streets of Mill Street and Leinster Street. However it added that the car park at Aldi and the recycle facility within Aldi were both moderately littered. We will receive a scroll in recognition, no official presentation due to Covid 19 and no financial reward. (Full report on Front page)



Our volunteers have been busy strimming hedges, trees, planting spring bulbs (yellow Rattle and Wood Anemones) donated by local environmentalist Peter Cuthbert. We received a grant from Kildare County Council and we are going to use the money to buy more bulbs which will be planted in designated areas around the town such as the Council car park and the Celbridge Road, during November, with help from KCC.

Some of our local TY Students are involved with The Gaisce Awards and together with their parents have been volunteering with us for a number of weeks. Thanks to Cathal, Ben and Matt for all their hard work.



Good luck to one of our young Volunteers Iain Carey who is raising money for LauraLynn Children's Hospice and Pieta House by running a 100km and doing 3,000 pushups during the month of October.

We are not looking for new Volunteers at the moment due to Government restrictions but please feel free to do a clean up in your own estates.

Last but not least we will have a Christmas Tree this year in Courthouse Square.

Follow us on Twitter and Like us on Facebook for all up to date Tidy Towns news.

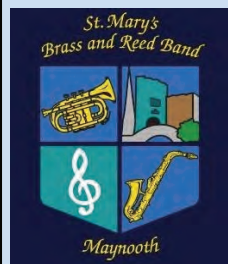
Mary Molloy - Secretary - Maynooth Tidy Towns



Maynooth Tidy Towns Extra!!!!

Maynooth Tidy Town are delighted to have teamed up with St. John of God's Liffey Valley Services, their residents and their staff in the Community Care Unit in Maynooth. Maynooth Tidy Town volunteers did a clean up of the raised beds on Saturday 17th October. Further works will be undertaken by Maynooth Tidy Town in the coming weeks including replacing the damaged wood in beds, planting in a selection of fruit and veg and making a composting area.

Some before and after pictures:



St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band

The new Coronavirus restrictions beginning on 21st October were a real setback to our plans for the remainder of the year with rehearsals and a possible Christmas Concert all put on hold for the period of the Lockdown.

In addition to that our annual Mass for deceased members on Sunday 1st November would have been the first time that the Band could not play, although the live streaming would have eased the pain somewhat.

There really isn't any more we can say for this month because we do not have an idea where things are going until the lockdown period is over.

Opposite: A photo of the Band members taken after a previous Mass.



MAYNOOTH DRESSES

Maynooth Dresses have Temporarily Closed the doors of our New Shop
Unit 3 San Feliu, Fagans Lane, Maynooth, (Behind EBS on the Main St)
Due to Covid 19 Lockdown as we are a Non Essential Retail Shop.

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!
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MAIN STREET, MAYNOOTH (OPPOSITE LONDIS)



LIFFEY MEMORIALS

- ◆ Headstones
- ◆ Grave Cleaning
- ◆ Additional Inscriptions

SERVICING
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CEMETERY
MAYNOOTH

01-8237710

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



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

How to make your own Christmas Cards

Handmade Christmas cards really show you care. Make your own Christmas cards with a little leftover ribbon and a little handiness. With the right bits and pieces, you can make your own Christmas cards in an afternoon. Have some fun making the perfect Christmas card with the kids.

Use layers of tissue paper, colourful buttons, glitter, glue and printed paper to create effective Christmas cards. Feel free to experiment with colours and prints to create personalised Christmas cards your friends and family will love.

Keep it simple. Don't be afraid of leaving white space on your card. Remember that you needn't go too festive. A simple bauble, crown, branch of holly or similar traditional image can look effective.

If you can't draw, search online for a shape you can work from.

Don't worry about sticking to the -traditional colours of red and green either — try vibrant colours which can look stylish. And for the finishing touches? Used sparingly, sequins, gems and ribbons will make your card. But if you go overboard, they'll ruin it.

If you've gone for the DIY option in order to save money, don't get -carried away using loads of costly materials on each card. Instead, buy a small amount of expensive stuff and use it sparingly you'll still get the overall effect.

Putting it all together

Work on a large, flat surface so you have enough space to spread out all of your materials.

If you've just got a couple of cards to put together, create one at a time. But if you have lots to make, attempt more than ten at once. You're better off working in stages, it's quicker and keeps your cards looking consistent.

First, cut out all of the elements of your design, then glue the main pieces to the card, then add the decorative bits — sequins, gems, ribbon, dried flowers and so on. There are lots of videos online to give you plenty of tips on creating your own cards.

Keep a spare envelope to hand: if you don't finish your cards in one session, it's a



convenient way of storing those little bits of paper you've spent so long cutting out.

Finally, don't be afraid to show off the fact that you've made your own cards this year — write a little 'Handmade by...' note in the bottom corner to ensure the recipient will know you've put in the time.

Information sourced from www.dailymail.co.uk



Mezzo-Soprano Sharon Carty appointed Maynooth Campus Associate Artist

Maynooth College and Maynooth University's Music Department and Faculty of Arts, Celtic Studies and Philosophy, in partnership with Music Generation Kildare and Kildare County Council, are delighted to announce the appointment of Sharon Carty (mezzo soprano) as Maynooth Campus Associate Artist for the coming academic year, 2020 – 2021.

Rev. Michael Mullaney, President of Maynooth College says, 'We are delighted to support this initiative, which places a value on the vital contribution that artists make in providing moments of inspiration and hope in our lives.' Dr Antonio Cascelli, Head of the University's Music Department is excited about the new role, which will involve both performing and teaching: 'With her incredible talent and international experience, Sharon will have the opportunity to share her expertise with students in Maynooth and will enchant audiences with her singing'.

Following over a decade of professional performing experience in the concert halls and opera houses of continental Europe, Sharon is

now based in Kildare, and is excited about recent musical developments in the county. One of these is the appointment of Alan Costello as Music Development Officer for Music Generation Kildare, an organisation with which Sharon has already forged promising links. 'Music Generation Kildare is delighted to support this new innovative initiative which supports Musician Educators in the county. The young musicians in Kildare will benefit greatly from Sharon's extensive experience and we look forward to the performance music opportunities this residency will offer children and young people in the county over the coming year' says Alan.

The Maynooth initiative also has the support of Kildare County Council, represented by Arts Officer, Lucina Russell: 'We are very pleased to be involved in this project, which not only has musical and educational benefits for the county, but is a concrete means by which we can support one of our own artists in a very challenging economic climate. This is very much line with the local authority's shared commitment with the Arts Council: 'to support artists.'"

Dr John O'Keeffe, Director of Church Music and Choral Groups at Maynooth, gives the following account of the project's genesis: 'This grew out of a lockdown reality in which people, including musicians, were confined to their local areas. I suggested to Sharon that we put on a

virtual concert of Bach's music from Maynooth College Chapel on Midsummer's Day. The success of this led in turn led to a larger scale event for Kildare's Culture Night, and eventually to the announcement of this exciting initiative.'

Following her appointment, a delighted Sharon Carty gave her personal reaction: 'I am honoured and excited to take up this post as Associate Artist in Maynooth, a university campus with a rich history and international standing, and I am immensely grateful to them, as well as Music Generation Kildare, and the Kildare County Council Arts Office, for this opportunity to share my experience and love of music with the students, as well as the wider community'.



Pictured: Rev Prof. Michael Mullaney, Ms Brenda Brady (Kildare C.C. Arts Office), Mr Alan Costello, Ms Sharon Carty, Dr Antonio Cascelli, Dr John O'Keeffe.

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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

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Writers’ Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

Heaven! Do we think about it often enough?

Apart from the gospel accounts of the Resurrection, St. Paul, in his second letter to the Corinthians, gives us the most earth-rocking glimpse into a dimension of our existence ever to be found anywhere in literature, art or indeed imagination.

Paul said he had no interest in boasting about anything save about one of his experiences, an experience in which he had no active part whatsoever. His own words, had he been speaking English: **"I know a person in Christ (Paul himself) who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven -whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person – whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows – was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat."** No mortal is permitted to repeat! And there are stories of experiences here on earth that transfix us. What would be our reaction to Paul's story were it told? It was a rare experience indeed. So many questions I would love to ask! Was he not allowed to tell what he saw or was he simply unable? How could he be sure about the fourteen years? He must have pondered over the experience many times. What is the "Third Heaven"? How many are there? Is it one of the "Mansions in my Father's House" that Jesus told us about?

"There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, Than are dreamt of in your philosophy", says Hamlet.

Elsewhere, talking about the next life, Paul also stated: **"Eye hath not seen nor ear heard nor hath it entered into the heart of man the things that God has prepared for those who love him"**. There is something great to be looking forward to so let's meditate on it often, anticipate it and share it with others as best we can.

Death, as we have often perceived it, need not be the bosom friend of each November! It's the door to life as it will be and as it is, seen through the eyes of Faith! Let us celebrate it from conception to eternity!

Did you know that our Sun burns 400 million tons of hydrogen every second? The God that Jesus revealed is not just a very close friend of mankind but one serious creator!

By GM

Compassion

Though the sleeping bag covered his head, Martin sensed it was dawn. Between the cold in his feet and his aching back he'd barely slept. A car passed, engine whining. No point in peeping out: Joey and Molly wouldn't be round yet. He'd saved them bread from the last meal the Simon people gave him...with their crooked toes and bedraggled feathers without his scraps they wouldn't last the winter.

Though it was miserable out here, it beat being in the shelter among druggies and winos. It was a month now since the agents for his apartment had terminated his lease. They claimed to be housing those in need but all they cared about was keeping their cushy jobs and to hell with their clients. When he had complained about the radiators not working, they had accused him of being a troublemaker. Maybe he shouldn't have complained. That was the expected thing, keep your mouth shut and be grateful for a roof over your head. Well sod that and sod those lousers!

It would be a while yet before The Crown opened. They didn't like him using their loo, but it was that or chancing the alley up the street. Maybe if he had been less ready to go to the pub Katie wouldn't have walked out on him? Then again, she'd probably would ... always at him for being on the dole... as if he wouldn't have worked if only he had the energy. Women just didn't understand. Wouldn't she be gob-smacked to learn he hadn't touched a drop since the eviction? Not that it really mattered; with a cold spell imminent he wouldn't last till April... How many people would care? At least Joey and Molly would miss him... the Simon people too. He knew that.

