



# Maynooth Newsletter

## Recording the Social Footprint of Maynooth since the 1970s



### Local News - October 2022 - Issue No. 517- 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.



### William Saults (1956-2022)

#### A tribute to a dedicated community activist and gentleman

It was with great sadness that we learned of the recent passing of Willie Saults, a treasured member of our community. Willie was a native of Parson's Street known to all in the old and developing town of Maynooth. Willie touched the lives of so many people in the various activities, roles, and interests which he undertook. He was held in great respect and esteem.



Willie's involvement with Maynooth Town Football Club, Maynooth Community Employment Scheme, the Labour Party and his artistic pursuits and personal interests represents the range and impact of the man in Maynooth Community life.

He was a Trustee of Maynooth Town Football Club. The Club's tribute says it all.

*"It is with deep sadness we learn of the death of Willie Saults, our esteemed club Trustee, Friend and Colleague. Willie was passionate about club and community. A former player of some class in his day, he gave more than he took out, as a dedicated volunteer for the club over many years, a community activist and passionate supporter of all things Maynooth.*

*As a Trustee along with others he provided his personal guarantee as security for borrowings, as required for our investment programme over the period of 15 years in facilities at Rathcoffey Road.*

*He, like the other Trustees was happily released from these chains of bank bondage this year with the debt repaid but committed as Trustee for new phase of funding required for our new All-Weather Project. He would have been so pleased to see the fantastic end product just completed this week, and maybe he did get sight of the finish line before leaving us.*

*Willie understood the social value MTFC could bring to the community. As Trustee he was hugely supportive of our efforts to develop and grow the club over the years for the benefit of young people's participation in sport. Willie was a pleasure to know, a quiet champion gone.*

*To Margaret and John, extended family and friends we offer our sincere condolences Ar dheis De go raibh anam".*

One person's memory of Willie's soccer prowess described him as being able to "fly through the air" on the pitch, an apt image of the man that he was.

Willie was a founding Director of Maynooth Community Employment Scheme and was Treasurer from 2001 to 2010. He remained a member up until recent years. He was a regular attender at the monthly meetings and actively took part in helping to organise the Maynooth Town Festivals and the St. Patrick's Day Parades. He took part in community quizzes and other community activities over the years. He was always ready to help, contributed ideas and advised.

Carrying on in his grandfather William's footsteps, Willie had a great sense of social justice which he pursued through his long-standing membership of the Labour Party. As a tribute from Maynooth Labour Councillor, Angela Feeney stated *"It is with great sadness that we heard of the passing of our dear friend and Labour comrade Willie Saults.*

*Willie gave a lifetime of devoted duty and passion to the Labour Party and to all Labour causes. He served as the Maynooth Branch Chair for decades and was campaign manager for Emmet, John and myself. Willie was meticulous in his attention to detail and was a font of knowledge on politics. His grandfather, also William Saults, was a Labour Councillor in the 1920s of which Willie was rightly, very proud.*

*Above all, Willie was an absolute gentleman, so kind and caring, with a fantastic sense of humour. We all have very fond memories of our time at Party Conferences over the years which we treasure. He is a sad loss to us all. We extend our sincere sympathy to Margaret, his wife and all Willie's family at this sad time of loss."*

What might not be so well known is that Willie had an artistic side. He wrote short stories and poetry. He was a diarist, a quality he inherited from his father John, who also kept diaries which Willie treasured. Willie was a gifted artist and was a whiz at cryptic crosswords. He was one of those rare individuals who combined both an analytical and creative mind.

Willie was interested in people, a listener, oft times an advisor and never sought the limelight. He was sociable, quick thinking and was noted for his witty refrain. His intelligence was instantly recognisable. This coupled with his non-judgemental and kind-hearted qualities endeared him to and earned the respect of all knew him. He will be greatly missed.

Our condolences to his wife Margaret, brother John and the extended family.  
Suaaimhneas Siorai



**Maynooth Town A.F.C. at the Isle of Man 88 Soccer International**

**Back Row - Left to Right: Brian McCall, Sam Feeney, Lenny Murphy, Paki Doohan, Ollie Durack & Noel Dempsey.**

**Front Row - Left to Right: Terry Moore, Willie Saults, Phillip Doyle, Dessie Farrell & Paul Gibney.**





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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  
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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

In October the daylight hours have shortened and at the end of the month we change to winter time when the clocks go back an hour. There is also an autumnal feeling in the air as we experience seasonal reduction in temperatures. With the significant increases in electricity and gas prices this year I am sure we would all welcome a mild winter. While in the 2023 budget there are a number of additional supports that people will receive that are intended to assist with these costs, I have no doubt that there will still be people who will struggle to fund these unexpected higher costs. If you find yourself struggling to pay all your bills you should reach out and seek help as soon as you have concerns as waiting could only mean the problem will build up. Remember no matter what issue affects us there is always someone that we can talk to and help us to work our way out of the problem. In my opinion no one should be too proud to seek advice and help when we need it.

Being October, our student population has returned for the new academic year and aside from a busy university campus there is an obvious increase in both vehicular and pedestrian traffic in the town. Of course, new and returning students are welcome to the town and we wish everyone the best of luck with their studies. For students staying in Maynooth either on campus or in rented houses and living independently perhaps for the first time this is the chance to enjoy this new freedom, but it is important to remember that Maynooth is a permanent home to many people who are not students.

Local social media pages over August and September had many appeals from students desperately seeking local places to rent and a number of people were offering apartments and rooms to let. To me it seems more sensible for a more formalised arrangement so that students would be better protected. The need for appropriate fairly priced student accommodation is an ongoing annual issue and with student numbers increasing in Maynooth University, it is important that it is addressed. Since the beginning of September anyone moving around Maynooth particularly living on the approach roads such as the Straffan Road and the Moyglare Roads are finding that they are in long traffic queues much earlier than before. While there is no single cause for such volumes of traffic but increased numbers of university students travelling to Maynooth by car as well as construction traffic to major development sites in the area as well as earlier local runs to schools and people heading out of Maynooth to work are contributing causes. It would be very useful for Kildare County Council to do an updated traffic count and movement study in Maynooth. Perhaps there could be solutions put in place if we had a better understanding of the issue.

In September, many people in Maynooth were saddened to hear of the untimely passing of Willie Saults. Having worked with Willie for many years as a volunteer in several community organisations including Maynooth Community Employment Project, I knew Willie very well. A proud Maynooth man he cared so much for the town and his pragmatic approach to achieving things meant that he was a pleasure to work with and be around. The tribute to Willie on the front page is our way of thanking him for all his work. Our sincere sympathy to his wife Margaret and family and his brother John and his family and to Willie's many friends.

**Paul Croghan**  
**Editor**

**Copy date for the November edition of the Maynooth Newsletter will be 5pm on Tuesday 25th October 2022**



# MAYNOOTH DRESSES

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



**Our new 2023 Communion Dresses are now in stock**  
**Communion Dress Clearance from €99**



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**



## *Memories of Old Maynooth - Photos from the Archive*



Visit to our archives to see our collection of Maynooth photos and past issues of Maynooth Newsletter on [www.maynoothcep.com](http://www.maynoothcep.com)





**Gold Medal Winners**  
 2016  
 2017  
 2018  
 2019  
 2021

At the time of writing we are patiently waiting on the results of the Tidy Towns Competition 2022. They will be announced on the 28th October at an event in the RDS Dublin, if we have won a prize we will receive 4 invitations to attend. Fingers crossed for a good result, we hope to retain our Gold Medal status and maybe gain a few more points in the 8 categories.

Our Volunteers have been very busy during the month of September. We joined thousands of Volunteers across Ireland for the Clean Coasts event which happened on the 17th. We don't have a coast in Kildare but we do have the wonderful Royal Canal. We collected 15 bags of rubbish mostly beer cans between the harbour and Pikes Bridge, which can be detrimental to the wildlife. Next time we hope to secure a boat.

We have also been working with Brian from Green Pine Consultants and ecologist Fiona McGowan on Sustainability, doing more with less and Biodiversity in Maynooth. We did a walkabout of the town with Brian and we have had several zoom meetings discussing how to raise awareness by having bat walks, connect with Bird Watch Ireland, Wild Kildare etc.

We have been working with Gavin at Maynooth Train Station and other stakeholders in order to start painting a Mural on the walls at the new carpark. Work is in the very early stages yet but should really enhance that area for locals and visitors.

For Heritage Week we did a guided tour of Maynooth, stopping off at 16 historical locations. We hope to make this an annual event. Thanks to volunteers Pat Watson and Vincent Mulready who were our guides on the day.

We have suspended organised meet ups for Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings until 2023. Saturday morning clean ups will continue until further notice.



Again we would like to thank all our volunteers for all their hard work preparing the town for the judges visit last August.

If you would like to volunteer please contact us on WhatsApp on our Facebook page Maynooth Tidy Towns Association

*Mary Molloy - PRO - Maynooth Tidy Towns Association*



# Online Office

## Here to help with

- \* Medical Cards
- \* Health Issues
- \* Social Welfare
- \* Education
- \* Services for Senior Citizens
- \* Housing Support and Grants (Windows/ Doors, Insulation, Roofing, Electrical)
- \* Housing Adaptations and Planning (Level Access Showers, Extensions, Rebuilding Ireland Housing Loan)
- \* 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



### Cllr Feeney calls for measures to reduce speeding on Newtown Road

At the September Council MD meeting, Cllr Feeney asked that the Council install a ramp on the Newtown Road, Maynooth. Cllr Feeney stated that this Rathcoffey approach road to Maynooth is very busy and known for speeding as it is a straight road with lots of housing estates along that road from Castle Dawson, Cluain Aoibhinn, Newtown Road to Bond Bridge. Many residents have been in touch with Cllr Feeney asking for something to be done to address the issue of speeding.

Cllr Feeney suggested that a tabletop ramp be installed on the section near Cluain Aoibhinn to help reduce speeding on this section of road but she is happy for the Council to assess where best to position the ramp.

The Council said that this is a regional road and as such will be assessed based on the current traffic management policy for the Council. Initially, the Council agreed to carry out a speed survey to determine the appropriate traffic calming measures to be considered.

### Flood alleviation measures at Mullen Park

Cllr Feeney asked the Council to confirm if all the flood alleviation measures for Mullen Park, Maynooth have been put in place. Cllr Feeney said that Mullen Park adjoins many other well-established estates in the town such as Carton Court, Maynooth Park and Greenfield Drive. She added that many of the residents from these estates, as well as the new residents in Mullen Park itself, are aware that the area was known for flooding and wanted reassurance from the Council and the developer that all the flood alleviation measures have been put in place as per the condition of the planning consent.

The Council replied stating that as a condition of their planning consent the developers at Mullen Park are required to install surface water drainage and attenuation systems with sufficient provision to cater for a 1 in 100-year storm event along with a 20% provision for climate change. The systems are designed to ensure ground infiltration and to ensure that any discharge to the Meadowbrook Stream is kept to a minimum.

The Council also added that the developer has confirmed that such a system has been installed and that flooding at the subject site is no longer occurring. Cllr Feeney welcomed the fact that the Council also added that it would continue to work with the developer to ensure the conditions of their planning consent are adhered to and that satisfactory evidence of same is recorded.

### Message of thanks to Council Staff supporting Displaced Ukrainians

Cllr Feeney and Cllr Hamilton requested that a message of thanks be communicated to all the relevant staff members involved from the Council's Housing and Community Departments, for above and beyond support to the Ukrainian families hosted at Maynooth University during June, July and August. Cllr Feeney has been involved in the Maynooth University Ukrainian Action Forum and saw first hand the great work being done by all the Council staff. All Council members at the meeting agreed to this request.

### Yellow Box at Straffan Crescent

Cllr Feeney welcomes the fact that the yellow box she asked to be installed at Straffan Crescent is now in place.

### Public Consultation now open for New Fire Station for Maynooth

Kildare County Council has issued notice of a proposed development at this site at **Mullen Park / Griffin Rath Road, off Straffan Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare**

The proposed development will include:

- a single storey fire station building with three bays
- a training tower
- signage
- landscaping
- parking
- an entrance off the Griffin Rath Road
- site works associated with formation of new connections to existing public foul and surface water drainage, and existing utilities.

The proposal has undergone a preliminary examination under the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU, (and the relevant provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended) and the Planning Authority has concluded that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development and that an Environmental Impact Assessment is not required.

Where any person considers that the proposed development would be likely to have significant effects on the environment, he or she may, at any time on or before 16th October 2022, apply in accordance with the provisions of article 120 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, to An Bord Pleanála for a screening determination as to whether the development would be likely to have such effects.

The proposed development has undergone Appropriate Assessment Screening under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EC) and the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended and the Planning Authority has determined that a Natura Impact Statement is not required in this instance.

Plans and particulars of the proposed development (Part 8 Ref No P82022.13) will be available on the Kildare County Council Consultation Portal from 19th September 2022 to 18th October 2022 at <https://consult.kildarecoco.ie/en/consultation/part-8-proposed-new-fire-station-maynooth-planning-reference-p8202213> Submissions can be made via this portal until 4:00pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022.

Plans and particulars will also be available for inspection or for purchase for a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, during normal office hours (Monday to Friday, 9.00am – 4.00pm), excluding Bank Holidays and Public Holidays, and subject to managed access arrangements due to Covid-19 control measures, for a period of 4 weeks from 19th September 2022 to 18th October 2022, at: Kildare County Council, Planning Department (Public Counter), Level 1, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas Co Kildare, W91X77F.

To facilitate public access, a copy of the plans and particulars will be available for **viewing only** in the Kildare County Council Maynooth Municipal District Office, Leinster Street, Maynooth, from 19th September 2022 to 18th October 2022.

Details of this Part 8 will also be available to view on Kildare County Council's website at <https://kildarecoco.ie/AllServices/Planning/Part8Schemes/roadsandtransportation/index.html>

Submissions or observations in relation to the proposed development, dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the development would be situated, may be made in writing on or before **4.00pm on 2nd November 2022 to:**

**Chief Fire Officer, Newbridge Fire Station, Newbridge Industrial Estate, Newbridge, Co. Kildare. W12 PW70**

Submissions should be clearly marked **“Maynooth Fire Station - Planning Submission - Planning Reference No. P82022.13”**.

### Cllr Feeney asks for update on Community Centre for Maynooth

Cllr Feeney submitted a motion back in January 2021 suggesting that the Council consider the vacated site fire brigade council site for a much needed and long overdue community centre for Maynooth. Cllr Feeney stated that the site is in the town centre and close to the harbour field and the playground; it is an ideal location for a community centre.

Now that the planned new fire station is at public consultation stage (see above), Cllr Feeney at the recent Council meeting, asked for an update on the development of the Community Centre for Maynooth at the vacated fire brigade council site. Cllr Feeney was very pleased with the response from the Council when it confirmed that this area will be included in the Town Renewal Masterplan for Maynooth.

