



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



BRADY'S CLOCKHOUSE BAR - LOUNGE - RESTAURANT

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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Great Food Served 7 Days



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

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:

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.

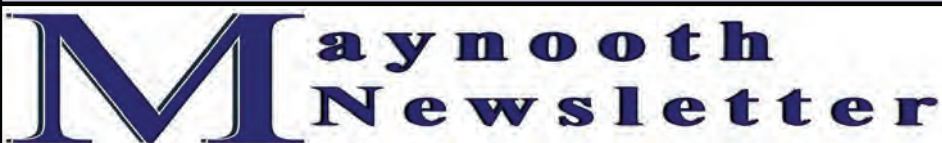
Maynooth Newsletter Archives

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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Happy
Mother's
Day

SUNDAY 22nd MARCH 2020

Catherine Murphy TD

Representing the people of Kildare North in the 33rd Dáil

Constituency Office

☎ 01 615 6625

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Leixlip Shopping Mall
Main Street, Leixlip

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 Hennessy 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 Clodhna Murphy, lecturer in Law, Philip Berman, Chairman of Places of Sanctuary Ireland and Prof Philip Nolan, President of Maynooth University

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The Alzheimer Café Leixlip Co Kildare

Alzheimer Cafe Leixlip



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THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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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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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 - D.J.

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

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

**Unit 5, Tesco Shopping Centre
(Beside Post Office)**

**Photocopying / Typing
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A3/A4 Lamination**

Tel: 01 6285922

**Email:
office@maynoothcep.com**

**Opening Hours
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 Críostaithe 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.

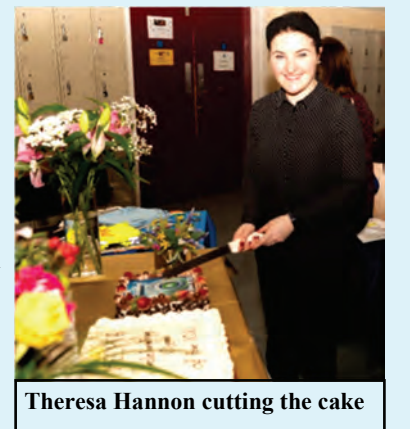
It is hoped to convert the plans in a cost-neutral way working with the on-site contractor. Proceeds from this year's race will go towards the MUGA as well as the upkeep of the existing playing fields shared with Maynooth GAA at Mariaville on the Moyglare Road, right beside the new campus.

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, Pdraig 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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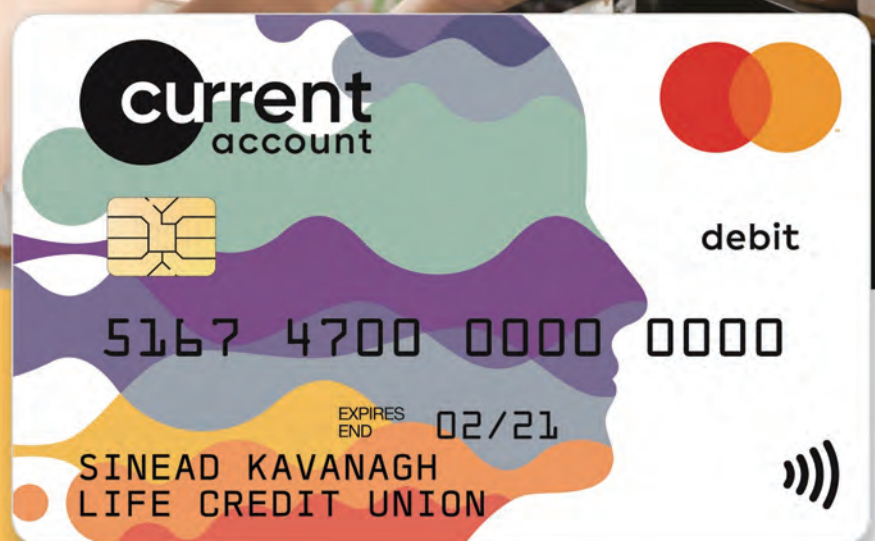
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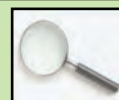
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Dublin North West



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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(Continued from page 23)

- 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: Organised by:

Maynooth St Patrick's Day Parade Committee Maynooth St Patrick's Day Parade Committee
c/o Unit 5, Carton Retail Park, E-mail: maynoothparade@gmail.com
Maynooth, Co. Kildare. 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

