

A banner image for the Maynooth Newsletter. It features a large, stylized yellow letter 'M' on the left. To its right, the words 'Maynooth' and 'Newsletter' are written in a white, bold, serif font with black outlines. The background is a scenic view of a river with a bridge, trees, and a blue boat on the water.

# Maynooth Newsletter

# Recording the Social Footprint of Maynooth since the 1970s



**Local News - June 2022 - Issue No. 513 - Online Version**

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



# Gaelscoil Ruairí

Maigh Nuad

Is scoil nua-bhunaithe í Gaelscoil Ruairí atá lonnaithe ar Bhóthar an Mhaigh gCláir i Maigh Nuad, agus tosaíonn ár lá ag 8.30 r.n. Tá an scoil ag fás agus ag forbairt ach de bharr gur bunaíodh an scoil díreach roimh aimsir na paindéimí, níl pobal na scoile tar éis a bheith feicthe timpeall an bhaile go dtí le déanaí. Tá an scoil ag clárú faoi láthair agus cuireann sí fáilte roimh an bpobal teagmháil a dhéanamh léi chun a thuilleadh colais a fháil. Tá roinnt colais faoin scoil thjos.



Gaelscoil Ruairí is a multi-denominational Gaelscoil located on the New Education Campus on the Moyglare Road in Maynooth, and our day starts at 8.30 a.m. Although the school is currently in temporary accommodation, this accommodation is to an extremely high standard where all classrooms are equipped with the resources required for a modern, progressive and highly effective education.

The school's permanent building will be built on this same site in the very near future. The site has been acquired by the Department of Education for the school, planning permission has been granted and the project is about to go out to tender.

The school was founded in 2019 and is preparing for its fourth school year with classes from junior infants to second class.

The school has achieved a huge amount since opening and is very proud of the fantastic school community that already supports the school, ensuring the children have the best experience possible during their primary school years.

Children of all backgrounds, faiths and native tongue are welcome to join an energetic, compassionate, dedicated and enriching school environment.

Every group supporting the school works collaboratively to ensure each child reaches their potential academically, socially, musically and artistically while at all times being part of a truly active school where there is a huge emphasis on physical literacy and movement.



Children do not need to have any Irish or English to attend Irish-Medium schools as all the necessary support is provided throughout the school day and as a result all children can benefit from the advantages associated with bilingual education. All additional needs are catered for and supported by school staff, dedicated individual support plans and the support of outside agencies where appropriate.

Gaelscoil Ruairí also offers after-school care through an external company called Kids Inc. They provide an after-school programme where hot food is provided by a catering company up until 6.30p.m. each day. This service is proving very popular with parents.

The school currently has a few places available for September 2022. We invite anyone who would like to find out a little more, take a little tour around the school, view the plans for the new school building, speak to the principal or other members of staff or to a member of the parent body, to contact the school by phone or by email.

*We welcome all enquiries and will be more than happy to talk with you.*



***Published by: Maynooth Community Employment Project, Unit 10, Tesco's S.C. Carton Retail Park, Maynooth. Phone - 01-6285922  
email - office@maynoothcep.com Website: www.maynoothcep.com Registered as a Charity in Ireland RCN # 20100063 - CHY # 21086***



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

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Maynooth, Co. Kildare. W23CT59  
Tel: 01-6285922

E-mail: [office@maynoothcep.com](mailto:office@maynoothcep.com) - Website: [www.maynoothcep.com](http://www.maynoothcep.com)

## Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor, for publication, should be sent by e-mail to: [editor@maynoothcep.com](mailto: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](http://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**

## Editorial

With many years of virtually no inflation it is clear in recent months high single digit percentage rates of inflation is impacting on the cost of virtually everything we buy. With it to persist for the foreseeable future there are many calling for more mitigating measures to be implemented by the Government who have already responded with a contribution to our electric bills and other small measures. However, the reduction in taxes on petrol and diesel has not prevented the cost of a litre of petrol breaching two euro. The cost of using public transport has been reduced by an average of twenty percent which brings the cost of a train journey from Maynooth to Dublin down to two euro.



In Ireland we have a strong tradition of volunteering our services for free to community activities and responding to needs that arise. Thankfully this continues because as a society we couldn't fulfil many needs without the free resources provided by people giving their time and efforts. During Covid communities throughout Ireland responded to support their neighbours and Maynooth volunteers answered the need locally. It was good to see that these efforts during Covid were acknowledged last month by the Department of Rural and Community Development in partnership with Volunteer Ireland and Kildare County Council and among the recipients who received certificates and a letter from An Taoiseach were a number of people from Maynooth.



A pole in Maynooth Harbour with stickers is something the National Tidy Towns judges would notice.

Some organisations consist completely of volunteer members and in Maynooth one of the best known is Maynooth Tidy Towns. As a community we cannot put a value on the positive impact of their work on the town. That been said the National Tidy Towns competition judging takes place during the summer months so I would urge everyone to look after your local part of Maynooth as a contribution to the overall result that can be achieved and in doing so you are supporting the work of Maynooth Tidy Towns.

June will begin with celebrations for one of Maynooth's oldest businesses where the current owner Declan Kennedy will mark twenty years in business at Brady's Clock house Pub. The business dates back to 1896 when the Pitts family opened the pub. An employee of theirs the renowned late Phil Brady took over the business and re-named the pub as Brady's Clock house. In 2002, Declan Kennedy and his business partner Ollie Quinlan acquired the business from the Brady family and in 2015 with the passing of his business partner Declan Kennedy continued the business on his own. Thankfully surviving the Covid disruption Brady's Clockhouse continues to be one of Maynooth's best places to socialise where Declan makes a big effort to personally get to know his customers and is known to make sure that all his regular patrons get their Christmas drink on the house. We wish him and his team many more happy and successful years in the heart of the town.

**Paul Croghan  
Editor**



**Copy date for the next edition of the  
Maynooth Newsletter will be 5pm on  
Monday 27th June 2022**

# MAYNOOTH DRESSES

Find us at Unit 3 San Feliu, Fagan's Lane, Maynooth  
(Behind EBS Main St)

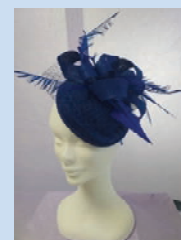
**Just Arrived 2022 Debs Dresses**

**Now in Stock Ladies Fascinators  
in All Colours**

For All Our Opening Hours  
Visit our Website on:

[www.maynoothcommuniondresses.ie](http://www.maynoothcommuniondresses.ie)  
*also* [www.maynoothdresses.ie](http://www.maynoothdresses.ie)

**Phone: 01 6293585**



## MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT PROJECT SECRETARIAL SERVICES

**Unit 10, Tesco S.C. Carton Retail Park  
(Beside Coyne's Butchers)**

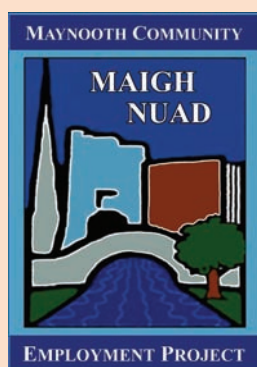
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Other Office Services available on request**

**Tel: 01 6285922**

**Email: [office@maynoothcep.com](mailto:office@maynoothcep.com)**

**Opening Hours**

**Mon-Fri - 9.00 am - 4.30 pm  
(Closed for Lunch 1pm to 2pm)**





## June Events at Maynooth Community Library

For further information contact: [www.kildare.ie/library](http://www.kildare.ie/library) [maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie) Ph: 01-6285530



[facebook.com/KildareCountyLibraryService](https://facebook.com/KildareCountyLibraryService)



[twitter.com/kildarelibrary](https://twitter.com/kildarelibrary)

### Children's Events

#### Punch and Judy Puppet Show

Saturday 11th June: Cruinniú na nÓg

10.00am–10:40am

Age: 3-7 year olds

Location: Maynooth Community Library

Join us for a panto version of the classic children's puppet show using authentic handmade wooden puppets. Featuring Punch, who just wants to head off with the dads at the party, to see the football match. Then there's Judy, who wants to go out with the mums to get a surprise! Suitable for ages 3-7 years.

**Please book tickets per each child and adult attending. Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by an adult.**

Book now through Ticket Tailor: <https://bit.ly/3sKadVk>.

#### Wildlife Illustration Workshop with author and illustrator Aga Grandowicz

Saturday 11th June / Cruinniú na nÓg, 11.30 am-12.30pm

Age: 6-10 year olds

Location: Maynooth Community Library

Join author and illustrator Aga Grandowicz for this workshop during which children will participate in a team project where they will draw an endangered Irish animal and then cut out their artwork and place it on a background prepared in advance.

Aga Grandowicz is author of the very popular books 'Dr Hibernica Finch's Compelling Compendium of Irish Animals and 'Remarkable Creatures: a guide to some of Ireland's disappearing animals'. **Please book tickets per each child and adult attending.**

**Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by an adult.**

Book now through Ticket Tailor: <https://bit.ly/384ek7S>.

#### Outdoor in-person storytime based *Geansaí Ottó* written by Sadhbh Devlin

Friday 17th June at 10am- 10:30am

Age : 2-5 year olds

Location: Carton Avenue Maynooth or Maynooth Community Library depending on the weather

Join the Maynooth Library staff on Carton Avenue for an outdoor in-person storytime with our Geansaí Ottó story trail! We will meet the families on Carton Avenue at 10am. Places are limited and one ticket is required per child.

**All children must be accompanied by an adult. Book now through Ticket Tailor:** <https://bit.ly/3MtKLeX>.

#### Holiday Water Park: Minecraft Show and Tell

Friday 17th June, 3:30pm- 4:30pm

Age : 6- 10 years

Location: Online via Zoom

Do you like to create and build in Minecraft? Take part in our build challenge, sign up for our Zoom discussion and show us your take on our theme which will be sent to you in advance! Suitable for ages 6-10. Children must be accompanied on the video call by an adult. Places are limited and booking is essential. This month we want you to start building an Holiday Water Park!

Book now through TicketTailor <https://bit.ly/3LuogF9>.

#### Children's Illustrations Collage Workshop

Wednesday 22nd June, 3.30pm- 4.30 pm

Age: 7-10 year olds

Location: Maynooth Community Library

Some books are read so often and so loved that the library's copies end up in pieces and falling apart after a couple of years of lending. We at the library like to give these books a new life in the form of artwork so we invite the children of Maynooth to come along to a special collage making workshop where we will upcycle the illustrations into art. For ages 7 to 10. Limited Places.

Book now through Ticket Tailor: <https://bit.ly/3Pu3kBq>.

#### Summer Star Wildlife Scavenger Hunt and Crafts

Thursday 30th June, 2:30pm-3:30pm

Age 6-10 years

Location: Maynooth Community Library

Join us at Maynooth Community Library for our Summer Stars Biodiversity Event. Test your spotting skills in the library with our wildlife themed scavenger hunt and support the creatures in your garden with crafts made from natural materials.

**Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult for the duration of the event.**

Limited Places Available.

Location: Maynooth Community Library

Book now through ticket tailor: <https://bit.ly/3MwlaC2>.

### Young Adult Events

#### Smartphone Filmmaking for Teenagers with Burning House Productions

Saturday 11th June / Cruinniú na nÓg, 2:00pm - 4:30pm

Age: 12-15 year olds

Location: Maynooth Community Library

Join us for an exciting workshop on making your own film using nothing more than a smartphone.

This workshop will be taught by an industry professional who works in the Irish and UK film industry. Students will learn how to write, film and direct their own film. Suitable for ages 12-15 years.

During the workshop the following topics will be covered:

- Script Writing
- Directing
- Cinematography
- Working with Actors
- Smartphone Filmmaking
- Editing

**Don't forget to bring your smartphone!**

Book now through Ticket Tailor: <https://bit.ly/3No6vst>

#### Teen Writers Conversation with Author Precious Dikko

Saturday 25th June, 11:30am – 12.30pm

Location: Online Via Zoom

Join Precious Dikko for a casual Q&A about writing aimed at teen writers.

Precious Dikko wrote her first book when she was nine years old and has been writing ever since. She's lived in three different countries on two continents and resided for many years in Dublin with her family. She now lives in Walsall in the UK. When she is not writing she's practicing guitar and trying to learn various languages. "To Catch a Rebel" was her debut novel and she has since released a follow up, with the long-awaited third and final book in the series arriving in June.

Limited places.

Book now through Ticket Tailor: <https://bit.ly/39DNzaN>.

### Adults

#### Kildare Libraries FaceBook Club

Wednesday 29th June

8:00pm – 9.00pm

Location: Online via Zoom

Our FaceBook Club is always welcoming new members, where we will discuss a new book from BorrowBox on the last Wednesday of the month over Zoom. Join our Facebook group or email [maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie) for the details.

<https://facebook.com/groups/kildarelibrariesbookclub>

### Regular Events

#### Weekly Story-Time in Maynooth Library

Friday 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th of June 10.00 am – 10.30am

Join the Maynooth staff for some in-person stories with nursery rhymes and songs. Each week will have a new theme.

Age: 2-5 year olds

Location: Maynooth Community Library

Places are limited and one ticket is required per child. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Book Via Ticket Tailor:

Friday 3rd: <https://bit.ly/3LrFUcH>.

Friday 10th: <https://bit.ly/3NqcFsg>.

Friday 17th: <https://bit.ly/3MtKLeX>

Friday 24th: <https://bit.ly/3yNDD9c>

#### Beginners Sewing Machine Classes (Adults only)

Current class is full & we are taking expressions of interest for future classes

Tuesdays 6.30 – 7.30 pm

Location: Maynooth Community Library

Must have own sewing machine.

If you have an unused, unloved sewing machine then this is the class for you. Learn to thread, adjust tension, change needles, use different stitches and make some very simple projects.

If interested please contact Maynooth library 045 980 493 or email us at

[maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie)

(Continued on page 5)



## June Events at **Maynooth Community Library** (Cont.)

*(Continued from page 4)*

### **Wednesday Morning Book Club**

Third Wednesday of each month

Wednesday 15th June

11.00am – 12.00 pm

**Location:** Maynooth Community Library

If interested contact Maynooth library on 045 980 493 email us at

[maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie).

### **U3A Book Club**

Second Monday of the month

Monday 13th June

10.30am – 11.30am

**Location:** Maynooth Community Library

If interested contact Maynooth library on 045 980 493 email us at

[maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie).

Every Monday

### **Knitting / Craft Club**

12.00pm – 1.00pm

**Location:** Maynooth Community Library

Come and join like-minded people for an hour of chat, knitting and crafting.

If interested contact Maynooth library on 045 980 493 email us at

[maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie).

Saturday 11th June

### **Maynooth Women's Expat Group**

3.00pm - 3.45 pm

**Location:** Maynooth Community Library

The group is for women: expats who relocated to Ireland and returning expats.

The library would become 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 expats are also welcome to share their experiences.

**For all ages**

### **Reader Pens Now Available in Maynooth Library**

Maynooth Library now have reader pens available for lending or alternatively you can just borrow one for the duration of your library visit. These text-to-speech pens read words and full lines of text aloud, promoting independent reading and confidence

**Key Features of reader pens:** Read text aloud – Promote reading independence – Built-in dictionaries – Secure and private – No WiFi required – Built-in speaker & earphone jack – Rechargeable – Easy to use

**Helps with:** Reading or pronunciation – Dyslexia – Language learning – Vision problems. For more information, ask a staff member at the library desk / email Maynooth Library at [maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie) / phone us on 045 980493.

### **Kilcock Library In-Person Events**

#### **Read Along Session with Author and Reader-in-Residence Emma-Jane Leeson**

For children aged 5-7 years

Saturdays from 11:45am-12:15am, May 21st and 28th and June 11th and 18th

**Location:** Kilcock Library

Join our new reader-in-residence Emma-Jane Leeson for a series of fun shared reading mornings in Kilcock Library. Emma-Jane will be taking the children on a magical reading adventure week by week. Registration required in advance of each session. Parental supervision required. To book a space contact Kilcock Library at

[kilcocklib@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:kilcocklib@kildarecoco.ie) or at (01) 6284403

#### **Children's Creative Writing Club with Author and Reader-in-Residence Emma-Jane Leeson**

For children aged 8-12 years.