### Willie Saults R.I.P.

It was with great sadness that we heard of the passing of our dear friend and Labour comrade Willie Saults. A selfless community man in every sense of the word, Willie was a man of great integrity. He gave a lifetime of devoted duty and passion to the Labour Party and to all Labour causes. He served as the Maynooth Branch Chair for decades and was campaign manager for Emmet, John and Angela. Willie was meticulous in his attention to detail and was a font of knowledge on all things especially politics.

His grandfather, also William Saults, was a Labour Councillor in the 1920's of which Willie was rightly, very proud. Above all, Willie was an absolute gentleman, so kind and caring, with a fantastic sense of humour. We all have very fond memories of our time at Party Conferences over the years which we treasure. He is a sad loss to us all. We extend our sincere sympathy to Margaret, his wife and all Willie's family at this sad time of loss. Codladh sámh Willie.



## October Events at Maynooth Community Library

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



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



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

### Children's Events

#### Secret Saturday Cinema

**Date:** Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October

**Time :** 2:30pm - 4:00pm

**Venue :** Maynooth Community Library

Come to our animated children's film screening this Saturday afternoon at 2:30pm! Every film will be a surprise on the day, but all will be family friendly. Booking required, all children must be accompanied by an adults <https://buytickets.at/maynoothlibrary/768071>.

#### Baby and Toddler Stay & Play Group

**Date:** Every Thursday

**Time :** 10:00-11:00am

**Venue:** Maynooth Community Library

If you have a young baby or toddler and would like to meet other parents in the area, come to our new stay and play group every Thursday morning at 10am. Bring a coffee and chat to other parents while your babies play with the toys and books provided. No need to book, just drop in!

#### Children's Illustrations Collage Craft Pack

**Available From Friday October 14th**

**Venue :** Maynooth Community Library

**Age:** 6+ years

Some books are read so often and so loved that the library 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 pick up our special collage making craft pack where they can give the illustrations and pictures of these well-loved books a new home. All you need is parental supervision, some scissors and a glue-stick to do this popular craft at home. We gave out a good amount over the summer but we still have some to pick up for those rainy days and school holidays. They now include a mixture of illustrations from fiction and colourful images from non-fiction and graphic fiction.

#### Cool Food School Halloween Workshop

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October**

**Date:** Saturday 15th October

**Time:** 12pm - 1pm

**Age:** 6+

Join Deirdre from the award winning The Cool Food School for a fun, interactive Halloween themed cooking class. Deirdre has brought her fun approach to cooking and food education to thousands of children in libraries, schools and events nationwide. She is the author of the new children's cookbook, Chop, Cook, Yum!

**Please book through Tickettailor:**

<https://buytickets.at/childrensbookfestival/756909>

#### Secret Spooky Cinema

**Date:** Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October

**Time:** 2:30pm - 4:00pm

**Venue:** Maynooth Community Library

Come to our special \*spooky\* animated children's film screening for Halloween! Showing this Saturday afternoon at 2:30pm, the film will be a surprise on the day, but will have a family-friendly rating. Fancy dress is encouraged! Booking required, all children must be accompanied by an adult.

**Please Book through Tickettailor:**

<https://buytickets.at/maynoothlibrary/768073>.

#### Halloween Drawing Fun: Dog Zombies

**Wednesday 26th October**

**Time:** 3.30pm- 4.30pm

**Age:** 8+ years

**Venue :** Maynooth Community Library

Is your child a big Tom Gates fan? Or do they just love doodling like the protagonist? Come join Niamh in her annual Dog Zombie drawing session and get in the mood for the spooky .

Limited Spaces. **Book Through Tickettailor:**

<https://buytickets.at/maynoothlibrary/764884>.

#### Trick and Treats for Halloween

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October**

**Time:** 3.30 -4.30 pm

**Age:** 4-10 years

**Venue:** Maynooth Community Library

Join us at Maynooth Library as we prepare for Hallowe'en. There will be music, arts and crafts and stories. Costumes are encouraged (the more creative the better). So come along and get into the 'ssssppiiiiirrit'! Suitable for children 4-10. Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult. **Please book through TicketTailor :** <https://buytickets.at/maynoothlibrary/769180>.

#### Book Busters Children's Book Club

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October**

**3:45pm-4:30pm**

**Age:** 8- 12 years

**Venue:** Maynooth Community Library

The Book Busters Children's Book Club continues in person in Maynooth Library! If your child aged 8-12 would like to take part, please email [maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie) for further details.

### Exhibition

"Celebrating the Elements" : an exhibition by artist

David Cassidy

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October**

Artist David Cassidy will exhibit his oil and acrylic paintings on the theme of 'Celebrating the Elements' in Maynooth Community Library from the 17<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> October.

**Venue:** Maynooth Community Library

### Adult Events

#### Breaking Point: Edel Coffey in Conversation with Rachael English

**Date : Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 7:00pm**

Join author and journalist Edel Coffey, in conversation with Rachael English, for a discussion on her debut novel 'Breaking Point'. Presented in association with the Irish Writers Centre.

**Venue:** Maynooth Community Library

**Booking Required:**

<https://buytickets.at/kildarereadersfestival/729510>

#### KRF Book Club with Yan Ge

**Date: Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 8:00pm**

In association with the Irish Writers Centre, we are delighted to welcome acclaimed author Yan Ge to our Kildare Readers Festival online book club. Join us to discuss her award-winning book 'Strange Beasts of China', available to borrow from Maynooth and Celbridge Libraries.

**Online via Microsoft Teams**

**Booking Required :**

<https://buytickets.at/kildarereadersfestival/753443>

#### Eoghan Smith in Conversation with Lynn Buckle

**Date: Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 7:00pm**

Eoghan Smith's new novel 'A Provincial Death' (Dedalus, 2022) has been described as lyrical and blackly comic. In conversation with Lynn Buckle, Eoghan will discuss A Provincial Death and his writing career to date. This event is presented in association with the Irish Writers Centre.

**Venue:** Maynooth Community Library

**Booking Required:**

<https://buytickets.at/kildarereadersfestival/729535>

#### Breastfeeding Support Group at Maynooth Library – Facilitated by Public Health Nurse

**Tuesday October 25<sup>th</sup>**

**9.15 am - 10.45 am**

**Maynooth Community Library**

The group will be facilitated by the Public Health Nurse (PHN). All mothers who are breastfeeding are welcome to attend. We would encourage mums who are pregnant and who have not yet had their baby to attend – allows them to ask any breastfeeding questions so that postnatally they

may feel more confident with getting their breastfeeding journey off to a good start. Mothers who may be having any breastfeeding problems will have the opportunity to speak to the PHN on a one to one basis or to the group in general. We hope the group will allow mothers to meet with other mothers, have a chat and thereby build a social network for these mothers.

**No booking needed, just drop in.**

#### German 'Stammtisch', informal conversation meet-up for adults

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30pm-7.30pm**

**Venue:** Maynooth Community Library

Do you want to practice your German? Maynooth Library hosts a monthly informal German conversation meet-up, for anyone with an interest in the language and culture in German-speaking countries. All levels from learners to native speakers are welcome. Meetings take place on the 4th Thursday of every month. For more information please contact Maynooth Library at [maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie) or 045 980493

#### BioEconomy Ireland Week: BioBeo and the Bioeconomy. Dr Máire Nic an Bhaird Maynooth University

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October**

**Time:** 7pm – 8pm

**Venue:** Maynooth Community Library

Maynooth University lecturer, Dr Máire Nic an Bhaird, from the Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education, has a leading role in a €2 million bioeconomy education project for primary, secondary and 3<sup>rd</sup> level students across Europe. Máire will discuss the importance of building a sustainable network of interconnected European educators and stakeholders committed to promoting the bioeconomy concept through all channels.

**Booking required :**

<https://buytickets.at/maynoothlibrary/768624>.

### Regular Groups

#### Craft & Knitting Club

**Every Monday**

**11.30am – 13.00**

**Maynooth Community Library**

Bring along your various crafts to inspire and to be inspired. Different craft demonstrations will take place during the year.

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

**Tuesday Evenings**

**18.30 – 19.55**

**Maynooth Community Library**

Must have your own sewing machine.

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

If interested, please contact Maynooth Library on 045 980 483 to add your name to our waiting list. The classes will take place over a period of three weeks.

When the list has been completed and if people are interested we will start a sewing club.

### Book Clubs

#### U3A (University of the Third Age) Book Club

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October**

**10.30am – 11.30am**

**Maynooth Community Library**

The U3A (University of the Third Age) Book Club meets on the second Monday of each month.

#### Wednesday Morning Book Club

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October**

**11.00 – 12.00pm**

**Maynooth Community Library**

The Wednesday Morning Book Club meets on the third Wednesday of each month.





# Catherine Murphy TD

**Social Democrats**

**Together, Better, Fairer**

Catherine Murphy Constituency Office,  
4 The Post House, Leixlip Shopping Mall, Main Street, Leixlip  
Email: [catherine.murphy@oireachtas.ie](mailto:catherine.murphy@oireachtas.ie)  
Constituency Office Phone: 01 6156625  
Twitter: @CathMurphyTD

## Is Bus Connects Working For You? Our Survey finds it's not fit for purpose in Leixlip



**Public Meeting on Bus Connects**

**Venue:**  
Springfield Hotel

**Date:**  
10th October 2022

**Time:**  
8pm





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

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

### Maynooth University

Catherine Murphy TD has written to the Public Accounts Committee and the Minister for Higher Education in relation to the stalled MU Student Centre project.

The Deputy has proposed that the University provide a full statement to address the three aspects of their rationale to terminate the project.

Maynooth University (MU) had said that rising costs linked to technical construction issues and hyperinflation "adversely impacted" its completion.

It was being funded through an annual student levy of €150 (£134) since 2015 and was due to be completed next year.

The university said it is "fully committed" to meeting the needs of students. Construction on the 3,700 sq-m building was due to be completed by July 2023, but it was terminated on Monday 26 September following a decision by the university's governing authority.

In a statement on its website, it said: "The university shares the disappointment of our students. "Maynooth University [MU], working in partnership with Maynooth Students' Union, remains committed to providing students with additional spaces for informal learning and gathering that are so important for a vibrant campus experience. "In the weeks and months ahead, the university will be providing significant additional social spaces, meeting pods, and seating, furniture and other infrastructure in buildings across the Maynooth University campus." The MU Student Centre aimed to serve as "a focal point for student activities", including a workspace for students involved in clubs and societies and "cultural, education and recreational events", the university said. Maynooth Students' Union (MSU) president Niall Daly said he was "angered" by the decision. "The project was the flagship project to be funded by the student levy," he said. "Students have been paying this levy, in addition to the student contribution, since 2015 and disappointingly none of the student levy funded projects have been delivered in that time."

### Retrofitting funding meaningless if targets continue to be missed

*Grandiose announcements and spin from the Government simply won't cut it*

Extra funding in the budget for retrofitting and energy schemes will be meaningless if the Government continues to miss its own completion targets, according to Social Democrats TD Catherine Murphy, said: "There is a touch of Groundhog Day about the budget announcement to provide €513m in funding for energy transformation, including retrofitting. "The Government has now set itself a target to deliver 37,000 energy upgrades, including 6,000 homes under the SEAI energy poverty scheme, but we've heard of similar plans before. "Throwing money at notional retrofitting schemes is not enough – it must be matched by action by Minister Eamon Ryan to ensure that completion targets are met. "Figures provided to me by the Minister showed that of the 27,000 homes targeted for energy upgrades in 2022, just 8,628 had been completed by the first six months of the year. Under the Warmer Homes Scheme, 1,453 homes had been completed as of the end of May. "At this rate, the prospect of hitting the 27,000 figure by the end of the year is highly unlikely. "When it comes to climate action, grandiose announcements and spin from the Government simply won't cut it.

"More of the same will mean missing targets, resulting in growing numbers of households waiting longer for retrofitting programmes. "More of the same means more people on low incomes being disadvantaged because they can't afford to take out a loan to make their homes energy efficient. "In our alternative budget, the Social Democrats proposed an ambitious solar panel scheme for 100,000 homes, with work carried out free for low-income households. "Our measure would reduce energy bills by up to 40 percent and help future-proof the homes of those most at risk of heat poverty. "Our plan would be more effective and far-reaching than the "rooftop revolution" that the Minister likes to talk about."

### Families of second level students abandoned by Government

Budget decision to exclude secondary schools is baffling. The families of second level students have been abandoned by the Government in today's budget, according to Social Democrats Co-Leader Catherine Murphy TD said: "It is frankly baffling to see the exclusion of second level students from the measures announced in Budget 2023. The reality is that the cost of sending a child to secondary school is generally much higher than the expense of attending primary school. "Parents are often

required to purchase expensive iPads or other digital devices, in addition to having to pay for insurance, school trips abroad and so-called voluntary donations.

"Even those students using traditional schoolbooks often have to buy new editions every year. This removes the option of purchasing them second-hand, passing them on to siblings or availing of book rental schemes. "It is also unfair that the families of sixth year students who have turned 18 also must pay for books without receiving any child benefit. "While the announcement of free schoolbooks for primary school children is welcome, it will come too late for parents who have already bought books for this term. The cost-of-living crisis is now, not next September. "In the Social Democrats' alternative budget, we proposed a range of measures to make education in Ireland genuinely free. We estimate it would cost an extra €113m and €140m in primary and second level schools respectively, representing just a 2 percent increase on the overall €12bn education budget for 2022.

"Budget 2023 falls well short of achieving that goal."

### Vacant Homes Tax is too weak to work

*New measure will encourage dereliction.*

The new Vacant Homes Tax has been set far too low, according to the Social Democrats Co-Leader Catherine Murphy TD. Commenting on Budget 2023, Catherine Murphy said: "The new Vacant Homes Tax is too weak to work. This tax must be set at a much higher rate to bring vacant homes back into use. "The Vacant Homes Tax equates to just 0.3 percent of the value of a property, which is far too low. In our alternative budget, the Social Democrats called for this tax to be set at 10 percent, with a number of fair exemptions. "There are almost 90,000 vacant homes in Ireland. We must bring these properties back into use for the tens of thousands of people who are in dire need of housing. "Another flaw is that the Vacant Home Tax doesn't apply to derelict properties. This is a big mistake. Those who allow their vacant properties fall into dereliction shouldn't be given an opt-out of this tax. "This is a perverse incentive that will encourage dereliction. As things stand, the existing derelict sites levy is rarely collected by local authorities and is highly ineffective. "The new Vacant Homes Tax is typical of this Government's approach to tackling the housing crisis – it is lacking in both ambition and urgency."