P.G. Nerney

To Mariga

You were always unlike us
Even when you joined our meetings
In a cardigan with torn elbows;
We crafted hard pragmatic plans,
You spoke of fragile lovely things
As if they were the common currency;
Birth and privilege afforded you perspective
Let space and calmness in
Until they were necessities;
How then could you abide
The suburbs onslaught:

Our motors cruising down your drive,
Our children plucking blossoms from your trees,
Our lovers kissing in your ruined gazebo?

Dear life-bewildered princess
Sleep quiet beneath your Folly,
With May-time beauties that you loved
Piled here in fresh-cut splendour:
I lay this cottage-grown rosemary
Beside the stately arum lilies.

Colin Scott

Local students among recipients of Maynooth University Entrance Scholarship



Students from local second level schools are among those recognised at Maynooth University Entrance Scholarship Ceremony which takes place tomorrow, 21st October.

The ceremony which recognises the achievements of some of Ireland's brightest and most promising first year students is normally held on campus, but this year due to COVID restrictions it will be a virtual event.

The Entrance Scholarship scheme celebrates those incoming first year students who achieved outstanding results in their Leaving Certificate (predicted grades results this year). The €1,000 Entrance Scholarship is automatically awarded to incoming first year students, who have obtained 550 points or more in the Leaving Certificate (from six subjects in one sitting). A Music Scholarship and Michael Osborne Equine Business Scholarships will also be awarded on the night.

This year approximately 100 students from all over the country will receive the scholarship.. Local students include Leah Fortune Mallon and Siobhan McGarry from Maynooth Post Primary School; Conor Killian, Cian May, Elliott Mullen and Aaron O'Connor from Silesian College, Celbridge and Eimear Byrne from St Wolstan's Community School, Celbridge.

MU congratulates 19 recipients of Government of Ireland Awards



Maynooth University is delighted to announce that 19 researchers have been selected for the 2020 Government of Ireland Postgraduate and Postdoctoral schemes, announced today by the Irish Research Council (IRC).

The Government of Ireland Awards represent a total investment of over €21 million in almost 300 early career research projects across all academic disciplines. Maynooth researchers receiving awards today will conduct research into a wide range of topics from drug therapies, Parkinson's disease and stroke rehabilitation, to sinkhole environments, solar events in nearby galaxies and new learning approaches in primary education.

Welcoming this year's awardees, the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, Simon Harris TD said: "Across higher education, enterprise, civil society and the public sector, expert knowledge and skills is a critical need for our present and our future. The awards announced today support a pipeline of research talent which will be at the forefront of addressing the many challenges and opportunities we face."

MU Awardees and research projects:

Bernadette Phillips - Development of Holliday junction-stabilising di-nuclear complexes via click chemistry: a new gene targeting strategy for metal-based drugs.
Blake McGrane Corrigan - Investigation of the Nutrient Requirements of Dendritic Cells in Vivo.
Clara Evans - Implementing Workplace Well-being Programmes: A view from Institutional Theory.
Darren Beirne - Efficient Green Catalysis.
Dawn Higgins - Drivers of variation in the microbiome of

the wild great tit, *Parus major*.
Georgina Perryman - Developing more culturally responsive pedagogies with Irish primary school teachers using a learning study approach.
Jack Callan - *Leading the Way: Developing the Identity of Future Leaders.*
Lilian Nwanze - Accelerating stroke rehabilitation using iterative learning applied via a brain-computer interface.
Luke Edward Brennan - Institutional Acts of Watching in Irish Cinema: Surveillance, Power and the Camera.
Nathan Fox - Learning from what goes well: Improving the quality of primary care.
Peadar Kearney - A multi-data machine learning approach to identifying, mapping and characterising sinkhole populations in karst environments.
Peter Shannon - *The Ghosts of Lafcadio Hearn: A Novel*
Sandra-Carina Noble - *Minding the Gap: Searching for Low Luminosity Transients in Nearby Galaxies.*
Siobhán Buckley - How does the Artisan Food Entrepreneur (AFE) experience business growth? An examination of business growth in a 'post growth' context.
Tian Yu - Mathematical Models Linking Neuronal and Behavioural Responses in Parkinson's disease.
Veronica Barry - Hydrogels for the intraocular delivery of sphingosine -1-phosphate agents in the management of retinal diseases.
John Brown - Democratisation and post-neoliberal citizenship in Latin America: Lessons from Bolivia and Venezuela.
Kevin Tracey - AMERGIN: Analysing Macaronic Early-Modern Readers by Gathering Irish Networks (1575-1675).
Siobhán Barrett - A Triad of Medical Glossaries.

Further information about the IRC's Government of Ireland programme is available at www.research.ie



MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN

KCC's Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)

Last June, at the first meeting of the Kildare County Council's Transportation SPC, Maynooth Cycle Campaign commented on the lack of action in re-establishing the Kildare Cycle Forum. We are pleased to announce that at the second SPC meeting in October, the Cycling Officer stated that the Forum would be reconstituted in November. We warmly welcome this news as in some ten years it is probably the first thing suggested by the Campaign that the Council has actually accepted.

Maynooth Eastern Ring Road

Detailed design work continues on the Maynooth Eastern Ring Road and the Council is shortly expected to engage a contractor. One of the policy papers that Maynooth Cycling Campaign submitted to the SPC is that projects advancing to construction should be checked for Covid-19 and climate change resilience. In practice, it means a check would be carried out on a typical cross-section that space allocated to different road users would take Covid-19 and climate change into account. We would argue that the lane widths should be minimum rather than mid-range in the interests of road safety and providing extra space for active travel to allow social distancing.

Dublin Cycling Campaign Webinars

During Bikeweek, our colleagues in the Dublin Cycling Campaign (DCC) organised a number of webinars on cycling related topics. The full list can be found on the DCC website. Two in particular are recommended – The Best Years of Your Life which describes how Fingal County Council redesigned roads and streets to provide a "School Street" in Malahide to encourage walking and cycling to school. During the budget announcement, Transport government ministers stated that Safe Routes to School will feature prominently in their expenditure in 2021 so the webinar will be of interest to Maynooth parents of school going children. The second entitled Active Travel, Public Health and Resilience deals with how active travel can increase the resilience of communities against the effects of Covid-19. The speakers include a number of experts in their respective fields. All webinars are available on YouTube.



School Streets/School Zones

Following on from the "School Street" in Malahide and a "School Zone" in Dublin, Kildare County Council initiated two pilot projects in conjunction with Green Schools – in Athy and Monasterevin. If successful, the pilots will be rolled out across the county.

Reallocation of Road Space

The good news is that Kildare County Council has begun to embrace reallocation of road space. Unfortunately, in Mill Street the bad news is that instead of prioritising active travel, space was reallocated from cycling for motorised traffic. After a contractor resurfaced part of Mill Street, the advisory cycle lane was reduced in places to 1.15m. In the rest of Ireland, local authorities are widening cycle lanes.

Covid-19/ #ChangeOurStreets

In Kildare Town, Kildare County Council has carried out two projects – one in Kildare Square which is good and one in Cleamore Road which is bad. Although Cleamore Road includes an access to St. Brigid's School with over 1000 primary school pupils, only 7 pupils cycled to school in Census 2016. Kildare County Council reduced the road to one direction but the only provision for cycling was to share the road with cars. Read our take on it in the Blog post on our website.

Progress by KCC

The NTA have published their Annual Report 2019 Sustainable Transport Measures Grants. The report gives details of projects funded by the NTA in 2019 and includes a comparison of outcomes achieved by local authorities in the Greater Dublin Area and regional cities (Pages 24 and 25). It is fair to state that of the 12 local authorities, Kildare County Council with only 15 cycle parking spaces was the second worst performance.

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



'Superfoods, Everyone Needs

Imagine a superfood powerful enough to help you lower your cholesterol, reduce your risk of heart disease and cancer, and, for an added bonus, put you in a better mood. These life-altering superfoods are available right now in your local supermarket.

You don't need specific foods for specific ailments. A healthy diet incorporating a variety of the following superfoods will help you maintain your weight, fight disease, and live longer.

Include a few servings of the ingredients on the superfoods list into your day paired with a balanced diet and regular physical activity and you're bound to feel better than ever

Top Superfoods Offering Super Health Protection

Wheatgrass, Cinnamon, Blueberries, Avocados, Broccoli, Salmon, Sweet Potatoes, Goji Berries, Almonds, Kale and many more.

Blueberries

Tiny but packed with nutrients, blueberries fit the superfoods definition to a T. Blueberries are brimming with disease-fighting antioxidants and phytochemicals, as well as plenty of vitamin C, vitamin K and manganese. Best of all, these flavorful fruits are delicious and easy to enjoy as one of the best foods to lose weight. Use them to bring a hint of sweetness to salads, add them to baked goods or even enjoy them alone as a healthy snack.



Salmon

The American Heart Association recommends including fish in your diet at least twice a week, and for good reason. Fatty fish like salmon are high in heart-healthy omega-3 fatty acids that can slash inflammation, boost brain health and keep your heart strong.

Opt for wild-caught salmon whenever possible, and try to squeeze a few servings into your week by enjoying it as a savory snack paired with crackers or a healthy entree for lunch or dinner.

Green Tea

Green tea is a type of tea made from the leaves of the Camellia sinensis plant, which is the same plant used to make other types of tea like black, white and oolong tea. Unlike other tea varieties, however, green tea undergoes very little processing, which helps to maximize its content of antioxidants and polyphenols. Research shows that green tea can help boost metabolism, improve oral

hygiene, enhance insulin sensitivity and decrease several risk factors for heart disease.

To get started, simply start brewing a couple of cups per day to slowly incorporate this superfood into your daily routine. You can also opt for other green tea products instead, such as matcha, which delivers a concentrated punch of antioxidants in each serving.

Goji Berries

With up to 12 times the antioxidant levels of blueberries, it's no wonder these berries top the charts as one of the most nutrient-dense superfoods for men and women. Goji berries have been a staple in Traditional Chinese Medicine for centuries and have been credited with improving vitality, energy and longevity. They are also loaded with nutrients that may help prevent eye disease, protect against skin damage and inhibit the growth of cancer cells. You can often find goji berries in dried or superfoods powder form at many grocery stores. Try adding them to a raw superfood carrot salad for a nutritious option for lunch or dinner.