Saturdays 12:15pm-1:00pm, May 21st and 28th and June 11th and 18th

**Location:** Kilcock Library

Join children's author Emma-Jane Leeson for a fun 4-week creative writing course where the children will work towards having their very own story published in a real book. Please note children must be able to attend all 4 workshops in order to be featured in the final book. Parental supervision is not necessary for this workshop. To book a space contact Kilcock Library at [kilcocklib@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:kilcocklib@kildarecoco.ie) or at (01) 6284403



**Coláiste Naomh Eoin**

**An Ghaeltacht sa Bhaile**

**Winner of the Memorex Culture Award**

## **Gaeltacht Summer Courses 2022**

**Maynooth University, Maynooth**

**Cúrsa A: 06/06/22 - 17/06/22**

**Please Note: Cúrsa A starts on Bank Holiday Monday.**

**Lucan Community College, Lucan**

**Cúrsa A: 27/06/22 - 08/07/22**

**Castleknock Community College**

**Cúrsa F: 04/07/22 - 15/07/22**

Formal Class • Sports • Games • Competitions • Fun Activities • Céile & Sing Song • Art • Drama  
*"...the most Comprehensive, Enjoyable and Affordable Gaeltacht course in Ireland" - The Irish Times*

**Limited Places. Book online or contact (01) 298 5287**

**[www.ColaisteNaomhEoin.com](http://www.ColaisteNaomhEoin.com)**



## MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN NOTES

### BIKEWEEK 2022



Maynooth Cycling Campaign organised a Family Cycle along the Royal Canal Greenway on Sunday 22nd as part of Bikeweek 2022. The weather was generally good that day but although we were subject to a strong head wind going to Kilcock, as often happens on a bike, it had died away when we returned. Nevertheless, we were delighted that 22 others joined us and

the young people enjoyed ice creams before returning. We would like to thank the Maynooth schools and other organisations which publicised the cycle.



#### Kildare County Development Plan (CDP)

Maynooth Cycling Campaign has made its submission to the public consultation on the Draft CPD which closed on the 24th May. While there are many good points in the CPD, we have tried to improve many of the policies which are aspirational. We also pointed out that the draft CPD also contains proposed travel targets which amount to more than 100%. The full submission is available on our website.

#### Royal Canal Greenway – Maynooth to South Dublin Boundary

Construction of this section of the Royal Canal greenway was due to start in April-May. It is disappointing that the project has been delayed and will have to retender for apparently failure by Waterways Ireland to issue a licence by the due date. Tender on construction projects have been impacted by inflation so it is hoped that there won't be any further delay.

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



## Herb Garden Ideas

Herbs are a must in any garden – not only can they be used in cooking, teas, cocktails or herbal remedies, but they have beautiful foliage and flowers, many of which are attractive to pollinators.

Growing your own herbs, from seeds or ready-grown plants, is much more economical than buying packets of cut herbs from the supermarket, and you can cut them as you need them, so they'll always be fresh.



You can grow herbs in a dedicated part of your garden but if space is limited, you can grow herbs in among your vegetables, alongside flowering ornamentals, in a wildflower meadow, on the patio – the choice is yours. You can create a herb garden in a raised bed, large container or even a window box.

When designing with herbs the first thing to consider after growing requirements is growth habit. Tall, statuesque herbs like angelica contribute vertical interest to the garden. They are generally planted towards the back of a bed so they don't overshadow shorter plants but can also look great thrusting skywards among lower growing plants.

Medium-sized herbs, from about one to three foot, or 30cm to a meter in height, will form the bulk of your planting. Combine a variety of leaf shapes, colours and textures to break up blocks of planting. And, of course, most herbs will also draw in numerous beneficial bugs, most noticeably bees that will go on to help pollinate vegetables and fruits.

Lower-growing herbs like parsley or chives should be planted at the front of any scheme where they can form a neat edging or spill outwards.

#### Edging and Paving

Herbs for edging look simply stunning. Grown alongside a path they'll release their aroma every time you brush past.

Creeping herbs like thyme, oregano and prostrate forms of rosemary are great for growing within paving, planted into cracks, opportunistically at the edges, between slabs or in other gaps. From here they'll extend out to soften hard surfaces, while taking advantage of the radiated heat to waft their delicious fragrance even further.

These types of herbs work well bursting out from any landscaped surface to create a more relaxed, informal feel. Or try planting them en masse to form a practical, yet highly attractive living mulch that also works to crowd out weeds.

#### Container Herb Gardens

Many gardeners can only afford space for a few pots of herbs. But that doesn't mean you can't design an effortlessly stylish herbal heaven!

Cluster pots of herbs, salads and vegetables together to create a living tapestry of leafy loveliness. Use bold forms like rosemary to create a feature on your terrace, or mix them up in stone or metal troughs and herb towers to really pack your herbs in, while ensuring an eye-catching centre piece to feed both body and soul.



Herbs can also be used to offer vertical interest by growing them in containers held up on posts, or secured onto walls and fences.

#### How to plant Herbs

Most culinary herbs need a well-drained soil to thrive. If you have heavy clay, you will need to lighten the soil. Dig in some well-rotted compost if you're growing annual herbs, and add horticultural grit in areas where you want to grow Mediterranean herbs. If you're growing herbs in a raised bed, fill it with topsoil and horticultural grit from the garden centre.

If you're growing in pots, put some crocks at the bottom and use good peat-free, multipurpose compost, with some horticultural grit or perlite added for extra drainage. Place the plants before you plant them – this allows you to check that you've got their position right. Research the eventual height and spread of each herb, so that you give it enough space to grow. Plant at the same depth as the root ball, and water in well.

Water your new herb garden regularly until the plants have established, especially in hot weather. To ensure a steady supply of fresh annual herbs, sowing a new batch once you're halfway through your current crop. Sprinkle seeds thinly over the surface of a pot or tray of multi-purpose compost, or direct into the soil when the weather is warm enough.



Boost perennials growing in pots by scraping away some of the compost and replacing with fresh in spring, or repot them in fresh compost. Divide chives and tarragon each second spring, and top dress or re-pot woody Mediterranean herbs, such as rosemary. Herbs like mint and chives die down in winter, so need cutting to the ground in late autumn. Woody, evergreen herbs like rosemary and sage become straggly with age, so prune into shape after flowering or in spring.

**Herbs bring so much to the garden – and us! Whether it's a little something to liven up recipes or a profound sense of beauty.**

Source: [www.growveg.com/guides/herb-garden-design-ideas/](http://www.growveg.com/guides/herb-garden-design-ideas/)

Source: [www.gardenersworld.com/how-to/grow-plants/how-to-create-a-herb-garden/](http://www.gardenersworld.com/how-to/grow-plants/how-to-create-a-herb-garden/)





# MAYNOOTH TOWN FC FESTIVAL OF FOOTBALL



**FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR STATE OF THE  
ART ASTRO FACILITY**

**MAIN EVENT: RATHCOFFEY ROAD**

**MAYNOOTH TOWN FC V MAN UNITED  
LEGENDS**

**COMMUNITY TEAMWORK**

**10.00 - 12.00PM FUN FAMILY ZONE  
AT RATHCOFFEY ROAD**

**12.00 - 1.30PM MEET & GREET MAN  
UTD LEGENDS GLENROYAL HOTEL**

**2.30 - 4.45PM MTFC VS MAN UNITED  
LEGENDS 3 \* 30MINS MATCHES**

**7.45PM - LATE CLUB DINNER  
DANCE AT THE GLENROYAL HOTEL**

**FUN FAMILY FOOTBALL**

**SAVE THE DATE  
25.06.22**



**CONTACT: MTFCDEVELOPMENT@GMAIL.COM**





# MAYNOOTH TOWN FC FESTIVAL OF FOOTBALL



JOIN US & THE MAN UTD LEGENDS FOR FINALE  
CELEBRATIONS!

## FUNDRAISING GALA EVENT

FOR A STATE OF THE ART ASTRO FACILITY

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JOIN US AT THE GLENROYAL HOTEL  
ON SATURDAY, 25TH JUNE 2022

ARRIVAL @ 7.30PM

DINNER @ 8.00PM

FOLLOWED BY A RAFFLE & ENTERTAINMENT UNTIL LATE!

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20

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**Sean  
REDDY**

SATURDAY  
10 - CLOSE

**Willie  
Bracken**

SUNDAY  
7 - 9PM



SUNDAY  
10 - close



**BRADY'S**

ENTERTAINMENT

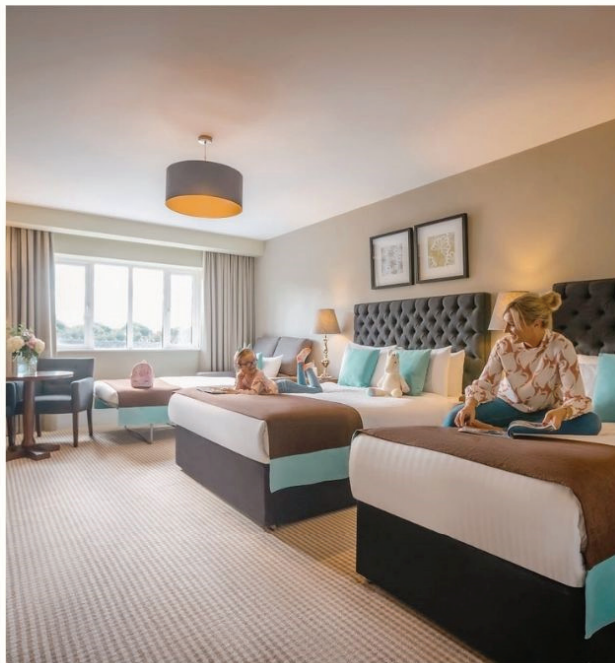


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- \* Social Housing
- \* Estate Issues
- \* Community Issues
- \* Environmental Concerns
- \* Employment Concerns
- \* Covid - 19 related queries



Phone



E-mail



**Cllr. Angela Feeney**

**Tel. 087 238 1962**

**Email. [angelafeeney@gmail.com](mailto:angelafeeney@gmail.com)**

**Stay safe everyone.**







## Cllr. Angela Feeney Maynooth Labour News

E mail: [angelaemfeeney@gmail.com](mailto:angelaemfeeney@gmail.com) - Phone: 0872381962



### Community Centre

Cllr Feeney continues to keep this important issue on the agenda. At the May MD Council meeting, she called on the Council to put in place an Action Plan for the delivery of a Community Centre for Maynooth. At previous meetings, Cllr Feeney suggested potential public sites, including the vacated fire brigade/council yard as potential locations. Cllr Feeney stressed that the delivery of a Community Centre for Maynooth was in the last Local Area Plan, which is now out of date and this is such an important issue for the town. Cllr Feeney added that the time has come to take the Community Centre for Maynooth off paper and make it real.

The Council in its reply said that the Community Department is liaising with the Public Realm team to ensure that a suitable site for the provision of a Community Centre is identified as part of the Maynooth Town Centre Renewal Masterplan. At the meeting Cllr Feeney welcomed the fact that the Council's Public Realm staff agreed that the vacated council yard site would be a suitable site and that a meeting with officials and councillors will take place on site in the coming weeks.

### Update on footpath accessibility

The issues in Maynooth along the section of footpath on the Dublin Road raised by Cllr Feeney at the April MD are to be addressed. In the Council's progress report presented at the May meeting, the Council confirmed that the Municipal District office is currently preparing a tender to carry out improvement works.

### Brookfield Footpath

Cllr Feeney asked the Council if there are plans to create a footpath link between Brookfield Park and College Green estates in Maynooth. While the Council said it has no plan at the moment, Cllr Feeney said at the meeting that the footpath in Brookfield Park comes to an abrupt end at the end of the cul de sac forcing pedestrians out on to the road to reach the Meadowbrook Road footpath. There is also no dip in the footpath directly opposite for residents to cross over to. Cllr Feeney added that it is becoming increasingly dangerous with the increased volume of traffic on this very busy that road. There are quite a number of young children living in the area. Cllr Feeney asked the Sustainable Travel team who attended the Council meeting to include it for consideration in the permeability works that are on-going around the town.

### Rathcoffey School Safety Measures

I asked the Council to explore improvement of traffic calming measures in the vicinity of Rathcoffey National School to include ramps, flashing speed signs, all with a view to enhancing safety for the growing school population in the area. Yes, I have been in touch with the school principal and the parents of pupils in the school who have witnessed many incidents and near misses at the school and on the main road at Farrington's pub, when the children are making their way to and from the school. The population has grown in the area and the school population continues to grow to reflect that. The current traffic calming measures are inadequate. I'm happy to report that the Municipal District Engineer has been very proactive in his response and has met with the School Principal on site to discuss the issues and it's been agreed to replace the zebra crossing with a full signal pedestrian lights crossing. It was also agreed to review the signage in the area, and carry out a speed survey.

### Parking Bye-Laws Review

I asked the Council when the parking bye-laws for the municipal district will be reviewed. It was helpful that The Council provided the order in which the towns in the county will have their parking bye-laws reviewed. That list was provided. Maynooth is 9th, followed by Clane at 10th out of 13 reviews. 1. Kildare Town; 2. Monasterevin; 3. Kilcullen; 4. Celbridge; 5. Leixlip; 6. Kilcock; 7. Castledermot; 8. Athy; 9. Maynooth; 10. Clane; 11. Sallins; 12. Johnstown; 13. Naas. Where it's at, at the moment, work has started on the Kildare and Newbridge Parking Byelaws review. While the Council added that it couldn't give a definitive timeline for when the Maynooth and Clane bye-laws will be reviewed because it depends on the length of time to review the other bye-laws in the schedule, as well as that, other projects such as Public Realm, Active Travel and projects are being carried out by Roads Design. However, the Council said it is hoped that the reviews will commence in 2023.

### Issues with the C4 bus service

At the May MD Council meeting it was agreed to invite the NTA to attend a special council meeting to address the on-going issues relating to cancellation of services. Many commuters trying to get to work or college from Maynooth have been in touch with Cllr Feeney about the regular cancellations of the C4 service. This is causing huge stress to people trying to get to work or college or return home.

### Reader Pens now Available at Maynooth Public Library

Cllr Feeney along with other members of Maynooth Access Group, attended the launch of the reader pens in Maynooth Public Library. It was great to see the reader pens being used and making such a difference for many who need assistance with reading. The pens are very helpful in everyday tasks such as shopping and reading menus and banking. The Library staff said the uptake of the reader pens has been great both in the library and on loan. Well done to all involved.

### Communication to Department of Health on the Shortage of GP places

Cllr Feeney asked that the letter be sent, as agreed, to the Department of Health, regarding the lack of GP services in Maynooth and requesting an update on the planned Primary Care Centre for the town. The Council confirmed that the letter issued as she requested with the combined support of our MD councillors. Regarding the letter I requested to be sent to the Minister for Health regarding the shortage of GP services in Maynooth and calling for an update of a Primary Care Centre, a reply was provided at the May MD meeting (below)

1. Please note that GPs are self-employed practitioners and therefore may establish practices at a place of their own choosing. Under the GMS scheme, the HSE contracts GPs to provide medical services without charge to medical card and GP visit card holders. Where a vacancy arises in a practice with a GMS contract, the HSE becomes actively involved in the selection process to find a replacement GP. As of April, there are no GMS vacancies in Co Kildare.

2. The Government is aware of the workforce issues currently facing general practice and is working to ensure patients across the country continue to have access to GP services and that general practice is sustainable in all areas into the future.

3. The 2019 Agreement on GP contractual reform and service development will see the Government increase annual investment in general practice by approximately 40% (€210 million) between 2019 and 2023. The Agreement provides for increased support for GPs working in rural practices and for those in disadvantaged urban areas, and for improvements to maternity and paternity leave arrangements. In addition, the number of GPs entering training has been increased steadily over the past number of years, rising from 120 in 2009 to 233 in 2021, with an intake of 258 planned for this year.

4. In regard to Maynooth Primary Care Centre, please be advised that the centre is being delivered via the HSE's Primary Care Centre Operational Lease mechanism. Maynooth was included on the latest National advertisement seeking expressions of interest from third Parties in the Provision of Primary Care Centre via Operational Leases. The selection process is at the final stage, letters inviting interested parties that met all qualifying criteria to submit a priced offer were issued, and the evaluation process of responses received is currently underway".