### Housing For All plan has clearly failed

*Government needs to urgently address underlying causes of crisis.*

The Government has missed key targets in the delivery of social, affordable and cost rental homes due to its failure to address the underlying causes of the housing crisis, according to Social Democrats Catherine Murphy TD.

said: "It is deeply concerning to read media reports today that the viability of the Government's Housing For All plan is at risk, with officials warning the Cabinet Committee on Housing that key delivery targets are unlikely to be met. "Every year, the Government makes promises to deliver much needed social, affordable and cost rental homes, and every year it fails to come even close to meeting its own targets. "In 2021, not a single affordable purchase home was delivered. The Government is so far behind in meeting its targets that it will not even answer questions about how many affordable homes have been completed. Over the last two weeks, the Taoiseach has failed to answer my questions on this in the Dáil, while the Minister for Housing, Darragh O'Brien, was not able to give an answer on radio last week. "After failing to meet any of his Department's housing targets last year, the Minister promised that 2022 would be the year for delivery.

However, yet again, the Government is failing to meet the goals it has set itself. "At a time when rents, property prices and levels of homelessness have reached record levels, the latest figures show that the Department of Housing is 21 percent behind where it was this time last year in its capital spend. "The Government is naïve in the extreme to think that setting targets and a budget for housing is a sufficient response to this crisis. Without rolling up their sleeves and tackling blockages to delivery, such as the lack of skilled construction labour, our housing crisis will remain.

"A number of immediate steps need to be taken if social, affordable and cost rental homes are to be built. "This should include an end to the four-stage approval process for social housing construction, which is delaying local authorities in delivering homes. The tendering process for local authorities also must be changed so they don't need to go back out to tender for each individual construction project. This is leading to substantial delays and significantly increased costs. "Local

authorities and approved housing bodies should be supported in acquiring landbanks to improve the pipeline of housing for the next few years. "The severe skills shortage in construction, in 'wet' trades in particular, must be addressed with real urgency by the Minister. The hands-off, laissez-faire approach by Government simply has not worked."

### Protecting the vulnerable a key priority in Social Democrats' alternative budget

*Immediate threat to living standards and long-term challenges must be met.*

Protecting the most vulnerable from the cost-of-living crisis is the key priority in the Social Democrats' alternative budget, published today. The party's alternative budget document, 'Responding to the Crisis: A Social Democratic Approach', aims to strike a balance between dealing with the immediate threat of rising prices while meeting the long-term challenges we face as a society.

Some of the main features of our budget include:

- €1.5bn in energy supports for households. This would provide cash payments to workers on a graduated basis – €800 to households with incomes of less than €50,000; €600 for households with incomes of less than €100,000; and €400 for households with incomes of less than €120,000.
- €1bn Energy Crisis Support Scheme for businesses.
- A windfall tax on energy companies.
- Significant investment in solar energy, with 100,000 households to benefit from solar panels.
- Genuinely free education, to include free books, classroom resources, school transport, an increased capitation grant and an end to voluntary contributions.
- A levy on investment funds to ensure they cannot avoid tax.
- A punitive tax on vacancy and dereliction so that desperately needed homes come back into use.
- Start to reduce third level fees, beginning with a €500 reduction in 2023.
- Increases to important welfare payments. This includes a €15 increase in core social welfare payments; an increase the weekly Fuel Allowance payment from €33 to €48; expanding eligibility for Fuel Allowance to recipients of the Working Family Payment; and a double social welfare payment in 2022, separate to the Christmas bonus.
- A Cost of Disability weekly payment of €20 for the first time in the history of the State.
- A reduction in childcare fees by 60 percent over two years.
- Addressing the crisis in home care supports with pay parity for Section 39 organisations.
- Increased access to free GP care for under 12s and increased access to GP visit cards for those aged 60-69, benefitting up to 275,000 people.
- The abolition of inpatient charges for all patients, saving them up to €800 per annum.
- A rise in the Minimum Wage increase by €1.50 to €12.
- A reduction in public transport fares by 30 percent and a cut in off-peak travel fares by 50 percent to avoid capacity constraints.

Speaking at the launch of the alternative budget, Roisin Shortall TD, co-leader of the Social Democrats, said:

"Before the current inflationary crisis, the cost-of-living in Ireland was already 36 percent above the EU average and we were the second most expensive European country in which to live. This meant that when prices began rising quickly, Irish people had little room for manoeuvre. "Next week's budget has to meaningfully address the twin energy and cost-of-living crises by putting money back in people's pockets. In this alternative budget we have outlined the substantial assistance that we would immediately provide to low and middle income families to help them withstand the coming winter."

Co-leader Catherine Murphy said:

"The cost-of-living crisis has been significantly exacerbated by the decades of underinvestment in critical public services that preceded it. We must address the chronic deficits that exist in our public services. "The Social Democrats believe that investment in public services is crucial if we want to ensure that costs, which the Government can control, are kept down. In this budget, we have outlined a number of significant investments we would make – in housing, healthcare, childcare, education and public transport – that would help to lower costs across the economy and provide real relief for workers and families."

You can download the full Social Democrats' alternative budget here.

[Alternative-Budget-2023-1.pdf \(socialdemocrats.ie\)](#)



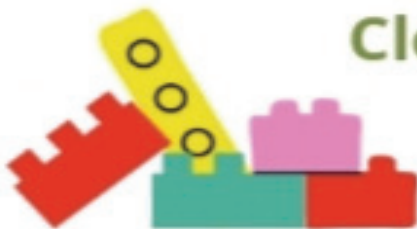
# ZERO WASTE MAYNOOTH

Z



## LADIES CLOTHES SWAP SHOP

2-4pm Including Toy Swap  
3-4pm Volunteers from  
Cloth Nappy Library Ireland



**Maynooth Community Library  
Saturday 8th October 2-4pm  
Bring up to 3 items of  
clothing/books in good condition  
to swap at this event or next**





CLOTH  
**Nappy Library**  
IRELAND<sup>CLG</sup>

## Curious About Cloth Nappies?

North Kildare Nappuccino  
Drop by to chat to volunteers  
about cloth nappies



Local loan kit of  
nappies  
available to rent

Saturday, 8th October  
3-4pm  
Maynooth Library



For more information  
please check out our website:

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

or email us on

[info@clothnappylibrary.ie](mailto:info@clothnappylibrary.ie)

Alternatively join the conversation on:



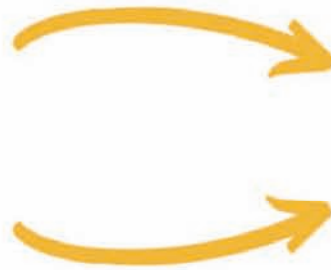




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Life Credit Union is Regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.



# KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

*Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth*

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

*Information is also available online at [www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie) and from the*

*Citizens Information Phone Service - 0761 07 4000 or Lo-call 1890777121*



## Personal Retirement Savings Account (PRSA)

- What is a PRSA?
- Who can get a PRSA?
- Types of PRSA
- Do you need a PRSA?
- Rules
- Rates
- How to apply
- Further information

### What is a PRSA?

A Personal Retirement Savings Account (PRSA) is a type of long-term personal pension plan. It is like an investment account that is designed to let you save for retirement in a flexible way.

Your PRSA is a contract between you and a PRSA provider in the form of an investment account. You can change employment and continue to use the same PRSA and you can switch from one PRSA to another at any time, free of charge.

You can get tax relief for the contributions you pay into your PRSA.

When you retire, you have the same options with a PRSA as with other personal pensions – read about [options on retirement for personal pensions](#).

### Who can get a PRSA?

Most people can get a PRSA but they can be especially useful for people with no other pension arrangement. Employers that do not have an occupational pension scheme for their employees must provide access to at least one Standard PRSA. Employees who are not entitled to join a pension scheme within 6 months of service must be given access to a PRSA by their employer. [Read more about employers' obligations and PRSAs here \(pdf\)](#).

### Types of PRSA

There are two types of PRSA:

- Standard PRSA
- Non-Standard PRSA

The main differences are:

- The charges are capped for standard PRSAs but not for non-standard PRSAs
- Types of investment are restricted in standard PRSAs but not in non-standard PRSAs

You can read more about the differences between Standard and Non-Standard PRSAs in [A consumer and employer's guide to PRSAs \(pdf\)](#) produced by the Pensions Authority.

Standard PRSAs are likely to meet the requirements of most people. The level of charges on your account is important to consider, as the charges imposed reduce the fund you can build up. On your retirement, the size of your fund will depend on your contributions and the investment performance less any charges. It is not possible to predict investment performance.

Charges on Non-Standard PRSAs are not capped and in most cases, are higher than Standard PRSAs. If you are considering a Non-Standard PRSA, ask for a full explanation of the differences between this product

and the Standard product. You should beware of promises of better returns on Non-Standard PRSA products as predicting investment performance is extremely difficult.

### Do you need a PRSA?

If you are considering whether to invest in a PRSA, you should ask yourself the following questions. Is there an existing pension scheme available to me in my job?

If not, you should consider making provision for your retirement and a PRSA may be the option for you. If you already have a good pension arrangement, you may not need to make any additional provision, or you may be able to top up your benefits by making Additional Voluntary Contributions (AVCs). If there is no AVC facility, your employer must provide access to a PRSA.

Should I start a PRSA if I already have a personal pension plan?

You should seek professional advice based on your circumstances. Contact a broker or your pension provider for more information.

Do I need a PRSA if I already have a defined benefit scheme?

Defined benefit pension schemes promise a pension related to your salary (for example, two-thirds of final salary on retirement). You may not need to make any further pension provisions if you have this type of pension. Transferring from a defined benefit scheme into a PRSA involves a risk so you will need to assess your financial position and weigh up the advantages and disadvantages.

Do I need a PRSA if I have a defined contribution scheme?

A defined contribution scheme is also based on investment and has an investment risk - your pension will depend on the contributions you make, together with the investment performance of your fund, less any charges. If your employer is making a contribution to your existing scheme, you should find out whether this will continue if you transfer to a PRSA.

### Rules

Investment of your money

Standard PRSAs invest only in pooled funds where the risk is spread across a large number and variety of investments. Non-Standard PRSAs can offer wider investment choices. However, you need to be sure that you understand the investment choices and the reasons why you should opt for them. If you do not understand how your pension will be invested, then you should consider if this product is best for you. You should also be sure that you can afford the monthly payment suggested and that this is the most effective payment for tax relief purposes - read more about tax relief and PRSAs below.

### Approval of PRSA products

The Pensions Authority and the Revenue Commissioners are jointly responsible for approving PRSA products in Ireland. The Pensions Authority supervises the activities of PRSA providers in relation to their approved products and monitors compliance with the legislation about PRSAs. The Pensions

Authority also maintains a register of PRSA providers and their products.

### Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman

The Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman can investigate and decide on complaints, concerning disputes of fact or law and errors in relation to occupational pension schemes and PRSAs. The Ombudsman can give any directions necessary to resolve the complaint or dispute and can give financial compensation. This financial compensation cannot exceed the actual loss of benefit under the complainant's occupational pension scheme or PRSA. The Ombudsman does not have the power to award legal costs. All decisions made by the Ombudsman are binding between the parties but can be appealed to the High Court.

You can read more about [making a complaint about your pension](#).

### Rates

PRSA providers cannot impose a minimum contribution greater than:

- €300 a year
- €10 per electronic transaction or
- €50 per transaction for other methods of payment.

Contributions received by PRSA providers must be held in a custodian account.

Contributions made by an employer to a PRSA on behalf of an employee, are treated as a benefit in kind of the employee. Employees are entitled to income tax relief on these contributions subject to the usual limits on tax relief for pension contributions. Contributions to PRSAs are disregarded from assessment in means-tested social welfare schemes except Supplementary Welfare Schemes.

### How to apply

If your employer does not operate an occupational pension scheme, or if certain restrictions apply to the scheme it does offer, your employer is required by law to provide access to at least one Standard PRSA. This rule applies to all employers, irrespective of the number of employees and the status of those employees (that is, whether they are full-time, fixed-term, part-time or contract).

Contact the HR manager or Payroll Section at your employment to find out more about the Standard PRSA(s) they provide.

### Further information

Pensions Authority  
Verschoyle House  
28-30 Lower Mount Street  
Dublin 2  
Ireland

Tel: +353 (0)1 613 1900  
Locall: 1890 656 565  
Fax: +353 (0)1 631 8602

Homepage: <https://www.pensionsauthority.ie/>  
Email: [info@pensionsauthority.ie](mailto:info@pensionsauthority.ie)



## KNOW YOUR RIGHTS/Cont.

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### Universal childcare subsidy

- What is the Universal Subsidy?
- How to qualify for the Universal Subsidy
- Rate of the Universal Subsidy
- How to apply for the Universal Subsidy
- Where to apply for the Universal Subsidy

### What is the Universal Subsidy?

The Universal Subsidy is a childcare subsidy for children in Tusla-registered childcare who are over 6 months but under 15 years. The subsidy is deducted from the overall bill you get from your childcare provider.

### How to qualify for the Universal Subsidy

To qualify for the Universal Subsidy:

- Your child must be over 6 months (24 weeks) but under 15 years of age.
- Your childcare provider must be registered with Tusla and in a contract with the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to offer the Universal Subsidy.

The subsidy is not means-tested.

You cannot get the Universal Subsidy and an income assessed subsidy at the same time. However, you can choose which subsidy is of greatest benefit to you.

### Rate of the Universal Subsidy

The universal childcare subsidy is paid at €0.50c an hour up to a maximum of 45 hours a week to all eligible children.

You can use the [subsidy calculator](#) on the NCS website to help work out what your entitlement will be.

For example, if your child is attending childcare for 45 hours a week, the subsidy you could get is €22.50 per week (€0.50 x 45 hours).

For example, if your child is attending childcare for 20 hours a week, you could get a subsidy of €10 per week (€0.50 x 20 hours).

### How to apply for the Universal Subsidy

You should apply for the universal subsidy under the new National Childcare Scheme at [ncs.gov.ie](http://ncs.gov.ie). You will need a verified MyGovID account and the date of birth and Personal Public Service (PPS) number for each child you are applying for.

You can apply by post by contacting the Parent Support Centre – see ‘Where to apply’ below. These applications will take longer to process and may affect the start date from which your subsidy can be paid.

The subsidy will be paid directly to your childcare provider and will be deducted from the cost of your childcare.

Your childcare provider must be registered with Tusla. You can get a list of contracted childcare

providers on [ncs.gov.ie](http://ncs.gov.ie).

You can read more in our document on the National Childcare Scheme (NCS).

### Where to apply for the Universal Subsidy

To find childcare providers in your area offering the Universal Subsidy contact your [City or County Childcare Committee](#). For more information on the National Childcare Scheme visit [www.ncs.gov.ie](http://www.ncs.gov.ie) or contact the National Childcare Scheme Parent Support Centre. Call (01) 906 8530 (9am - 5pm Monday to Friday) or email [NCS@dcya.gov.ie](mailto:NCS@dcya.gov.ie).