Grapefruit

Grapefruit is a citrus fruit that is packed with important nutrients. Just one serving contains a good amount of fiber as well as essential micronutrients such as vitamin C and vitamin A. Some research suggests that adding grapefruit to your diet can be an effective way to bump up weight loss and improve insulin sensitivity. It may also help improve heart health and increase liver function to promote proper detoxification. Grapefruit can be cut into wedges for an easy and delicious snack all on its own. It can also be used in salads, smoothies and main dishes to add a burst of citrus flavor to your favorite foods.



Research has shown that the ideal diet is one that is largely plant-based, with a wide variety of fruits, vegetables, whole grains and healthful animal products.

Superfoods do more than just help you meet your vitamin and mineral needs or aid in shedding a few extra pounds when it comes time for swimsuit season. In fact, these foods can help you achieve better health, prevent chronic disease, and improve the way you feel day in and day out — and they're some of the top anti-aging foods around. When combined with regular exercise and a balanced diet, adding a few of these top superfoods into your day can benefit many different aspects of your health.



Information sourced from: <https://draxe.com/nutrition/what-are-superfoods/>

Maynooth Castle Keep Art Group

Maynooth Castle Keep Art Group - Online Exhibition scheduled for December

The Maynooth Castle Keep Art Group was hoping to have an outdoor exhibition sometime towards the end of September or beginning of October. Because of Covid and social distancing it was not feasible. However we felt we could not let 2020 go without an exhibition. We have had an exhibition every year for 21 years.

We have been working away in the background up to August with our weekly zoom art sessions. Members of the group volunteered to host an hour (or so) of art instruction to other members of the group. We also introduced YouTube instructional videos to the group during that time and that also proved to be very popular. This replaced our regular meet and paint sessions in the Post Primary School.

The zoom sessions turned out to be a wonderful, enjoyable and fun alternative. Our members really looked forward to the Tuesday night as it was a break from the Covid reality. It gave us a dedicated time to sit down to paint together. The zoom sessions took us out of our comfort zones in exploring new mediums and subject matter. It gave the members a chance to lead a class if they wished and there was no pressure. We each shared our strengths with others e.g. those who mainly used acrylic were introduced to watercolour, pastels, oils and pen or learned new techniques within their own medium. Also, we took on different subject matter - landscapes, seascapes, floral studies and still life. (See opposite)

We specifically looked at how to paint waves and clouds and how to deal with perspective, light and shade and reflections. We each produced a work of art at the end of each the sessions. We also used instructional videos from YouTube during our zoom sessions and these were carefully picked to suit duration, subject matter and medium.

We had great fun showing each other our artworks at the end of the night and with permissions they were posted on our fb page. These sessions also served to keep the Group together. Now that we have entered another Covid level 5, we will be continuing with our zoom sessions and producing some exciting pieces.

But the big news is that we hope to organise an online exhibition which will be ready by the beginning of December, just in time for Christmas. We are in the process of organising that. We will update you on social media and we will have a notice in the next issue of the Maynooth Newsletter.

We would like to congratulate Emma Boyce (one of our own) who was chosen as one of 10 Kildare artists commissioned to take part in the Covid 19 Portrait Project organised by Kildare County Council.

In the meantime, all good wishes to our artists, supporters, our patron Mr. Tom Ashe, the principals of the Maynooth Education Campus and everyone in the community who has contributed to the continued success of the Group. Look out for us in December!

<https://www.facebook.com/castlekeep.art>
<http://www.castlekeepartgroup.com/>

Susan Durack - Castle Keep Art Group.



The Row by Déaglán Ó Ceallaigh



Cock of the Walk by Catherine O'Riordan



Wild Wave by Ann McCluskey



Still Life by Eamon Burke



Silver Birches by Regina Richardson



Clouds by Heather Ferguson



Royal Canal Notes

November 2020

Education ~~ Heritage ~~ Recreation

RAIL ELECTRIFICATION

Iarnód Éireann is moving to the 'Public Consultation stage of its plan to electrify the Dublin – Maynooth line. This may well affect the canal because both are in close proximity in many areas.

While all canal structures, bridges walls, harbours slipways and aqueducts are protected some adjustments may occur particularly where canal and rail bridges are one structure. Normally in such cases the track will be lowered to facilitate the canto graph technology above the trains.



Maynooth will go from this ↑ (© Ciarán Cooney) To this↓ (Irish Rail)



Public Consultations are in the very early stages at the moment and little is known of the exact proposals but your Royal Canal Parent Group is keeping an eye on things. Obviously pillars will have to be built to support the overhead cabling but hopefully not in the vicinity of the canal.

HARBOUR FIELD

Information coming to hand indicates that Kildare County Council will, in the near future, move to public consultation for plans on the 'Harbour Field'. While nothing has been released just yet it is understood that a Landscape Architect has been commissioned to submit draft plans for this area.



Rail and Canal side by side

While there are no concrete proposals at present it would appear that Kildare C.C. are anxious to include an events area, a 'people's park' and other recreational facilities in the plan. This, it would appear, might necessitate moving the playground to a different part of the field.

LOCKDOWN

We are back in lockdown for another six weeks as a result of which activity on the canal has increased, something which has not gone un-noticed. With increased numbers using this wonderful facility, it is important to remind users to keep it clean and tidy. Please do not leave litter strewn along the canal and be sure to clean up after your pets.

LIGHTING

Works are continuing on the Bond Bridge side of the railway station and the rail path remains closed to pedestrians. Accordingly representations have been made to Kildare C.C. to switch on the street lighting along the canal path on the other side of the canal. This will assist those walking towards Bond Bridge in darkness.

**Royal Canal
Amenity Group**

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



Know your rights: Fuel Allowance

I'm getting a State pension. Can I get help with my heating costs?

You may qualify for a Fuel Allowance. This is paid to people on long-term social welfare payments who are unable to pay for their own heating needs. If you are getting a State pension you may qualify for the allowance as long as you live alone or only with:

- A dependent spouse, civil partner or cohabitant and/or dependent children.
- Other people getting one of the qualifying payments who would also be eligible for a Fuel Allowance in their own right.
- A person who is getting Carer's Allowance or Carer's Benefit and is caring for you or for your dependent spouse, partner or cohabitant on a full-time basis.
- A person getting COVID-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment (PUP), short-term Jobseeker's Allowance or basic Supplementary Welfare Allowance.

You also need to satisfy a means test. A means test examines your income to establish your means. If you are on a State Pension (Non-Contributory) you automatically satisfy the means test. If you are getting the State Pension (Contributory) you satisfy the means test if you have means of €100 or less per week.

If two or more people living in the same household qualify for the allowance, only one allowance is paid. If your heating needs are met in other ways (for example, if you live in local authority housing where heating is provided) you do not qualify for Fuel Allowance. The Fuel Allowance season usually runs from October to April each year for 28 weeks. You can choose to get the allowance paid weekly, €24.50 per week or in 2 lump sums of €343 – one paid at the start of the season and the second, in January.

If you think you are eligible, you should apply immediately. The allowance is not backdated.

You can get an application form for Fuel Allowance (NFS1) from your post office or Intreo centre. You can read more about the Fuel Allowance on the citizensinformation.ie website.

Know your rights: COVID-19 and school attendance.

This news item was posted on September 24, 2020

When should I keep my child home from school during the COVID-19 pandemic?

Keeping schools open during the COVID-19 emergency is a Government priority.

However, many parents have questions about when to keep primary school children at home during the pandemic.

Your child should not go to school if they have:

- Symptoms of COVID-19 – common symptoms are a high temperature, a cough, shortness of breath, loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.
- Been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus.
- Been living with someone who is unwell and may have coronavirus.
- An existing breathing condition that has recently got worse.

If any of these apply, you should:

- Keep your child at home and completely avoid contact with other people, as much as possible. This means they must self-isolate. They should only leave your home to see your GP or have a COVID-19 test.
- Phone your GP. They will advise you if your child needs a test.
- Treat your child at home for their symptoms.
- No one in your household should go to school, childcare or work until your child gets a diagnosis from their GP or a COVID-19 test result. This means they should restrict their movements.

If your child has other symptoms.

You should keep your child at home for at least 48 hours, if they have:

- Headaches or a sore throat – usually, after 48 hours you can send your child back to school as long as their symptoms do not get worse, they do not develop new symptoms and they do not need paracetamol or ibuprofen during the period.
- Diarrhoea – they should stay at home until they have had no diarrhoea for 48 hours.

You and your family can continue your normal routine. You do not need to restrict your movements as long as you are not ill.

If your child has travelled abroad

Your child needs to stay at home and not go to school if they have returned from a country that is not on the green list. They need to restrict their movements for 14 days. They do not need to see a GP unless they develop coronavirus symptoms. You should always check travel advice on the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, you can find comprehensive integrated information online at citizensinformation.ie/covid19/ and you can get daily updates on what's changed on Twitter at @citizensinfo.

You can also get information and advice from: The Citizens Information Phone Service: Call 0761 07 4000 - Monday to Friday - 9am – 8pm

Our national call back service:

Visit citizensinformation.ie/callback to request a phone call from an information officer.

A limited number of appointments are being made in Citizens Information Centres offices where social distancing can be facilitated. You can continue to contact your local centre by email or phone using the details in the Find a Centre page on citizensinformation.ie.

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



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Cllr. Angela Feeney Maynooth Labour News

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Briefing to Council from National Broadband

Councillors had a briefing October 19th from the CEO of National Broadband Ireland. In November 2019, the European Commission approved, under EU State aid rules, €2.6 billion of public support for the Irish National Broadband Plan. Future-proofing broadband for Ireland-it has become even more important now that more people are working from home. Cllr Feeney asked about the Celbridge Maynooth situation in particular and was told that we will be connected to the Dunboyne Regional Exchange which has already been surveyed and will feed into Celbridge/Maynooth. The Dunboyne Regional Exchange will dovetail with the Carlow and Blessington Exchange developments. Further information: www.nbi.ie

Successful projects under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme

40k has been granted to Maynooth for urbanism interventions including seating, awnings and artwork under Round 3 of the Accelerated Measures. This is the first time that our large towns have been eligible for any funding under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme. Kildare County Council was 100% successful in this round and indeed received the highest amount of funding possible for accelerated COVID-19 measures for our large towns.