### Hosts of Displaced Ukrainians in the Maynooth Area

Cllr Feeney is working with the organisation 'Helping Irish Hosts' to support hosts of displaced Ukrainians in the Maynooth area. If you are hosting a displaced person from Ukraine in the Maynooth area, please get in touch if you are hosting or if you want to get involved in helping hosts. There is a form attached or if you prefer, contact me at [afeeney@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:afeeney@kildarecoco.ie)  
<https://forms.gle/AwaXtCa9GEG6VVBA6>

### Free Gardening for Biodiversity Training for Residents Associations.

Kildare County Council is hosting free biodiversity training online for interested resident groups across the county. The training will introduce biodiversity, why it is important, and explore practical actions that you can do to make your estate better for wildlife and residents.

When: Sessions start at 7pm (1.5hrs length)

- Kildare / Newbridge MD: Thursday 2nd June
- Celbridge MD: Tuesday 7th June
- Clane / Maynooth MD: Tuesday 14th June
- Athy MD: Thursday 16th June
- Naas MD: Tuesday 21st June

To register: <https://forms.gle/ehifciGSVaQfn3MW6> by Tuesday May 31st at 5pm. The training will be delivered by Dr Mary O'Connor (ecologist), Dr Fiona MacGowan (ecologist) & Green Pine Consultants (landscape architect).

### Meetings attended since last Newsletter:

- April 1st at 10:00 a.m. Council MD meeting (online)
- April 7th at 12:30 p.m. Naas Enterprise Park Launch
- April 11th at 7:30pm Maynooth Community Council (online)
- April 25th at 3:00 p.m. Council Plenary Meeting in Newbridge Town Hall
- April 28th at 2:30 p.m. Governing Body Meeting of Carlow Institute of Technology
- May 5th at 2:00 pm Strategic Policy Committee (online)
- May 6th at 10:00 am Council MD in Chamber
- May 9th at 7:30 pm Maynooth Community Council (online)
- May 11th at 7:30 pm Board of Management Coláiste Chiaráin
- May 12th at 3:30 pm Strategic Policy Committee Briefing on Digital Strategy (online)
- May 17th at 5:30 pm Board of Management Gaelcholáiste Mhá Nuad
- May 18th at 10:00 am Co Kildare Access Network (online)
- May 25th at 12:00 pm KCC Finance Committee (online)
- May 30th at 3:00 pm Council Plenary in Maynooth University



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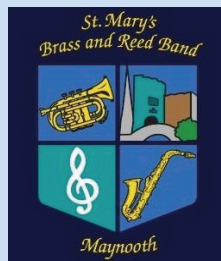
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## St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band

Our special Mass for Deceased Members last month was an opportunity to pay tribute to those who helped to keep the Band going for many, many years and we remembered in particular two members, Michael Dempsey and Tom Corbett, who passed away during the Covid restrictions when we were unable to pay our normal funeral tribute that is accorded to serving Band members on their passing.



On Sunday 22nd May the Band paid what has now become an annual visit to Castletown House in Celbridge for a recital in the gardens at the rear of the main House which was a new location for us. A very appreciative audience gathered to hear the Band and thankfully the rain stayed away until the end of our recital. We have a number of outdoor recitals planned for the Summer and full details of these will be appear on our Facebook page as they arise.

The Band organised a Recruitment Day in Manor Mills on Saturday 14th May with the intention of making musicians and budding musicians aware of the presence of a Band in Maynooth and putting out the welcome mat at our Bandhall on Pound

Lane where a warm welcome awaits them any Monday night between 7.45 and 9.45. If you are interested and cannot make Monday nights please call 087 2537 906 to learn more.



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[www.secstmarysbandmaynooth.ie](http://www.secstmarysbandmaynooth.ie)







Gold Medal  
Winner 2019



Our Tidy Towns application form was submitted to Tidy Towns Ireland Friday May 13th on time, many thanks to our Secretary Mary Connolly for all her hard work and to Volunteer George Ward, IT expert who submitted the application online.

Judging begins on the 7th of June, fingers crossed for a good result and that we retain our Gold Medal status for 2022. We are asking everyone to do their part especially the businesses to keep the areas outside their premises clean.

Our work still continues around the town, we planted all the pots in the Square, Carton Avenue and other areas with Begonias and Geraniums on Saturday 21st May. They should make a good splash of colour over the summer months.

We completed the pollinator beds on Parsons Street on Saturday 14th May, the bees should be impressed. We trimmed the Lime trees on Main Street.

On the 30th April we prepared the beds in Larine for Herb planting.



Solar lights were installed in our Sensory Garden and a sign was erected recognising our Green Flag status for 2021/2022

Thanks to all the volunteers for all their hard work and commitment. We have set up a Rota for the Sunday morning clean ups.

We also asked our volunteers to meet on the Wednesday evening at 7pm in the Square starting the 25th May, completely optional.

*Please like our Facebook page for more information, Maynooth Tidy Towns Association.*



Mary Molloy PRO - Maynooth Tidy Towns

# Social Democrats

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## How to save money on a tight Budget

With soaring petrol, home heating and food prices all rising and living on a tight budget may make it seem like saving money isn't possible.

But saving when money is tight may not be as hard as you think. Even small adjustments to your lifestyle can help. So, if you're looking for ways to save money on a tight budget, rest assured that it's much easier than you think it is! You just have to put a little effort into it.

You may be surprised at just how much money you can save with these tips!

### Grocery Shopping

When you go grocery shopping, the key to success is to make sure you go with a list! This way, you'll be less likely to deviate from your shopping plans and can avoid blowing your budget. Fortunately, careful meal planning can save you money. Every week, plan every single meal for the week. Draw up a shopping list based on your meal plan, check what you already have in your press and refrigerator.

You should also review everything you plan to buy on your list in advance and consider buying generic or store brands for certain items. For many items, there really isn't much difference between the brand name and the generic item. Often, the shop brand is literally the same product as name-brand products repackaged and marketed differently. They're even manufactured in the same plant to take advantage of an economy of scale. In addition, don't buy to stock up. Instead, just buy what you need for the week. This way, you'll reduce waste and avoid ending up with food you don't eat.

### Negotiate your car insurance & home insurance to a lower rate

If you have a good driving record, have never had an accident, or have gotten points on your license, it might be worthwhile to contact your car insurance provider to see if you can get a better rate.

In general, it's a good idea to compare car insurance rates with other companies as well to make sure you're getting the best deal out there. Beyond saving on car insurance It doesn't seem like a big deal to run to the shop in the evening and stop by the credit union the next morning. But those separate trips can make a big difference in your fuel mileage. When you run errands, consolidate your excursions. Also you could walk or cycle whenever you can. As a bonus, you put fewer miles on your car too. Also check around for the best deals on home insurance and try reduce your monthly mobile plan. This can save you quite a lot of money.

### Shift Your Electricity Use

Your electric company may offer free tools for assessing your home energy use and suggest ways to lower your consumption or lower your bill. For example, if you're not on a time-of-use plan, and it's an option where you live, switching to one could save you money. If you are, changing when you use energy-intensive appliances such as clothes dryers, clothes washers, and dishwashers could lower your bill.

### Avoid monthly bank fees

If you are paying monthly account fees to your bank, you need to switch banks immediately. Credit unions are a great place to bank when it comes to free accounts and more personalized customer service.

### Stop using your credit cards

Tight budgeting and saving money means living below your means. So that means you need to stop spending on your credit cards. Take them out of your wallet, and delete them from your online accounts, and instead, focus on paying down debt and saving money. Plus, it saves you a ton of money in interest too!

### Declutter and sell things you don't use

If you are tight on money, then sell your stuff to earn quick cash to save! Decluttering is such a good feeling. And if you can make money while you're at it, why not? There are plenty of websites where you can advertise all your items for free.

### Do your own hair and nails

Instead of going to your hairdresser or to the nail salon every week, you can save money by going every two weeks or once a month. Do your own hair and nails on your own during that time in between. Put those products you've stocked up on to work for you. It's a great way to save when you are tight on money.

Also, if you have a gym membership, it may be time to consider working out at home. There are loads of really great at-home fitness programs that you can purchase at a fraction of the cost of a gym membership. YouTube is also a great resource to find online personal trainers that offer free workouts.

### Create goals

One of the best ways to motivate yourself is to create goals. Try to make a goal of saving a specific amount each month and setting aside some money every time you do something you're trying to eliminate from your budget, like eating out. Or cancel that newspaper subscription and put the money in your savings account instead. You'll meet your savings goal in no time, even if you are living on a tight budget! There are so many ways to save money on a tight budget.

You don't have to starve yourself in order to grow your savings account. Chances are there are one or two subscriptions or spending habits you can eliminate from your budget right away.

Some expenses are almost impossible to eliminate. But that doesn't mean you can't reduce them. In particular, lowering your recurring expenses can be a big help because it will give you savings every month, not just one time.

Source: [www.clevergirlfinance.com/blog/ways-to-save-money-on-a-tight-budget/](http://www.clevergirlfinance.com/blog/ways-to-save-money-on-a-tight-budget/)



## Maynooth University research confirms elevated rates of sea-level rise in Dublin

Maynooth University research on sea level trends in Dublin Bay over eight decades has confirmed elevated rates of sea level rise in recent years.

New research led by the [Hamilton Institute](#) and [ICARUS Climate Research Centre](#) at Maynooth University, has generated an updated sea level dataset for Dublin stretching from 1938 and to 2016.

Overall, the trend shown in the data corresponds to an estimated sea level rise between 1953 and 2016 of 1.1 mm per year in Dublin, according to the research published in *Ocean Science*.

"Fluctuations are identified with sea levels rising from 1982 to 1988, before falling from 1989 to 1996, and once again rising from 1997 to 2016 at a rate of 7 mm per year. This recent sea level rise is faster than expected at approximately double the rate of global sea level rise," said [Amin Shoari Nejad](#), lead author of the research and a PhD student at the Hamilton Institute at Maynooth University.

"If you look at too short a timeframe, the fluctuations over decades could impact estimates of trends. But this research has taken a longer view and what we are most confident about from looking at the stretch of years is the overall rise," said [Dr Gerard McCarthy](#), of ICARUS Climate Research Centre and the Department of Geography at Maynooth University. The researchers at Maynooth, in collaboration with colleagues at UCC and DCU, are continuing to explore the reasons behind such fluctuations.



Amin Shoari Nejad



Dr. Gerard McCarthy

The researchers compared sea level records for Dublin Port, gauges at Arklow and Howth Harbour, and international datasets from the UK and France for their data quality checks.

The Dublin Port record was calibrated by adjusting the 'biased' high water level measurements that affect the overall calculation of mean sea level.

High waters were seen to be rising faster than nearby gauges so a model was built using the stable low water levels to compute mean sea level.

"To correct these mean sea level values, we use a novel Bayesian linear regression that includes the Mean Low Water values as a predictor in the model. We validate the re-created MSL dataset and show its consistency with other nearby tide gauge datasets," said Amin Shoari Nejad. "Overall sea level rise is in line with expected trends but large multidecadal variability has led to higher rates of rise in recent years," he added.

The research was carried out in collaboration with [Prof Andrew Parnell](#) at the Hamilton Institute at Maynooth University, [Dr Brian Kelleher](#) of the School of Chemical Sciences, DCU and Emeritus Professor [Robert Devoy](#), Department of Geography, UCC, [Professor Peter Thorne](#) and Alice Green of the ICARUS Climate Research Centre.

The article, 'A newly reconciled data set for identifying sea level rise and variability in Dublin Bay', published in *Ocean Science* is available at <https://os.copernicus.org/articles/18/511/2022/>.

**The PREDICT project (<https://www.dcu.ie/predict>) was funded through the SFI Investigators Programme with co-funding coming from the Geological Survey of Ireland and the Marine Institute.**







# Royal Canal Notes

June 2022

## Education ~~ Heritage ~~ Recreation

### "FIBFEST"

Fibfest the Phibsboro festival took place on the weekend of the 21st. May 2022. The Royal canal element of the festival took place along the canal on Saturday the 22nd May. A number of barges were in attendance as was the Royal Canal Amenity Group's presentation stand. Large numbers turned out on what was a very pleasant day. Entertainment was provided on the top deck of one of the barges, featuring music, song and story telling. An enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

### UP COMING EVENTS

**ROYAL CANAL AMENITY GROUP'S MIDSUMMER WALK** will take place on midsummers day Tuesday 21st. June from Ashtown to Castleknock, commencing at 7.15pm. This time has been set to facilitate walkers arriving by train. A train from Maynooth will arrive 19.10 while a train from Pearse will arrive 10 minutes earlier. Light refreshments will be served and entertainment will be provided. This is always an enjoyable walk and we look forward to seeing you there. This particular walk has, for a long number of years, been organised by RCAG president Noel Spaine and family to whom the Group is very grateful

**ROYAL ENFIELD FISHING CLUB** will host a fishing competition on the Ryal Canal at Enfield, Co. Meath on Saturday/Sunday 11th./12th. June 2022  
Information from Brian O'Donoghue Tel No 086 3658641

### ROYAL CANAL FESTIVAL ENFIELD

Sunday 26 June 2022 in the Leisure Park Enfield. The fun begins at 2pm with a full line up of events. Live music / B.B.Q / Face painting / Longwood paddlers etc.  
Admission is only €2.00 per person and free car parking is available at the Railway Station

Below is a history of the Royal Canal for children. It outlines everything significant from



RCAG presentation stand

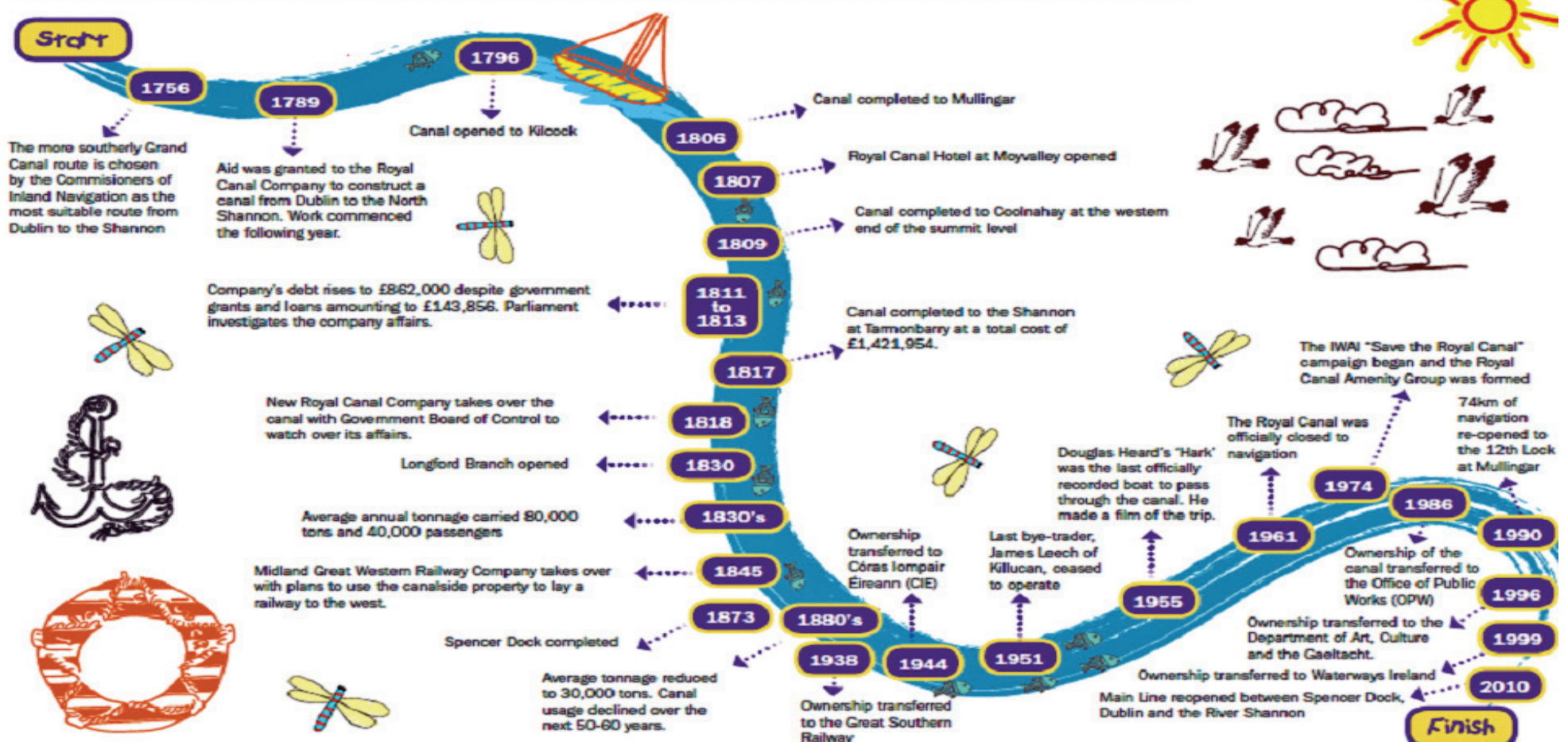
### RCAG HISTORY

the beginning to the present, detailing everything that happened during the building of the canal and also during its commercial life. Although primarily designed for children it contains a wealth of information which would also be appreciated by adults. Its easy read format will endear it to children and since it is in chronological order easy to read and understand. As can be seen it took some time to complete the canal but, now, two hundred plus years later, it has stood the test of time and is still there to be enjoyed by everyone.