### The It Makes Sense loan

- What is the 'It Makes Sense' loan?
- Who can apply?
- How to apply
- Repaying the loan
- What is the 'It Makes Sense' loan?

The It Makes Sense loan (also known as the Personal Microcredit Scheme) is a small credit union loan at a low interest rate for people who are getting a social welfare payment. The scheme aims to reduce dependence on moneylenders that charge very high interest rates.

You can apply to borrow between €100 and €2,000. A maximum interest rate of 12% (12.74% APR) will apply.

If you are not a member of your local credit union, you can join and apply immediately for an It Makes Sense loan.

### Who can apply?

You can apply for an It Makes Sense loan if you:

- Are aged over 18
- Are getting a social welfare payment
- Agree to repay the loan through the Household Budget Scheme if you get your social welfare payment at a post office

If your social welfare payment is paid into a bank or credit union account, you must repay the loan by standing order or direct debit. Check with your credit union whether it provides this option.

You can apply for a loan for any purpose, including to repay an outstanding debt.

### How to apply

You apply for an It Makes Sense loan through your credit union. If you are not a member, you will need to apply to join.

Not all credit unions take part in the scheme – view a [list of participating credit unions](#) where you can apply.

The scheme rules may differ between credit unions. For example, some credit unions may offer loans at lower amounts or ask a member to save for a certain amount of time before applying for a loan. Contact your credit union for details.

### Joining the credit union

If you are not already a member of the credit union you will need to provide:

- Proof of your identity – for example, a current passport or driving licence
- Proof of your address – for example, a recent household bill or a recent document issued by a government department
- Your PPS number

### Applying for an It Makes Sense loan

If you collect your weekly social welfare payment at the post office, when you apply for the loan you need to bring 2 consecutive social welfare slips (from within the previous 4 weeks).

If you get your social welfare payment into a bank or credit union account, you need to bring recent statements for the account. Check with the credit union how many statements you need to bring.

Your local credit union can help you fill out a loan application form.

The credit union will decide whether to grant a loan and the amount of the loan.

### Repaying the loan

You must repay your loan each week from your social welfare payment through the Household Budget Scheme or, if your credit union agrees, by direct debit or standing order from your bank or credit union account.

The maximum deduction from your payment that is allowed under the Household Budget Scheme is 25% of your weekly social welfare payment. This includes any other deductions that you may already have under the Household Budget Scheme (for example, for rent or for household bills).

The maximum interest rate you will be charged for an It Makes Sense loan is 12% a year (12.74% APR).

### Paying your gas bills

- Introduction
- New protections to help customers this winter
- If you are struggling to pay your bills
- Getting a meter reading
- Understanding your bill
- How to use less energy
- More information

### Introduction

When you sign up to a gas supplier, you should get regular and accurate bills. Suppliers must give you a range of options for paying your bills.

Recent increases in energy costs have had a big impact on the cost of living for households. If you are worried about paying your gas bills, help is available. You can contact your energy supplier to explore payment options or contact MABS for help and advice.

*(Continued on page 15)*



## KNOW YOUR RIGHTS/Cont.

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*Citizens Information Phone Service - 0761 07 4000 or Lo-call 1890777121*



(Continued from page 14)

### New protections to help customers this winter

The CRU is implementing the following customer protection measures for this winter:

- Extended disconnections moratorium: the moratorium (or ban on disconnections) for all domestic customers is extended from 1 December 2022 until 28 February 2023 (increased from 1 month to 3 months). For vulnerable customers, the ban on disconnections is extended from 1 October 2022 until 31 March 2023 (increased from 5 months to 6 months).
- Extended debt repayment periods: to allow you a minimum of 24 months to repay debt (effective 1 November 2022).
- Lower debt repayments on Pay-As-You-Go top-ups: suppliers can deduct a maximum 10% to cover a debt repayment (reduced from 25%). For example, a €20 top-up would have €2 deducted to pay your debt (effective 1 October 2022).
- Financial hardship meter: if you are on a financial hardship meter, your supplier must place you on the cheapest tariff available (effective 1 December 2022).
- Vulnerable customer register: suppliers must actively promote the protections of the vulnerable customers register (effective 1 November 2022).

### If you are struggling to pay your bills

Help is available if you are worried about paying your gas bills.

You can:

- Make an appointment for free confidential advice with the Money Advice and Budgeting Service (MABS)
- Contact your supplier to discuss payment options
- Contact your local Citizens Information Service

Your gas supply could be cut off if you do not pay your bills. MABS has more advice if you have [problems paying your bills](#).

### Alternative payments plans

The supplier can agree to put an alternative payment plan in place for you. Suppliers must help you if you are in genuine financial difficulty. They must make at least 4 attempts to contact you before they disconnect your gas.

There is a ban on disconnections (known as a moratorium) between certain months and you have

a minimum of 24 months to repay your debt – see ‘New protections to help customers this winter’ above.

### Claiming social welfare

Household Benefits package

If you are over 70, you can get the electricity allowance as part of the Household Benefits package. Some people under 70 may also qualify if they meet certain criteria. The allowance is paid either as a monthly credit on a customer's bill or directly to the customer.

### Fuel Allowance

You can get [Fuel Allowance](#) if you are getting certain social welfare payments and satisfy the other conditions of the scheme. This year, extra once off payments of Fuel Allowance were paid on top of the normal seasonal allowance that is paid during the winter months.

### Additional Needs Payment

The [Additional Needs Payment](#) can help you with an expense that you cannot pay from your weekly income. The amount that you can get depends on your circumstances and the type of help you need.

### Vulnerable customers

Vulnerable customers who are registered as priority services customers cannot be disconnected. Elderly vulnerable customers who have problems paying their bills cannot be disconnected during the winter months (October 2022 to March 2023). The CRU has more information about [disconnection and your rights](#).

### Getting a meter reading

Your gas meter measures the amount of gas you use. The readings are used by your supplier to calculate your bill.

A GNI meter reader will call to your property to record the amount of gas used since the meter was last read. This is done 4 times a year. An estimated reading will be used for the other billing periods.

When new meters are installed, they are located in external meter boxes. For older homes, the meter may be inside the home. If the meter reader cannot access the meter, they will leave a card in the mailbox letting you know they were there and asking you to submit your reading. You can also submit your meter reading directly to your supplier. If you do not submit a reading an estimated reading will be used to calculate your next bill.

Meters are the property of Gas Networks Ireland and must not be interfered with in any way. Interference with a meter is against the law and offenders can be prosecuted.

### Understanding your bill

It can sometimes be difficult to understand the bill, particularly how the amount you owe is calculated.

You should receive a bill from your gas supplier every 2 months. It must be clearly marked whether the meter read used to calculate your bill amount was:

- A – an actual meter read by GNI
- C – a read submitted by you the customer
- E – an estimated meter reading

Check your bill to make sure that you are not getting too many estimated bills in a row as this could result in a large bill when an actual reading is taken. You can check your meter and submit your own reading at any time to ensure accurate billing. GNI has information on how to submit a meter reading.

CRU has more information about [understanding your gas bill](#).

### How to use less energy

You can save on your gas bills by being more energy efficient.

The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) helps consumers to improve their energy efficiency. Get [tips and advice on how to save energy](#) on heating, timers and controls, temperature, hot water and draughts. lighting, hot water, cooking, appliances and draughts. Making small changes to be more energy efficient can help reduce your bills.

### Energy efficiency grants

You may be entitled to a [grant to upgrade your home energy system](#) and improve the BER rating of your home.

This will lower the amount of electricity that you use. There are also [grants available for solar panels](#).

Get more information on how to [improve your energy efficiency \(pdf\)](#) and on the grants available from the [SEAI](#).

### More information

Read more about:

[Switching suppliers](#)

[How to complain about suppliers](#)

[How utility suppliers are regulated](#)

Information courtesy of:  
<https://www.citizensinformation.ie/>



## ***MU welcomes Taoiseach for Celebration of 25th anniversary***

Taoiseach Micheál Martin today visited Maynooth University for a celebration to mark its 25th anniversary as an independent institution. The Taoiseach also officially opened the new Technology, Society and Innovation (TSI) Building, Maynooth's landmark infrastructural development designed to enhance the University's excellence in research, education and skills development for future generations.

Spanning 10,500 square meters, the University's latest high tech hub will house living labs and break out rooms for interactive research; three large theatres of 500, 300 and 250-seat capacity, and research spaces for students, academics and collaboration with industry partners. It also includes a spacious outdoor plaza alongside for gatherings, cultural activities, events and performances.

This latest capital development on the University's North Campus will help to meet the capacity needs of a rapidly growing student population, rising to 15,000 this year, from 4,000 in 1997 when Maynooth was established as an independent institution.

The €48 million TSI Building is a landmark edifice and part of an overall €57million capital development project that includes modernisation and expansion of the Arts and Sciences buildings on the University's North Campus. The capital project was made possible by €25 million from the Government's Higher Education Strategic Infrastructure Fund announced in 2019.



**Taoiseach Micheál Martin and President of MU, Professor Eeva Leinonen.**  
Credit: Maxwell Photography

Congratulating Maynooth University on its 25th anniversary and on its latest TSI building, An Taoiseach Micheál Martin, TD, stated: "I'm delighted to be here to celebrate Maynooth's 25th anniversary and to open the new Technology, Society and Innovation Building. Maynooth has always played a pivotal role in Ireland's education system, and its influence has grown nationally and globally, making a significant and distinctive impact on Irish society."

This is a fantastic resource and innovation space for future generations to study, explore and contribute to Ireland's workforce and innovation needs, as we move towards a digitally advanced and sustainability-focused society.

Maynooth University offers important strengths in those areas and I look forward to the contributions of its graduates and its academics over the next 25 years and beyond."

Welcoming the Taoiseach and guests, Maynooth University President, Professor Eeva Leinonen, said: "A key strength of Maynooth University is exploring the interaction between technology and humans to the benefit of society, everything from drone technology to data privacy, and climate change. So, it is incredibly fitting today, as we celebrate a quarter of a century as an independent university, that we open the Technology, Society and Innovation Building, showcasing those strengths and signifying our embrace of the future."

Chairperson of the Maynooth University Governing Authority, Dr Mary Canning, said: "As the student population of Maynooth University expands to over 15,000, the impact of this landmark building will be of huge importance to the education of our students, and to academics and partners in advancing research and innovation."

Since first established as an independent university, Maynooth has been essential in meeting the demands of a growing population across the Mid-East, Midlands and West Dublin region in particular. The increased capacity offered by the TSI Building will allow us to continue to do so well into the future."

In line with Maynooth University's green campus and sustainability approach, the TSI Building is heated by air source heat pumps, and includes green roofs, a solar PV array, and rainwater harvesting.



Designed as a 'Nearly Zero Energy Building' (NZEB), the TSI Building is expected to achieve Excellence in Energy Efficiency Design (EXEED) and Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) "very good" certification.

## ***Maynooth University hosted a thank you event to mark the Maynooth Ukraine response and the partnership efforts of the Maynooth Ukrainian Action Group.***



**President of MU, Professor Eeva Leinonen, Dr Gemma Irvine, Vice-President for Equality & Diversity, Maynooth University and 16-year-old artist Oleksandra Atamanenko, a Ukrainian visitor from Kyiv and her family.**  
Credit: Maxwell Photography

Maynooth University hosted a thank you event to mark the Maynooth Ukraine response and the partnership efforts of the Maynooth Ukrainian Action Group. During the event, 16-year-old artist Oleksandra Atamanenko, a Ukrainian visitor from Kyiv, presented the University with her painting, titled 'Hands', to mark the occasion and symbolise the special relationship between the Ukrainian residents and university.

Held at the recently opened Maynooth University Technology, Society and Innovation (TSI) Building, the event paid tribute to the collective efforts of national and regional organisations who provided much-needed supports to some 1,200 Ukrainian guests who stayed over the summer months.

The Maynooth Ukrainian Action Group facilitated the expert work of professional agencies in working with families fleeing the war-torn country, while national and regional organisations stepped up to provide supports to families and children throughout their stay.

The organisations included the Irish Red Cross (IRC), Helping Irish Hosts (HIH), Kildare Volunteer Centre, Kildare County Council, and a range of at least 20 organisations and volunteers across the Kildare and wider East-Midlands region.

Speaking at the event, President of Maynooth University Professor Eeva Leinonen, paid tribute to the many organisations and volunteers who responded to the call to provide supports and services to Ukrainian guests accommodated at the University. "I want to pay tribute to the collective work of all the organisations, agencies and volunteers who worked night and day to respond to the needs of our Ukrainian guests, who were forced to flee their country in the most terrible circumstances." "It was absolutely critical that the relevant agencies and organisation were facilitated and enabled to do their jobs in a strategic manner. This was accomplished through the combined efforts of the community and professionals in the Maynooth Ukrainian Action Group."

The range of professional services and voluntary supports at Maynooth included a Ukrainian Information Centre staffed by Ukrainian speakers, medical, welfare and legal information clinics hosted by the Irish Red Cross, sports, activities and English language classes on campus and in Maynooth Town coordinated by Kildare County Council in June, and the Kildare LEADER Partnership in August. On 24th August, Ukraine Independence Day, the University also hosted a family event organised by the Kildare LEADER Partnership. Additionally, Maynooth University was asked to host the National Student & Researcher (NSR) Helpdesk on behalf of the higher education sector, to support people displaced from Ukraine who would like to apply and continue their higher education studies or research in Ireland.

Dr Gemma Irvine, who chaired the Maynooth Ukrainian Action Group, said: "This is an excellent example of a university working hand in glove with its community to better serve society. The multi-agency approach adopted here, and subsequent learnings, will form the basis of a new Ukrainian Kildare Network which is being set up to coordinate supports for displaced Ukrainians living in Kildare."



## Maynooth University Town F.C.



### L.S.L. Senior Division - Sunday

#### Lucan Utd 0 Town 3

Town quickly banished the woes of their recent F.A.I. Cup defeat with this superb victory over a highly rated Lucan Utd side. Town dominated this game from start to finish with a performance that augurs well for future games. Town laid down their marker early by attacking right from the kick off and put the Lucan defence under immediate pressure. Following a good passage of play in the 30<sup>th</sup> minute the ball was played wide to Jack Reynolds on the right who cut inside and placed his shot wide of the Lucan keeper to open the scoring. Town continued to attack and doubled their score on half time. In a move which involved a number of players the Lucan defence was carved open to provide the chance for Jack Reynolds to duly accept and fire home for his second goal. The second half pattern remained the same with Town continuing the pressure. In the 60<sup>th</sup> minute full back Dylan Pearse went on one of his runs down the right before crossing into the box for Jackson Ryan to bravely head home to close the scoring. A number of changes were made at this stage without reducing the overall performance of the side.