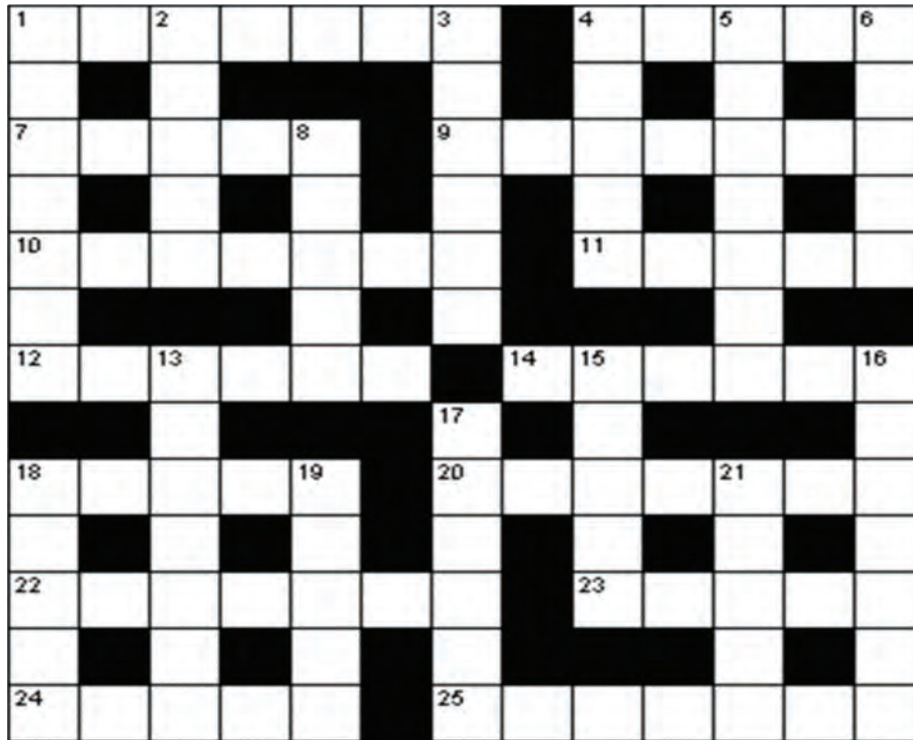
Source : World Health Organization

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. Precipitance (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!

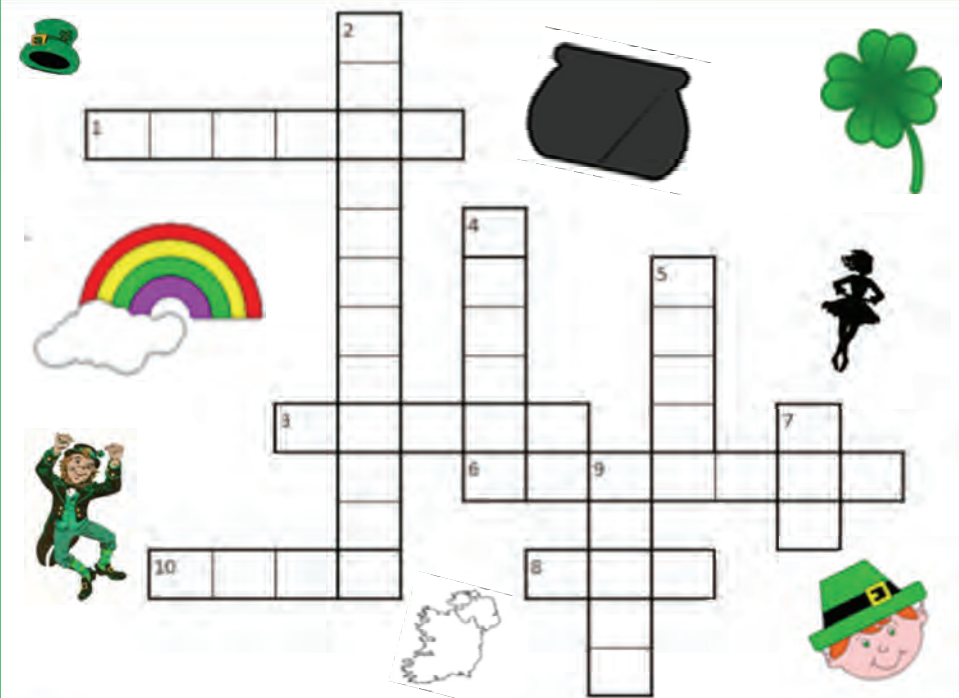
Word Search

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

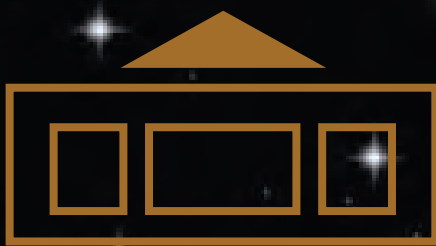


Please call 01 629 0909
 or email: bookings@arklebarandrestaurant.ie
 for any enquiry or to make a reservation

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