A lovely educational product, it could be used for family quizzes or with minor adjustments as a board game.

### History of the Royal Canal

The story of navigation on the Royal Canal begins in the eighteenth century. It is a story steeped in history as you will see as you meander your way along the timeline below.





## MAYNOOTH NEWSLETTER

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## Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee



Dear members,

It is with some hope that we can report that we are planning to get the Club back on the road or at least we are going to do so one step at a time. We are in the early stages of planning for a pilot re-opening of the morning Club on Thursday mornings and the return of the Mass bus service on Saturday evenings.

We hope to begin these from the beginning of July. We will have more definite information after our June meeting, which is too late for publication the Newsletter. We will be in communication as to our plans and to find out who would like to return to the Morning Club and who would like to avail of the Mass Bus. Some work has been done on this already.

It will be great to be back to meeting up socially again and gives us all something to look forward to.

Susan Durack, PRO,  
Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee



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### THE MIRACLE PRAYER

DEAR Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask for this special one (mention favour).

Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart where your Father sees it. Then, in His merciful eyes it will become Your favour not mine. Amen

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

Never known to fail.  
Thanksgiving for favour received.

### THE MIRACULOUS PRAYER

DEAR Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask for this special one (mention here). 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. Sacred Heart of Jesus I place all my trust thee

Say this prayer for three days. Promise publication and favour will be granted. Never known to fail.

### 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.

Never known to fail.  
Thanksgiving for favour received.





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

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### Government Must Stop Delaying And Introduce A Vacant Homes Tax

*Instead of pursuing the rapid introduction of a vacant homes tax, the government seems more interested in trying to undermine the rationale for one*

The government must stop delaying and introduce a vacant homes tax immediately, according to Catherine Murphy TD.

“The introduction of a vacant homes tax was postponed because the government said it wanted to first collect data from the Local Property Tax (LPT) returns. This caused an unnecessary delay.

“It is clear the LPT returns do not provide a complete data set in terms of measuring vacancy – with filings currently outstanding for approximately 216,900 homes or 10% of the housing stock. The data the Government is relying on is therefore much less comprehensive than existing data from the CSO and Geo-Directory. That is indisputable.

“When the size of the Dáil is being calculated, we rely on the CSO to provide data via the census to determine the overall number of Dáil seats. If the government is happy to use CSO data to determine its own notional ‘vacancy rate’, why is it so loathe to use CSO data as a basis for the introduction of a vacant homes tax?

“Instead of pursuing the rapid introduction of a vacant homes tax, the government seems to be more interested in trying to undermine the rationale for one. This is despite the fact that Housing For All pledged to introduce a vacant homes tax in the second quarter of this year.

“We have had enough delay. The government must now act and introduce a vacant homes tax to bring much-needed homes back into use.”

### Government Must Scrap Its €450m Bailout For Developers

*The Social Democrats moved a motion in the Dáil calling on the government to scrap this latest sweetheart deal for developers.*

The government must scrap its bizarre plan to gift developers up to €144,000 per apartment and instead use the money to deliver affordable, social and cost-rental homes.

“Incredibly, under the Croí Cónaithe proposal, the government intends to gift developers €450 million – up to €144,000 per apartment – without securing any reduction in the sale price of those apartments.

“This scheme has been constructed with only one thing in mind – to bail out private developers. There are no affordability measures, for the taxpayer or home buyers, included at all. In fact, those hoping to eventually purchase a two-bed apartment will need incomes of more than €100,000.

“In effect, the government has proudly announced the creation of an Unaffordable Housing Scheme – and is rewarding developers for constructing apartments that they, apparently, can’t afford to build but that the State is happy to heavily subsidise.

“This is the third time, in seven years, that we have been told apartment building is unviable. On each occasion, a laundry list of developer demands was introduced by successive Housing Ministers.

“In 2015, former Housing Minister, and Labour leader, Alan Kelly slashed apartment guidelines, including the minimum size of apartments, because he said it would make them more affordable and boost supply. It did not. ‘In 2018, then Housing Minister Eoghan Murphy slashed the guidelines for build-to-rent developments, further reducing apartment sizes and eliminating the need for apartment mix and outside space.

“Why is the approach of this government always carrot for developers and stick for renters and home buyers – who are expected to pay exorbitant rents and house prices to help boost developers’ bottom lines?

“The government must scrap this latest bailout for developers – before any more public money is wasted. Instead, it needs to get serious about its responsibility to deliver affordable purchase, social and cost rental-homes.”

### Vacant Homes Tax Delay Would Be Inexcusable And Incomprehensible

*To date, all we have gotten from this government are delays, excuses and prevarications*

Any further delay to the introduction of a vacant homes tax is inexcusable and incomprehensible

“There were reports at the weekend that the introduction of a vacant homes tax is in doubt after Revenue recorded a low level of vacancy across the country. However, the data gathered by Revenue, via the Local Property Tax (LPT), is flawed on a number of fronts.

“It was recently reported that 380,000 homes have yet to update their LPT – one in five homes. How many of these homes are vacant? The LPT data was also a self-reporting exercise – meaning, householders were being asked to volunteer to pay additional tax. On top of that, there was no penalty for failing to report ownership of a vacant home.

“These, and other significant issues with Revenue’s data, have been highlighted by housing campaigners Jude Sherry and Frank O’Connor, who have recorded 700 derelict properties within 2km of Cork city centre alone. There is nothing to suggest similar levels of vacancy and dereliction are not replete elsewhere across the country.

“There is also strong data from GeoDirectory, which has recorded more than 90,000 vacant residential properties across the country and at least a further 20,000 homes that are derelict. Why does the government prefer Revenue’s incomplete data to that provided by GeoDirectory?

“A vacant homes tax was promised as far back as 2016 – but has yet to materialise. Meanwhile, the housing crisis has continued to deteriorate. We have heard enough rhetoric from this government. What we need now is action. Instead, to date, all we have gotten are delays, excuses and prevarications.

“The government must act now, without any further delay, and immediately introduce a tax to help bring vacant homes back into use. Any further delay would be both inexcusable and incomprehensible.”

### Rental Supply Collapses As Short Term Lets Surge

*There are just 64 properties to rent in Cork, Galway, Limerick and Waterford cities combined – but 225 on Airbnb in Galway city alone*

Double digit increases in rent, and an unprecedented 77pc collapse in rental supply, are further indictments of the government’s handling of the housing crisis..

“The latest Daft.ie report makes for grim reading. Average new rents across the country are now nearly €1,600 – more than twice their Celtic Tiger peak. Meanwhile, rental supply has fallen by an unprecedented 77pc year-on-year. The housing crisis is clearly getting worse under this government, not better.

“According to Daft.ie, on May 1, there were just 64 properties available to rent in Cork, Galway, Limerick and Waterford cities combined – an historic low. Meanwhile, in Galway city alone, there are currently 225 entire properties available for short-term lets on Airbnb. By contrast, just five planning permissions for short-term lets have been issued by Galway City Council.

“The Housing Minister recently suggested that further regulations, restricting short term lets, were on the way. Where are they? The Minister should also be aware that regulations, in the absence of enforcement, are not worth the paper they are written on. It was recently revealed that just 15 counties are doing anything to enforce short-term lets.

“Average new rents in Dublin are now €2,100 – requiring a salary of at least €70,000 per annum to be affordable. Across the rest of the country, rents are also surging – reaching €1,600 in Cork; €1,585 in Galway; €1,485 in Limerick and €1,262 in Waterford.

“Renters are now in despair. For years, they have listened to promises from successive governments to resolve the rental crisis. Instead, that crisis has gotten worse. The Minister’s plan is demonstrably not working. The question now is, what is he going to do about it?”

The below table is a snapshot of what was advertised for rent in all of Kildare as at 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022. Each column lists a single property for rent and not averages

| Area              | 1 Bed | 2 Bed Apt | 2 Bed House | 3 Bed House | 3 Bed House | 3 Bed House | 4 Bed House |
|-------------------|-------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Athy              |       |           |             | 1500        |             | 1250        |             |
| Ballymore Eustace |       | 1850      | 2200        |             |             |             | 3200        |
| Brannockstown     | 850   |           |             |             |             |             |             |
| Broadford         |       | 1100      |             |             |             |             |             |
| Celbridge         | 850   |           |             |             |             |             | 2500        |
| Clane             | 988   |           |             |             |             |             |             |
| Derrinturn        |       |           |             | 1800        |             |             |             |
| Furnees           | 800   |           |             |             |             |             |             |
| Johnstown         |       |           |             |             |             |             | 2500        |
| Kilcullen         |       |           |             |             |             |             | 2750        |
| Kildare           | 1056  |           |             |             |             |             |             |
| Kill              |       | 2000      |             |             |             |             |             |
| Leixlip           | 1360  | 1664      |             |             |             |             |             |
| Maynooth          |       |           | 2030        | 2230        |             |             | 1885        |
| Monasterevin      |       | 950       |             |             |             |             |             |
| Naas              | 1200  |           |             | 2300        | 2000        | 2040        | 2500        |
| Naas              | 1200  |           |             |             |             |             | 2200        |
| Newbridge         |       |           |             |             |             |             | 2200        |
| Sallins           |       | 1250      |             | 2150        | 2000        |             | 1890        |

### Surge In Data Centres Evidence Of Government’s See-No-Evil Approach To Climate Change

*We are still awaiting the government’s updated policy statement on data centres – which has not been revised since 2018*

The surge in energy consumption by data centres underscores the government’s ‘see-no-evil, hear-no-evil’ approach to the climate emergency.

“The country has been convulsed in recent weeks by attempts to ban turf sales by the government. Meanwhile, the CSO informs us today that data centres are consuming more electricity in Ireland than every single rural dwelling combined.

“This stark statistic highlights a central problem of the government’s “see-no-evil, hear-no-evil’ efforts to reduce our carbon emissions. All of the responsibility to reduce emissions is put on the individual, while the State continues to facilitate and incentivise energy-guzzling industries.

“In the Dáil last year, the Social Democrats attempted to secure a moratorium on the construction of new data centres. The government voted against this motion and rubbished the notion a moratorium was required. Subsequently, a de facto moratorium in Dublin was put in place by Eirgrid because of the precarious nature of our energy supply.

“Electricity consumption by data centres is currently at 14pc – having jumped by one-third in 2021 alone – and could rise to 30pc of overall consumption by 2030. This mushrooming of data centres has taken place without any significant investment in upgrading our energy grid and without any preconditions that data centres must use renewable energy or incorporate district heating.

“How can the government claim to be serious about efforts to reduce our carbon emissions, and achieve our climate action goals, when it has adopted a strictly hands-off approach to data centres?”

“Meanwhile, we are still awaiting the government’s updated policy statement on data centres – which has not

(Continued on page 19)





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

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(Continued from page 18)

been revised since 2018. Enterprise Minister Leo Varadkar promised to prepare a revised policy document in September 2021."

### Government On The Wrong Side Of History On The National Maternity Hospital Deal

*There is a real and genuine public concern that the government will be on the wrong side of history when it comes to the national maternity hospital*

Health Minister Stephen Donnelly must publish the legal framework for the new national maternity hospital and bring it before the Dáil before it is signed off by cabinet, according to Social Democrats co-leader Catherine Murphy.

"The HSE board – bar two notable exceptions – has signed off on the legal framework for the new national maternity hospital and there is now a real danger that this deal will be signed off by cabinet before there is any scrutiny of its terms.

"It is striking that the two members of the HSE board who refused to endorse this deal are among those best qualified to interrogate it – Prof Deirdre Madden, a lecturer in medical law and ethics in UCC, and Dr. Sarah McLoughlin, the patient advocate on the board.

"Many others share their concerns. There is a real and genuine public concern that the government will be on the wrong side of history when it comes to the national maternity hospital. Many years after it was first mooted, questions surrounding the ethos and ownership of the proposed new hospital have yet to be satisfactorily answered.

"Health Minister Stephen Donnelly has repeatedly offered assurances that these concerns are misplaced – but he has failed to provide anything other than his own opinion as evidence for this.

"The overarching question remains – why is the State proposing to spend €1 billion on a public hospital that it will hand over to a private entity? On what planet does that make sense?

"Before a secret deal is done behind closed doors, the Minister must now publish the legal framework underpinning this deal and bring it before the Dáil, and the Oireachtas Health Committee, so that it can be scrutinised in detail.

"It would also be useful if Prof Madden and Dr McLoughlin spoke publicly about the reasons they declined to endorse the legal framework and dissented from the HSE Board decision to send the approved framework to cabinet."

### Catherine asked he Minister his plans for the provision of new childcare options for north Kildare:

#### QUESTION

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth his plans for the provision of new childcare options in counties Dublin, Meath, Wicklow and Kildare in view of the fact that there is a shortfall in the number of services available.

#### REPLY

The availability of high-quality early learning and childcare that is affordable and accessible is a key Government priority.

Since 2015, significant increases in State investment in early learning and childcare has given rise to a substantial growth in the numbers of children participating in these services. More than 100,000 children now participate on the universal pre-school programme on an annual basis and the National Childcare Scheme subsidises up to 80,000 children.

To ensure that the supply of early learning and childcare places meets demand, my Department has, since 2015, funded the creation of more than 27,000 new places through an Annual Capital Programme.

Before the onset of Covid-19, national data indicated that, on the whole, supply of early learning and childcare places was meeting demand, with evidence of undersupply for

certain age groups including children under 3, and in certain areas.

Data gathered throughout the Covid-19 pandemic revealed lower demand for early learning and childcare, and reduced occupancy among early learning and childcare services. Indeed, data captured in June 2021 found significant vacancy rates across the country – with the national vacancy rate averaging at 21%. Vacancy rates in Dublin, Meath, Wicklow and Kildare are outlined below.

| County                          | Vacant places | Children enrolled | % vacant places |
|---------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Dublin - Dublin City            | 1,662         | 8,263             | 20%             |
| Dublin - Fingal                 | 1,176         | 5,793             | 20%             |
| Dublin - South Dublin           | 983           | 5,577             | 18%             |
| Dublin - Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown | 403           | 3,784             | 11%             |
| Meath                           | 627           | 3,549             | 18%             |
| Wicklow                         | 410           | 2,518             | 16%             |
| Kildare                         | 722           | 4,088             | 18%             |

Pobal has, using the data captured in June 2021 and current registration data, recently projected vacancy rates in February 2022. While this analysis shows a fall in vacancy rates from June 2021 to February 2022 – with vacancy rates falling from 21% to 19%, this analysis suggests that there is unused capacity across the country.

Pobal has commenced the new data collection as of 4 April 2022, as part of the Annual Early Years Sector Profile survey. This will allow for updated information on capacity among early learning and childcare services to be established.