### F.A.I. Intermediate Cup

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Round

#### Tolka Rovers 0 Town 1

Town surmounted their 1<sup>st</sup> hurdle in this first round encounter of the F.A.I. Intermediate Cup. Two evenly matched sides fought it out in a dour first half in which neither side could make the break through. Town broke quickly from the restart and with one minute gone Evan Murphy broke forward and hit an unstoppable shot from outside the penalty area into the corner of the net. Town pressed in an effort to increase their lead but a stubborn home defence were standing firm. Tolka creaked a number of chances themselves but Town's defence held firm and provided no clear cut chances. Overall a deserved win for the Town.

### L.S.L. Senior Division - Sunday

#### Town 2 Crumlin Utd 1

The long awaited clash between league leaders and current Champions Crumlin Utd was well worth the wait. Town started brightly and laid out their intentions early pushing forward at every opportunity. They broke forward quickly in the 18<sup>th</sup> minute when a good movement provided the chance for Jack Reynolds to finish expertly. Town were pulled back to level terms before the break when Crumlin scored after slack marking by the Town defence. Town were now dominating proceedings when Jack Reynolds provided the chance for Callum Warfield to score from close range. A superb win which keeps us in the hunt for honours.

### L.S.L. Senior Division - Sunday

#### Wayside Celtic 1 Town 0

This was a setback for Town in this poor game which had few highlights. The home side were intent in frustrating Town with their packed defence and total intent on the quick break. Town had numerous chances despite the defensive system mounted by Wayside but were unable to make the vital break through. The home side secured the winner when Town lost possession in midfield and Wayside broke forward to fire past Demer Sterio. Hard as Town tried they were unable to level the scores.

### L.S.L. Senior Division - Sunday

#### Town 1 St. Mochtas 1

Both sides opened in a very careful manner and spent some time squaring each other up. Town began to get the upper hand and were shading the exchanges. Good play down the right saw Callum Warfield play the ball into the path of Jack O'Connor to expertly finish. Town were on top now and missed a number of chances before Saints were awarded a penalty. But keeper Shane Fagan got down to his left to pull off a top class save. Fagan brought off a good save later but was deemed by the referee to have fouled the Saints striker and awarded a penalty. The ref then sent off our keeper for the infringement. Demer then had to take up his duty between the posts but not having had a chance to warm up, had no chance with the penalty. A late penalty for Town was wasted and the game petered out for a disappointing draw.

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## MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN NOTES



### Celbridge Road Cycle Facilities

Maynooth Cycling Campaign expects that Kildare County Council will shortly go to public consultation on the long awaited Celbridge Road cycle facilities. In 2019, the Council proposed plans which were, to put it mildly, roundly condemned as inadequate.

It is to be hoped that the proposed plans will be to a higher standard than the recent Green Lane Leixlip proposals where councillors approved the retention of a shared path outside schools. We don't need a repeat of the Moyglare Road failure where students use the traffic lanes because there is no space for them on the "shared" path.

### KCC's Visit to the Netherlands

The National Transport Agency proposes to bring a number of Kildare councillors and officials to see for themselves cycling facilities in the Utrecht region. In response to a similar visit by Galway councillors, the Connacht Tribune headlined an article on the visit "City councillors pack their bags for Dutch transport junket".

Maynooth Cycling Campaign condemns the headline and strongly supports the visit. It is difficult to envisage how the Dutch have managed to create an road environment which works for people of all ages and all abilities without actually seeing it in practice.

### Maynooth Schools Traffic

Since the start of September, we have once again seen the failure of Irish transport planning with traffic queues stretching the length of the Moyglare Road from the Kilcock Road to the Maynooth Educational Campus at secondary schools opening and closing times.

There is a striking difference between the level of cycling to the two

Maynooth secondary schools. One has approximately thirty students who cycle whereas the other has had on occasions over one hundred. There is no obvious reason for such a marked difference. To see a (speeded up) video of pupils arriving at a Dutch secondary school, check out the video at the following link

- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8NUgB\\_xkIvU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8NUgB_xkIvU) . Also note the space provided to cater for such a high level of cycling compared to the level provided in Kildare schools.

### Cycling Without Age

Discussions are continuing with Kildare County Council over their support for the branch of a Cycling Without Age chapter in Maynooth and we hope that the way ahead will be clearer after a meeting in October. Maynooth Cycling Campaign expects to advertise shortly for volunteers who would like to drive/pilot the trishaw bike.

### Collision in Celbridge

As a result of a collision between a driver and cyclist on the Shackleton Road in Celbridge, a cyclist was admitted to James Connolly Memorial Hospital in a serious condition. The Gardaí are appealing for witnesses to come forward and any road users with video footage (including dash cam) is asked to make this available to them. Anyone with information can contact Leixlip Garda Station on 01 666 7800, the Garda Confidential Line on 1800 666 111 or any Garda station.

**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.**



## James Lawless T.D. Kildare North

Phone: 01-6183587 - e-mail: [james.lawless@oir.ie](mailto:james.lawless@oir.ie) - Web: [www.jameslawless.ie](http://www.jameslawless.ie)



### Opening of Maynooth University Technology, Science & Innovation Building

I visited Maynooth University recently along with the Taoiseach to officially open the Technology, Society and Innovation (TSI) building, as well as to celebrate the 25th anniversary of MU being declared as an independent university. Maynooth University is at the heart of so many of the innovation and study initiatives around the county and beyond and of course is a popular destination for our students, providing a top-class education, within easy commuting distance. Both the Taoiseach and the new President of the College, Professor Eeva Leinonen, spoke about the importance of the public square and debate around the campus being as important as the formal learning within class, a point with which I entirely agree, as the essence of a broad education.

### Development of Gaelcholaiste Mhaigh Nuad

I raised in the Dáil in July the predicament of Gaelcholaiste Mhaigh Nuad which is currently still awaiting a permanent campus building. At present the students are being facilitated in Manor Mills shopping centre pending delivery of permanent accommodation. It is imperative that this issue is addressed, and a permanent campus is established as soon as possible. I am arranging a meeting with Minister Foley and the Board of Management very soon to discuss this further and hopefully we will see progress on this site soon.

### JUSTICE COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Justice Committee, which I chair, has been extremely busy again throughout 2021/22. At a recent meeting of all Committees, the Taoiseach praised the "extraordinary throughput of the Justice Committee" and noted of the entire body of legislation going through the Dáil in that time, that the Justice Committee had processed close to 50% of it. The Committee combines scrutiny and processing of new legislation, from Government and opposition, along with regular elective modules on matters of interest to members.

The Justice committee processed 20 separate items of legislation or policy through its meetings in the last term. Among the many items we considered in the last term were:

- Data Retention Bill 2022- facilitate preservation of data for both national security and investigation of serious crime.
- Criminal Justice (Hate Crime) Bill 2021- to make it easier to secure prosecutions and convictions for crimes motivated by hate.
- Gambling Regulation Bill 2021 - establishing gambling regulator with powers to regulate advertising, gambling websites and apps.
- Policing Bill 2021 - consolidation of century worth of laws on garda powers.
- Report on Courts and Courthouses - refurbishment of all our courthouses and the need to provide for vulnerable court users including those with disabilities.
- Examination of Drugs Decriminalisation- whether health or criminal justice approach better.
- Sex Offenders (Amendment) Bill 2021- Monitoring and management of sex offenders strengthened.
- Judicial Appointments Commission Bill 2022 - implement biggest reform to judicial appointments in decades.
- Proceeds of Crime (Gross Human Rights Abuses) Bill 2020- aiming to seize assets of human rights abusers.
- Report on Rehabilitative Opportunities within the Prison System- examine the changes necessary to ensure the successful reintegration of prisoner's post-release

### Maynooth and Environs Joint Local Area Plan 2024-2030

Kildare County Council are due to commence work on the Maynooth and Environs local area plan which will be the document to guide, manage and direct the development of the town and its environs for the next number of years. Both Kildare County Council and Meath County Council will be working on this plan to coordinate a planning framework for Maynooth. This is a very important piece of work and you will have the opportunity to make submissions regarding the future of Maynooth. I will keep in touch and let you know when the public submission dates are so you can make your submission.



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## Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area

Planning Applications received from 20/08/2022 to 29/09/2022 Information from Kildare County Council Website

App #	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	App Date
<a href="#">221148</a>	Kildare County Council	Sky Castle Limited,	Maynooth Outer Orbital Road, Carton Demesne and Mariavilla Townlands, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	22/09/2022
<a href="#">221126</a>	Kildare County Council	Ronan Coyne,	Kilmacredock, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	14/09/2022
<a href="#">221120</a>	Kildare County Council	Micheal Walsh,	41 Cluain Aoibhinn, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, W23 F1W2.	13/09/2022
<a href="#">221117</a>	Kildare County Council	Patrick and Lynn Ryan,	Petka House, Laragh Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 KOF9.	12/09/2022
<a href="#">221076</a>	Kildare County Council	Darren & Lorna Connolly	Garrai Na Crann, Kilmacredock Upper, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, W23D8X6	02/09/2022
<a href="#">221066</a>	Kildare County Council	Glide Retail Limited,	Unit 22, Manor Mills Shopping Centre, Mill Street, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 VP46.	31/08/2022
<a href="#">221059</a>	Kildare County Council	CDS (Superstores International) Limited	The Range., Carton Retail Park, Dublin Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	30/08/2022

**The Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2023 - 2029 are now on display.**

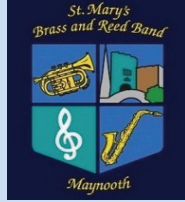
<https://consult.kildarecoco.ie/en/consultation/proposed-material-alterations-draft-kildare-county-development-plan-2023-2029-0>

The closing date for receipt of submissions is 4 p.m. 27th October 2022.



## St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band

The highlight of last month was our visit to the International Music Festival in Bad Orb near Frankfurt in Germany where we joined 26 other Bands from all over the world giving music recitals all over the weekend.



The Band had the honour of opening the Festival on the first night and we were surprised and delighted that the Consulate General of the Irish Consulate in Frankfurt joined us for the occasion.

We gave five recitals over the three days which culminated in a Massed Band Parade to the Town Square where over 1,000 musicians came together in playing a number of selected pieces one of which can be seen on our Facebook page. We have already been invited to play at the next Festival which happens in 2024.

The Band barely had time to take a breath when we performed in the Square back in Maynooth for Cultural night on Friday 23rd September which went extremely well and was very much appreciated by the enthusiastic audience.

The Band are straight into rehearsals this month for our final two events of 2022 with our Mass for Deceased Members at 1oc on Sunday 6th November and our annual Christmas Concert in the Glenroyal Hotel on Sunday 11th December at 7.30. Hopefully as both of these events are indoors, we will have a good attendance as the Band has made great progress since the Covid restrictions we removed.

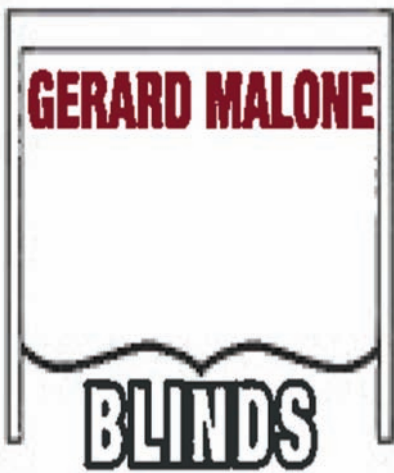
The Band are undertaking a Recruitment Drive for both the Senior and Academy Bands as we have had a number of musicians come to join us after the Summer so if you are an experienced musician and would like to join our Senior Band you are most welcome to drop in to our rehearsals any Monday night at our Band Hall on Pound Lane just off the Main Street

(eir code W23 N283) between 7.45 and 9.30 Bank Holidays excepted or contact 087 2537 906 for more information.

We are also looking to hear from beginners and improvers of any age to join our Academy Band which is under the direction on Francesca Sheridan and those interested in registering for the music classes can contact her at 087 716 8369 to register their interest.



St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band—Opening Night of the Festival



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

### Coursing Day

As a special treat their father decided to take Donal and his brother Tommy to a coursing meeting. Since this was a sport for men their three sisters were left at home – Not that Donal or Tommy were men, Donal being only ten and his brother one year older. After breakfast on Saturday Bob the farm horse was harnessed to the sidecar and, with their father driving, they set off to the demesne where the annual event was held. The four-mile journey was soon over, Bob trotting whenever the road was level or downhill. On driving through the gate in the massive demesne wall their father paid the entrance fee and in a corner sheltered from the sun by a leafy oak they took the horse out from under the sidecar, tied his reins to a wheel and gave him a small bundle of hay to eat.

Their neighbour Phil McCarthy approached them. He was furious because the organisers of the meet had netted forty hares on land belonging to him without asking permission. This land was a few miles from his home farm and covered in rushes. Hares gazed the surrounding well-kept fields, then retreated into the rushes to rest.

"I wouldn't mind, Phil spat, "but I'm told they came with their nets and beaters as if they owned the place." "Forty hares!" Their father began to fill his pipe. "That must be a record."

"It's that alright." In spite of himself Phil sounded pleased. "And those hares will be in prime form. The land up there has the best grazing in the county." Leaving Phil, they headed for the crowd standing near a four-foot high net-wire fence running in a straight line down the field. About sixty yards beyond this there was a parallel fence and the long stretch of ground between the fences ended in a barrier of vertical wooden laths covered with branches through which a hare, but not a hound, could pass. Once through the barrier, the hare was in an enclosure with straw shelters where it could feel safe.

There was a great air of festivity, people chatting and laughing, others with greyhounds on leads, others gathered around bookies to place bets. Further along, refreshment stalls and tables with games such as trick o' the loop and the three card trick were doing a brisk trade, while a loudspeaker blared out music. Their father gave Donal and Tommy five shillings each, telling them not to spend it all at once.

They watched the race that was about to start. A man, the slipper-in, was holding two excited greyhounds by leather leashes. Next moment, someone released a hare from a long, narrow wooden box with a dozen or more compartments, each containing a single hare. When the hounds saw the hare bounding down the field they went frantic but the slipper-in held them back till the hare was almost fifty yards ahead. Finally the hounds were let go and the race was on.

The judge, dressed in a scarlet coat and brown hunting cap, galloped down inside the fence to observe the progress of the chase. When the hare became aware of the hounds behind him he put on a spurt of speed but little by little the hounds gained on him. Just as it seemed that one of them would grab him, he turned suddenly, causing the hound to miss. After that the chase continued with the hare throwing off his pursuers by his ability to twist quickly. Despite many close shaves, where sharp, gleaming teeth were within inches of his back, the hare reached the wooden fence and dodged through an opening while the hounds were left jumping about outside.

In the races that followed the hare didn't always escape and his squeals as a hound's jaws closed on him rose above the noise of the gathering. Attendants would then

run up to collar the hounds and dispatch the wounded animal. Though Donal liked to see the hare get away, he did not become upset when the hounds caught one. The ability of the dogs was more engrossing than the fate of their prey.