The Harbour Field

At the October MD, Councillor Feeney asked the Public Realm Team at the Council when the draft design for the Harbour Field would be available to the public for consultation. The Council confirmed that the draft design is ready to go to public consultation, the team is just awaiting a letter from Waterways Ireland and then it will be on view and allow for submissions and observations. With regard to Maynooth Main Street and Square, Councillor Feeney also requested a result on when the application for Urban Regeneration and Development Fund would be known, the team informed Cllr Feeney that the result of the application for funding will be known in November.

Pikes Bridge to Celbridge Road Speeding

Cllr Feeney requested the Council to move the speed limit signs on the L5053 which links the R148 at Pikes Bridge to the R405 Celbridge Road as follows: move the signs further down the road from the Ballygoran side and to the other side of the bridge to improve visibility and safety. The issue of concern here is the fact that this road is so busy now as it is being used to bypass the traffic in the town and residents are really concerned for their safety, as well as that there are more walkers and cyclists using that road too as it is near the canal but there are no footpaths on the road at all.

While the Council said that the current location of speed limit signs is satisfactory, it is currently carrying out a County Speed Limit Review-all roads lead back to the speed limit review - and as part of that process the Council is reviewing this road L5053 linking Pikes Bridge to the Celbridge Road, so that is good to hear. So in the meantime, speeding issues have also been notified to the Gardai as well who are aware of the issue as well.

Traffic Lights at the Meadowbrook Link Road Junction

Cllr Feeney asked the Council to install a flashing orange right turn function at the Meadowbrook-Straffan Road traffic lights in Maynooth to indicate to motorists that they can proceed when there is no on-coming traffic. The Council responded stating that a 6-aspect signal head controls the right turn movement from the Straffan Road onto the Meadowbrook Link Road – this means that this movement is fully controlled i.e. road users can only proceed when they get a green signal.

The reason why the traffic signal designers recommended this signal arrangement rather than a 5-aspect signal head (which allows traffic to proceed right in gaps in traffic when it is safe to do so) was due to the presence of the bus turning bay – and opposing bus movements and also the distance right turners have to travel from the Straffan Road onto the Meadowbrook Road to clear the junction. A 6-aspect controlled movement was considered safer at this location.

Cllr Feeney accepted the explanation from the Council and agrees that the bus bay adds to the complexity of the junction but the Council has indicated that the Traffic Management Section will monitor and review the operation of the signals and this particular location, so that is to be welcomed according to Cllr Feeney because as it is at the moment people are taking chances and if a flashing orange function was introduced it would keep the traffic moving but in a safer way.

Silken Vale Speeding

Cllr Feeney asked if the Council could confirm if it has plans to revisit the possibility of installing an electronic speed tracker and/or ramps in Silken Vale Maynooth? The Council said that this issue was investigated previously and no intervention was warranted but the Council did say that the Municipal District Office will add this to the list of locations requiring speed surveys and will determine if any interventions are warranted. Cllr Feeney stressed that the profile and demographics of housing estates like this are changing over time in Maynooth so she welcomes the fact that the report mentions that it will add this estate to the list of locations requiring speed surveys. The residents association has been monitoring this over time and Cllr Feeney knows that they will welcome that too.

Trees at Greenfield Drive

Cllr Feeney asked if the Council could confirm if the trees and hedging along the boundary fence of Greenfield Drive with Mullan Park, would be retained. A lot of the residents have been asking Cllr Feeney about this and she is happy to report that the Council replied saying that the landscape plan submitted by the developer of Mullan Park indicates that the hedgerow is to be retained.

Addressing lack of representation among women and diversity in Local Government

Council was informed under Correspondence received from the Department of Housing Planning and Local Government offering financial support to local authority initiatives that would contribute towards the goal of increasing the presence of women and individuals from diverse backgrounds in Local Government leading up to the 2024 local elections and beyond. Cllr Feeney called on the Council to actively engage on this important matter. Councillor Feeney reminded Council that she had submitted a motion last year calling for a review of gender balance on the committees of the Council and the Council's Protocol Committee, which she welcomes, is now reviewing that matter.

Councillor Feeney added that she knows from her own experience in higher education that the Athena SWAN Charter which was launched in that sector in 2015 has brought about significant improvements in this area and a similar template might be applied to local government. In relation to this call from the Department, Cllr Feeney suggested that there are some initiatives we could get involved in as a Council such as piloting a mentoring/education programme with second level Transition Year students which is even more relevant now that Politics is a subject on the Leaving Certificate programme. We could provide regular opportunities for women guest speakers to present at executive and council meetings as subject matter experts that build women's visibility and linking in with community groups, which include many of our new citizens and women.

By putting a focus in the media on stories of women's experiences in local government, and building an online presence advocating female leadership and promoting local government councillors as role models of women's leadership, celebrating International Women's Day, we can raise awareness and engagement. Council agreed that Councillor Feeney should make a submission to this call by the deadline at the end of October. Councillor Feeney welcomes this and adds that while some progress has been made, there is still a need to recognise that barriers still exist. For example, women elected to Local Authorities are currently not entitled to paid maternity leave, and under the Local Government Act 2001, public representatives absent from their post for more than six months are deemed to have resigned, which seems so outdated and unfair, according to Cllr Feeney.

The Moorhouse report in it's recommendation stated "Recognition to the "all boats rise" theory which suggests that if there was proper remuneration for Councillors then all members of society, particularly women, younger people and non-national residents, would see Council membership as a viable commitment to local betterment and community development".

Motion on Audits and Planning for Childcare

Councillor Angela Feeney submitted a motion calling on the Council to provide an update to members on the current status of the Social Infrastructure Audits being carried out to inform the County Development Plan review, including existing childcare facilities and capacity in the county. The Council responded stating that high-level social Infrastructure Audits (SIAs) were carried out to inform the preparation of Variation no. 1 of the Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023 (CDP). These were undertaken during October and November of

(Continued on page 17)



Cllr. Angela Labour Notes Cont/....

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(Continued from page 16)

2019. More detailed and localised assessments are being carried out to inform the preparation of Local Area Plans at a settlement level and further updates to the current databases will be prepared to inform the review of the CDP in early 2021. Regarding the specific reference to existing childcare facilities and capacity, the council notes that during recent survey work for updates to these SIAs variables such as COVID-19 closures and social distancing requirements affect the operational capacity & enrolment figures for such facilities which must now be reflected in the audit of these facilities. Such updates are being incorporated as resources permit. The Council also added that it is of importance to note that while planning policy documents for the County make provision for adequate childcare facilities in tandem with new development, the operation of these is a matter for the private market to respond to.

Cllr Feeney welcomed the report saying that it is great to see that these audits are happening and will be a very useful in informing the county development plan. Cllr Feeney clarified that the motion does not allude to the operation of childcare facilities and agrees totally that this is a matter for the private market to respond to, that's not our business, but what is our business is planning policy for the County and making provision for adequate childcare facilities in tandem with new developments and how decisions are arrived at where repurposing of sites intended for crèche provision in large housing developments is concerned.

Cllr Feeney informed the meeting that a recent request to have Kildare Childcare Committee (KCCC) to present at our Council MD was declined due to the fact that the committee said it was unable to obtain the required data to make the presentation. Cllr Feeney stated that the Committee, in its response to the invitation, stated that with the introduction of a new Registration system for the National Childcare Programmes and Schemes called The Hive, local Childcare Committees no longer have access to local childcare information since the information is now held centrally.

We were informed by the KCCC CEO that they are currently in dialogue with DCYA and Pobal to obtain access to this new system and the CEO requested that if there is anything that the members can do to support this it would be much appreciated. Cllr Feeney added that it is for this reason, she is passing that appeal to Council at the meeting. Finally, Cllr Feeney requested that where the Council response mentions 'high level data' and 'more detailed and localised assessments' it is a welcome development so that such important planning decisions can be based on such data rather than on anecdotal evidence.

Condolences to the family and friends of Paddy, 'Whack' Corrway

Whack was our Labour Branch Honourary President and long time supporter. Cllr Feeney extends her sympathies to his family and friends. He was a fantastic neighbour and friend to all. A mine of information on all local historical matters and a talented handball player in his early years. We will miss him. Codladh sámh Whack.

Meetings attended by Cllr Feeney this month:

- September 23rd: KWETB Audit and Risk Committee (online) at 2pm
- September 24th: KCC Housing Leasing Briefing (online) at 10.30 am
- September 25th: KCC Twinning Liaison Committee (online) at 11.00 am
- October 1st: KCC Strategic Policy Committee in Chamber at 2 pm
- October 2nd: Council MD meeting in Chamber at 10.00 am
- October 2nd: ETBI AGM (online) at 2 pm
- October 9th: Workshop on Open Spaces Strategy for Kildare (online) at 2pm
- October 12th: Maynooth Community Council (online) at 8 pm
- October 13th: KCC Finance Committee (online) at 3.45 pm
- October 16th: KCC Finance Meeting with MD in Chamber at 12.30 pm
- October 19th: Briefing with National Broadband Ireland (online) at 11 am
- October 19th: Council Plenary in Newbridge Town Hall at 3 pm

Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee

As we go to level 5 lockdown Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee would like to let our senior citizens know that our thoughts are with you all at this difficult time. It is regrettable that we have not been able to restart our programme of events or the morning Club since March 2020.

We would like to assure you all that we have been working on your behalf in the background by adhering to government guidelines but also the guidelines and recommendations received from the HSE in relation to older people during the pandemic. They have made it very clear that we are not permitted to have any gatherings or events as there are many extra considerations to be taken into account with groups such as ours.

But all is not doom and gloom. We are still providing some services such as the provision of alarms and the fuel arrangement will go ahead before Christmas. We hope you will keep going with your art, playing and listening to music, crafts, reading, walking where possible and pursuing your interests or hobbies. Also don't forget that you can always contact your senior citizens contact person in your area. They have been and will be contact albeit remotely. Don't feel that you are alone, pick up the phone.

Hopefully we will get back to some semblance of normality in the New Year and that we can look forward to the morning club and the next tea-dance. We will have to make it extra special.

With all our good wishes
Stay well and safe.

Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee



Productive Things to do during Lockdown

Being on lockdown doesn't have to be boring, not if you keep yourself occupied. From learning a language to organising your wardrobe, updating your CV to writing a novel, there are plenty of productive things you can take up to pass the time - why not start right now.

Learn a New Language

There is a wide selection of You Tube videos and online tutorials where you can learn a new language of your choice. Now is your chance to use the time to increase your knowledge.

Learn to play an Instrument

Maybe you have a piano or keyboard lying around or a guitar that you bought and never actually used. With so much free time, it's never been easier to pick up a new skill. Again lots of classes on You Tube or online classes to get you started.



Write a Novel

The idea of writing a novel is one which can often seem daunting but most of us at some time have thought about it. All you need is a good idea to get you started. Writing can be an incredibly therapeutic practice and one which can help to pass the time.

Get Fit

Working out at home can be so beneficial for both your mind and body. Why not try out different types of workouts over the next few weeks and find out what workouts you enjoy most and that really works for you. Plenty to try yoga, pilates, tai chi, you will be spoilt for choice. Weather permitting walking and jogging and getting out in the fresh air will make you feel so much better. Keep active by downloading a Couch to 5k app.

Take a Course

Whether you're looking to start a new hobby or improve upon your career, there is a whole host of online courses to choose from so now is your chance to learn new skills.

Take up Photography

View life through a different lens as you capture all the important moments - big or small - on camera. Take stunning photos, become a professional photographer, or start your own photography business. Lots of online courses to help you get started.



There are so many things to do and enjoy at home—knitting, art, baking, read new books - the list is endless. You just need to get motivated and once you get started there is no limit to what you can achieve.



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

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For Written Answer on : 22/09/2020

Question Number(s): 434 Question Reference(s): 24957/20

Department: Education

Asked by: Catherine Murphy T.D.

QUESTION

To ask the Minister for Education the date on which refunds will issue to persons that paid for school transport for the 2020/2021 school year that now do not wish to avail of the services.

REPLY

School Transport is a significant operation managed by Bus Éireann on behalf of the Department of Education. In the 2019/20 school year over 120,000 children, including over 14,200 children with special educational needs, were transported in over 5,000 vehicles on a daily basis to primary and post-primary schools throughout the country covering over 100 million kilometres at a cost of over €219m in 2019.

The purpose of my Department's School Transport Scheme is, having regard to available resources, to support the transport to and from school of children who reside remote from their nearest school.

The closing date for payment for the 2020/2021 school year was Tuesday 4th August 2020. All children who are eligible for school transport and who applied and paid by the deadline have been accommodated on school transport services where such services are in operation.

Children who are not eligible for school transport may apply for transport on a concessionary basis and are facilitated where spare seats exist after eligible children have been accommodated. Where the number of ineligible children exceeds the number of spare seats available Bus Éireann allocates tickets using an agreed selection process. Bus Éireann has already issued refunds to a number of ineligible children who were unsuccessful in acquiring a ticket on services that are operating to capacity at present.

The School Transport Scheme Family Portal was temporarily closed for applications and payments on the 20th August 2020. This temporary closure was necessary to complete the work required to issue tickets to families who at that time remained due to be allocated a ticket for school transport services for the 2020/2021 school year.

The School Transport Scheme Family Portal re-opened on the 7th of September.

However, parents/guardians making an application/payment at this time for the 2020/2021 school year are reminded that the closing date for payments for the 20/21 school year was Tuesday 4th August 2020. While it is possible to submit a payment, payments made at this time are now late. Late applicants and/or families who pay late are not guaranteed a seat and will only be allocated a seat if capacity is available once seats are allocated to those families who applied and paid on time for transport services for the 2020/2021 school year.

In addition, payments for Post-Primary seats completed or made after 4th August 2020 can only be considered when 50% capacity, required by new Covid19 public health guidelines, is achieved on each route.

In the event of not securing a ticket where no capacity exists, or on cancellation, a full refund will be issued.

For Written Answer on : 22/09/2020

Question Number(s): 435 Question Reference(s): 24958/20

Department: Education

Asked by: Catherine Murphy T.D.

QUESTION

To ask the Minister for Education the overall provision she has made in respect of the grant to support persons that will avail of private transport arrangements regarding school transport for the 2020/2021 school year.

REPLY

School Transport is a significant operation managed by Bus Éireann on behalf of the Department of Education. In the 2019/20 school year over 120,000 children, including over 14,200 children with special educational needs, were transported in over 5,000 vehicles on a daily basis to primary and post-primary schools throughout the country covering over 100 million kilometres at a cost of over €219m in 2019.

The purpose of my Department's School Transport Scheme is, having regard to available resources, to support the transport to and from school of children who reside remote from their nearest school. All children who are eligible for school transport and who completed the application and payment process on time have been accommodated on school transport services for the 2020/2021 school year where such services are in operation.

Based on the public health advice published in early July, my Department had been planning for School Transport Scheme services for the 2020/2021 school year to fully operate, but with additional measures and hygiene requirements in place. The Department had been engaging intensively with Bus Éireann in regard to the logistics for the safe operation of School Transport Scheme services for the 2020/2021 school year.

Updated health advice was received from NPHET on the 18th August, which impacts on the operation of post-primary school transport services. This advice stated that for secondary school students on school transport, strict distancing should be ensured in line with that on public transport along with the wearing of face coverings.

The Department has been engaging with Bus Éireann in respect of these plans, in order to implement measures so that any services that can operate from the start of the school year at 50% capacity will do so and over the coming period all other post-primary transport services will be re-organised and additional services will be provided as required to allow for physical distancing.

Every effort continues to provide a safe transport service for when schools re-open. However, if parents decide not to avail of transport services they may request a refund on the cost of their ticket for the 2020/2021 school year.

For those children who are eligible for transport under the terms of the post-primary school transport scheme and whose parents decide not to use post-primary transport for the 2020/2021 school year, in light of the impact of most recent health advice, the Department will provide a grant to support them with the cost of private transport arrangements. Parents were asked to inform the Department by Friday the 4th of September if they wished to avail of this option.

Grants will be paid at the end of the school year following receipt of relevant documentation confirming the number of days the child/ren has attended school in the 2020/2021 school year. The grant is based on the distance a family resides from their school of eligibility, with a minimum daily rate of €2.60 and a maximum daily rate of €5.10. Grants are not available to children

who are not eligible under the terms of the transport scheme.

For Written Answer on : 22/09/2020

Question Number(s): 436 Question Reference(s): 24959/20

Department: Education

Asked by: Catherine Murphy T.D.

QUESTION

To ask the Minister for Education the cost of providing extra services on the school transport scheme in order to utilise more buses in order to comply with physical distancing on services for the 2020/2021 school year.

REPLY

School Transport is a significant operation managed by Bus Éireann on behalf of the Department of Education. In the 2019/20 school year over 120,000 children, including over 14,200 children with special educational needs, were transported in over 5,000 vehicles on a daily basis to primary and post-primary schools throughout the country covering over 100 million kilometres at a cost of over €219m in 2019.

Based on the public health advice published in early July, and the updated advice received from the HPSC on 7th August and from NPHET on the 18th August, the Department has been planning for School Transport Scheme services for the 2020/2021 school year to fully operate, but with additional measures and hygiene requirements in place and with the rolling implementation of measures on post-primary services as required to provide physical distancing, in line with those required on public transport, which is using 50 per cent of passenger capacity.

The planning to date is in accordance with the Government decision of 18th August, which set out that arrangements for school transport would proceed as planned for re-opening but the Minister for Education and Skills and the Minister for Health and other relevant Ministers will review measures, including any additional resources, to ensure the safe operation of school transport for secondary school children.

School Transport Scheme services commenced operation on the 26th August 2020. All children who are eligible for school transport and who completed the application and payment process on time have been accommodated on transport services for the 2020/2021 school year where such services are in operation.

My Department has been engaging intensively with Bus Éireann in regard to the logistics for the safe operation of School Transport Scheme services for the 2020/2021 school year. My Department has also been engaging with Bus Éireann on the logistics involved with the rolling implementation of measures on post-primary services as required to provide physical distancing, in line with those required on public transport, which is using 50 per cent of passenger capacity.

An assessment of the resources required to implement physical distancing on all post-primary services has been undertaken and, in line with the Government decision, my Department is reviewing this information in consultation with other relevant Departments with a view to implementing the measures required to ensure the operation of school transport for post-primary children that is aligned to updated health advice received from NPHET on the 18th of August.

**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.*



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LABOUR



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Royal Canal Greenway Good News - Maynooth Update

Councillor Paul Ward and I were informed recently that The Director of Services of Kildare County Council meet recently with the National Transport Authority (NTA) to resolve outstanding design issues regarding the completion of the Royal Canal Greenway between Maynooth and the county border with Dublin. Agreement was reached to proceed with the Maynooth to county border scheme to final detailed design. It is envisaged that the tendering process will be completed by Quarter 1, 2021 and contract awarded, subject to funding being confirmed by the NTA in 2021. This is great news and the continuing development of this great amenity continues.

Confirmation from Taoiseach that three significant projects are underway on Kildare train service lines.

The Taoiseach has confirmed with me that the three significant projects are underway and progressing well in relation to the Kildare Line. This includes:

Investment in additional carriages

- 41 additional carriages are under construction with delivery expected to commence in late 2021.
- These additional carriages will enter service on the Maynooth/M3 Parkway line, the Northern Line and the Kildare line.
- They are expected to boost capacity on the Kildare line by approximately 30% in the peak periods.

DART+

- DART+ (previously referred to as DART Expansion) is a multi-billion-euro investment programme which will effectively double the capacity of the rail network in the Greater Dublin Area.
- On the Kildare line it will see the line electrified as far as Hazelhatch and Maynooth and the introduction of DART level services and infrastructure.
- Capacity on the Kildare line will increase for both commuter services and longer-range intercity services.

National Train Control Centre

- Construction has commenced on a new National Train Control Centre at a site within the Heuston Station complex.
- The new Control Centre will improve the management and operation of all rail services including those on the Kildare line.