In addition to these efforts to monitor capacity issues across the country, my Department is planning a range of steps to address any issue of under supply. A new funding model, to roll out in September, will provide funding for services aligned to costs of delivery so, for example, greater funding will be available to services that cater for younger children where costs of delivery are higher than older children. Some €70m has been allocated to my Department through the revised National Development Plan (NDP) – with the majority of this funding earmarked for new places. Another important step being taken by my Department, in partnership with the Department of Housing Planning and Local Government (DHPLG), is to update the 2001 Planning Guidelines for Local Authorities on Early Learning and Childcare Settings. In addition, CCC are currently proactively engaging with early learning and childcare services to identify unused capacity and explore the potential for services to increase capacity where there is evidence of unmet early learning and childcare needs of families.

Parents experiencing difficulty in relation to their early learning and childcare needs should contact their local City/County Childcare Committee (CCC) for assistance. Contact details for CCCs may be found on [www.myccc.ie](http://www.myccc.ie).

**Catherine asked the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment** if he met with companies in the course of his recent visit to California that have large-scale data centres in this State; if the concept of cloud based solutions was discussed in order to reduce their carbon foot-print here; if he has engaged with the IDA in respect of promoting cloud storage and networking versus data centres in the context of attracting investment to the State.

**Leo Varadkar responded** – He was in the USA from 24<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022 as part of a joint IDA Ireland and Enterprise Ireland trade mission to the West Coast of the USA. I was

accompanied on this trade mission by the CEO of IDA Ireland and the CEO of Enterprise Ireland.

During the visit to the US West Coast, I met with Executives of the following IDA clients: Microsoft; Amazon Web Services; Intel; Apple; Google; and Salesforce. These IDA clients are among the world's leading technology companies, some of which have data centre investments in Ireland (Amazon Web Services, Microsoft and Google) and employ approximately 30,000 people in the country. The discussions during each meeting covered a range of topics including:

Ireland's commitment to FDI and discussion of clients' operations in Ireland and future plans;

Ireland's value proposition for potential future investment; Irish government policy in areas of interest to international investors;

Ireland's economic progress post COVID-19; and Impacts of the war in Ukraine on FDI;

Consistent with the continued evolution of the global sector, modern technology companies rely on data centres, and cloud computing, for the continued success of their businesses. The decisions they make to invest in the country, and to continue to expand those investments, are multi-faceted and include issues that impact on company ability to deliver global software and services from Ireland.

"Harnessing Digital: Ireland's Digital Framework", the recently published National Digital Strategy, has a number of commitments with regard to use of, and infrastructure for, cloud. It sets a target of 75% of enterprises using cloud technologies by the end of the decade. It also makes a commitment to take a 'cloud-oriented' approach to delivery of all public services. In the context of preparing that Strategy, the Department engaged with IDA Ireland on a range of issues, including cloud technology.

218. To ask the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment if he has engaged with the owners of large scale-data centres in the context of persuading them to switch to cloud-based solutions for existing and future infrastructure investments in this State in order to reduce their carbon footprint. [23412/22]

**Eamon Ryan** (Dublin Bay South, Green Party)

Under the Climate Action Plan 2021, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment has committed to reviewing the 2018 'Government Statement on the Role of Data Centres in Ireland's Enterprise Strategy' to ensure alignment with Ireland's renewable energy targets, sectoral emissions and climate priorities. This is part of a suite of actions included in the Climate Action Plan 2021 to ensure that Ireland is planning appropriately for new energy demand in the context of our electrification and decarbonisation ambitions, while facilitating growth in digitalisation and our technology sector. In this regard, my Department has been engaging with officials in the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, as well as relevant state agencies, on the development of this revised Statement to ensure that there is a plan-led, regionally balanced approach to the connection of data centres, taking into account existing grid availability, security of supply and decarbonisation objectives.

As part of this process, all viable options to ensure that the connection of new data centres aligns with CAP21 energy transition objectives, including decarbonisation objectives, will be explored. The minister does not envisage connections of additional new data centre capacity, not already contracted, until such time as they are proven to conform with sectoral emissions ceilings and security of supply.

In addition, the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act provides, inter alia, for a maximum amount of emissions to be permitted in different sectors of the economy during a carbon budget period, referred to as 'sectoral emissions ceilings'. All sectors of the economy have sectoral emissions ceilings and emissions from data centres will be accounted for within the relevant sectoral emissions ceiling.



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## Writers' Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

### Champagne and Bottled Water

It was to be the experience of a lifetime, Nora and I visiting New York on The Queen Mary. The holiday had cost far more than I'm willing to admit, but Nora had been on at me for ages, saying we should take advantage of the Euro's strength against the dollar – and wasn't I spending far too much time with my cronies down in the Railway Bar or glued to some silly sports programme on the goggle box? A little exercise, such as we'd get sightseeing on foot around Manhattan, would take inches off my waistline. "What about my bad hip?" I protested, but she wasn't going to be put off.

"The walking will soon loosen up the joint," she pointed out. "It's all that sitting down that has affected it. And at Christmas you did promise faithfully that this year you'd take me somewhere special."

"Didn't I take you to the Galway Races?" I protested. "The Galway Races!" she almost shrieked. "Throwing all that money away on horses that are probably still running and then wasting what was left treating your cronies in O'Connor's – Oh, and we mustn't forget our big trip out to Yeats's Thoor Ballylee, except that it was closed that day, wasn't it?"

"I would have taken you to Bundoran..." The look she gave me showed it was time to shut up. If she had her heart set on New York then that's where we were going come hell or high water.

Well, in due course we found ourselves cruising out from Southampton across the Atlantic. The only drawback was our location in the bowels of the ship, where at night the throbbing of what was probably the engine almost left me demented. I also have a dread of closed-in places – claustrophobia I think they call it – something which wasn't helped by our shoebox of a cabin. The worst, however, was yet to come.

On our second day out who should we run into as we were leaving the Deck 3 Restaurant but Joe Duignan and that wife of his, Fiona. Now, I'd been looking forward to meeting Duignan in the cattle mart after our trip and in answer to his usual opener, 'Anything new?' casually mentioning The Queen Mary. To see him right there before me in a brand-new suit and tie, instead of his usual pullover and muck-caked wellies, was startling. I was about to observe jokingly that he still hadn't returned the plumbing rods I'd loaned him but decided that in such glamorous surroundings the less said on that score the better. There was nothing for it but to listen to him and Fiona explain how their youngest daughter Sandra, who worked for a Dublin travel agency, had got them this fantastic bargain. "We wouldn't have taken her up on it only herself there said it was like winning the Lotto," Duignan grinned. "And we've a cabin with a porthole too."

"Sandra even paid half our fares," Fiona added. "It's cheaper than a Shannon cruise."

"Isn't that wonderful?" Nora, ever the diplomat in public, enthused, while I was secretly wondering if Sandra had also coughed up for the new suit.

Well, after that we managed to evade the 'Lotto winners' for the four days it took us to reach Manhattan – something not too difficult on that floating palace – and even to disembark undetected. We had pre-booked into the Waldorf Astoria on Park Avenue, but though the lobby and function rooms were luxurious, our 5th Floor room was modest enough. Still, we had a delicious seafood dinner in the hotel restaurant the first evening and next day went sightseeing, using the subway to get around. We did our share of walking as well, to St Patrick's Cathedral, Rockefeller Plaza, Bryant Park and, of course, Times Square. Nora had always wanted to see a Broadway play, so we managed to book seats for Edward Albee's "Occupant", which was running in a theatre on 42nd Street, just Off-Broadway – Needless to say, it cost a small fortune.

On Wednesday, to please Nora, we visited Tiffany's and Macey's. I wanted to take the subway to Ground Zero, the site of the Twin Towers disaster, but Nora balked. Hadn't we come to New York to enjoy ourselves not to see something that would give her nightmares? As a result of my yielding on this matter I was able to persuade her to enter a Blarney Stone pub on the Westside, near 42nd Street, for a drink – she had a Coke and I had a Budweiser. To our surprise the barman who served us was Jimmy O'Dwyer, a neighbour's son. He told us that Duignan and his wife had been in for dinner not an hour previously, having earlier visited Ground Zero. Jimmy wanted to hear all the local gossip because, being an illegal, he couldn't risk a visit home.

The following day we took in the Empire State Building and Central Park, where I had an interesting chat with one of the jarveys, a roguish old-timer who boasted that he had once given a ride to Frank Sheeran, the Irish-American gangster who shot Jimmy Hoffa. He wanted to drive us in his open carriage through the park but Nora decided that we couldn't afford such extravagance.

We were walking past the Natural History Museum when I heard my name called. Wouldn't you know it, Duignan and the missus had spotted us! They had just completed a carriage ride, which, Fiona gushed, made them feel like a young couple on their honeymoon.

"Where are you staying?" Duignan asked.

"Oh, The Waldorf Astoria," I said casually, hoping to impress him.

"We're staying there too!" Fiona piped up. "You and Nora will have to come up to our room for drinks."

"We bought a bottle of Seagram's and minerals in a supermarket," Deignan confided. "If you use the drinks cabinet it costs an arm and a leg."

By this time all of us were 'heat beat' so we decided to take a cab. The driver, Bill, was a huge, friendly black man.

When we arrived at the Waldorf I paid and, to give Duignan his due, he did offer to split the fare, though none too hastily, his years bidding in the mart having taught him to wait. In the end I let him tip Bill, who wanted to know if we'd been to Harlem. When we said 'No', he offered to take us there later in the evening, telling us that there were some hot jazz spots on 125th street. I said we were more interested in country music, at which he came up with another suggestion: why not let him drive us down to the Village? There was The White Horse Tavern or the coffee shops near Washington Square, most with good folk singers.

"Do they sing Irish songs?" Duignan wanted to know.

"You mean like 'Danny Boy'?" Bill asked.

"Yes, and Christy Moore songs," Duignan said. "You've heard of Christy Moore, haven't you?"

"I'm afraid not," Bill confessed, "but my wife loves U2."

"Ah, that sort of caterwauling is just for teenagers!"

Duignan got out of the cab.

"Your buddy doesn't have broad tastes in music," Bill grinned.

"Nor me either," I confessed, shaking hands with him.

"Maybe next time we come to New York we'll take up your offer."

"In that case, here's my number." He handed me his card.

"Nice meeting you folks. Have a good holiday."

"You're not going to keep that?" Duignan remarked when I put the card in my pocket. "That cabbie must have figured us for right greenhorns – offering to take us up to Harlem!"

"Maybe we should have gone?" I said. "It would be something to impress the fellows back in the mart."

"Yes," he snorted. "We could tell them how we were mugged."

On entering the hotel lobby Duignan, much to my surprise, headed straight for an elevator that serviced the upper floors. I didn't make any comment, however, not wishing to give him an opportunity to crow. When we got out he led us down the carpeted corridor to a luxurious suite.

"These rooms must have cost you a bomb," Nora remarked

as she sipped a Coke.

"Not at all," Duignan confided. "The very first evening when I turned on the taps in our bathroom didn't the bath fill up with goo, so I phoned the management. 'Can you send somebody up right away,' I told the girl that answered. 'There's a disgusting brown mess in our bath.' Well, in a no time who should arrive but the maître d himself. As soon as he saw it he became extremely apologetic: 'Oh, we can't have this, Mr Duignan; it must be some blockage in the downstairs plumbing. We'll have to get you another room.' So, to make a long story short, he moved us up here."

"And that wasn't all our good luck," Fiona gushed. "Didn't he give us complimentary tickets for 'Hamlet' in the outdoor theatre in Central Park and it was just fabulous! There's a small lake beside it that could pass for – what's that sea? – the Kattegat. You'd think you were actually at Elsinore castle."

"I can't say I know much about plays," Duignan admitted, "but it really was something, sitting out there with the stage glowing in the darkness and a nice cool breeze after the horrible humidity earlier on – And the best part was it didn't cost us a nickel."

To Nora's credit she made a big thing of our own Off-Broadway play, though most of it was above my head, something arty about this dead woman sculptor who was being interviewed about her life. We had a few more lukewarm drinks while Duignan told us about various attractions Sandra had directed them to, most of them places you could either visit for free or get into at a bargain price. Finally I had enough, so, since we could truthfully claim that we needed a good night's sleep before next day's flight home, Nora and I escaped downstairs. Letting Nora walk ahead to our room, I had a chat with Karen, the friendly Irish-American receptionist, about booking a taxi to J.F.K. Airport.

"Why don't you get a lift with Mr Duignan?" she suggested. "The maître d has ordered a chauffeured limousine for him. It's to make up for that trouble with the bathroom."

"You mean he'll be driven to the airport free of charge?" I couldn't believe my ears.

"Yes," Karen assured me. "Of course there'll be the tips."

"How much would those be?" I asked.

"Well," she lowered her voice; "the driver will expect at least forty dollars and the bellboy who carries his luggage out to the limousine thirty and the porter who unloads it at Kennedy another thirty."

"In that case I'll take the subway and a taxi." I grinned, imagining Duignan's face when pay-up time arrived, and Karen grinned too.

Next morning while waiting to pass through the boarding gate at Kennedy, I spotted Duignan and the wife standing further up in the queue and asked how they'd gotten out. "Oh, the Waldorf provided a limousine," he informed me. "They must have been afraid I'd sue."

"Still, you probably had to tip handsomely," I remarked, keeping a serious face.

"Ah, just the usual." He seemed reluctant to continue the conversation.

Ten minutes after that the boarding gate opened. When Nora and I handed our boarding cards to the girl on duty, she said: "Oh, sorry; Economy was actually overbooked. We have to put you both in Business Class."

"How much more will that cost?" Nora asked anxiously.

The girl smiled. "It was our mistake, so there's no extra charge."

"Then that's fine," I assured her before hurrying ahead.

Later, as Nora and I sipped champagne from Waterford Crystal flutes in our reclining chairs high over the Atlantic, I couldn't help thinking of poor Duignan and his missus in their squashed seats being offered plastic cups of bottled water.

P.G. Nerney





## Writers' Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

### Invasion

Our neighbour has one in his garden,  
A cylindrical, wire-mesh bird feeder  
Suspended from a maple tree,  
Leafless throughout the winter months;  
Birds come to peck and eat the peanuts  
He fills it with week after week –  
Sometimes daily when the weather's  
cold –  
Finches, sparrows, blue and great tits,  
All the peanut- loving foragers  
And, even now and then, that small,  
Exotic migrant, the blackcap;

But this year saw a dire event.  
Jackdaws descended on the garden,  
Greedy, hungry interlopers,  
That, clinging awkwardly to the feeder,  
Finally sent it crashing earthward  
Then, craws still empty, flew away  
Leaving ruination in their wake.

Colin Scott.

### Examinations

In my secondary school there were two hours' supervised study every evening. At the front of the hall on a raised dais the prefect of the school, a senior student, did his own study and kept an eye on his half of the hall while at the other end, again on a raised dais, one of the lay teachers or one of the priests did his own work and kept an eye on the other half.

One particular evening when I was in first year our Latin teacher was the man at the back. He was called to the door about something and was away from his post for a minute or two.

A senior student took a peek at his desk and seeing there a 1st year Latin examination paper, quickly jotted down the English sentences to be translated and we were in possession of them next day and not only the English sentences but their Latin translation also. "To ward off suspicion" we decided to make various minor mistakes and we did

that not quite impressively enough to convince our Latin teacher 'beyond reasonable doubt' that there hadn't been foul play afoot.

The overall performance of the class was so good that he told us straight out that had no reason to suspect foul play so "well done boys, keep it up". Just as well he didn't hit us with an unannounced exam of similar difficulty! I often regretted he didn't!

Examinations were the bane of my life. I used to refer to them as my Becher's Brook. And they continued to be so for when I finished doing them myself I became involved in the preparation and supervision of them for most of my time.

That's all over now. I have no more exams to sit or to worry about. Except one, of course. The final exam on the day of Judgement. I cannot afford to fail that. And there will be no chance of any "foul play" to get me through. There is no need, of course, for foul play for I know the "papers" already. Matthew

recorded them from Jesus himself for me. A cup of water here, clothes there, a simple visit to one in need and all these just symbols of a life orientated towards others rather than towards self. All these will be on the paper. I know that. So this, the greatest exam of my life, should have no worries for me. And yet? St. Paul was no slouch.

As a young pharisee he was on fire with determination to stop this crazy cult of Jesus of Nazareth but when he met Jesus face to face and was converted his earlier enthusiasm paled to nothing in comparison with his zeal to convert the world to Jesus. But Paul never took his own salvation for granted. Neither will I, even though I have the papers in advance.