Since there were only two hounds in each race, betting gave one a fifty per cent chance of winning. The hound that reached the hare first, causing him to turn, got a high number of points, after which subsequent turns earned fewer points and a kill more points. The hounds with the highest total of points won.

Donal and Tommy would have liked to place a bet on the races but didn't have enough money. They decided, therefore, to visit the games of chance, hoping to increase their funds. Donal was fascinated by the colourful operators, who called out spiels such as, "If you don't speculate, you can't accumulate; if you don't try you can't win." The trick o' the loop man folded a leather belt into a succession of loops and invited you to put a wooden pin into one of them. If the pin held the belt when the operator pulled the two ends across the tabletop, you won. The game seemed so simple that both boys risked a half crown and lost. After that they tried the wheel of fortune and tree card trick, occasionally winning a few shillings. Finally they tried the lottery, where you bought a rolled-up ticket with a number on it. If your number was a lucky one you got a prize. Needless to say, their tickets were duds so they bought biscuits and lemonade and headed back to their father. He was talking to his brother-in-law, their Uncle Peter, whose greyhound, Lazy Bones, was in the next competition, the Kingston Cup.

"I'm hoping he'll prove his name wrong," Uncle Peter said, when he had shaken their hands. "Here's something to put on him," he added, giving them a pound note each. Their father placed the bets for them and, bursting with anticipation, they hurried back to the fence to watch the race. At first Lazy Bones, a big fawn hound, was outstripped by his rival, a brindled bitch, but he gradually caught up with her, taking the first turn out of the hare. After a succession of twists and even running for a while back towards the start the hare evaded his pursuers and dodged into the safety enclosure. Moments later there was an announcement on the loudspeaker: "Lazy Bones is the winner by three points!" Donal and Tommy could hardly believe their luck: they were rich, having each won thirty shillings! "You'd be wise to stop gambling now," their father advised. "Lazy Bones will be up against stiffer competition next time."

"Why will he?" Tommy asked.

"Well, it's like this," their father explained. "Four of the eight dogs entered for the Kingston Cup have already been eliminated, so the next round is like the semi-finals; the standard is bound to be higher."

"All the same, that fellow of mine will make it," Uncle Peter declared, before hurrying off to pat his dog that was being minded by his grown-up son, Ronan. The boys didn't bet on the next race, but when it was Lazy Bones' turn to run again, they took out all their money.

"Put that back in your pockets," their father instructed, then, seeing their disappointed looks, he took a pound from each of them and handed it to the bookie. This time the odds were at even money.

"Aren't you going to bet yourself, Daddy?" Donal asked.

"Indeed, I'm not," his father said. "Gambling is a fool's game, but you'll learn that soon enough."

Despite this warning, Lazy Bones won again. At last the final race came. Although Tommy only placed two pounds on it, nothing would do Donal now but that he should risk the entire three and a half pounds he had. If

he won, he would have enough to buy a real leather football like the one his heroes on the county team used. "You're sure you don't want to keep some?" his father asked as Donal handed him all his money.

Donal shook his head. Unfortunately, although he killed the hare, this time Lazy Bones failed to win.

"Didn't I warn you?" his father said. "Tommy, you still have –"

He stopped talking as Uncle Peter strode up.

"Do you know what I just found out?" Uncle Peter fumed. "They ran short of hares and used one that had raced earlier. No wonder the other dog got the first turn. Lazy Bones is a slow starter. That hare must have been half dead already."

"All the same, Lazy Bones only lost by a point," their father consoled him. "He's still a young dog. He'll be a champion yet."

Maybe he will, Donal thought ruefully, but much good that will do me now that I've only a few pennies left. Later, Uncle Peter invited them to call into his place, a big two-storey house, on their way home. When they did, their Aunt Maggie treated them to a delicious roast beef dinner followed by jelly and custard.

"If you like I could get you boys a greyhound pup,"

Uncle Peter offered while they were having tea and sweet cake. "Ronan can show you how to care for him."

"You'd have to bring him for runs in the morning," Ronan added, "and cycle along the road with him on a lead to harden his feet."

"They have enough to do already between their school books and helping me bring in the cows and mind the cattle," their father pointed out.

"Oh, I only wish my men there were as sensible as you," Aunt Maggie remarked with a hint of exasperation. "That hound is more trouble than a baby, what with cooking special meals for him and feeding him raw eggs."

"Don't be put off by your aunt," Uncle Peter winked. "She's as fond of Lazy Bones as Ronan and myself."

"Oh, you men and your greyhounds!" Aunt Maggie poured more tea into their cups. "You never think of the poor hares."

"What's to think about?" Uncle Peter snorted.

"Hunting is as old as the hills. It's part of the natural order of things."

"I just don't see what's natural about setting hounds on a poor harmless creature," Aunt Maggie observed.

"It's just a bit of fun, Mam," Ronan told her.

"Yes," his mother retorted, "it's like what the frog said to the boys that were throwing stones at him, 'What's fun to ye is death to me.'"

Before the conversation could become heated their father decided that it was time for them to be off.

"There's the cows to be milked and herself will be wondering what kept us," he explained.

As they drove towards the front gate, Uncle Peter and Aunt Maggie called after them not to be so slow about their next visit. Their father assured them they wouldn't then with a flick of the reins urged Bob into a gentle trot.

Before he fell asleep that night in the bed he shared with Tommy, Donal thought about the hare Lazy Bones had caught. It was probably one of the ones netted in Phil McCarthy's field. After being taken from its home in the rushes it was brought away in a lorry, eventually ending up in the long, dark, narrow box. Then it was released and had to run for its life from two ravenous greyhounds. When it had slipped through the wooden fence it should have been safe but men had come and forced it back into the dark, narrow box. What was losing all his money compared to what the hare must have felt in that final race?

**P.G. Nerney**





Writers’ Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers (Cont.)

<p><b>PRELUDE</b> <i>(To Cheryl, Easter 1971)</i></p> <p>The wind breathes through the golden grass; Larks sing; The curlew’s flute bubbles upward into silence; A stream converses with itself; The earth is full of tender secrecy. Brown and green the heather tufts; Deeper green the curving hills Garlanded with yellow gorse, Studded with the russet roofs of farm sheds. Soft as children’s eyelids, Distant mountains ring my world P As I stride weightlessly Across this spongy, fenceless plain, Cro-Magnon man preceded by his dog. The latent certainty of life Gleams in the budding twigs, Smiles in the April sun, Pours out its gratitude from skylarks’ throats. Oh, all the world is hushed Though cattle low contentedly And one loud bee goes humming past. Why are you, then, so far away, Deep in the grime of city streets, You who are so like this land, So soft, so gentle, So secretive of life That soon must crown you like a burst of snow? My love, I search for you Upon this fragrant, trembling plain; My mate, my supple tree, My breath of joy!</p> <p>Colin Scott</p>	<p><b>Yellow Poppies</b> <i>(At Donadea Church)</i></p> <p>Poppies for Remembrance Day are red But by the gateway of this hidden church Yellow poppies grow. Inside the grounds are neatly kept, The lawns new mown, the gravel clean: Because of dwindling numbers The church is only opened now For Sunday service.</p> <p>I scan the weathered names on headstones: Beloved rectors, wives, sons, daughters – People who once walked here as we do; In the vault behind the church Rests the family that built it: * Baronet, dame, esquire, various children... Over a cut-stone gateway By their ruined “castle” you can read: NISI DOMINUS FRUSTRA **</p> <p>When these words were inscribed The church was open every day And Catholics paid tithes to rectors: Yet the family may not resent My children playing by their vault, My daughter gathering the poppies Where red and green at last are blended...</p> <p>* <i>The Aylmers of Donadea</i> ** <i>Unless the Lord (build the house, they labour) in vain (who build it).</i></p> <p><i>Patrick Devaney</i></p>	<p><b>The quality of preaching!</b></p> <p>No one should stand in a pulpit whose awareness of his/her congregation is not dwarfed by awareness of God. And I'm not suggesting some vague notion of God but the very real and palpable Son of God, Jesus Christ. Jesus, of course, gave us a very clear idea of God in his parable of the Prodigal Son. When the son had demanded his share of the inheritance and had gone off to sow his wild oats his Father didn't say "Good riddance" and moan to his other son about that "wretched boy who has turned his back on me". Rather he longed and watched for the day when his poor errant son would return.</p> <p>When he did return, and not for any great love for his Father but so that he could maybe become a servant in his Father's house and have food enough to stay alive, his Father was more than alert. He had been on the lookout for him and was full of gratitude to his once lost son for having come back and had no hesitation in having the fatted calf killed and declaring a feast. Wonder if he always had a fatted calf on the ready? He is a forgiving God in whose heaven there is more rejoicing over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine who have no need of repentance. That is a figure of speech, of course, but it leaves no doubt in anyone's mind as to the mercy that the Christian God has on offer. So any preacher whose internalised image of God, is that of the Father of the Prodigal, who walks with such a God, is a preacher who has got something to say of relevance to his listeners.</p> <p>Imagine the apostles on Pentecost Sunday, if you can. The Holy Spirit had taken possession of them and they were so carried away that they spoke languages they had never learned! They were so delirious, so at one with the truth of the Holy Spirit and the entire Jesus story that those listening to them thought they must be drunk. And this wasn't just for the one day of Pentecost. It continued for weeks or months and even years afterwards with Jesus' followers not caring a morsel for their own safety but acting and speaking like people possessed not by the devil but by God himself.</p> <p>Where did that divine possession all go? What became of that delirious enthusiasm? We must today sit and struggle with half enunciated, scarcely thought out, much less meditated upon, banal statements concerning the greatest Being who ever walked this earth- Jesus himself through whom this stupendous universe is being created, second by second. The only whiff of enthusiasm in many preachers may be noticed when some local event or sport's contest is announced or commented on! Go bhfóire Dia orainn!</p> <p>G.M.</p>
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Pet care for the Winter

- **Keep pet active and warm on chilly days. Put a warm on the pets, like us they get cold too. Consider taking shorter walks if the weather is bad.**
- **Always bring a torch with you. Buy hi-vis winter jackets if you can. These will keep the pet warm and also make them visible in the dark evenings. If they escape you should be able to see them quicker.**
- **Check their paws after each walk. Grit and salt can get stuck in between their toes. This can cause irritation, burns and even make their paws bleed. So after every walk, wash their feet to remove any residue.**
- **Cats may prefer to stay indoors especially at night. Provide lots of toys and a scratching post to keep them occupied and active.**
- **If walking pets on snow or ice, dry their paws once inside as this warms them up and prevents frostbite.**
- **Move small animals inside if you can or move them to a dry, draft-free area. If they have to stay outdoors, place extra blankets over their hutch and give them extra warm bedding inside.**
- **Dogs with arthritis and weak joints can easily slip so support them by investing in a harness with a grab handle.**
- **Stay away from frozen lakes/canals. Dogs have a tendency to wonder onto them and may fall through the ice. For their safety and yours - always have them on a leash.**
- **Every morning check your car engine and under your car as cats may seek warmth in your car if the night is cold.**
- **Be careful when using anti-freeze. This is extremely toxic to animals even fatal. The sweet taste of anti-freeze is very tempting to them. Clean up any spillage immediately. Symptoms to watch for are: drinking more, pet very tired and drunk-like, vomiting, seizures, panting, twitches, spasms and collapse. If your pet has any of these, get them to a vet IMMEDIATELY.**
- **Indoor animals like hamsters also need to given extra bedding and kept away from drafts to stop them from going into hibernation.**



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**REMINDER DON'T FORGET TO CHANGE YOUR CLOCK.**

Sunday, October 30, 2022, 2:00:00 am clocks are turned backward 1 hour to Sunday,  
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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. (EPL)**

**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. (RD)**

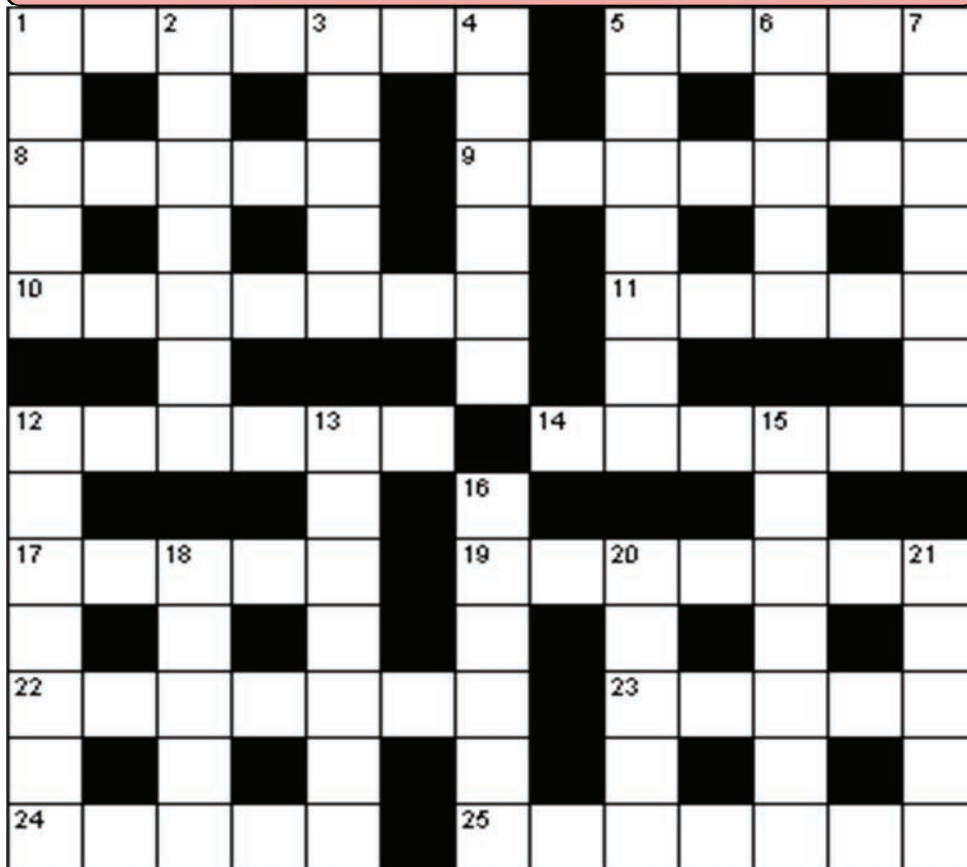
# Tips for storing Vegetables and Fruit

*Things to consider when storing vegetables and fruit that will not only keep them longer but also keep their taste and texture longer*