I am aware that the Dart+ project will bring enormous benefit to many commuters in Kildare, especially Maynooth and Leixlip. However, Councillor Paul Ward and I will be pressing for this DART expansion to go beyond Hazelhatch into Sallins and furthermore to continue past Maynooth into Kilcock. I spoke at the Special Committee on COVID-19 and its impact on public transport hearing recently and stated that it is important not to lose sight of the pressures on the system pre-Covid, for example, trains and buses running

above capacity, a lack of park-and-ride facilities, parking and other supporting services needed to make the transition to public transport. Councillor Paul Ward and I made a comprehensive submission to Irish Rail detailing the reasons we believe the DART + should run into Kilcock and on to Enfield.

Free TaxSaver Extension – Key Questions

All customers who on April 1 2020, had a valid an annual TaxSaver ticket for Public Service Obligation (PSO) public transport services and who haven't already sought a refund can now receive a free taxsaver extension to their ticket. This includes customers of Dublin Bus, Luas, Bus Éireann, Iarnród Éireann, and Go-Ahead Ireland.



What does the customer have to do now?

Nothing. The customer is not required to fill in forms or supply any details. Any customer whose ticket expires, and who has not already requested a refund, will automatically be provided with a new free ticket on their existing Leap card. This new ticket extends validity for six months from the date of expiry of their original ticket.

How does a customer “collect” their free ticket?

“Collecting” the new ticket is straightforward for the customer and is identical to the process already in place for TaxSaver tickets. Bus customers can collect it using their Leap Top-Up App or in a Leap Card retailer, while Luas and Iarnród Éireann customers collect it automatically as they travel.

Applicable Bus Éireann Point to Point ticket holders will receive a new ticket by post to include this six month extension

As a customer, I renewed my annual TaxSaver since April 1 2020. Will I benefit?

Yes. The validity of your ticket will be extended at the time of its expiry next year.

As a customer, this extension does not suit me. Can I still seek a refund?

Yes. Where the customer wishes to receive a refund rather than avail of the free extension, it is still open to them to make such a request via their employer under existing terms and conditions

Kildare County Council is preparing the Draft Register of Electors for 2021/2022.

The updated register will come in to effect on February 15th, and will remain in place for every vote for the following 12 months. Everyone over the age of 18, and ordinarily resident in either of Kildare's constituencies can register now to join the electors register. Kildare County Council is asking people to visit www.checktheregister.ie to make sure information for those already registered in correct. If you need forms for registration please call my office and we can send to you directly.

Completed forms to be returned to Register of Electors, Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare.

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
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
201119	Kildare County Council	Laura Bruton,	Ballygoran, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	29/09/2020

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THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

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

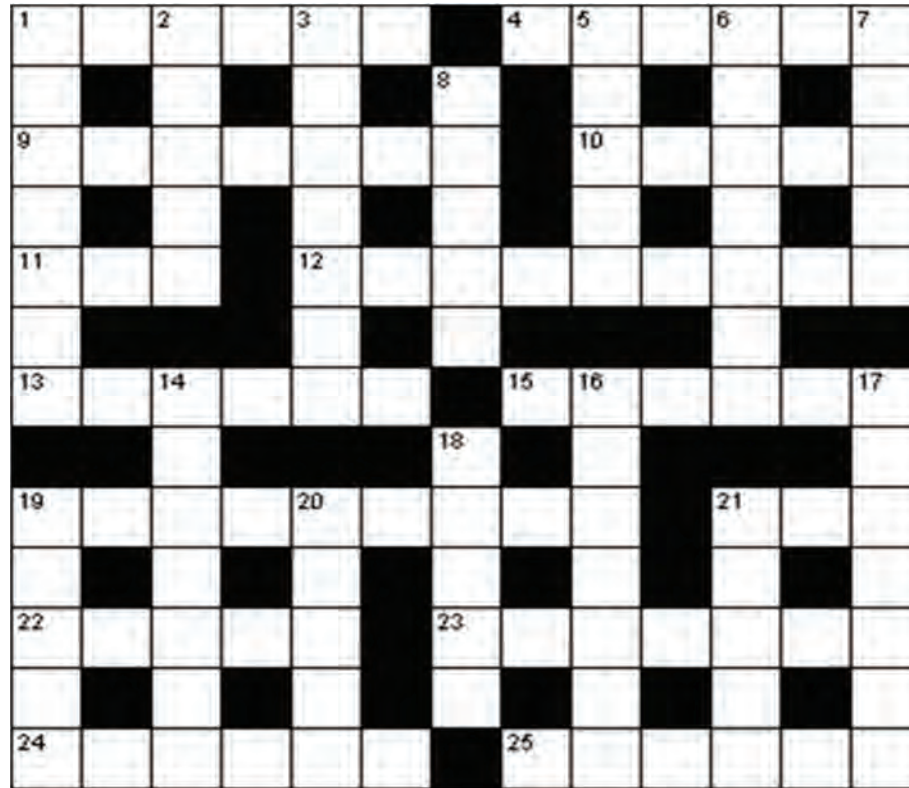
Thanksgiving for favour received

Clues Across

1. Afternoon nap in Spain (6)
4. Wide street (6)
9. Coherent (7)
10. Speak (5)
11. Playing card (3)
12. Exactly the same (9)
13. not as strict (6)
15. Armed thief (6)
19. Set up or found (9)
21. Australian flightless bird (3)
22. Stories (5)
23. Chosen by vote (7)
24. Fervid (6)
25. Basement (6)



November 2020 Crossword - No. 496



Clues Down

1. Save from destruction (7)
2. Bird of prey (5)
3. Haptic (7)
5. Strong room (5)
6. Observed (7)
7. Join up (5)
8. Hints (5)
14. Resolved (7)
16. Sports contestant (7)
17. Booming noise (7)
18. More judicious (5)
19. Additional (5)
20. Large shaggy bovid (5)
21. Exalt (5)



Solutions to Crossword No. 495

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

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

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

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



Entries for the Colouring Competition have been suspended until further notice



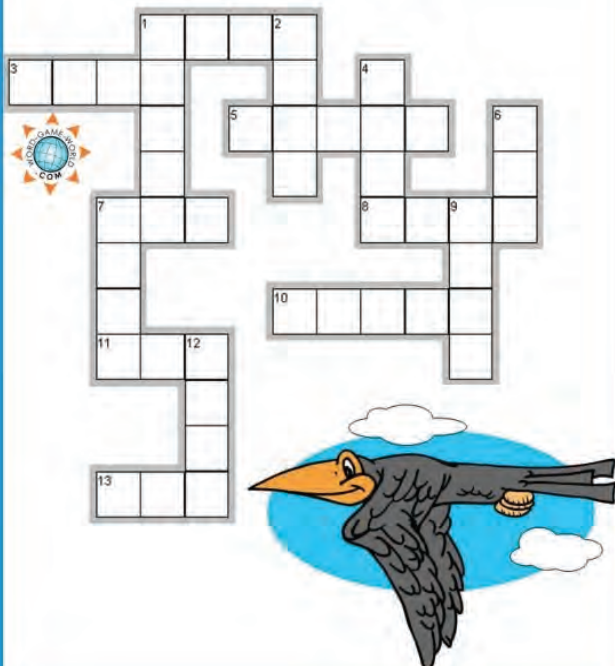
Entries for the Colouring Competition have been suspended until further notice.

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

Rhyme Time



ACROSS

1. When the boy fell, the teacher rang the ____.
3. We got a good deal on our ____.
5. If you walked a mile, would you still ____?
7. Birds can fly in the ____.
8. The sleepy clown sat ____.
10. The spilled milk made a mess on her ____.
11. What is your plan for this frying ____?
13. Our cat is very ____.

DOWN

1. Jack always wears the colour ____.
2. She put the stamp under a ____.
4. She is very sad, but I hope she will soon be ____.
6. When will the man open the ____?
7. If you start to hop, when will you ____?
9. If you see the lucky fish, be sure to make a ____.
12. The baby bird will rest in its ____.

Solution to Crossword

Across: Bell, Meal, Smile, Sky, Down, Dress, Pan, Fat
Down: Black, Lamp, Glad, Can, Stop, Wish, Nest.

Q: Why is 6 afraid of 7?

A: Because 7 — 8 — 9

Q: Where do pencils go on holiday?

A: To Pencil-Vania

Q: What do Elephants and Trees have in common?

A: They both have Trunks

Q: What animal can jump higher than a house?

A: Any animal. A house can't jump.

Q: How do you spot a modern spider?

A: He doesn't have a web, he has a website.

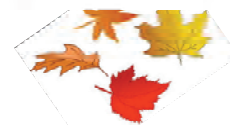


November Word Search



COAT
COLD
FROST
ICE

IGLOO
SCARF
SNOW
WINTER



What Happens in November?

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





THINGS TO DO IN YOUR GARDEN IN NOVEMBER



There's still time to **plant daffodil bulbs** and other spring flowering bulbs for a magnificent start to next years display. **Plant tulip bulbs** now to prevent Tulip Fire infection. Plant up a terracotta pot of **hyacinth bulbs** for a simple but stunning display next spring. Plant Magnolias now for a beautiful Spring display. Now is the ideal time to plant a **magnolia tree** for a beautiful spring display. Gather up fallen leaves from around the base of **rose bushes** which suffered from blackspot or rust this summer, to reduce the chance of infection next year. Continue to **lift dahlia tubers**, begonias and gladiolus corms to store dry over the winter months. Remove the dead foliage before storing. Cut back the yellowing foliage of **herbaceous perennials**, and lift and divide overcrowded clumps to maintain their vigour. Cut a few stems of holly for making Christmas garlands before the birds eat them all.

The Final Harvest: Potatoes

(dry off skins, then store in sacks); **beans** (if any left in the pods, allow to dry, then store in jars for adding to casseroles); **cabbages** (first, check for any slugs, then store in a frost-free shed); **tomatoes & peppers** in the greenhouse (use unripe ones for chutney, or store in the dark in a cool room where they will slowly ripen – a banana will help the process!). **Things to Plant and Sow: Onion sets** and **garlic**; **broad beans** (these will do best under cloches or fleece); also, this is the best time to sow sweet peas – not edible but they look lovely around the plot (but protect from mice over winter); **lettuces** (in the greenhouse); **green manures** (if cold and wet, try field beans).

Fruits: Gooseberry 'Hinnonmaki Red' is a hardy variety well suited to northern conditions, which produces sweet, purple-red fruits on upright, easy to prune plants. This is the perfect time to plant them. This is a good time to plant stepover apples, giving them the winter to settle in. Pomona Fruits has a great range. Choose several that will pollinate each other for bumper yields.