**Go n-éirí libh, iarrthóirí  
scrúduithe na míosa seo. Hope  
you all pass! The exams certainly  
will!**

GM

# Peter Mc Cluskey

www.petermccluskey.com

## Maynooth writer/musician awarded grant for traditional music project.

A project to futureproof and enhance the rich culture of Kildare traditional music and song composition is underway in the North Kildare town of Maynooth.

Local writer and musician, Peter McCluskey, approached The Arts Department of Kildare County Council with his project to compose and record a series of ten new tradition songs and tunes.

"Traditional Irish music and songs," Peter explained, "are a vital and integral part of Irish culture within Kildare County. It is a living tradition, a living culture. Part of my project is to produce ten new "Kildare-themed" compositions to add to the county's tradition music catalogue. It is important that, as we carefully guard and curate the existing body of work in our traditional music culture, we must, equally strongly, create and promote new work to add to it and to help it remain relevant within the county."

This idea resonated with The Arts department of the council and they took the decision to commission the project and fund Peter via their Arts Act Grant Scheme.

Lucina Russell, Kildare County Council Arts Officer said: "Kildare County Council are delighted to provide grant aid for a broad range of grants to support artists and arts groups to make work and develop audiences in the county in 2022. We extend congratulations to Pete, on his Arts Act award this year, which was assessed by an independent

panel. We look forward to seeing where the award brings his music".

"I'm delighted," said Peter, "that the council have seen the merit in the project and have offered me the funding. My task over the coming six months is to compose, record and create videos for ten new and original pieces of music - five instrumental tunes (a jig, a reel, a polka, a hornpipe, an Irish air) and five original songs - at least one of these will be in the Irish language."

Peter has already begun work on the project and the first composition will be an Irish polka titled, "The Speaker Conolly" polka, named after William Conolly, the builder, and most famous resident, of Castletown House in Celbridge. Peter hopes to complete the project by end of the summer.



**Contact: Mobile: 085 1744 633  
Email: pmccluskey2@gmail.com  
Web: www.petermccluskey.com**



## Maynooth University research recommends development of ‘family’ approach within mental health services

Research calls for a ‘whole family’ approach when mental health disorder identified in a parent

New research has recommended the development of a ‘whole of family’ approach within mental health services, including automatic consideration of children when a parent has a mental health illness.

Launching the findings of the five-year PRIMERA research programme on mental health within families, by the Maynooth University Centre for Mental Health and Community Research, the researchers said the findings of the comprehensive HSE-funded programme, illustrated barriers that need to be addressed within mental health services.

CMHCR Director and PRIMERA Principal Investigator, Professor Sinéad McGilloway, recommended that ‘think family’ policy and practice be developed and incorporated as part of routine Adult and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services in Ireland.

“We know that parental mental health can typically affect the entire family. An estimated 23% of all families have at least one parent who has or had a mental health disorder. We also know that the lifetime risk of mental illness for their children vastly increases by 41%-77%.

“When child welfare is not considered in the treatment of parents with illness, our services are failing to identify a portion of children and adolescents who are at significant risk of becoming the next generation of mental health service users.

“These families often remain ‘invisible’ and are not identified due to little or no collaboration between Adult Mental Health Services (AMHS) and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS); an individualised, crisis-oriented approach to assessment and treatment; confidentiality concerns amongst mental health professionals; and parental stigma/fear of social services and losing custody of their children.

Commending the depth of the work carried out and commenting on the findings, the Minister with responsibility for Mental Health and Older People, Mary Butler, said: “I welcome the launch of PRIMERA’s research and its contribution to our understanding of the needs of families of people accessing mental health services. Outcomes for people with mental health difficulties tend to be better where family and carers are involved and where these families and carers themselves are supported.

“I am very supportive of the involvement of family members in an individual’s care with their consent, and this approach is supported by Sharing the Vision, our national mental health policy. Research such as this is a vital resource as we continuously seek to improve our mental health services.”

International studies estimate that 25%–68% of adult mental health service users are parents, and 35%–60% of children presenting at Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services have a parent with a mental illness.

Ireland is rated to have the third highest incidence of adult mental illness across 36 countries in Europe — costing the Irish state €11 billion per year. It is estimated that 280,000 children are dependent on parents who have a mental health illness.

Professor McGilloway added that there has been a growing recognition in most European countries of the need to support families in order to protect children, but Ireland lags well behind in terms of ‘think family’ policy and practice. “Where a parent has a known mental health disorder, the needs of their children or partners should automatically be considered and provided for, if so required”, Professor McGilloway said.

The report recommended a number of approaches be taken including:

- Auditing of the parenting status of adult mental health users
- Balancing the priority given to patient confidentiality with unmet family needs
- Increased collaboration between traditionally segregated adult and children’s services
- Equipping clinicians with time and resources to undertake family-focused practice.

These recommendations were identified by the PRIMERA research team as a result of their collaborative work with clinicians and HSE management to identify, implement and evaluate a family mental health intervention called Family Talk across a wide range of adult, child and primary care mental health sites.

Family Talk is the first family-focused mental health programme of its kind to be delivered in Ireland and involves a comprehensive whole-family approach designed to improve family communication/ relationships and resilience when there is parental mental illness.



PRIMERA Research Programme Manager, Dr Máiréad Furlong, said despite the challenges (including COVID-19 restrictions), the findings showed that Family Talk was significantly beneficial for two thirds of families in the research, across different mental health settings and diagnoses.

Family Talk was evaluated using a randomised controlled trial involving 86 families (139 parents and 221 children) comparing outcomes with those who received ‘usual’ services. The results showed that the families who received the intervention had:

- Fewer child behavioural and emotional problems at six-month follow up (less child depression, less conduct and hyperactivity problems, more prosocial behaviour).
- Enhanced family relationships (warmer, less disruptive and more adaptive)
- Enhanced mental health literacy (parents better understood the impact of mental illness on children, and children better understood their parent’s mental illness symptoms)
- Improvements in parents’ mental health symptoms, increased parental resilience and coping capacities.

In-depth interviews were also conducted with a sample of 45 parents, partners and children, who revealed additional benefits of:

- Reduced stigma
- Giving children and partners a voice (a space to disclose hidden concerns and burdens)
- Increased confidence and wellbeing in the service-user parent.

Importantly, the research also investigated the experiences of clinicians and managers in delivering Family Talk, carrying out in-depth interviews and focus groups with a sample of 41 clinicians and managers. Dr Furlong added: “Service providers also identified benefits for families across different diagnoses and mental health settings which included: reduced worry and stigma, a greater understanding of the impact of parental mental illness on family members, and improved family communication.” The study therefore confirmed the effectiveness of using and further developing family-focused approaches within mental health services in Ireland.

### Further Information

Ronan Cavanagh, Cavanagh Communications: (086) 317 9731.

The research and videos can be viewed at: <https://cmhcr.eu/primera-programme/>

Family paper: <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsy.2021.783189/full>

Practitioner paper: <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsy.2021.783161/full>

### PRIMERA Research

The Health Service Executive (HSE) provided funding from 2017-2022 for the PRIMERA research programme (Promoting Research and Innovation in Mental Health services for families and children) to identify/develop, implement and evaluate family-focused practice for families with parental mental illness in Ireland.

This research is the first endeavour to systematically implement family-focused practice for families with parental mental illness in Ireland. It is also one of the first randomised controlled trials and costs analyses of Family Talk in Europe.

The findings illuminate the successes but also the complexities of implementing Family Talk in a country without a ‘think family’ infrastructure, whilst highlighting a number of important lessons for the implementation of Family Talk, and other similar interventions internationally.

### About Maynooth University

[Maynooth University](#) is ranked #1 in Ireland and the only Irish university to be named in in the latest *Times Higher Education (THE) 100 Best Young University Rankings*. Tracing its origins to the foundation of the Royal College of St Patrick in 1795, Maynooth University was formally established as an autonomous university in 1997. Maynooth is Ireland’s fastest growing university with more than 14,000 students, including almost 1,800 taught postgraduate and professional students and 530 research students.

Kind regards,

Ronan Cavanagh, Communications Consultant, MPRII  
(086) 317 9731

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Maynooth: a Socio-Economic Community  
Profile: 1901-1911  
Highlights from the past (Continued)

**This section will deal with Maynooth College Servants**  
In 1911 there were fifty-two servants employed in the College. Servants had to adhere to rules as set down by the College as the “Instruction to Servants” in 1883 outlines. The practice of signing in and out at the gate lodge continued for many years. The Gate Book records that survive lists the signing in and out of clerical students only.

Instructions to Servants

By Andrew Boylan (6<sup>th</sup> February 1883)

- 1. Any Servant absenting himself without permission from Night or Morning Prayer three times in the same quarter will be dismissed one month after date of absenting himself for the third time.
- 2. Any Servant going out after Dinner without permission, is thereby supposed to give a Month’s notice and must leave at the end of the month.
- 3. Any Servant having permission to go out after dinner, write in the book at the Gate Porter’s Lodge, his own name and the name of the person giving permission.
- 4. Any Servant who has given or received a Month’s Notice, and who goes out after Dinner without permission, will be dismissed on the following day.

The rules were strictly enforced as shown in a court case reported in the *Kildare Observer* in 1882 which involved a serious altercation among certain servants. It revealed that the basis of the complaint lay in the fact that the accused was reported for returning late to the college and was dismissed as a result. The servants were organised in a hierarchical structure. They had titles such as “delf boy”, “knife boy” and “kitchen boy” ranked 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> within each category. There were other job titles such as corridor servant, pantry boy, bellman, professor’s servant and boot polisher.

It appears that the Daughters of Charity who took charge of the kitchen did not change the existing framework, as the servant wage book of 1887 contains similar descriptions to those in 1911. The Servants’ Wage Books show that there was a high turnover of staff. Given the strict rules is it not surprising that many stayed for only a few months. Thirty-

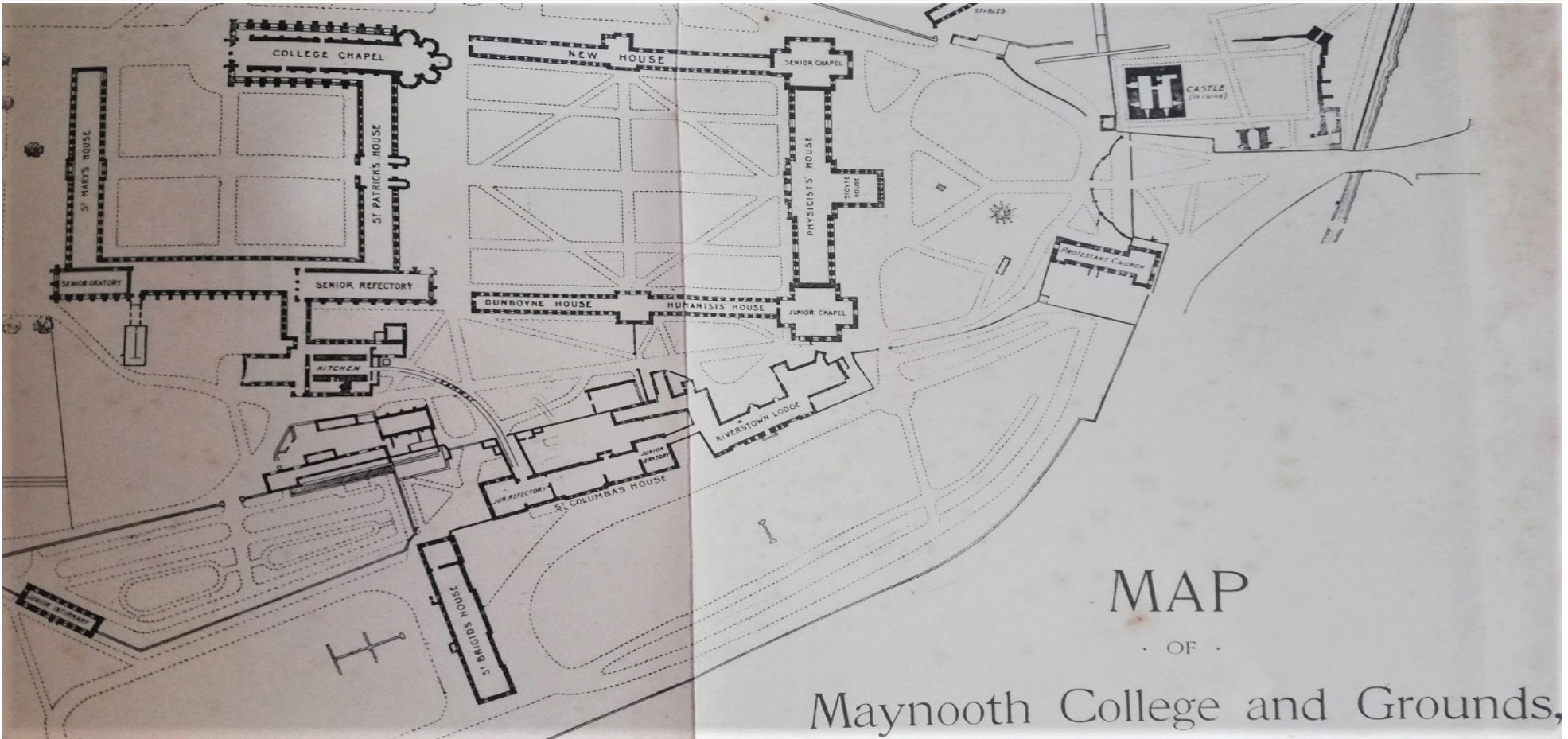
two servants had left between April 1911 and December 1911. John Woods came on 30 September, 1911 and left on 16 October on sick leave. Patrick McCormack, a scullery boy, stayed for two weeks as did James O’Brien. Michael Boyd from Sligo a 5<sup>th</sup> Kitchen Boy, left on 28 November and was reinstated on the same day. Thomas Fagan, 4th delfman began on 18 October and was stopped wages for ‘delf broken’ i.e. one joint dish 2s. 3d. and two vegetable dishes 2s. 8d.

The division between junior and senior locations is noted in a college map of 1895, such as junior and senior refectory, junior and senior infirmary. There was a tramway that ran from the kitchen to the junior refectory. Being employed in either a junior or senior area had a bearing on the payments to lower servants as can be seen in the wages of the Head of Junior Refectory and Head of Senior Refectory. On researching the rates of pay of the post of butler, there were variations depending on the household or place of work. In 1884 the butler at Carton was paid £100 per annum while the butler at Kilkenny Castle was paid £47 per annum. This compares to the butler in Maynooth College who received £28 per annum in 1911 and who lived outside the college. In contrast Margaret Caffrey, the cook in the Leinster Arms, was paid £14 per annum in 1911.

| The highest paid servants<br>Servants’ Wage Book. 1887-1895. |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| Cook   | £12.10s.0d per quarter |
| Butler   | £7.0s.0d per quarter   |
| Junior Clerk   | £6.5s.0d per quarter   |
| Steam Boiler Stoker  | £5.4s.0d per quarter   |
| Library Servant  | £5.0s.0d per quarter   |
| Professor’s Servant  | £4.10s.0d per quarter  |
| Heating & Boiler Stoker                                      | £4.10s.0d per quarter  |
| Hall Porter  | £4.10s.0d per quarter  |
| President’s Servant  | £4.5s.0d per quarter   |

Lower paid servants wages averaged around  
£2.10.0 per quarter as seen below. The  
number in brackets refers to the number of  
people in those positions.