<p><b>Veg to Store in Fridge</b> Asparagus, Beans (snap), Brussels sprouts, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Radishes, Beets, Carrots, Parsnips, Rutabagas and Turnips</p> <p><b>Never to Store in Fridge</b> Onions, Shallots and Garlic Note: Do not store near potatoes. Potatoes excrete moisture and speed up decay</p> <p>Potatoes, Pumpkins, Winter Squash (Butternut) &amp; Tomatoes Note: Do not store potatoes near onions and apples, as these give off ethylene gas that spoils the potatoes</p>	<p><b>Store in Cool Space in Kitchen</b> Cucumbers, Eggplant, Summer Squash (Zucchini) and Peppers</p> <p><b>Fruit to Store in Fridge</b> Apples, Berries (Strawberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, Blueberries), Citrus (Oranges, Grapefruit, Lemons), Grapes, Pears, Melons, Stone Fruit (Peaches, Cherries, Nectarines, Apricots, Plums)</p> <p><b>Never to Store in Fridge</b> Bananas, Avocados, Pineapples, Tropical Fruit</p>	<p><b>Storing Herbs</b> Leafy herbs such as Coriander, Mint, Parsley and Dill keep their stems submersed in a glass of cool water, then cover with a plastic bag. Store woody herbs such as Rosemary, Thyme, Chives, Sage, Oregano in a fridge, wrapped loosely in a damp paper town.</p> <p>Most other herbs will keep for a short time unwashed and refrigerated in tightly sealed plastic bags with a little moisture to prevent wilting. For longer storage, use moisture and gas-permeable paper and cling film. Plastic cuts off oxygen to the plants and promotes spoilage.</p>
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## October 2022 Crossword - No. 517



### Clues Across

- |                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Freedom (7)    | 17. Banquet (5)      |
| 5. Berate (5)     | 19. Gossip (7)       |
| 8. Rhinal (5)     | 22. Embrocations (7) |
| 9. Amazing (7)    | 23. Entomb (5)       |
| 10. Impassive (7) | 24. Arrows (5)       |
| 11. Tendency (5)  | 25. Mariners (7)     |
| 12. Fruit (6)     |                      |
| 14. Loved (6)     |                      |



## Solutions to Crossword No. 516



### Clues Down

- |                                  |                      |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Golf course (5)               | 13. Countries (7)    |
| 2. Woodwind instrument (7)       | 15. Rice dish (7)    |
| 3. Object surviving the past (5) | 16. Dissertation (6) |
| 4. Annual (6)                    | 18. Change (5)       |
| 5. Perfumed (7)                  | 20. Legal excuse (5) |
| 6. Earth's protective layer (5)  | 21. Tall tales (5)   |
| 7. Feared (7)                    |                      |
| 12. Perplexed (7)                |                      |

### Difficult

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

### Sudoku Challenge

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

### Super Difficult

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.



## Halloween Cup Cakes

### Ingredients

- 3/4 cup dark chocolate chips
- 1/3 cup heavy whipping cream
- 1 package white cake mix (regular size)
- 1-1/4 cups water
- 3 large egg whites
- 1/3 cup canola oil
- 1/2 teaspoon orange paste food coloring
- frosting:
- 1/2 cup butter, softened
- 3-3/4 cups confectioners' sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 ounces unsweetened chocolate, melted
- 4 to 5 tablespoons evaporated milk



Assorted decorations: regular and Mega M&M's, Laffy Taffy, Candy Corn, Mega Buttons, Oreo Cookies, sprinkles, pretzels, marshmallows and edible pens

### Method

- Place chocolate chips in a small bowl. In a small saucepan, bring cream just to a boil. Pour over chocolate; let stand 5 minutes. Cool to room temperature, stirring occasionally. Refrigerate, covered, until firm.
- Preheat oven to 350°. Line 18 muffin cups with paper liners. In a large bowl, combine cake mix, water, egg whites, oil and food coloring; beat on low speed 30 seconds. Beat on medium 2 minutes.
- Fill prepared cups three-fourths full. Top with 2 teaspoons chocolate mixture. Bake 18-22 minutes or until top springs back when lightly touched. Cool in pans 10 minutes before removing to wire racks to cool completely.
- For frosting, in a small bowl, beat butter, confectioners' sugar, vanilla and salt until smooth. Beat in melted chocolate and enough milk to reach desired consistency. Frost cupcakes. Decorate as desired.



Source: [www.tasteofhome.com/recipes/truffle-filled-cupcakes/](http://www.tasteofhome.com/recipes/truffle-filled-cupcakes/)

## Halloween Cocktails

You'll simply shake or stir these Halloween-worthy drinks just like any other cocktail recipe, but many include cool special effects. From pumpkin-like garnishes to blood-red layers, these show-stopping and delicious cocktails and shots will both charm and frighten your guests.



### Halloween Cocktail

Containing 2 oz vodka, cranberry juice, a splash of ginger ale, and our old friend dry ice - this Halloween cocktail is so much tastier than its ghoulish name would indicate.

The recipe suggests dropping a small piece of dry ice into the cocktail and waiting until it has melted completely - then garnishing with a maraschino cherry. You could opt for another red fruit like strawberries, raspberries, or even cranberries.

### Haunting Halloween cocktail

An ominous black beverage made using black vodka, standard vodka and pomegranate juice, the haunting Halloween cocktail ticks all the boxes. Add a skeleton decoration and a sweet seasonal blackberry to make it look extra hellish – but it will still taste heavenly.

### Ingredients

ice cubes  
125ml black vodka , or use Crème de cassis and a touch of black food colouring, but it will be much sweeter  
100ml vodka  
250ml pomegranate juice (we used Pom)  
4 dashes orange bitters  
8 blackberries  
pomegranates , to serve (optional)  
To garnish the glasses  
1 tbsp honey or golden syrup  
black sanding sugar , or black cake decorating sprinkles



### Method

Dip your finger in the honey or golden syrup and run around each rim of four martini glasses. Pour the black sugar or sprinkles onto a small plate and roll each glass rim on its side, gently coating it.

Fill a large cocktail shaker with a big handful of ice cubes and pour in the black vodka, vodka, pomegranate juice, and bitters. Shake and divide among the glasses. Thread the berries on cocktail skewers and place one in each cocktail.

To make it even more haunting, drop some pomegranate seeds in the drink and scatter more on your serving tray for a bloody fang effect.



### Witch's Brew Punch Bowl

#### Ingredients

(6 ounce) package lime gelatin  
2cups boiling water

3cups chilled pineapple juice  
1(2 liter) bottle chilled lemon-lime flavored soda or  
(2 liter) bottle ginger ale  
2cups chilled vodka (optional)

### Method

Pour the gelatin mix into a large bowl. Slowly stir in the boiling water. Stir at least 2 minutes, until the gelatin is completely dissolved.

Stir in the pineapple juice, the entire 2 liter of soda and the vodka. Let cool to room temperature.



### Red Devil

#### Method

Mix alcohols into an ice-filled cocktail shaker. Add the juice and grenadine, and shake. Serve in a 10-12 oz. glass.

### Ingredients

1 1/2ounces vodka  
1 1/2ounces peach schnapps  
1 1/2ounces Southern Comfort  
1 1/2ounces gin  
2ounces triple sec  
2ounces orange juice  
grenadine

### Glowing Gecko

#### Ingredients

1ounce Midori melon liqueur  
1/2ounce vodka  
1/2ounce rum  
1/2ounce Rose's lime juice  
1ounce prepared sweet-and-sour mix

### Method

Combine ingredients with ice in a shaker. Shake and strain. Serve over ice in a martini glass.



**Making cocktail recipes at home can be pretty simple.**

**While it might seem intimidating, making a great cocktail is 100% accessible.**

**Scary tasty Cocktails will add infinitely more fun to any evening!**

Source: [www.rebelsmarket.com/blog/posts/10-creative-halloween-cocktails-for-a-chilling-night-in.html](http://www.rebelsmarket.com/blog/posts/10-creative-halloween-cocktails-for-a-chilling-night-in.html)

Source: [www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/top-10-halloween-cocktail-recipes](http://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/top-10-halloween-cocktail-recipes)

Source: [www.food.com/recipe/glowing-gecko-35232](http://www.food.com/recipe/glowing-gecko-35232)



## How to use less energy and reduce your bills

The more energy you use, the more it costs. If you can use a little less energy, you'll save a little more on your bills, and using less energy is easier than you might think. Acts as simple as leaving your phone on standby, or overfilling the kettle, could be costing you hundreds of Euros a year. It starts with changing a few energy habits.

### Heating

Unless you want to spend all of your time at home under a blanket, you will need to use electricity or gas to heat your home. However, that doesn't mean that you can't control how much it costs to have a cosy home.

Outside of big energy efficiency changes like new windows or insulation, you can save money by changing your habits around heating. The first step is to ensure that heat flows freely around the areas you want to heat, so avoid blocking radiators with furniture or curtains. Once you know the heat is flowing effectively, you need to keep it in the right places. Close doors and curtains and avoid leaving windows open while the heating is on. The longer you can retain heat in your home, the less energy you will need to use on heating.

It's also important to think about waste. Turn off the heating when you don't need it; if the house gets too warm or you're going out. It's easy to set a timer and forget about it but remember that heating an empty house will cost you just as much as heating a full one. Finally, consider turning down the thermostat in your main living area, if you have one. Dropping the temperature by just one degree will make a significant difference to your heating bills but won't make your home any less comfortable.

### Lighting

Lighting is the other obvious opportunity for reducing energy costs. While individual lights don't require a huge amount of energy, lighting a home can be a big energy user if not monitored closely.

Little things like leaving lights on in unused rooms start to add up on your electricity bill, but we all do it from time to time. Just cutting that habit will make a difference, but if you really want to reduce your energy usage, consider using lamps and dimmer switches to reduce the amount of energy you use to light each room.

It's also worth investing in **LED light bulbs**, they may cost a little more up front but will use less electricity than a standard bulb and last up to ten times longer.

### In the kitchen

Lighting and heating are the obvious energy users but there are plenty of other potential energy savers around the home. For example, you can save money by making sure you fill the washing machine every time you use it. You will reduce the overall number of loads you run and a full load in a washing machine uses less energy than two half loads. It also helps to reduce the temperature of the cycle you use.

The same applies to the dishwasher, and you can make an additional saving by turning it off before the drying cycle and opening the door to allow the dishes to dry naturally. Another common bad habit is leaving the fridge door open while preparing food. For every 10–20 seconds the door is open it takes 45 minutes for the fridge to cool down to its original temperature, so it's important to keep the door closed.

### The living room

A lot of the energy we waste in our homes on a daily basis is through appliances that we just aren't using. Appliances on standby can use up to 20% of the energy that they would use when switched on, so turn off all your appliances on standby (yes the TV too) at the switch on the wall. Or just plug them out.

It's also important to unplug your phones, tablets or laptops from their chargers as soon as they have reached 100%. One charger may not make much difference but, when you have multiple chargers and other devices on standby, they can be responsible for up to 10% of your electricity bills.

You don't need to renovate your home or stock up on blankets to save money on your energy bills. Just changing a few habits will mean less energy usage and smaller bills.

### Cook efficiently

- A lot of household energy is used in the kitchen and there are many little changes you can make to save money.
- Only heat the water you need If you are making tea for one, just fill the kettle for one cup.
- Use a microwave if you regularly reheat meals, rather than using energy to heat your oven.
- Match your pan size to your burner on the hob and cover your food when it is cooking to keep heat in.
- Steam your vegetables or use less water for boiling.

- Conserve heat: Only pre-heat your oven for the specified time, defrost food before cooking and keep the oven door shut while cooking.
- Use a slow cooker wherever possible; they are energy-efficient and perfect for family meals

Batch cook when using the hob, and especially the oven. Not only will you be able to freeze extra portions (and thus filling your freezer and increasing its efficiency) and save on weekly electricity costs, you'll also have a supply of homemade meals on hand.

### Hang your clothes out to dry

The tumble dryer is one of the most expensive appliances in our homes, so use it sparingly.

Dry your clothes outside if possible or on a clothes horse next to a radiator.

### Energy-saving gadgets and tools

There are some great energy-saving gadgets and tools to help you cut back even more on your energy bills. Some of the best savings are available with:

- Energy-efficient lightbulbs: they cost a fraction of the cost of traditional lightbulbs to run and could save you up to €22 a year, depending on the power of the bulb.
- Radiator boosters: designed to move the hot air around the room and away from the radiator and the windows, which ensures you have a consistent even room temperature.
- Solar chargers: mean you can charge your phone for free - simply leave the charger by the window during the day and then plug your phone into the solar charger at night.
- Draft excluders: fixed to doors and your letterbox will make a noticeable impact on your heating bills.
- Chimney balloons: can stop heat escaping up into your chimney and the cold descending down into your home.
- Lagging jacket and insulation: add to pipes will keep your water hotter for longer and reduce the amount of time the boiler is on.

### Switch your gas & electricity supplier

The best way to reduce your energy costs is to switch to a discounted deal using our free gas and electricity comparison service. Here's an example of the money you could save: **Electricity:** The average user on a typical standard tariff can save up to €378 by switching to the cheapest electricity deal, and those with higher usage stand to save even more.

**Gas:** The average user on a standard tariff can save up to €252 and even more if you live in a large household.

Source: [www.electricireland.ie/news/article/how-to-use-less-energy-and-reduce-your-bills](http://www.electricireland.ie/news/article/how-to-use-less-energy-and-reduce-your-bills)

Source: [switcher.ie/gas-electricity/guides/energy-saving-tips/](http://switcher.ie/gas-electricity/guides/energy-saving-tips/)

### Extra Tips

- Why not use battery operated table lamps on occasion. They add functionality, beauty, and lighting to a room. They feature creative styles and options, enabling you to choose the design that best complements your main furniture and décor. Also great lamps to have in the event of a power outage which we may have this year.
- Use nightlights, especially in the bathroom. They are cheap to run.
- Thermal lined curtains are another affordable money-saving system.
- Educate your household so everyone recognises the importance of saving energy. Try and turn energy saving into a game for kids to help them to remember to switch things off.

### Estimated meter readings

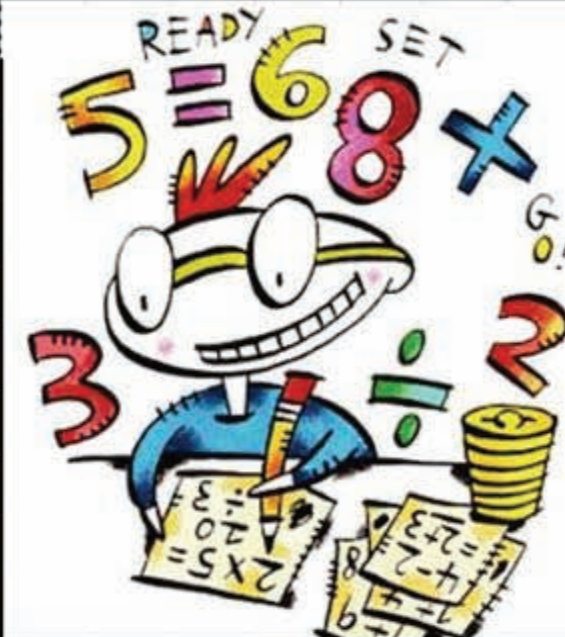
Don't depend on estimated meter readings, submit them yourself and save on your energy bill! Underestimated bills could mean your faced with a nasty surprise that you haven't budgeted for.