Prune roses: Prune climbing roses, tying them into their supports as you go. You can force them yourself but that means starting in August/September and involves a lot more preparation.



Remember winter is coming and birds need to **build up fat reserves** to help them survive the colder winter months. November is the ideal time to start feeding wild birds in your garden with high protein **Chirpy Peanuts** and **high protein Sunflower seeds**.

Leaves are falling rapidly, and wind and rain are on the increase. Tender plants will need protecting from frost, gales and freezing rains. Move plants into the greenhouse, or into a sheltered spot, but if you can't, it is worth wrapping plants or pots.

Essential advice for the gardener

Grow **Peas** of mind.
Tumip to help your neighbour.
Lettuce be thankful.
Always make **Thyme** for loved ones.



Slow Cooker Recipes

Slow-cooked chicken with chorizo
Ingredients: Serves 6

- 200g chorizo, cut into chunks
- 1 onion, peeled and diced
- 2 sticks of celery, finely sliced
- 2 cloves of garlic, finely chopped
- 2 packs of chicken thighs (12 in total)
- 1 tin chopped tomatoes
- 200 ml water
- 1 dessert tomato puree
- 1 tsp sugar
- Sprig of rosemary, chopped



Method:
Chicken thighs work beautifully in the slow cooker. Firstly, trim off any excess skin tucked underneath the thighs, there is usually quite a bit of spare skin. Fry off the chorizo in a heavy-based frying pan. There is no need to add any extra oil, the chorizo will release oil when cooking. When the chorizo is nicely browned, remove it from the pan using a slotted spoon and add to the slow cooker. Fry the chicken thighs a few at a time until skin is crispy. This will need to be done in batches. Add the chicken to the slow cooker as each batch is fried off. When you have finished cooking off the chicken, add the onion, celery and garlic to the pan and cook over a gentle heat for five minutes or so until starting to colour, then add to the slow cooker, along with the tin of chopped tomatoes, water, tomato puree, sugar and rosemary. Season with some freshly ground black pepper. Put the lid on the slow cooker and cook on low for seven hours. This is delicious served with baked potatoes.

Slow cooker cashew chicken

- Ingredients:**
- 2lbs boneless skinless chicken breasts (About 4 pieces), cut into 1 inch pieces
 - 3 tbs cornstach
 - ½ tsp black pepper
 - 1 tbs canola oil
 - ½ cup low sodium soy sauce
 - 4 tbsp rice wine vinegar
 - 4 tbsp ketchup
 - 2 tbsp sweet chilli sauce
 - 2 tbsp brown sugar
 - 2 garlic cloves, minced
 - 1 tsp grated fresh ginger
 - ¼ tsp red pepper flakes
 - 1 cup cashew nuts



Method:
Combine cornstarch and pepper in resealable food storage bag. Add chicken. Shake to coat with cornstarch mixture. Heat oil in skillet over medium-high heat. Brown chicken about 2 minutes on each side. Place chicken in slow cooker. Combine soy sauce, vinegar, ketchup, sweet chilli sauce, sugar, garlic, ginger, pepper flakes and cashews in small bowl; pour over chicken. Cook on low for 3 - 4 hours. Serve with rice.

Slow cooked brisket of beef

- Ingredients:**
- 1.6kg (approximately) brisket of beef
 - A bundle of hard herbs such as rosemary, thyme, marjoram and bay
 - A large glass of red wine or stock (beef or vegetable)
 - 2 carrots, peeled and cut into chunks
 - 2 onions, peeled and cut into quarters
 - 4 cloves of garlic, roughly chopped
 - Quarter of one star anise (optional)
 - Quarter of one cinnamon stick (optional)



Method:
Brown the brisket on both sides in a little olive oil in a frying pan and season with freshly ground salt and pepper. Put the brisket into the slow cooker, deglaze the pan with the wine or stock and pour this over the brisket. Add the rest of the ingredients to the slow cooker. Put the lid on, and turn on the slow cooker on medium or low and cook for 8 hours. To serve, remove the brisket from the slow cooker and pull it apart with two forks or alternatively slice it, cutting against the grain. The beef should fall apart; the meat deliciously juicy. Serve the beef with the cooking liquid and vegetables.





FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

40 Classic Movie Quotes



1) "Well, nobody's perfect." - *Some Like it Hot*, (1959)

2) "Toto, I've a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore." - *The Wizard of Oz*, (1939)

3) "Hasta la vista, baby." - *Terminator 2: Judgment Day*, (1991)

4) "Keep your friends close, but your enemies closer." - *The Godfather Part II*, (1974)

5) "You can't handle the truth!" - *A Few Good Men*, (1992)

6) "You're gonna need a bigger boat." - *Jaws*, (1975)

7) "Here's looking at you, kid." - *Casablanca*, (1942)



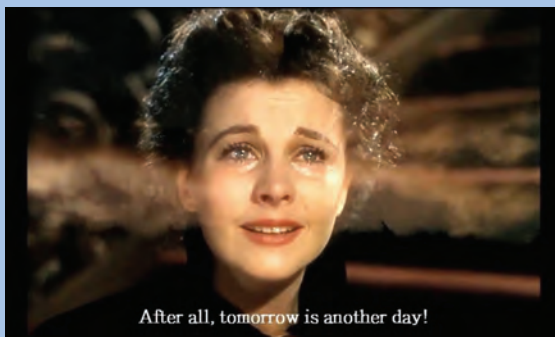
8) "I'm the king of the world!" - *Titanic*, (1997)

9) "I am big! 'It's the pictures that got small." - *Sunset Boulevard*, (1950)

10) "Here's Johnny!" - *The Shining*, (1980)

11) "Rosebud." - *Citizen Kane*, (1941)

12) "After all, tomorrow is another day!" - *Gone with the Wind*, (1939)



13) "Fasten your seatbelts. It's going to be a bumpy night." - *All About Eve*, (1950)

14) "It was beauty killed the beast." - *King Kong*, (1933)

15) "May the Force be with you." - *Star Wars*, (1977)

16) "Frankly my dear, I don't give a damn." - *Gone with the Wind*, (1939)

17) "I could'a had class. I could'a been a contender" - *On The Waterfront*, (1954)

18) "You talking to me?" - *Taxi Driver*, (1976)

19) "I want to be alone." - *Grand Hotel*, (1932)

20) "Play it Sam." - *Casablanca*, (1942)

21) "Nobody puts Baby in a corner." *Dirty Dancing*, (1987)

22) "Nobody talks like that." - *Some like it Hot*, (1959)



23) "My Precious." - *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*, (2002)

24) "I see dead people." - *The Sixth Sense*, (1999)

25) "We'll always have Paris." - *Casablanca*, (1942)

26) "I'll have what she's having." - *When Harry Met Sally*, (1989)



27) "Carpe Diem. Seize the day boys." - *Dead Poets Society*, (1989)

28) "Houston, we have a problem." - *Apollo 13*, (1995)

29) "A martini. Shaken, not stirred." - *Goldfinger*, (1964)

30) "I am serious and don't call me Shirley." - *Airplane*, (1980)

31) "Why so serious?" - *The Dark Knight*, (2008)

32) "There's no place like home." - *The Wizard of Oz*, (1939)



33) "They call it a Royale with cheese." - *Pulp Fiction*, (1994)



34) "You ain't heard nothing yet!" - *The Jazz Singer*, (1927)

35) "You know how to whistle, don't you, Steve?" - *To Have and Have Not*, (1944)

36) "The Dude abides." - *The Big Lebowski*, (1998)

37) "Mama says, Stupid is as stupid does." - *Forrest Gump*, (1994)

38) "I'm having an old friend for dinner." - *Silence of the Lambs*, (1991)



39) "Every time a bell rings, an angel gets its wings." - *It's a Wonderful Life*, (1946)

40) "Mrs Robinson, you're trying to seduce me, aren't you?" - *The Graduate*, (1967)

Answers to October James Bond Quiz

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1. (b) | 11. (a) |
| 2. (b) | 12. (b) |
| 3. (c) | 13. (b) |
| 4. (b) | 14. (a) |
| 5. (b) | 15. (d) |
| 6. (c) | 16. (c) |
| 7. (c) | 17. (d) |
| 8. (b) | 18. (b) |
| 9. (b) | 19. (c) |
| 10. (a) | |



BRADY'S CLOCKHOUSE BAR - LOUNGE - RESTAURANT



Brady's Bar, Lounge & Restaurant



In line with Government Guidelines Brady's will remain closed during Level 5 Restrictions

We hope to see you all in December

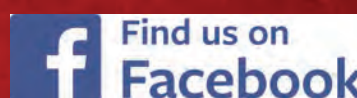
Best Wishes to All during these extraordinary times.

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





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

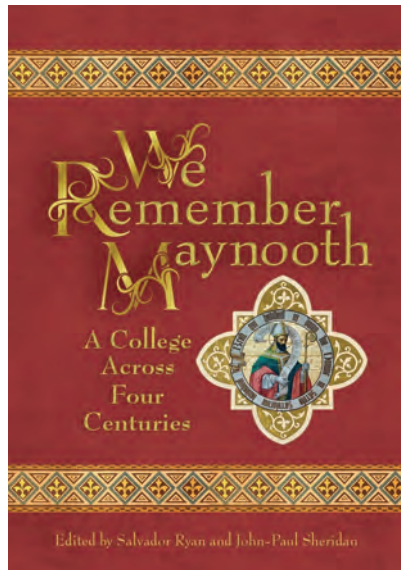
Maynooth College celebrates its 225th anniversary in 2020 and this beautifully-presented volume captures a multi-dimensional perspective of an institution that has held a singular place in modern Irish church history. We Remember Maynooth: A College Across Four Centuries, edited by Salvador Ryan and 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.