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| 5s.0d.     | Bellman(3)  |
| £2.0s.0d.  | Domestic Servant (1)  |
| £2.10s.0d. | Boot polisher (2)<br>Professor’s Messenger (1)<br>Pantry Boy (1)<br>Spoon Boy (3)<br>Scullery Boy (2)<br>4 <sup>th</sup> Kitchen Boy<br>5 <sup>th</sup> Kitchen Boy<br>Delf Boy Jun (1)<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Knife Boy (Jun) (1)<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Knife Boy Senior Ref(2)<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Delfman(1)<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Delfman (Jun)<br>Corridor Servant(4) |
| £2.15s.0d. | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Kitchen Boy<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Delfman(Jun)(1)<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Delfman(Jun)(1)<br>Corridor Servant(4)  |
| £3.0s.0d.  | Corridor Servant (1)<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Kitchen Boy<br>Dunboyne Servant (1)   |
| £3.3s.9d.  | Head Junior Ref (1)   |
| £3.5s.0d.  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Delfman (1)   |
| £3.10s.0d. | 1 <sup>st</sup> Kitchen Boy   |
| £3.15s.0d. | Other Professor’s Servants (4)  |
| £4.0s.0d.  | Head Senior Ref (1)<br>Subhead (1)  |



Map of College Grounds 1895 showing tramway from kitchen to junior refectory. (Healy, Maynooth College: Its Centenary History)



## ***MU researchers receive almost €5m under SFI 'Frontiers for the Future' programme***

Maynooth University researchers are set to receive €4.8 million in funding from Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) under the Frontiers for the Future Programme, to tackle a range of topics such as crop resistance, water pollutants, DNA, artificial intelligence and rising sea levels.

The Frontiers for the Future Awards strand allocates funding of almost €2 million to two separate projects led by researchers in the Department of Biology, Dr Fiona Walsh and Dr Karen English, while a further seven MU projects will receive approximately €2.9 million across a range of disciplines.

Dr Walsh's research focuses on the internal workings of bacteria that cause disease in humans and are found in agriculture and the environment. The research aims to understand how antibiotic resistant genes work to prevent the antibiotics from killing bacteria. This information will then be used to help design new targets, or places in bacteria, for new drug treatment.

Research led by Dr Karen English will focus on a cell-based therapy called mesenchymal stromal cells. This cell based therapy is currently under investigation in clinical trials to treat patients suffering from acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS). This therapy works by calming the immune system and encouraging repair in distressed lungs.

The research seeks to understand why some patients in respiratory distress respond while others do not, and will focus on developing ways to enhance the cell therapy so that more patients can benefit.

The SFI Frontiers for the Future programme supports innovative and novel approaches to research, with funding available for both high-risk, high-reward research and larger scale research programmes with the potential to deliver economic and societal impact.



**Dr. Karen English**

Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, Simon Harris, TD, said: "Congratulations to all the researchers who have received funding today as part of the SFI Frontiers for the Future Programme. I am delighted to support this programme which funds individual-led research, with an emphasis on fundamental research at the cutting edge of science and engineering which will help us build a better future for Ireland through discovery, innovation, and impact.

"Not only will these grants support research in important areas for Irish society, they will also fund 216 people in varying research positions across 10 Higher Education Institutes to further develop their research careers. We are investing in talent. I would like to offer my thanks to the Higher Education Institutions for their support in delivering this programme again this year."

### **The Maynooth University 'Awards' recipients are:**

Dr [Fiona Walsh](#) – 'Targeting antimicrobial resistance plasmids to resurrect antimicrobial therapies'

Dr [Karen English](#) – 'Removing the brake; Role of PPAR on mesenchymal stromal cell therapeutic efficacy in ARDS' (in collaboration with John Laffey, at NUI Galway).

### **The Maynooth University 'Projects' recipients are:**

Dr [Niamh Cahill](#) – 'Predicting Sea Levels and Sea-Level Extremes for Ireland'

Professor [Carmel Breslin](#) and Dr [Eithne Dempsey](#) – 'The fabrication of conducting 2D layered graphene-like materials and their applications as environmental sensors and as electro-catalysts for electro-Fenton: Improved sensing and removal of emerging pollutants from water'

Professor [Damien Woods](#) – 'Active DNA tiles for programmable nucleation of robust DNA nanostructures'

Dr [Rosemary Monahan](#) and Professor [Barak Pearlmutter](#) – 'MAIVV: Modular AI Verification and Visualisation'

Dr [Emmanuelle Graciet](#) – 'Future-proofing our crops by increasing their resilience to flooding (hypoxia) and pathogens'

Dr [Elisa Fadda](#) – 'GlycoShape: A database/toolbox for structural glycomics and glycoanalytics'

Dr [John Dooley](#) – 'ORCHESTRA 6G: Orchestrating Arrays for 6G'



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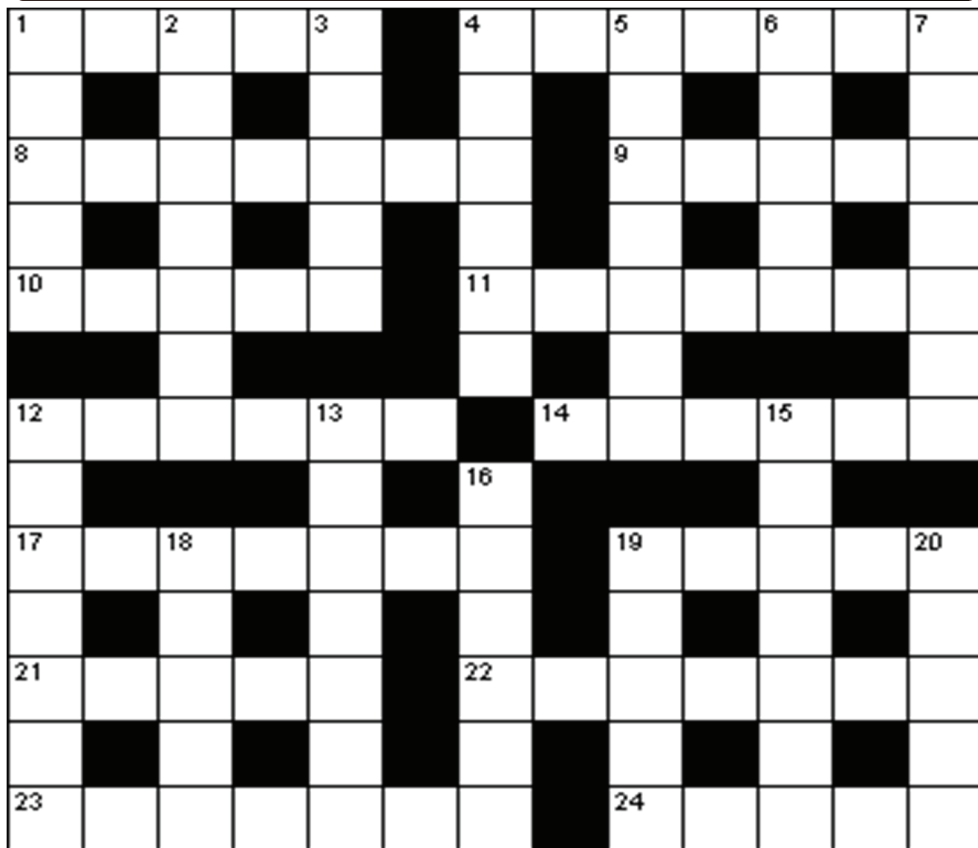
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### Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area Planning Applications received from 28/04/2022 to 29/05/2022 Information from Kildare County Council Website

| App # | Authority              | Applicant Name                   | Development Address   | App Date   |
|-------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---|------------|
| 22606 | Kildare County Council | Colm McDaid,                     | 20 Temple Wood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.        | 23/05/2022 |
| 22601 | Kildare County Council | Jonathan and Martina Rosser,     | Laraghbryan West, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 E6W3.             | 20/05/2022 |
| 22579 | Kildare County Council | Paul Reilly,                     | 1 Parklands Rise, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 E9X3.             | 18/05/2022 |
| 22585 | Kildare County Council | Joan Mc Gillycuddy               | Laragh, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.                                | 18/05/2022 |
| 22564 | Kildare County Council | Terry & Finola O'Neill           | 15 Leinster Woods South, Carton Demesne, Maynooth, Co Kildare | 16/05/2022 |
| 22566 | Kildare County Council | Philip and Ann-Marie Donohoe     | Barrogstown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.                           | 16/05/2022 |
| 22555 | Kildare County Council | Corina Cioban and Mihail Boaghi  | 62 Cluain Aoibhinn, Maynooth, Co. Kildare., W23 K0V9          | 13/05/2022 |
| 22540 | Kildare County Council | Chloe Ann Tracey and Ross Fagan, | Clonfert North, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.                        | 10/05/2022 |
| 22538 | Kildare County Council | Stephen Newman and Sharon Lee,   | 31 Parklands Square, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.                   | 10/05/2022 |
| 22526 | Kildare County Council | Pat McEvoy,                      | Baltracey, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.                             | 06/05/2022 |
| 22519 | Kildare County Council | Damian and Lorraine O'Neill,     | 112 Griffin Rath Hall, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.                 | 04/05/2022 |
| 22493 | Kildare County Council | Sarah O'Sullivan Dunphy          | Kilmacredock, Maynooth, Co. Kildare                           | 28/04/2022 |



## June 2022 Crossword - No. 513



## Solutions to Crossword No. 512



### Clues Across

1. Tempest (5)  
4. Perplexes (7)  
8. Fall back (7)  
9. Portion (5)  
10. Boasts (5)  
11. Compared (7)  
12. Pact (6)  
14. Pique (6)  
17. Certify (7)  
19. Meeting place (5)  
21. Mountain range (5)  
22. Flair (7)  
23. Passed by (7)  
24. Begin (5)



### Clues Down

1. Bush (5)  
2. Indignation (7)  
3. Encounters (5)  
4. Improved (6)  
5. Crevice (7)  
6. Jumped (5)  
7. Thin (7)  
12. Kind of syrup (7)  
13. Despots (7)  
15. Cure-all (7)  
16. Assisted (6)  
18. Play (5)  
19. Planet (5)  
20. Happening (5)

### Difficult

### Sudoku Challenge

### Super Difficult

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

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

If you have access to a printer and wish to complete the Crossword and/or Sudoku for fun you can print the single page by going to File -> Print and print the single page number (27) only.



Junior Fun Corner

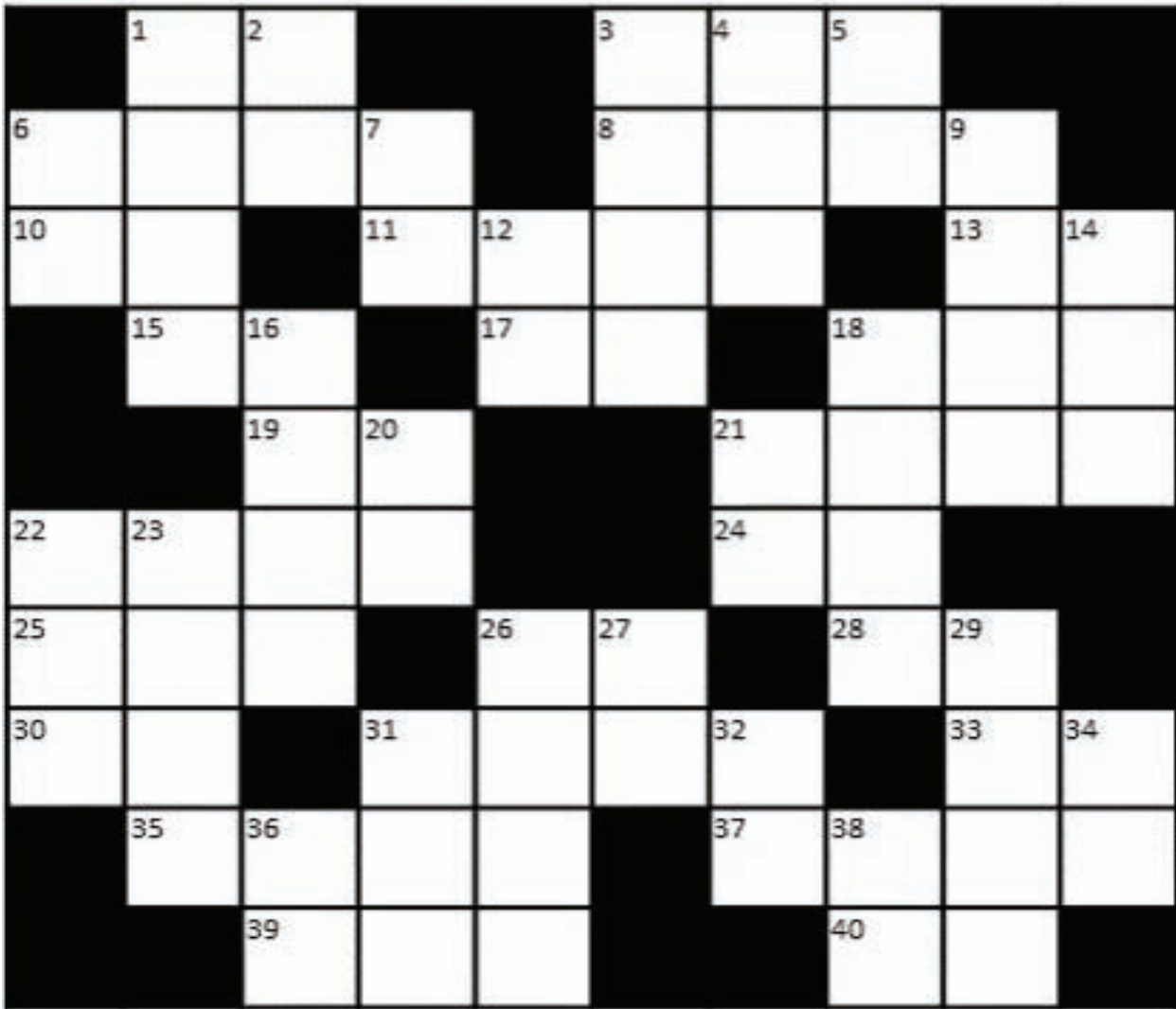


Children’s  
Colouring

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

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

CROSS NUMBERS



ACROSS

- |                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. 22 – 9        | 22. 1496 + 930  |
| 3. 159 – 13      | 24. 124 – 46    |
| 6. 465 + 750     | 25. 1290 – 300  |
| 8. 2329 + 3294   | 26. 98 – 44     |
| 10. 25 – 10      | 28. 11 + 5      |
| 11. 18833 – 9266 | 30. 27 + 40     |
| 13. 20 – 7       | 31. 9284 – 2589 |
| 15. 15 + 16      | 33. 44 – 10     |
| 17. 120 – 24     | 35. 3292 – 768  |
| 18. 952 – 344    | 37. 9 + 1616    |
| 19. 99 – 40      | 39. 858 – 356   |
| 21. 445 + 8975   | 40. 1 + 10      |

DOWN

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. 710 + 543     | 20. 27 + 69      |
| 2. 46 – 15       | 21. 183 – 86     |
| 3. 297 + 1269    | 22. 338 – 42     |
| 4. 235 + 232     | 23. 280 + 4692   |
| 5. 83 – 21       | 26. 10786 – 5144 |
| 6. 15 – 4        | 27. 27 + 22      |
| 7. 29 + 30       | 29. 12200 – 5879 |
| 9. 5457 – 2355   | 31. 687 – 67     |
| 12. 24 + 35      | 32. 62 – 11      |
| 14. 560 – 180    | 34. 21 + 24      |
| 16. 381 + 1139   | 36. 61 – 6       |
| 18. 12346 + 5865 | 38. 17 + 44      |



### Chicken tikka burgers

This Indian dish is traditionally cooked in a clay oven, but works on the barbecue too - try with homemade tamarind chutney and herb salad.

#### Ingredients

6 small chicken breasts  
6 burger buns (we used ciabatta)

#### For the marinade

2 tbsp tomato purée  
200g pot Greek yogurt  
thumb-sized piece ginger, very finely grated  
4 garlic cloves, very finely grated or crushed  
2 tbsp garam masala  
½ tsp ground cinnamon  
½ tsp ground cayenne pepper  
juice 1 lemon, plus wedges to serve

#### For the chutney

2 tomatoes, chopped  
1 small red onion, chopped  
1 green chilli, chopped  
1 tsp tamarind pulp  
2 tbsp tomato ketchup

#### For the salad

½ cucumber, sliced  
1 Little Gem lettuce, shredded  
small bunch mint, leaves picked  
1 small red onion, halved and finely sliced



#### Method

**STEP 1** - Mix the marinade ingredients in a bowl. Open out each chicken breast and flatten slightly. Place the chicken in the marinade for at least 2-3 hrs. Meanwhile, mix the chutney ingredients together and set aside. (It will keep in the fridge overnight.)