***The main benefit of cutting back how much energy you use in the home is you will save money on your energy bills, but making your home more energy efficient can also have huge environmental benefits.***





## Math Crossword

Start	11	-		=	3	+		=	18
End									-
	9								
	=								
	-								
	14								
	=								
	+								
	5								
	=		-	19	=		+	15	=



Why didn't the skeleton cross the road?

Because he doesn't have any guts.



What has hundreds of ears but can't hear? A cornfield.



Junior



### Colour and find the objects



# Trick-or-Treat



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

APPLES  
BAT  
BLACK CAT  
BOO  
CANDY CORN  
COSTUMES  
GHOST  
GOBLIN  
HALLOWEEN

HAUNTED HOUSE  
JACKOLANTERN  
MASK  
MOON  
MUMMY  
NIGHT  
OCTOBER  
PIRATE

PRINCESS  
PUMPKIN  
SPIDER  
SPOOKY  
SUPERHERO  
TRICK OR TREAT  
VAMPIRE  
WITCH

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**NB:** If you wish to complete the Puzzles/Colouring for fun, you can print the single page by going to File -> Print and type in the Junior Page number only. Be sure to avoid printing ALL the pages of the Newsletter unless you intend to do so.







As Autumn draws in on the garden, the days shorten and the garden begins to wind down. October is still a very busy time of the year preparing for spring as well as carrying out a range of general tasks and garden maintenance. What you do now will determine your success in spring.

#### The following are the main garden jobs for October

Cut back perennials once the foliage has died down and add to compost heap. Lift and divide poor flowering or overcrowded perennial plants. Lift and store tender bulbs, corms and tubers once foliage has died down such as dahlias, tuberous begonias etc. Continue to plant winter and spring flowering bulbs such as daffodils, tulips, crocus, etc. in borders or patio containers. As a rule of thumb most bulbs should be planted at approximately three times their own height with a few exceptions. Plant wallflowers, forget-me-not, sweet william, violas, myosotis, cyclamen and other spring bedding plants in borders or patio containers.



**Late autumn** is a great time to plant shrubs and perennials for plants to "settle in" before the new season. Autumn is the ideal time to plant Clematis

An excellent time to plant fruit trees and a range of soft fruits such as blackcurrants, gooseberries and raspberries. Enrich the soil before planting with a good compost such as 'Erin Excel Multipurpose Compost'. A good time to scarify established lawns and spike the surface with fork or lawn aerator to help drainage. Apply an autumn lawn feed such as 'Evergreen Autumn 2 in 1' which contains moss killer if it has not already been applied.

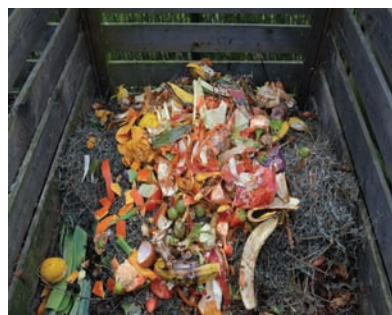


Start putting root vegetables such as carrots and beetroot into storage. Sow broad beans for early crop next year. Prepare soil for next season by adding organic manure at the same time as digging. Do not leave soil exposed too long before covering with black polythene, sheeting or mulch. Now is a good time to clean algae, moss, etc. off driveways and footpaths

Herbs such as Basil, Dill, Chives and Parsley can be sown now for growing on your windowsill throughout the winter. From your armchair take stock of this year's garden and make a few notes or sketches for next spring, a digital camera has become an invaluable garden companion taking snapshots of where herbaceous plants are located before they die back so you don't damage their roots during a winter dig, capturing images of borders you'd like to replicate at home or simply just a memory jog so you remember which areas of the garden look like they need improving. Why not keep a photo diary of your garden with pictures taken each week? Reflect on what grew well, what failed miserably, and what changes you will make next year. You will be surprised at how useful these notes can be when you start ordering seeds and plants for next year!



**How to make a simple leaf mould bin** If your garden has trees it is worth saving the leaves to make leaf mould which is an excellent mulch for the garden. It is easy to make a pen; just mould chicken wire into a bin with stake in each corner to give structure. Rake up and pile the leaves in and they will rot down over the gardening year ready to spread on borders as mulch following winter/spring. You can tell when it's ready as it will be well rotted, and crumbly.



## Easy Halloween Fun Treats for All

### Pretzel Treats

#### Ingredients:

Mini Pretzels, White Chocolate, Coconut Oil or Melted Butter, Candy Eyeballs



#### Method:

Line a baking tray with parchment paper. Melt white chocolate in a bowl with coconut oil or melted butter. Don't overcook or melt chocolate in the microwave at 20-30 second bursts. Now dip pretzels in melted chocolate, one at a time. Use a fork to dip pretzels. Turn them over to coat both sides and shake off any excess. Shake out chocolate from the bottom hole so that it looks like an spooky open mouth. Place them on the prepared baking sheet. Immediately place candy eyeballs on the top two holes of pretzel. Work quickly as the chocolate becomes hard at room temperature. So, if it does get hardened, then just microwave it for another 10-20 secs.

### Witch's Fingers Sugar Shortbread

#### Ingredients:

1.5 cup All Purpose Flour  
1 cup Melted Butter  
1/2 tsp Baking Powder  
1/2 tsp Vanilla Extract  
1 Bag of Red Candies  
1/4 cup Castor Sugar  
Green Food Colouring  
Almonds Flakes (for nails)



#### Method:

Prepare the Dry ingredients. Add flour, food colouring (as much as you wish), baking powder, and salt in the same bowl. Mix it all lightly. Use your hands to make a soft sugar cookie dough. Grab one ball of the sugar cookie dough and roll it between your palms. Place it on the work surface and lightly roll it to give it about 2-3 inch length. Even out the edges. Use your fingers to make two dents. Grab a butter knife and make the markings. Use a sliced Almond at the tip of the finger. Press it gently so that you get a dent. Remove the almond and fill the dent with the melted red candy. Stick the almond on the finger. Apply some more melted red candy at the base of the finger. Carefully lift up the cookie and place it on your baking dish. Freeze for 15 mins or refrigerate for 30 mins. Bake these Sugar Cookies for 15 mins at 160C or 320F.

### Halloween Skeleton Cookies

#### Ingredients:

1 1/2 cups white sugar  
1 cup butter, softened  
2 eggs  
1 1/2 tps vanilla extract  
1 1/2 tps almond flavouring  
3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour  
1 tsp baking powder  
1/2 tsp salt

#### Icing:

1 cup confectioners' sugar  
2 tps milk, add more as needed  
2 tps light corn syrup, or more as needed  
1/4 tsp vanilla extract  
1 (1.5 ounce) tube black decorating gel



#### Method:

Cream sugar and butter in a bowl. Add eggs, 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract, and almond flavouring and mix well. Stir flour, baking powder, and salt together in a second bowl. Add flour mixture to the creamed butter mixture and mix. Wrap in plastic wrap and chill in the fridge for 3/4 hours or overnight. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F /175 degrees C. Line 2 baking trays with baking paper. Dust work surface with sugar and roll out dough into a 1/4-inch-thick circle. Cut out figure shapes and arrange cut-out cookies on prepared baking sheets. Bake in the preheated oven for 8 to 10 mins. Transfer to wire racks. Cool completely, about 20 mins. Stir 1 cup confectioners' sugar and milk together until smooth. Beat in corn syrup and 1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract until icing is smooth and glossy. Add more corn syrup if too thick. Spoon icing into a piping bag with a small plain tip. Draw and fill circle inside the head for the skull and a skeleton on the body, including 3 horizontal lines for the ribs. Let cookies stand until icing dries completely, best overnight. Use black decorating gel to draw eyes, a nose, and a mouth on the skull and let cookies dry again.

Sourced from: [magik.com](http://magik.com) & [allrecipes.com](http://allrecipes.com)







## FILM/DVD MONTHLY BY BERNIE CLAXTON

# Halloween Movies Special



With the spooky season of Halloween witches, púcaí and goblins nigh, it's time once again to enjoy our favourite scary movies on these dark, chilly Autumnal evenings. To whet your appetite, here are some interesting facts about three all-time classic horror films.

### The Exorcist, William Friedkin (1973)



1) The vomit that Linda Blair spewed was actually split-pea soup. Specifically, the special effects crew decided to use Anderson's version of the soup because Campbell's split-pea soup wasn't green enough

2) According to Exorcist writer William Peter Blatty, the shooting of the film was supposed to be about 90 days long. It ended up being shot in about 210 days. Blatty revealed that 'strange and sinister things happened from the very beginning.'

3) William Friedkin's first choice for the role of Chris MacNeil was Audrey Hepburn, but she would only take the role if filming happened in Rome. Anne Bancroft was also considered for the part, but once it was known that she was pregnant, she was ruled out.



4) The Exorcist was the first horror film to be nominated for the Academy Award for Best Picture.

5) To do the scenes in the bedroom when it is so cold you can see the air coming out of the actors' mouths, director Friedkin had the set built in a huge freezer.

6) While rumours of many deaths and strange events surrounding The Exorcist's production were largely sensationalised for publicity purposes, two of the film's actors did in fact die. The Irish actor Jack MacGowran whose character died in the film, also died of influenza shortly after completing his role. Likewise, the character of Mary Karras died in the film, and the actress who portrayed her, Vasiliki Maliaros, also died of natural causes shortly after completion of her role.

7) The scream of the demon being thrown out of Linda Blair was actually created by recording squealing pigs being driven into slaughter.

8) The Exorcist was filmed before the steadicam had been invented, so to show actors going upstairs toward the demonic bedroom, a makeshift seat-swing was designed using pulleys and rope, and guided by crew. The handheld shot was groundbreaking for its time.

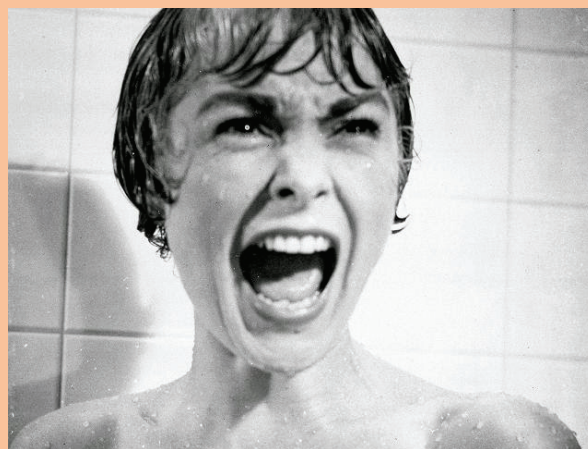
### Psycho, Alfred Hitchcock (1960)

1) Although it lasts for only 45 seconds on screen, the sensational stabbing/shower scene in Psycho took seven days to shoot and utilised 70 different camera angles.

2) The blood in the terrifying shower scene in Psycho is actually chocolate syrup.

3) Psycho was the first American movie to show a toilet, and hear one flushing - both viewed as taboo in that Hollywood era of the early 60s.

4) Psycho somewhat stirred controversy when it was released, because it was the first time that a leading actress' - Janet Leigh - character dies during the first third of the film. Before Psycho, the leading character either lived throughout the film or died at the end. It was unheard of to kill off the lead actor/actress so early in a film's running time.



5) Alfred Hitchcock adapted Psycho from a story by author Robert Bloch, who had modelled the character of Norman Bates after American serial killer Ed Gein. Other characters very loosely based on Gein are Buffalo Bill in The Silence of the Lambs (1991) and Thomas Hewitt in The Texas Chainsaw Massacre (1974). The main similarities to Gein that appear in Psycho include the feminine qualities of Norman Bates and the disturbingly strong attachment to a cruel, dominating mother.

6) Alfred Hitchcock didn't want to have the ending of Psycho given away. So after buying the rights to make the movie, he purchased every copy of the book that he could possibly find, so that no one would be able to read it and discover what happens before watching his film. Similarly, during the cinema release of Psycho, nobody was allowed in the cinema after the movie had started because of Janet Leigh's shock demise in the early stages of the film.

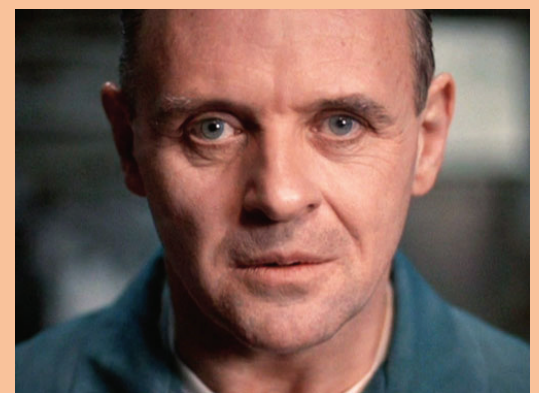


### The Silence of the Lambs, Jonathan Demme (1991)

1) In Silence of the Lambs the plan was to dress Anthony Hopkins in a yellow or orange jumpsuit. Hopkins convinced director Jonathan Demme and costume designer Colleen Atwood that Hannibal would seem more clinical and unsettling if he was dressed in pure white. Hopkins has since related in interviews that he got the idea from his fear of dentists.

2) Anthony Hopkins' performance in Psycho is the second shortest (at 24.52 minutes of screen time) to win an Oscar for Best Actor in a Leading Role (behind David Niven turn in Separate Tables (1958) at 23:39 minutes).

3) When studying the character he played, Hopkins noticed similar characteristics in reptiles. Reptiles only blink when they want to, and do it consciously. Therefore, in the movie, the British actor fascinatingly only blinks in special moments and very consciously.



4) Anthony Hopkins described his vocal intonations for Dr. Hannibal Lecter as 'a combination of Truman Capote and Katharine Hepburn.'

5) Although, it feels a lot more on screen, Anthony Hopkins and Jodie Foster only share four scenes throughout during the course of Silence of the Lambs

6) Jodie Foster claims that during the first meeting between Dr. Hannibal Lecter and Clarice Starling, Anthony Hopkins's mocking of her southern accent was improvised on the spot. Foster's horrified reaction was genuine since she felt personally attacked. She later thanked Hopkins for evoking such a visceral response in her.



### Answers to Tom Cruise Movie Quiz

- |       |        |
|-------|--------|
| 1. c) | 8. b)  |
| 2. a) | 9. c)  |
| 3. d) | 10. a) |
| 4. c) | 11. c) |
| 5. d) | 12. d) |
| 6. c) | 13. d) |
| 7. c) |        |





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