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

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Maynooth, Co. Kildare. W23 F9F7

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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

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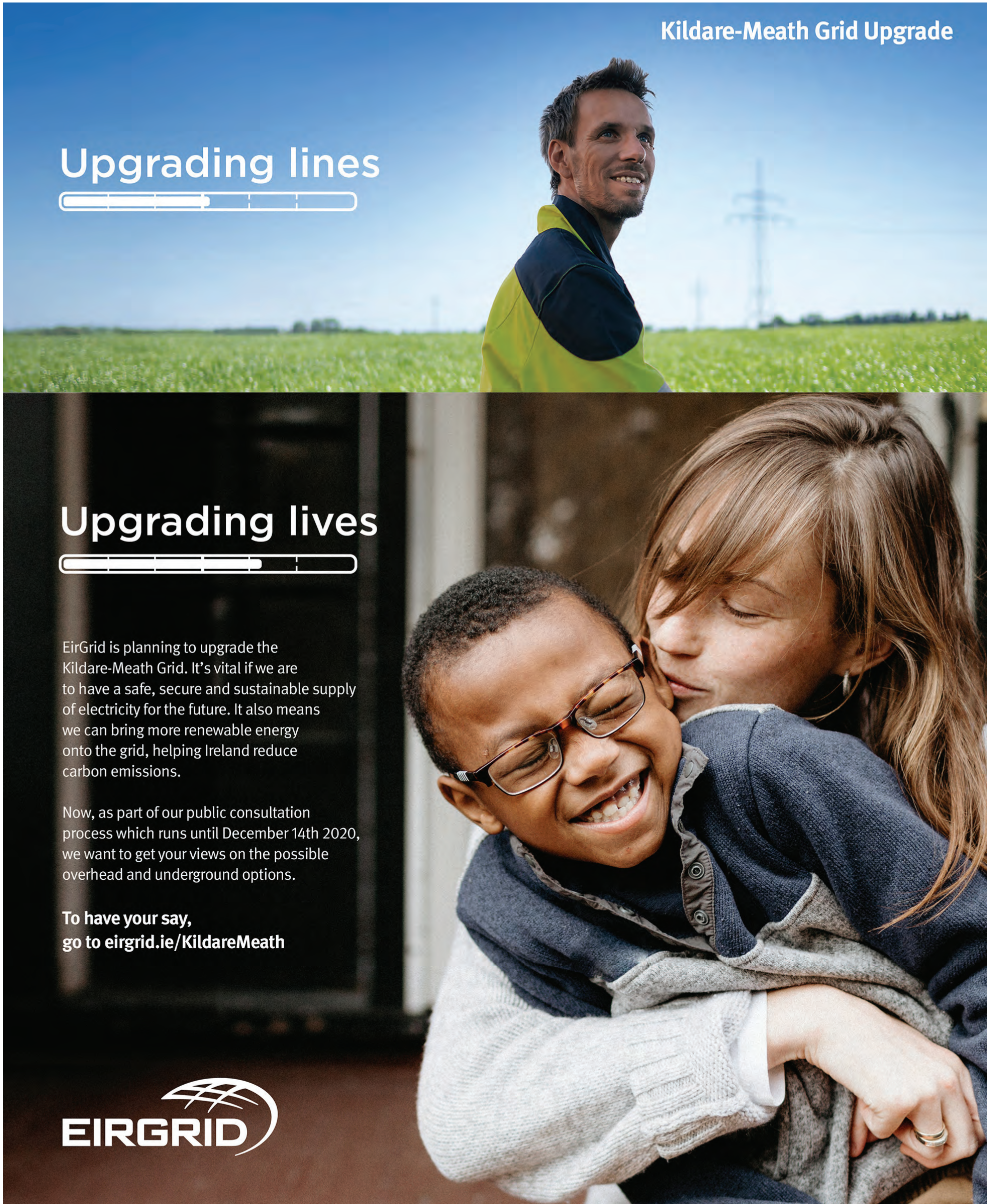
Upgrading lives



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.

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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.



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Cúrsa B. MARCH 26th, 27th (Easter)
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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

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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
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www.maynoothcc.org
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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 toidhcaí. 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.

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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

Porterstown church near Clonsilla in Dublin, is also affected by the pandemic and will be virtual.



RCAG members at Portertown church where the mass normally takes place

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.

ALOCADES

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.

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

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

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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.

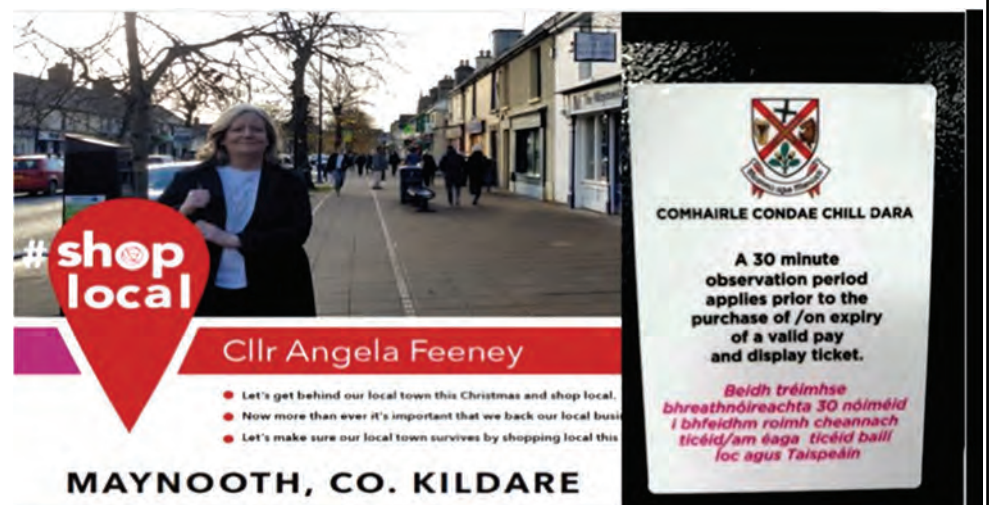
The Council responded saying it has had discussions with the HSE regarding sites in the Council's ownership being used for testing centres however, it does not have any sites suitable. Cllr Feeney has been in communication with the University and while it is not something their management team is going 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

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Why the "Sword of Sorrow"?
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"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

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

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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)

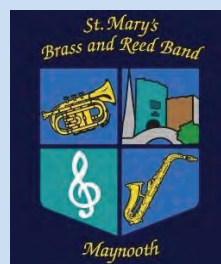
LABOUR

Seasons Greetings to All



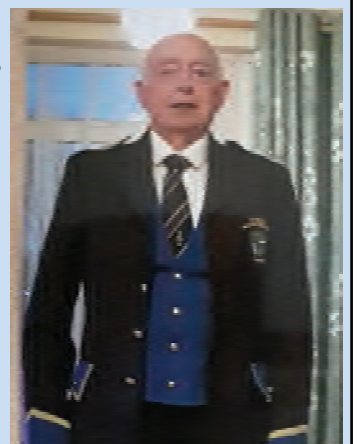
St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band

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

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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

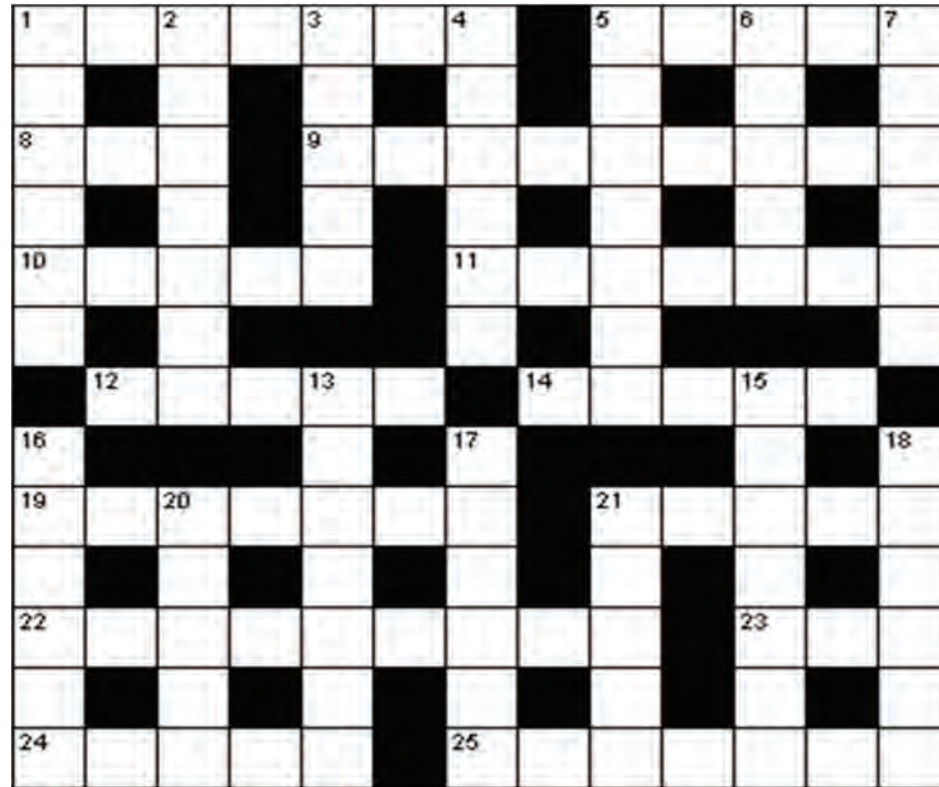
Say this prayer for three days, promise publication and prayer &
favour will be granted no matter how impossible.
Thanksgiving for favour received

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	D
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 do-gooder, a man who discovers the meaning and value of life

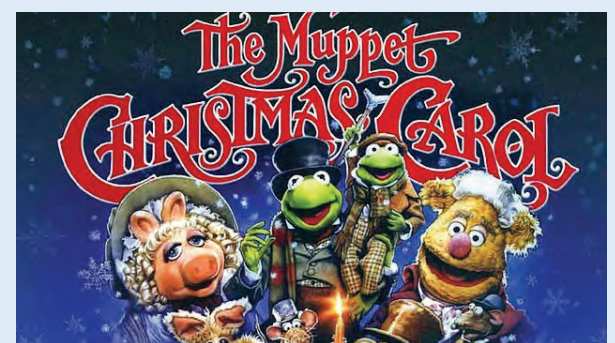
thanks to the intervention of his guardian angel. Donna Reed and Henry Travers's charming angel, Clarence, make up an impressive supporting cast. *It's a Wonderful Life* is wonderfully life-affirming and inspirational. A classic story and film which resonates powerfully in the Christmas of 2020.

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!



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We hope to see you all in December

Wishing Everyone a Safe & Happy Christmas

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