**STEP 2** - Heat the BBQ until the coals are ashen, then griddle the chicken for 4-5 mins on each side until cooked through. Toss the salad ingredients and place the chicken in the buns with the salad and spoonfuls of chutney. Serve with lemon wedges.

### Turmeric pilau with golden onions

#### Ingredients

400g basmati rice  
4 tbsp olive oil  
1 ½ tsp cumin seed  
1 tsp black mustard seeds  
2 large onions, halved and sliced  
just under 1 tsp turmeric  
2 red or green chillies, deseeded and thinly sliced



#### Method

**STEP 1** - Thoroughly rinse the rice until the water looks completely clear. Drain, then tip into a large pan of salted water. Bring to the boil and cook for 6 mins until just tender, but check after 5 mins. Drain well, cool and chill.

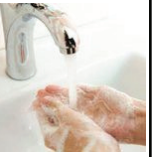
**STEP 2** - Heat the oil in a large wok and fry the spices until they start to pop. Add the onions, then cook, stirring frequently, until the onions are tender and golden. Stir in the turmeric and chilli, and cook for 1-2 mins more. Cool.

**STEP 3 - TO BARBECUE:** Heat the wok over the coals and, when the onions are sizzling, add the rice and cook, turning until heated through. If the embers are starting to die down a bit, cover the wok with a lid or foil to keep in the heat.

Source: <https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/>

### TOP BBQ HEALTH TIPS

**Health Tip 1** - Now even more important as a result of Covid, wash your hands thoroughly before preparing food, after touching raw meat and before serving and eating.



**Health Tip 2** - Unless the cooking instructions say otherwise, always ensure that frozen food is defrosted before BBQ'ing so that it cooks evenly.

**Health Tip 3** - Always keep raw and cooked meats separate and keep uncooked meat, fish and vegetables separate from each other when preparing.

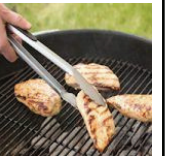


**Health Tip 4** - Ensure that you have sufficient preparation and serving areas and keep these two apart. If using separate tables, ensure that these are kept well away from the grill.



**Health Tip 5** - In hot weather, throw away BBQ'ed food left out for more than an hour.

**Health Tip 6** - BBQ'ed food may look well-cooked when it's not. Burgers, sausages and chicken should ideally be checked with a meat thermometer or cut open and visually checked. If necessary, continue grilling until cooked through.



**Health Tip 7** - Never part cook on a BBQ and finish off later. However, you can par-boil poultry in the oven and then immediately finish off on the Barbi for added flavour.

### TOP BBQ SAFETY TIPS

**Safety Tip 1** - Keep children, animals and the elderly well away from the BBQ.



**Safety Tip 2** - Tip To light charcoal, always use proper BBQ lighter cube or fuel, ideally odourless, alternatively newspaper knots. **Never, ever** use petrol or other highly inflammable liquids.

**Safety Tip 3** - If using gas, ensure that the grill lights immediately. If it fails to light at second attempt, turn off gas immediately leave for a few minutes then turn on and retry.



**Safety Tip 4** - Position BBQ's on level ground, well away from fences, hedges, trees, any over-hanging foliage or indeed anything that could catch fire!

**Safety Tip 5** - Make sure that all knives and grill utensils are securely stored when not in use and regularly wipe down all utensils and prep areas with a disinfected disposable cloth.



**Safety Tip 6** - It may be obvious, but remember that BBQ's can be dangerous, the grill is very hot and can cause nasty burns, or even serious fires if knocked over.

**Safety Tip 7** - If using charcoal have a fire-blanket or water spray handy, if using gas turn-off and rely on the fire-blanket.



**Safety Tip 8** - Ensure charcoal is cold and/or gas securely turned off or disconnected before retiring for the night.

**Safety Tip 9** - Finally, however tempting it may be please don't drink alcohol whilst lighting or grilling food on the Barbi!



Source: [www.nationalbbqweek.co.uk](http://www.nationalbbqweek.co.uk)



# Gardening tips for June

Check your June weather forecast.

As June is in the middle of the year it is an important month in the garden. It is the end of spring and the beginning of summer. The longest day of the year is 21st June with plants receiving progressively more hours of sunlight while temperatures are also increasing.

New plants in the vegetable garden and bedding or container plants need to do most of their growing in June while light levels are high and temperature constraints lowest. Fertiliser will help plants to establish too. New plants will need careful watering. On the longest day in June, there will be around 16.14 hours of daylight. Ireland gets over 150 hours of sunshine.

## June temperatures

Plant growth, it is worth bearing in mind that tender plants such as sweetcorn and tomatoes do not grow well below 12 °C



## Rainfall in June

June has more rainfall than May but less than July and August. In summer, most rain evaporates before it reaches plants. The amount of water that will soak up during a downpour depends on how dry the soil is. If it is already wet, the soil will be able to soak up more water. Plants use about 25 mm of water every week or so, therefore in June, the soil water reserves begin to reduce.

1. **Hoe regularly to control weeds**, extra light and warmth encourage the garden to burst into life. However, this also means that weeds come up everywhere. You can keep on top of them by shallow hoeing regularly in dry conditions to kill most weed seedlings. For maximum effectiveness, choose a dry day with a light wind, so seedlings dry out on the surface of the soil rather than re-rooting into moist soil. Just a little bit of hoeing will help keep things under control.

2. **Use water wisely** it is important to water regularly during June, especially when it comes to pots and other containers. Happily, these will make good use of wastewater from the kitchen. It is worth using two-thirds of the water in water butts in June. If there are some thundery downpours later in summer it will top them up nicely, perhaps enough to see you through until the autumn rains. Established trees and shrubs do not generally need watering, whereas newly sown or newly planted areas should be high priority.



3. **Plant out and pot up** Planting out and potting up as early as possible in June makes the best use of light and warmth. ‘Puddling in’ is a good way to set out plants in hot and dry weather. Make a hole that is the right size for the plant’s root ball and fill it with water several times before placing the plant in the hole and firming the soil around it. Finally, water again and ideally apply some mulch around the plant to prevent weeds. Plants will grow quickly as they are sitting in a ball of wet soil.

## 4. Position summer hanging baskets and containers outside

It is now safe to move pots and other containers outside as there is little or no danger from frosts. Make sure hanging baskets don’t dry out, keeping them moist but not too soggy, a mugful of water per day can keep hanging baskets healthy and avoid wasting water. Deadhead flowers regularly to prevent the plants going to seed, rather than continuing to flower.



## 5. Mow lawns at least once a week

June is the time to mow once a week, ideally letting cuttings fall back into the sward to feed the lawn. This also avoids the chore of collecting and composting cuttings. It is also the first time of the year to cut long grass with bulbs in. Instead of watering lawns in dry weather, mow less closely and less frequently. Don’t worry if there are any dead patches as they will regrow.

*Gardening requires lots of water -- most of it in the form of perspiration.*

# BARBECUE BURGERS

## INGREDIENTS

### SAUCE

- 1 cup ketchup
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1/4 cup molasses
- 2 teaspoons prepared mustard
- 1-1/2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon liquid smoke
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper



### BURGER

- 1 large egg, lightly beaten
- 1/3 cup quick-cooking oats
- 1/4 teaspoon onion salt
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1-1/2 pounds ground beef
- 6 hamburger buns, split
- Toppings of your choice



## METHOD

In a small saucepan, combine the first 10 ingredients. Bring to a boil. Remove from the heat. Set aside 1 cup barbecue sauce to serve with burgers.

In a large bowl, combine the egg, oats, 1/4 cup of the remaining barbecue sauce, onion salt, garlic salt, pepper and salt. Crumble beef over mixture and mix well. Shape into 6 patties.

Grill, covered, over medium heat until a thermometer reads 160°, 6-8 minutes on each side, basting with 1/2 cup barbecue sauce during the last 5 minutes. Serve on buns with toppings of your choice and reserved barbecue sauce.

# FROZEN MARGARITA MOUSSE

## INGREDIENTS

- 1 can (14 ounces) sweetened condensed milk
- 1/2 cup ready-to-drink margarita mix
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1-1/2 teaspoons grated lime zest
- 1 tablespoon lime juice
- 5 drops green food coloring, optional
- 1 carton (8 ounces) frozen whipped topping, thawed
- Pretzel topping:
  - 1/3 cup finely crushed pretzels
  - 4 teaspoons butter, melted
  - 1 tablespoon sugar



## METHOD

Lime slices Combine first five ingredients; mix well. If desired, add green food coloring; fold in thawed whipped topping.

For pretzel topping, combine pretzels, butter and sugar. Spoon lime mixture into 6 glasses; top each with about 1 tablespoon pretzel topping. Freeze until firm, 4-6 hours. Serve frozen with lime slices.



## Nutrition Facts

3/4 cup: 490 calories, 17g fat (13g saturated fat), 37mg cholesterol, 207mg sodium, 68g carbohydrate (63g sugars, 0 fiber), 8g protein.





## FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

### Classic Oscar Winners



#### 1. Marlon Brando (*On the Waterfront* (1954), dir. Elia Kazan)

*On the Waterfront* is Elia Kazan's explosive working-class morality play about a dock worker who stands up to union-boss corruption. Brando is both hypnotic and heartbreakingly human. You needn't look any further than the film's most iconic and most quoted scene, Brando's "I coulda been a contender" speech in the back of a car with his brother Charley (Rod Steiger). Marlon Brando's blistering, anguished performance feels ground-breaking and still gives you goosebumps today.



#### 2. James Cagney (*Yankee Doodle Dandy* (1942), dir. Michael Curtiz)

James Cagney was famed for his tough guy roles, but the American actor had roots in song and dance, and it was his 1942 performance in *Yankee Doodle Dandy* that unleashed his many talents. He was tailor made for his role in this patriotic musical about legendary entertainer George M. Cohan. It allowed Cagney to sing, tap-dance, and charm his way across the composer's life story. The role won Cagney his only Oscar and was often cited as the star's favourite film. It's easy to see why: a more energetic and enjoyable Best Actor performance would be hard to imagine.

#### 3. Sean Penn (*Milk* (2008), dir. Gus Van Sant)

Sometimes, an actor and a role are in perfect harmony. In *Milk* Sean Penn plays the San Francisco gay rights activist Harvey Milk who was assassinated in 1978 while fighting for equal rights. The passionate, extroverted character triggered something deep inside Penn; his Milk is occasionally awkward, incredibly warm, and fearlessly energetic. It's a role worlds apart from Penn's other work in *Mystic River* and *Dead Man Walking*, but proves the actor's skill at delivering a beautifully intricate performance in the process. Sean Penn well-deserved his Best Actor Oscar win in 2008.



#### 4. Anthony Hopkins (*The Silence of the Lambs* (1991), dir. Jonathan Demme)

Every fictional serial killer/psycho after *Silence of the Lambs* practically owes some debt to Hopkins' radical, polite, charming but chilling interpretation of Hannibal Lector. Hopkins' Hannibal appears in surprisingly few scenes, but every minute of his screen time is imprinted on

viewers' minds. There's not one unmemorable line reading or one physical movement wasted. Demme often shoots Hopkins straight on, making for an unusually intimate and unnerving performance in which the actor seems to stare into the viewers' eyes through the screen. In short, Hopkins is spellbindingly magnetic in his most famous and iconic Oscar-winning role in cinema history.

#### 5. Philip Seymour Hoffman (*Capote* (2005), dir. Bennett Miller)

There were two films made about Truman Capote in the space of a year in 2005. English actor Toby Jones took on the role in *Infamous* while the late Philip Seymour Hoffman portrayed the eccentric, mercurial writer in *Capote*. Hoffman looked and sounded nothing like Truman Capote. However, both Capote and Hoffman shared a similar hunger for recognition. For Capote, it was *In Cold Blood*, the non-fiction novel, that changed American literature and catapulted the writer to acclaim. In Seymour Hoffman's case, it was his role as Truman, a conflicted outsider, that earned him worldwide respect and praise. The actor slimmed down and heightened his voice for the part of Truman Capote, but he never needed to aim for an exact impersonation. Ambition, obsession, and vulnerable humanity in equal parts were sufficient, and Hoffman etched those turbulent emotions in every frame. His stunning take on Capote garnered Philip Seymour Hoffman many awards, including the coveted prize of an Oscar.



#### 6. Jack Nicholson (*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (1975), dir. Milos Forman)

Prior to *Cuckoo's Nest*, Jack Nicholson had been nominated four times for an Oscar in six years, without a win. Nicholson's portrayal of a rebellious mental hospital patient is a phenomenal combination of sly intelligence, bravado and manic energy. This is best highlighted during the scene where, thwarted in his attempt to watch a sporting event on TV, Nicholson's character ad libs a commentary in front of a blank set. Nicholson's anarchic performance would be subsequently copied, and amped up to extreme proportions, by other actors and by the star himself. Here, however, his anti-authoritarian antics perfectly light up one of cinema's great masterpieces.

#### 7. Daniel Day-Lewis (*My Left Foot* (1990), dir. Jim Sheridan)

Daniel Day-Lewis has appeared in so many Irish films over the years that he has attained the status of honorary Irish man. In fact, the actor holds both British and Irish citizenship and has spent much of his time in Ireland. You would be hard pressed to single out one of Day-Lewis' many excellent performances as the best one. However, as cerebral palsy-afflicted writer Christy Brown, Day-Lewis completely disappeared into a role that required him to be exceptionally vulnerable and impossibly endearing - all without the use of his limbs, save that left foot. The method actor shares the screen with Brenda Fricker (who won an Oscar for her performance as Christy's mother), and Fiona

Shaw as his doctor. Daniel Day-Lewis' equally feral and fragile delivery keeps Jim Sheridan's film from slipping into overt sentimentality.

#### 8. Gregory Peck (*To Kill a Mockingbird* (1962), dir. Robert Mulligan)

The film version of *To Kill a Mockingbird* is based on Harper Lee's semi-autobiographical, Pulitzer Prize-winning classic novel. Atticus Finch may very well be the greatest hero ever depicted on screen. Gregory Peck, impressively tall and broad-shouldered in cream suits and glasses, effortlessly embodied Atticus' quiet dignity, nobility and integrity defending a black man framed for rape in America's Depression-era South. As a man who quietly teaches his children about tolerance and the ugliness of bigotry and ignorance, has there ever been a better marriage of character and actor? The film's themes are still acutely relevant today and Peck's exceptional performance as the lawyer Atticus earned him an Academy Award in 1963.



#### 9. Alec Guinness (*The Bridge on the River Kwai* (1957), dir. David Lean)

David Lean's 1950s *Bridge on the River Kwai* is a wartime classic film with an all-star cast including Alec Guinness, William Holden and Jack Hawkins. A contingent of British POWs arrive at a Japanese prison camp in Thailand led by Colonel Nicholson (Guinness). They are set the task of the construction of a railway bridge over the River Kwai by their Japanese captors. Alec Guinness plays Nicholson as a proud and 'by the rule book' English officer who is the soul of David Lean's epic film. The unravelling of Nicholson's mental state results in him twisting his priorities so that he supervises the construction of a strategic bridge that will serve his enemies. In his deluded mind, it will stand forever as a monument to the British fighting spirit. Alec Guinness's descent into misguided collaboration and madness is something to behold and rightly earned him the golden statue for Best Actor at the 1958 Academy Awards.

### May Movie Trivia Quiz Answers

- 1) Rita Moreno 2) William Hurt 3) Parasite
- 4) Colin Farrell 5) Will Smith 6) Alec Guinness
- 7) Reservoir Dogs 8) Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon
- 9) Silver Linings Playbook 10) Moonraker 11) Gladiator
- 12) La La Land 13) Pulp Fiction 14) The Sound of Music
- 15) Ian McKellen 16) Zither 17) On the Waterfront
- 18) Schindler's List 19) Taxi Driver 20) Horse
- 21) Clint Eastwood 22) The Jazz Singer 23) Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs 24) 9 25) La La Land 26) Himself
- 27) Piano 28) Mission Impossible 29) Liam Neeson
- 30) Hugh Grant 31) Javier Bardem 32) The Revenant
- 33) Life is Beautiful 34) Silence of the Lambs
- 35) Freddie Mercury 36) Meryl Streep 37) Alien.
- 38) Psycho 39) Big 40) Emma Thompson